



CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

III. REPORTS / UPDATES

C. INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY

2. State and Federal Legislative Reports
3. Community Outreach/Public Relations Report
4. IEUA Monthly Water Newsletter



CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

August 18, 2011

AGENDA

INTERAGENCY WATER MANAGER'S REPORT

Chino Basin Watermaster

9641 San Bernardino Road

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

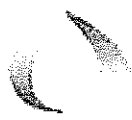
Discussion Items:

- MWD Update - oral

Written Items:

- State and Federal Legislative Reports
- Community Outreach/Public Relations Report
- IEUA Monthly Water Newsletter

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Date: August 17, 2011
To: The Honorable Board of Directors
Through: Public, Legislative Affairs, and Water Resources Committee (08/10/11)
From: Thomas A. Love
General Manager
Submitted by: Martha Davis
Executive Manager of Policy Development
Subject: July Legislative Report from Innovative Federal Strategies, LLC

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

BACKGROUND

Letitia White provides a monthly report (attached) on their federal activities on behalf of IEUA.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION

None.

IMPACT ON BUDGET

None.

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Innovative Federal Strategies LLC

Comprehensive Government Relations

MEMORANDUM

To: Tom Love and Martha Davis, IEUA

From: Letitia White and Heather Hennessey

Date: August 1, 2011

Re: July Monthly Legislative Update

July was a month of bitter disputes and record-breaking heat in Washington. It is impossible to estimate the long-term winners and losers in the damaging fights that we have just witnessed over the size and scope of our federal government. But it is certain that August recess could not come at a better time. Everyone on Capitol Hill has been working around the clock for weeks to arrive at the fragile deal which is now pending before Congress and the President. As of the time of this drafting, it has 24 hours to become the law of the land, or the US will fall into default on August 3rd.

Debt Ceiling Increase and Deficit Reduction Package

As you know, the U.S. must raise its current \$14.3 trillion debt limit prior to August 2nd, and a deal is going to be voted on either today or tomorrow by the House and Senate. Currently, leadership in both chambers is briefing Members and counting votes to see if the deal will pass. In the interest of time, we are including this excerpt from today's CQ Budget Tracker to provide you with the specifics of the current agreement:

INSIDE THE DEAL: Elements of the agreement contain old and new ideas. Some were in debt limit bills that both chambers rejected earlier in the weekend as being more partisan.

The package would immediately increase the debt limit by \$900 billion and avoid a default on Tuesday, with a second installment available at the president's request, probably early next year. That second chunk of borrowing authority would be between \$1.2 trillion and \$1.5 trillion and would last through the 2012 elections. Congress could block the second portion of the debt limit increase with a veto-proof majority vote in favor of a resolution of disapproval, but that's unlikely with the Democrats in control of the Senate.

The measure is expected to set discretionary spending caps of \$1.043 trillion for fiscal 2012 and \$1.047 trillion for fiscal 2013, with a "firewall" between defense and non-defense spending — meaning that domestic accounts could not be raided to bump up security spending. The amount for fiscal 2012 is about \$24 billion larger than the amount approved by the House-adopted budget resolution (H Con Res 34), a move that could give House appropriators more domestic dollars for their bills this fall.

The legislation also would create a joint congressional committee that would be tasked with finding \$1.8 trillion in savings over nine years. Composed of three

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Democrats and three Republicans from each chamber, the committee was a part of earlier plans from both parties. The panel would report its recommendations to both chambers, and the recommendations would be subject to up-or-down votes without amendment late this year.

If Congress does not enact at least \$1.2 trillion in deficit reduction, a “sequestration” budget process would be triggered to cut the difference from the federal budget. For example, if Congress enacted \$800 billion in deficit reduction, \$400 billion would be sequestered. The sequestration process would fall equally on defense and non-defense accounts. It’s a compromise designed to ensure that programs generally favored by the GOP and Democrats are targeted equally, given that Republicans would not agree to tax hikes. It’s similar to the system of spending “sequesters” enacted as part of the 1985 Gramm-Rudman-Hollings anti-deficit law and the 1997 deficit-reduction law. **As part of the deal, both the House and Senate would have to vote on a balanced-budget amendment to the Constitution no sooner than Oct. 1, but by the end of the year.** If the measure passes and becomes law, it would eliminate the sequestration budget process as it would likely force even steeper cuts. However, it seems highly unlikely that the measure would receive the two-thirds vote necessary in each chamber to send the measure to states for ratification.

The debate on the debt ceiling has been all consuming. Even the shut-down of the FAA due to Congress’ failure to extend the agency’s authorization has barely made the front page of the newspapers. Many other difficult bills and tough negotiations have been postponed until the debt ceiling situation is settled.

FY 2012 Appropriations

Appropriations bills took center stage in the House during the month of July with substantial progress now achieved on Fiscal Year 2012. Although the process did not move as far or as fast as House Leaders originally hoped, a number of bills moved forward under open rules, allowing for robust floor debates. Working under the discretionary spending cap set by the House Budget Resolution in April, the full House has now passed its versions of the following six bills:

1. Military Construction – Veterans Affairs
2. Agriculture
3. Homeland Security
4. Defense
5. Energy and Water
6. Legislative Branch

The Interior Appropriations bill is currently under discussion on the House floor, with massive numbers of amendments which must all be considered under the open rule. As the debt ceiling and deficit reduction package takes center stage today, the Interior bill is likely to be shelved until Congress returns in September. The Appropriations Committee has marked up the Commerce, Justice, Science and Financial Services bills, while the Foreign Operations bill has been marked up at the Subcommittee level. Only two bills remain untouched: Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Transportation, Housing and Urban Development. Those are

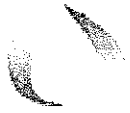
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likely to be the two most controversial bills because they stand to suffer the biggest cuts during FY 2012.

The Senate has approved its first and only FY 2012 bill: Military Construction – VA, which is the least controversial of the twelve annual bills. With a fresh memory of fiscal year 2011, which ended in April almost seven months after the fiscal year began, many are wondering what will become of fiscal year 2012. (Fiscal Year 2011 at least had a Democrat majority in the House, Senate and White House; now the House has a Republican majority with an extremely conservative base that the leadership must consider.) With the current opposition to compromise, there is little chance that any bill other than Military Construction – VA will be signed into law before September 30th, the end of the fiscal year. Another problematic factor is that all of the spending cuts being included in the deficit reduction package will need to begin taking effect in FY 2012 in order to meet the 10-year target for reduction. The Continuing Resolution which will be necessary to keep the government operating after October 1st is already being discussed.

We are following developments very closely and we will continue to keep you posted.

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Date: August 17, 2011
To: The Honorable Board of Directors
Through: Public, Legislative Affairs, and Water Resources Committee (08/10/11)
From: Thomas A. Love
General Manager
Submitted by: Martha Davis
Executive Manager of Policy Development
Subject: July Legislative Report from Dolphin Group

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

BACKGROUND

Michael Boccadoro provides a monthly report (attached) on the Dolphin Group's activities on behalf of the Chino Basin/Optimum Basin Management Program Coalition.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION

None.

IMPACT ON BUDGET

None.

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July 29, 2011

To: Inland Empire Utilities Agency
From: Michael Boccadoro
President
RE: July Status Report



Please find attached the status report from The Dolphin Group for the month July 2011.

With a signed budget finally in place, the Legislature began working to address a variety of issues before adjourning for summer recess. Meanwhile, Governor Jerry Brown, who has just returned from a weeklong vacation, has remained mum as to his legislative intentions for the remainder of the year. Many believe that Brown's focus will turn toward education, water and green energy issues that he had outlined in his campaign, but he is also expected to have to readdress budget issues by January.

The Governor hosted a renewable energy conference the last week of July, which could be a hint as to where his priorities will lie for the remainder of the year. The conference focused on how California's public and private sectors can increase local energy generation to meet Brown's green-jobs goal of onsite or small systems producing 12,000 megawatts by the end of the decade.

Governor Brown also found time to appoint a new secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency. Matt Rodriguez, a member of Brown's staff while he was the state's Attorney General, will take over the position on August 1. While little is known about Rodriguez, environmental groups have applauded his appointment, as he has represented the state on a number of environmental issues while with the Attorney General's office. Governor Brown is also expected to name two new appointees to the State Water Resources Control Board in the coming weeks.

The Citizens Redistricting Commission has continued to work on revising the maps of its newly drawn Congressional and legislative districts, which could put a number of legislators in more competitive districts and change the balance of power in Sacramento. The commission has received criticism from a number of groups and expects numerous lawsuits to challenge the final maps upon their release on July 29.

On the energy front, the California Air Resources Board has released a draft plan to revise its greenhouse gas cap and trade regulations, calling for the program's start to be pushed back a year, from 2012 to 2013. The California Public Utilities Commission recently initiated a major proceeding that called for putting SB 32 implementation on the fast-track. Meanwhile, Cal-ISO has reported that it is overwhelmed with a glut of renewable energy project proposals, which could reach three times the 33 percent RPS standard that the state is seeking to reach by 2020.

Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Status Report – July 2011

With Budget Deal Signed, Brown's New Focus May Be Green Energy

After focusing almost entirely on the budget process since his inauguration in January, Governor Brown and legislative Democrats reached a deal to pass a majority vote budget that relies on a number of cuts to government services and the hopes of an economic recovery that would generate billions more in windfall tax collections for the state. With the budget in place, legislators moved on to other priorities before going into their summer recess in mid-July. Meanwhile, Governor Brown has been fairly silent as to his legislative plans for the remainder of the year, dictating little of his vision to the legislature.

After taking a weeklong vacation during the month, Governor Brown kicked off his return with a renewable energy conference in Los Angeles, which could be a sign that green energy will be a major focus of his administration for the remainder of the year. At the conference, Brown pledged to “crush” the opposition to progress in renewable energy development. He also repeatedly referred to solar power as a key renewable energy resource for the state’s future.

The Dolphin Group was invited to participate and Michael Boccadoro represented the views of biogas proponents on a procurement reform panel that was widely attended by state leaders and policy makers. Mr. Boccadoro’s comments focused on the need for the state to set biogas development goals and provide funding to incubate and commence the technology over the next 10 years.

Brown Appoints New Cal/EPA Secretary

With budget negotiations over, Governor Brown has gone back to making appointments to his administration, naming Matt Rodriguez, formerly the state's chief deputy attorney general, as secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency. He replaces Linda Adams, who had served under Governor Schwarzenegger and continued in her role under Brown. Rodriguez, a Democrat, had worked for the Department of Justice since 1987 and was named a chief deputy attorney general under Brown during his term as Attorney General. He also had worked for Governor Brown's office during his previous administration, from 1981 to 1983.

Many industry experts were surprised by the appointment, but Brown has often relied on former staff members from his term as Attorney General for administration appointments. Environmental groups applauded the choice of Rodriguez, as he has been the Attorney General’s office representative on environmental issues such as the Coastal Commission and State Lands Commission. The appointment is still subject to Senate approval.

Brown is also expected to make two appointments to vacant seats on the State Water Resources Control Board within the coming weeks and to replace Charlie Hoppin as chair. Hoppin would remain through the remainder of his term, which expires in 2014, as a board member.

Citizens Redistricting Commission Releases Final Maps

The Citizens Redistricting Commission, which released its first draft mapping plan in June, has continued to work on the plan and released its final maps on July 29. The plan will redraw the state's Congressional and legislative district lines. Many analysts believe that the new lines may give Democrats even more seats in the legislature, possibly even the two-thirds majority in both houses necessary to raise taxes. Democrats are also expected to add as many as 5 seats in California's Congressional delegation.

The maps are expected to receive a number of lawsuits challenging their authority and a voter referendum is also planned as a challenge. If any are successful, map development would likely shift to the courts for a final resolution.

CARB Plans to Delay Cap and Trade Program Until 2013

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) released a "discussion draft" of proposed changes to the state's greenhouse gas cap and trade regulations, including a delay to the start of the program from 2012 to 2013. The cap and trade program is an integral piece of the state's AB 32 mandate to reduce the state's greenhouse gas emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. Many experts see the draft changes as reducing the burdens on utilities and industrial facilities, which will be allowed to include more "early actions" as greenhouse gas offsets than previously. Along with the proposed changes to cap and trade rules, CARB also introduced a number of corresponding revisions to greenhouse gas reporting. A final proposal was expected to be voted on in late July.

CPUC Puts SB 32 Implementation on Fast Track

The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) recently initiated a major proceeding to implement the state's new 33 percent renewable energy mandate. In that proceeding, SB 32 implementation was included as a separate effort. The assigned Commission's ruling calls out SB 32 for fast-track implementation with the goal of developing a proposed decision by the end of the year. IEUA will be a major player in the proceeding and should focus efforts on pricing for biogas and other small renewable technologies and the need to streamline grid interconnection barriers to expedite project development. The Dolphin Group will be closely monitoring the proceeding.

Cal-ISO Reports Over 70,000 MW of Renewables in Queue

Cal-ISO reported that, as of mid-July, it had more than 70,000 MW of renewable energy projects in its queue; more than triple the amount that would be necessary to reach the state's 33 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) goal by 2020. Utilities had actually already announced that they have signed enough contracts to meet the 33 percent goal prior to Cal-ISO's announcement. For Cal-ISO, the overabundance of projects is creating problems for finding enough room on the grid for all of the energy projects proposed.

Newest CPUC Member Outlines Concerns

California Public Utilities Commissioner Mark Ferron, who was appointed by Governor Brown in March, gave the public an outline of his priorities for the CPUC in an address to the Western Power Trading Forum. While lamenting the CPUC's overstretched resources, Ferron stated his goal to review electricity market structure issues to help prompt competition. He noted that his main interests lie in green energy and environmental issues and that the major reason for his appointment by Governor Brown was to ensure the achievement of the 33 percent RPS goal by 2020.

Legislation

With a budget deal in place, legislators dedicated their time prior to the summer recess to address other policy matters, many of which impact water and energy issues important to IEUA. Over the past month, DGI has been working with agency staff to identify and analyze important measures. The Legislature will return in mid-August for the final four weeks of the legislative year.

Key measures being followed by IEUA include:

CA AB 83 **AUTHOR:** Jeffries (R)
TITLE: Environment: CEQA Exemption: Recycled Water Pipeline
INTRODUCED: 01/05/2011
DISPOSITION: 2-Year Bill
LOCATION: Assembly Natural Resources Committee
SUMMARY:

Amends existing law regarding California Environmental Quality Act environmental impact reports. Exempts a project for the installation of a new pipeline for the distribution of recycled water within an improved public street, highway, or right-of-way.

Position: Support

CA AB 134 **AUTHOR:** Dickinson (D)
TITLE: Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District
INTRODUCED: 01/12/2011
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: Senate Third Reading File
SUMMARY:

Authorizes the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District to file an application for a permit to appropriate a specified amount of water that is based on the volume of treated wastewater that the district discharges into the Sacramento River and recovers for reuse. Authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to grant a permit to appropriate that treated wastewater upon terms and conditions determined by the board. Requires the board to comply with specified related requirements.

Position: Neutral

CA AB 157 **AUTHOR:** Jeffries (R)
TITLE: Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act

INTRODUCED:01/19/2011

DISPOSITION: 2-Year Bill

LOCATION: Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

SUMMARY:

Reduces the total amount of bonds authorized to be issued pursuant to the Safe, Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012. Makes conforming reductions to amounts specified to be allocated from these bond funds for certain purposes.

Position: Watch

CA AB 275 **AUTHOR:** Solorio (D)

TITLE: Rainwater Capture Act of 2011

INTRODUCED:02/07/2011

DISPOSITION: Pending

LOCATION: Senate Third Reading File

SUMMARY:

Enacts the Rainwater Capture Act of 2011. Authorizes residential, commercial, and governmental landowners to install, maintain, and operate rain barrel systems and rainwater capture systems for specified purposes. Requires a local agency to notify a public water system of any permit program. Authorizes a landscape contractor to enter into a prime contract for the construction of such system, if it is used exclusively for landscape irrigation. Authorizes such contractors to design and install exterior parts.

Position: Support

CA AB 359 **AUTHOR:** Huffman (D)

TITLE: Groundwater Management Plans

INTRODUCED:02/14/2011

DISPOSITION: Pending

COMMITTEE: Senate Appropriations Committee

HEARING: 08/15/2011 10:00 am, Burton Hearing Room (4203)

SUMMARY:

Requires a local groundwater management agency to provide a copy of a resolution of intention to adopt a groundwater management plan to the Department of Water Resources. Authorizes any person to be placed on the list to receive plan preparation notices. Requires the existing plan to remain in effect if the new plan is not implemented. Requires the department to post specified related information on its Web site. Specifies that groundwater projects shall include projects of the regional water plan.

Position: Watch

CA AB 467 **AUTHOR:** Eng (D)

TITLE: Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply

INTRODUCED:02/15/2011

DISPOSITION: 2-Year Bill – Held In Suspense

LOCATION: Assembly Appropriations Committee

SUMMARY:

Amends existing law that requires the State Department of Public Health, in collaboration with the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the State Water Resources Control Board, to develop and adopt regulations governing the repayment of costs that are subsequently recovered from parties responsible for the contamination of groundwater. Requires the State of Department of Public Health to develop guidelines governing this repayment.

Position: Watch

CA AB 512 **AUTHOR:** Gordon (D)

TITLE: Local Government Renewable Energy Self-Generation

INTRODUCED:02/15/2011

DISPOSITION: Pending

LOCATION: Senate Third Reading File

SUMMARY:

Expands the definition of an eligible renewable generating facility to include a facility that has a generating capacity of no more than 5 megawatts. Prohibits an electrical corporation from being required to compensate a local government for electricity generated from a facility in excess of the bill credits applied to the benefiting account. Prohibits a local government from being eligible for any other tariff or program that requires such corporation to purchase generation from a specified source.

Position: Support

CA AB 550 **AUTHOR:** Huber (D)

TITLE: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: Peripheral Canal

INTRODUCED:02/16/2011

DISPOSITION: Pending

LOCATION: Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee

SUMMARY:

Prohibits the construction of a peripheral canal that conveys water from a diversion point in the Sacramento River to a location south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, unless expressly authorized by the Legislature. Requires the Legislative Analyst's Office to complete an economic feasibility analysis prior to the enactment of a statute authorizing the construction of a peripheral canal. Prohibits the construction and operation of a peripheral canal from diminishing water quality.

Position: Oppose

CA AB 723 **AUTHOR:** Bradford (D)

TITLE: Energy: Public Goods Charge

INTRODUCED:02/17/2011

DISPOSITION: Pending

LOCATION: Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee

SUMMARY:

Amends the Public Utilities Act that requires an electrical corporation to identify a separate electrical rate component, commonly referred to as the public goods charge to fund energy efficiency, renewable energy, and research, development, and demonstration programs that enhance system reliability and provide in-state

benefits. Extends this requirement. Makes technical and conforming changes. Requires the Public Utilities Commission to implement various elements relating to energy efficiency.

Position: Watch

CA AB 741 **AUTHOR:** Huffman (D)
TITLE: Onsite Wastewater Disposal
INTRODUCED:02/17/2011
DISPOSITION: Signed by Governor
LOCATION: Chapter 106, Statutes of 2011
SUMMARY:

Amends an existing law authorizing a property owner included within an assessment district for construction of a main trunkline or collector sewer lines, to request construction plumbing to connect his or her property to the adjoining public sewer system, and creates a lien. Relates to funding. Authorize defined entities, to use this provision for the purpose of converting properties from onsite septic systems and connecting them to the sewer system and for replacing or repairing existing sewer laterals.

Position: Support

CA AB 1113 **AUTHOR:** Galgiani (D)
TITLE: Energy: Agricultural Byproducts
INTRODUCED:02/18/2011
DISPOSITION: 2-Year Bill
LOCATION: Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee
SUMMARY:

Replaces the existing pilot program for eligible biogas digester customer-generators with a net energy metering program for eligible customer-generators that use agricultural residues, animal wastes, or animal renderings to generate electricity and that meets certain requirements.

Position: Watch

CA AB 1361 **AUTHOR:** Perea (D)
TITLE: Electrical Corporations: Net Metering
INTRODUCED:02/18/2011
DISPOSITION: 2-Year Bill
LOCATION: Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee
SUMMARY:

Revises the definition of an eligible customer- generator to include a defined state agency. Requires that the generating capacity of a facility used by a state agency not exceed 5 megawatts pursuant to both the net energy metering requirements and the wind energy co-metering requirements.

Position: Watch

CA SB 34 **AUTHOR:** Simitian (D)
TITLE: Water Resources Investment Act of 2011
INTRODUCED:12/06/2010
DISPOSITION: 2-Year Bill

LOCATION: Senate Appropriations Committee

SUMMARY:

Would establish a water public goods charge and require revenues and charges collected under the Water Resources Investment Program to be deposited in the state Water Resources Investment Program Fund and a number of regional investment accounts within the fund. Requires money in the regional accounts be for water-related projects and programs. Requires state account moneys be appropriated for specified statewide water-related programs and the Delta plan, mercury contamination in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and for related bond debt service.

Position: Watch

CA SB 35 **AUTHOR:** Padilla (D)

TITLE: State Energy Research and Technology Act of 2011

INTRODUCED: 12/06/2010

DISPOSITION: Pending

LOCATION: Assembly Natural Resources Committee

SUMMARY:

Enacts the Energy Research and Technology Program Act of 2011. Requires the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to establish and administer the California Energy Research and Technology Program (CERT) to fund research, development, and demonstration projects to lead to advancement and breakthroughs to overcome barriers to the achievement of statutory energy goals. Requires regulation adoption. Requires the CERT council to track project progress. Requires a program review contract.

Position: Watch

CA SB 200 **AUTHOR:** Wolk (D)

TITLE: Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta: Bay Delta Conservation

INTRODUCED: 02/08/2011

DISPOSITION: 2-Year Bill

LOCATION: Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

SUMMARY:

Amends the Delta Reform Act of 2009 that requires the Delta Stewardship Council to consider the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) for inclusion in a specified Delta Plan and the authorizes the incorporation of the plan into the Delta Plan if the BDCP meets certain requirements. Requires any state agency that is responsible for authorizing or implementing any action of the BDCP to ensure the action is consistent with specified requirements prescribed by these provisions.

Position: Oppose

CA SB 215 **AUTHOR:** Huff (R)

TITLE: Invasive Aquatic Species: Mussels

INTRODUCED: 02/09/2011

DISPOSITION: Pending

LOCATION: Assembly Appropriations Committee

SUMMARY:

Extends the repeal, to a specified date, of existing law that generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water within the state, dreissenid mussels, and authorizes the Director of Fish and Game or his or her designee to engage in enforcement activities. Provides that a person who violates, resists, delays, obstructs, or interferes with the implementation of these provisions is subject to a penalty.

Position: Support

CA SB 370 **AUTHOR:** Blakeslee (R)
TITLE: Energy: Net Energy Metering
INTRODUCED: 02/15/2011
DISPOSITION: 2-Year Bill
LOCATION: Senate Appropriations Committee
SUMMARY:

Relates to net energy metering. Authorizes an agricultural customer-generator with multiple meters to elect to aggregate the electrical load of the meters located on the property where the generation facility is located and on all property adjacent or contiguous to the property on which the generation facility is located, if those properties are solely owned by the agricultural customer-generator.

CA SB 489 **AUTHOR:** Wolk (D)
TITLE: Electricity: Net Energy Metering
INTRODUCED: 02/17/2011
DISPOSITION: Pending
COMMITTEE: Assembly Appropriations Committee
HEARING: 08/17/2011 9:00 am, Room 4202
SUMMARY:

Relates to net energy metering. Requires an eligible customer-generator to utilize a renewable source listed in the definition of a renewable electrical generation facility used for the Renewable Energy Resources Program. Provides that a small hydroelectric generation facility is not an eligible renewable electrical generation facility. Requires a customer of an electrical corporation to use specified technology for funding pursuant to the self-generation incentive program. Repeals a related pilot project.

Position: Support

CA SB 607 **AUTHOR:** Walters (R)
TITLE: Water Resources Board: Brackish Groundwater Treatment
INTRODUCED: 02/17/2011
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: Assembly Consent Calendar
SUMMARY:

Requires the Water Resources Control Board to either amend the State Ocean Plan, or adopt separate standards, to address water quality objectives and effluent limitations that are specifically appropriate for brackish groundwater treatment system facilities that produce municipal water supplies for local use.

Position: Watch

CA SB 900 **AUTHOR:** Steinberg (D)

TITLE: Regional Water Quality Control Boards: Members

INTRODUCED: 02/18/2011

DISPOSITION: Pending

LOCATION: Assembly Inactive File

SUMMARY:

Amends the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Deletes provisions of the act prohibiting a board member from participating in actions that involve the member or a waste discharger with which the member is connected. Specifies that the limitation on the member's financial interest applies only to a disqualifying financial interest within the Political Reform Act. Relates to requirements, qualifications, and to disqualifying factors for regional board members.

Position: Watch



Date: August 17, 2011
To: The Honorable Board of Directors
From: Thomas A. Love
General Manager
Submitted by: Martha Davis
Executive Manager of Policy Development
Subject: July Legislative Report from Agricultural Resources

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

BACKGROUND

Dave Weiman provides a monthly report on his federal activities on behalf of IEUA.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION

None.

IMPACT ON BUDGET

None.

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July 29, 2011

Legislative Report

TO: Thomas Love
General Manager, Inland Empire Utility Agency

FR: David M. Weiman
Agricultural Resources
LEGISLATIVE REPRESENTATIVE, IEUA

SU: Legislative Report, July 2011

Highlights:

- *Debt Limit Legislation – The Showdown*
- *EPA WaterSense Proposal on Water Softeners*
- *Congressional Rider To Stop Interior Shut-Down on Colorado River/Grand Canyon Uranium Mining*
- *Bay Delta – Pending Federal Legislation Stalls*
- *Drought Conditions/Water Supply*
- *Water Briefs*
- *IEUA Working Partners*

Debt Limit Talks – Pending Showdown. A month ago, I reported that talks between the Administration and House-Senate leaders on debt reduction legislation were at “full throttle.” My report understated the situation and ever-changing circumstances. As July unfolded, the marathon talks became a sprint, with stops and starts, blame and credit, splits and fault lines, agreements and disagreements, and withdrawal from talks and rejoining of the same.

For all practical purposes, the legislative process largely ground to a halt while this high-stakes process unfolds – hour-by-hour. International markets and rating agencies are destabilized. The Stock Market is nervous. We are dealing with an unprecedented situation. If the US defaults, something never done before in history, there is no roadmap to define what will or won't happen. Some, many in the Tea Party, insist that nothing bad will occur if default occurs. The financial markets are signaling otherwise. It is a highly partisan debate with election overtones in every direction. All leaders have declared that default will not occur.

Assuming that a default will not occur, and that some kind of agreement is reached, then you can assume that major cuts will occur in what is called the “non-defense discretionary spending” accounts. These would be Transportation, Ag, Interior, EPA, NOAA, BuRec, Army Corps and the Department of Energy. None of the reductions are identified yet. No one has any sense of “what these talks may mean.”

The key date is August 2. More will be known in early August.

EPA – WaterSense Proposal on Water Softeners. Last month, I reported that water agencies and others, dissatisfied with the EPA response (or lack thereof) to national, regional and local concerns about a pending water softener review, would demand that the formal “NOI” (Notice of Intent) be withdrawn. They did. A letter was sent, in late July to EPA with such a request signed by some 20 national, regional and local water agencies, including ACWA.

As reported last month, *“Water agencies – nationally, throughout California, in Southern California – believe that the (a) WaterSense program is a positive program; (b) the proposed efficiency review of water softeners was deeply flawed. Efforts to talk to the EPA Office of Water by more than 20 groups were inexplicably rejected.”* That remains true. EPA accountability and willingness to engage with “real problems” was sorely lacking. They have not handled the matter well.

At IEUA’s direction, I submitted a request to review the “comment file” on EPA’s WaterSoftener NOI. Requests were submitted two or more months ago. First, we discovered that the comment file was “not” on-line. Repeated calls to WaterSense about the comment file were then ignored. A subsequent written promise from EPA to provide access was also ignored again. Some ten days ago, EPA finally sent the file. Three things were striking (if not remarkable). First, after posting the formal EPA notice in the Federal Register, hosting a Webinar, and allowing more than six months, there were only a handful of comments – 20 or so (from throughout the entire nation). Second, almost ALL comments opposed the NOI (as structured) and third, the water softener industry, remarkably, was silent – offering no support for the EPA initiative whatsoever. In sum, EPA was proceeding with a review of water softeners without any support from the public OR from the water softener industry (their manufacturers).

Throughout the past month, there have been a flurry of meetings, conference calls, and discussions about these developments. The Alliance for Water efficiency, NRDC and others

continue to support the WaterSense review, and want to call a “bureaucratic timeout” for the NOI in lieu of a withdrawal and talks to occur that could lead to its reconsideration. IEUA, ACWA and many others all agree, there is much to discuss, especially when it comes to salt, high salinity levels and impairments to water, but will not participate in such discussions under the banner of a fatally flawed EPA NOI that exclusively promotes salt-dependent water softeners.

Martha Davis and I met with the EPA Deputy Administrator’s Office a couple of months ago. When informed that the “public comment file” was “not public, we were greeted with a more than startled “what-do-you-mean” question. Not public? Unthinkable. Now, however, we know why WaterSense was not eager to allow access to the comment file. There was no support for the WaterSense initiative (which raised the obvious question – then why is WaterSense proposing to do it?).

There is interest in a “mini-summit” to discuss the broader issue of “salt” and “salinity,” but not in the context of the WaterSense review of water softeners. Discussions predicated on “delinking” the two are underway. It’s possible that such talks, if delinked, could begin sometime in September. This remains an issue “in motion.”

Bay Delta. Legislation introduced by San Joaquin Valley House Members – Nunes, McCarthy and Denham – to eliminate restrictions on Delta pumping was expected to be marked up in the House Resources Committee, but has instead become embroiled in “water rights” and “area of origin” controversies.

House Water and Power Subcommittee Chair, Rep. Tom McClintock, publicly declared that the pending legislation will be amended to include language that protected “*areas of origin*” rights. Preliminary drafts have been circulated, but they raise huge questions, especially for Southern California water interests. Legislation was expected in the middle of July, but was repeatedly postponed. A bill cannot be considered before Labor Day.

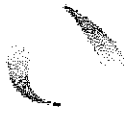
Interior Move to Protect Colorado River from Uranium Mining Overturned in House Funding Bill. Last month I reported, “Interior declared a short-term withdrawal of public lands near the Grand Canyon and is expected to approve a 20-year withdrawal. This effectively blocks uranium mining for the next several two decades. The mining industry responded by persuading a House Appropriator to include an amendment to the Interior-EPA annual funding bill prohibiting the Interior Department withdrawal. It is a highly controversial. The DOI-EPA funding bill is on the House floor – and has been under consideration for about two weeks. It will not be acted upon or finalized until September.

Drought Conditions and Water Supplies. California is mostly “drought-free” for now. It’s been that way now for several months. However, low-level drought conditions are appearing along the Eastern border with Nevada, and in the Imperial Valley-Salton Sea areas. All are the “edge” of severe drought that exists throughout the Southwest and the Southern tier states. Texas is in serious trouble, as is most of New Mexico and Southeast Arizona.

Water Briefs. *Congresswoman Napolitano* introduced a water desalination bill and is asking the Committee to consider it. **Redistricting to Impact Congressional Representation.** New congressional boundaries are being finalized in mid-August. This could impact several House members in the IEUA service area. More to be known in August. **NOAA Climate Normals – 10 Year Reporting – Colorado Temps Increasing Faster than Other States – Implications for Snow Pack and Colorado River Flows.** NOAA published an updated 10-year report. Colorado (climate – how hot) temps are increasing faster (and hotter) than any other state in the lower 48. Long-term implications for snow, snow-pack and Colorado River flows suggest a decrease in water. **EPA Funding Bill Contains Rider to Restrict Manure Management Reporting.** According to one report, an amendment would strike a policy rider (on the EPA funding bill) “prohibiting EPA from implementing the regulation. The Mandatory Reporting of Greenhouse Gases rule applies to livestock facilities with large manure storage areas, which mostly come in the form of lagoons or pits. Under the rule, owners or operators of those facilities where the system emits at least 25,000 metric tons of greenhouse gases a year must report their emissions.” **National Science Foundation Underwrites New Water Urban Engineering Group.** The new entity, described in a newsletter as follows, “Faced with an antiquated water system, a shifting climate and a growing population, the National Science Foundation created a new research center with the goal of refining, remodeling and reinventing America's water infrastructure. The Urban Water Engineering Research Center (ERC) was established with an initial \$18.5 million grant, shared among researchers across four universities, in order to examine how water is used and how enhancements can be made using interdisciplinary approaches.” **Bill Gates To Underwrite New Toilet – for Public Health Reasons.** The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is investing in a new generation of toilets. **GAO Report on States Failing To Report Water Quality Violations.** According to a report, “A congressional watchdog agency reported that state environmental regulators regularly failed to notify the EPA when toxic contaminants were found in local drinking water supplies, raising new questions about the safety of the nation’s water supply...”

IEUA Continues to Work With Various Partners. On an on-going basis in Washington, IEUA continues to work with:

- a. Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD)
- b. Milk Producer's Council (MPC)
- c. Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA)
- d. Water Environment Federation (WEF)
- e. Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
- f. WaterReuse Association
- g. CALStart
- h. Orange County Water District (OCWD)
- i. Cucamonga Valley Water District (CVWD)
- j. Western Municipal Water District
- k. Chino Basin Watermaster
- l. Western Urban Water Coalition
- m. National Water Resources Association



Date: August 17, 2011

To: The Honorable Board of Directors

Through: Public, Legislative Affairs, and Water Resources Committee
(08/10/11)

From: Thomas A. Love
General Manager

Submitted by: Sondra Elrod
Administration and Public Affairs Officer

Subject: Public Outreach and Communications

RECOMMENDATION

This is an informational item for the Board of Directors to receive and file.

BACKGROUND

2011 Calendar of Events

August 2011

- August 27, Water Discovery Open House, IEUA Event Room, 10:30am – 12:30pm

September 2011

- September 7, Chino Day at the LA County Fair
- September 8, Upland Day at the LA County Fair
- September 15, Montclair Day at the LA County Fair
- September 21, IEUA Annual Employee Picnic at the Grand Avenue Park in Chino Hills
- September 23, Chino Hills Day at the LA County Fair
- September 28, Fontana Day at the LA County Fair
- September 28, Rancho Cucamonga Day at the LA County Fair
- September 30, Ontario Day at the LA County Fair
- September 30-October 2, Director Camacho's IEUA/MWD Educational Tour of Colorado River/Hoover Dam

Public Outreach and Communications

August 17, 2011

Page 2

October 2011

- October 6, Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) Workshop, Frontier Project
- October 22, Landscape and Water Conservation Fair, CBWCD

November 2011

- November 5, SAWA Bird Festival, Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park

December 2011

- December 8, MWD "Water is Life" Poster Recognition Event, MWD Board Room

2012 Calendar of Events

March 2012

- March 9-10, Director Camacho's IEUS/MWD Educational Tour for the SWP

Outreach/Educational Inland Valley Daily Bulletin Newspaper Campaign

The monthly tips on ways to help conserve water continue to appear in our local newspapers each month.

Educational Updates

- Work is underway for the GIES at Redeemer Lutheran School.
- Twenty one Water Discovery field trips have taken place with four field trips booked in the summer months.
- IEUA has started two blogs: Garden in Every School® and Chino Creek Wetlands and Educational Park
- The educational video for the Santa Ana Watershed has been finalized and the final package should be ready for distribution at the end of August.
- SAWA and IEUA are preparing an Open House for teachers and educators to learn more about the Water Discovery Program and the activities involved in the program.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION

None.

IMPACT ON BUDGET

The above-mentioned activities are budgeted in the FY 2009/10 Administrative Service Fund, Public Information Services budget.

IEUA MONTHLY WATER NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2011 (REPORTING JULY 2011 DATA)

Highlights

- **Delta Stewardship Council Releases 5th Draft of Delta Plan** - Public comments are due by September 30. (Page 1)
- **Another Record Year for IEUA Recycled Water Deliveries** - During Fiscal Year 2010/11, IEUA delivered approximately 25,000 acre-feet of recycled water. (Page 1)
- **Over 20,000 AF of Replenishment Water Recharged in Chino Basin** - IEUA plans on recharging 50,000 acre-feet by the end of Calendar Year 2011. (Page 1)

Delta Update

On August 2, the Delta Stewardship Council released the fifth draft of the Delta Plan. This draft is based on the Environmental Impact Report that is scheduled to be completed by the end of August 2011. The Council was created in legislation to achieve the state mandated coequal goals for the Delta. "Coequal goals means the two goals of providing a more reliable water supply for California and protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Delta ecosystem. The coequal goals shall be achieved in a manner that protects and enhances the unique cultural, recreational, natural resource and agricultural values of the Delta as an evolving place."



IEUA Update

For the fourth consecutive year, IEUA set another record for delivering recycled water. During fiscal year 2010/11, IEUA delivered 24,684 acre-feet (16,656 acre-feet to direct reuse customers, and 8,028 acre-feet to recharge basins that replenish the Chino Groundwater Basin), as compared to five years ago when less than a total of 9,000 acre-feet was delivered. Every acre-foot of recycled water that IEUA delivers reduces the need for imported water. This equates to a savings of \$652 per acre-foot, Metropolitan Water Districts current rate for imported water.

During May, June and July 2011, IEUA and Chino Basin Watermaster recharged approximately 20,000 acre-feet in the Chino Basin, and plan on purchasing approximately 50,000 acre-feet through the end of the calendar year. On May 10, the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) Board of Directors approved the sale of approximately 225,000 acre-feet of replenishment rate water (\$409/acre-foot).

IEUA Water Supply Programs

Imported Water Deliveries

For FY 2010/11, IEUA and its member agencies have purchased an estimated 51,491 AF. Compared with last year during this same time period, IEUA and its member agencies had purchases of 65,527 AF. IEUA has purchased approximately 10,000 AF of replenishment water, the first since the spring of 2007. IEUA plans on purchasing approximately 50,000 AF for future replenishment requirements.

Dry Year Yield (DYY) Program

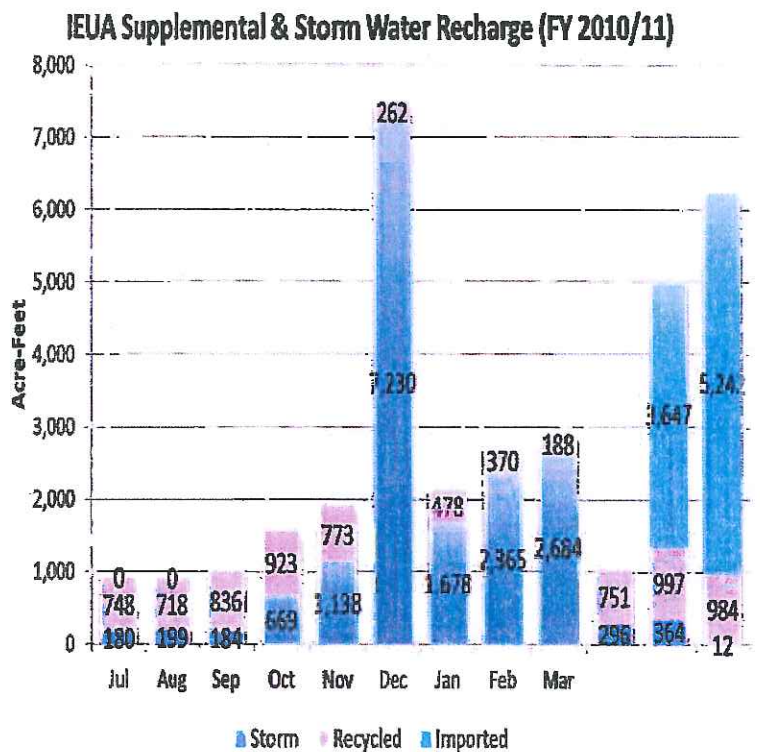
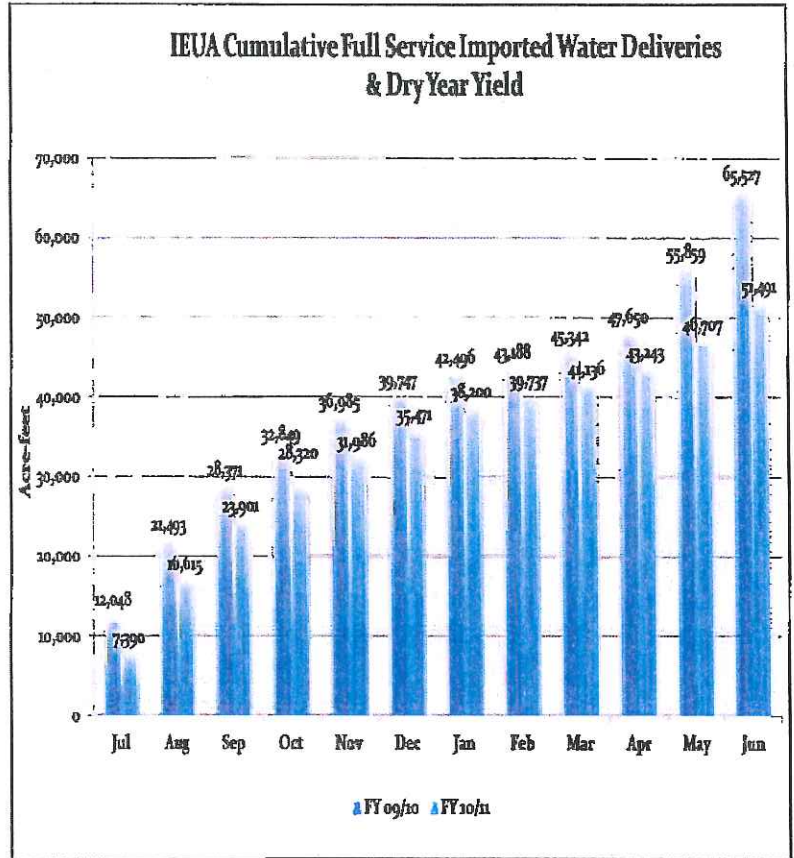
MWD has made a third consecutive call on the DYY Program. This call is considered to be a partial call because there is only 17,200 AF left in the storage account. The remaining water in the storage account will be split amongst the DYY participants based on a pre-defined "pro-rata" methodology. To date, DYY participants have certified all 17,200 AF (of which 4,707 AF will receive additional ion-exchange treatment credit from MWD).

Chino Desalter Authority (CDA)

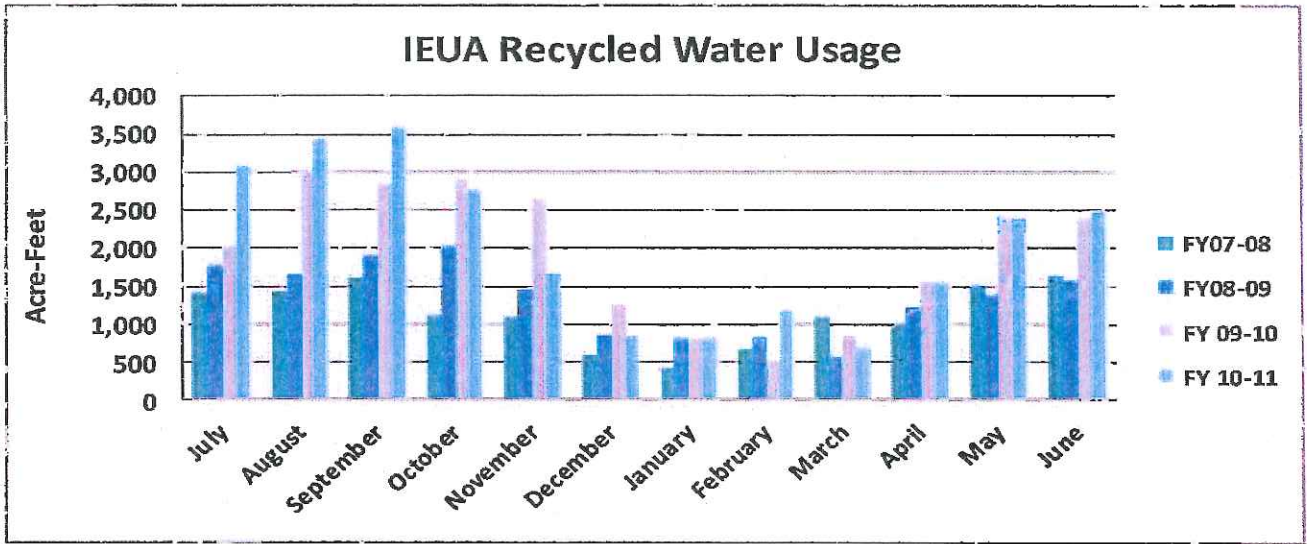
For the month of July the two desalters produced 2,208 AF of water (of which 1,275 AF was delivered to IEUA retail agencies). The contracted entitlement is 24,600 AFY (but actual production is 25,000 to 26,000 AFY) and is scheduled for expansion to produce approximately 40,000 AFY by 2014, with the implementation of CDA Phase III.

Groundwater Recharge Program

Fiscal Year 10/11 was another successful year for recharge in the Chino Basin. Through June, approximately 34,000 AF of storm, recycled and imported water was recharged.



Recycled Water News

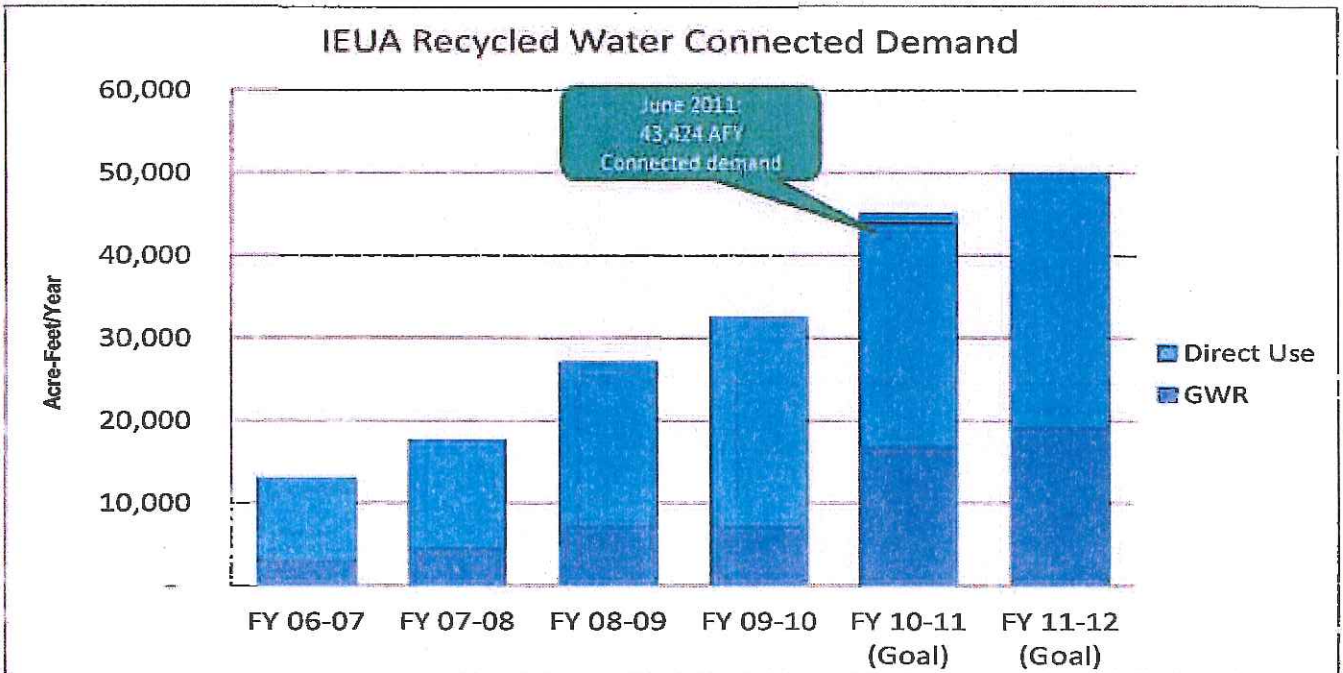


**Recycled Water Usage:
July 2011 Estimates**

Recharge: 984 AF
 Direct Sales: 1,679 AF
 Total Usage: 2,663 AF

***FY 2010/11 Total RW Usage: 24,684**

IEUA Connected Recycled Water Demand



Conservation Program News

MWD Conservation Programs

The MWD FY 2011/12 annual water use efficiency program budget of \$19.1 million is allocated as follows: The SoCal WaterSmart residential program—\$5.8 million; the Save-A-Buck commercial program—\$5.8 million; the Member Agency Administered Programs—\$5.5 million; the agriculture program—\$500,000; and existing contract agreements from prior year commitments is \$1.5 million. To date, 84% of the budget for the residential program remains for the fiscal year and 64% for the Save-A-Buck (CII) program. The other three programs remain unchanged.

MWD Strategic Focus Group-Proper Irrigation Control

Based on key strategies identified in MWD's Long-Term Conservation Plan, the Strategic Focus Group was established to begin work on a new outreach campaign that focuses on outdoor landscaping, proper irrigation control, and public awareness of outdoor water use. The goal of the workgroup is to drive market transformation through awareness and communication that will help the public to identify and understand the relationship between the weather, their controller, water use, and their water bill.



MWD California Friendly® Irrigation Retrofit Program for Multi-Family Communities

MWD is offering a new grant funded program for multi-family communities that provides enhanced incentives to retrofit existing irrigation systems. Sponsored by the DWR and MWD, this program has a budget of \$571,150 and provides incentives for smart and central irrigation controllers, rotating nozzles for pop-up spray heads, and high efficiency nozzles for large rotary sprinklers. The enhanced incentives cover the cost of the devices, including tax and shipping, but no labor. Reservations must be submitted prior to work beginning and all projects must be completed by December 31, 2012.

FY 2010/11 Regional Landscape Evaluation and Audit Program (LEAP)

Launched in August 2010 and administered by the Chino Basin Water Conservation District, a total of 129 landscape audits have been completed to date (August 4, 2011), constituting a potential water savings of 164 AFY, if all recommendations are implemented. Of the completed audits, 58 were single family sites and 71 were commercial sites, with a total landscaped area of 82.37 acres.





CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

IV. INFORMATION

1. Cash Disbursements for July 2011



CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of
July 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15201	ARROWHEAD MOUNTAIN SPRING WATER	0023230253	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/28/2011	0023230253		Office Water Bottle - June 2011	6031.7 · Other Office Supplies	26.91
TOTAL						26.91
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15202	DIRECTV	019447404	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/28/2011	019447404		Monthly Service 6/19/11-7/18/11	6031.7 · Other Office Supplies	86.99
TOTAL						86.99
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15203	ELIE, STEVEN	6/23/11 Board Meeting	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/23/2011	6/23 Board Mtg		6/23/11 Administrative Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	06/28/2011	6/28 Admin Mtg			6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
TOTAL						250.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15204	GUARANTEED JANITORIAL SERVICE, INC.	28522	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/16/2011	28522		Janitorial Service - June 2011	6024 · Building Repair & Maintenance	865.00
TOTAL						865.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15205	HAUGHEY, TOM	6/23/2011 Board Meeting	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/23/2011	6/23 Board Mtg		6/23/11 Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
TOTAL						125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15206	HOGAN LOVELLS	1973415	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/01/2011	1973415		Non-Ag Legal Services May 2011	8567 · Non-Ag Legal Service	2,521.96
TOTAL						2,521.96
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15207	KUHN, BOB	6/02/11 Appropriative Pool Meeting	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/02/2011	6/02 Appro Pool Mtg		6/16/11 Advisory Committee Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	06/16/2011	6/16 Advisory Comm		6/23/11 Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	06/23/2011	6/23 Board Mtg		6/24/11 Administrative Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	06/24/2011	6/24 Admin Mtg			6311 · Board Member Compensation	500.00
TOTAL						1,275.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15208	LANTZ, PAULA	6/23/2011 Board Meeting	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/23/2011	6/23 Board Mtg		6/23/11 Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
TOTAL						125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15209	LARRY W. WARD, ASSESSOR	9801	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/23/2011	9801		parcel owner data	7101.5 · Prod Monitor-Sup&Repair	49.38
TOTAL						49.38
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15210	NORDBAK'S PROMOTIONAL PRODUCTS	061711	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/28/2011	061711		Jackets, work shirts for staff	9154 · Uniforms	152.96
TOTAL						152.96

TOTAL P143

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of
July 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15211	PUMP CHECK		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/28/2011	4301		4301	7102.5 - In-line Meter-Computer	112.50
Bill	06/28/2011	4302		4301	7102.8 - In-line Meter-Calib & Test	190.00
Bill	06/28/2011	4303		4302	7102.5 - In-line Meter-Computer	158.54
Bill	06/28/2011	4304		4302	7102.8 - In-line Meter-Calib & Test	190.00
Bill	06/28/2011	4304		4303	7102.5 - In-line Meter-Computer	158.54
Bill	06/28/2011	4304		4303	7102.8 - In-line Meter-Calib & Test	190.00
Bill	06/28/2011	4304		4304	7102.5 - In-line Meter-Computer	158.54
Bill	06/28/2011	4304		4304	7102.8 - In-line Meter-Calib & Test	190.00
TOTAL						1,348.12
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15212	PURCHASE POWER		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/28/2011	8000909000168851		8000909000168851 fed ex shipments/postage	6042 - Postage - General	2,336.40
TOTAL						2,336.40
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15213	SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY ASSESSOR		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/28/2011			parcel owner data (fixed) & (per parcel)	7101.5 - Prod Monitor-Sup&Repair	261.49
TOTAL						261.49
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15214	SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY 8601		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/16/2011	8601		Middle Santa Ana River Pathogen TMDL Task Force 8471 - Ag Pool Expense		10,342.00
TOTAL						10,342.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15215	STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/22/2011	8018839736		Copy paper	6031.1 - Copy Paper	191.36
Bill	06/28/2011	8018897700		12 pk disposable duster	6031.7 - Other Office Supplies	91.30
TOTAL						282.66
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15216	THE LAWTON GROUP		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/28/2011	1VC070000017165		Week Ending 6/19/2011	6017 - Temporary Services	824.00
TOTAL						824.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15217	UNITED HEALTHCARE		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/16/2011	C0024488961		Dental insurance premium	60182.2 - Dental & Vision Ins	486.89
TOTAL						486.89
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15218	VANDEN HEUVEL, GEOFFREY		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/23/2011	6/23 Board Mtg		9/23/11 Board Meeting	6311 - Board Member Compensation	125.00
TOTAL						125.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15219	VISION SERVICE PLAN		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	07/01/2011	001017890001		00-101789-0001 Vision insurance Premium - July 2011	60182.2 - Dental & Vision Ins	52.93
TOTAL						52.93
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15220	WILLIS, KENNETH		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of
July 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill	06/22/2011	6/22 Admin Mtg		6/22/11 Administrative Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
Bill	06/23/2011	6/23 Board Mtg		6/23/11 Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
TOTAL						250.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15221	JESKE, KEN	6/23/2011 Board Meeting	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	125.00
Bill	06/23/2011	6/23 Board Mtg		6/23/2011 Board Meeting	6311 · Board Member Compensation	125.00
TOTAL						250.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/05/2011	15222	PARK PLACE COMPUTER SOLUTIONS, INC.	452	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	3,075.00
Bill	06/30/2011	452		IT Contracted Services - June 2011	6052.1 · Park Place Comp Soluti	3,075.00
TOTAL						3,075.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/08/2011	15223	GRAINGER	9570183120	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	13.77
Bill	06/30/2011	9570183120		9570183120	7103.6 · Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	13.77
TOTAL						13.77
Bill Pmt -Check	07/08/2011	15224	POWERS ELECTRIC PRODUCTS CO.	7103.5	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	1,898.60
Bill	06/30/2011	40324		40324	7104.6 · Grdwtr Level-Supplies	1,898.60
TOTAL						1,898.60
Bill Pmt -Check	07/08/2011	15225	VERIZON	012519116950792103	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	472.83
Bill	06/30/2011	012519116950792103		012519116950792103	6022 · Telephone	472.83
Bill	06/30/2011	012561121521714508		012561121521714508	7405 · PE4-Other Expense	171.72
TOTAL						644.55
P145						
General Journal	07/09/2011	07/09/2011	Payroll and Taxes for 06/26/11-07/09/11		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	7,489.45
General Journal	07/13/2011	15226	CITISTREET	457 Employee Deductions for 06/12/11-06/25/11	2000 · Accounts Payable	1,863.30
General Journal	06/25/2011	06/25/2011	CITISTREET			1,863.30
TOTAL						10,216.15
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15227	COMPUTER NETWORK	81714	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	783.00
Bill	06/30/2011	81714		External hard drive	6055 · Computer Hardware	783.00
TOTAL						783.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15228	DE BOOM, NATHAN	AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/12 Ag Pool Meeting		5/12/2011 Ag Pool Meeting	8411 · Compensation	25.00
TOTAL						25.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15229	DURRINGTON, GLEN	AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/12 Ag Pool Meeting		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
TOTAL						100.00

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of

Type	Date	Numb	Name	Memo	July 2011	Account	Paid Amount
Bill	06/30/2011	4/14 Ag Pool Meeting		4/14/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 · Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/12 Ag Pool Mtg		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/09 Ag Pool Mtg		5/12/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 · Compensation	25.00
				AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
				6/09/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 · Compensation	25.00
				AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
TOTAL							375.00
			FEENSTRA, BOB				
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15230				1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/30/2011	4/12 Budget Wkshp		4/12/11 Budget Workshop		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	4/14 Ag Pool Mtg		4/14/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	4/28 Board Mtg		4/28/11 Board Meeting		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/12 Ag Pool Mtg		5/12/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/19 Advisory Comm		5/19/11 Advisory Committee Meeting		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/19 Budget Wkshp		5/19/11 Budget Workshop		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/26 Board Meeting		5/26/11 Board Meeting		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/09 Admin Mtg		5/09/11 Administrative Meeting		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/09 Ag Pool Mtg		6/09/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/16 Advisory Comm		6/16/11 Advisory Committee Meeting		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/23 Board Mtg		6/23/11 Board Meeting		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	125.00
TOTAL							1,375.00
			GREAT AMERICA LEASING CORP.				
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15231				1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/30/2011	11081251		11081251 Invoice		6043.1 · Ricoh Lease Fee	2,788.53
				Usage for Black Copies		6043.2 · Ricoh Usage & Maintenance Fee	282.14
				Usage for Color Copies		6043.2 · Ricoh Usage & Maintenance Fee	321.64
TOTAL							3,392.31
			GROOMAN'S PUMP & WELL DRILLING, INC.				
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15232				1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/30/2011	12789		12789		7102.7 · In-line Meter	440.71
TOTAL							440.71
			HOGAN LOVELLS				
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15233				1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/30/2011	1979943		1979943 Non-Ag Legal Services - June 2011		8567 · Non-Ag Legal Service	2,926.38
TOTAL							2,926.38
			HUTSING, JOHN				
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15234				1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/30/2011	4/14 Ag Pool Mtg		4/14/2011 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 · Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/12 Ag Pool Mtg		Ag Pool Member Compensation		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/12 Ag Pool Mtg		5/12/2011 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 · Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/09 Ag Pool Mtg		Ag Pool Member Compensation		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/09 Ag Pool Mtg		6/09/2011 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 · Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/09 Ag Pool Mtg		Ag Pool Member Compensation		8470 · Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
TOTAL							375.00

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CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of

Type	Date	Num	Name	July 2011	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15235	JAMES JOHNSTON	235		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	810.00
Bill	06/30/2011	235		Website Services - June 2011		6052.3 - Website Consulting	810.00
TOTAL							
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15236	KOOPMAN, GENE			1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	4/14 Ag Pool Mtg		4/14/2011 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/12 Ag Pool Mtg		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/09 Ag Pool Mtg		5/12/2011 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011			AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011			AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011			AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
TOTAL							
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15237	PIERSON, JEFFREY			1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	4/14 Ag Pool Mtg		4/14/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	4/21 Advisory Comm		4/14/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/12 Ag Pool Mtg		4/21/11 Advisory Committee Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/19 Advisory Comm		4/21/11 Advisory Committee Meeting		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/19 Advisory Comm		5/12/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/19 Budget Wkshp		5/12/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/26 Board Mtg		5/19/11 Advisory Committee Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/09 Ag Pool Mtg		5/19/11 Advisory Committee Meeting		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/16 Advisory Comm		5/19/11 Budget Workshop		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/23 Board Mtg		5/19/11 Budget Workshop		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011			5/26/11 Board Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011			5/26/11 Board Meeting		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011			6/09/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011			6/09/11 Ag Pool Meeting		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011			6/16/11 Advisory Committee Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011			6/16/11 Advisory Committee Meeting		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011			6/23/11 Board Meeting		8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011			6/23/11 Board Meeting		8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
TOTAL							
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15238	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM			1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	7,577.59
General Journal	06/25/2011	06/25/2011		Payor #3493		2000 - Accounts Payable	7,577.59
TOTAL							
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15239	STAPLES BUSINESS ADVANTAGE			1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	643.84
Bill	06/30/2011	8018954522		8018954522		6031.1 - Copy Paper	643.84
Bill	06/30/2011			Misc. supplies, white out, glue		6031.7 - Other Office Supplies	81.41
TOTAL							
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15240	THE LAWTON GROUP			1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	824.00
Bill	06/30/2011	1VC070000017193		6017		6017 - Temporary Services	824.00
Bill	06/30/2011			Week Ending 6/26/2011			

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of
July 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
TOTAL						824.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15241	VANDEN HEUVEL, ROB	4/14/2011 Ag Pool Meeting	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/30/2011	4/14 Ag Pool Mtg		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	5/12 Ag Pool Mtg		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/09 Ag Pool Mtg		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/16 Advisory Comm		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/16 Advisory Comm		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/16 Advisory Comm		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
TOTAL						500.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15242	AMERICAN WATER WORKS ASSOCIATION	7000357554	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	231.00
Bill	07/12/2011	7000357554		membership dues - D. Maurizio (9/01/11-8/31/12)	6111 - Membership Dues	231.00
TOTAL						231.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15243	APPLIED COMPUTER TECHNOLOGIES	2016	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	1,728.70
Bill	06/30/2011	2016		Database Services - June 2011	6052.2 - Applied Computer Technol	1,728.70
TOTAL						1,728.70
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15244	COMPUTER NETWORK	81779	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	134.69
Bill	07/07/2011	81779		Replace hard drive for Senior Engineer laptop	6055 - Computer Hardware	134.69
TOTAL						134.69
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15245	HSBC BUSINESS SOLUTIONS	7003-7309-1000-2744A	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	377.74
Bill	06/30/2011	7003730910002744A		Miscellaneous office and meeting supplies	6031.7 - Other Office Supplies	377.74
TOTAL						377.74
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15246	MIJAC ALARIM	302876	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	147.00
Bill	07/01/2011	302876		Alarm monitoring from 7/01/11-9/30/11	6026 - Security Services	147.00
TOTAL						147.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15247	PAYCHEX		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	251.12
Bill	06/30/2011	2011063000		Payroll Services - June 2011	6012 - Payroll Services	251.12
Bill	06/30/2011	2011063000		Payroll Services - July 2011	6012 - Payroll Services	124.06
TOTAL						375.18
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15248	PREMIERE GLOBAL SERVICES	08123490	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	14.95
Bill	06/30/2011	08123490		Monthly fee	6022 - Telephone	14.95
Bill	06/30/2011	08123490		Non-Ag meeting call	8512 - Meeting Expense	169.30
Bill	06/30/2011	08123490		Service fee	6022 - Telephone	4.75
TOTAL						189.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15249	SAFEGUARD DENTAL & VISION	3816296	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	

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CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of
July 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill	07/01/2011	3818296		Dental insurance premium - July 2011	60182.2 · Dental & Vision Ins	7.91
TOTAL						7.91
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15250	SANTA ANA WATERSHED PROJECT AUTHORITY 9012		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	11,655.00
Bill	07/01/2011	9012		FY11/12 Basin Monitoring Program Task Force	6903 · OBMP SAWPA Group	11,655.00
TOTAL						201.60
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15251	SPAM SOAP, INC		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	201.60
Bill	07/01/2011	55981		Semi-annual billing-spam software licenses	6054 · Computer Software	201.60
TOTAL						484.40
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15252	THE LAWTON GROUP		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	484.40
Bill	06/30/2011	1VC070000017220		Week of 6/30/11 (3 days paid-June 27, 29 & 30)	6017 · Temporary Services	164.80
Bill	07/01/2011	1VC070000017220		Week of 7/01/11 - 1 day paid, July 1st	6017 · Temporary Services	659.20
TOTAL						283.79
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15253	UNION 76		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	283.79
Bill	06/30/2011	300732989		Fuel - June 2011	6175 · Vehicle Fuel	283.79
TOTAL						19.95
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15254	VERIZON BUSINESS		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	19.95
Bill	06/30/2011	07144471		Internet dialed charges service 6/01/11-6/30/11	6053 · Internet Expense	1,517.90
Bill	07/15/2011	07144471		Service period 6/01/11-8/31/11	6053 · Internet Expense	1,537.85
TOTAL						28.88
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15255	WESTERN DENTAL SERVICES, INC.		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	28.88
Bill	07/12/2011	002483		Dental insurance premium - August 2011	60182.2 · Dental & Vision Ins	28.88
TOTAL						142.88
Bill Pmt -Check	07/13/2011	15256	YUKON DISPOSAL SERVICE		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	142.88
Bill	07/01/2011	08-K2 213849		Service for July 2011	6024 · Building Repair & Maintenance	142.88
TOTAL						50.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/14/2011	15257	CUCAMONGA VALLEY IAAP		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	50.00
Bill	07/13/2011			July 20, 2011 Cucamonga Valley IAAP Chapter Mtg	6192 · Training & Seminars	50.00
TOTAL						20.07
Bill Pmt -Check	07/14/2011	15258	GRAINGER		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	20.07
Bill	06/30/2011	9573776821		9573776821	7103.6 · Grdwr Qual-Supplies	48.21
Bill	06/30/2011	9573776839		9573776839	7103.6 · Grdwr Qual-Supplies	68.28
TOTAL						65.07
Bill Pmt -Check	07/14/2011	15259	PETTY CASH		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	65.07
Bill	06/30/2011			2357-2366	6141.3 · Admin Meetings	258.29
				Breakfast for new CEO meeting	6191 · Conferences - General	
				Conf. reimbursement-Molino, travel-Alvarez to WA		

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CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
	July 2011					
				Mileage reimbursement for Molino- Ag Pool Mtg	6173 - Mileage Reimbursements	16.83
				Supplies for 5/19 and 6/16 DYY meetings	7604 - PE&&S-Supplies	19.75
				Supplies for 5/19 & 6/16 Advisory Committee Mtgs	6212 - Meeting Expense	19.75
				Lunch-Ben Pak & Andy Campbell-Recharge Issues	7204 - Comp Recharge-Supplies	34.25
				Misc. office supplies - cleaning supplies for office	6031.7 - Other Office Supplies	69.70
				Groundwater level supplies	7104.6 - Grdwtr Level-Supplies	11.95
TOTAL						495.59
			VERIZON		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill Pmt -Check	07/14/2011	15260				
Bill	01/31/2011	0125519116950792103			6022 - Telephone	424.56
Bill	01/31/2011	012551121521714508			7405 - PE4-Other Expense	158.01
TOTAL						582.57
			WILDERMUTH ENVIRONMENTAL INC		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill Pmt -Check	07/14/2011	15261				
Bill	05/31/2011	2011178		2011178 - OBMP Engineering Services	6906 - OBMP Engineering Services	7,312.28
Bill	05/31/2011	2011179		2011179 - OBMP Engineering Services	6906 - OBMP Engineering Services	1,766.95
Bill	05/31/2011	2011180		2011180 - OBMP Engineering Services	6906 - OBMP Engineering Services	510.05
Bill	05/31/2011	2011181		2011181 - OBMP Engineering Services	6906 - OBMP Engineering Services	5,723.75
Bill	05/31/2011	2011182		2011182 - OBMP Engineering Services	6906 - OBMP Engineering Services	468.75
Bill	05/31/2011	2011183		2011183 - OBMP Engineering Services	6906 - OBMP Engineering Services	3,422.50
Bill	05/31/2011	2011184		2011184 - Grdwtr Qual-Engineering	7103.3 - Grdwtr Qual-Engineering	312.50
Bill	05/31/2011	2011185		2011185 - Grdwtr Qual-Engineering	7103.3 - Grdwtr Qual-Engineering	4,462.50
Bill	05/31/2011	2011186		2011186 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	7104.3 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	225.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011187		2011187 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	7104.3 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	75.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011188		2011188 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	7104.3 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	4,198.22
Bill	05/31/2011	2011189		2011189 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	7104.3 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	818.75
Bill	05/31/2011	2011190		2011190 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	7104.3 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	2,512.50
Bill	05/31/2011	2011191		2011191 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	7104.3 - Grdwtr Level-Engineering	9,018.75
Bill	05/31/2011	2011192		2011192 - Grd Level-Engineering	7107.2 - Grd Level-Engineering	750.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011193		2011193 - Grd Level-Engineering	7107.2 - Grd Level-Engineering	600.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011194		2011194 - Grd Level-Engineering	7107.2 - Grd Level-Engineering	10,239.80
Bill	05/31/2011	2011195		2011195 - Grd Level-Cap Equip Exte	7107.8 - Grd Level-Cap Equip Exte	1,851.66
Bill	05/31/2011	2011196		2011196 - Grd Level-Contract Svcs	7107.6 - Grd Level-Contract Svcs	18,032.90
Bill	05/31/2011	2011197		2011197 - Grd Level-Engineering	7107.2 - Grd Level-Engineering	4,125.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011198		2011198 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	862.50
Bill	05/31/2011	2011199		2011199 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	8,170.74
Bill	05/31/2011	2011200		2011200 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	875.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011201		2011201 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	468.75
Bill	05/31/2011	2011202		2011202 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	175.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011203		2011203 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	545.20
Bill	05/31/2011	2011204		2011204 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	93.75
Bill	05/31/2011	2011205		2011205 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	343.75
Bill	05/31/2011	2011206		2011206 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	487.50
Bill	05/31/2011	2011207		2011207 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	7108.3 - Hydraulic Control-Engineering	19,307.50
Bill	05/31/2011	2011208		2011208 - PE3&5-Engineering	7303 - PE3&5-Engineering	1,215.00

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of
July 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill	05/31/2011	2011209		2011209 - PE4-Engineering	7402 · PE4-Engineering	3,300.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011210		2011210 - PE4-Engineering	7402 · PE4-Engineering	1,500.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011211		2011211 - PE6&7-Engineering	7502 · PE6&7-Engineering	967.50
Bill	05/31/2011	2011212		2011212 - OBMP - Watermaster Model Update	6906.1 · OBMP - Watermaster Model Update	18,085.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011213		2011213 - OBMP - Watermaster Model Update	6906.1 · OBMP - Watermaster Model Update	36,725.00
Bill	05/31/2011	2011214		2011214 - OBMP - Watermaster Model Update	6906.1 · OBMP - Watermaster Model Update	8,387.50
TOTAL						177,936.55
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15262	BANK OF AMERICA	XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-9341	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	1,613.79
Bill	06/30/2011	XXXX-XXXX-XXXX-9341		Travel expenses for D. Alvarez to Wash. D.C.	6191 · Conferences - General	1,458.31
				Truck ramps, turbidometer & buffer solution	7103.6 · Grdwtr Qual-Supplies	643.43
				Work shirts, jackets for staff	6154 · Uniforms	118.43
				Tech support	6057 · Computer Maintenance	328.00
				Lunch for 6/23 Board meeting	6312 · Meeting Expenses	4,161.96
TOTAL						302.50
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15263	REID & HELLNER	175929	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	302.50
Bill	06/30/2011	175929		175929 - Ag Pool Legal Services	8467.1 · Frank B. & Associates	302.50
TOTAL						5,431.25
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15264	CALPERS	1741	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	5,431.25
Bill	07/20/2011	1741		CalPERS Medical Premium - August 2011	60182.1 · Medical Insurance	5,431.25
TOTAL						1,863.30
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15265	CITISTREET	Payroll and Taxes for 06/26/11-07/09/11	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	1,863.30
General Journal	07/09/2011	07/09/2011	CITISTREET	457 Retirement Deductions for 06/26/11-07/09/11	2000 · Accounts Payable	1,863.30
TOTAL						62.50
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15266	CORELOGIC INFORMATION SOLUTIONS	80247117	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	62.50
Bill	06/30/2011	80247117		80247117	7103.7 · Grdwtr Qual-Computer Svc	62.50
				80247117	7101.4 · Prod Monitor-Computer	125.00
TOTAL						5,844.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15267	CUCAMONGA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT	Lease Due August 1, 2011	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	5,844.00
Bill	07/18/2011			Lease Due August 1, 2011	1422 · Prepaid Rent	5,844.00
TOTAL						2,804.64
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15268	ESRI	Quotation #25472736	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	2,804.64
Bill	07/20/2011	Quotation #25472736		ESRI maintenance	6054 · Computer Software	2,804.64
TOTAL						865.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15269	GUARANTEED JANITORIAL SERVICE, INC.	28549	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	865.00
Bill	07/20/2011	28549		Janitorial Service - July 2011	6024 · Building Repair & Maintenance	865.00
TOTAL						865.00

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15270	PAK, BEN	100	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	10,000.00
Bill	07/20/2011	100		Engineering Consulting Services	6901 · WM Staff Salaries	10,000.00
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15271	PITNEY BOWES CREDIT CORPORATION	6684246	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	551.37
Bill	07/13/2011	6684246		Lease charges	6044 · Postage Meter Lease	551.37
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15272	PRE-PAID LEGAL SERVICES, INC.	111802	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	51.80
Bill	07/20/2011	111802		July 2011	60194 · Other Employee Insurance	51.80
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15273	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM	Payor #3493	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	6,804.22
General Journal	07/09/2011	07/09/2011	PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT SYSTEM	CalPERS Retirement for 06/26/11-07/09/11	2000 · Accounts Payable	6,804.22
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15274	STAULA, MARY L		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	136.61
Bill	07/31/2011				60182.4 · Retiree Medical	136.61
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15275	THE LAWTON GROUP	6017	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	659.20
Bill	07/20/2011	1VC070000017247		Week Ending 7/10/11	6017 · Temporary Services	659.20
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	07/20/2011	15276	VERIZON WIRELESS	0992015645	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	344.54
Bill	07/20/2011	0992015645		Monthly service	6022 · Telephone	344.54
TOTAL						
General Journal	07/23/2011	07/23/2011	Payroll and Taxes for 07/10/11-07/23/11	Payroll and Taxes for 07/10/11-07/23/11	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	7,746.79
				Payroll Taxes for 07/10/11-07/23/11	1014 · Bank of America P/R Ckg	-14.30
				Payroll Taxes for 07/10/11-07/23/11	1014 · Bank of America P/R Ckg	347.86
				Payroll Taxes for 07/10/11-07/23/11	1014 · Bank of America P/R Ckg	214.65
				Checks for 07/10/11-07/23/11	1014 · Bank of America P/R Ckg	5,972.71
				Direct Deposits for 07/10/11-07/23/11	1014 · Bank of America P/R Ckg	17,733.69
TOTAL						32,001.40
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2011	15277	BROWN & CALDWELL	19264	1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	200.00
Bill	07/15/2011	19264		Place ad for Senior Environmental Engineer	6016 · New Employee Search Costs	200.00
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2011	15278	DGO AUTO DETAILING		1012 · Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	75.00
Bill	06/30/2011			Wash 3 trucks	6177 · Vehicle Repairs & Maintenance	75.00
Bill	07/20/2011			Wash 3 trucks	6177 · Vehicle Repairs & Maintenance	150.00
TOTAL						

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CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of
July 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2011	15279	HALL, PETE		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/30/2011	1/13 Ag Pool Mtg		1/13/11 Ag Pool Meeting	8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	1/20 Advisory Comm		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	1/27 Board Meeting		1/20/11 Advisory Committee Meeting	8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	2/10 Ag Pool Mtg		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	3/10 Ag Pool Mtg		1/27/11 Board Meeting	8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011	4/14 Ag Pool Mtg		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
Bill	06/30/2011	6/16 Advisory Comm		AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8411 - Compensation	25.00
Bill	06/30/2011			AG Pool Member Meeting Compensation	8470 - Ag Meeting Attend -Special	100.00
						875.00
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	07/25/2011	15280	MWH LABORATORIES		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	06/30/2011	L0057385		L0057385 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,525.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0057717		L0057717 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	2,085.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0057715		L0057715 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	2,065.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0057714		L0057714 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	615.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0058714		L0058714 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	2,065.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0059710		L0059710 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	615.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0061247		L0061247 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	2,065.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0061246		L0061246 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,525.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0059727		L0059727 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	615.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0059728		L0059728 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	2,065.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0057716		L0057716 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,532.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0060253		L0060253 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,830.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0060252		L0060252 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,770.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0061266		L0061266 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	615.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0061267		L0061267 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	2,065.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0061268		L0061268 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,770.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0061272		L0061272 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,830.00
Bill	06/30/2011	L0061250		L0061250 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,532.00
Bill	06/30/2011	Folder 368920		Folder 368920 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	615.00
Bill	06/30/2011	Folder 368919		Folder 368919 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	2,065.00
Bill	06/30/2011	Folder 369049		Folder 369049 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,770.00
Bill	06/30/2011	Folder 369158		Folder 369158 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	7108.4 - Hydraulic Control-Lab Svcs	1,830.00
						34,444.00
TOTAL						
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15281	ARROWHEAD MOUNTAIN SPRING WATER		1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	07/26/2011	0023230253		Office Water Bottle - July 2011	6031.7 - Other Office Supplies	11.95

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of
July 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
TOTAL						11.95
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15282	COMPUTER NETWORK	81892	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	07/26/2011	81892		Service and labor to repair color printer	6057 - Computer Maintenance	99.00
				1TB Server Hard Drive	6055 - Computer Hardware	398.88
TOTAL						497.88
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15283	DC LAW	13175	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	08/30/2011	13175		13175 - Ag Pool Legal Services	8467 - Ag Legal & Technical Services	3,509.60
TOTAL						3,509.60
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15284	DIRECTV	019447404	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	07/26/2011	019447404		Monthly service for 7/19/11-8/18/11	6031.7 - Other Office Supplies	86.99
TOTAL						86.99
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15285	GLOBAL PRESENTER.COM	52589	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	07/26/2011	52589		Polycom Power Supply - spare parts	6055 - Computer Hardware	196.71
TOTAL						196.71
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15286	INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY	1800001924	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	08/30/2011	1800001924		Support services for Turner Basin/Guesti Park	7202 - Comp Recharge-Engineering	2,099.25
TOTAL						2,099.25
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15287	THE LAWTON GROUP	6017	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	07/26/2011	1VC070000017272		Week Ending 7/17/11	6017 - Temporary Services	793.10
TOTAL						793.10
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15288	UNITED HEALTHCARE	0024802914	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	07/26/2011	0024802914		Dental insurance premium - August 2011	60182.2 - Dental & Vision Ins	399.10
TOTAL						399.10
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15289	VISION SERVICE PLAN	00-101789-0001	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	07/26/2011	001017890001		Vision insurance premium - August 2011	60182.2 - Dental & Vision Ins	55.05
TOTAL						55.05
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15290	INLAND EMPIRE UTILITIES AGENCY	1800001928	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	08/30/2011	1800001928		Supp. Env. Project (SEP) Cost Share-Water Softener 6909 - OBMP Other Expenses		14,723.03
TOTAL						14,723.03
Bill Pmt -Check	07/29/2011	15291	PUMP CHECK	4311	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	
Bill	07/11/2011	4311			7102.5 - In-line Meter-Computer	225.00
					7102.8 - In-line Meter-Callib & Test	1,900.00
TOTAL						2,125.00
General Journal	07/31/2011	07/31/2011	Wage Works Direct Debits for July 2011	Wage Works Direct Debits for July 2011	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	

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TOTAL 35

CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER
Cash Disbursements For The Month of
July 2011

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Paid Amount
				Wage Works Direct Debits for July 2011	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	495.40
				Wage Works Direct Debits for July 2011	1012 - Bank of America Gen'l Ckg	76.25
						571.65
TOTAL						
Total Disbursements:						<u>409,013.74</u>

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CHINO BASIN WATERMASTER

IV. INFORMATION

2. Newspaper Articles



dailybulletin.com

Water future bright in Chino Basin

Steven J. Elie, Desi Alvarez and Eunice Ulloa

Created: 08/06/2011 07:06:49 AM PDT

This past year marked a record for putting water back into the Chino Groundwater Basin. Following several years of below to average precipitation, this wet winter provided a generous amount of storm water that was captured in the recharge basins and percolated into the ground.

During the storms of 2011, the Inland Empire Utilities Agency (IEUA) and Chino Basin Water Conservation District (CBWCD) were able to capture and recharge over 17,000 acre-feet of storm water plus 8,000 acre-feet of recycled water, both record highs compared to previous years. One acre-foot of water can typically serve two households for an entire year.

The real success is the decade-long partnership in local investment for the recycled water, groundwater and water conservation programs by IEUA, Chino Basin Watermaster, CBWCD, San Bernardino County Flood Control District, and our local cities and retail water districts. Together the improvements helped achieve a 50 percent increase in local water supplies and reduce the region's dependence on costly imported water supplies. This investment has provided us with over 170,000 acre-feet of "new" water supplies, a value of over \$110 million when compared to imported water rates.

On June 1, IEUA's Board of Directors adopted its 2010 Urban Water Management Plan. The plan, which is updated every five years, outlines past, present and future water supplies and demands. As expected, significant population growth and new development occurred

within IEUA's service area over the last five years. However, despite the increase in population, water use throughout the Chino Basin is at the same level as it was in the year 2005, reinforcing the value of investing in conservation and water use efficiency programs. IEUA anticipates that the region's population will increase by another 400,000 people over the next 25 years, giving a total population of over 1.2 million people in its service area.

We stand ready to meet the challenges this increase in population will bring.

Much of the decrease in water use can be attributed to: 1) increased conservation through water use efficiency programs, such as the Inland Empire Garden Friendly program; 2) tripling the use of recycled water for irrigation at our parks, schools, street medians, etc., and 3) regionally coordinated water use efficiency education and public outreach programs.

Through these efforts, the Chino Basin is well on its way to achieving the state's mandatory 20 percent reduction in water use by 2020.

Today's future is bright. With the abundance of rain this past year, a surplus exists in California's surface reservoirs, resulting in the state Department of Water Resources and the

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Metropolitan Water District of Southern California making available surplus water at a steep discount.

This is allowing the Chino Basin Watermaster to arrange the purchase and recharge of an additional 50,000 acre-feet of imported water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

However, while it appears we currently have a surplus of clean reliable water, it is important for us to remember to continue to use our water supplies wisely. We must continue to conserve this precious resource - water. Our customers continue to be a big part of our plan and have made the reductions in use possible. We will continue to explore ways to ensure that safe, reliable water supplies are available in the Inland Empire.

For more information on IEUA's vision and programs, visit www.ieua.org.

For information on conservation classes and how to use water more efficiently outdoors, visit www.cbwcd.org.

Steven J. Elie is a director of Inland Empire Utilities Agency and represents IEUA on the Chino Basin Watermaster board. Desi Alvarez is chief executive officer of Chino Basin Watermaster. Eunice Ulloa is general manager of Chino Basin Water Conservation District and a Chino City Council member.



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latimes.com/news/local/la-me-water-chromium-20110730,0,6945706.story

latimes.com

California sets goal for limiting drinking water pollutant

It is the nation's first public health goal for hexavalent chromium, made infamous in 'Erin Brockovich.' The goal isn't an enforceable standard but will help develop one, an official says.

By Molly Hennessy-Fiske, Los Angeles Times

July 30, 2011

The California Environmental Protection Agency [has issued](#) the nation's [first public health goal](#) for [hexavalent chromium](#), the cancer-causing heavy metal made infamous after [activist Erin Brockovich](#) sued in 1993 over [contaminated groundwater](#) in the Mojave Desert town of Hinkley, about 100 miles northeast of Los Angeles.

At that time, the average hexavalent chromium level in Hinkley's water was 1.19 parts per billion (ppb). The new state goal was set Wednesday at 0.02 ppb, the level of the element that does not pose a significant health risk in drinking water, according to state officials.

That means for every million people who drink tap water with that level of hexavalent chromium every day for 70 years, there would likely be one additional case of cancer attributable to exposure to the metal, state officials said.

The new goal is not an enforceable standard, but "will be an important tool that the Department of Public Health will use" to develop one, said George Alexeeff, acting director of the department's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment.

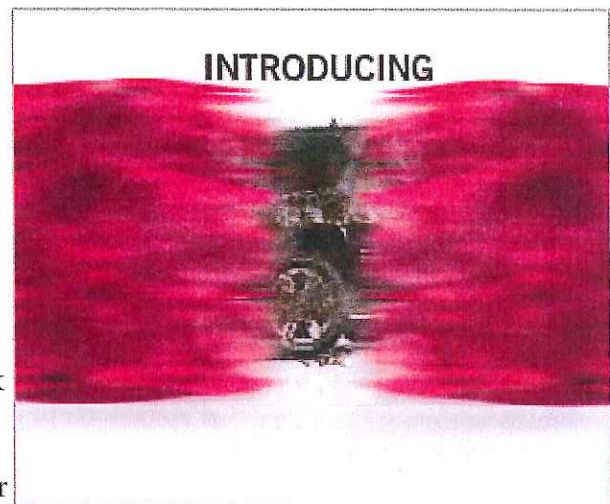
Other state environmental officials offered reassurances that the new goal did not indicate any increased threats from hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium 6.

California environmental officials [have detected hexavalent chromium](#) in the drinking water of an estimated 13 million people in 52 of the state's 58 counties, including Los Angeles.

At least 74 million Americans in 42 states drink chromium-polluted tap water, much of it probably [tainted with hexavalent chromium](#), according to studies by the nonprofit Oakland-based Environmental Working Group. They also found chromium 6 in tap water from 31 of 35 cities [tested last year](#), with some of the highest levels in Riverside (1.69 ppb) and San Jose (1.34 ppb).

Chromium 6 occurs naturally in some drinking water, and many people don't even know they are

advertisement



drinking it. More often, it enters the water supply from industrial contamination, leaching from sites such as the former disposal ponds of Pacific Gas & Electric's Topock Compressor Station in Hinkley, near Barstow. It can be removed using expensive reverse osmosis filters.

State officials said the new goal reflected recent research suggesting that young children could be more susceptible to health risks from exposure to chromium 6. Mice and rats that drank water containing high levels of the element developed gastrointestinal tumors, according to a 2007 study by the National Toxicology Program.

Environmentalists [praised the new state goal](#), saying they hoped it would pressure state and federal officials to set enforceable standards for the metal and other drinking water contaminants. After California regulated another such contaminant, [perchlorate](#), other states followed suit and [the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has reconsidered its standard](#).

"It's better to know than not to know," said Dr. Gina Solomon of the San Francisco-based Natural Resources Defense Council of chromium 6 levels in drinking water. "We want to know about it so that water utilities can deal with it and get the levels down."

California lawmakers passed legislation in 2001 requiring an enforceable drinking water standard for chromium 6 by 2004. State public health officials [are still working on that standard](#). It will take at least 18 months to propose and 2 1/2 years to approve, according to Mike Sicilia, a spokesman for the state Department of Public Health.

California environmental officials cautioned that until the standard is set, the state goal is "not a regulatory level for cleanup of groundwater or surface water contamination" and cannot be used to justify investigations where residents suspect their water is making them sick, [such as in Hinkley or the San Joaquin Valley's Kettleman City](#).

The national drinking water limit for chromium is 100 ppb, but water system monitors [are not required to distinguish](#) what percentage of that is chromium 6 versus other less harmful ions such as chromium 3. But U.S. EPA officials [recommended in January](#) that water systems start testing for chromium 6, and EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson has said the agency will [probably revise its standards](#) soon.


molly.hennessy-fiske@latimes.com

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Chromium-6 in Drinking Water Sources: Sampling Results

Last Update: July 27, 2011


Recent Monitoring and Analytical Information

US EPA Recommendations: US EPA's [January 2011 recommendations for enhanced chromium-6 monitoring](#) refer public water systems to California laboratories, specifically to CDPH's [Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program](#) (ELAP) and its [list of certified laboratories \(Excel\)](#) .

US EPA mentions that laboratories identified under "FOT 103" (Field of Testing 103) can be contacted and asked if they are certified for CA CDPH subgroup code 103.310, which is specific to EPA Method 218.6 for chromium-6.

To assist public water systems that may seek California laboratories, ELAP has provided a list of [laboratories certified for subgroup code 103.310 \(Excel\)](#) .

Detection Limit for Purposes of Reporting: California currently uses a 1-ppb detection limit for purposes of reporting ([DLR](#)) for monitoring chromium-6 in drinking water. However, analytical results at concentrations below the DLR may be submitted to CDPH when laboratories have associated quality assurance data for their results. Any future modification to the current DLR will be part of an MCL evaluation and development process.

Holding Times and Sample Preservation: CDPH concurs with US EPA's temporary extension of the maximum holding time for properly preserved drinking water samples from 24 hours to 5 days. At this time, CDPH recommends that samples be preserved in the field with a [borate-carbonate buffer \(PDF\)](#) . Alternately, samples may also be preserved in the field with an ammonium sulfate/hydroxide buffer, as referenced in [US EPA's recommendations for enhanced chromium-6 monitoring](#). This recommendation may be revised once US EPA finalizes the re-evaluation of its hexavalent chromium analytical method for drinking water samples.

Sampling Results

CDPH (then the California Department of Health Services, DHS) adopted a regulation in 2001 that added chromium-6 to the list of [unregulated chemicals for which requiring monitoring is required \(UCMR\)](#). The analytical methods associated with the UCMR are [here](#).

Of the ~4,400 community systems and non-transient non-community systems that have ~12,000 drinking water sources, those that are vulnerable to contamination are subject to UCMR regulations. Systems with fewer than 150 service connections may be exempted from the monitoring requirement. Results of UCMR monitoring from over 7,000 drinking water sources showed chromium-6 at or above the 1-µg/L detection limit for purposes of reporting (DLR) in about one-third of them.

The monitoring data that were collected as a result of the UCMR regulation will enable us to determine the extent to which chromium-6 exists within drinking water supplies, and at what concentrations it exists. This information is needed in order to evaluate the costs of treatment of drinking water containing chromium-6 when developing a chromium-6 [maximum contaminant level \(i.e., drinking water standard\)](#).


The monitoring for chromium-6 under the UCMR regulations was to have been completed by December 31, 2002, and the regulations were repealed in October 2007. However, some water systems have continued to monitor, and more recent findings are included in the [monitoring results \(Excel, 1.4MB\)](#) . An overview of findings is presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Chromium-6 in drinking water sources 1997 through 2008 (Active and Standby Sources)
(See notes 1, 2, and 3)

Peak level (µg/L)	No. of Sources	% of Detections
> 50	6	0.3
41 - 50	5	0.2
31 - 40	14	0.6
21 - 30	61	2.8
11 - 20	231	10.5
6 - 10	456	20.7
1 - 5	1,434	64.9
TOTAL	2,207	100

1. Data are extracted from [monitoring results \(Excel, 1.4MB\)](#) through January 2009. They will change with subsequent updates and should be considered draft.
2. "Sources" are active, standby, and pending sources reporting more than a single detection of chromium-6. Data may include both raw and treated sources, distribution systems, blending reservoirs, and other sampled entities. This table does not include inactive sources, abandoned or destroyed wells, agricultural wells, monitoring wells, or more than one representation of the same source (e.g., a source with both raw and treated entries is counted a single source).
3. For UCMR sampling, a number of sources may have been [screened using a 1-µg/L reporting limit for total chromium \(PDF\)](#). If total chromium was below the screening level, specific analysis for chromium-6 was not required.

Early Sampling

Drinking water sources have monitored total chromium since the 1970s, and the results of monitoring have been maintained in the Drinking Water Program's database since 1984. Of 11,785 sources sampled for total chromium through 2001, detections were reported for 1,311 sources (1,227 ground water and 84 surface water sources). The detection level for purposes of reporting (DLR) for total chromium is 10 µg/L.

Until DHS required monitoring for chromium-6 under the UCMR, little information was available about the presence of chromium-6 in drinking water supplies. DHS performed limited analyses from 1997-2000 to determine the fraction of total chromium that is chromium-6, with the following results. For these samples, not detected (ND) indicates chromium-6 at <0.5 µg/L.

- In 1997-98, DHS sampled 10 wells in Merced County. Total chromium was 18.8-33.5 µg/L, and chromium-6, 16.8-33.0 µg/L (68-100% of total chromium).
- In 1998, DHS sampled three wells in Los Angeles County. Total chromium was 3.4-10.3 µg/L, was chromium-6, ND-5.1 µg/L (<14-54% of total chromium).
- Also in 1998, DHS sampled one well in Contra Costa County. Total chromium was 18.7 µg/L and chromium -6, 1.5 µg/L (8% of total chromium).
- In 1999, a water agency's consultant sampled nine wells in Los Angeles County. Total chromium was 5.3-15 µg/L, and chromium-6, 3.6-11 µg/L (58-100% of total chromium).
- In 2000, DHS sampled eight wells in San Mateo County. Total chromium was 11-28 µg/L, and chromium-6, 7.4-28 µg/L (64-100% of total chromium).
- In 2000, DHS sampled three wells in Yolo County. Total chromium was 31-54 µg/L, and chromium-6, 24-35 µg/L (44-97% of total chromium).
- In 2000, DHS took four samples from a surface water source in Solano County. Total chromium was 0.5-8.9 µg/L, and chromium-6 was ND.

Additional Information on Chromium-6 from CDPH

[Current Status of the Chromium-6 MCL](#)

[Timeline of CDPH's Activities Related to Chromium-6](#)

Other Helpful Sites

[More Information for Water Systems](#)

[Drinking Water Program](#)

[Division of Drinking Water and Environmental Management](#)

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Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment



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Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Governor

OEHHA Adopts First-in-the-Nation Public Health Goal For Hexavalent Chromium in Drinking Water

July 27, 2011
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: SAM DELSON (916) 324-0955 (office)
(916) 764-0955 (mobile)

SACRAMENTO – The California Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) today published the nation's first public health goal (PHG) for hexavalent chromium in drinking water.

The final PHG for hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium 6, is set at 0.02 parts per billion (ppb), which is the same level as the draft that was released for public comment in December 2010.

"This final public health goal is the culmination of years of study and research on the health effects of this chemical," said Dr. George Alexeeff, OEHHA's Acting Director. "As the nation's first official goal for this contaminant, it will be an important tool that the Department of Public Health will use to develop a regulatory standard that will protect Californians from the health risks of chromium 6 in drinking water."

"Adoption of the PHG is an important step in the process of ensuring high-quality drinking water for Californians," said Dr. Alexeeff. "The PHG reflects the most recent and definitive scientific research and demonstrates OEHHA's commitment to fully assessing the health risks of hexavalent chromium."

A PHG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water that does not pose a significant health risk. It is not a regulatory level for cleanup of groundwater or surface water contamination.

The public health goal for chromium 6 is not a maximum "safe" level for exposure to the chemical. Rather, it serves as an assessment of the health risk posed by drinking water that contains chromium 6, based on an estimated "one in one million" lifetime cancer risk level. For every million people who drink tap water with that level of chromium 6 each day for 70 years, there is likely to be one additional case of cancer from exposure to the chemical.

State law requires OEHHA to set PHGs to provide scientific guidance to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) in developing enforceable drinking water standards. By law, CDPH must set the eventual standard as close to the PHG as economically and technically feasible.

California Environmental Protection Agency

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption.

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The PHG for chromium 6 reflects new research documenting that young children and other sensitive subpopulations are more susceptible than the general population to health risks from exposure to carcinogens. It is based on a study published by the National Toxicology Program in 2007 in which laboratory rats and mice were given drinking water containing high levels of chromium 6. Some of the laboratory animals developed gastrointestinal tumors. OEHHA, CDPH and other organizations requested the research to provide data needed to develop a chromium 6 PHG and drinking water standard.

Chromium 6 occurs naturally in some drinking water. The metal is also used in a number of industrial applications and has entered some water supplies as a result of past waste-disposal practices.

OEHHA is the primary state entity for the assessment of risks posed by chemical contaminants in the environment. Its mission is to protect and enhance public health and the environment by scientific evaluation of risks posed by hazardous substances.

OEHHA, which is part of the California Environmental Protection Agency, issued original and revised draft versions of the PHG for public comment in August 2009 and December 2010, respectively. The University of California also oversaw two separate external scientific peer reviews of the PHG. The final PHG document includes responses to both the peer reviewers' comments and to the extensive number of comments received from the public.

A copy of the newly finalized PHG document may be viewed or downloaded from OEHHA's web site at www.oehha.ca.gov.

Carcinogen limit in water advances

HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM:
Many drinking supplies in
the Inland area have levels
exceeding the goal.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOS ANGELES — State environmental regulators said Wednesday they have settled on an acceptable level for the carcinogen hexavalent chromium in drinking water, the first step in protecting the public.

The state Environmental Protection Agency announced that the amount of hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium-6, that can be present in drinking water without posing a significant health risk is 0.02 parts per billion. This means for every million people who drink tap water with that level of chromium every day for 70 years, there is likely to be one case of cancer.

State law requires the agency to provide scientific guidance so the state Department of Public Health can develop enforceable drinking water standards.

The dangers of chromium contamination in water were publicized in the Oscar-winning movie "Erin Brockovich," which detailed the discovery of high levels of the chemical in wells used by residents of the rural San Bernardino County community of Hinkley, a few miles west of Barstow.

Many drinking water supplies in the Inland area and across the nation have hexavalent chromium levels above the health goal.

The cities of Riverside and Redlands and the Riverside-based Western Municipal Water District were among Inland providers who last year reported levels of hexavalent chromium higher than the new health goal.

Riverside, Redlands, Western Municipal and other local water suppliers meet the current state limit of 50 parts per billion for "total chromium," which includes hexavalent chromium and other less-toxic forms of the metal.

Staff writer David Danelski contributed to this report.

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The thirst

Can the region shift its long-standing thinking about how to handle water?

By [Hugh Biggar](#)

California's struggle to better manage its water is about as old as the state itself (there are California water acts dating to the 1860s). California, with its large population and agricultural economy, has also consistently been the top state in overall water use since 1950, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. In recent decades the state has attempted to get a better handle on this open faucet of use, and its efforts have recently included the 2004 requirement that water districts use meters and the 2009 state plan for cities to reduce their water use by 20 percent by 2020.

In the Sacramento area, the larger cities and municipal water districts say they are on board with these efforts, though many of them have also had to shift long-standing thinking about how they handle water.

The city of Sacramento, for instance, has had to significantly change its approach to water in the face of the new state requirements.

"A lot of [Sacramento's] infrastructure was set up at a time when water was abundant and the consumer simply paid a flat fee," Ellen Hanak, a natural resources economist for the Public Policy Institute of California, said. "The flat-fee system wasn't a crazy idea at one time."

With this in mind, and the high cost of installing meters and other retrofits, Sacramento pushed back unsuccessfully against the water-meter requirement. The city, which draws 85 percent of its



The biggest water hog in the city operations of Sacramento is the 160-acre William Land Park, which used about 92 million gallons of water in 2010.

Photo By kayleigh mccoillum

water supply from the Sacramento and American rivers, is now phasing in new water meters and taking a more cautious approach to its long-term water use.

“It’s been the case in the Sacramento area that there has been less pressure to implement conservation compared to Southern California or even the Bay Area, because people in Sacramento live so close to abundant sources of water,” Hanak said.

Now, however, Sacramento, despite its previous reluctance, is moving toward conservation programs similar to those used by communities in drier areas.

“The city is implementing a number of conservation measures to help us meet our goals,” Jessica Hess, a spokeswoman for Sacramento’s Department of Utilities, explained to SN&R. “In 2009, for example, we passed a revitalized water-conservation ordinance that sets watering days and times to limit evaporation and other overwatering.”

Hess also listed Sacramento’s public education programs, building and plumbing retrofits, and water-education volunteers as other ways the city is aiming to conserve.

“We are concerned with water availability and water quality ... and we are focused on addressing these concerns providing a safe water supply,” she said.

Sacramento County and other large cities in the area also share Sacramento’s more conservative approach and focus on shifting old approaches to water use.

“Roseville maintains a robust water efficiency division that is about changing water demands ... through green building codes and water efficient landscape ordinances,” Ed Kriz, Roseville’s water utility manager, said in an email. “The primary focus is on customer education and information and changing behaviors over time.”

Some of these districts are also working cooperatively, through such groups as the California Urban Water Conservation Council.

That group, a coalition of water utilities and environmental organizations, has committed to an 18 percent reduction in water use by 2018.

“We are trending toward [these goals],” said Don Smith, Folsom’s water management coordinator. Folsom is a part of the CUWCC. “We are doing a couple of things, such as installing meters at all of our connections, and expect to finish that by January 2013. Outdoor water use [through landscaping] is also typically the biggest use and we’re basically attacking that.”

With studies showing about 12 percent of indoor use comes from leaks, Smith also said Folsom is offering rebates for customers who cut consumption and a popular program that sends a technician out to assess the water efficiency of homeowners. In addition, Folsom is installing a daily water-meter-reading system rather than monthly readings. This allows the city to better troubleshoot water problems and respond more proactively. It also helps consumers better understand how they are using water.

“People are surprised when we show them how much water they are using and are responsive,” Smith said.

In Davis, however, residents have been ahead of the curve when it comes to awareness.

“One reason we have had low per-capita consumption rates compared to other cities is we have had water meters in place for quite some time, and that provides a good basis for water management,” Jacques DeBra, the city’s utilities manager, said. DeBra added that as part of Davis’ 20 by 2020 goals, the city aims to average 167 gallons per capita. The city’s use has ranged from 157 to 180 gallons in recent years. The city, which will consider raising rates in September, also aims to improve its water quality by switching from ground water to surface water from the Sacramento River by 2016.

Meanwhile, Sacramento County Water Agency’s Diane Margetts said her agency too is working toward more sustainability, but water availability is a “nonissue.”

“We use 85 percent well water and we have a water supply for decades,” she told SN&R. “But we also know it is not infinite and there is more water during wetter years. So we are encouraging conservation and also use a lot of water meters.”

Similarly in Elk Grove, which grew rapidly in the last 10 years, the city remains confident it will be able to meet its demands, even if development picks up again.

Though the Elk Grove Water District’s Mark Madison cautioned, “Water availability and quality are two issues that we expend tremendous effort to stay on top of.”

Overall, Folsom’s Smith described these municipal approaches as “economies of scale.”

“Cooperating regionally has had a lot of success, especially if you are part of regional rationing effort,” he said.

Conservation taking hold



Ellen Hanak is a natural resources economist and policy fellow for the Public Policy Institute of California.

There’s no doubt that local water consumption has gone down in the last few years. This dovetails with findings from the Public Policy Institute of California that urban water use in California (which makes up about 20 percent of the state’s consumption) has diminished somewhat.

Given the state push to make better use of its water resources, these findings are a good indication the conservation message is being heard. But overall California is still splashing in the shallow end of better managing its water, and experts say there is still much that needs to be done.

“If you compare places with similar climate and levels of development, Australia or Israel, for example, California still has a long ways to go,” Hanak explained to SN&R.

In one example, and a concern shared by others, Hanak pointed to the state’s aging infrastructure as one factor that will continue to handicap California’s conservation efforts.

PHOTO courtesy OF ellen hanak/ppic

“Just maintaining the system is going to be a big challenge, and in the future an increasing question is going to be how to pay for it,” Maureen Hodgins, a research manager at the

Water Research Foundation, said.

Her colleague, Shonnie Cline, added that nationally as well as in California, much of the water infrastructure, such as pipes, were built roughly 60 years ago. As that system ages, it becomes more vulnerable to costly—both moneywise and waterwise—leaks and other malfunctions.

“The [Environmental Protection Agency] has estimated that \$335 billion is needed [nationally] to just maintain all the drinking-water infrastructure,” Cline said. “As these systems fade, there are a lot of buried assets out there put in around World War II [and] there is going to be more and more focus in the future on simply supporting them.”

More locally, Sacramento’s Water Education Foundation points out on its website, Aquaforia, that California’s water systems haven’t seen state and federal upgrades since 1973.

At the same time, the landscape and society in place when this infrastructure was set up is now also rapidly changing.

“[California is] at the point where we have a water system in place and have spent a lot of money on developing resources for water supply and delivery, but we have started to run into limits,” Hanak said. “So we need to make adjustments for more population and increasing urbanization, especially since much high-energy water use is in the urban core.”

She also cautioned there is not a one-size-fits-all approach to water conservation, particularly in a state with wide-ranging landscapes and climates. In evaluating water use, Hanak noted it is important to distinguish between residential customers, public services and industrial users.

“And you have to look at how many jobs are in the area, which are important for economic prosperity, the climate, urban vs. rural populations, and such things as lot sizes,” Hanak said. “San Francisco, for example, has tiny yards compared to Sacramento.”

These factors also help explain Sacramento’s higher-than-average per-capita daily water consumption compared to other cities in the state.

“Sometimes there are legitimate reasons for consumers using too much,” Hanak said. “But when you have places importing a lot of water, and diverting Northern California’s water, then you need to start to think about conservation, in some cases, replacing [what is taken out], better practices, pricing incentives and storage facilities. Communities are also going to have work on improving water quality [since] there are still too many chemicals in the water, from agricultural residue, polluted runoff from urban areas and [flushed] pharmaceuticals.”

And as Hodgins and others point out, making these fixes is also going to come with a price tag.

In the meantime, the Sacramento area’s cities and water districts are making sometimes aggressive and sometimes tentative progress towards these goals. But there is clearly much work to be done.

“Most of the Sacramento Valley [historically] hasn’t had to think about how much water it uses,” Smith said. “So, culturally, just changing people’s mindset is going to have a big impact.”

Los Angeles Times | ENVIRONMENT



Greenspace

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS FROM CALIFORNIA AND BEYOND

DWP's solar program to relaunch in September with lower

August 3, 2011 | 6:34 pm



The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power gave the go-ahead Tuesday to relaunch the [Solar Incentive](#) accepted starting Sept. 1 at 10 a.m.

The revised program is doubling its budget from \$30 million to \$60 million for the next three years and lower for residential, government, nonprofit and commercial buildings.

Funding was increased by using long-term bond financing and by decreasing incentives, which the DWP said and existing solar markets. Residential rebates went down from \$3.24 per watt to \$2.20 per watt. Officials said allowance available for solar systems.

"Now that significant tax incentives are being offered by the federal government, we have an opportunity to re-market pricing, which should give more customers the opportunity to build solar and increase the amount of said Aram Benyamin, DWP's senior assistant general manager.

Ethan Sprague, spokesman for solar power leasing company SunRun, said "if the new rebate levels remain as will not be able to go solar."

"The rebate reduction DWP approved doesn't reduce the overall SIP budget, but rather makes it smaller on an impact the less affluent," Sprague said.

The program, funded through ratepayers, offers rebates to businesses and homeowners who generate their own "Million Solar Roofs" legislation, which requires the DWP to spend \$313 million through the end of 2016.

The program was suspended in April as the demand for incentives, hovering around \$112 million in rebate requests, the department was able to catch up with a backlog of applications and identify alternative financing options.

Under the revised program, the solar program will automatically be suspended until the next fiscal year, when ensure it stays within its budget.

Since the program began in August 2006, DWP customers have installed 35 MW under SB 1 and the department installed during the current fiscal year.

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-- Ashlie Rodriguez

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California redistricting panel got earful about draft maps

Passionate input from across California amounted to an extended conversation about what makes a community and what unites and divides the state's residents. The commission votes Friday.

By John Hoeffel, Los Angeles Times

July 29, 2011

Reporting from Fremont, Calif. -- Residents and civic leaders in Fremont, which sprawls from San Francisco Bay to the golden-seared folds of Sunol Ridge, say their desert-hued bedroom community should be in a congressional district with its neighbors, Newark and Union City.

The three cities, they explained, share such interests as planning, transportation, policing, healthcare, water, education and jobs. And they also offered a more unusual argument.

"Our Tri-Cities is a community of many people: Caucasians, Indian Americans, Chinese Americans, Laotians, Afghanan, and so many people," Yogi Chugh, the chairman of Fremont's planning commission, told the California Citizens Redistricting Commission. After boasting that Fremont residents speak scores of languages, he said, "We humbly ask for your consideration in ensuring that you can protect our community of interest."

The assertion that Fremont is a community because it has embraced its diversity highlights a question the commissioners have debated for months: How do Californians define their communities? Or, as Cynthia Dai, a commissioner from San Francisco, put it more bluntly at one hearing: "The question is: Who do you want to be placed with and who do you absolutely not want to be placed with?"

On Friday, Californians will get the commission's verdict when it votes on the maps for 53 congressional districts, 120 legislative districts and four for the State Board of Equalization. The commission will take a final vote Aug. 15, but Californians can challenge the districts in court or by referendum.

Thanks to voter-approved initiatives, the state's election-district mapmakers are no longer politicians aiming to protect incumbents, but 14 Californians charged with keeping counties, cities, neighborhoods and communities of interest together as much as possible. In 34 hearings from Redding to San Diego, more than 2,700 Californians offered advice as diverse as their state. More than 20,000 emails and letters were submitted by an array of people that included nuns, Mayflower descendants, politicians and

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neighborhood activists.

The result was an extended conversation — all archived on the commission's website — about what unites and divides the more than 37 million people who live in the nation's most populous state.

Californians talked passionately, often poetically, about the communities created by the state's complexity: winding roads and interstates; coast, flatlands, foothills and mountains; cities, suburbs and small towns; vineyards and orchards; shopping centers and school districts; and, of course, race and ethnicity.

After draft maps came out early last month, the conversation became rather less lofty. Californians were suddenly a lot surer who they absolutely did not want to be placed with. One San Leandro resident emailed the commission to say his city wanted no part of any district with Oakland in it: "They don't want us to even have plastic bags to carry our food home from the store. These are crazy people."

And, as the fallout for the political parties and incumbents became clearer, form-letter campaigns kicked off, partisan advocates masqueraded as community-minded residents, and organizations representing ethnic groups, environmentalists, business owners and regions stepped up their lobbying.

The intense jockeying by ethnic groups led Santa Clara County Supervisor George Shirakawa to joke, "Since I'm Asian and Latino and even European American, any map works for me."

In Fremont, the aspirations of some of the state's newest immigrants played a pivotal role in the city's hope not to be divided between congressional districts. The 2010 census found that the city is now slightly majority Asian. "It's really the one place in the entire state, perhaps the country, that has a strong, cohesive South Asian voice," Anil Godhwani, a high-tech entrepreneur and community activist, told the commission.

Michelle Park Steel, who serves on the Board of Equalization, asked the commission not to splinter Korean Americans in Los Angeles and Asian Americans in the San Gabriel Valley. Orthodox Jews noted they have more than 25 synagogues in the West Los Angeles area. Latinos pressed for districts in urban areas, such as the east side of San Jose. An East Bakersfield resident, speaking to the commission in Spanish, said, "The majority of my neighbors are not sure who Buck Owens is, but they do know who Vicente Fernandez is."

Black voters in Los Angeles County, however, pleaded with the commission not to be "packed" in districts, saying that would dilute their power. "It places yet another undue stress on an already over-extended community," Blair H. Taylor, president of the Los Angeles Urban League, wrote.

At one of the earliest hearings, in Marysville, speakers who were mostly white noticed something odd: no Latino, Sikh or Hmong speakers. So they returned to the microphone and spoke for them. One noted that the Hmong have strong families, which he called "really a plus for us." Another said of the Sikhs: "Super, super group of people. Definitely need to be part of the whole issue that you guys are working on."

Residents also debated how geography defined them. Some, for example, suggested that a single congressional district at the top of the state could bring an end to the feud between salmon fishermen and potato farmers over the water in the Klamath River. But David Bitts, a fisherman from Eureka, urged the commission to draw a north-south line through the mountains, severing fishermen from farmers.

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Chromium 6 limit in water goal set by Calif. EPA

Wyatt Buchanan, Chronicle Sacramento Bureau
Thursday, July 28, 2011

Sacramento --

The California Environmental Protection Agency on Wednesday released the nation's first standard for limiting a cancer-causing chemical in drinking water.

The agency set a public health goal for hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium 6, that will be used by the state's Department of Public Health to help create a legally enforceable limit on the chemical in drinking water. The agency set the goal at .02 parts per billion.

Chromium 6 gained national infamy after a toxic plume contaminated water in the Mojave Desert town of Hinkley (San Bernardino County) - leading to a \$333 million settlement from the Pacific Gas and Electric Co. - and was dramatized in the film "Erin Brockovich."

Dr. George Alexeef, acting director of the agency's Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, said the goal "is the culmination of years of study and research on the health effects of this chemical. As the nation's first official goal for this contaminant, it will be an important tool" to develop a regulatory standard.

The Department of Public Health will consider the goal, along with the costs and feasibility of reaching it, in creating a final regulatory standard. That could take several years. The goal is equivalent to a likelihood of one person in a million developing cancer after drinking tap water with that level of the chemical every day for 70 years.

The Legislature called for a standard to be in place by 2004, but there have been a host of delays, including proving scientifically that the chemical is dangerous if ingested. The harmful effects of inhaling it already were established.

Dr. Gina Solomon, a senior scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council, praised the level of the public health goal and said she expected some water agencies would begin reducing the level of the chemical - if it exists in their supply - to that standard even before the state makes a final regulation.



"I expect there will be a few places where there will be problems that need to be addressed and a lot of areas where won't it be very difficult to achieve," Solomon said. The group has called on the federal government to take similar action.

E-mail Wyatt Buchanan at wbuchanan@sfgate.com.

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/07/28/BA811KFUGE.DTL>

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Editorial

Science and salmon

Eight senators from salmon-fishing states warn the Food and Drug Administration against spending money to study whether genetically modified salmon are safe. There's plenty to debate, but squelching scientific inquiry isn't the answer.

August 2, 2011

People tend to respect and believe in science — until it tells them something they didn't want to hear. Thus President George W. Bush clung to his billion-dollar-a-year [Reading First](#) program even after a study by his administration showed that it wasn't improving students' reading. Senators from states where the gray wolf was reintroduced successfully pushed for legislation delisting it as an endangered species; it didn't matter what the Interior Department had determined.

Now eight senators from salmon-fishing states are [warning](#) the Food and Drug Administration that they will pursue legislation — already passed in the House — to keep the FDA from using any of its funding to study whether genetically modified salmon are safe for the environment and consumers. There's plenty to question when it comes to genetically engineered salmon, but squelching scientific inquiry isn't the answer.

The salmon have been tinkered with by AquaBounty Technologies Inc. to grow twice as fast, making them cheaper to raise and bring to market. The FDA appears to have been on a fast track to approve the salmon for human consumption despite some sketchily designed studies on consumer safety. But the bigger worries about the salmon concern the environment — and the valid issue raised by the wild-salmon fisheries about whether the genetically modified fish could escape and pollute the gene pool.

AquaBounty has outlined various safety precautions it would take to prevent that. The fish would be raised in tanks on land — mostly in the Panama highlands — rather than in the ocean pens used by the salmon-farming industry. The company would render the fish sterile and reverse the gender of the males so that all the fish in the tanks would be female. Should any fish manage to escape into the river adjacent to the fish farm, they would have a hard time surviving warmer waters downstream.

None of these are perfect safeguards, though. For example, up to 5% of the fish would not be successfully made sterile. Some might be able to survive in the river. Another concern is how the United States could police activities in Panama to make sure procedures were being followed, or how it could prevent less exacting facilities from being constructed in the future.

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Although the FDA lacks the expertise to examine all these issues on its own, it is in the midst of its environmental review right now. What the senators — none from California — should be demanding is not an end to that study, but more research in the form of a joint study by the Environmental Protection Agency, the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service. Without their analysis, we have no way of knowing whether this new fish poses a risk. The answer lies in more science, not less.

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Tuesday, August 2 2011

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Power thirsty



Truck trailers holding "fracking" fluid sit parked next to a Western natural gas well in 2008. The energy sector is the fastest-growing water consumer in the United States, and finding water to meet the energy industry's growing demand is only going to get tougher as climate change alters hydrological cycles in the arid West. Photo © Ted Wood.

Aug 1, 2011

Power and water are more interconnected than you might think, and that has serious consequences for a changing world, especially the American West.

By **Daniel Glick**

For the Daily Climate

Energy and water are as intertwined as the hydrogen and oxygen atoms in a bottle of Evian.

California likes to think of itself as being ahead of the curve. So when the state set out to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, regulators did all the right things - stringent tailpipe standards for cars, tighter codes for buildings, higher renewable energy standards for utilities. Then they took one of the most aggressive energy-saving steps of all.

They started a campaign to save water.



The link between energy and water is not always apparent, but the two are as intertwined as the hydrogen and oxygen atoms in a bottle of Evian.

By now, everyone knows you save energy by turning out lights. And you conserve water by taking shorter showers. But it's just as true that saving water may be one of the most effective ways to save energy - and vice versa. "It's a 'buy one, get one free' deal," said Douglas Kenney, a professor at the University of Colorado Law School and the editor of an upcoming book that explores the nexus of water and energy.

In California today, just *delivering* water accounts for 20 percent of the state's energy consumption. It takes power to gather water, purify water, and distribute water, especially in places like southern California where water is piped hundreds of miles to supply Los Angeles' sprawling demands.

Nationally, energy production sucks more water from freshwater sources than any other sector except agriculture. It takes water to create the power we use to drive our cars, transport our groceries, and run our toaster ovens. Virtually every source of electricity in a typical American home or manufacturing plant - whether it comes from hydroelectricity, coal, natural gas, nuclear, biofuels, or even concentrated solar -- also requires water. Lots of water.

One reason for this problem is that electricity, as we've chosen to produce it, is pretty wet stuff.

That's a growing problem, because in many places, finding water for energy isn't easy - and it's bound to get tougher as energy demands soar and climate change alters hydrological cycles in already arid regions. The energy sector is the fastest-growing water consumer in the United States, according to a January 2011 Congressional Research Service report [\[pdf\]](#).

Nationally, that's a challenge, but regionally it could be a calamity. As the Congressional Research report notes, "much of the growth in the energy sector's water demand is concentrated in regions with already intense competition over water."

Giant plug of concrete

The connection between energy and water - and the precariousness of that link in the western United States - is exemplified in a gigantic plug of concrete stopping the muddy Colorado River above Las Vegas, otherwise known as Hoover Dam. At the ceremony inaugurating the Depression-era public works project in 1935, then-Interior Secretary Harold Ickes noted proudly, "no better understanding of man cooperating with nature can be found anywhere."

Hoover Dam provided the two key ingredients - water and power - that freed the Southwest and southern California to go on a 75-year growth spurt. Lake Mead now supplies water to more than 22 million people, and it produces more than four billion kilowatts of electricity per year.



But Ickes likely never imagined how quickly man's cooperation with nature would disintegrate in the 21st century. In the American West, a burgeoning population created a double-whammy of surging power demands and dwindling freshwater supplies. The Colorado River, lifeblood of seven western states, is already as overdrawn as the federal treasury. Drought conditions during most of the 21st century have forced water managers to plan for a day when the region's vast system of dams and reservoirs no longer have enough water to store. Already, utilities have to scramble to respond on days when everybody in Phoenix, Las Vegas and Los Angeles wants to crank their air conditioners during the same heat wave.

Sustained drought and insatiable upstream water demand have drained Lake Mead to the point that experts are predicting it may soon be shallow enough to be in deep trouble. Despite near record snowfalls and runoff this year that raised its level from historic lows in January, Lake Mead is still [113 feet below "full pool"](#) - and is filled to less than 50 percent of its capacity.

Three years ago researchers at Scripps Institution of Oceanography warned Lake Mead has a 50-50 chance of running dry by 2021 and that the reservoir's water level could dip low enough to reduce or stop electricity production as early as 2013. Although this year's run-off probably forestalled this dramatic assertion, utilities around the country have already been forced to reduce or stop electrical production because of water issues. According to a survey done in California's 2009 Water Plan Update [\[pdf\]](#), states from Virginia to Nevada and Texas to North Dakota have all curtailed energy development projects because of water quality or quantity concerns.

Wet stuff

One reason for this problem is that electricity, as we've chosen to produce it, is pretty wet stuff. Plug an appliance into an outlet and you might as well open a faucet as well. Running an average refrigerator all day uses about as much water as a ten-minute shower (without a low-flow showerhead). According to the U.S. Geological Survey, electric power generation accounts for nearly half of the nation's water usage [\[pdf\]](#); it takes on average 21 gallons of water to produce one kilowatt hour of electricity. In the arid West, those numbers add up. A report by Western Resource Advocates [\[pdf\]](#) notes that "thermoelectric power plants in Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, Nevada, and Utah consumed an estimated 292 million gallons of water a day in 2005 - approximately equal to the water consumed by Denver, Phoenix, and Albuquerque, combined."

If oil shale energy does become commercially viable, it will be a huge new water drain.

- Dan Luecke, hydrologist

Pretty much every step of energy production requires water, from mining to refining, processing to generation. Some of this water is "consumed" - evaporated as steam. Some of it is returned to watersheds in altered forms - like water heated during coal-fired electrical production and stored in cooling towers or ponds before being released - at higher temperatures - back into rivers. "Produced" water from coal-bed methane extraction releases underground water with high mineral content into watersheds. Deep drilling for seams of underground gas deposits rely on chemicals used in "fracking fluids," which contaminate water sources when they leak.

Other potential fossil fuel energy sources, like oil shale, require so much water during its production cycle that energy companies in Colorado have stealthily acquired rights to develop hundreds of thousands of acre feet of water, even before they've invented a viable technology to turn that rock into oil. An acre foot of water is 325,851 gallons, or enough to cover an acre of flat farmland with water a foot deep.

That's enough water to escalate the state's already intense water disputes into open warfare. "If oil shale energy does become commercially viable, it will be a huge new water drain," says Dan Luecke, a Colorado-based hydrologist and Western water consultant.

Virtually every time you lower the carbon footprint in industrial energy production, 'you end up with a bigger water footprint.'

- Mike Hightower, Sandia National Laboratory

Many current energy debates have focused on the massive carbon footprint of fossil fuels like oil, coal and natural gas. But many renewable sources of energy, like corn-based ethanol, have a huge and potentially troubling "water footprint." Corn ethanol made from

irrigated crops, for example, can use more than 1,000 times more water than oil refining, according to calculations by Sandia National Laboratory. Industrial concentrated solar arrays can require 800 gallons of water to produce a single megawatt hour. Mike Hightower, a senior researcher at Sandia National Laboratories in New Mexico, cautions that reducing carbon emissions, while crucial, is just one part of the energy equation: Virtually every time you lower the carbon footprint in industrial energy production, he says, "you end up with a bigger water footprint."

As planners look to the future, they have to grapple with some tough trends: the more energy we need, the more water we need. But the availability of fresh water has already reached crisis proportions in many parts of the world, and some experts warn we should be more worried about "peak freshwater" than "peak oil." According to Peter Gleick and Meena Palaniappan, writing in the [Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences](#), water availability is a growing global problem, especially in regions like the Western U.S. where "almost all major rivers and aquifers are already tapped out." Unlike oil, they write in dry, understated concern, water is absolutely essential for life. "For many uses," they conclude, "it has no substitutes."

Ever-more precarious balance

Climate change is only going to make the water-energy balance more precarious.

Arid mid-latitude regions like the West are warming nearly twice as fast as the global average, according to the Rocky Mountain Climate Organization [\[pdf\]](#). As the West warms, residents will need more energy to cool living spaces and make desert cities like Tucson and Scottsdale inhabitable - and will likely have less water to make enough electricity to do that.

The collision of water, energy and climate change will reverberate through public policy decisions for decades to come, with unintended consequences at each step. Congress effectively encouraged a giant sucking sound from Midwestern aquifers and rivers by creating massive subsidies for corn ethanol. Concentrated solar projects, which have received "fast-track" authority from the Obama administration, may run into water problems before the first watts are generated. Citizen opposition to new coal-fired power plants in places like Nevada and Montana has focused as much on water concerns as greenhouse gas emissions.

Global climate models predict that arid regions of the world will become more arid as a result of rising greenhouse gas emissions. According to the U.S. Global Change Research Program's report, [Global Climate Change Impacts in the United States](#), a one percent decrease in precipitation leads to a two to three percent drop in stream flow. Every percentage point that stream flows drop means a three percent decline in electricity generation. The report's conclusion is as obvious as it is ominous: "Water and energy are tightly interconnected."

Some energy sources, like rooftop photovoltaics and most wind power, are not water hogs, but experts say they are not likely to fill the nation's growing power needs by themselves. Conservation - both of water and of energy, are undeniably going to be part of any future plan, as are technological improvements in wastewater treatment and reclamation. "People are beginning to understand that if you save water, you save energy," says Sandia National Laboratory's Hightower.

They also need to also understand that if they save energy, they'll save water as well. Which, in the long run, may be an even more important thing to conserve.

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Daniel Glick, a former Newsweek correspondent, is co-founder of the Story Group (<http://thestorygroup.org/>) with photographer Ted Wood. DailyClimate.org is a nonprofit news service covering climate change.

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THE SACRAMENTO BEE sacbee.com

Surplus water flowing to state's farms, reservoirs

mweiser@sacbee.com

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California water agencies, after suffering three years of drought, are now enjoying an unusual benefit: a tide of cheap water declared "surplus" after a bountiful winter.

State and federal agencies made the water available this year, under special contract terms, for the first time since 2006. The aim is to find a productive use, in cities and on crops, for the weather anomaly that brought more water than state dams can hold.

The water is refilling reservoirs and aquifers all over the state, and putting thousands of acres of farmland back into production.

At times, there literally has been no place to put all the water nature brought to California this year. The surplus sales aim to find new places for that abundance. By dropping the price, state and federal water managers hope an urban water agency might decide to fill its local reservoirs, or that a farm irrigator will be tempted to temporarily flood some land to recharge groundwater.

To that end, they offer this water for a song, relatively speaking. In some cases, surplus water flowing through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta this spring was sold by the federal government for as little as \$9 an acre-foot, or about 75 percent off already low agricultural rates.

State and federal agencies together have sold more than 660,000 acre-feet of surplus water this year, all at steep discounts. That is about equal to the total annual demand of Los Angeles, the nation's second-largest city, with 3.8 million residents.

The abundant water has dramatically changed the fortunes of the San Joaquin Valley farm economy.

Shawn Coburn, a farmer near Firebaugh, planted processing tomatoes this year on 500 acres that had been fallowed the last two years due to water shortages.

This will yield about 40,000 tons of a relatively high-value crop, which also required a substantial investment on his part, including the purchase of a new tractor and harvesting equipment.

"In essence, it's another \$2 million that I'm going to spend (on equipment) that I wouldn't spend if I didn't have the water," said Coburn, who also grows almonds and wine grapes. "It's definitely a year where it's pretty easy to convince us that water equals prosperity, and not just for the farmer but the overall farm economy."

The surplus water also acts as a buffer against the next drought. For example, the Kern County Water Agency, which provides irrigation to a vast, arid farm region, is using the bonus water to recharge its groundwater banking aquifer, which was drawn down during the drought.

The agency purchased 245,000 acre-feet of surplus water this year, or about a third of all the surplus water sold.

"This is an extremely important supply for the water users in Kern County and, frankly, for all the water users throughout the state," said Jim Beck, general manager of the water agency.

Westlands Water District has used the surplus for its immediate irrigation needs, allowing some of the water purchased under its regular contracts – at full price – to be stored in reserve at San Luis Reservoir in case of dry conditions next year, said general manager Tom Birmingham.

Native fish still at risk

Yet some of the arguments over water that play out in dry years continue to resonate amid abundance.

Conservation groups agree that capturing excess flows in wet years is important to help the state endure droughts.

But some express concern that this water may not be truly "surplus" to the needs of the environment, especially amid an unresolved population decline of numerous fish species in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. They assert the state simply hasn't done the research to know.

About three-fourths of the surplus water this year was pumped out of the Delta. The rest came via Friant Dam on the San Joaquin River and did not pass through the Delta.

"If you look at the population graphs for just about any fish species over the past 30 years, it looks like a pretty continuous decline," said Jon Rosenfield, a conservation biologist at the Bay Institute. "That's because when times are tight, we really hammer them. And when times are good, we don't let them get off the mat."

Bill Kier, a fisheries consultant and former assistant secretary of the state Resources Agency, noted surplus pumping this year contributed to shockingly large fish kills at the state and federal water diversion systems in the Delta.

According to data from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the pumps "salvaged" or killed 8.9 million Sacramento splittail from Oct. 1, 2010, to July 17 this year. Nearly 37,000 chinook salmon and 90 sturgeon also met their demise.

All are native species whose survival remains a subject of ongoing concern.

"Are we really taking an ecosystem advantage of an abundant water year, or are we simply pouncing on that water to meet out-of-stream demands?" said Kier. "I don't doubt for one minute that we are missing the opportunity to do some substantial rebuilding (of fish populations)."

Peter Moyle, a fisheries biologist at the University of California, Davis, said the large numbers of fish killed at the Delta pumps this year don't necessarily indicate danger to the species. Rather, they indicate larger populations, another result of ample river flows.

This is especially true for those 8.9 million splittail deaths, Moyle said. He called the splittail a "very resilient" species that tends to surge in population in wet years when it can access floodplains, like the Yolo Bypass, for breeding and feeding activity.

"It's a big number, but it's not a big deal to splittail," Moyle said. "Basically, the number of splittail salvaged at the pumps is a direct reflection on the success of spawning."

Record year for pumping

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation manages the federal surplus program, while the state program is managed by the Department of Water Resources. Both agencies hold legal contracts with water buyers.

Those buyers include farm and urban water agencies, small and large, that collectively serve 25 million Californians and more than 1 million acres of farmland.

After Kern County, the biggest buyers this year are the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which serves the Los Angeles and San Diego metro areas; and Westlands, which serves farms in a huge swath of the San Joaquin Valley.

In addition to surplus sales, water agencies are also taking delivery of more water under regular contracts than they have seen in several years.

Spreck Rosekrans, an economic analyst at the Environmental Defense Fund, estimates total Delta water pumping will set an all-time record this year of 6.6 million acre-feet.

That compares to levels near 4 million acre-feet over the past three years, mostly a result of drought.

The terms of each surplus program are different, as are the discounts available.

The state program is offered only to existing state water contractors, which include the Kern County and Metropolitan agencies. These contractors pay only the energy cost required to move surplus water. They pay nothing for the water itself, and none of the capital costs of the diversion system, which are covered by payments under their regular contracts.

Kern County pays about \$12 per acre-foot for the surplus water. Its regular contract water costs \$57. Metropolitan, which must pay the stiff cost of pumping over the Tehachapi Mountains, purchased surplus water at \$100 an acre-foot, compared with its normal contract price of \$281.

The federal program is offered first to current contractors, such as Westlands, and then to non-contractors only if there is an extraordinary amount of water available. This was one of those years.

The Bureau of Reclamation also offered special deals on limited amounts of Delta water. Westlands was able to buy nearly 18,000 acre-feet of Delta diversions at just \$9.34 an acre-foot. That is almost 80 percent off its regular contract rate.

Two other agencies, the San Benito County Water District and the Santa Clara Valley Water District, got similar deals.

"There was so much water hitting our system, we wanted to move it out," said Valerie Curley, chief of the contracts branch in the bureau's San Joaquin Valley unit. "We offer it to more and more people, and if that still doesn't help us, then we start adjusting the price scheme."

Rosekrans objects to such deep discounts. Customers of the bureau's Central Valley Project, he said, still owe federal taxpayers more than \$900 million from the subsidy that built the system, which occurred mostly in the 1950s and '60s.

A portion of their regular water contract rates go toward repaying this debt. The cheaper surplus water rates discount this capital repayment charge.

This year, during April and May, the Bureau of Reclamation went even further and eliminated the capital charge to boost sales from Friant Dam on the San Joaquin River, which was literally overflowing with storm runoff.

Birmingham defended the discounts, noting their important dual benefit: a relief valve for water officials during rare high flows, and a buffer for farmers in case next winter is not so grand.

"We have to take advantage of every opportunity we can," he said.

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"Patch and pray" time for Delta levees

By Mike Taugher
Contra Costa Times

Posted: 08/02/2011 10:24:09 AM PDT

Updated: 08/02/2011 12:54:49 PM PDT

Karen Cunningham's cows were resting in the pasture below while muscled-up power boats raced back and forth 10 to 15 feet above them on the other side of the levee.

Should the levee break, the pasture would fill like a giant bowl and destroy, at least temporarily, Cunningham's ranch on Bradford Island -- a remote spot accessible only by ferry on the edge of east Contra Costa County. It also could have an outsized effect on water supplies in California.

Cunningham isn't worried about a levee break, which she considers highly unlikely. It is the fix being worked up to protect water supplies that is the bigger threat, she said.

"This whole system as it is will be destroyed," she predicted.

The tension between landowners such as Cunningham, who want to preserve the Delta as it is, and outside experts, who warn that the state faces a potential catastrophe in the Delta, is heading toward a standoff of sorts. It is a standoff that, while welcome to those who think things are headed in the wrong direction, is causing some experts to worry that whatever slow progress has been made in addressing the region's fragile levees could be further stalled or delayed.

"If the locals simply refuse to believe the experts from around the world, you're set up for a stalemate, which is bad for everybody. Nature will be in charge of planning in the Delta," said Jeff Mount, a geologist at UC Davis who earned the nickname "Dr. Doom" several years ago for

his prediction that an earthquake would inevitably break numerous Delta levees.

Mount said he doesn't blame Delta residents for rejecting such forecasts because it's their lifestyles at stake.

However, he is convinced that they are mistaken and that a flooding risk in the Delta is severe.

"Eventually, you're going to have a major issue in there," he said.

The plan that worries Cunningham centers on tunnels that would be driven through the Delta to divert Sacramento River water directly to pumps near Tracy that send the water south. That would permit brackish water from the saltier San Joaquin River and the San Francisco Bay to penetrate deeper into the Delta, which Cunningham fears could degrade her green pastures.

Once the tunnels go in, there is also considerable fear that the state will cut spending to maintain levees now channeling fresh water to the pumps.

That would leave island landowners less protected from flooding and more vulnerable to plans to convert their properties to wetlands, she said.

For years, a procession of outside experts has warned that the Delta's network of levees are so unstable and of such critical statewide importance that California could face a catastrophe taking lives, endangering water supplies and disrupting transportation, energy and communications links.

Landowners such as Cunningham say much of the scary talk is intended to grease the skids for the



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tunnels.

No earthquake has ever collapsed a Delta levee, they note, and the threat of storms overtopping levees has been greatly reduced as the most vulnerable levees have been raised in recent decades.

Still, big water agencies in Southern California and the San Joaquin Valley are pursuing the Bay Delta Conservation Plan that would, if built, likely rely on a \$13 billion set of tunnels for water supply and a mosaic of new wetlands to improve habitat.

Cunningham and others have already sued, with limited success, to block studies on their properties that are needed for the plan. More lawsuits from Delta landowners are certain if it continues to move forward.

However, outside experts say more than just agriculture and a water supply are at stake.

The Delta is an infrastructure choke point where the lives of millions could be disrupted if a levee failure takes out the electrical transmission lines, natural gas pipelines, telecommunications, railroad tracks, state highways or the aqueduct that carries water to 1.4 million East Bay Municipal Utility District customers.

One prominent expert on levees and engineering failures around the world has said the Delta is the biggest mess he has ever seen.

Bob Bea, a professor of civil and environmental engineering at UC Berkeley, has been working with students and others to develop ways, as he says, "not to abandon the Delta, but begin to migrate the infrastructure in the Delta to something that is resistant and resilient."

A lack of clear answers and leadership, Bea said, is leading to inertia.

"It's patch and pray time," he said.

Are we doomed to a catastrophe?

"It looks like it," he said.

First built by Chinese laborers after the Gold Rush, the levees turned a vast tidal marsh into a network of channels and sunken "islands."

Over time, the soft peat on the islands sank so that some islands are now as much as 25 feet below sea level. Even though many no longer are subsiding, the sea level continues to rise.

That combination of sinking land and rising water increases pressure on the levees, scientists say.

More than 1,000 miles of levees protect more than 60 such islands.

Bradford Island, where Cunningham's ranch is located, is one of a handful of key islands because they are in an area of the western Delta that, should it flood at the wrong time, could draw brackish water toward the Tracy pumps that send drinking water as far away as San Diego.

Scientists also have become concerned that simultaneous levee failures in an earthquake could cause a catastrophic flood of salty water that might take weeks to years to flush out, depending largely on when the earthquake occurs.

Throw into the mix of threats burrowing rodents, which are thought to have caused the Delta's last major levee failure in 2004.

Still, a stalemate is OK with Ron Baldwin, a recently retired top emergency response official in San Joaquin County.

He is seeking funding for flood protection in the five counties with land in the Delta to bring maps up to date, improve funding for basic levee maintenance, improve communications among

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emergency responders and increase stockpiles of material to fight floods.

The intense focus on protecting statewide water supplies from catastrophic floods has sapped resources from preparations that could be made for smaller, more likely floods, he said. And, as preparedness and levee maintenance is allowed to slip, floods can become more likely and more dangerous than they need to be.

To many in the Delta, that feels like a self-fulfilling prophecy.

The fight over water security is overwhelming common sense, Baldwin said.

"Let's get prepared for the flood we know will happen," he said.

"I'm not saying you don't prepare for earthquakes. But let's start with what we do know."



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THE SACRAMENTO BEE sacbee.com

Fish and Game releases Delta conservation plan

Published: Wednesday, Aug. 3, 2011 - 12:00 am | Page 2B

A new restoration plan for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta aims to help guide conservation efforts as state and federal officials ponder new water and habitat projects.

The plan by the California Department of Fish and Game wears the unwieldy title "Draft Ecosystem Restoration Program Conservation Strategy."

It offers a menu of options to guide at least two other efforts: The Bay Delta Conservation Plan, which aims to improve water conveyance in the estuary, and the Delta Plan, which seeks to coordinate government actions in the region.

The Fish and Game plan identifies regions most suitable for restoration, suggests what those projects should be, and lays out performance goals to measure success.

"We're not necessarily telling anybody this is the only thing you can do at a certain site," said Dave Zezulak, Ecosystem Restoration Program manager at Fish and Game. "But it is the department's vision of what are the best opportunities."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and National Marine Fisheries Services are expected to become signatories to the plan, Zezulak said. Public comments may be submitted by Aug. 22. It is expected to be finalized in December.

To download a copy, visit dfg.ca.gov/ERP/. For more information, contact Chad Dibble at (916) 445-1202 or cdibble@dfg.ca.gov.

— Matt Weiser

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Governor Signs Bill to Advance Upgrades to Septic and Sewer Systems

Submitted by Sarah Langford on Wed, 07/27/2011 - 3:25pm in [State Legislation Water News](#)

Legislation aimed at making it easier for property owners to pay for converting or upgrading their sewer systems was signed into law by Gov. Edmund G. Brown Jr. this week.



Authored by Assembly Member Jared Huffman (D-San Rafael), AB 741 allows public wastewater agencies to offer voluntary liens to private property owners to finance sewer lateral replacements and repairs as well as conversions from septic to sewer systems. The new law takes effect on Jan. 1, 2012.

Damaged sewer laterals can contribute to groundwater contamination and can negatively affect local water supplies. This legislation will help private property owners finance the costs of converting from a septic system to a community sewer system and replacing damaged sewer laterals.

The measure was co-sponsored by Irvine Ranch Water District and supported by ACWA.

"We are continually striving to find ways to further protect public health, water quality and the environment," said IRWD Board President Steve LaMar. "AB 741 does just this and will be a valuable tool as communities within our service area and throughout the state consider converting from septic tanks to community sewer systems."

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Why We Work to Protect California's Bay-Delta Estuary



Posted July 7, 2011 in [Living Sustainably](#), [U.S. Law and Policy](#)

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Over the past several years, fights have raged in the Courts and Congress over protections for salmon and other endangered species in the Bay-Delta estuary. Much of the media coverage has focused on a small set of vocal critics of environmental protection. On Hannity and on signs on I-5, the message is clear – we must choose between fish and people. But we all know that's a false choice, that a healthy economy and a healthy environment go hand-in-hand.

The Bay-Delta is a great example of this; it is a place where farmers, fishermen, and local communities have deep roots and understand that a healthy environment sustains the economy. They know that their past and their future are linked to California's largest aquatic ecosystem.

But few people in California (and even fewer across the country) know where the Bay-Delta is located or are familiar with the communities that live there.

This is why NRDC today released this short film about farmers and salmon fishermen working together to protect California's Bay-Delta estuary.



In the film, farmers and fishermen explain in their own words why protecting the Bay-Delta and its endangered species protects their jobs, and sustains their way of life.

Protecting the Bay-Delta is about protecting our legacy as Californians. The farmers interviewed in the film are only a few of the thousands of family farmers working their fields on the islands in the Delta, as they have for generations. Likewise, the fishermen interviewed in the film are only a few of the thousands of fishing jobs in California that depend on healthy salmon runs, and of the hundreds of thousands of families that want to again feel the thrill of a salmon on their fishing line, or enjoy grilling a salmon with friends and family. Protecting the Delta and ensuring sustainable water withdrawals protects their family farms, their fishing jobs, and ensures that future generations can enjoy wild salmon, steelhead, and a healthy environment. That's one reason why a [growing chorus](#) is speaking up in opposition to efforts to sacrifice the Delta ecosystem and thousands of jobs for the benefit of a few.

But protecting the Bay-Delta is also about protecting the future of California, because much of the state depends on the Delta for part of its water supply, and because the struggle over scarce water resources in the Delta will also play out across the West in coming decades, as climate change and population growth increase the stress on our rivers and wildlife. Finding sustainable water solutions is a challenge we must meet.

Working together, we can sustain our fisheries, farming, cities and the environment. The first step is to meaningfully reduce our reliance on water exports from the Delta by investing in proven, cost-effective improvements in water supply: groundwater, water efficiency, stormwater capture, and water recycling. Taking more water from the Delta, or worsening water quality in the Delta, is not the answer for the environment or for our economy.

But don't take my word on it – watch the film and see for yourself. Talk with fishermen, or farmers in the Delta. Their livelihoods depend on the future of the Delta. Let's join them, and help protect the legacy – and the future – of California.

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Comments

Captain Mike — [Jul 8 2011 12:23 PM](#)

Hey - excellent video!!!

Except there are NO seiners in California - NO fishermen in the ocean who use nets to catch fish.. Our salmon fisheries in CA are 100% hook and line and very selective. I hate when folks get the idea that we use giant nets to indiscriminately catch anything that swims into them. Otherwise I totally love your production, good job.

Ross Borba — [Jul 8 2011 02:44 PM](#)

Unfortunately once again you've focused entirely on the export of water running through the Delta as the only issue there. You make no mention of the introduction of non-native fish species to the Delta, which both eat native fish and their food sources. You also ignore the dumping of sewage into the Delta by Sacramento, Stockton and other communities adjacent to the Delta, which has been cited by others in the know as probably the most injurious condition negatively impacting the Delta ecosystem. And, finally, not one of the fishermen in your film make mention of the "make-whole" payments they received from the federal government in return for their not fishing in the Delta for a time. Your professed unbiased desire to cure the problems of the Delta would be much enhanced by a more comprehensive reporting of the facts involved there.

Captain Mike — [Jul 8 2011 04:13 PM](#)

Ross,

why is it that farmers have such a hard time with the fact that some or most of our salmon fishermen got some disaster relief payments? A lot of farmers get crop subsidies every year - and those are just that: Subsidies. We had a serious disaster, a total shut down of our fishery that we depend on to pay our mortgages and support our families.

Where's your beef? (pun not intended, but as far as puns go, it'll work.....)

Comments are closed for this post.

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Warming climate expected to harm water supplies

David Perlman, Chronicle Science Editor

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

American cities will face severe problems in coming decades as the world's warming climate hits the coasts with rising sea levels, causes huge floods and storms in the Midwest, and triggers water shortages in the Southwest, according to a national environment organization.

The Natural Resources Defense Council, noted both for its science and its advocacy, released a 128-page report Tuesday on what its experts see as the impact of global warming on water supplies in a dozen America cities, including San Francisco.

The report concluded that "while there may be some uncertainty as to the rate of warming or sea level rise, there is no uncertainty that these changes are taking place, and that they are taking place in our backyards."

Many cities, including San Francisco, have made significant efforts to assess potential threats from climate change and plan for them, but others are lagging far behind, the report said. Los Angeles, for example, "currently lacks a local or regional vulnerability assessment," the report said.

"Some of the most serious impacts will be water-related, such as flooding of critical infrastructure due to rising seas, and longer droughts due to less snowpack and less rain," the report said.

San Francisco, according to the researchers, will be challenged on a number of fronts. Sea levels will rise; there will be more land erosion and increased saltwater intrusion; early snowmelt will create water supply issues as will an increase in droughts; flooding will increase even as annual precipitation decreases; fisheries will be affected; and more frequent and intense storm events will occur.

The assessment is based largely on reports from Pacific Institute, a nonpartisan think tank in Oakland that focuses on environment and economic policy. Climate change consequences - like a projected 55-inch average sea level rise estimated for the coming century around the Bay Area - stem from the most recent estimates by the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.



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On the plus side, the report said that San Francisco is preparing itself well. It has created an interagency task force to develop policies dealing with sea level rise. Also, the city's Public Utilities Commission is working with government agencies and other cities to plan for potential water shortages, and is "pursuing regulatory reforms to support the use of gray water, storm water, rainwater and recycled water," the report said.

"San Francisco has developed several commendable initiatives to address climate change's impact on water, providing a positive example for others to look to," Steve Fleischli, the council's senior water attorney, said in a statement.

E-mail David Perlman at dperlman@sfchronicle.com.

<http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/07/27/MN5U1KFBGM.DTL>

This article appeared on page **A - 10** of the San Francisco Chronicle

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July 26, 2011

Storing Water for a Dry Day Leads to Suits

By **FELICITY BARRINGER**

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. — Peter Key knew something was strange when the water levels in his tropical fish tank began to go down last summer. Then the washing machine took 40 minutes to fill, and the toilets would not flush.

But even as Mr. Key and neighbors spent \$14,000 to deepen their community well here, they had identified a likely culprit.

They blamed water banking, a system in which water-rights holders — mostly in the rural West — store water in underground reservoirs either for their own future use or for leasing to fast-growing urban areas.

So the neighbors' small local water utility has gone to state court to challenge the wealthy farming interests that dominate two of the country's largest water banks.

Viewed as test cases for the size and scope of water-banking operations, the lawsuits claim that enormous withdrawals of water by the banks lowered the water table, causing geological damage, service disruptions and costly repairs.

Water managers and the farmers they serve have long been major political players here in Kern County, a center of conservative political power. But even inside these tight circles, there is increasing friction as governments, businesses — especially agriculture — and a population that has swelled by 26 percent in a decade all compete for water. Even a trendy fruit, the pomegranate, plays a role in these water wars.

A memorandum of understanding between the small local utility that brought the suit, Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District, which serves 20,000 customers, and the **Kern County Water Agency**, which operates one of the water banks, stipulated that any problems resulting from its bank would be the agency's responsibility.

But the agency said it was not to blame, and made no effort to cover costs.

“For two years, we asked them to do it and they didn’t,” said Eric Averett, general manager of the district.

Instead, the smaller districts and the City of Bakersfield had to pay to deepen wells. The two water-banking operations, one public and one quasi public, have denied responsibility.

Water remains a contentious subject. Everyone’s complaining, said Mr. Key, a horse trainer, who had to borrow from his neighbor to water the horses he boards.

Water banking has been widely embraced as a tool for making water supplies reliable, sustainable and marketable. Groups traditionally at odds — environmentalists seeking full rivers for fish and farmers tending pistachio or pomegranate trees — agree that water banking is a useful strategy for managing a vital resource. A consulting group based in Idaho, WestWater Research, estimates there are up to 30 working water banks in the West.

As **climate change** produces earlier snowmelts, sending too much of the water into reservoirs in the spring and too little in summer, the need for storage grows.

“Water banking is a way of dealing with the volatility,” said Bruce Aylward, an expert in water economics who founded **Ecosystem Economics** in Oregon.

The economic concept is simple. Farmers, through the water districts that they control, have acquired land entitling them to use water, or have contracted for water supplies flowing to their region. Municipal and industrial water users also have rights.

While some districts limit sales to distant urban areas, others allow them. One Kern County district, **Berrenda Mesa**, sold part of its state entitlement for a one-shot payment of \$3,000 an acre-foot — about 90 percent higher than its costs. The buyers were water districts supplying homes and golf courses in Palm Springs.

The value in banking lies in the certainty that water will be available when it is needed. In wet years, excess water recharges the depleted aquifer, a hedge against a prolonged drought.

The porous soil below the gravel and sand here, which are carried here from the Sierra Nevada by the Kern River, is ideal for the purpose. “It’s a huge bucket,” said Florn Core, the former water resources manager for the City of Bakersfield, which is located in a natural desert where rainfall averages 5.7 inches annually.

Yet with its local supplies and water deliveries from the state and federal governments, Kern County is an agricultural paradise of carrots, citrus, pomegranates and pistachios.

Changes in the agricultural economy over the last 15 years, including the rising popularity of pomegranates and pistachios, prompted many farmers to switch to permanent crops, taking away the option of letting fields lie fallow in dry years. So water banking expanded.

Since 1978, when water banking started here, 5.7 million acre-feet — about a third of the annual flow of the Colorado River — has been stored in the two largest banks, said James M. Beck, the general manager of the Kern County Water Agency, which regulates local use. The two banks' combined storage capacity is about 2 million acre feet.

Pumping out huge amounts of stored water in dry years was thought to have little impact on the underground geology — at least until Mr. Key's shower head sputtered. Now engineers believe it reversed the area's underground hydraulic gradient, turning a hill-shaped water table, accessible by shallow wells, into a valley. The trigger for the huge withdrawals was a drought that began in 2007. Kern County's allocation of water from Northern California was cut. Then, in the 40 months beginning in March 2007, roughly half the banks' capacity was pumped out to keep fruit and nut trees alive.

"I don't think anyone fully appreciated the magnitude of the impact they would have," said Mr. Averett of the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District.

POM Wonderful, part of the fruit-drink empire owned by Stewart and Lynda Resnick, makes its profits from pomegranate trees kept green by the Kern Water Bank Authority. The authority, technically a public agency, is controlled by the Paramount Farming Company, which like POM, is a subsidiary of **Roll Global**, a company owned by the billionaire Resnicks.

Ernest Conant, a lawyer for the Kern Water Bank, disagrees with the lawsuit's main contentions — that the rapid pumping caused the well problems in west Bakersfield and that environmental reviews, in failing to anticipate the problem, were inadequate.

"You have the right to bank water and take it out, but you have to do it in a manner that does not cause significant harm to others," Mr. Conant said. "We think our program accomplishes that."

Mr. Beck, whose agency manages the Pioneer Water Bank and who is the defendant in the other suit, said, "We haven't seen enough data to indicate that our operations are the cause of the decline."

Because so much is at stake, many people expect a settlement before a judge can decide the issues. The water problems have eased, and some contend the aquifer healed itself — although Mr. Averett said the water tables were still lower than before. A separate suit filed

by environmentalists a year ago challenges the 1990s deal that transferred the Kern Water Bank from the state to a group of water suppliers controlled by the Resnicks.

All three lawsuits could have broad consequences.

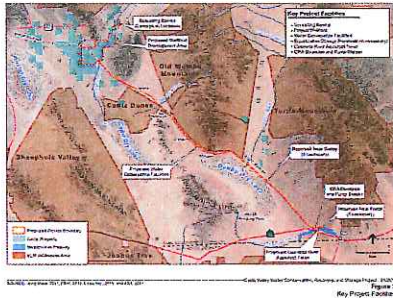
“Everybody wants to bank and sell. Everybody,” Mr. Core said. “If a lawsuit like Rosedale-Rio Bravo’s is successful, someone may be working on a banking project and it could come to a screeching halt — after they’ve started counting the money.”



Water storage project to create 6,000 jobs

[KRISTINE MCGOWAN, Special to the Daily Press](#)

2011-07-26 17:28:36



CADIZ • A massive water delivery and storage system in the works for eastern San Bernardino County is projected to create nearly 6,000 jobs and spur more than \$878 million in economic activity.

Roughly halfway between Barstow and Needles, in the tiny unincorporated community of Cadiz, Los Angeles-based renewable resources company Cadiz Inc. plans to drill a series of wells and build a pipeline to the Colorado River Aqueduct. The company also aims to construct an underground storage system that will allow the agricultural community to conserve groundwater that would otherwise evaporate, bolstering the local water supply.

According to economist John E. Husing, the project's construction phase alone would generate nearly 6,000 direct, indirect and induced jobs, drawing from San Bernardino County's broad labor supply and providing job opportunities for those in the High Desert.

Gary Stokes with Northwest Pipe Company in Adelanto said in a statement that the project would provide nearly a full year of production for his employees and local supply partners.

With time, Cadiz's project should also increase annual tax revenue to the county by \$5.4 million. And as the project's vendors and workers spend their earnings locally, Husing predicted additional employment opportunities would be generated in surrounding communities, creating a cumulative total of more than \$878 million in new economic activity.

The project is still in the environmental review and permitting phase, according to Courtney Degener, vice president of Investor Relations at Cadiz Inc.

For more information, visit www.CadizInc.com.

Kristine McGowan is a Daily Press intern.

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State looking at regulating private fishing ponds and lakes

07:33 AM PDT on Monday, July 25, 2011

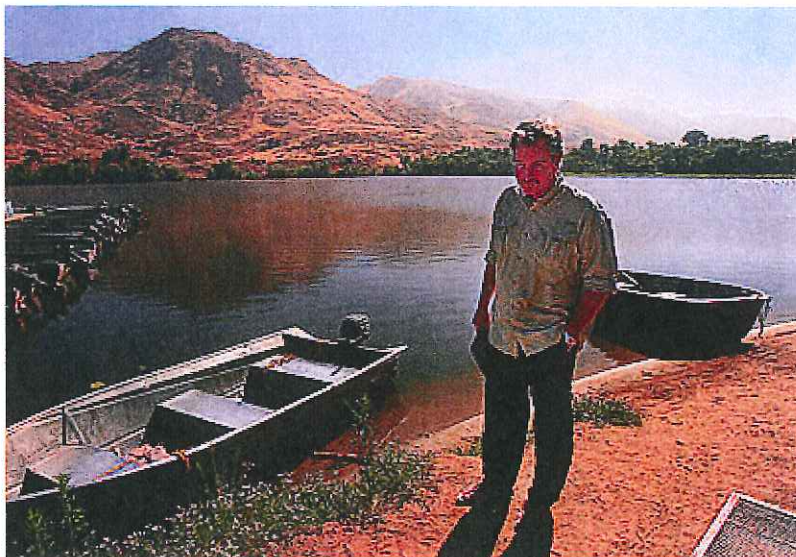
By DAVID DANIELSKI
The Press-Enterprise



Owners of private pay-to-fish ponds and lakes are stewing over new rules that would require them to conduct environmental reviews to determine whether their operations harm local wildlife.

The private fishing holes usually operate on a slim margin, said Craig Elliott, owner of Corona Lake, which charges \$22 for a day-long chance to catch catfish, trout, crappie or bluegill.

If adopted, he says the rules could force him and other operators out of busi-



Mark Zaleski / The Press-Enterprise
Corona Lake owner Craig Elliott owner of Corona Lake is upset that private fishing sites such as his may soon be subject to costly state wildlife regulations. "These lakes have been stocked for years and years, and if there ever was an environmental impact, it would have happened long ago."

"We are all scratching our heads on this," said Elliott, whose family has owned the 10-acre lake off Interstate 15 south of Corona for about 30 years. "These lakes

stocked for years and years, and if there ever was an environmental impact have happened long ago."

It could cost him as much as \$100,000 to determine how stocking the lake wildlife, he said. Such assessments require detailed wildlife surveys and re-qualified biologists.

State Fish and Game officials say the rule changes stem from litigation that department to determine the effects of all fish-stocking practices.

The rules are still in the works, and state officials have been meeting with E other pay-to-fish operators to hear their concerns.

Elliott said he fears the state could start requiring his customers to have fish which cost \$43.46 a year for most California residents. The idea has come meetings with Fish and Game officials, he said.

The new regulatory oversight could change the legal status of pay-to-fish o said Marko Mlikotin, executive director of the California Association for Rec Fishing. The operators are now considered "aqua culturists" or fish farmers their produce -- fish -- to the public, he said. If the pay-to-fish operators are considered fish farmers, their customers would have to get licenses in most he said.

The rules could have a wide reach, Mlikotin said. They would apply to about farmers statewide who grow live fish for pond and lake stocking and for res said. In addition, thousands of privately owned ponds and lakes would need permits that require environmental assessments.

"We are talking about backyard, farm, golf course and homeowner associat Mlikotin said.

Stafford Lehr, fish and game's fisheries chief, said the rule-making is in pro expected to be discussed at the Fish and Game Commission's Aug. 3 mee department is not ready to seek approval of the new regulations, he said.



"A lot of people will choose not to fish," Cesar Robles says, if the state begins to charge for licenses to fish in private, stocked ponds and lakes.

Protecting Natives

The move to increase scrutiny of fishing operations stems from lawsuits filed by environmentalists over the state's century-old practice of stocking fish in public rivers and streams for recreational anglers, Lehr said.

About eight years ago, the Tucson-based Center for Biological Diversity sued the state Game and Fish Department, contending the state's stocking should be subject to a comprehensive environmental study, said Noah Greenwald, endangered species program manager at the center. The group sued the state again last year when it found the subsequent study inadequate.

The center said that stocking lakes and waterways with non-native trout has led to declines of many native species, particularly amphibians such as the mountain yellow-legged frog, Cascades frog and long-toed salamander, which need fishless mountain lakes for survival. Fish feed on the amphibians' eggs and young.

The center also contended that hatchery-raised fish breed with native animals and weaken the native strains.

Greenwald said the litigation wasn't aimed at privately owned lakes and ponds. He added, though, that assessing the impacts at such locations has merit.

Lehr said that as the state determines how its stocking practices affect wild populations, it needs to learn the consequences of stocking private waterways with the popular species -- rainbow trout, largemouth bass, crappie, bluegill, tilapia, crappie, and various types of catfish.

"We have no idea what is happening when those eight species are released

Corona resident Cesar Robles, casting his line Thursday morning at Corona; he fears a state crackdown could mean just one thing: "A lot of people will catch fish."

Another fisherman, Ray Santamaria, of Ontario, said he was hoping to hook New regulations aren't needed for private lakes and ponds, he added.

"It's ridiculous," he said. "If it's public land, no problem. But private land? It's somewhere."

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County drinking water tests show traces of harmful chemicals at many sites

By Kristin S. Agostoni and Melissa Evans Staff Writers

Posted: 07/19/2011 07:33:24 PM PDT

Updated: 07/19/2011 07:39:52 PM PDT

Drinking water samples collected from nearly 800 Los Angeles County facilities showed traces of metals and harmful chemicals at many sites, while water at four locations contained levels of arsenic and lead that exceeded recommended health standards, a study has found.

Water with the highest concentrations of arsenic was collected from a juvenile probation camp in Lancaster, where levels were measured at roughly seven times the recommended maximum threshold, the report states.

And while the analysis did not find any sites where water samples exceeded the threshold for two forms of chromium, some maintain that public health standards need to be updated so that each form can be evaluated on its own.

The analysis - requested by Supervisor Michael Antonovich to compare contaminant levels in drinking water to those in a similar report 10 years ago - looked at an array of facilities, including parks, libraries, fire stations and offices, including sites in the South Bay.

All are places where county employees work, and which could be open to the general public, said Ken Pellman of the county Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights & Measures, which took the water samples from the tap and tested them in its South Gate laboratory.

Many local test locations showed detectable levels of lead, arsenic and chromium, but well below what the state considers harmful to a person's health.

The results were presented Tuesday to the

Board of Supervisors in a 31-page summary that includes a breakdown of facilities by city, along with addresses for the sites where exceedances were discovered.

Antonovich pointed to an increase in the amount of chromium in county water over the past 10 years; in 2001, 14.8 percent of sources showed various levels of chromium, compared to 43.5 percent of sources in 2011.

Based on the report findings, he said it was alarming that "instead of the water getting better, some of our facilities have increased levels of contaminants, not decreased."

Some environmental groups maintain that the state needs to accelerate efforts to set safe drinking water standards for hexavalent chromium (chromium 6), which is believed to pose a greater risk to human health than the other form of the metal measured, trivalent chromium.

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While the state has an established threshold for total chromium - which includes both forms - it has yet to adopt safe standards for hexavalent chromium, which is believed to cause certain forms of cancer.

The state determines acceptable levels of contaminants by pitting the cost and process of removing contaminants with the human health risk that they pose over an average life span of 70 years, said Angelo Bellomo, director of environmental protection for the County Department of Public Health.

So far, no accepted level has been established for hexavalent chromium, but the county is using 0.25 parts per billion as a threshold.

"It's a conundrum for water agencies right now," said Rebecca Sutton, a senior scientist in the Oakland office of the nonprofit Environmental Working Group. "We know the stuff is bad, but we don't know to what level we need to treat water" because no legal limits have been established.

The effort to set public health guidelines for hexavalent chromium has taken years, and dragged on past a January 2004 deadline established by state legislation three years prior, said Andria Ventura, program manager for Clean Water Action in San Francisco.

Her organization supports a recommendation from the state Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to establish a public health standard of 0.02 parts per billion for hexavalent chromium in drinking water.

"It's time that we move forward to put the health of the people of California first," Ventura said. "It's very hard for communities that are impacted to know what to do."

Bellomo said it's difficult to pin down the exact source of any toxin detected. For example, arsenic is a naturally occurring contaminant that

could have come from a number of different water sources.

And Pellman, the agricultural commissioner's spokesman, said the tap water samples could point to issues with piping in the facilities, not necessarily the groundwater supply. He said individuals concerned about the quality of their water could provide samples to the department's lab and have them tested.

In the report, officials note particularly high levels of arsenic, 70 parts per billion, in the vicinity of Camp Challenger in Lancaster, a juvenile camp run by the county Probation Department. The state and federal standard for drinking water is 10 parts per billion.

The water sampled there also showed high levels of hexavalent chromium, about 12 parts per billion, the report states.

Since the release of that report, two facilities with the highest levels - Challenger and Fire Station 122 - have turned off all their water fountains, and required the use of bottled water for drinking and brushing teeth. Challenger hosts 308 juvenile offenders and 270 staff members.

Antonovich on Tuesday criticized the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights &



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Measures for a delay in releasing the findings.

Agricultural Commissioner Kurt Floren said the results were not released at the time of testing because they were intended for release with all the other results in the larger report.

The county Health Department is also conducting testing of about 200 small well water systems through September.

The board directed the agricultural department to report back in 45 days with additional samples and a side-by-side comparison of contaminant levels from 2001 to 2011.

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Staff writer Christina Villacorte contributed to this article.

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Agency criticized for lagging on water contamination warning

By Christina Villacorte, Staff Writer

Posted: 07/19/2011 09:20:54 PM PDT

Updated: 07/19/2011 09:23:09 PM PDT

A county agency that detected excessive levels of arsenic and other chemicals in the tap water at four county facilities waited as long as nine months before alerting health officials - and the people at those sites - about the risks.

Supervisor Michael Antonovich criticized the Department of Agricultural Commissioner/Weights and Measures' delay in releasing the findings of its water quality tests.

"That's unacceptable," Antonovich told Agricultural Commissioner Kurt Floren during a Board of Supervisors hearing Tuesday.

The department discovered high levels of arsenic at Fire Station 122 in Lakewood in October and at Challenger Memorial Youth Center in Lancaster in December and January, and at two other sites in March.

The results were not disclosed publicly until a report on testing at 756 county-owned sites was released two weeks ago.

Since the release of that report, two facilities with the highest levels - Challenger and Fire Station 122 - have turned off all their water fountains, and required the use of bottled water for drinking and brushing teeth.

"Unfortunately, we found out that the water at one of the camps within the Challenger Memorial Youth Center group had a very elevated level of toxicity," Probation Department

spokeswoman Kerri Webb said.

"Because we want to absolutely take care of and protect the health of the minors who are in our custody, as well as the staff there - what we're doing is we

have brought in bottled water for the minors and for staff to consume," she added.

Challenger hosts 308 juvenile offenders and 270 staff members.

Angelo Bellomo, environmental health director for the county Department of Public Health, said steps were being taken to investigate the contamination, and clean it up.

He tried to assuage health concerns, saying, "Keep in mind, most of the numbers that we're looking at here, although they're over the 'maximum contaminant level,' they're not quite at the level yet that would produce any near-term hazard."

Agricultural Commissioner Kurt Floren said the results were not released at the time of testing because they were intended for release with all the other results in the larger report.

"In reviewing our actions here, there were delays

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in moving that information to (the Department of) Public Health," Floren testified to the board.

"... We have developed protocols for moving forward for immediate notification to Public Health."

Challenger's tap water had seven times the state and federal "maximum containment level" for arsenic, and also contained hexavalent chromium, a carcinogen.

Bellomo said more frequent water testing would be conducted at the four county facilities, and suggested the possibility of diluting the contamination with water from nearby wells.

When Antonovich seemed skeptical about such a plan, Bellomo said, "I suppose you could import water, but that would require hauling it in, for example."

Antonovich replied, "If you don't want to glow in the dark, it might be a good alternative."

The report was the first time in 10 years that such an evaluation of water quality at county facilities was undertaken.

Floren said the report was incomplete, because his department was still waiting for the Department of Public Health to provide water samples from county-owned wells.

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JURUPA VALLEY: Plan eyed to use untreated water for irrigation

10:00 PM PDT on Friday, July 22, 2011

By SANDRA STOKLEY
The Press-Enterprise

Officials of several Jurupa Valley-based agencies are working with **Riverside** County Supervisor John Tavaglione's office on a plan to use cheaply priced, undrinkable water provided by a private water company to irrigate parks, schools and other large land expanses in the newly formed city.

But the \$1.2 million question is: who would pay to build the pipelines, pumps and other infrastructure to transport water from wells belonging to Empire Water Corp. to the sites that need watering.

The \$1.2 million figure is how much it would cost to add the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center, The Cove Aquatic Park and Glen Avon Heritage Park to a system that already provides water to Patriot High School and Indian Hills Golf Course, according to a report prepared by engineering consultants Krieger & Stewart.



Paul Alvarez / Special to The Press-Enterprise
Volunteer Carol Morgan waters the iris bed at the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center on Friday. Officials of several Jurupa Valley agencies are working on a plan to use nonpotable water to irrigate parks, school grounds and other public facilities.

Tavaglione's office has already pledged \$500,000 in redevelopment money to the proposed project.

Where the remaining \$700,000 would come from remains a question mark.

Tavaglione's chief of staff **John Field** said he is working to set up a meeting in early August of stakeholders -- including the Jurupa Community Services District, the Jurupa Area Recreation and Park District and the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center -- to discuss the Krieger & Stewart report and ways to finance the project.

Although the lingering economic malaise makes even \$700,000 tough to come by, **Field** said the project is crucial to the area.

Water experts have said using cheap recycled or untreated water to irrigate helps public agencies save taxpayer money while conserving precious drinking water in a time of drought.

"We have to pursue recycled and nonpotable sources of water," **Field** said.



Connecting facilities such as the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center to a supply of cheap water would cost \$1.2 million.

The ongoing discussions are the result of a confluence of events that were triggered when news surfaced in 2008 that the Jurupa park district was in discussions with Empire Water to purchase deeply discounted, untreated water to irrigate Glen Avon Heritage Park, Centennial Park and a trail system.

Empire Water, which had purchased the Jurupa-based West **Riverside** Canal and 350 Inch Water Co. and its water rights, was already providing irrigation water to the Indian Hills Golf Club and Patriot High School on Mission Boulevard.

In spring of 2010, officials of the Jurupa Community Services District announced that the Jurupa Mountains Cultural Center -- which is now the Jurupa Mountains Discovery Center -- would have to start paying for water service.

The nonprofit earth science center had not paid for water for decades and no one could say for sure why.

Mary Burns, the Discovery Center's executive director at the time, reached out to Empire Water as a potential source of cheap water and to Tavaglione's office to provide funding to make the connection.

Field said that initial meeting evolved into the larger plan under discussion now.

Burns, who retired from the Discovery Center this spring, said she has been lobbying local water officials for years to establish a system to use recycled and untreated water to irrigate school campuses, parks and other large expanses of green space.

"To waste money paying for highly treated water to irrigate trees and grass is unconscionable," Burns said.

Reach Sandra Stokley at 951-368-9647 or sstokley@PE.com

Source: Santa Monica Daily Press

Buy a whale, save the ocean

by Ashley Archibald

August 03, 2011

SM PIER — Supporting ocean cleanliness got a fresh face Tuesday when the Department of Motor Vehicles and California Coastal Commission joined forces to reveal a redesigned custom license plate, the sale of which will benefit ocean-loving nonprofits all over the state.

Santa Monica was one of three cities chosen to unveil the new design, which shows a fully-extended humpback whale's tail jutting up out of the ocean, framed by puffy white clouds.

The plate, which first debuted in 1997, has been one of the most popular specialty license plates available in the state, and has raised \$60.2 million for environmental conservation efforts.

"We're really thrilled about the launch of the California license plate," said Assemblywoman Julia Brownley (D-Santa Monica), one of several notables that spoke at the event. "When I'm not in Sacramento, not a day goes by that I'm not marveling at the environmental treasure that California has in this coastline."

The original design, by the artist Wyland, shows a foggy day on the ocean, and a whale's tail curved over the surface of the water.

To date, the DMV has sold 198,000 of the original plates.

That design had to be retired on July 1, because Wyland asked for a 20 percent royalty for plate sales, officials said.

"While we are grateful to Wyland for his donation over many years, we opted to retire the plate," said California Coastal Commission Executive Director Peter Douglas. "This presented an exciting opportunity to freshen the look of the plate, inspire new interest and get the public involved."

The California Coastal Commission held a contest asking the public to send in designs for the plate. Over 300 people sent in designs, and the selection committee managed to narrow that cache of ideas to two winners.

Those winners, painter Elizabeth Robinette Tyndall of Bethel Island and graphic designer Bill Atkins of Laguna Beach, collaborated on the new design.

"(The DMV) would like to say job well done," said Christina Harden, who represented the department at the pier event.

Selling the plates has a palpable impact here in Santa Monica.

Of the 433 Whale Tail grants that have been awarded through the program, Santa Monica-based Heal the Bay has benefited to the tune of \$30,000 to fund its beach clean up programs.

The organization organizes between 600 and 900 clean ups every year for the stretch of beach between Cabrillo and Zuma beaches, said Eveline Bravo, the beach programs manager for Heal the Bay.

Whale Tail money pays for approximately 500 of those projects, she said.

"It's the sole reason why the clean ups at Heal the Bay exist," she said.

The license plates both fund the pick-ups and raise awareness, said Amy Smart, actress and board member of Heal the Bay, pointing out that 80 percent of trash found on beaches comes from 60 miles away.

"The Whale Tail plate is an easy way to let people know that we need to protect our sea," she said.

To encourage people to get out and buy the plates, Mayor Scott Schoeffel of the city of Dana Point issued an invitation to other mayors for a Whale Tail Cities Challenge, to see which participating city can claim the most plates sold, as a percentage of population before Sept. 17.

The winning city will get a basket of locally produced foods and beverages from each of the participating cities, to be shared at a community meeting or event.

Sept. 17 marks the endpoint of the competition because it's also the 27th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day, which is partially funded by the sale of the "Ecoplates."

Over 82,000 volunteers participated in last year's event, and collected 1.2 million pounds of trash.

A coalition of Convention and Visitor's Bureaus from coastal cities including Santa Monica hope to inspire even more this year by giving away a \$1,000 gift certificate to Whole Foods Market and a getaway to a California destination to lucky participants.

Whale Tail Ecoplates can be bought at www.ecoplates.com or at one of 168 DMV locations. Plates cost \$50, or \$93 for personalized versions.

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Op-Ed

California's water wars

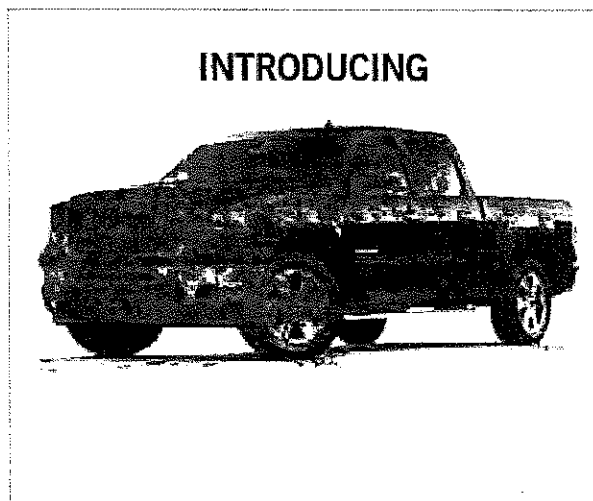
The west side of the Central Valley supports California's booming agricultural prosperity. We can't afford to let it go dry.

By Victor Davis Hanson

August 7, 2011

California's water wars aren't about scarcity. Even with 37 million people and the nation's most irrigation-intensive agriculture, the state usually has enough water for both people and crops, thanks to the brilliant hydrological engineering of past Californians. But now there is a new element in the century-old water calculus: a demand that the state's inland waters flow as pristinely

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as they supposedly did before the age of dams, reservoirs and canals. Only that way can California's rivers, descending from their mountain origins, reach the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta year-round. Only that way, environmentalists say, can a 3-inch delta fish be saved and salmon runs from the Pacific to the interior restored.

Such green dreams are not new to California politics. But their consequences, in this case, have been particularly dire: rich farmland idled, workers laid off and massive tax revenues forfeited.

You can learn an important fact about the water wars simply by driving the width of California's vast Central Valley, home to a large chunk of the state's \$14-billion farm export business. What the drive teaches you is that there is no single Central Valley agriculture. Rather, the state is divided longitudinally, right down its middle, into two farming landscapes. These regions — the east and west sides of the Central Valley — differ not only in the crops they grow but also in the availability of water.

Start with the east side, which looks like a verdant, well-tended park from the air, thanks to the Sierra Nevada, which each spring sends copious snowmelt into the rivers that flow into the Central Valley.

Proximity to this guaranteed runoff from the Sierra explains why the east side's small towns favored permanent orchards and vineyards, which represented more than a single year's investment, rather than annual row crops, beef and dairy. In the early 20th century, power companies and the state improved on what nature had bestowed, tapping the massive snow runoff with an ingenious system of dams and gravity-fed canals that channeled the stored water to farmland below.

To this day, gravity-fed irrigation usually supplies the east side with enough summer runoff for its crops. But in rare drought seasons, farmers have a second resource: an enormous aquifer, originally perhaps as large as a billion acre-feet, with a water table close to the surface. The water is good and the cost of pumping cheap.

The far larger, far more fragile west side of the valley is a different story. It is too distant from the Sierra to easily tap much of the snow runoff. And the water table can be more than 1,000 feet underground.

Until the 1960s, this vast interior land was sparsely populated, mostly unfarmed and owned by large ranching concerns. But then the federal and state governments, in a series of complex partnerships, built the Central Valley Project and the California State Water Project — sprawling networks of dams, pumping stations and canals sending water from the north more than 400 miles south. Once west side farmland was brought into irrigated production, it proved to be some of the world's most fertile, and a multibillion-dollar farming industry was born from desert.

That industry, however, was dominated by massive corporate and family-held operations. Even as they found ways to produce an ever-greater variety of crops, they came under attack, particularly from California's vocal left, which harped that taxpayers were subsidizing corporate farming — that the \$130 and more that farmers were charged per acre-foot of water represented far less than it cost to build and maintain the irrigation system. More recently, environmentalists have argued that diversion of the northern rivers degraded the ecology of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.

In late summer 2007, a federal judge in Fresno ruled in favor of an environmentalist lawsuit demanding that the government curtail water deliveries to the west side 80% and more. The suit involved salmon and the 3-inch delta smelt. The number of smelt in the delta had plummeted over the years, the environmentalists claimed, because water projects had diverted too much northern water. The solution, they argued, was to shut down the irrigation pumps.

So, in 2008 and 2009, water deliveries to farmers were drastically reduced. Chaos followed. Thousands of acres of crops were idled. Farmworkers were laid off. In some cases, newly developed orchards and vineyards on the west side died — often near the frequently traveled I-5, where thousands of passing motorists daily saw dead trees and signs erected by angry landowners proclaiming a man-made dust bowl.

Farmers are resourceful people. Some were able to switch to drought-resistant crops; others had reserves to pay the exorbitant costs of pumping scarce groundwater. Still others purchased irrigation supplements from east side canals. A variety of factors, including spiraling agricultural prices, helped them hang on, and in the winter of 2009 they got a lucky break: California entered one of its periodic wet cycles. The result is that, though the state certainly lost hundreds of millions of dollars in agricultural revenue, California will probably still export a record \$14 billion in farm commodities in 2011.

At the end of my frequent drives across the state, I generally descend into the environmentalists' stronghold, the San Francisco Bay Area. Here, particularly at Stanford University and UC Berkeley, much of the environmental research and ideological advocacy took place that put the salmon and the smelt ahead of agribusiness.

California lakes and canals are a testament to our fathers' using nature to bring water, power and prosperity to the Central Valley. The state's visionary engineers and politicians saw the massive federal west side irrigation projects as the logical 20th century successors to smaller state and local enterprises that had irrigated the east side in the 19th century. But today, coastal scientists have tired of such visions. They consider them destroyers of nature, not catalysts of wealth, so they use their academic expertise to thwart them.

The smelt and the salmon are now back in court, thanks to a hypothesis that Bay Area wastewater, not just river diversions and massive delta pumps, is also to blame for their still diminished numbers. U.S. District Judge Oliver W. Wanger has approved a temporary compromise that tries, in wet years like this one, to grant farmers up to 85% of their contracted water deliveries. The deal has made environmentalists happy, since it keeps the rivers flowing to the sea. The farmers are less happy, reasoning that if they're getting little more than three-quarters of their deliveries during one of the wettest seasons on record, they'll surely receive even less in the inevitable drier years to come.

But in today's California — with vast Democratic majorities in the Legislature, statewide officeholders mostly Democratic, and a delegation to Congress that's also largely Democratic — there is almost no chance of restoration of the original 100% delivery contracts, no matter what weather the future brings. When the wet cycle passes, thousands of acres on the west side of the Central Valley will again become idle until Californians accept that unused farmland is a luxury that a struggling state can no longer afford.

Victor Davis Hanson is a contributing editor of City Journal. He is the author of the forthcoming novel "The End of Sparta." Adapted from the summer issue of City Journal.

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