

# WATER RESOURCES AND WATERSHED **COMMITTEE MEETING**

# Wednesday, April 13, 2022 **Meeting Begins at 5:30 PM**

Members of the public may attend by the following options:

### In Person

Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Rio Vista Water Treatment Plant 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road Santa Clarita, CA 91350

## By Phone

Toll Free:

1-(833)-568-8864

# **Virtually**

Please join the meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone:

Webinar ID: 160 204 5865 https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1602045865

# **Have a Public Comment?**

Public comments may be made virtually or in-person the night of the meeting, as well as in writing via mail to Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 or email to Cheryl Fowler, Management Analyst II, at cfowler@scvwa.org by 4:00 PM the day of the meeting.\*

(Public comments take place during Item 2 of the Agenda and before each Item is considered. Please see the agenda for details.)

This meeting will be recorded and the audio recording for all Committee meetings will be posted to yourscywater.com within 3 business days from the date of the Committee meeting.

\*All written comments received after 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be made available at the meeting and posted on the SCV Water Website the following day at yourscywater.com. Public comments can also be heard the night of the meeting.

Disclaimer: Attendees should be aware that while the Agency is following all applicable requirements and guidelines regarding COVID-19, the Agency cannot ensure the health of anyone attending a Committee meeting. Attendees should therefore use their own judgment with respect to protecting themselves from exposure to COVID-19.





**Date:** April 6, 2022

To: Water Resources and Watershed Committee

Jeff Ford, Chair B.J. Atkins Ed Colley Bill Cooper

Piotr Orzechowski

From: Steve Cole, Assistant General Manager

The Water Resources and Watershed Committee is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, April 13, 2022 at 5:30 PM at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350 in the Boardroom. Members of the public may attend in person or virtually. To attend this meeting virtually, please see below.

#### **IMPORTANT NOTICES**

This meeting will be conducted in person at the address listed above. As a convenience to the public, members of the public may also participate virtually by using the <u>Agency's Call-In</u> <u>Number 1-(833)-568-8864, Webinar ID: 160 204 5865 or Zoom Webinar by clicking on the link https://scvwa.zoomgov.com/j/1602045865</u>. Any member of the public may listen to the meeting or make comments to the Committee using the call-in number or Zoom Webinar link above. However, in the event there is a disruption of service which prevents the Agency from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using either the call-in option or internet-based service, this meeting will not be postponed or rescheduled but will continue without remote participation. The remote participation option is being provided as a convenience to the public and is not required. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting in person.

Attendees should be aware that while the Agency is following all applicable requirements and guidelines regarding COVID-19, the Agency cannot ensure the health of anyone attending a Committee meeting. Attendees should therefore use their own judgment with respect to protecting themselves from exposure to COVID-19.

Members of the public unable to attend this meeting may submit comments either in writing to cfowler@scvwa.org or by mail to Cheryl Fowler, Management Analyst II, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. All written comments received before 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be distributed to the Committee members and posted on the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency website prior to the start of the meeting. Anything received after 4:00 PM the day of the meeting will be made available at the meeting and posted on the SCV Water website the following day.

### **MEETING AGENDA**

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1.	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE					
2.		<u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u> – Members of the public may comment as to items within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Agency that are not on the Agenda at this time. Members of the public wishing to comment on items covered in this Agenda may do so at the time each item is considered. (Comments may, at the discretion of the Committee Chair, be limited to three minutes for each speaker.)				
3.	*	Recommend Adopting a Resolution to Enact Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance				
4.	*	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Contract with ESA Consultants to Prepare a California Environmental Flow Framework Study for Portions of the Santa Clara River	37			
5.		Review and Discussion of FY 2021/22 and FY 2022/23 Water Resources Operating Budget and Minor and Major Capital Projects Budgets				
6.		Water Resources Director's Report				
		6.1 Status of Water Supplies				
		6.2 Update on Water Resiliency Plan Initiative Activities				
		6.3 Staff Activities				
7.		Sustainability Manager's Report				
		7.1 Status of Drought Response and Performance				
8.	*	Committee Planning Calendar				
9.		Adjournment				
*		Indicates Attachment Indicates Handout				

#### **NOTICES:**

Any person may make a request for a disability-related modification or accommodation needed for that person to be able to participate in the public meeting by telephoning Cheryl Fowler, Management Analyst II, at (661) 297-1600, or in writing to <a href="mailto:cfowler@scvwa.org">cfowler@scvwa.org</a> or by mail to Cheryl Fowler, Management Analyst II, Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, 26501 Summit Circle, Santa Clarita, CA 91350. Requests must specify the nature of the disability and the type of accommodation requested. A telephone number or other contact information should be included so that Agency staff may discuss appropriate arrangements. Persons requesting a disability-related accommodation should make the request with adequate time before the meeting for the Agency to provide the requested accommodation.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt public records that relate to open session agenda items and are distributed to a majority of the Committee less than seventy-two (72) hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, located at 27234 Bouquet Canyon Road, Santa Clarita, CA 91350, during regular business hours. When practical, these public records will also be made available on the Agency's Internet Website, accessible at http://www.yourscvwater.com.

Posted on April 6, 2022.

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## **COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 31, 2022

**TO:** Water Resources and Watershed Committee

FROM: Matthew S. Dickens, MPA

Sustainability Manager

**SUBJECT:** Recommend Adopting a Resolution to Enact Stage 2 of the Water Shortage

Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance

#### **SUMMARY**

Drought conditions persist across the State of California, including in the Santa Clarita Valley, and as the state enters its third year of drought, snowpack, precipitation, and reservoir levels remain well below average. These conditions have prompted the following regulatory activities from the State of California and the SCV Water Board of Directors to specifically address drought response measures and water conservation across the state and within the Santa Clarita Valley:

- 1. Executive Order N-10-21 (July 8, 2021) Governor Newsom requested all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15% compared to 2020's levels (Attachment A), and
- 2. State of Emergency Proclamation (October 19, 2021) Governor Newsom declared a statewide drought emergency for the State of California (Attachment B), and
- SCV Water Resolution SCV-243 (November 16, 2021) SCV Water Board of Directors approved a resolution enacting Stage 1 of its Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance (Accessible at <a href="https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-111621-Resolution-No.-SCV-243.pdf">https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/SCV-Water-Approved-Resolution-111621-Resolution-No.-SCV-243.pdf</a>, and
- 4. Resolution No. 2022-0002 (January 4, 2022) the State Water Resources Control Board adopted an emergency regulation prohibiting unreasonable uses of water (Attachment C), and
- Executive Order N-7-22 (March 28, 2022) Governor Newsom ordered a requirement that each urban water supplier that has submitted a water shortage contingency plan implement the shortage response actions for a shortage of up to twenty percent (Attachment D).

Considering statewide and local hydrologic conditions, three consecutive dry water years, low conservation performance during the current water year, and in response to the regulatory orders noted above, SCV Water has implemented strategies to mitigate potential supply shortages, inform the public on the status and impacts of the current drought, and encourage additional water conservation. However, to further support statewide objectives and achieve greater local water conservation, staff recommends the SCV Water Board of Directors adopt a resolution to enact Stage 2 of its Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Accessible at <a href="https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2020-SCV-Water Water-Shortage-Contingency-Plan\_Final.pdf">https://yourscvwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/2020-SCV-Water Water-Shortage-Contingency-Plan\_Final.pdf</a>) and

Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance (Accessible at <a href="mailto:file:///C:/Users/mdickens/Downloads/2020-WSCP-Water-Conservation-and-Water-Shortage-Ordinance">file:///C:/Users/mdickens/Downloads/2020-WSCP-Water-Conservation-and-Water-Shortage-Ordinance</a>%20(2).pdf).

#### DISCUSSION

Drought conditions throughout California persist and continue to constrain water resources Statewide. According to the U.S. Drought Monitor (March 29, 2022), one hundred percent (100%) of the state is experiencing drought with LA County and the Santa Clarita Valley recording Category D2 Severe Drought conditions. With snowpack levels at 39% of average and key reservoir levels and precipitation rates well below average, State Water Project (SWP) supply allocations have recently been reduced to 5% of contract, down from the 15% allocation projections provided by the Department of Water Resources in December 2021. While the 5% SWP allocation provides some relief, when compared to a 0% allocation, SCV Water must rely on its critical dry year water supplies to augment the multi-year nominal SWP allocation. The Agency maintains a robust critical dry year supply program in anticipation of frequent drought cycles, however these supplies are finite and therefore, every gallon the community is able to conserve through water conservation and water use efficiency practices is a gallon that the community can put to beneficial use in future years should drought conditions persist.

#### Water Conservation Response Actions and Performance

Since Governor Newsom's April 21, 2021 Drought Proclamation, SCV Water has initiated proactive efforts to prepare for the continuation and potential intensification of drought. These efforts included the wide range of internal and external activities including the launch of a crossagency drought workgroup, convening the Sustainable Water Action Taskforce (SWAT), rebranding of existing water conservation program collateral materials, customer engagement, and drought education. On May 10, 2021, Governor Newsom issued the second Drought Emergency Proclamation and issued Executive Order N-10-21 on July 8, 2021. While Los Angeles and Ventura Counties were not specifically included in the Governor's April 21, 2021 and May 10, 2021 proclamations, the July 8, 2021 Executive Order included a request for all Californians to voluntarily reduce water use by 15% compared to 2020's levels and the Governor's October 19, 2021 proclamation extended the drought emergency to all counties in the state. To encourage conservation in the Santa Clarita Valley, the SCV Water Board of Directors enacted Stage 1 of its Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance. In January 2022, though rain events early in the water year provided some promise, the impacts of two consecutive dry years and projected continuation of drought prompted the SWRCB to enact emergency regulations aimed at curbing increasing demands by prohibiting common water waste activities. Due to record dry conditions occurring across the state in January and February 2022, Governor Newsom issues Executive Order N-7-22 which, among other activities, requires urban water supplier to enact water shortage response actions for a shortage level of up to twenty percent (Stage, Level 2).

Following the Governor's voluntary 15% of 2020 conservation call, the SWRCB initiated monthly reporting to monitor statewide, regional, and urban water supplier water use reductions. To date, SCV Water's conservation performance, while trending downwards, remains well below the 15% voluntary conservation target, signaling the need for additional conservation. The following table notes SCV Water's conservation performance since July 2021.

Table 1. SCV Water Conservation Performance (2021/22 v. 2020)

Year	Month	Monthly Conservation (%)	Cumulative Conservation (%)	Reported to SWRCB
2021	July	+5.6%	+5.6%	Yes
2021	August	+3.1%	+4.3%	Yes
2021	September	+1.1%	+3.3%	Yes
2021	October	-11.3%	+0.1%	Yes
2021	November	+3.1%	+0.5%	Yes
2021	December	-28.8%	-3.0%	Yes
2022	January	-1.1%	-2.9%	Yes
2022	February	+7.8%	-1.9%	Yes

While staff has determined that current supplies are sufficient to meet unconstrained demands, there is compelling evidence and rationale, including compliance with anticipated state mandates, which merit enactment of Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Shortage and Supply Ordinance. Stage 2 watering restrictions and additional measures are listed below:

Watering Restrictions. To promote and prevent the waste, unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water, each of the following actions are prohibited.

- a. Allowing runoff on non-irrigated areas when irrigating with potable water.
- b. Using hoses with no shutoff nozzles to wash cars.
- c. Using potable water to wash sidewalks, driveways, and hardscapes.
- d. Using potable water in decorative water features that do not recirculate the water.
- e. Irrigating outdoors during and within 48 hours following measurable precipitation (quarter inch or more).
- f. Irrigation with potable water of landscapes outside of newly constructed homes and buildings in a manner inconsistent with regulations or other requirements established by the California Building Standards Commission and the Department of Housing and Community Development, including the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance updated by the State as required in AB 1881 and Executive Order B-29-15 issued by Governor Brown on April 1, 2015.
- g. The irrigation with potable water of ornamental turf on public street medians.

#### Stage 2 Moderate Water Shortage – Additional Measures

- a. Limits on Watering Days Outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water is restricted to three (3) days per week. Customers with street addresses ending in an odd number (1,3,5,7,9) may only water on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Customers with street addresses ending in an even number (0,2,4,6,8) may only water on Tuesday, Thursday, and Sunday. Outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water is prohibited on Saturdays. Customers with multiple accounts on the same property must select with an even or odd address watering schedule for their property.
- b. Limits on Watering Station Run Time (Duration) Outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water is limited to no more than Two 5-minute cycles (10 Minutes Max.) per watering station.

- c. Watering Times (Time of Day) Outdoor irrigation of ornamental landscapes or turf with potable water must occur during the following timeframes:
  - November through April 6 PM to 10 AM
  - May through October 8 PM to 9 AM

In addition to the enactment of Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance, staff recommends the Agency continue to communicate to the public the value and benefits of conserving 15% compared to 2020's levels, as wells as tips and techniques on how to successfully achieve this reduction through smart practices and water use efficiency improvements.

#### **NEXT STEPS**

Upon adoption of a resolution enacting Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance, staff will implement the strategies and protocols outlined in the Water Shortage Contingency Plan, inform the public of the water waste restrictions included in the Sections 4 and 7 of the Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance, and continue its proactive customer engagement, education, and water use efficiency program support efforts. Additionally, staff will continue to monitor both supply and demand conditions and will provide regular updates to the Water Resources and Watershed Committee, and Board of Directors as requested. Staff may provide additional recommendations for consideration should changes in hydrologic, supply, mandates, regulations, demand reduction performance, or other conditions which merit such consideration.

#### CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)

The recommended enactment of Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance are not defined as projects under CEQA because it involves the creation of agency funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project, which may result in potential physical impact on the environment (Section 153788(b)(4) of the State CEQA Guidelines). For projects under the plan that may require subsequent approval, a CEQA review will be conducted and, if warranted, environmental documentation for such projects will be prepared and processed in accordance with CEQA and the State CEQA Guidelines.

#### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

SCV Water is utilizing its budget for water use efficiency programs to rebrand existing programs and engagement efforts to focus on drought salient communications, messaging, and tailored customer support services. Staff created a "Drought" project code to track all expenses specific to the Agency's drought responses. Specific to implementation of Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan, staff will continue to track expenses related to engagement, program support, staffing resources, and other costs essential to successful implementation. Regarding revenue impacts, staff anticipates increased conservation of up to 15% compared to 2020's use, which will likely result in reduced revenues from variable water use charges. While a portion of the loss in revenues will be balanced by reduced distribution (power and chemical) and dry-year water supply acquisition costs, the Agency may need to access its financial reserves to balance any remaining revenue shortfalls.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Water Resources and Watershed Committee recommends that the Board of Directors adopt the Resolution enacting Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Governor Newsom's July 8, 2021 Executive Order N-10-21
- B. Governor Newsom's October 19, 2021 Proclamation of a State of Emergency
- C. State Water Resources Control Board January 4, 2022 Resolution 2022-0002
- D. Governor Newsom's March 28, 2022 Executive Order N-7-22

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# ATTACHMENT A

# EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA

#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER N-10-21**

**WHEREAS** communities across California are experiencing more frequent, prolonged, and severe impacts of climate change including catastrophic wildfires, extreme heat and unprecedentedly dry conditions that threaten the health of our people, habitat for species and our economy; and

**WHEREAS** severe drought afflicts the American West and increasingly warming temperatures driven by climate change exacerbate harmful drought effects including disruption of drinking water and irrigation supplies, degradation of fish and wildlife habitat, and heightened flammability of wildland vegetation; and

**WHEREAS** on April 21 and May 10, 2021, I issued proclamations that a state of emergency exists in a total of 41 counties due to severe drought conditions and directed state agencies to take immediate action to preserve critical water supplies and mitigate the effects of drought and ensure the protection of health, safety, and the environment; and

WHEREAS today, I issued a further proclamation of a state of emergency due to drought conditions in nine additional counties (Inyo, Marin, Mono, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz), and directed state agencies to take further actions to bolster drought resilience and prepare for impacts on communities, businesses, and ecosystems; and

**WHEREAS** drought conditions present urgent challenges, including the risk of drinking water shortages in communities, greatly increased wildfire activity, diminished water for agricultural production, adverse impacts on fisheries, and additional water scarcity if drought conditions continue into next year; and

**WHEREAS** agriculture is an important economic driver in California that has made significant investments in irrigation efficiencies such that nearly 70 percent of the nation's farmland using drip and micro-irrigation is located in California, and despite that investment, many agricultural producers are experiencing severe reductions in water supplies and are fallowing land in response to current dry conditions; and

**WHEREAS** action by Californians now to conserve water and to extend local groundwater and surface water supplies will provide greater resilience if the drought continues in future years; and

WHEREAS during the 2012-2016 drought, Californians did their part to conserve water, with many taking permanent actions that continue to yield benefits; per capita residential water use statewide declined 21 percent between the years 2013 and 2016, and has remained on average 16 percent below 2013 levels as of 2020; and

**WHEREAS** local water suppliers and communities have made strategic and forward-looking investments in water recycling, stormwater capture and reuse, groundwater storage and other strategies to improve drought resilience; and

**WHEREAS** there is now a need to augment ongoing water conservation and drought resilience investments with additional action to extend available supplies, protect water reserves in case drought conditions extend to a third year and maintain critical flows for fish and wildlife.

**NOW THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM,** Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, do hereby issue the following order to become effective immediately.

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- 1) To preserve the State's surface and groundwater supplies and better prepare for the potential for continued dry conditions next year, and to join existing efforts by agricultural water users, public water systems, and governmental agencies to respond to water shortages, I call on all Californians to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels. Commonsense measures Californians can undertake to save water and money include:
  - a. Irrigating landscapes more efficiently. As much as 50 percent of residential water use goes to outdoor irrigation, and much of that is wasted due to evaporation, wind, or runoff caused by inefficient irrigation methods and systems. Watering one day less per week, not watering during or immediately after rainfall, watering during the cooler parts of the day and using a weather-based irrigation controller can reduce irrigation water use, saving nearly 8,800 gallons of water per year.
  - b. Running dishwashers and washing machines only when full. Full laundry loads can save 15–45 gallons per load. Full dishwasher cycles can save 5–15 gallons per load.
  - c. Finding and fixing leaks. A leaky faucet that drips at the rate of one drip per second can waste nearly 3,200 gallons per year.
  - d. Installing water-efficient showerheads and taking shorter showers. Keeping showers under five minutes can save 12.5 gallons per shower when using a water-efficient showerhead.
  - e. Using a shut-off nozzle on hoses and taking cars to commercial car washes that use recycled water.

The State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) shall track and report monthly on the State's progress toward achieving a 15-percent reduction in statewide urban water use as compared to 2020 use.

- 2) State agencies, led by the Department of Water Resources and in coordination with local agencies, shall encourage actions by all Californians, whether in their residential, industrial, commercial, agricultural, or institutional use, to reduce water usage, including through the statewide Save Our Water conservation campaign at SaveOurWater.com, which provides simple ways for Californians to reduce water use in their everyday lives.
- 3) The Department of Water Resources shall monitor hydrologic conditions such as cumulative precipitation, reservoir storage levels, soil moisture and other metrics, and the Water Board shall monitor progress on voluntary

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conservation as ongoing indicators of water supply risk that may inform future drought response actions.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 8th day of July 2012.

GAYIN NEWSON

Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.C

Secretary of State

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# ATTACHMENT B

# EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA

### PROCLAMATION OF A STATE OF EMERGENCY

WHEREAS climate change continues to intensify the impacts of droughts on our communities, environment, and economy, and California is in a second consecutive year of dry conditions, resulting in drought in all parts of the State and extreme or exceptional drought in most of the State; and

**WHEREAS** the meteorological summer in California and the rest of the western United States was the hottest on record; and

WHEREAS on April 12, 2021, May 10, 2021, and July 8, 2021, I proclaimed states of emergency to exist in the counties of Alameda, Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Contra Costa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Humboldt, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Marin, Mendocino, Merced, Modoc, Mono, Monterey, Napa, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Benito, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yolo, and Yuba, due to severe drought conditions; and

**WHEREAS** since my July 8, 2021 Proclamation, sustained and extreme high temperatures have increased water loss from reservoirs and streams, increased demands by communities and agriculture, and further depleted California's water supplies; and

**WHEREAS** the counties of Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, and Ventura are now experiencing severe drought conditions; and

**WHEREAS** long-term weather forecasts for the winter rainy season, dire storage conditions of California's largest reservoirs, low moisture content in native vegetation, and parched soils, magnify the likelihood that drought impacts will continue in 2022 and beyond; and

**WHEREAS** the increasing frequency of multiyear droughts presents a significant risk to California's ability to ensure adequate water supplies for communities, agriculture, and fish and wildlife; and

**WHEREAS** the most impactful action Californians can take to extend available supplies is to re-double their efforts to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels by implementing the commonsense measures identified in operative paragraph 1 of my July 8, 2021 Executive Order N-10-21; and

**WHEREAS** it is necessary to expeditiously mitigate the effects of the drought conditions to ensure the protection of health, safety, and the environment; and

**WHEREAS** under Government Code Section 8558(b), I find that the conditions caused by the drought, by reason of their magnitude, are or are likely to be beyond the control of the services, personnel, equipment, and facilities of any single local government and require the combined forces of a mutual aid region or regions to appropriately respond; and

**WHEREAS** under Government Code Section 8625(c), I find that local authority is inadequate to cope with the drought conditions; and

WHEREAS to protect public health and safety, it is critical the State take certain immediate actions without undue delay to prepare for and mitigate the effects of the drought conditions, and under Government Code Section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the drought conditions.

NOW THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Section 8625, HEREBY PROCLAIM A STATE OF EMERGENCY to exist in the State due to drought in the remaining counties of Imperial, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, and Ventura, such that the drought state of emergency is now in effect statewide.

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- All agencies of the state government are to utilize and employ state personnel, equipment, and facilities for the performance of any and all activities consistent with the direction of the Governor's Office of Emergency Services and the State Emergency Plan. Also, to protect their safety, all residents are to obey the direction of emergency officials with regard to this emergency in order to protect their safety.
- 2. The orders and provisions contained in my April 21, 2021, May 10, 2021, and July 8, 2021 Proclamations remain in full force and effect, except as modified herein. State agencies shall continue to implement all directions from those Proclamations and accelerate implementation where feasible.
- 3. Operative paragraphs 3, 5, 6, and 10 of my July 8, 2021 Proclamation are withdrawn and replaced with paragraphs 4 through 8 below.
- 4. Consistent with the policies stated in Water Code Section 1011.5(a), local agencies are encouraged to take actions to coordinate use of their available supplies and to substitute an alternate supply of groundwater from existing groundwater wells for the unused portion of surface water that the local agency is otherwise entitled to use. For actions taken pursuant to this paragraph, the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 85225) of Part 3 of Division 35 of the Water Code and regulations adopted pursuant thereto are suspended for any (a) actions taken by state agencies pursuant to this paragraph, (b) actions taken by a local agency where the state agency with primary responsibility for implementing the directive concurs that local action is required, and (c) permits or approvals necessary to carry out actions under (a) or (b). The entities implementing this paragraph shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals that rely on the suspension of the foregoing Water Code provisions.

- 5. To support voluntary approaches where hydrology and other conditions allow, the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) shall expeditiously consider water transfer requests. For purposes of carrying out this paragraph, the following requirements of the Water Code are suspended:
  - a. Section 1726(d) requirements for written notice and newspaper publication, provided that the Water Board shall post notice on its website and provide notice through electronic subscription services where interested persons can request information about temporary changes; and
  - b. Section 1726(f) requirement of a 30-day comment period, provided that the Water Board shall afford a 15-day comment period.
- 6. As necessary to assist local governments and for the protection of public health and the environment, state agencies shall enter into contracts to arrange for the procurement of materials, goods, and services necessary to quickly assist with the response to and recovery from the impacts of the drought. Applicable provisions of the Government Code and the Public Contract Code, including but not limited to travel, advertising, and competitive bidding requirements, are suspended to the extent necessary to address the effects of the drought. Approval of the Department of Finance is required prior to the execution of any contract entered into pursuant to this provision.
- 7. To proactively prevent situations where a community runs out of drinking water, the Water Board, the Department of Water Resources, the Office of Emergency Services, and the Office of Planning and Research shall assist local agencies with identifying acute drinking water shortages in domestic water supplies, and shall work with local agencies in implementing solutions to those water shortages.
- 8. To preserve the State's surface and groundwater supplies and better prepare for the potential for continued dry conditions next year, local water suppliers are directed to execute their urban Water Shortage Contingency Plans and agricultural Drought Plans at a level appropriate to local conditions that takes into account the possibility of a third consecutive dry year. Suppliers shall ensure that Urban and Agricultural Water Management Plans are up to date and in place.
- 9. The Water Board may adopt emergency regulations, as it deems necessary, to supplement voluntary conservation by prohibiting certain wasteful water practices. Wasteful water uses include:
  - a. The use of potable water for washing sidewalks, driveways, buildings, structures, patios, parking lots, or other hardsurfaced areas, except in cases where health and safety are at risk.
  - b. The use of potable water that results in flooding or runoff in gutters or streets.

- c. The use of potable water, except with the use of a positive shut-off nozzle, for the individual private washing of motor vehicles.
- d. The use of water to irrigate turf and ornamental landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall of at least one-fourth of one inch of rain.
- e. The use of potable water for irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians.
- f. The use of potable water for street cleaning or construction purposes, unless no other source of water or other method can be used or if necessary, to protect the health and safety of the public.
- g. The use of potable water for decorative fountains or the filling or topping-off of decorative lakes or ponds, with exceptions for those decorative fountains, lakes, or ponds which utilize recycled water.
- 10. The California Department of Food and Agriculture, in collaboration with other relevant state agencies, shall evaluate water efficiency measures implemented in California agriculture over the past several years and develop a report with recommendations on how to further increase efficiencies.
- 11. The Office of Emergency Services shall provide assistance under the authority of the California Disaster Assistance Act, Government Code section 8680 et seq., and California Code of Regulations, title 19, section 2900 et seq., as appropriate to provide for, or in support of, the temporary emergency supply, delivery, or both of drinking water or water for sanitation purposes.
- 12. For purposes of carrying out or approving any actions contemplated by the directives in operative paragraphs 5, 6, and 9, the environmental review by state agencies required by the California Environmental Quality Act in Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought.

For purposes of carrying out the directive in operative paragraph 4 and 7, for any (a) actions taken by the listed state agencies pursuant to that directive, (b) actions taken by a local agency where the Office of Planning and Research concurs that local action is required, and (c) permits necessary to carry out actions under (a) or (b), Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought. The entities implementing these directives shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.

This Proclamation is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

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I FURTHER DIRECT that as soon as hereafter possible, this Proclamation be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Proclamation.

> IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 19th day of October 2021.

GAVIN NEWSOM

Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.D. Secretary of State

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## ATTACHMENT C

# STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2022-0002

# TO ADOPT AN EMERGENCY REGULATION TO SUPPLEMENT VOLUNTARY WATER CONSERVATION

#### WHEREAS:

- On April 21, May 10, and July 8, 2021, Governor Newsom issued proclamations that a state of emergency exists in a total of 50 counties due to severe drought conditions and directed state agencies to take immediate action to preserve critical water supplies and mitigate the effects of drought and ensure the protection of health, safety, and the environment.
- On October 19, 2021, Governor Newsom signed a proclamation extending the drought emergency statewide and further urging Californians to reduce their water use.
- 3. There is no guarantee that winter precipitation will alleviate the current drought conditions.
- 4. Many Californians have taken bold steps over the years to reduce water use; nevertheless, the severity of the current drought and uncertainty about Water Year 2022 require additional conservation actions from residents and businesses.
- 5. Water conservation is the easiest, most efficient, and most cost-effective way to quickly reduce water demand and extend supplies into the next year, providing flexibility for all California communities. Water saved is water available next year, giving water suppliers the flexibility to manage their systems efficiently. The more water that is conserved now, the less likely it is that a community will experience such dire circumstances or that water rationing will be required.
- 6. Most Californians use more water outdoors than indoors. In many areas, 50 percent or more of daily water use is for lawns and outdoor landscaping. Outdoor water use is generally discretionary, and many irrigated landscapes would not suffer greatly from receiving a decreased amount of water.

- 7. Public information and awareness are critical to achieving conservation goals, and the Save Our Water campaign (<u>SaveOurWater.com</u>), run jointly by the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the Association of California Water Agencies, is an excellent resource for conservation information and messaging that is integral to effective drought response.
- 8. <u>SaveWater.CA.Gov</u> is an online tool designed to help save water in communities. This website lets anyone easily report water waste from their phone, tablet, or computer by simply selecting the type of water waste they see, typing in the address where the waste is occurring, and clicking send. These reports are filed directly with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) and relevant local water supplier.
- 9. Enforcement against water waste is a key tool in conservation programs. When conservation becomes a social norm in a community, the need for enforcement is reduced or eliminated.
- 10. On October 19, 2021, the Governor suspended the environmental review required by the California Environmental Quality Act to allow State Water Board-adopted drought conservation emergency regulations and other actions to take place quickly to respond to emergency conditions.
- 11. Water Code section 1058.5 grants the State Water Board the authority to adopt emergency regulations in certain drought years in order to: "prevent the waste, unreasonable use, unreasonable method of use, or unreasonable method of diversion, of water, to promote water recycling or water conservation, to require curtailment of diversions when water is not available under the diverter's priority of right, or in furtherance of any of the foregoing, to require reporting of diversion or use or the preparation of monitoring reports."
- 12. On November 30, 2021, the State Water Board issued public notice that the State Water Board would consider the adoption of the regulation at the Board's regularly scheduled January 4, 2022 public meeting, in accordance with applicable State laws and regulations. The State Water Board also distributed for public review and comment a Finding of Emergency that complies with State laws and regulations.
- 13. The emergency regulation sets a minimum standard that many communities are already doing more but not everyone is taking these lowcost, easy to implement actions that can save significant amounts of water during a drought emergency.

- 14. Disadvantaged communities may require assistance in increasing water conservation, and state and local agencies should look for opportunities to provide assistance in promoting water conservation, including but not limited to translation of regulation text and dissemination of water conservation announcements into languages spoken by at least 10 percent of the people who reside in a water supplier's service area, such as in newspaper advertisements, bill inserts, website homepage, social media, and notices in public libraries.
- 15. The Board directs staff to consider the following in pursuing any enforcement of section 995, subdivision (b)(1)(A)-(F): before imposing monetary penalties, staff shall provide one or more warnings; monetary penalties must be based on an ability to pay determination, consider allowing a payment plan of at least 12 months, and shall not result in a tax lien; and Board enforcement shall not result in shutoff.
- 16. The Board encourages entities other than Board staff that consider any enforcement of this regulation to apply these same factors identified in resolved paragraph 15. Nothing in the regulation or in the enforcement provisions of the regulation precludes a local agency from exercising its authority to adopt more stringent conservation measures. Moreover, the Water Code does not impose a mandatory penalty for violations of the regulation adopted by this resolution, and local agencies retain their enforcement discretion in enforcing the regulation, to the extent authorized, and may develop their own progressive enforcement practices to encourage conservation.

#### THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- 1. The State Water Board adopts California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 995, as appended to this resolution as an emergency regulation.
- 2. State Water Board staff will submit the regulation to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for final approval.
- If, during the approval process, State Water Board staff, the State Water Board, or OAL determines that minor corrections to the language of the regulation or supporting documentation are needed for clarity or consistency, the State Water Board Executive Director or designee may make such changes.

- 4. This regulation shall remain in effect for one year after filing with the Secretary of State unless the State Water Board determines that it is no longer necessary due to changed conditions or unless the State Water Board renews the regulation due to continued drought conditions, as described in Water Code section 1058.5.
- 5. The State Water Board directs State Water Board staff to work with the Department of Water Resources and the Save Our Water campaign to disseminate information regarding the emergency regulations.
- Nothing in the regulation or in the enforcement provisions of the regulation precludes a local agency from exercising its authority to adopt more stringent conservation measures. Local agencies are encouraged to develop their own progressive enforcement practices to promote conservation.

#### **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on January 4, 2022.

AYE: Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo

Board Member Sean Maguire Board Member Laurel Firestone Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None

ABSENT: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel

ABSTAIN: None

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board

#### ADOPTED TEXT OF EMERGENCY REGULATION

Title 23. Waters

Division 3. State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards

**Chapter 3.5. Urban Water Use Efficiency and Conservation** 

**Article 2. Prevention of Drought Wasteful Water Uses** 

§ 995. Wasteful and Unreasonable Water Uses.

- (a) As used in this section:
- (1) "Turf" has the same meaning as in section 491.
- (2) "Incidental runoff" means unintended amounts (volume) of runoff, such as unintended, minimal overspray from sprinklers that escapes the area of intended use. Water leaving an intended use area is not considered incidental if it is part of the facility or system design, if it is due to excessive application, if it is due to intentional overflow or application, or if it is due to negligence.
- (b)(1) To prevent the unreasonable use of water and to promote water conservation, the use of water is prohibited as identified in this subdivision for the following actions:
  - (A) The application of potable water to outdoor landscapes in a manner that causes more than incidental runoff such that water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, private and public walkways, roadways, parking lots, or structures;
  - (B) The use of a hose that dispenses water to wash a motor vehicle, except where the hose is fitted with a shut-off nozzle or device attached to it that causes it to cease dispensing water immediately when not in use;
  - (C) The use of potable water for washing sidewalks, driveways, buildings, structures, patios, parking lots, or other hard surfaced areas, except in cases where health and safety are at risk;
  - (D) The use of potable water for street cleaning or construction site preparation purposes, unless no other method can be used or as needed to protect the health and safety of the public;
  - (E) The use of potable water for decorative fountains or the filling or topping-off of decorative lakes or ponds, with exceptions for those decorative fountains, lakes, or ponds that use pumps to recirculate water and only require refilling to replace evaporative losses;
  - (F) The application of water to irrigate turf and ornamental landscapes during and within 48 hours after measurable rainfall of at least one fourth of one inch of rain. In determining whether measurable rainfall of at least fourth of one inch of rain occurred in a given area, enforcement may be based on records of the National Weather Service, the closest CIMIS station to the parcel, or any other reliable source of rainfall data available to the entity undertaking enforcement of this subdivision; and
  - (G) The use of potable water for irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians.

- (2) Notwithstanding subdivision (b)(1), the use of water is not prohibited by this section to the extent necessary to address an immediate health and safety need. This may include, but is not limited to, the use of potable water in a fountain or water feature when required to be potable because human contact is expected to occur.
- (c)(1) To prevent the unreasonable use of water and to promote water conservation, any homeowners' association or community service organization or similar entity is prohibited from:
  - (A) Taking or threatening to take any action to enforce any provision of the governing documents or architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies of a common interest development where that provision is void or unenforceable under section 4735, subdivisions (a) and (b) of the Civil Code;
  - (B) Imposing or threatening to impose a fine, assessment, or other monetary penalty against any owner of a separate interest for reducing or eliminating the watering of vegetation or lawns during a declared drought emergency, as described in section 4735, subdivision (c) of the Civil Code; or
  - (C) Requiring an owner of a separate interest upon which water-efficient landscaping measures have been installed in response to a declared drought emergency, as described in section 4735, subdivisions (c) and (d) of the Civil Code, to reverse or remove the water-efficient landscaping measures upon the conclusion of the state of emergency.

#### (2) As used in this subdivision:

- (A) "Architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies" includes any formal or informal rules other than the governing documents of a common interest development.
- (B) "Homeowners' association" means an "association" as defined in section 4080 of the Civil Code.
- (C) "Common interest development" has the same meaning as in section 4100 of the Civil Code.
- (D) "Community service organization or similar entity" has the same meaning as in section 4110 of the Civil Code.
- (E) "Governing documents" has the same meaning as in section 4150 of the Civil Code.
- (F) "Separate interest" has the same meaning as in section 4185 of the Civil Code.
- (3) If a disciplinary proceeding or other proceeding to enforce a rule in violation of subdivision (c)(1) is initiated, each day the proceeding remains pending shall constitute a separate violation of this regulation.
- (d) To prevent the unreasonable use of water and to promote water conservation, any city, county, or city and county is prohibited from imposing a fine under any local maintenance ordinance or other relevant ordinance as prohibited by section 8627.7 of the Government Code.

- (e) The taking of any action prohibited in subdivision (b), (c) or (d) is an infraction punishable by a fine of up to five hundred dollars (\$500) for each day in which the violation occurs. The fine for the infraction is in addition to, and does not supersede or limit, any other remedies, civil or criminal.
- (f) A decision or order issued under this section by the Board or an officer or employee of the Board is subject to reconsideration under article 2 (commencing with section 1122) of chapter 4 of part 1 of division 2 of the Water Code.

Authority: Section 1058.5, Water Code.

References: Article X, Section 2, California Constitution; Sections 4080, 4100, 4110, 4150, 4185, and 4735, Civil Code; Section 8627.7, Government Code; Sections 102, 104, 105, 275, 350, 491, and 1122, Water Code; Light v. State Water Resources

Control Board (2014) 226 Cal.App.4th 1463; Stanford Vina Ranch Irrigation Co. v. State of California (2020) 50 Cal.App.5th 976.

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## ATTACHMENT D

# EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT STATE OF CALIFORNIA

#### **EXECUTIVE ORDER N-7-22**

WHEREAS on April 12, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021, I proclaimed states of emergency that continue today and exist across all the counties of California, due to extreme and expanding drought conditions; and

**WHEREAS** climate change continues to intensify the impacts of droughts on our communities, environment, and economy, and California is in a third consecutive year of dry conditions, resulting in continuing drought in all parts of the State; and

**WHEREAS** the 21st century to date has been characterized by record warmth and predominantly dry conditions, and the 2021 meteorological summer in California and the rest of the western United States was the hottest on record; and

where we can october 19, 2021 Proclamation, early rains in October and December 2021 gave way to the driest January and February in recorded history for the watersheds that provide much of California's water supply; and

**WHEREAS** the ongoing drought will have significant, immediate impacts on communities with vulnerable water supplies, farms that rely on irrigation to grow food and fiber, and fish and wildlife that rely on stream flows and cool water; and

WHEREAS the two largest reservoirs of the Central Valley Project, which supplies water to farms and communities in the Central Valley and the Santa Clara Valley and provides critical cold-water habitat for salmon and other anadromous fish, have water storage levels that are approximately 1.1 million acre-feet below last year's low levels on this date; and

WHEREAS the record-breaking dry period in January and February and the absence of significant rains in March have required the Department of Water Resources to reduce anticipated deliveries from the State Water Project to 5 percent of requested supplies; and

**WHEREAS** delivery of water by bottle or truck is necessary to protect human safety and public health in those places where water supplies are disrupted; and

**WHEREAS** groundwater use accounts for 41 percent of the State's total water supply on an average annual basis but as much as 58 percent in a critically dry year, and approximately 85 percent of public water systems rely on groundwater as their primary supply; and

**WHEREAS** coordination between local entities that approve permits for new groundwater wells and local groundwater sustainability agencies is important to achieving sustainable levels of groundwater in critically overdrafted basins; and

WHEREAS the duration of the drought, especially following a multiyear drought that abated only five years ago, underscores the need for California to redouble near-, medium-, and long-term efforts to adapt its water management and delivery systems to a changing climate, shifting precipitation patterns, and water scarcity; and

WHEREAS the most consequential, immediate action Californians can take to extend available supplies is to voluntarily reduce their water use by 15 percent from their 2020 levels by implementing the commonsense measures identified in operative paragraph 1 of Executive Order N-10-21 (July 8, 2021); and

WHEREAS to protect public health and safety, it is critical the State take certain immediate actions without undue delay to prepare for and mitigate the effects of the drought conditions, and under Government Code section 8571, I find that strict compliance with various statutes and regulations specified in this Proclamation would prevent, hinder, or delay the mitigation of the effects of the drought conditions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM,** Governor of the State of California, in accordance with the authority vested in me by the State Constitution and statutes, including the California Emergency Services Act, and in particular, Government Code sections 8567, 8571, and 8627, do hereby issue the following Order to become effective immediately:

#### IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- The orders and provisions contained in my April 21, 2021, May 10, 2021, July 8, 2021, and October 19, 2021 Proclamations remain in full force and effect, except as modified by those Proclamations and herein. State agencies shall continue to implement all directions from those Proclamations and accelerate implementation where feasible.
- 2. To help the State achieve its conservation goals and ensure sufficient water for essential indoor and outdoor use, I call on all Californians to strive to limit summertime water use and to use water more efficiently indoors and out. The statewide Save Our Water conservation campaign at SaveOurWater.com provides simple ways for Californians to reduce water use in their everyday lives. Furthermore, I encourage Californians to understand and track the amount of water they use and measure their progress toward their conservation goals.
- 3. By May 25, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) shall consider adopting emergency regulations that include all of the following:

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a. A requirement that each urban water supplier, as defined in section 10617 of the Water Code, shall submit to the Department of Water Resources a preliminary annual water supply and demand assessment consistent with section 10632.1 of the Water Code no later than June 1, 2022, and submit a final annual water supply and demand assessment to the Department of Water Resources no later than the deadline set by section 10632.1 of the Water Code;

- b. A requirement that each urban water supplier that has submitted a water shortage contingency plan to the Department of Water Resources implement, at a minimum, the shortage response actions adopted under section 10632 of the Water Code for a shortage level of up to twenty percent (Level 2), by a date to be set by the Water Board; and
- c. A requirement that each urban water supplier that has not submitted a water shortage contingency plan to the Department of Water Resources implement, at a minimum, shortage response actions established by the Water Board, which shall take into consideration model actions that the Department of Water Resources shall develop for urban water supplier water shortage contingency planning for Level 2, by a date to be set by the Water Board.

To further conserve water and improve drought resiliency if the drought lasts beyond this year, I encourage urban water suppliers to conserve more than required by the emergency regulations described in this paragraph and to voluntarily activate more stringent local requirements based on a shortage level of up to thirty percent (Level 3).

- 4. To promote water conservation, the Department of Water Resources shall consult with leaders in the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors to develop strategies for improving water conservation, including direct technical assistance, financial assistance, and other approaches. By May 25, 2022, the Water Board shall consider adopting emergency regulations defining "non-functional turf" (that is, a definition of turf that is ornamental and not otherwise used for human recreation purposes such as school fields, sports fields, and parks) and banning irrigation of non-functional turf in the commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors except as it may be required to ensure the health of trees and other perennial non-turf plantings.
- 5. In order to maximize the efficient use of water and to preserve water supplies critical to human health and safety and the environment, Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended, with respect to the directives in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Order and any other projects and activities for the purpose of water conservation to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought, and any permits necessary to carry out such projects or activities. Entities that desire to conduct activities under this suspension, other than the directives in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this Order, shall first request that the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency make a determination that the proposed activities are eligible to be conducted under this suspension. The Secretary shall use sound discretion in applying this Executive Order to ensure that the suspension serves the purpose of accelerating conservation projects that are necessary to address impacts of the drought, while at the same time

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- protecting public health and the environment. The entities implementing these directives or conducting activities under this suspension shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.
- 6. To support voluntary approaches to improve fish habitat that would require change petitions under Water Code section 1707 and either Water Code sections 1425 through 1432 or Water Code sections 1725 through 1732, and where the primary purpose is to improve conditions for fish, the Water Board shall expeditiously consider petitions that add a fish and wildlife beneficial use or point of diversion and place of storage to improve conditions for anadromous fish. California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 1064, subdivisions (a)(1)(A)(i)-(ii) are suspended with respect to any petition that is subject to this paragraph.
- 7. To facilitate the hauling of water for domestic use by local communities and domestic water users threatened with the loss of water supply or degraded water quality resulting from drought, any ordinance, regulation, prohibition, policy, or requirement of any kind adopted by a public agency that prohibits the hauling of water out of the water's basin of origin or a public agency's jurisdiction is hereby suspended. The suspension authorized pursuant to this paragraph shall be limited to the hauling of water by truck or bottle to be used for human consumption, cooking, or sanitation in communities or residences threatened with the loss of affordable safe drinking water. Nothing in this paragraph limits any public health or safety requirement to ensure the safety of hauled water.
- 8. The Water Board shall expand inspections to determine whether illegal diversions or wasteful or unreasonable use of water are occurring and bring enforcement actions against illegal diverters and those engaging in the wasteful and unreasonable use of water. When access is not granted by a property owner, the Water Board may obtain an inspection warrant pursuant to the procedures set forth in Title 13 (commencing with section 1822.50) of Part 3 of the Code of Civil Procedure for the purposes of conducting an inspection pursuant to this directive.
- 9. To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:
  - a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability

- Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; or
- b. Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

This paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

- 10. To address household or small community drinking water shortages dependent upon groundwater wells that have failed due to drought conditions, the Department of Water Resources shall work with other state agencies to investigate expedited regulatory pathways to modify, repair, or reconstruct failed household or small community or public supply wells, while recognizing the need to ensure the sustainability of such wells as provided for in paragraph 9.
- 11. State agencies shall collaborate with tribes and federal, regional, and local agencies on actions related to promoting groundwater recharge and increasing storage.
- 12. To help advance groundwater recharge projects, and to demonstrate the feasibility of projects that can use available high water flows to recharge local groundwater while minimizing flood risks, the Water Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards shall prioritize water right permits, water quality certifications, waste discharge requirements, and conditional waivers of waste discharge requirements to accelerate approvals for projects that enhance the ability of a local or state agency to capture high precipitation events for local storage or recharge, consistent with water right priorities and protections for fish and wildlife. For the purposes of carrying out this paragraph, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) of the Public Resources Code and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division, and Chapter 3 (commencing with section 85225) of Part 3 of Division 35 of the Water Code and regulations adopted pursuant thereto are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought. This suspension applies to (a) any actions taken by state agencies, (b) any actions taken by local agencies where the state agency with primary responsibility for the implementation of the directives concurs that local action is required, and (c) permits necessary to carry out actions under (a) or (b). The entities implementing these directives shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.
- 13. With respect to recharge projects under either Flood-Managed Aquifer Recharge or the Department of Water Resources Sustainable

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Groundwater Management Grant Program occurring on open and working lands to replenish and store water in groundwater basins that will help mitigate groundwater conditions impacted by drought, for any (a) actions taken by state agencies, (b) actions taken by a local agency where the Department of Water Resources concurs that local action is required, and (c) permits necessary to carry out actions under (a) or (b), Public Resources Code, Division 13 (commencing with section 21000) and regulations adopted pursuant to that Division are hereby suspended to the extent necessary to address the impacts of the drought. The entities implementing these directives shall maintain on their websites a list of all activities or approvals for which these provisions are suspended.

- 14. To increase resilience of state water supplies during prolonged drought conditions, the Department of Water Resources shall prepare for the potential creation and implementation of a multi-year transfer program pilot project for the purpose of acquiring water from willing partners and storing and conveying water to areas of need.
- 15. By April 15, 2022, state agencies shall submit to the Department of Finance for my consideration proposals to mitigate the worsening effects of severe drought, including emergency assistance to communities and households and others facing water shortages as a result of the drought, facilitation of groundwater recharge and wastewater recycling, improvements in water use efficiency, protection of fish and wildlife, mitigation of drought-related economic or water-supply disruption, and other potential investments to support short- and long-term drought response.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that as soon as hereafter possible, this Order be filed in the Office of the Secretary of State and that widespread publicity and notice be given of this Order.

This Order is not intended to, and does not, create any rights or benefits, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity, against the State of California, its agencies, departments, entities, officers, employees, or any other person.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 28th day of March 2022.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

SHIRLEY N. WEBER, PH.D. Secretary of State

<b>RESOL</b>	UTION	NO.	
IVECOL		110.	

# A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY DIRECTING THE GENERAL MANAGER TO IMPLEMENT STAGE 2 OF THE WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN AND DECLARE A STAGE 2 WATER SHORTAGE CONDITION PURSUANT TO ORDINANCE NO. 2

**WHEREAS**, the State of California is experiencing unprecedented drought conditions with one hundred percent (100%) of that state experiencing drought, and

**WHEREAS,** the State Water Project, from which SCV Water receives approximately half of its annual water supply, is critically low; and

WHEREAS, during the 2021/2022 water year, the Santa Clarita Valley recorded both record precipitation in December 2021 and record dry conditions in January and February 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the Santa Clarita Valley is currently experiencing Category D2 – Severe Drought hydrological drought conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 21, 2021, Governor Newsom issued a Drought Emergency Declaration which was extended on both May 10, 2021 and July 9, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 8, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-10-21, which urged all Californians to voluntarily reduce water use by 15% compared to 2020 water consumption levels; and

**WHEREAS**, beginning in September 2021, the State Water Resources Control Board initiated monthly reporting to assess conservation performance statewide, hydrologic region, and urban water supplier; and

**WHEREAS**, on October 19, 2021, Governor Newsom extended the Drought Emergency Declaration to include all counties in the State of California; and

**WHEREAS**, on November 16, 2021, the SCV Water Board of Directors enacted Stage 1 of SCV Water's Water Shortage Contingency Plan and the Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance (Ordinance No. 2); and

**WHEREAS**, on January 4, 2022, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted Resolution No. 2022-0002 which included emergency regulations designed to prevent the unreasonable use of water to promote water conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 28, 2022, Governor Newsome issued Executive Order N-7-22 which directs the State Water Resources Control Board to, among other actions, consider adopting emergency regulations that require urban water suppliers to implement response actions for a shortage level of up to twenty percent; and

**WHEREAS**, the Agency has developed a diverse water supply portfolio to achieve water supply and demand balances for both single and consecutive dry year periods; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Water Project allocation was 5% for calendar year 2021, which required the Agency to utilize its critical and dry year banked storage supplies to offset the low allocation; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Water Project allocation for calendar year 2022 is currently set at 5%, prolonging the Agency's need to utilize its critical and dry year banked storage supplies to offset the low allocation and:

**WHEREAS**, the Agency has determined that water supplies are sufficient to meet current unconstrained demands for the 2022 operating year, but recognizes that conserving water would make cost effective supplies available in 2023 should dry conditions persist; and

**WHEREAS**, the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation Ordinance is intended to encourage responsible water use, conserve our water resources and protect the Agency's customers, especially during times of drought and water shortages, the Agency is focused on outreach, communication and education first; and

**WHEREAS**, the Agency has initiated drought conservation messaging and community engagement to communicate and encourage the need and benefits of voluntary water conservation; and

**WHEREAS**, SCV Water's water conservation levels are below the Governor's voluntary 15% of 2020 conservation target;

### NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CLARITA VALLEY WATER AGENCY DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. A Stage 2 Water Shortage Condition pursuant to the Agency's Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance (Ordinance No.2) is hereby declared.
- 2. The General Manager is directed to implement Stage 2 of the Agency's Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

ITEM NO



#### **COMMITTEE MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** April 5, 2022

**TO:** Water Resources and Watershed Committee

FROM: Dirk Marks

Interim Director of Water Resources

SUBJECT: Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Contract with ESA

Consultants to Prepare a California Environmental Flow Framework Study for

portions of the Santa Clara River.

#### **SUMMARY**

Staff is seeking authorization to enter into an Agreement with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) for the preparation of a California Environmental Flow Framework study (CEFF) for portions of the Santa Clara River within SCV Water's service area. This work will form a foundational pillar for SCV Water's Resiliency Initiative. Further, the EEF will advance SCV Water's Strategic Plan's Water Supply and Sustainability goal and build upon SCV Water's Watershed Stewardship Objectives. Preparation of an CEFF study represents an opportunity to build creditability with the regulatory and stakeholder communities. While not a specific regulatory requirement at this time, the approach is consistent with California's Resiliency Plan and utilizes the methodologies being employed by the State Water Resources Control Board in approaching other watersheds.

#### **DISCUSSION**

Recognizing the multiple resource related risks of implementing SCV Water's mission of exercising responsible water stewardship to achieve reliable and cost-effective water supplies, the Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23 Budgets incorporated funds to initiate the Water Supply Resiliency Initiative. Staff envisions the Resiliency Initiative will be an ongoing adaptative process that will provide transparent and scientific evaluation of the costs, benefits, and impacts of complex interaction of matters impacting water supply reliability, including ecological values of the watershed. Subject to guidance from the Board, staff has developed guiding principles to pursue the Resiliency Initiative. Under these principles staff would seek to:

- Establish the SCV Water Resilience Initiative as a permanent function of the Agency where internal expertise will be developed and maintained to support this function.
- Seek customer, community member, and watershed stakeholder input to inform the formulation of SCV Water Resilience Initiative objectives, planning, and implementation of projects.
- Evaluate its water supplies and investments in a coordinated manner to ensure continued achievement of reliability and operational flexibility in the face of growing climate, regulatory, and demographic uncertainty.

- Advocate for a unified watershed vision within the community by partnering with agencies conducting Santa Clara River watershed planning impacting water supplies, river flows, water quality, habitat, and seek multi-benefit solutions.
- Serve as a regional leader in collaboration with a wide stakeholder group, to assess public policy for the Santa Clara River system on matters pertaining to water resource management and use.
- Understand the watershed and its resources as a system composed of connected hydrologic, ecologic, infrastructure, and human activities when evaluating the benefits and impacts of projects and programs in the watershed.
- Conduct more comprehensive evaluations of climate change and its potential effects on water resources and ecological systems of the Upper Santa Clara River watershed.
- Closely collaborate with Lower Santa Clara River interests.
- Commit to advancing state-of-the-art understanding of the local groundwater and river system to support policy decisions and project implementation.

The Resiliency Initiative is consistent with Strategic Plan Goal C Water Supply and Resource Sustainability to implement programs to ensure the service area has reliable and sustainable supplies of water and specifically relates to Strategy C3 to advance the integrated management of water resources. Further, the Resiliency Initiative supports the Board's 2019 Watershed Stewardship Objectives to:

- Work cooperatively with governmental agencies, non-governmental groups, and other stakeholders, to develop and implement sustainable efforts for the long-term health of the Santa Clara River.
- Pursue and support public ownership of property along the Santa Clara River.
- Preserve and protect parcels for water conservation and recharge.
- Promote appreciation and enjoyment of the river through signage, mini-parks, respite areas and shade.
- Seek options for the removal of invasive plant species from the river (incl. Arundo and Tamarisk), and prevention of their return.
- Devise, promote and partner in conservation projects.
- Manage the river to protect and ensure sustainability of groundwater resources.

Staff understands that advancing the state of knowledge of the environmental resources along the Santa Clara River as these relate to surface and groundwater flows will be vital to meeting the goals of the Resiliency Initiative. The California Environmental Flow Framework (CEFF) is a method designed to help water managers develop flow recommendations that support a range of ecological, water resource and regulatory objectives. It is intended to improve on previous methods of identifying minimum instream flow requirements by linking different components of the annual hydrograph (e.g., wet season peak flows, dry season baseflow etc.) to the ecological functions that they support. This approach is more sophisticated and comprehensive than past practices used in the watershed and represents the type of analysis that regulatory agencies are looking for in the future. The State Water Resources Control Board applied this method for its work along the Ventura River.

More specifically the CEFF is a method of assessing how stream flows affect ecosystems, which seeks to improve on the older paradigm of identifying minimum instream flow requirements towards one that focusses on the ecological function provided by different components of the annual hydrograph. There are twelve steps in the CEFF, contained in three sections (**Table 1**). The first two sections of the CEFF support development of consistent, scientifically supported ecological flow criteria, which are quantifiable metrics that describe the range of flows that, when maintained within a stream, support the natural functions of healthy ecosystems. From the flow metrics, environmental flow recommendations are developed, taking water management objectives into consideration.

TABLE 1
THE SECTIONS AND STEPS OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL FLOW FRAMEWORK.

CEFF Step	Action									
Step 1	Define ecological management goals									
Step 2	Obtain natural ranges for functional flow metrics									
Step 3	Evaluate whether the natural ranges of function flow metrics will support functions needed to achieve ecological management goals									
Step 4	Select ecological flow criteria									
Step 5	Develop detailed conceptual model relating focal flow components to ecological management goals									
Step 6	Quantify flow-ecology relationships									
Step 7	Define ecological flow criteria for focal flow components									
Step 8	Identify management objectives									
Step 9	Assess flow alteration									
Step 10	Evaluate management scenarios and assess tradeoffs									
Step 11	Define environmental flow recommendations									
Step 12	Develop an implementation plan									
	Step 1 Step 2 Step 3 Step 4 Step 5 Step 6 Step 7 Step 8 Step 9 Step 10 Step 11									

The technical approach of the CEFF rests upon the concept of functional flows as distinct aspects of a natural flow regime that sustain ecological, geomorphic, or biogeochemical functions, and that support the specific life history and habitat needs of native aquatic species. Identifying functional flow components in stream systems highlights essential flow variability that serves important ecological functions. The CEFF allows for resource managers to identify important flow patterns based on their ecological function that may support the development of management strategies to maximize beneficial uses of stream flows.

The CEFF approach supports the development of environmental flow recommendations including instream flow criteria that balance ecological, management and regulatory goals, and human and ecological needs for water. It can accommodate the existing beneficial uses of stream systems and identify ecology-flow relationships to meet a range of goals from preservation of existing habitat to restoration of full natural flows and historical ecosystem conditions. Recognizing that stream flow management involves multiple jurisdictions with varied interests including flood control, water supply, habitat maintenance, wastewater management, and groundwater pumping, a potential value of the CEFF framework is to better understand the

linkages between ecosystem function and the river's hydrograph as a watershed-based tool supporting water resources in a holistic manner.

Staff recommends that Environmental Science Associates (ESA) complete an CEFF evaluation of critical reaches of the Santa Clara River within SCV Water's Service Area. ESA has extensive expertise and familiarity working along the Santa Clara River. That experience includes conducted habitat surveys for the Santa Clarita Valley Sanitation District and assisting in the preparation of the Santa Clara River East Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Experience and knowledge gained by these efforts will benefit the SCV community. Further, ESA has recently completed an initial CEFF analysis of the Santa Clara River that will be built upon to complete the CEFF analysis. A detailed scope of work is attached.

#### FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The cost estimate for this work is estimated not to exceed \$313,265 on a time and material basis. The proposed Fiscal Year 2021/22 2022/23 Budget includes sufficient funds to cover these costs.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Water Resources and Watershed Committee recommends that the Board of Directors authorize the General Manager to enter into an agreement with ESA Consulting for preparation of a California Environmental Flow Framework Study for portions of the Santa Clara River.

DSM

Attachment

M65



626 Wilshire Boulevard Suite 1100 Los Angeles, CA 90017 213.599.4300 phone 213.599.4301 fax

April 5, 2022

Dirk Marks
Director of Water Resources
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
27234 Bouquet Canyon Road
Santa Clarita, California 91350-2173

Subject: ESA Scope for Continued Resiliency Initiative Hydrological Analysis of the Santa Clara River

ESA recently completed the initial phase (Phase 1) of an analysis of the East Basin Santa Clara River using the California Environmental Flows Framework (CEFF). The CEFF is designed to assist resource managers in developing management objectives and evaluating potential stream flow scenarios that achieve both ecological and water supply management goals. The first phase of the analysis identified flow-ecology linkages, estimated 'unimpaired' flow patterns for the watershed using the standard CEFF database, assessed the degree to which 'unimpaired' flow patterns compare with current conditions, and identified ecological conditions of current flows.

The key next steps in this proposed scope of work (Phase 2) are as follows:

- define the Agency's ecological and water management goals more precisely;
- refine the locations of interest for key species and habitats to a more granular, reach by reach, level;
- better represent groundwater in the existing and 'unimpaired' flow records;
- coordinate results with key stakeholders in the study area (e.g., LA County Sanitation and SCCWRP) as well as in the wider watershed (e.g., United Water Conservation District);
- develop a monitoring plan for critical areas of the river corridor that are publicly accessible;
- conduct habitat suitability modeling;
- conduct workshop with wildlife agencies.

The following scope of work presents an approach to completing Phase 2 of the CEFF process to establish flow characteristics and management objectives for the Santa Clara River.

Sincerely,

Tom Barnes
Vice President



Dirk Marks, SCVWA April 5, 2022 Page 2

#### Phase 2 of the Hydrological Assessment

#### Task 1.1 Define Ecological Management Goals

In Phase 1 ESA made some broad working assumptions about the Agency's ecological management goals, and where they apply along approximately 12 miles of the Santa Clara River study area. In Phase 2 we will refine the ecological goals and will map habitat within sub-reaches based on these goals. We propose to conduct a web-based workshop with the Agency to coordinate development of ecological goals for all the river segments within the study area. The resulting ecological goals will provide the foundation for subsequent development of management objectives.

**Deliverables:** Document regulatory requirements, combined workshop between ESA technical staff and SCWA staff, and summary Technical Memorandum.

Task 1.1 Budget: \$21,340

#### Task 1.2 Refine Estimated Natural Flow Ranges from Functional Flow Metrics

In Phase 1, ESA utilized the default CEFF methodology to assess how current conditions compare to natural flow conditions. In this next phase of work, a more granular comparison of the flow regime changes that have resulted from the use of water for municipal purposes will be undertaken. In this phase of work, the groundwater model will be utilized to compare historical, current, and future development scenarios toward the ability to achieve ecological function objectives. The objective will be to establish a set of functional flows that can be compared to existing conditions and provide a basis for establishing future flow objectives within the East Subbasin. Consideration of the management of flow regimes to downstream areas is a complex issue to be addressed in later phases of work.

ESA will conduct a workshop with Geosyntec, GSI and SCV Water staff to compare MODFLOW modeling results to the standard CEFF analytic process to align the differing analytic methodologies. This will inform work by both ESA and Geosyntec in assessing needs for improved surface/groundwater interaction modeling, and dynamic surface water modeling to be integrated with habitat suitability models developed under this Scope of Work. It may also result in priorities for future modeling of projects and programs to alter surface discharges to the river.

**Deliverables:** Updated estimates of natural flow for use in functional flow evaluations.

Task 1.2 Budget: \$13,680



Dirk Marks, SCVWA April 5, 2022 Page 3

#### Task 1.3 Develop Ecological Flow Criteria for Focal Flow Components

In Phase 1, two focal flow components were identified as potentially impaired: high water temperatures downstream of Valencia and Saugus WRP are a limiting factor on UTS and SAS habitat, and vegetation encroachment by arundo on the channel is a potential limiting factor on aquatic and riparian habitat. Ecological flow criteria for these areas will be developed using a habitat suitability model. ESA will describe the parameters of the model and will outline data gaps and refine the specific subreaches the study area to be modeled. This may include the need for more recent LiDAR data, local on-site monitoring, or additional software development.

**Deliverables:** Description of habitat suitability model to be used to develop ecological flow criteria.

Task 1.3 Budget: \$20,640

#### Task 1.4 Identify Non-Ecological Management Objectives

In Phase 1 no assumptions were made regarding non-ecological management objectives. In Phase 2 we will identify the Agency's non-ecological management goals. We propose to do this in a web-based workshop with the Agency and consultant team, in conjunction with ecological management goals.

**Deliverables:** Combined workshop between ESA technical staff and SCWA staff and a summary memorandum documenting the workshop.

Task 1.4 Budget: \$5,780

#### Task 1.5 Assess Flow Alteration

ESA will refine the flow alteration analysis based on the refinement of unimpaired flow incorporating groundwater from CEFF Step 2.

**Deliverables:** Updated reporting of on estimates of flow alteration in the upper Santa Clara River.

Task 1.5 Budget: \$6,460

### Task 1.6 Develop a Habitat Suitability Model for Unarmored Three-spined Stickleback in Targeted Sub-Reaches

Phase 1 of the CEFF analysis identified Unarmored Three-spined Stickleback (UTS) habitat between McBean Parkway Bridge and the Valencia WRP. Further, the analysis showed that encroachment into the channel by Arundo is likely causing the channel to narrow and deepen, potentially impacting UTS habitat by concentrating flow. ESA will develop and run a UTS habitat suitability model for this reach, to identify how habitat quality and quantity vary with flow. In addition, the model will be used to assess potential water



Dirk Marks, SCVWA April 5, 2022 Page 4

management scenarios and alternatives such as Arundo removal and channel widening. The habitat suitability modeling comprises Step 10 of the CEFF process (Evaluate Management Scenarios and assess tradeoffs), but also incorporates elements of steps 5, 6, 7 and 8.

Because the river channel has changed since the 2018 LA County LARIAC LiDAR was flown in 2016 and did not include bathymetric data (below the creek flow line), ESA proposes contracting a new flight using water-penetrating LiDAR. ESA staff will collect measurements of velocity and depth to calibrate the hydraulic model. The resulting channel and topographic surfaces will be used to set up a 2D HEC RAS model. The hydraulic model will be run at a series of low flows spanning the likely range of conditions under different management scenarios. For each flow increment the habitat suitability score will be developed using a weighted usable area approach as well as quantifying the area meeting suitable habitat condition at each flow. ESA will also evaluate the potential effects of removing Arundo and allowing the channels to widen on UTS habitat. This will be accomplished by modifying the CAD surface in selected areas of Arundo to produce a wider and shallower channel comparable to reaches which do not have Arundo, and re-running the habitat suitability model.

**Deliverables:** A habitat suitability model for UTS

Task 1.6 Budget: \$196,230 (including \$75,000 LiDAR acquisition assumption)

#### Task 1.7 Final Report Summarizing Environmental Flow Findings.

The ESA team will prepare a final report summarizing their finding of the environmental flow analysis, including an analysis of a range of management scenarios and their implications for aquatic and riparian ecology in the upper Santa Clara River. This task constitutes elements of CEFF Step 11 (Define environmental flow recommendations).

**Deliverables:** A final report summarizing key findings

Task 1.7 Budget: \$30,220

#### Task 1.8 Workshop #1 Present CEFF to Wildlife Agencies

ESA will lead a workshop with CDFW and USFWS to describe the work done to assess ecological/flow relationships and values and management objectives in the Santa Clara River. ESA will prepare presentation materials and lead the discussion.

Task 1.8 Budget: \$10,800

**Total Budget \$313,265** 

Table 1: Cost Proposal ESA Labor Detail and Expense Summary

PROJECT TOTAL

	•																	
	2021 Employee Billing Rates																	
	5I W		R. Swenson													,		
	Employee Names		D. Koutnik															
			A. Collison													•		
		T. Barnes	T. Donovan	J. Mulder	B. Amerson	D. Kunz	R. Sweet	G. Weissmann	1	TBD								
	Labor Category	Senior Director	Director III	Senior Fish Biologist	Managing Associate II	Managing Associate I	Senior Associate II	Senior Associate I	Associate III	Associate II	Associate I	Subtotal	Project Technician III	Project Technician II	Project Technician I	Subtotal	Total Hours	Labor Price
Task 1	Task Name/Description	\$ 275	\$ 260	\$ 225	\$ 205	\$ 190	\$ 170	\$ 160	\$ 145	\$ 135	\$ 115		\$ 130	\$ 110	\$ 90			
												\$ -				\$ -	-	\$ -
1.0	Define ecological management goals	16	12	24	12		32					\$ 20,820	4			\$ 520		
2.0	Obtain natural ranges from functional flow metrics	8	12	8	32							\$ 13,680				\$ -	60.00	
3.0	Develop Ecological Flow Criteria For Functional Flow Components	8	24	24	24		8					\$ 20,120	4			\$ 520		
4.0	Identify management objectives	8	8		4		4					\$ 5,780				\$ -	24.00	
5.0	Assess flow alteration	4	8		16							\$ 6,460				\$ -	28.00	\$ 6,460
6.0	Develop and run UTS habitat suitability models for McBean Pkwy to Valencia WRP	16	40	24	60	120	120	120		140		\$ 113,800	16	8	8	\$ 3,680	672.00	\$ 117,480
7.0	Final Report Summarizing Environmental Flow Findings	8	24	24	60	8		16				\$ 30,220				\$ -	140.00	
8.0	Workshop #2 Present CEFF to Wildife Agencies	16	8	8	8							\$ 9,920		8		\$ 880	48.00	
-												\$ -				\$ -	-	\$ -
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Total Hou	l e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e e	84	136	112	216	128	164	136		140		1116	24	16	8	<del>ه</del> 48	1,164	<del>-</del>
Total La		\$ 23,100								\$ 18,900	-   e	\$ 220,800	\$ 3.120					\$ 226,400
	f Effort - Labor Hours Only	7.2%	11.7%	9.6%	18.6%	11.0%	14.1%	11.7%	0.0%	12.0%	0.0%	95.9%	2.1%	1.4%	0.7%	3 5,000	100.0%	φ 226,400
	f Effort - Total Project Cost	7.4%	11.7%	8.0%	14.1%	7.8%	8.9%	6.9%	0.0%	6.0%	0.0%	93.976	1.0%	0.6%	0.7%	4.1%	100.070	72.3%

		¢	313 265
Subconsultant Costs		\$	78,750
Subtotal ESA Non-Labor Expenses		\$	1,323
ESA Equipment Usage		\$	-
Reimbursable Expenses		\$	1,323
ESA Non-Labor Expenses			
Labor Cost Communication Fee	3%	\$	6,792
ESA Labor Cost		\$	226,400

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### ITEM NO.

## Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Water Resources & Watershed Committee and Board Calendar

FY 2021/22

								FY 20	<b>J</b> 21/2	2																	
	ltem	Jul 6 Board	Jul 14 Comm	Aug 3 Board	Aug 11 Comm	Sep 7 Board	Sep 8 Comm	Oct 5 Board	Oct 13 Comm	Nov 2 Board	Nov 10 Comm	Nov 16 Board	Dec 7 Board	Dec 8 Comm	Jan 4 Board	Jan 12 Comm	Feb 1 Board	Feb 9 Comm	Feb 15 Board	Mar 9 Comm	Apr 5 Board	Apr 13 Comm	Apr 19 Board	Apr 26 Board	May 11 Comm	Jun 7 Board	Jun 8 Comm
1	Recommend Adopting a Resolution to Enact Stage 2 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance																					Р		Р			
2	Status of Drought Response and Performance				С		С				С			С		С		С		С		Р			Р		Р
3	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Contract with ESA Consultants to Prepare a California Environmental Flow Framework Study for Portions of the Santa Clara River																					Р			Р		
4	Status of Water Supplies													С		С		С				Р					
5	Update on Water Resiliency Plan Initiative Activities																					Р					
6	Review and Discussion of FY 2021/22 and FY 2022/23 Water Resources Operating Budget and Minor and Major Capital Projects Budgets																					Р					
7	Recommend that the Board Authorize the General Manager to Enter Into a Short Term Water Exchange Agreement with Irvine Ranch Water District													С										Р			
8	Update on Conservation Activities & Performance		С		С		С		С		С			С				С							Р		Р
9	Recommend Adoption of a Resolution Approving the SB 610 Water Supply Assessment for the Entrada / Valencia Commerce Center Development(s)																								Р		Р
10	Recommend Adoption of a Resolution Approving the SB 610 Water Supply Assessment for the Wiley Canyon Mixed-Use Development																								Р		Р
	Authorize the General Manager to Enter into an Agreement to Fund Planning Costs for the Proposed High Desert Groundwater Banking Program																										Р
	Recommend that the Board Authorize the General Manager to Enter Into a Long Term Water Exchange Agreement with Irvine Ranch Water District																										Р
13	Status of Sites Reservoir Project, Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Banking Program and AVEK High Desert Banking Program		С											С													
	Status of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation				С									С						С							
15	Review of Lawn Replacement Program Evaluation				С																						I
16	Status of Efforts Relating to Groundwater Spreading Pilot Program				С																						
17	Devil's Den Semi-Annual Report						О	C										С									
18	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Enter into a Contract with Kris Helm Consulting for Water Resources Strategic Planning Services						С	С																			
	Recommend Approval of Modification to Lawn Replacement Program						С	С																			
20	Status of Water Supply and Water Banking Programs						С													С							

### Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency Water Resources & Watershed Committee and Board Calendar

ITEM NO.

FY 2021/22

_	FY 2021/22																										
	ltem	Jul 6 Board	Jul 14 Comm	Aug 3 Board	Aug 11 Comm	Sep 7 Board	Sep 8 Comm	Oct 5 Board	Oct 13 Comm	Nov 2 Board	Nov 10 Comm	Nov 16 Board	Dec 7 Board	Dec 8 Comm	Jan 4 Board	Jan 12 Comm	Feb 1 Board	Feb 9 Comm	Feb 15 Board	Mar 9 Comm	Apr 5 Board	Apr 13 Comm	Apr 19 Board	Apr 26 Board	May 11 Comm	Jun 7 Board	Jun 8 Comm
21	CLOSED SESSION: Devil's Den Real Property Negotiation and Ongoing Litigation							С																			
22	Status of Devil's Den Solar Generation Facilities							С																			
23	Approve a Resolution Authorizing the General Manager to Apply for Grant Funding Under the Federal Bureau of Reclamation WaterSmart Drought Relief Program for the Rosedale Phase 2 Wells Project								С	С																	
24	CLOSED SESSION: Property Negotiation - Water Transfers								С																		
25	Status of Upper Santa Clara River Salt and Nutrient Management Plan								С																		
26	Update on Water Operating Plan and Water Conservation Response Actions								С																		
27	Discuss and Consider Potential Amendment to the Deposit and Funding Agreement between Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency and DACA-Castaic, LLC for Tapia Ranch										С		С														
28	CLOSED SESSION: Anticipated Litigation										С																
29	Consider Adoption of a Resolution to Enact Stage 1 of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and Water Conservation and Water Supply Shortage Ordinance											С															
30	Authorize the General Manager to Enter into a Lease Agreement with Rolling Hills Farms for the Devil's Den Property												С														
31	Status of Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Update													С													
32	Recommend Approval of Amendment to Sites Reservoir Planning Costs Agreement															С	С										
33	Authorize the General Manager to Enter Into Agreement with TerraVerde Energy for Application Prepararation and Project Management for Self Generating Incentive Program Projects (Photovoltaic and Battery Storage) Funding															С			С								
34	Status of Sustainability and Climate Action Plan															С											
35	Recommend Adoption of a Resolution Approving the SB 610 Water Supply Assessment for the Castaic Mountainview Apartment Project																			С	С						
36	Recommend Adoption of a Resolution Approving the SB 610 Water Supply Assessment for the Lyons Canyon Development																			С	С						
37	Water Conservation Garden and Education Experience - Design Update																			С							
38	Recommend Authorizing the General Manager to Execute an Construction Contract for Bridgeport Pocket Park - TBD																										

P = Planned

C = Completed

CNL = Cancelled

CNT = Continued Item