

Final 2020 Storage Management Plan White Paper

The objective of the 2020 Storage Management Plan white paper is to provide a concise compilation of technical storage management issues developed from the Storage Framework Investigation that should be considered in the 2020 Storage Management Plan. The draft 2020 Storage Management Plan white paper was distributed by the Chino Basin Watermaster on June 8, 2019 and it was reviewed at the June 20, 2019 Storage Management Plan workshop. The stakeholders were asked to provide comments on the draft white paper by July 5, 2019. These comments and Watermaster staff responses to them are included in Exhibit A attached herein. Some of those responses resulted in changes in the final white paper.

Background

Groundwater pumping rights in the Chino Basin were adjudicated in the 1970s and settled in the 1978 stipulated agreement (Judgment). The Judgment established a Watermaster to administer the decree under the court's continuing jurisdiction and empowered it to manage and control available storage capacity and to enter into agreements for the storage of water. As a prerequisite to implementing the Optimum Basin Management Program ("OBMP") the parties executed the Peace Agreement providing direction and guidance to the Watermaster on how storage should be prioritized and managed. The OBMP addresses the management of extraction, recharge, storage, recovery, and transfer of water. The prevailing standard for all operations is the avoidance of "undesirable results"—defined as "material physical injury"—under court approved management agreements executed contemporaneously and subsequent to the adoption of the OBMP Update in June 2020.¹

Given the passage of twenty years since its approval, Watermaster has revisited the OBMP goals and objectives and plans to update the OBMP by June 2020. Updating the OBMP storage management plan is integral to the OBMP update. This background section provides the historical and institutional background for Watermaster's storage management activities, managed storage conditions, and groundwater management challenges impacted by managed storage activities.

Judgment

There is a significant amount of unused storage space in the Chino Basin. Groundwater in storage was estimated to have declined by about 1,600,000 af over the period 1922 through 1978, the starting point of the Judgment implementation. This decline of groundwater in storage was recognized in the Judgment,² and it requires that the use of this space be undertaken only under Watermaster control and regulation. Specifically, Judgment paragraphs 11 and 12 state:

¹ The Optimum Basin Management Program can be found here: http://www.cbwm.org/rep_engineering.htm.

² Original judgment in Chino Basin Municipal Water District vs. City of Chino, et al., signed by Judge Howard B. Weiner, Case No. 164327. File transferred August 1989, by order of the Court, and assigned new case number RCV51010. The Restated Judgment can be found here:

“11. Available Ground Water Storage Capacity. There exists in Chino Basin a substantial amount of available ground water storage capacity which is not utilized for storage or regulation of Basin Waters³. Said reservoir capacity can appropriately be utilized for storage and conjunctive use of Supplemental Water⁴ with Basin Waters. It is essential that said reservoir capacity utilization for storage and conjunctive use of Supplemental Water be undertaken only under Watermaster control and regulation, in order to protect the integrity of both such Stored Water⁵ and Basin Water in storage and the Safe Yield⁶ of Chino Basin.

12. Utilization of Available Ground Water Capacity. Any person or public entity, whether a party to this action or not, may make reasonable beneficial use of the available ground water storage capacity of Chino Basin for storage of Supplemental Water; provided that no such use shall be made except pursuant to written agreement with Watermaster, as authorized by Paragraph 28. In the allocation of such storage capacity, the needs and requirements of lands overlying Chino Basin and the owners of rights in the Safe Yield or Operating Safe Yield⁷ of the Basin shall have priority and preference over storage for export.”

These paragraphs establish Watermaster’s control over the use of the storage space in the basin, require the accounting of Stored Water and Basin Water in storage, require accounting for the impacts of managed storage on Safe Yield and the prevention of unauthorized overdraft, require storing entities to obtain a storage agreement from Watermaster, and prioritize the use of storage space to meet the needs and requirements of the lands overlying the Chino Basin and of the Judgment parties over the use storage space to store water for export.

Judgment paragraphs 28 and 29 state:

“28. Ground Water Storage Agreements. Watermaster shall adopt, with the approval of the Advisory Committee, uniformly applicable rules and a standard form of agreement for storage of Supplemental Water, pursuant to criteria therefore set forth in Exhibit "I". Upon appropriate application by any person, Watermaster shall enter into such a storage agreement; provided that all such storage agreements shall first be approved by written order of the Court, and shall by their terms preclude operations which will have a substantial adverse impact on other producers.

29. Accounting for Stored Water. Watermaster shall calculate additions, extractions and losses and maintain an annual account of all Stored Water in Chino

<http://www.cbwm.org/docs/WatermasterCourtFilings/2012%20Watermaster%20Restated%20Judgment.pdf>

³ Basin Water is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

⁴ Supplemental Water is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

⁵ Stored Water is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

⁶ Safe Yield is defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

⁷ Operating Safe Yield is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

Basin, and any losses of water supplies or Safe Yield of Chino Basin resulting from such Stored Water.”

These paragraphs require that Watermaster develop storage agreements for entities (Judgment parties and others) to store supplemental water in the basin, have the storage agreements approved by the Court, include terms in the storage agreements to ensure that storage “operations” do not cause “substantial adverse impact on other producers,” and collect information to enable it to account for “all Stored Water in Chino Basin, and any losses of water supplies or Safe Yield of Chino Basin resulting from such Stored Water.” Losses of water supplies or Safe Yield refer to storage losses and changes in Safe Yield caused by the management of storage.

Optimum Basin Management Program and the Peace Agreements

The Chino Basin OBMP⁸ set forth agreed goals and objectives in 1999. A year later, the Peace Agreement⁹ and the OBMP Implementation were approved by the Court in 2000. Many of the operable features of the OBMP were incorporated into the OBMP Implementation Plan,¹⁰ conditioned on compliance with the Peace Agreement. The OBMP Implementation Plan is Exhibit B to the Peace Agreement. The Peace Agreement is an agreement among the Judgment parties to implement the OBMP and was reviewed in a programmatic environmental impact report (PEIR), certified by the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) in July 2000. The OBMP Implementation Plan contains a storage management plan that was developed to allow the parties and other entities to utilize the unused storage space in the basin and mitigate potential Material Physical Injury¹¹ (MPI) from its use.

The OBMP storage management plan consists of managing groundwater production, replenishment, recharge, and storage such that total storage within the basin ranges from a low of 5,300,000 af to a high of 5,800,000 af. The following definitions are included in the OBMP Implementation Plan:

- Operational storage requirement (OSR) is the storage or volume in the Chino Basin that is necessary to maintain the Safe Yield. The OSR was estimated in the development of the OBMP to be about 5.3 million af. This storage value was set as the estimated storage in the basin in 1997.¹²
- Safe storage is an estimate of the maximum amount of storage space in the basin that can be used and not cause significant water-quality and/or high-groundwater related

⁸ The OBMP report is located here:

http://www.cbwm.org/docs/engdocs/obmpphas1rep/Text/OBMP_Ph1_Report.pdf

⁹ The Peace Agreement is located here: http://www.cbwm.org/docs/legaldocs/Peace_Agreement.pdf

¹⁰ The OBMP Implementation Plan is Appendix B to the Peace Agreement, and it is located here: http://www.cbwm.org/docs/legaldocs/Implementation_Plan.pdf

¹¹ Material Physical Injury is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

¹² Page 2-11, Optimum Basin Management Program, Phase I Report.

problems. Safe storage was estimated in the development of the OBMP to be about 5.8 million af.

- Safe storage capacity (SSC) is the difference between safe storage and the OSR. The allocation and use of storage space in excess of the SSC will preemptively require mitigation; that is, mitigation must be defined and resources committed to mitigation prior to its allocation and use.

Safe storage is equal to the OSR plus the SSC. The SSC was estimated during the development of the OBMP to be equal to the calculated decline in storage (400,000 af) during the base period (1965 through 1974) used to estimate the Safe Yield¹³ in the Judgment plus an assumed additional decline in storage (100,000 af) in the intervening period up to the filing of the Judgment (1974 to 1978). The assumption underlying SSC was that it would be safe to store water in storage space that was recently created prior to implementing the Judgment.

Water occupying the SSC includes Carryover,¹⁴ Excess Carryover,¹⁵ Local Storage,¹⁶ and Supplemental Waters stored by the parties. Water stored for Storage and Recovery Programs is also included in the SSC.¹⁷ Carryover, Excess Carryover, Local Storage, and Supplemental Waters are referred to herein collectively as managed storage.

Subsequent to the approval of the PEIR in 2000, Watermaster and the Judgment parties developed revisions to the OBMP based on: new monitoring and borehole data collected since 1998, an improved hydrogeologic conceptualization of the basin and new numerical models that have improved the understanding of basin hydrology since 2000, and the need to expand the Chino Basin Desalters' (desalters) capacity to the 40,000 af of groundwater pumping required in the OBMP Implementation Plan. Concurrently, the IEUA and Watermaster worked with the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to revise the total dissolved solids (TDS) and nitrate objectives for the Chino North Management Zone¹⁸ to enable the reuse of the IEUA's recycled water without desalting it for a period estimated to be at least 30 years and without impairing the beneficial use of Chino Basin groundwater. One of the Regional Board's conditions for raising the TDS and nitrate objectives was the achievement of Hydraulic Control.¹⁹

Hydraulic Control is the reduction of groundwater discharge from the Chino North Management Zone to the Santa Ana River to less than 1,000 af. Hydraulic Control is a goal of the OBMP with the intent of maintaining and enhancing the Safe Yield of the basin by ensuring that agricultural

¹³ Ibid, page 2-28 and Table 2-13

¹⁴ Carryover Water is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

¹⁵ Excess Carryover Water is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

¹⁶ Local Storage Water is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

¹⁷ Storage and Recovery Program is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

¹⁸ The Chino North Management Zone consists of the combination of OBMP Management Zones 1, 2, and 3, exclusive of the Prado Basin flood pool area.

¹⁹ Hydraulic Control is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

groundwater production in the southern half of the basin would be replaced by groundwater production for municipal uses as the land use in that area transitions from agricultural uses to urban uses. Through extensive investigations, it was determined that Hydraulic Control and the maintenance of Safe Yield required the expansion of desalter groundwater production to 40,000 afy and the reduction of basin water in storage by 400,000 af. These investigations included a recalculation of the total water in storage in the basin, based on the improved hydrogeologic understanding. The total storage in the Chino Basin for 2000 was estimated to be about 5,935,000 af, which is 635,000 af greater than that estimated for the OSR and 135,000 af greater than safe storage.²⁰

The OBMP Implementation Plan was amended in 2007, and the Peace II Agreement enabled the expansion of the Chino Desalter pumping capacity from 20,000 afy to 40,000 afy. The technical investigations conducted to support the expansion of desalter groundwater production to 40,000 afy and the use of 400,000 af²¹ of groundwater to partially meet the Replenishment Obligation for desalter production also indicated that the Safe Yield of the Chino Basin, at that time, was likely less than that stated in the Chino Basin Judgment and that it was projected to decline further in the future due to changes in cultural conditions in the watersheds overlying and tributary to the Chino Basin. The IEUA completed and subsequently certified a supplemental environmental impact report (SEIR) for the Peace II Agreement in 2010.

Starting in 2011, Watermaster began the technical effort to recalculate the Safe Yield. This work involved updating the hydrogeologic conceptual model of the basin, updating the historical hydrology, updating and recalibrating numerical models that simulate the surface and ground water hydrology of the Chino Basin area, and projecting the surface and groundwater response of the basin to future management plans that included storage management. This work is documented in *2013 Chino Basin Groundwater Model Update and Recalculation of Safe Yield Pursuant to the Peace Agreement* (WEI, 2015; hereafter, *Safe Yield report*). The results of that work yielded a reassessment of the hydrology of the basin from 1961 through 2011 and projections of basin hydrology through 2050, based on the best available planning information. The conclusions of the *Safe Yield report*, related to storage management, are:

- On July 1, 2000, the total water in storage in the basin was about 5,935,000 af, inclusive of the 236,000 af of managed storage. This is about 635,000 af greater than the OSR of 5,300,000 af that was established in the OBMP Implementation Plan.
- Managed storage was projected to increase from 487,000 af in 2016 to about 663,000 af by 2030 (exceeding the SSC by 163,000 af) and decline thereafter to zero af by 2051. Managed storage was projected to be used to meet future replenishment obligations.

²⁰ Wildermuth Environmental, Inc., 2007. 2007 CBWM Groundwater Model Documentation and Evaluation of the Peace II Project Description.

²¹ The 400,000 af of groundwater used for desalter replenishment is referred to as Re-Operation.

- Total storage was projected to fall below the OSR of 5.3 million af in 2041.

In 2017, the IEUA adopted an addendum to the Peace II SEIR, that provided a temporary increase in the SSC to 600,000 af through June 30, 2021 to provide time for Watermaster and the Judgment parties to update the OBMP storage management plan. The Storage Framework Investigation (2018) was conducted to provide technical support to update the storage management plan. In the absence of developing and adopting a new storage management plan by June 30, 2021, the SSC would again be limited to 500,000 af.

Storage Agreements

Since the Judgment came into effect, Watermaster developed rules and regulations, standard storage agreements, and related forms. There are three types of storage agreements that result in several types of storage accounts: Excess Carryover, Local Supplemental, Local Storage and Storage and Recovery. An Excess Carryover account includes a party's unproduced rights in the Safe Yield (Safe Yield for Overlying Non-Agricultural Pool²² parties and Operating Safe Yield for Appropriative Pool²³ parties) and Basin Water acquired from other parties. A Local Supplemental Water account includes imported and recycled water that is recharged by a party and similar water acquired from other parties. A Storage and Recovery account includes Supplemental Water and is intended to produce a "broad and mutual benefit to the Parties to the Judgment." Watermaster tracks the puts, takes, losses, and end of year storage totals for all of these storage accounts, and reports on this accounting in the annual assessment process.

In evaluating applications for storage agreements, Watermaster must conduct an investigation to determine if the water stored and recovered under a proposed storage agreement will cause potential MPI to a party or the basin. If Watermaster determines that implementation of the proposed storage agreement will cause potential MPI, the applicant must revise its application so there is no MPI, or Watermaster must impose conditions in the storage agreement to ensure there is no MPI. Watermaster cannot approve a storage agreement that will result in MPI.

The parties, amongst themselves, are actively involved in water transfers of annual unproduced rights in the Safe Yield and water in their storage accounts. Watermaster has an application and review process for transfers that is similar to the storage agreement application process. Transfers are one way that the parties recover water held in storage accounts.

Existing Managed Storage and Proposed Storage and Recovery Programs

The Watermaster parties engage in conjunctive-use activities individually by storing Basin and Supplemental Waters that are in excess of their demands and subsequently recover that water as their individual needs arise. These activities collectively cause a temporary increase in managed storage. Table 1 summarizes the amount of water in managed storage by the Parties. Table 2-1 also shows the amount of water stored by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) Dry-Year Yield Program (DYYP). The total volume of water in managed

²² Overlying Non-Agricultural Pool is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

²³ Appropriative Pool is a defined term. Please see Storage Framework Appendix D for its definition.

storage as of June 30, 2018 was about 581,100 af. Table 1 does not reflect the anticipated reductions in managed storage that will occur to offset unassessed desalter replenishment obligations.²⁴

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²⁴ The reconciliation of the water held in managed storage and the desalter replenishment obligation should be complete by the end of calendar year 2019, and the final Storage Management Plan report will include an updated version of this table that reflects these changes.

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Table 1 Ending Balances in Managed Storage in the Chino Basin¹
(af)

Fiscal Year Ending June 30	Appropriative Pool				Overlying Non-Agricultural Pool			Total Managed Storage by Parties (8) = (7) + (4)	Dry Year Yield Program Storage ⁶ (9)	Total Managed Storage (10) = (9) + (8)
	Carryover ² (1)	Excess Carryover (ECO) ³ (2)	Local Supplemental Storage ⁴ (3)	Subtotal (4)	Carryover ² (5)	Local Storage ⁵ (6)	Subtotal (7)			
2000	28,911		170,342	199,253	6,541	31,031	37,572	236,825	0	236,825
2001	15,940	77,907	92,813	186,660	5,301	32,330	37,631	224,291	0	224,291
2002	13,521	70,103	87,801	171,425	5,285	33,727	39,012	210,437	0	210,437
2003	18,656	71,329	81,180	171,165	6,743	36,850	43,593	214,758	7,738	222,496
2004	21,204	70,503	80,963	172,670	7,177	40,881	48,058	220,728	26,300	247,028
2005	21,289	76,080	88,849	186,218	7,227	45,888	53,115	239,333	38,754	278,087
2006	32,062	56,062	86,170	174,294	7,227	49,178	56,405	230,699	58,653	289,352
2007	34,552	50,895	83,184	168,631	7,084	51,476	58,560	227,191	77,116	304,307
2008	41,626	83,962	81,520	207,108	6,819	45,248	52,067	259,175	74,877	334,052
2009	42,795	101,908	79,890	224,593	6,672	46,600	53,272	277,865	34,494	312,359
2010	41,263	120,897	90,133	252,293	6,934	47,732	54,666	306,959	8,543	315,502
2011	41,412	146,074	98,080	285,566	6,959	49,343	56,302	341,868	0	341,868
2012	42,614	209,981	116,138	368,733	6,914	13,993	20,907	389,640	0	389,640
2013	39,413	225,068	116,378	380,859	7,073	15,473	22,546	403,405	0	403,405
2014	41,708	231,679	125,052	398,439	6,478	12,812	19,290	417,729	0	417,729
2015	44,437	254,643	132,791	431,871	6,823	12,225	19,048	450,919	0	450,919
2016	45,683	279,757	144,012	469,452	7,195	9,949	17,144	486,596	0	486,596
2017	43,314	308,100	157,628	509,043	7,226	11,343	18,569	527,612	6,315	533,927
2018	40,390	308,056	170,168	518,614	7,198	13,894	21,092	539,706	41,380	581,086

1. Account balances are from Watermaster Assessment Packages and do not account for the desalter replenishment obligation or the change in Safe Yield.
2. The un-produced water in any year that may accrue to a member of the Non-Agricultural Pool or the Appropriative Pool and that is produced first each subsequent Fiscal Year or stored as Excess Carryover
3. Carryover Water which in aggregate quantities exceeds a party's share of Safe Yield in the case of the Non-Agricultural Pool, or the assigned share of Operating Safe Yield in the case of the Appropriative Pool, in any year.
4. Water imported to Chino Basin from outside the Chino Basin Watershed and recycled water.
5. Water held in a storage account pursuant to a Local Storage Agreement between a party to the Judgement and Watermaster. "Local Storage Agreement" means a Groundwater Storage Agreement for Local Storage.
6. Ending balance in the Dry Year Yield Program storage account.

Metropolitan's DYYP is the only active Storage and Recovery Program in the basin. The DYYP can store up to 100,000 af with maximum puts of 25,000 afy and maximum takes of 33,000 afy. As of July 1, 2018, there were 41,380 af stored in the DYYP account. The agreement that authorizes the DYYP will expire in 2028.

The IEUA and some of the parties are proposing the implementation of Storage and Recovery Programs, including the Chino Basin Water Bank and the Chino Basin Program (CBP). The operational parameters of these proposed programs are not yet defined; that said, the amount of storage space required has been identified to range between 200,000 and 300,000 af.

Current Groundwater Management Challenges and Their Relationship to Current Storage Management

The results of the groundwater modeling work reported in the Safe Yield report projected, based on the best planning information available at that time, that the total storage in the basin will likely be relatively stable through the mid to late 2020s, and by 2050, groundwater levels were projected to decline over a broad area ranging from about 65 feet in the Pomona area to 50 feet

in the Jurupa Community Services District (JCSD) and Desalter II well field areas.²⁵ This decline in groundwater levels was projected to occur because managed storage was used to replenish desalter production and over-production by Appropriative Pool parties.

During the development of the *2013 Amendment to the 2010 Recharge Master Plan Update* (2013 RMPU), the JCSD asserted that declining groundwater levels in the areas around and in the JCSD and Chino Basin Desalter Authority (CDA) well fields contributed to declining groundwater pumping capacity at JCSD and CDA wells. Loss in production capacity in this area is likely due to hydraulic interference among the wells and could be mitigated by reducing pumping at these wells, spreading out production over a greater area, and/or by increased recharge located proximate and tributary to the JCSD and CDA well fields. The projected decline in groundwater levels after the mid to late 2020s is projected to further exacerbate pumping sustainability challenges in this part of the basin.

The existing storage management plan is based on fixed amounts of water in storage, and its technical basis is not supported by new information available after the storage management plan was first developed (1999). Review of this new information (developed since 1999), indicates that it is possible to expand the SSC to enable greater use of storage space. This new information includes an updated hydrogeologic conceptual model; 20 years of intensive monitoring of basin operations (not available in 1999), including monitoring the basin response as managed storage approached the SSC of 500,000 af; and groundwater model-based projections of the basin response to future management plans where the managed storage exceeded 500,000 af. Re-Operation will reduce the amount of Basin Water in storage by 400,000 af. The current storage management plan does not account for Re-Operation.

The new information developed since 1999 suggests that the unanticipated use of managed storage to meet future desalter and other replenishment obligations could cause potential MPI: it has the potential to exacerbate land subsidence and pumping sustainability challenges, impact net recharge and Safe Yield, increase groundwater discharge through the CCWF, cause a loss of Hydraulic Control, and change the direction and speed of the contaminant plumes. The OBMP storage management plan needs to be updated to include features that will ensure there is no MPI to a party or the basin caused by the conjunctive-use activities of the parties and Storage and Recovery Programs.

Storage Management Plan Requirements

This section describes the technical features of the recommended storage management plan, based on the requirements of the Judgment, the Peace Agreement, and the conclusions of the Storage Framework Investigation.

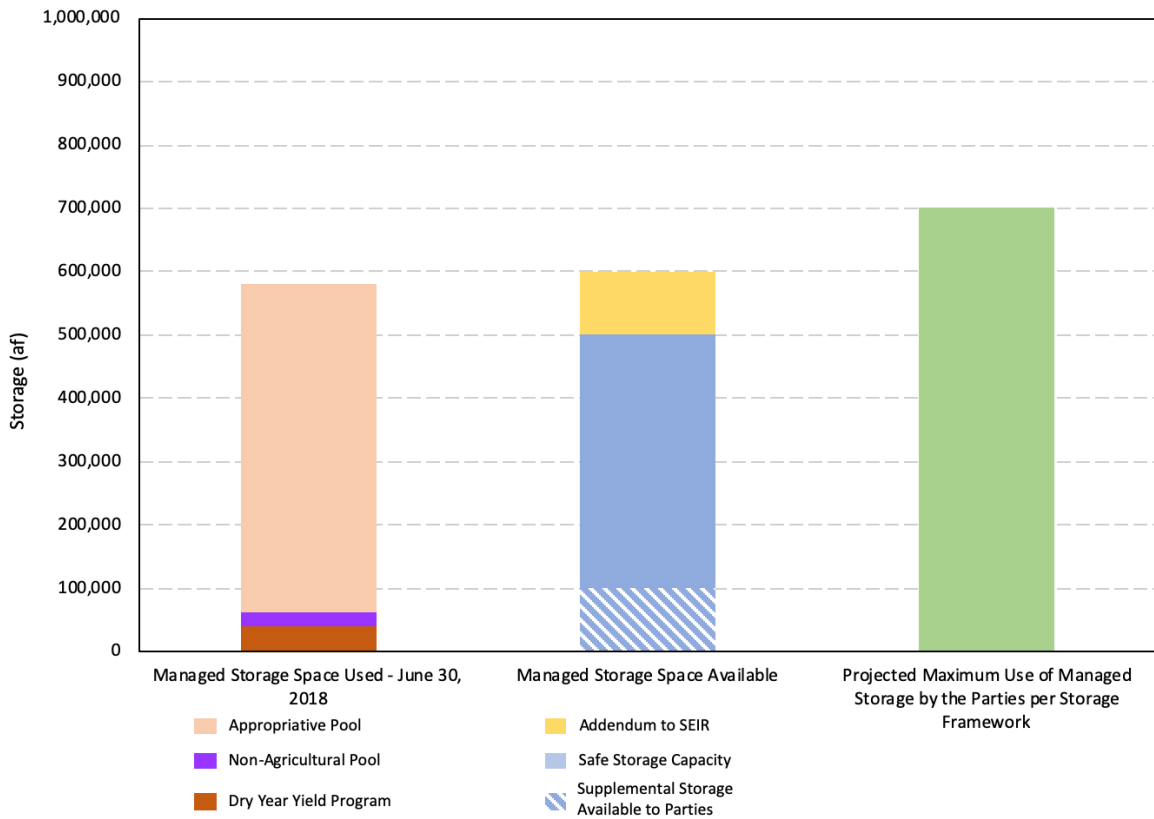
²⁵ See Figure 2-2 in the Storage Framework Investigation or Figure 7-5d from the Safe Yield report.

Allocation of Storage Space to the Parties Use of Managed Storage and Storage and Recovery Programs

The stakeholders desire to reserve storage space for the parties' individual uses and for Storage and Recovery Programs to provide certainty to their water supply planning and operations.

Based on the best available planning information provided by the parties in the Storage Framework Investigation, the parties' use of managed storage was projected to reach about 700,000 af in 2030 and decline monotonically thereafter. Therefore, it is logical to consider starting discussions for the parties use of managed storage with a limit of 700,000 af in the Storage Management Plan, and this will be adjusted in accordance with stakeholder input. Therefore, it is logical to consider establishing a limit for the parties' use of managed storage at 700,000 af in the Storage Management Plan. Figure 1 below compares the current use of managed storage to the storage space permitted per the Peace Agreement and the expected maximum use of managed storage by the parties.

Figure 1 Comparison of Managed Storage Space Used, Managed Storage Space Available and Projected Maximum Use of Managed Storage by the Parties



Alternatively, the Watermaster and the parties could establish a lower or higher limit, but additional engineering work will be required to assess the basin response and potential MPI for a higher limit.

The Storage Framework Investigation evaluated the use of 300,000 af of storage for Storage and Recovery Programs that was superimposed on the storage management activities of the parties. Therefore, it is logical to consider establishing an aggregate limit for all Storage and Recovery Programs at 300,000 af in the Storage Management Plan, and this limit will be adjusted in accordance with stakeholder input.

Reservation of Existing Spreading Basin Facilities to Satisfy Watermaster Recharge and Replenishment Obligations

The Judgment parties and IEUA, through the OBMP, have substantially increased the storm and supplemental water recharge capacity in the Chino Basin. The increase in supplemental water recharge capacity was done to ensure that Watermaster could meet its future recharge and replenishment obligations. Watermaster will include provisions in storage agreements that Watermaster will prioritize the use of spreading basins to satisfy Watermaster's recharge and replenishment obligations over the use of spreading basins for other uses.

Storage Management Activities of the Parties

Limitation of Transfers or Leases of Water Rights and Water Held in Managed Storage

Early in the OBMP implementation period Watermaster determined that transfers or leases of water rights and water held in managed storage (hereafter transfers) from parties that are situated such that they pump groundwater outside of MZ1 to parties that pump in MZ1 for *the purpose of replenishment* have the potential to cause MPI.

This limitation on transfers should be reconsidered if the land subsidence management plan for MZ1 includes consideration for such transfers, the land subsidence plan is implemented, and subsequent monitoring demonstrates the sufficiency of the land subsidence management plan.

Mitigation of Reduced Net Recharge and Safe Yield

Currently, Watermaster assesses a 0.07 percent loss to storage accounts based on the estimated groundwater discharge from the Chino North Management Zone to the Santa Ana River. The Storage Framework Investigation demonstrated that storing water has the effect of reducing net recharge and Safe Yield. The Storage Framework Investigation estimate of reduced net recharge is inclusive of discharge from the Chino North Management Zone to the Santa Ana River. The reduction in net recharge caused by storage is an adverse impact.

There are two fundamental approaches to mitigate the reduction in net recharge caused by the parties' storage management activities:

- In the first approach, the reduction net recharge would be embedded in Safe Yield, and it would be implicitly allocated to Appropriative Pool parties, based on their pro rata share of Operating Safe Yield.
- In the second approach, the reduction in net recharge would be debited to the storage accounts of the storing parties in the Appropriative and Overlying Non-agricultural pools, based on each parties' amount of water in storage.

Watermaster and the parties need to determine which of the above approaches or variant of them to include in the storage management plan to ensure that the impact from the parties' storage management activities are considered and addressed.

Storage and Recovery Programs

Prioritization of Put and Take Operations in MZ2 and MZ3

Storage and Recovery programs are implemented through a series of “puts” and “takes” where water goes into storage during a put and is recovered from storage during a take. Based on the results of the Storage Framework Investigation, these put and takes should be prioritized to occur in MZ2 and MZ3 to avoid new land subsidence and interfering with land subsidence management in MZ1, to minimize pumping sustainability challenges, to minimize the impact of storage and recovery operations on solvent plumes, to preserve the state of Hydraulic Control, and to take advantage of the larger and more useful groundwater storage space in MZ2 and MZ3.

This spatial prioritization on puts and takes should be reconsidered if the land subsidence management plan for MZ1 includes consideration for Storage and Recovery programs, the land subsidence plan is implemented, and subsequent monitoring demonstrates the sufficiency of the land subsidence management plan.

Evaluation of Storage and Recovery Program Impacts, MPI, and Mitigation

The intent of this provision is to reaffirm the requirements of Paragraph 12 of the Judgment and the Peace Agreement, as to the review of Storage and Recovery Program applications, and to require Storage and Recovery Program agreements to provide provisions that require Storage and Recovery Program proponents to cease or modify their operations if Watermaster determines, subsequent to Watermaster and Court approval of a Storage and Recovery Program storage agreement, that the proponent’s storage and recovery operations are causing or threaten to cause potential MPI. The potential MPIs to be addressed include but are not limited to: land subsidence, pumping sustainability, reductions in net recharge and safe yield, water quality impacts, shallow groundwater, and liquefaction.

Watermaster will review each Storage and Recovery Program application, estimate the surface and groundwater system response, prepare a report that documents the response and potential MPI, and develop mitigation measures to mitigate MPI caused by the proposed Storage and Recovery Program. Watermaster will incorporate these mitigation measures into the Storage and Recovery Program storage agreement.

Watermaster will periodically review current basin conditions, compare this information to the projected basin conditions prepared in the evaluation of the Storage and Recovery Program application process, compare the projected Storage and Recovery Program operations to actual Storage and Recovery Program operations, and make findings regarding the efficacy of related MPI mitigation requirements in the Storage and Recovery Program storage agreement. And, based on its review and findings, Watermaster may require changes in the Storage and Recovery Program operations to mitigate MPI.

Hydraulic Control Impacts Due to a Storage and Recovery Program Must Be Mitigated

Watermaster will, as part of the Storage and Recovery Program application review process, make a projection of the program’s expected impact on the state of Hydraulic Control. Watermaster will review these impacts and develop mitigation requirements for the proposed Storage and

Recovery Program. These mitigation requirements will be incorporated into the Storage and Recovery Program storage agreement.

Watermaster should periodically review the state of Hydraulic Control and update projections of the state of Hydraulic Control, compare this information to the projected Hydraulic Control assessment prepared in the evaluation of the Storage and Recovery Program application process, compare the projected Storage and Recovery Program operations to actual Storage and Recovery Program operations, and make findings regarding the efficacy of the related mitigation requirements in the Storage and Recovery Program storage agreement. And, based on its review and findings, Watermaster may require changes in the Storage and Recovery Program operations to mitigate impacts on the state of Hydraulic Control.

Storage Agreement Application Process

Watermaster and the parties should consider updating the storage agreement application process to incorporate changes in the technical features of storage management and to improve the efficiency of the application process.

Storage Management Plan Update

Watermaster should periodically review and update the storage management plan based on: monitoring information obtained since the previous storage management plan was adopted, technology changes, and the “needs and requirements of the lands overlying the Chino Basin and the owners of the rights in the Safe Yield or Operating Safe Yield of the Basin.” The assessment of technical storage management concerns and opportunities requires the use of updated hydrologic data and models and can be completed efficiently with the recalculation of Safe Yield on a ten-year frequency or more frequently.

The projected aggregate amount of managed storage by the parties in 2050 (planning horizon of the Storage Framework Investigation) is about 340,000 af. Notwithstanding the update frequency recommended above, Watermaster should consider updating the storage management plan before the aggregate amount of managed storage by the parties falls below 340,000 af if not done earlier in a periodic update of the storage management plan.

Exhibit A

Comments and Responses on the June 8, 2019 Storage Management Plan White Paper

Monte Vista Water District

Comment No. 1. Page 1, first full paragraph, text that reads: “As a prerequisite to implementing the Optimum Basin Management Program (“OBMP”) the parties executed an agreement providing direction and guidance to the Watermaster on how storage should be prioritized and managed.” Emphasis added. ***MVWD comment reads: “please state agreement and year.”***

Response. The agreement referred to is the 2000 Peace Agreement. Text modified to refer to the Peace Agreement.

Comment No. 2. Page 1, third full paragraph, , text that reads: “Groundwater storage was estimated to have declined by about 1,600,000 af over the period 1922 through 1978, the starting point of the Judgment implementation. This decline in groundwater storage was recognized in the Judgment, and it requires that the use of this space be undertaken only under Watermaster control and regulation.” Emphasis added. ***MVWD comment reads: Storage did not decline, groundwater in storage declined” and “change to “groundwater in storage”, respectively.***

Response. Text changed as requested.

Comment No. 3. Page 7, second full paragraph, text that reads: “The IEUA and some of the parties are proposing the implementation of Storage and Recovery Programs, including the Chino Basin Water Bank, the Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive-Use Program (SARCCUP), and the Chino Basin Program (CBP). ***MVWD comment reads: “It may be more contemporary to now delete the reference to SARCCUP.”***

Response. Text changed as requested.

Comment No. 4. Page 7, last paragraph continuing to top of page 8, text that reads: “The results of the groundwater modeling work reported in the Safe Yield report projected, based on the best planning information available at that time, that the total storage in the basin will likely be relatively stable through the mid to late 2020s, and by 2050, groundwater levels were projected to decline over a broad area ranging from about -65 feet in the Pomona area to -50 feet in the Jurupa Community Services District (JCSD) and Desalter II well field areas.” ***MVWD comment reads: “Described as a decline, the negative signs cause a double negative.”***

Response. Text changed to remove the negative signs.

Comment No. 5. Page 8, third full paragraph, text that reads: “The new information developed since 1999 suggests that the unanticipated use of managed storage to meet future desalter and other replenishment obligations could cause potential MPI: it has the potential to exacerbate land subsidence and pumping sustainability challenges, impact net recharge and Safe Yield,

increase groundwater discharge through the CCWF, cause a loss of Hydraulic Control, and change the direction and speed of the contaminant plumes.” ***MVWD comment reads: “Based on my 6/20 discussion with Andy I think he understands that it may be more clear if the phrase ‘to meet future desalter and other replenishment obligations’ is removed”.***

Response. The text was not changed.

Comment No. 6. Page 9, last paragraph, text that reads: “Therefore, it is logical to consider establishing a limit for the parties’ use of managed storage at 700,000 af in the Storage Management Plan.” ***MVWD comment reads: “Change ‘logical’ to ‘conductive’. ‘Logical’ seems to give an 700k an aura of certainty higher that it deserves.”***

Response. The text was changed to read: “Therefore, it is logical to consider starting discussions for the parties use of managed storage with a limit of 700,000 af in the Storage Management Plan, and this will be adjusted in accordance with stakeholder input.”

Comment No. 7. Page 10, second full paragraph, text that reads: “Therefore, it is logical to consider establishing an aggregate limit for all Storage and Recovery Programs at 300,000 af, provided that the aggregate storage limit for parties does not exceed 700,000 af.” ***MVWD comment reads: “This sentence/conclusion should probably be put on hold pending on how Watermaster stakeholders decide to be addressed, including mitigation measures.”***

Response: Note that the subsequent sentence in the text reads: “Watermaster and the parties could establish a lower or higher aggregate storage limit for Storage and Recovery Programs, but additional engineering work will be required to assess the basin response and MPI for a higher aggregated storage limit.” This sentence responds to the comment. That said, the text was changed to read: “Therefore, it is logical to consider establishing an aggregate limit for all Storage and Recovery Programs at 300,000 af in the Storage Management Plan, and this limit will be adjusted in accordance with stakeholder input.”

Comment No. 8. Page 11, first paragraph, text that reads: “Watermaster has the right to the use existing spreading basins to meet its recharge and replenishment obligations over the use of these facilities by any party or person to accomplish supplemental water recharge.” ***MVWD comment reads: “Is it WM or WM stakeholders who have invested into the basins that have this right?”***

Response: The OBMP identified that there was not enough supplemental water recharge capacity to meet future replenishment obligations. OBMP implementation led to the construction of recharge improvements that increased supplemental water recharge capacity for replenishment. The intent of constructing the recharge improvements is specific to increasing storm water recharge and providing Watermaster recharge capacity for replenishment. The text has been changed to read that Watermaster will include provisions in storage agreements that Watermaster will prioritize the use of spreading basins to satisfy Watermaster’s recharge and replenishment obligations over the use of spreading basins for other uses.

Comment No. 9. Page 11, second paragraph, text that reads: “Early in the OBMP implementation period Watermaster determined that transfers or leases of water rights and water held in managed storage (hereafter transfers) from parties that are situated such that they pump groundwater outside of MZ1 to parties that pump in MZ1 have the potential to cause MPI.” *MVWD comment reads: “Transfers/leases into MZ1 do not have the potential to cause MPI. It can be said that physical pumping/production to some level has the potential to cause MPI. Transfer/leases and pumping/production are not one in the same.”*

Response: The text will be revised to improve clarity and will read: “Early in the OBMP implementation period Watermaster determined that transfers or leases of water rights and water held in managed storage (hereafter transfers) from parties that are situated such that they pump groundwater outside of MZ1 to parties that pump in MZ1 *for the purpose of replenishment* have the potential to cause MPI.”

San Antonio Water Company

Comment No. 1. Page 1, first full paragraph, text that reads: “As a prerequisite to implementing the Optimum Basin Management Program (“OBMP”) the parties executed an agreement providing direction and guidance to the Watermaster on how storage should be prioritized and managed.” Emphasis added. *SAWC comment reads: “Would you please direct me to document and page where this is referenced?”*

Response. The agreement referred to is the 2000 Peace Agreement. Text will be modified to refer to the Peace Agreement.

Comment No. 2. Page 2, citation to Judgment Paragraph 28. *SAWC comment reads: “Storage agreements are currently not going to court...correct? Are there concerns at this time because of that?”*

Response: There are no concerns at time. The present storage agreement, procedures, and forms have been approved by the Court through the approval of the Peace Agreement and Watermaster Rules and Regulations.

Comment No. 3. Page 8, third full paragraph, text that reads: “The new information developed since 1999 suggests that the unanticipated use of managed storage to meet future desalter and other replenishment obligations could cause potential MPI: it has the potential to exacerbate land subsidence and pumping sustainability challenges, impact net recharge and Safe Yield, increase groundwater discharge through the CCWF, cause a loss of Hydraulic Control, and change the direction and speed of the contaminant plumes. The OBMP storage management plan needs to be updated to include features that will ensure there is no MPI to a party or the basin caused by the conjunctive-use activities of the parties and Storage and Recovery Programs. “ *SAWC comment reads: “I need further understanding. If the parties are not pumping the water and utilizing it as a transfer, why is there a problem? Wasn't this thought about when the desalter replenishment obligation was discussed? Didn't WEI do a study on the impact of this decision? Is it because the re-op schedule was changed?*

Response: The original storage management plan was developed for the OBMP in 1999, based on the best available information available to Watermaster. The overlying land and water use practices have evolved over time, and we have continued to refine our understanding of the Basin and its responsiveness to all known variables. Even since Re-Operation was approved by the Court in 2007, the collection and analysis of new data and the application of technology improvements have provided Watermaster and the parties the ability to develop a more refined evaluation of the potential the impacts to the basin from specific recharge, pumping, and storage activities. It is true, the length of time water is held in storage and the rate and location of its withdrawal have implications. Potential impacts attributable to proposed changes in the current baseline will be addressed using our improved knowledge and analytical tools and incorporated into the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 4. Page 11 first full paragraph, text that reads: “Watermaster has the right to the use existing spreading basins to meet its recharge and replenishment obligations over the use of these facilities by any party or person to accomplish supplemental water recharge.” ***SAWC comment reads: “Why does Watermaster get first use of basin? Didn't the parties pay for the basin. Why is SAWCo's water not given priority over someone pumping rights they don't have?”***

Response: As to priority of use of the recharge basins, please see response to MVWD Comment No. 8. As to the question: “*Why is SAWCo's water not given priority over someone pumping rights they don't have?*” This is not a storage management plan question

Comment No. 5. Page 11, first bulleted item following the fifth paragraph, text that reads: “In the first approach, the reduction net recharge would be embedded in Safe Yield, and it would be implicitly allocated to Appropriative Pool parties, based on their pro rata share of Operating Safe Yield.” SAWC’s comment reads : ***“Other options need to be considered such as time frame for storage if it makes sense.”***

Response: The white paper refers to bookends on the approach to identify and mitigate a reduction in Safe Yield caused by the use of managed storage. The impact on Safe Yield from the duration that water is held in managed storage is included the bookend approaches and any variants of them.

Overlying Agricultural Pool

Comment No. 1. Page 1, first paragraph, text that reads: “ The prevailing standard for all operations is the avoidance of “undesirable results”—defined as “material physical injury”— under court approved management agreements executed contemporaneously and subsequent to the adoption of the OBMP Update in June 2020. “ ***Ag pool comment reads: “MPI is legally defined by Watermaster legal documents (court approved management agreements) and it does not include "undesirable results." Ag Pool supports this concept however and recommends that WM bolster this in light of the defined term.”***

No response required.

Comment No. 2. Page 3, first bullet after the second full paragraph, text that reads: “Operational storage requirement (OSR) is the storage or volume in the Chino Basin that is necessary to maintain the Safe Yield. The OSR was estimated in the development of the OBMP to be about 5.3 million af. This storage value was set as the estimated storage in the basin in 1997. “ **Ag Pool comment reads: “Should there be a discussion on the relevance of OSR and SSC for the OBMP Update?”**

Response: The relevancy of the original OBMP storage management plan will be described in the 2020 Storage Management Plan. The 2020 Storage Management Plan will be incorporated into the OBMP update.

Comment No. 3. Page 4, first full paragraph, text that reads: “Water occupying the SSC includes Carryover, Excess Carryover, Local Storage, and Supplemental Waters stored by the parties. Water stored for Storage and Recovery Programs is also included in the SSC. Carryover, Excess Carryover, Local Storage, and Supplemental Waters are referred to herein collectively as managed storage. “ **Ag Pool comment reads: “Why is this (managed storage) defined that way?”**

Response: Managed storage refers to all water that is stored by virtue of the management activities of the parties and Storage and Recovery Program entities, and it includes carryover water.

Comment No. 4. Page 4 last paragraph continuing onto Page 5, text that reads: “These investigations included a recalculation of the total water in storage in the basin, based on the improved hydrogeologic understanding. The total storage in the Chino Basin for 2000 was estimated to be about 5,935,000 af, which is 635,000 af greater than that estimated for the OSR and 135,000 af greater than safe storage.” **Ag Pool Comment reads: “This should be explained. Consider adding a technical rationale for the revised total storage and reference where this rationale was developed.”**

Response: The engineering work for the Peace II Agreement produced a new hydrogeologic conceptual model that resulted in an updated estimate of the water in storage in 2000. A footnote will be added to state this and provide a reference to the documentation for it.

Comment No. 5. Page 5, second bullet after the second full paragraph, text that reads: “Managed storage was projected to increase from 487,000 af in 2016 to about 663,000 af by 2030 (exceeding the SSC by 163,000 af) and decline thereafter to zero af by 2051. Managed storage was projected to be used to meet future replenishment obligations.” **Ag Pool comment: “When and how will the storage be used? Should there be a schedule?”**

Response. The cited text refers to description of how managed storage is projected to change based on the work done to recalculate the Safe Yield and reported in *2013 Chino Basin Groundwater Model Update and Recalculation of Safe Yield Pursuant to the Peace Agreement* (WEI, 2015). The water in managed storage was assumed to be used for replenishment purposes based on the projected aggregate replenishment obligation. No schedule was

recommended for the use of managed storage in the report. The concept of a schedule should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 6. Page 6, first paragraph, text that reads: “Since the Judgment came into effect, Watermaster developed rules and regulations, standard storage agreements, and related forms. There are three types of storage agreements that result in several types of storage accounts: Excess Carryover, Local Supplemental, Local Storage and Storage and Recovery. An Excess Carryover account includes a party’s unproduced rights in the Safe Yield (Safe Yield for Overlying Non-Agricultural Pool parties and Operating Safe Yield for Appropriative Pool parties) and Basin Water acquired from other parties. A Local Supplemental Water account includes imported and recycled water that is recharged by a party and similar water acquired from other parties. A Storage and Recovery account includes Supplemental Water and is intended to produce a “broad and mutual benefit to the Parties to the Judgment.” Watermaster tracks the puts, takes, losses, and end of year storage totals for all of these storage accounts, and reports on this accounting in the annual assessment process.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Should the different storage accounts be valued and used appropriately?”**

Response: This question should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 7. Page 6, second paragraph, text that reads: “In evaluating applications for storage agreements, Watermaster must conduct an investigation to determine if the water stored and recovered under a proposed storage agreement will cause MPI to a party or the basin. If Watermaster determines that implementation of the proposed storage agreement will cause MPI, the applicant must revise its application so there is no MPI, or Watermaster must impose conditions in the storage agreement to ensure there is no MPI. Watermaster cannot approve a storage agreement that will result in MPI.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “What about storage absent agreements? Is it assumed that is MPI?”**

Response: **The paragraph describes an agreement approval process. Currently, all storage accounts have agreements in place.**

Comment No. 8. Page 6, third paragraph, text reads: “The parties, amongst themselves, are actively involved in water transfers of annual unproduced rights in the Safe Yield and water in their storage accounts. Watermaster has an application and review process for transfers that is similar to the storage agreement application process. Transfers are one way that the parties recover water held in storage accounts.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Should the management plan curtail these? Should the parties be on notice that the ability to use a transfer is conditional on Watermaster's continued finding that removal of water held in storage will not cause MPI?”**

Response: Watermaster has an application and review process for transfers that is similar to the storage agreement application process. If Watermaster determines that a proposed transfer will cause MPI, the applicant must revise its application so there is no MPI, or Watermaster must impose conditions on the transfer to ensure there is no MPI. Watermaster

cannot approve a transfer that will result in MPI. These questions should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 9. Page 6, fourth paragraph, text that reads: “Table 1 does not reflect the anticipated reductions in managed storage that will occur to offset unassessed desalter replenishment obligations.²³” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Why not? Where is that analysis?”**

Response. See footnote 23 in the June 8th initial draft of the 2020 Storage Management Plan White Paper (footnote 24 in the July 18th final draft). Watermaster is the process of updating assessment packages from prior years pursuant to the Court order that approved the Safe Yield for the period 2011 through 2020. It is anticipated that the assessment package update will be completed within the calendar year. Table 1 will be updated after the assessment packages are updated.

Comment No. 10. Page 7, first paragraph, text that reads: “Metropolitan’s DYYP is the only active Storage and Recovery Program in the basin. The DYYP can store up to 100,000 af with maximum puts of 25,000 afy and maximum takes of 33,000 afy. As of July 1, 2018, there were 41,380 af stored in the DYYP account. The agreement that authorizes the DYYP will expire in 2028.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Should all storage be managed like this one? Why or why not?”**

Response: These questions should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 11. Page 7, second paragraph, text that reads: “The IEUA and some of the parties are proposing the implementation of Storage and Recovery Programs, including the Chino Basin Water Bank, the Santa Ana River Conservation and Conjunctive-Use Program (SARCCUP), and the Chino Basin Program (CBP). The operational parameters of these proposed programs are not yet defined; that said, the amount of storage space required has been identified to range between 200,000 and 300,000 af.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “What would be the impact. What are the proposed best management practices for this type of use?”**

Response: Absent specific proposals for these proposed Storage and Recovery Programs, the Ag Pool questions cannot be answered. The CBP is currently being formulated, and the Ag Pool questions will be answered in detail in early 2020.

Comment No. 12. Page 8, first full paragraph, text that reads: “During the development of the 2013 Amendment to the 2010 Recharge Master Plan Update (2013 RMPU), the JCSD asserted that declining groundwater levels in the areas around and in the JCSD and Chino Basin Desalter Authority (CDA) well fields contributed to declining groundwater pumping capacity at JCSD and CDA wells. Loss in production capacity in this area is likely due to hydraulic interference among the wells and could be mitigated by reducing pumping at these wells, spreading out production over a greater area, and/or by increased recharge located proximate and tributary to the JCSD and CDA well fields. The projected decline in groundwater levels after the mid to late 2020s is

projected to further exacerbate pumping sustainability challenges in this part of the basin.” **Ag Pool comment: “Will these types of techniques be required in the plan?”**

Response. This question should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 12. Page 8, second full paragraph that reads: “The existing storage management plan is based on fixed amounts of water in storage, and its technical basis is not supported by new information available after the storage management plan was first developed (1999). Review of this new information (developed since 1999), indicates that it is possible to expand the SSC to enable greater use of storage space. This new information includes an updated hydrogeologic conceptual model; 20 years of intensive monitoring of basin operations (not available in 1999), including monitoring the basin response as managed storage approached the SSC of 500,000 af; and groundwater model-based projections of the basin response to future management plans where the managed storage exceeded 500,000 af. Re-Operation will reduce the amount of Basin Water in storage by 400,000 af. The current storage management plan does not account for Re-Operation. **Ag Pool comment reads: “Detail of this is warranted.”**

Response: Additional detail will be provided in draft Storage Management Plan document when it is prepared.

Comment No. 13. Page 8, third full paragraph that reads: “The new information developed since 1999 suggests that the unanticipated use of managed storage to meet future desalter and other replenishment obligations could cause potential MPI: it has the potential to exacerbate land subsidence and pumping sustainability challenges, impact net recharge and Safe Yield, increase groundwater discharge through the CCWF, cause a loss of Hydraulic Control, and change the direction and speed of the contaminant plumes. The OBMP storage management plan needs to be updated to include features that will ensure there is no MPI to a party or the basin caused by the conjunctive-use activities of the parties and Storage and Recovery Programs.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “What are the proposed management techniques to avoid this?”**

Response: The management features/requirements to avoid MPI are described in the 2020 Storage Management Plan White Paper, following the cited text, and they will be included in the Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 14. Page 9, second paragraph that reads: “Based on the best available planning information provided by the parties in the Storage Framework Investigation, the parties’ use of managed storage was projected to reach about 700,000 af in 2030 and decline monotonically thereafter. Therefore, it is logical to consider establishing a limit for the parties’ use of managed storage at 700,000 af in the Storage Management Plan.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “This seems a bit high and not specific enough to each pumper. An itemized list of each parties desire for storage would be useful. What the parties lay claim to cannot be used by water bankers including IEUA for their grant funding. Water bankers are going to want absolute certainty in what they can bank.**

Response: These comments should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 15. Page 10, first paragraph that reads: “Alternatively, the Watermaster and the parties could establish a lower or higher limit, but additional engineering work will be required to assess the basin response and MPI for a higher limit.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Why wouldn't we do that now?”**

Response: This question should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 16. Page 10, second paragraph, text that reads: “The Storage Framework Investigation evaluated the use of 300,000 af of storage for Storage and Recovery Programs that was superimposed on the storage management activities of the parties. Therefore, it is logical to consider establishing an aggregate limit for all Storage and Recovery Programs at 300,000 af, provided that the aggregate storage limit for parties does not exceed 700,000 af. Watermaster and the parties could establish a lower or higher aggregate storage limit for Storage and Recovery Programs, but additional engineering work will be required to assess the basin response and MPI for a higher aggregated storage limit.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Again, should we do pumper and location specific analysis?”**

Response: An MPI analysis is required for each Storage and Recovery Program proposal, and they will include a “pumper and location-specific analysis.”

Comment No. 17. Page 11, first paragraph, text that reads: “The Judgment parties and IEUA, through the OBMP, have substantially increased the storm and supplemental water recharge capacity in the Chino Basin. The increase in supplemental water recharge capacity was done to ensure that Watermaster could meet its future recharge and replenishment obligations. Watermaster has the right to the use existing spreading basins to meet its recharge and replenishment obligations over the use of these facilities by any party or person to accomplish supplemental water recharge.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Why is this important and should it be developed further?”**

Response: This is important because Storage and Recovery Program agreements need to specify that Watermaster has priority use of the existing spreading basins for its recharge and replenishment obligations over the use of these facilities for storage and recovery operations. The intent is to avoid conflicts between the recharge capacity required by Watermaster to fulfill its obligations under the Judgment and the desire of Storage and Recovery Program proponents to use the same existing recharge facilities to conduct recharge for their storage and recovery programs. The need to develop this further should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 18. Page 11, Second and third paragraphs, text that reads: “Early in the OBMP implementation period Watermaster determined that transfers or leases of water rights and water held in managed storage (hereafter transfers) from parties that are situated such that

they pump groundwater outside of MZ1 to parties that pump in MZ1 have the potential to cause MPI. No such transfers have occurred since the OBMP was implemented in 2000. This limitation on transfers should be reconsidered if the land subsidence management plan for MZ1 includes consideration for such transfers, the land subsidence plan is implemented, and subsequent monitoring demonstrates the sufficiency of the land subsidence management plan.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Why not include these requirements and potential uses in this plan? Additional details, analyses and monitoring would be needed to evaluate.”**

Response: This requirement will be included in the 2020 Storage Management Plan. The ongoing monitoring and analysis for land subsidence and the implementation of future land subsidence plans will provide the information necessary to update the requirement.

Comment No. 19. Page 11, last paragraph, text that reads: “Watermaster and the parties need to determine which of the above approaches or variant of them to include in the storage management plan to ensure their storage management activities do not cause MPI.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “What does Wildermuth (the expert) recommend? Should those that benefit the most pay the most?”**

Response: The specific approach in allocating mitigation liability for storage induced changes in net recharge and Safe Yield should be discussed and addressed by the parties.

Comment No. 20. Page 12, second paragraph, text that reads: “This limitation on puts and takes should be reconsidered if the land subsidence management plan for MZ1 includes consideration for Storage and Recovery programs, the land subsidence plan is implemented, and subsequent monitoring demonstrates the sufficiency of the land subsidence management plan.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “What does Wildermuth recommend as the tool to accomplish this? This needs further evaluation during development of the plan and continued validation and adjustment during operations on annual basis.”**

Response: This management requirement will be described in greater detail in the draft 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 21. Page 12, third paragraph, text that reads: “The intent of this provision is to reaffirm the requirements of Paragraph 12 of the Judgment and the Peace Agreement, as to the review of Storage and Recovery Program applications, and to require Storage and Recovery Program agreements to provide provisions that require Storage and Recovery Program proponents to cease or modify their operations if Watermaster determines, subsequent to Watermaster and Court approval of a Storage and Recovery Program storage agreement, that the proponent’s storage and recovery operations are causing or threaten to cause MPI. The potential MPI to be addressed include but are not limited to: land subsidence, pumping sustainability, reductions in net recharge and safe yield, water quality impacts, shallow groundwater, and liquefaction.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Propose abandonment of the Watermaster rebuttable presumption of no MPI.”**

Response: This comment should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 22. Page 12, third paragraph, text that reads: “Watermaster will review each Storage and Recovery Program application, estimate the surface and groundwater system response, prepare a report that documents the response and potential MPI, and develop mitigation measures to mitigate MPI caused by the proposed Storage and Recovery Program. Watermaster will incorporate these mitigation measures into the Storage and Recovery Program storage agreement.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “How will this requirement be reflected in the plan?”**

Response: It will be explicitly stated. This requirement is in the Peace Agreement.

Comment No. 23. Page 12, fifth paragraph, text that reads: “Watermaster will periodically review current basin conditions, compare this information to the projected basin conditions prepared in the evaluation of the Storage and Recovery Program application process, compare the projected Storage and Recovery Program operations to actual Storage and Recovery Program operations, and make findings regarding the efficacy of related MPI mitigation requirements in the Storage and Recovery Program storage agreement. And, based on its review and findings, Watermaster may require changes in the Storage and Recovery Program operations to mitigate MPI.” **Ag Pool comment reads: Will this be required by the plan?**

Response: Yes.

Comment No. 24. Page 13, first full paragraph, text that reads: “Watermaster should periodically review the state of Hydraulic Control and update projections of the state of Hydraulic Control, compare this information to the projected Hydraulic Control assessment prepared in the evaluation of the Storage and Recovery Program application process, compare the projected Storage and Recovery Program operations to actual Storage and Recovery Program operations, and make findings regarding the efficacy of the related mitigation requirements in the Storage and Recovery Program storage agreement. And, based on its review and findings, Watermaster may require changes in the Storage and Recovery Program operations to mitigate impacts on the state of Hydraulic Control.” **Ag Pool comment: “Define “periodically.” The Ag Pool proposes that this be done on an annual basis and no less than every two years.**

Response: This management requirement will be described in greater detail in the draft 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 25. Page 13, second full paragraph, text that reads: “Watermaster and the parties should consider updating the storage agreement application process to incorporate changes in the technical features of storage management and to improve the efficiency of the application process.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Why not require it now and include it in the plan?”**

Response: This comment should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 26. Page 13, third full paragraph, text that reads: “Watermaster should periodically review and update the storage management plan based on: monitoring information obtained since the previous storage management plan was adopted, technology changes, and the “needs and requirements of the lands overlying the Chino Basin and the owners of the rights in the Safe Yield or Operating Safe Yield of the Basin.” The assessment of technical storage management concerns and opportunities requires the use of updated hydrologic data and models and can be completed efficiently with the recalculation of Safe Yield on a ten-year frequency or more frequently.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Propose that Wildermuth define when this would be necessary and provide advice. Define “periodically.”**

Response: This management requirement will be described in greater detail in the draft 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 27. Page 13, fourth full paragraph, text that reads: “The projected aggregate amount of managed storage by the parties in 2050 (planning horizon of the Storage Framework Investigation) is about 340,000 af. Notwithstanding the update frequency recommended above, Watermaster should consider updating the storage management plan before the aggregate amount of managed storage by the parties falls below 340,000 af if not done earlier in a periodic update of the storage management plan.” **Ag Pool comment reads: “Consider adding a buffer of additional AF to provide time to adjust. Consider other potential factors as well, such a rate of decline and projected time of reaching this untested threshold. Repeat that the periodic update should be conducted on an annual basis. not on a regular basis to ensure that it does not fall below. How will storage be allocated among the parties. What happens if everyone wants 100k AF? Where is the substance of the plan?”**

Response: As to the direct comment, the intent of the periodic review and update of the Storage Management Plan is to track the amount of water in managed storage, update the plan as necessary to avoid MPI, and to test the efficacy of the 340,000 af threshold. The frequency of the Storage Management Plan review and update will be established to ensure no MPI from the use of managed storage. This management requirement will be described in greater detail in the draft 2020 Storage Management Plan. The answers to the questions “How will storage be allocated among the parties. What happens if everyone wants 100k AF?” and “Where is the substance of the plan?” should be addressed by the parties in the development of the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Overlying Non-Agricultural Pool

Comment No. 1. Background section, **Overlying Non-ag Pool comment reads: “In this section, the report says that as a prerequisite to implementing the OBMP, “the parties executed an agreement.” Which agreement does this refer to? Which parties executed it?”**

Response. The agreement referred to is the 2000 Peace Agreement. Text will be modified to refer to the Peace Agreement.

Comment No. 2. Judgment section, *Overlying Non-ag Pool comment reads: “In this section, the draft says that groundwater storage “was estimated” to have declined by about 1,600,000 af over the period from 1922 through 1978. Who made this estimate? When? What is the source for this statement?*

Response: The change in storage was reported in *2013 Chino Basin Groundwater Model Update and Recalculation of Safe Yield Pursuant to the Peace Agreement* (WEI, 2015).

Comment No. 3. Judgment section, *Overlying Non-ag Pool comment reads: “In this section, the draft says that Section 11 and Section 12 of the Judgment require that use of storage be undertaken only under Watermaster control and regulation. Section 11 and Section 12 apply only to Supplemental Water. Is there a basis in the Judgment for control or regulation by Watermaster of carryover water? What is the basis?*

Response: Watermaster does not require agreements for carryover. Paragraph 7 of Exhibit “G” (Overlying (Non-Agricultural) Pool Pooling Plan) and Paragraph 12 of Exhibit “H” (Appropriative Pool Pooling Plan) to the Restated Judgment both require a storage agreement with Watermaster as a condition of storing excess carryover.

Comment No. 4. Judgment section, *Overlying Non-ag Pool comment reads: “In this section, the draft says that Section 28 requires Watermaster to develop and administer storage agreements for Supplemental Water. Section 28 requires Watermaster to administer Supplemental Water, but does not require or authorize Watermaster to develop or administer storage agreements for carryover water. Is there a basis in the Judgment for storage agreements for carryover water? What is the basis?*

Response: **See response to Comment No. 3 above.**

Comment No. 5. Storage Agreement section, *Overlying Non-ag Pool comment reads: “In this section, the report says that an Excess Carryover account includes a party’s unproduced rights in the Safe Yield “and Basin Water acquired from other parties.” What is intended by the words in italics? Should the italicized words be replaced with “and Excess Carryover acquired from other parties”?*

Response: It includes a party’s unproduced safe yield rights and the unproduced rights acquired from other parties.

Comment No. 6. Storage Agreement section, *Overlying Non-ag Pool comment reads: “In this section, the report says that, in evaluating applications for storage agreements, Watermaster must conduct an investigation to determine if the water stored and recovered under a proposed storage agreement will cause MPI to a party or the basin. As stated above, the Judgment appears to authorize control and regulation by Watermaster of Supplemental Water, but not carryover water. Is there a basis in the Judgment for investigations of MPI for storage of excess carryover? What is the basis?*

Response: Paragraph 7 of Exhibit “G” (Overlying (Non-Agricultural) Pool Pooling Plan) and Paragraph 12 of Exhibit “H” (Appropriative Pool Pooling Plan) to the Restated Judgment both require a storage agreement with Watermaster as a condition of storing excess carryover.

Comment No. 7. Existing Managed Storage and Proposed Storage and Recovery Programs section. **Overlying Non-ag comment reads: “In this section, the report introduces the term “managed storage” for the first time. Prior to this section, all storage was referred to as “storage.” The implication is that “managed storage” is a subset of “storage.” What is the difference between “storage” and “managed storage”?**

Response: Managed storage is the aggregate of Carryover, Excess Carryover, Local Storage, and Supplemental Waters. This term was used throughout the Storage Framework Investigation presentations and report.

Comment No. 8. Storage Management Plan Requirements section. **Overlying Non-ag comment reads: “In this section, the report says that it is “logical” to consider establishing an aggregate limit for all storage at 700,000 af. As stated above, the Judgment appears to authorize control and regulation by Watermaster of Supplemental Water, but not carryover water. Should limits on storage apply to Supplemental Water and perhaps other water, but not apply to carryover water?”**

Response: The limits suggested in this section are intended to apply to all water held in managed storage, which includes carryover water.

Comment No. 9. Mitigation of Reduced Net Recharge and Safe Yield section. **Overlying Non-ag comment reads: “In this Section, the report says that Watermaster assesses a 0.07 percent loss to storage accounts based on estimated losses of water in the Basin to the Santa Ana River. As stated above, the Judgment appears to authorize control and regulation by Watermaster of Supplemental Water, but not carryover water. Should such losses be assessed on Supplemental Water and perhaps other water, but not on carryover water?”**

Response: Watermaster assesses these losses on excess carryover and supplemental water in storage.

Comment No. 10. Mitigation of Reduced Net Recharge and Safe Yield section. **Overlying Non-ag comment reads: “In this Section, the report says that the “Storage Framework Investigation” demonstrated that storing water has the effect of reducing net recharge and Safe Yield. Where on Watermaster’s website can the Storage Framework Investigation currently be found? Where in the report is this effect “demonstrated.” If storage has this effect, should such reduction be attributed to Supplemental Water and perhaps other water, but not to carryover water?”**

Response. Please see the Storage Framework Investigation Report located here: https://cbwm.syncedtool.com/shares/folder/9abb162877b999/?folder_id=1429

The effect of managed storage on net recharge was presented and discussed at several workshops that were conducted during the preparation of the Storage Framework Investigation and pdfs of the PowerPoint presentation from these workshops are located here:

https://cbwm.syncedtool.com/shares/folder/9abb162877b999/?folder_id=1406

Comment No. 11. Mitigation of Reduced Net Recharge and Safe Yield section. ***Overlying Non-ag comment reads: “In this Section, the report says that reduction in net recharge caused by storage is an MPI. Carryover water is unproduced water, and unproduced water is a natural condition pre-dating existing development of the basin. How can a natural condition be an MPI?”***

Response: In a truly natural condition, basin storage will be maximized and all recharge to the basin is lost to rising groundwater and evapotranspiration by riparian vegetation. In a truly natural condition, net recharge is zero. Increasing the volume of water in managed storage has the effect of suppressing net recharge regardless of how you label the water that is included in the managed storage. That said, the text has been changed substituting the term “adverse impact” for MPI.

City of Ontario

Comment No. 1. Page 10, second paragraph. ***The City’s comment reads: “Paragraph 2 contemplates establishing an aggregate limit of 300kaf for all Storage & Recovery (S&R) programs, “provided that the aggregate storage limit for parties does not exceed” 700kaf. This is different from establishing an aggregate limit equal to the total space (1M af) less the volume used by parties (700kaf or less). In the case that parties use less than 700kaf, while S&R programs remain limited to 300kaf, how will the difference between the actual volume of stored water and 1M af be addressed?”***

Response: The suggested aggregate allocation of 700 kaf to the parties for their individual conjunctive-use activities and the 300 kaf for Storage and Recovery Programs is based on the results of the Storage Framework Investigation. The allocation of managed storage space for these two types of uses should be discussed and agreed upon by the parties for inclusion in the 2020 Storage Management Plan.

Comment No. 2. Page 11, "Limitation of Transfers or Leases of Water Rights and Water Held in Managed Storage section." ***The City’s comment reads: “ The second paragraph in this section states that the limit on certain transfers “should be reconsidered” under certain conditions. It seems logical that these conditions could also include mitigation such as may be required for S&R programs. In addition, S&R programs may be designed such that puts and takes aid in addressing land subsidence, plumes, etc.”***

Response: This management requirement will be described in greater detail in the draft 2020 Storage Management Plan

Comment No. 3. Page 11, Mitigation of Reduced Net Recharge and Safe Yield section. ***City’s comment reads: “This section identifies “two fundamental approaches to mitigate the***

reduction in net recharge" caused by stored water. Are there additional approaches that can be explored? One such approach may be preemptive mitigation rather than allocation of effects."

Response: The white paper refers to bookends on the approach to identify and mitigate a reduction in Safe Yield caused by the use of managed storage. The specific approach in allocating mitigation liability for storage induced changes in net recharge and Safe Yield should be discussed and addressed by the parties.

Comment No. 4. Page 12, Evaluation of Storage and Recovery Program Impacts, MPI, and Mitigation section. ***City's comment reads: "The second paragraph in this section states that "Watermaster will review each Storage and Recovery Program application, estimate the surface and groundwater system response..." (emphasis added) It is unclear why it is necessary for Watermaster to evaluate surface water system responses."***

Response: The use of existing recharge facilities for Storage and Recovery Programs may conflict with the use of the same facilities for stormwater recharge and may reduce net recharge. The intent is to characterize this conflict and to subsequently develop conditions on the Storage and Recovery Program to mitigate it.

Comment No. 5. ***The City's comment reads: "General: Please provide citations for all references to guidance documents, particularly when quotation marks are used. Example: Page 13, 1st paragraph under "Storage Management Plan Update."***

Response: This request will be incorporated into the final version of the White Paper.