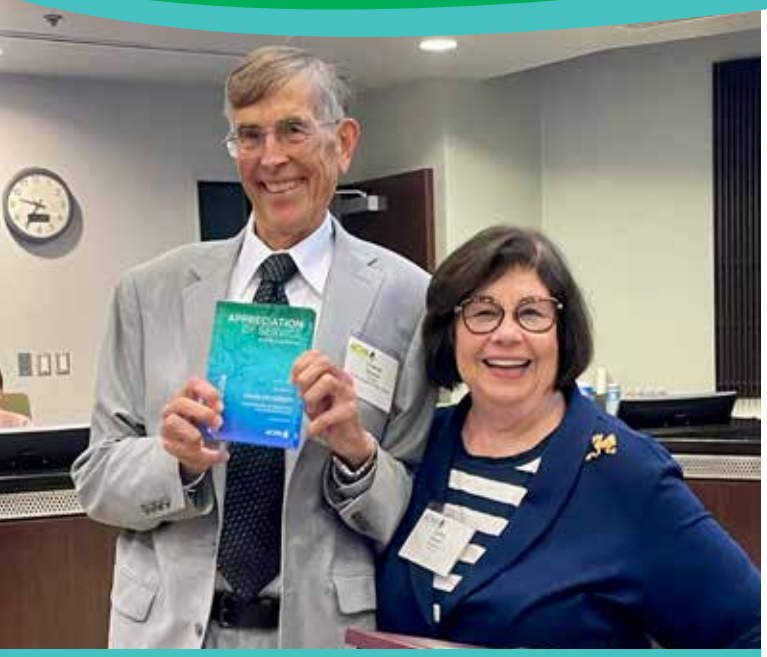
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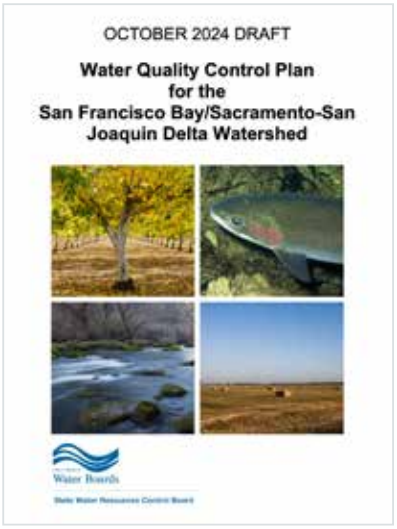


ACWA Region Events Celebrate Leaders, Highlight Member Agency Issues

Above: During the Oct. 15 Region 10 event, ACWA President Cathy Green recognizes outgoing Region 10 Vice Chair Charles Gibson for his dedicated service to the association. **Below:** Region 7 Board member Johnny Amaral moderates a panel discussion during the Oct. 11 Region 6 & 7 joint event. **See pages 4 and 5 for coverage.**



State Water Board Releases Draft Updates to Bay-Delta Plan, Schedules Workshops



The State Water Resources Control Board on Oct. 25 released a draft of potential updates for the Sacramento/Delta portions of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta Watershed (Bay-Delta Plan).

The draft changes include options for incorporating a regulatory pathway or a pathway based on the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program, formerly referred to as the Voluntary Agreements. Additionally, the draft updates include options for two modular alternatives (Alternatives 5a and 6a) that were described in the State Water Board's 2023 draft staff report.

The State Water Board has not yet selected a pathway for updating the Sacramento/Delta portions of the Bay-Delta Plan. State Water Board staff will develop a revised draft of proposed updates based on comments on this draft.

The State Water Board will hold a multiday workshop, with dates scheduled in November, December, and January, to discuss the draft changes. Written comments on the draft updates are due to the State Water Board by Dec. 19. Additional information is available at **acwa.com/hrl-program.**

ACWA has long supported the approach taken by the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program as the best pathway toward protecting, restoring, and enhancing the Bay-Delta. ACWA is reviewing the draft changes and plans to provide oral and written comments to the State Water Board.

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acwa.com

Executive Director
Dave Eggerton

Director of Communications
Heather Engel

Editor
Will Holbert

Staff Writers
Caroline Meade
Ellen Martin

Graphic Design
Katherine Causland

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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COLUMN
BY DAVE EGGERTON

Value of ACWA Events Measured in Shared Insights and Innovations



With only weeks to go before we gather at the ACWA Fall Conference & Expo in Palm Desert, our team is working hard to put the finishing touches on what promises to be an exceptional event. I am looking forward to hearing from insightful speakers and dynamic panels, as well as the invaluable networking opportunities.

But ahead of conference, let's take a moment to reflect on the impactful programs and tours we have offered this year throughout the regions. Through eight regional events with more than 700 attendees, ACWA members have engaged in critical discussions, explored innovative water management practices, and brought back meaningful insights to their agencies.

Region programs kicked off in June, with a Region 2 program and tour in Paradise focused on the coordinated wildfire recovery efforts made by the Town of Paradise and Paradise Irrigation District (PID). It was truly impressive to see how PID and the community have recovered from the devastation brought on by the 2018 Camp Fire. Witnessing their progress and preparation was a powerful reminder of the importance of crisis planning, providing valuable lessons for attendees.

Regions 3 and 4 came together in July to showcase how ACWA members can partner to create regional water reliability for both people and the environment. Conjunctive use and strategic water management across the mountain agencies and agencies serving Sacramento and surrounding areas were the main topics, but the commitment to a reliable water supply for future generations is something important to all of us.

In October, Region 10 offered a program and tour that focused on the impacts of PFAS in both groundwater and surface water — a timely issue impacting water management nationwide. This event provided another great learning opportunity for attendees to see how agencies have proactively responded to address the issue and learn about the delicate balance of regulatory compliance and affordability.

These events would not be possible without the dedication and support of our event sponsors, the member agencies who host our events, the region boards, and of course the tireless work of the ACWA Member Outreach and Engagement staff.

If you were unable to attend the great programs the regions offered this year, I encourage you to make it a priority for 2025. There is so much more we can learn from each other.

Of course, the insightful and innovative programing that we offer will continue during our upcoming Fall Conference. There will be something for everyone with programs on communications, finance, workforce development, water trends, policy, regional issues, innovation and more. I look forward to seeing you there and learning more about the amazing work of ACWA member agencies.

See pages 4 and 5 for coverage of recent ACWA region events.

Office of Administrative Law Approves Regulation on Making Conservation a California Way of Life

The Office of Administrative Law in October approved the Making Conservation a California Way of Life Regulation that was adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board on July 3. The regulation is intended to achieve long-term water use efficiency with the purpose of adapting to climate change by establishing unique goals for each urban retail water supplier in California.

As approved, urban retail water suppliers are required to submit their Urban Water Use Objective Reporting Form to the State Water Board each January, starting Jan. 1, 2025. Beginning Jan. 1, 2027, each urban retail water supplier must demonstrate compliance with its water use objective.

The State Water Board has now released the reporting form and accompanying guidance documents in a reporting package available online. More information on the regulation is available in a fact sheet at **acwa.com/resources**.

ACWA worked extensively with its members and coalition partners over the last year to secure extensive amendments that have resulted in a more feasible and cost-effective regulation. Under the regulation, suppliers must work with their customers to achieve water savings. Individual customers are not required to comply with the urban water use objective.

ACWA IN ACTION

Yuba Water Agency hosts ACWA staff members from Sacramento and Washington, D.C. during a tour of New Bullards Bar dam northeast of Sacramento, including (l-r) Office Manager AnnaLee Taylor, Federal Relations Representative Caleb Raspler, State Relations Analysts Kylie Wright and Jen Stein, and State Relations Advocate Soren Nelson. The visit focused on watershed health, permitting for major infrastructure projects and the water-energy nexus. Ongoing visits such as these keep ACWA staff in constant contact with member agencies.



MEMBERSHIP MEETING
at ACWA's 2024 Fall Conference & Expo

A Membership Meeting will be held at ACWA's 2024 Fall Conference & Expo to conduct a vote by the membership on proposed Amended and Restated Bylaws.

Date: Wednesday, Dec. 4 at 1:30 p.m.

Location: JW Marriott Desert Springs Resort & Spa, Palm Desert, Main Stage in the Springs Ballroom F & G

Get more details at:
acwa.com/2024-membership-meeting

Important Next Steps for Public Agency Members

1. Designate your voting representative by **Nov. 25**.
2. Review the proposed Amended and Restated Bylaws.
3. Have your designated voter pick up their keypad during ACWA's Fall Conference & Expo on Wednesday, **Dec. 4, between 9 a.m. and noon**.
4. Have your designated voter attend the Membership Meeting on **Dec. 4 at 1:30 p.m.** The voting representative must be present to vote.

Regions 6 & 7 Explore Wide-Ranging List of Central Valley Water Issues

By Region 6 Vice Chair Sargeant Green



Letitia Grenier, Director of the PPIC Water Policy Center, delivers a keynote address outlining anticipated climate change impacts on California's water supply.

Panel: "Bridging the Divide: Overcoming Regulatory Barriers in Water Management"

Speakers: (Moderator) Johnny Amaral, Chief of External Affairs, Friant Water Authority; Jeff Payne, Assistant General Manager, Westlands Water District; Darcy Burke, Director, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

Keynote Presentation: "Navigating California's Climate Future: Water Sector Resilience and Impacts on the San Joaquin Valley," by Letitia Grenier, Director, PPIC Water Policy Center

Presentation: "SGMA Update: Key Developments and Strategic Insights for Water Managers," by Kaitlin Bursey, Associate, Baker Manock & Jensen

Panel: "Navigating Funding Priorities for Capital Projects"

Panelists: (Moderator) Tom Neisler, General Manager, Tehachapi-Cummings County Water District; Dmitry Semenov, Ridgeline Municipal Strategies, LLC; Reed Glyer, Partner, Stradling Law

Hosted by Region 6 and Region 7, the San Joaquin Valley Water Forum on Oct. 11 delivered the latest news on hot button topics affecting our state's agriculture community. SGMA, regulatory impacts and sobering predictions on climate change all featured prominently during our day at Harris Ranch in Coalinga, where 86 people joined us.

Our opening panel discussion focused on regulatory barriers in water management, with a single slide vividly illustrating an all-too-familiar fact of life in our region. Titled "The Squeeze of Regulation," a bar chart connected milestones in regulatory developments, biological opinions and pacts made on Bay-Delta water management with a steady downward slide in Central Valley Project water supplies since 1978.

Among panelists, it brought to mind the vast disconnect among many Californians between their understanding of water supply and their own food supply. To paraphrase panelist and Tulare Irrigation District General Manager Aaron Fukuda, people can point their finger at ag all they want for using the water, but they're the ones consuming it every time they eat.

And that water supply is about to undergo some profound changes, according to climate predictions shared by the Public Policy Institute of California's (PPIC) Water Policy Director Letitia Grenier, our keynote speaker.

PPIC climate change research indicates that without any reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, we'll experience longer dry seasons, with drier air, resulting in crops needing more water, between now and 2050. That doesn't mean we won't experience any cool years, but they will be fewer in number. And extreme flood risk, which has doubled since the middle of the last century, is expected to double again by the middle of this century.

"The history that we're looking at is not the future that we're headed into," Grenier said, in summing up her presentation.

The SGMA panel discussion outlined the latest developments in this now 10-year process. That currently includes six basins with Groundwater Sustainability Plans deemed inadequate by the State Water Resources Control Board, which itself is currently being sued by the Kings County Farm Bureau over the Board's placing the Tulare Lake Subbasin in probation.

For me, the most valuable part of the event was the last — a panel discussion about navigating the public and private financing process for funding capital projects. Elections have been won and lost based on how much, or often how little, is understood about this process by water leaders and voters they serve. Attendees received an hour-long Financing 101 course that will put them at an advantage on their boards and at their agencies.

The event also brought home the need for our Central Valley water community to stick together and work more collaboratively with each other by putting a spotlight on the tremendous challenges we all face. In answering this call to action, we can go big, or we can go home.

On behalf of ACWA's Region 6 and Region 7 boards, I want to extend my gratitude to our event sponsors, HDR, Stantec and ACWA JPIA. Thank you also to ACWA staff for helping organize another successful San Joaquin Valley Water Forum.



Attendees of the Oct. 15 ACWA Region 10 event gather for a photo during a tour of Yorba Linda Water District's state-of-the-art PFAS water treatment plant.

Region 10 Event Highlights Water Quality Challenges, Solutions

By Region 10 Chair Dana Friehauf

Over 80 people attended the Region 10 event at the Yorba Linda Water District (YLWD) to learn more about regional water quality challenges and share information about response efforts and solutions, including a tour of its state-of-the-art PFAS water treatment plant.

YLWD Board President Trudi DesRoches kicked off the event by welcoming attendees to the district's office. ACWA President Cathy Green and I also provided opening remarks and recognition to outgoing Region 10 Vice Chair Charles Gibson for his dedicated service to the ACWA Board of Directors and the Region 10 Board.

Executive Director Dave Eggerton shared an update on ACWA activities and priorities, highlighting ACWA's advocacy efforts on PFAS, which include educating policy makers on the need for more state funding to help maintain water affordability.

The true value of ACWA's region events is being able to share information with each other. This was underscored by a fascinating keynote presentation about the origin of emerging contaminants, such as the "forever chemicals," and current processes to develop regulations for these constituents in drinking water. The presentation also shared how Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is developing in-house methods for contaminant analysis, and the water quality lab upgrades it is making to accommodate new testing methods and more samples.

The event also included an informative panel discussion on PFAS with three general managers sharing their agencies' proactive approaches to addressing the impact of PFAS and the various impacts PFAS have had on their agencies, including costs, impact on water rates, staffing needs and public outreach.

"Public outreach is very important to our Board. It's built into our strategic plan. It's why we host regular tours and an open house for our community," said YLWD General Manager Mark Toy.

The program included a tour of YLWD's J. Wayne Miller, Ph.D. Water Treatment Plant. The plant is the largest of its kind in the nation with six pre-filter units, 22 ion exchange vessels, a 25 million gallons per day (mgd) booster pumping station, and a 1,000 kW natural gas back-up generator. It distributes treated water to YLWD's community at an operating capacity of 19 mgd.

The event concluded with a tour of YLWD's Wells Fargo Heli-Hydrant, one of the district's two permanent Heli-Hydrants, which serve as stationary water sources for air attacks on wildfires. During a 2020 fire in Orange County, one of the Heli-Hydrants supplied critical water to a firefighting helicopter that filled up with roughly 2,000 gallons of water in just under a minute, making drops on spot fires and then returning in four minutes to repeat the process. Attendees witnessed a live demonstration of a CalFire helicopter flying in to fill up water from the Heli-Hydrant and releasing it on nearby vegetation.

On behalf of ACWA's Region 10 Board, I want to share my sincere appreciation to our event sponsor, without whom this event wouldn't have been possible. Thank you, ACWA JPIA. I also want to thank YLWD for hosting this incredible event and ACWA staff for helping organize and run it.

Panel: "PFAS Impacts on Local Agency Operations"

Moderator: George Murdoch, Region 10 Board Member

Speakers: John Kennedy, General Manager, Orange County Water District; Mark Toy, General Manager, Yorba Linda Water District; Carlos Quintero, General Manager, Sweetwater Authority

Keynote Presentation: "Emerging Contaminants: Regulations, Examples, and Response Strategies," by Paul Rochelle, Water Quality Section Manager, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

ACWA region events are a great way to learn how member agencies are addressing various water industry challenges. ACWA will begin announcing dates and details for 2025 region events next spring.

SPOTLIGHT

CropSWAP Growing as Winning Water Saving Strategy for Southern California Agricultural Community



An idea born during the 2012-'16 drought at a single ACWA-member agency thrives today as a regional strategy that successfully incentivizes growers to save water by raising lower-water-use crops.

Earlier this year, Rancho California Water District's (Rancho Water) CropSWAP program expanded to five neighboring water agencies in Riverside and San Diego counties. CropSWAP — the SWAP standing for Sustainable Water for Agricultural Production — relies on state and federal grant funding to pay farmers to switch to more water thrifty crops.

A popular example is converting from avocados, which when farmed in quantity can require up to six acre-feet per year, to wine grapes, which can grow on as little as two acre-feet per year. A participating farmer can receive up to $22,500 per acre in return. But the program also includes paying farmers to switch from citrus and row crops to less water-intensive olives, cut flowers and passion fruit, to name a few examples.

Since 2017, 326 acres have been converted under CropSWAP with a documented savings of 800 acre-feet per year in imported water, which in itself is saving about $1 million each year in costs.

Drought Inspired

Rancho Water's CropSWAP program is a classic example of adversity being the mother of invention. In this case, Temecula area growers were being heavily impacted by a series of hardships all at once during 2016.

As with farmers throughout the state, they struggled to raise profitable crops that year as severe drought constantly threatened water supply reliability. Many of them were growing avocado trees and keeping them productive depended on increasingly expensive imported water. Even then, when they raised a successful crop, increasing foreign competition cut into profits while factors such as high salinity levels in the water supply made the future even more uncertain.

The result for many was a cost to produce crops that outweighed the profit.

Rancho Water Board members Bill Wilson and Danny Martin (Martin passed away in 2020) owned vineyards and were aware of other growers' mounting challenges. They were also aware of grants aimed at



Opposite page: Growers served by Rancho Water and five neighboring ACWA member agencies can receive incentives through the CropSWAP program to switch from crops such as avocados, shown in this grove from a 2020 photo, to lower-water using crops like grapes. *Photo courtesy of Rancho Water*

Left: Workers at Wilson Creek Winery harvest grapes, which require a third of the water required by avocados. *Photo courtesy of Wilson Creek Winery*

strengthening water efficiency and local drought resiliency.

"These guys were really struggling," Wilson recalled. "What if we can incentivize them with grants to rip out the avocados and other higher water using crops, and we'd help them pay for the replanting? They would lose a year or so of production, but they wouldn't go so far in the negative that they'd never be able to catch back up. And people did it. We got the grant, and we fulfilled the grant."

CropSWAP began in 2016 after Rancho Water was awarded $3 million in grant funding from the Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Rancho Water contributed another $1 million and started actively promoting the CropSWAP program through digital advertising, a brochure sent to all new agricultural customers, and presentations about the program to growers during an annual meeting of farm managers and at local agricultural group meetings.

Word spread, growers signed up and today Rancho Water's CropSWAP program is expanding through the Fallbrook Public Utility District, Rainbow and Valley Center municipal water districts and the cities of Escondido and Oceanside — all ACWA member agencies.

Bigger Program, More Covered

Avocado rootstock replacement is by far the most popular among CropSWAP program applicants, accounting for a third of project types, according to Giovanni Rodriguez, the Water Use Efficiency Specialist at Rancho Water. However, the program now goes beyond comprehensive crop replacements to save water and also incentivizes irrigation efficiency upgrades and a variety of sustainable agriculture upgrades, such as using soil moisture sensors, nutrient management, mulching and utilizing cover crops.

Incentives can range from up to $100 an acre for using cover crops, to $4,500 an acre for crop rejuvenation and up to the $22,500 an acre incentive cited earlier for switching from avocados to wine grapes.

"We not only incentivize switching crops, but we incentivize using best practices for water efficient irrigation," said Justin Haessly, Water Use Efficiency and Grants Manager for Rancho Water, adding that Rancho Water hosted an international delegation interested in CropSWAP.

Wilson describes CropSWAP as a kind of agricultural equivalent to turf replacement, and like turf replacement, state, federal and regional agencies such as the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, which supplies imported water to Rancho Water, are themselves incentivized to make grants available — especially if results in water savings can be proved.

"The more ROI that you can prove and show, the more you qualify for more grant money. And that's what keeps the program moving forward in terms of being able to fund incentives," Wilson said.

There is currently $1.7 million that's been reserved for regional CropSWAP projects, Rodriguez said.

"There are currently no concrete plans for further expansion at this time," Rodriguez said. "However, the program has been a hit and word has spread about the benefits of CropSWAP throughout the agricultural world. We are hoping that this can lead to further expansion and growth."

For more information about the Regional CropSWAP program, visit **RegionalCropSWAP.com**.

LIKE, SHARE & FOLLOW

EXPLORING THE WATER WORLD ACROSS SOCIAL MEDIA

It is the holiday season once again, providing extra opportunities to engage followers and spread important information from your water district on social media. Here are some examples of how some ACWA members took advantage of Halloween and the start of the holiday season to reach their audience.



On Instagram, **Eastern Municipal Water District** featured its mascot, Patrick, dressed up as Shaggy from the Scooby Doo, Where Are You! cartoon series to spread the word of just how scary "flushable" wipes can be to pipes.



Yuba Water also took to Instagram Reels for the spooky holiday, wishing its customers a happy Halloween with a fun video set to the Ghostbuster theme of "Skeleton Steve" hanging out around its facilities.



On Facebook, **Mesa Water** assured customers in Costa Mesa that local pumpkin spice lattes are brewed with safe and reliable Mesa Water.



On X, the **San Francisco Public Utilities Commission** used the poll feature to ask followers what the spookiest thing of all was (plastic water bottles, cooking oil down the drain, not conserving energy, or "flushable" wipes) – later declaring that all the items listed were pretty scary!

To see more creative efforts on social media by ACWA members, be sure to follow along on **@ACWAWater**

THIS MONTH IN ACWA HISTORY

10 years ago

California voters overwhelmingly passed Proposition 1, a bond that devoted $7.5 billion in funding for a wide variety of water system improvements and water programs such as recycling, conservation and groundwater cleanup.

20 years ago

ACWA News told readers to expect a "Water Workout" at the upcoming 2004 Fall Conference & Exhibition in Palm Springs, where the theme asked "Who Will Do the Heavy Lifting?" Scheduled keynote speakers included Department of Water Resources Director Lester Snow and State Senator Jim Brulte, among others.

30 years ago

The Department of Water Resources and State Water Project Contractors negotiated a pact aimed at easing environmental stresses on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay-Delta in what became known as the Monterey Agreement, so named because talks leading to it took place during the 1994 ACWA Fall Conference in Monterey.



Gov. Jerry Brown addresses news media during a November 2014 press conference following the passage of the Proposition 1 water bond.

40 years ago

ACWA ends the month with its Fall Conference in Monterey, described as the largest water meeting ever held in California. Scheduled luncheon speakers included California Lieutenant Gov. Leo T. McCarthy and U.S. Interior Secretary William P. Clark. The conference attracted more than 1,500 people.

50 years ago

ACWA's Western Water News reported on a UC Davis study that asked "Can the world escape massive famine by 1985?" The report answered that, yes, famine could be averted barring an unexpected catastrophe, but only if potential food surpluses in some regions, primarily North America, are distributed worldwide.



Vallecitos Water District Partners with Fire Department to Help Address Home Insurance Issues

In a collaborative effort to support residents facing challenges with their homeowner's insurance, the Vallecitos Water District (VWD) and San Marcos Fire Department (SMFD) have jointly released an open letter to customers. This initiative aims to address widespread concerns and provide assistance for people encountering difficulties with their insurance coverage.



A news release encourages residents with homeowners insurance coverage issues to download the letter and submit it to their insurance company. It is made clear that there is no guarantee that the letter will resolve individual homeowners insurance problems; however the goal is to ensure that every homeowner in the community has the support and information they need to address insurance issues effectively.

Signed by SMFD Chief Dan Barron and VWD General Manager James Gumpel, the letter highlights "exceptional fire protection measures in place, thanks to the collaborative efforts of the San Marcos Fire Department and Vallecitos Water District." It lists advanced infrastructure and collaborative planning, as well as continuous improvement through firefighter training and water infrastructure inspections. It also cites technological innovation, such as VWD's recent installation of a HeloPod that provides firefighting helicopters an essential water source within the wildfire-urban interface area.

The idea for the letter originated with VWD Board President Dr. Tiffany Boyd-Hodgson, who noted that some district customers were getting cancelled by their insurance firms.

"We understand that navigating insurance challenges can be overwhelming," Boyd-Hodgson said. "Our joint efforts aim to provide clear guidance and practical solutions to help our residents safeguard their homes and manage their insurance concerns."

Hi-Desert Water Awarded $103 Million for Collection System

The State Water Resources Control Board has committed nearly $104 million in grant funding —$103 million from the California 2021 Wastewater Infrastructure Funds and $750 thousand from a federal principal forgiveness loan — to support the next construction phase of the Hi-Desert Water District's sewer collection system.

As the project serves a small, disadvantaged community, the funding will not need to be repaid.

"We are pleased to share the state has recognized our project as a priority," stated Interim General Manager Tony Culver in a news release. "As we add more users to the system, it will help achieve greater economies of scale, ultimately benefiting all users."

The recently committed funding is in addition to the almost $145 million — $137.9 million from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and $7 million from Proposition 1 groundwater funding — provided since 2016 to complete the earlier Wastewater Treatment and Water Reclamation Facility, and the Septic System Abatement and Private Lateral Installation projects.

The new collection system will also help the district comply with the Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board's septic discharge prohibition.

"It is very important to address the potential contamination issues from septic waste," stated Peter Satin, Chair of the Colorado River Basin Water Board, in the news release. "We commend Hi-Desert for acting to build the necessary infrastructure to protect our habitat and drinking water."

Construction is anticipated to begin January 2025 and be completed within a year.



Dr. June Hayes

OBITUARY

San Bernardino Valley Mourns Hayes

The San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District on Oct. 29 announced the sudden passing of its Board Vice President **Dr. June Hayes**, a valued Board member whose dedication and leadership were instrumental to the mission of the district.

Elected to the Board of Directors in 2016 and re-elected in 2020, Dr. Hayes represented Division I, covering Rialto and Fontana.

"The passing of Dr. June Hayes is a tremendous loss, not only for San Bernardino Valley, but the region as a whole," stated San Bernardino Valley Board President **Paul Kielhold** in the announcement. "She embraced the responsibility of serving our communities by promoting collaboration and exhibiting a deep curiosity for innovative solutions.



Adán Ortega, Jr.

Met Board Re-elects Ortega as Chair

The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Board of Directors in October unanimously re-elected **Adán Ortega, Jr.** as Board Chair through 2026.

Ortega has served on Metropolitan's 38-member Board since 2019 and has worked in government relations and water for more than 30 years. He was unchallenged in his bid for reelection.

The principal of Ortega Strategies Group, a public affairs and government relations firm based in Fullerton, Ortega previously served as Metropolitan's Vice President of External Affairs from 1999 to 2005. Before his role with Metropolitan, he was Chief Deputy for then-Secretary of State **Bill Jones**. He has also previously served as Assistant General Manager of both West Basin and Central Basin municipal water districts.

A Fullerton resident, Ortega is the 20th Chairman in Metropolitan's 94-year history and its first Latino chair.



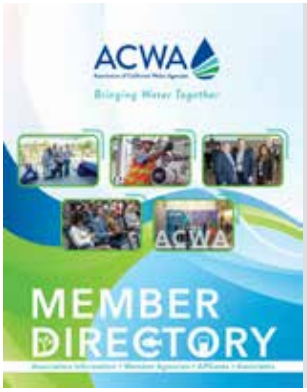
Paul Peschel

MID Hires Peschel as AGM

Modesto Irrigation District (MID) has hired **Paul Peschel** to serve as Assistant General Manager of Water Operations. Peschel succeeds **Gordon Enas**, who recently retired after more than 9 years of service at MID and more than 30 years in the water industry.

Peschel joins MID from Hi-Desert Water District in Yucca Valley where he served as General Manager since 2021. He previously had a five-year tenure as General Manager at Kings River Conservation District and spent more than 28 years in various leadership positions at Imperial Irrigation District.

As MID's Assistant General Manager of Water Operations, Peschel will plan, organize and direct division activities including civil engineering, water use, planning and conservation, irrigation services, construction management and Modesto Regional Water Treatment Plant operations.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

Visit **acwa.com/events** for complete listing and registration

NOVEMBER 2024
22
MCWRA FALL 2024 WATER FORUM
Mountain Counties Water Resources Assoc.

Attendees are invited to the MCWRA Fall 2024 Water Forum at Cameron Park Country Club, featuring a legislative debrief, keynotes, panel discussions, lunch, and networking opportunities.

DECEMBER 2024
3–5
ACWA 2024 FALL CONFERENCE & EXPO
ACWA | Palm Desert

The 2024 ACWA Fall Conference & Expo offers all-inclusive access to keynotes, networking meals, the Exhibit Hall, and expert-led sessions, with on-demand access to select programs.

JANUARY 2025
29–31
CASA 2025 WINTER CONFERENCE
CASA | Palm Springs

The California Association of Sanitation Agencies will offer several technical sessions and networking opportunities, including an extended session on AI and how it is being used at local public agencies.

FEBRUARY 2025
5–6
2025 CALDESAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE
CalDesal | Temecula

Mark your calendars for the 2025 CalDesal Annual Conference. This year's conference will continue to highlight the crucial role desalination plays in California's water resiliency, security, and sustainability.

FEBRUARY 2025
25
ACWA DC2025 - ANNUAL WASHINGTON, D.C. CONFERENCE
ACWA | Washington, D.C.

The 2025 D.C. Conference will give water professionals a close-up perspective on federal water policy while offering a breadth of topics and a variety of speakers. Registration set to open Nov. 20.

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3. Complete the event form and click "**Submit**"

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- San Bernardino Valley Mourns the Loss of Board Vice President – Oct. 29
- Palmdale Water District Receives Two PR Awards – Oct. 30
- State, Federal Agencies Unite to Address Climate Resilience – Oct .24
- State Water Board Releases Draft Update to the Bay Delta Plan – Oct. 30
- Meet the ACWA East Team – Oct. 18