Pajaro Valley
Water Management Agency

PRESERVING AND PROTECTING
THE VALLEY'S WATER RESOURCES

Proposed College Lake Integrated Resources Management Project

EIR Scoping Meeting

December 12, 2017

Meeting Purpose

- Hear your comments on scope, focus of environmental review
  - *Issues you would like to see addressed in the EIR*
- Community and Agency Input on:
  - *Environmental setting (existing conditions in area of Proposed Project)*
  - *Environmental effects (agriculture, hydrology, biological resources, etc.)*
  - *Methods of assessment*
  - *Potential mitigation measures to reduce environmental effects*
  - *Potential alternatives to the Proposed Project*

Agenda

- Introductions
- Key Meeting Details
- Proposed Project Overview
- Environmental Review Process
- Environmental Topics
- Comments and Questions

Presenters and Other Team Members

PV Water Staff

- ***Brian Lockwood, Marcus Mendiola, Laura Taay***

Carollo Engineers

- ***Elaine Simmons***

ESA

- ***Jill Hamilton, Karen Lancelle***

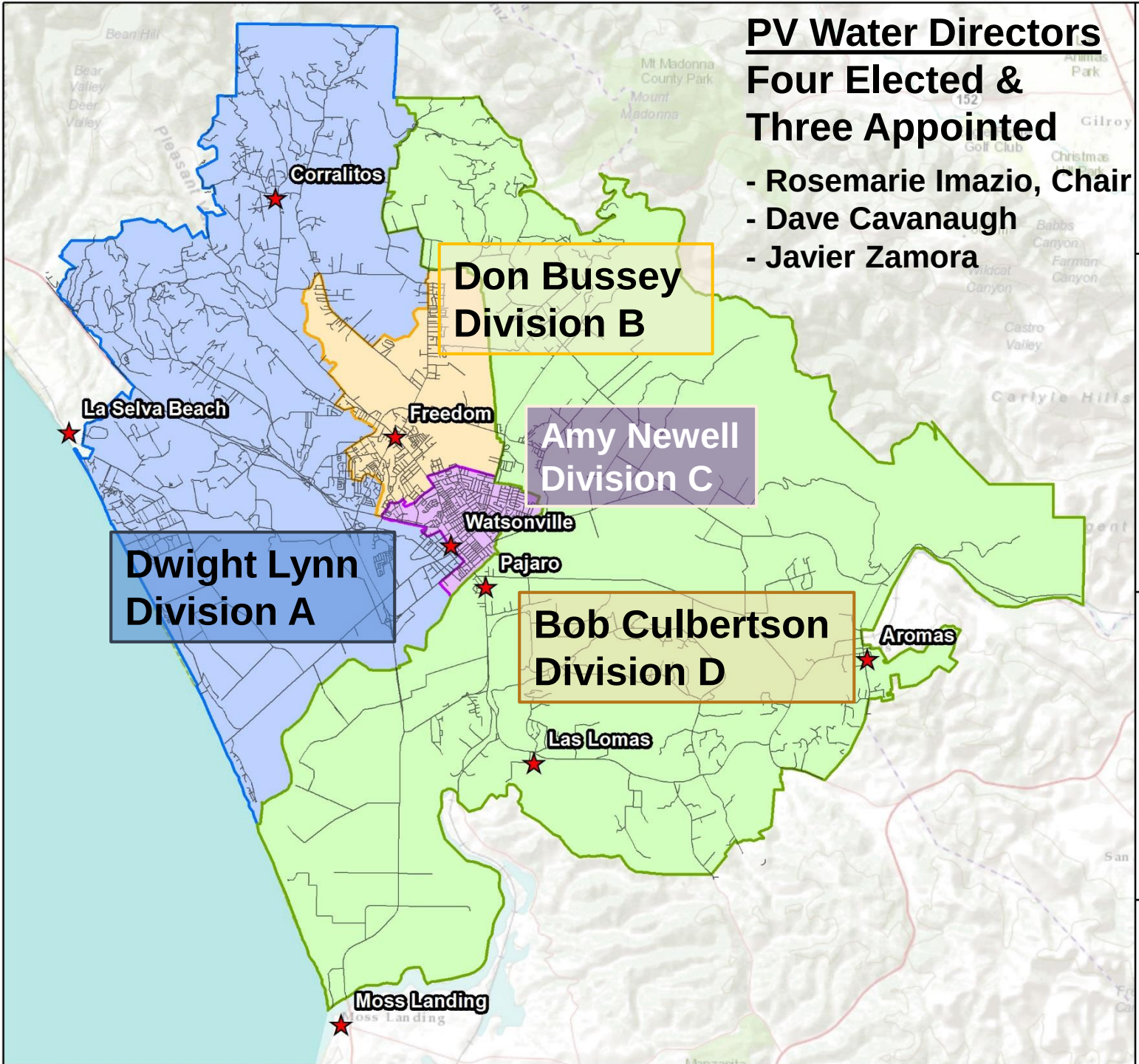
Mike Podlech

Kittleson Environmental Consulting

- ***Gary Kittleson***

Katz & Associates

- ***Maureen Barry, Natalia Hentschel***


PV Water Directors
Four Elected &
Three Appointed
- Rosemarie Imazio, Chair
- Dave Cavanaugh
- Javier Zamora
Don Bussey
Division B
Amy Newell
Division C
Dwight Lynn
Division A
Bob Culbertson
Division D
Corralitos
La Selva Beach
Freedom
Watsonville
Pajaro
Aromas
Las Lomas
Moss Landing
Mt Madonna
County Park
Mount
Madonna
Gilroy
Castro
Valley
Carlyle Hills
Bean Hill
Bear
Valley
Deer
Valley
Pleasant
Electoral
Divisions
Explanation
Cities & Towns
Streets
Division A
Division B
Division C
Division D
N
W
E
S
0
1
2
4
Miles
Pajaro Valley
Water Management Agency
Division Boundaries 1-15-2013 bs

Key Meeting Details

- Sign in
- Meeting Materials
- Written comments due by 5:00 pm on January 5, 2018
  - *Spanish and English accepted*
- Submit written comments by comment card, mail or email:

Brian Lockwood, General Manager
Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
36 Brennan Street
Watsonville, CA 95076
Email: eir@pvwater.org

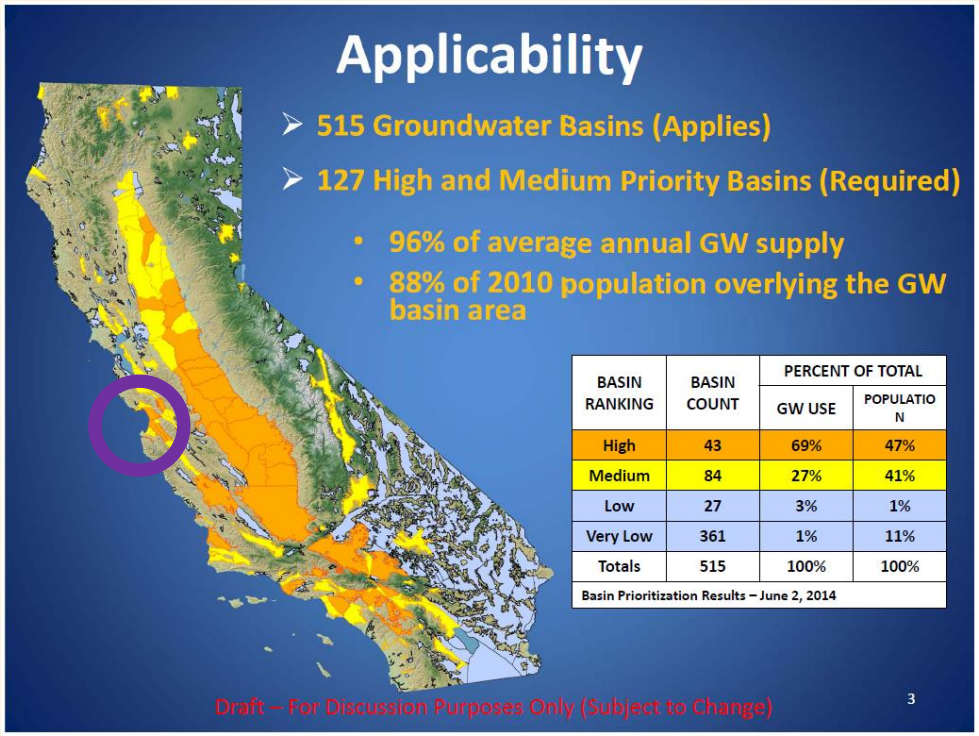
Proposed
Project Overview

Overview

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- Basin Management Plan Update
- Proposed College Lake Project
  - Purpose
  - Project Components
  - Operations
  - Schedule

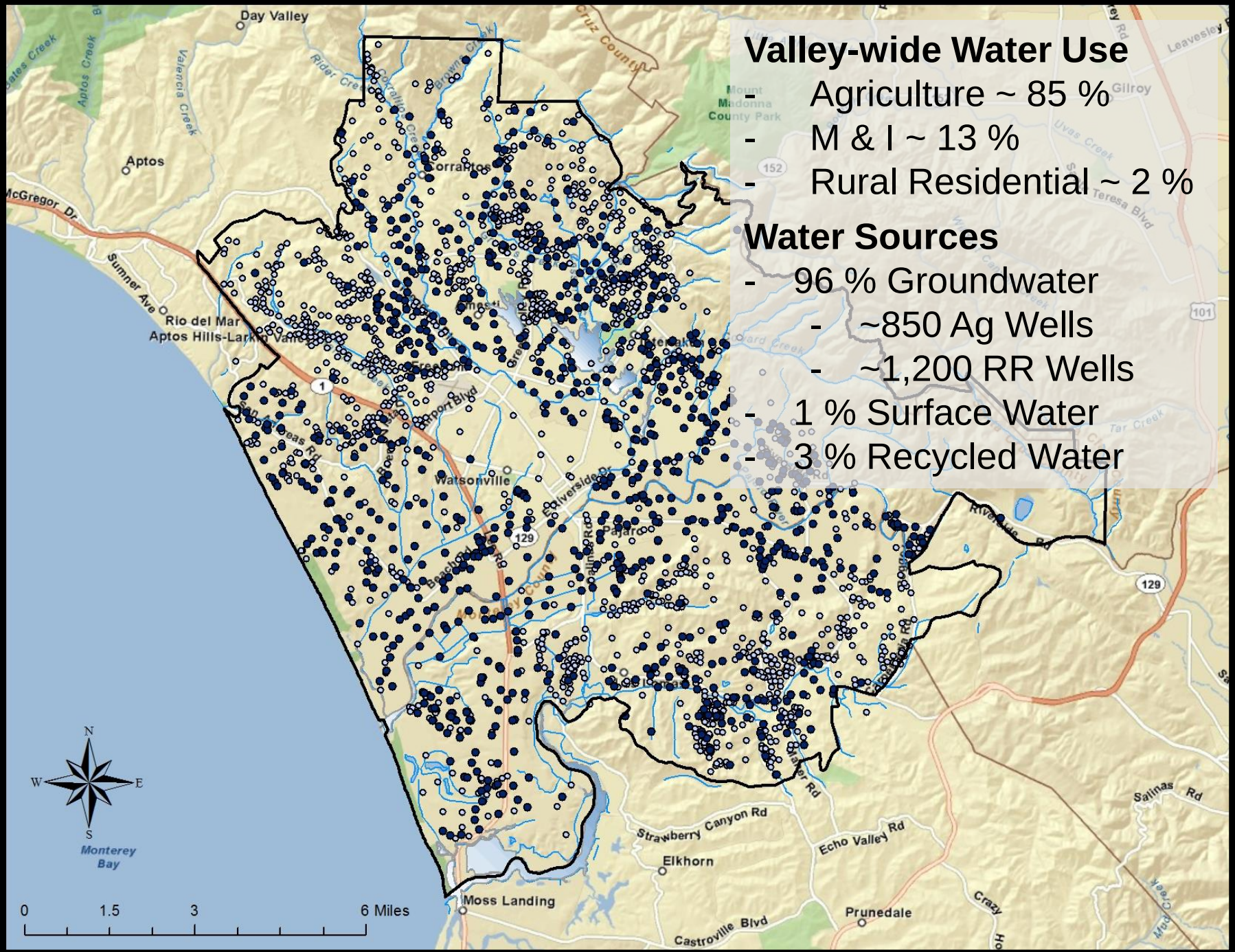
A Need To Achieve Sustainability

- The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (September 2014) requires that critically overdrafted groundwater basins, such as the Pajaro Valley, be brought into balance by 2040.
- If not, the State will intervene and may impose pumping restrictions.

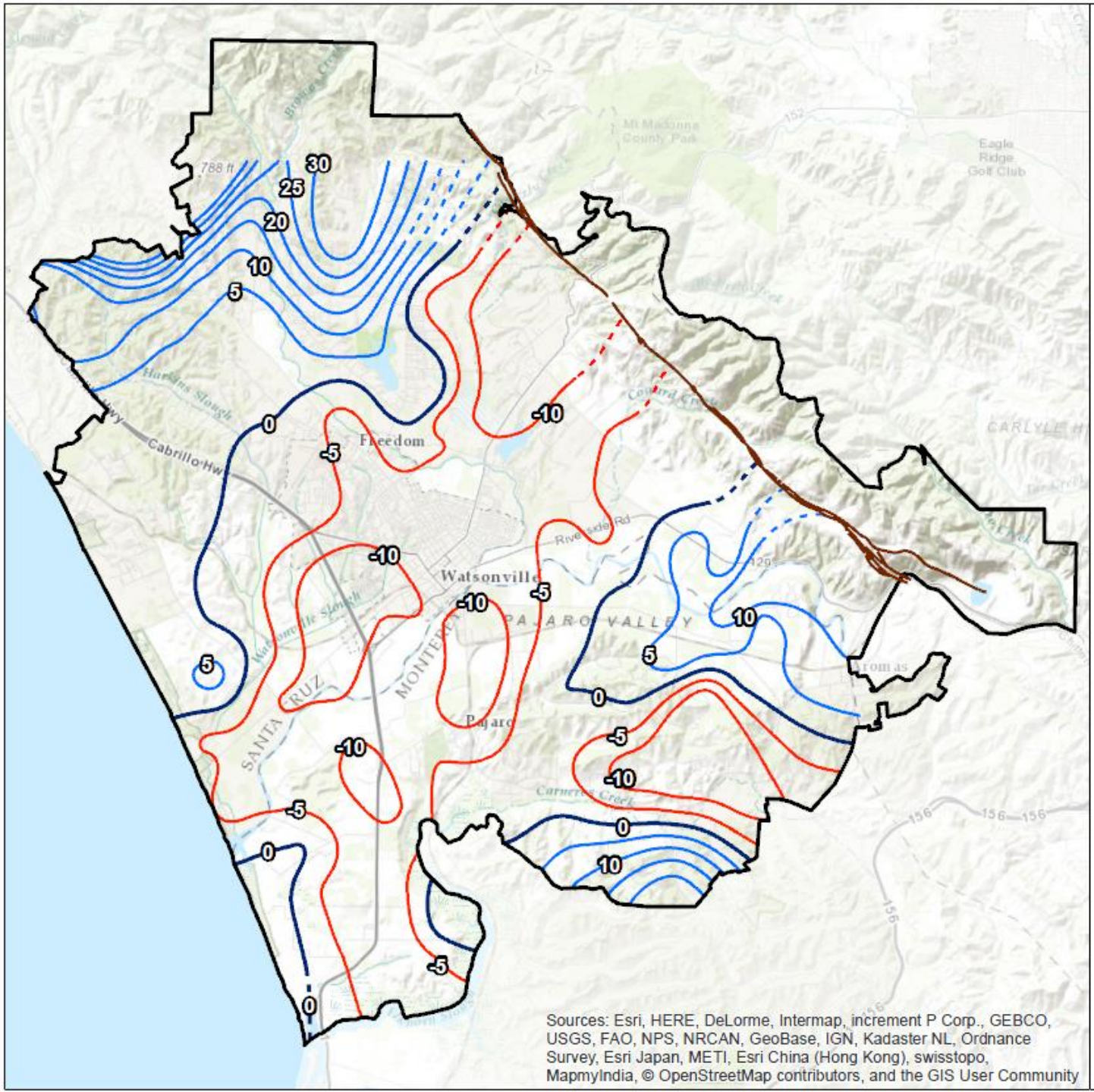


BASIN RANKING	BASIN COUNT	PERCENT OF TOTAL	
		GW USE	POPULATION
High	43	69%	47%
Medium	84	27%	41%
Low	27	3%	1%
Very Low	361	1%	11%
Totals	515	100%	100%

Basin Prioritization Results – June 2, 2014


Valley-wide Water Use
- Agriculture ~ 85 %
- M & I ~ 13 %
- Rural Residential ~ 2 %
Water Sources
- 96 % Groundwater
  - ~850 Ag Wells
  - ~1,200 RR Wells
- 1 % Surface Water
- 3 % Recycled Water
Day Valley
Aptos
Rio del Mar
Aptos Hills-Larkin Valley
Watsonville
Freedom
Corralitos
Gilroy
Mount Madonna County Park
Uvas Creek
Monterey Bay
Moss Landing
Elkhorn
Strawberry Canyon Rd
Echo Valley Rd
Salinas Rd
Prunedale
Castroville Blvd
Crazy Horse Canyon Rd
Riverside Dr
Beach Rd
Airport Blvd
Main St
Freedom Blvd
Green Valley Rd
Riverside Rd
Walker Rd
Pajaro
Santa Cruz County
McGregor Dr
Sumner Ave
Valencia Creek
Aptos Creek
Rider Creek
Browns Creek
Teresa Blvd
Tar Creek
Moro Cojo Slough
0
1.5
3
6 Miles
N
W
E
S

Pajaro Basin Groundwater Elevation Fall 2016



Explanation

San Andreas Fault

PVWMA Boundary

Groundwater Contours (ft-msl)

Above Sea Level

Sea Level

Below Sea Level

N

W E

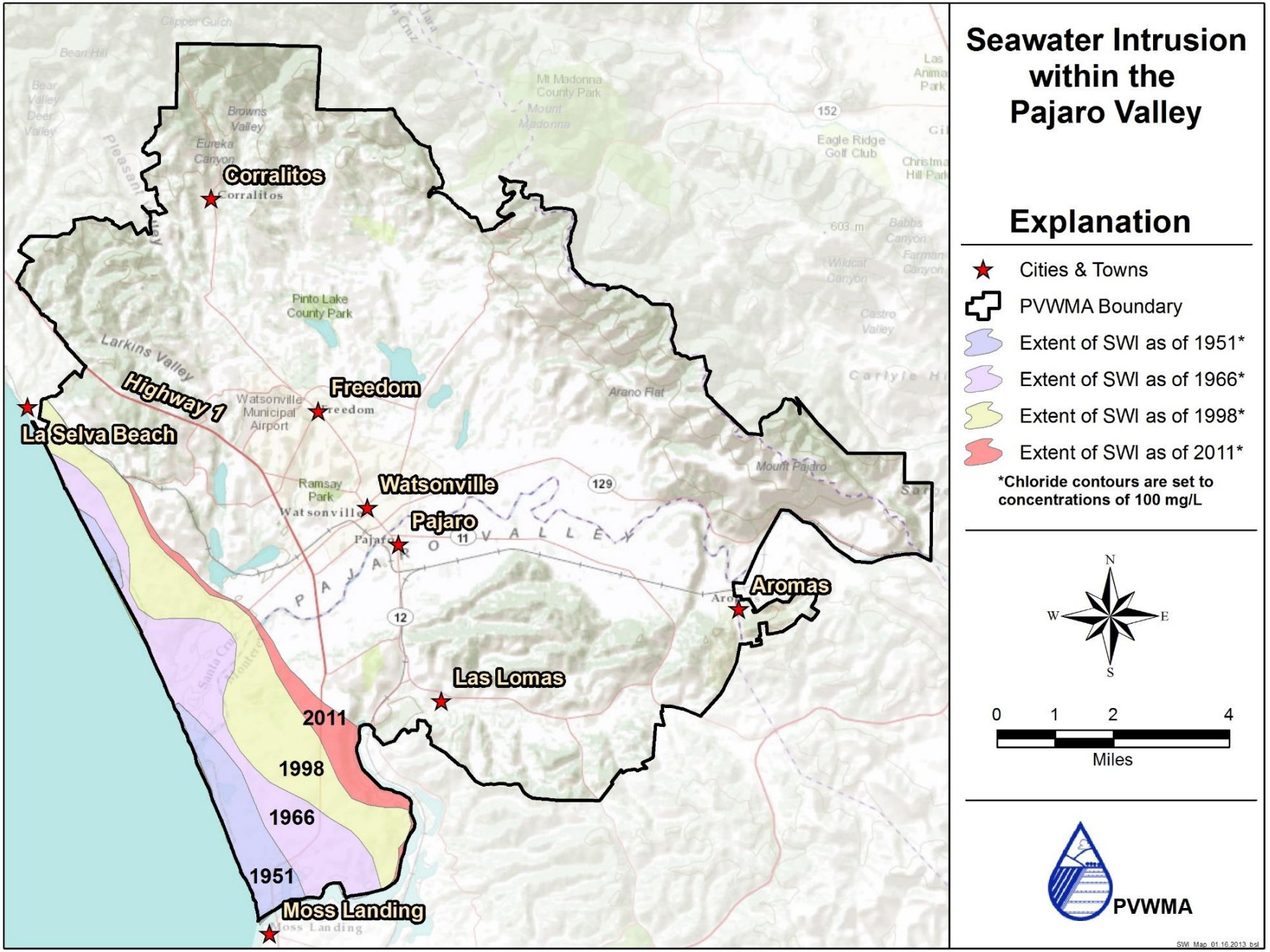
S

0 1 2 4

Miles

Pajaro Valley
Water Management Agency

Prepared by PVWMA on March 24, 2017.
This Document is a graphic representation developed using the best currently available data sources & professional judgement.


Corralitos
Freedom
La Selva Beach
Watsonville
Pajaro
Aromas
Las Lomas
Moss Landing
Highway 1
2011
1998
1966
1951
PAJARO VALLEY
Seawater Intrusion within the Pajaro Valley
Explanation
Cities & Towns
PVWMA Boundary
Extent of SWI as of 1951*
Extent of SWI as of 1966*
Extent of SWI as of 1998*
Extent of SWI as of 2011*
*Chloride contours are set to concentrations of 100 mg/L
N
W
E
S
0 1 2 4
Miles
PVWMA
SWI_Map_01.16.2013.bsl

A few notes for context…

- This is a ***Proposed Project*** that was included at a program level with 6 other proposed projects in the Basin Management Plan Update (BMP).

- The BMP was developed through a public process by a 21 member stakeholder committee that met for over two years, and it was recommended for implementation by the Board of Directors.

A few notes context (cont.)

- The PV Water Board of Directors has not taken any formal action with respect to this proposed project except to direct staff to proceed with the CEQA process and file a water-right application.

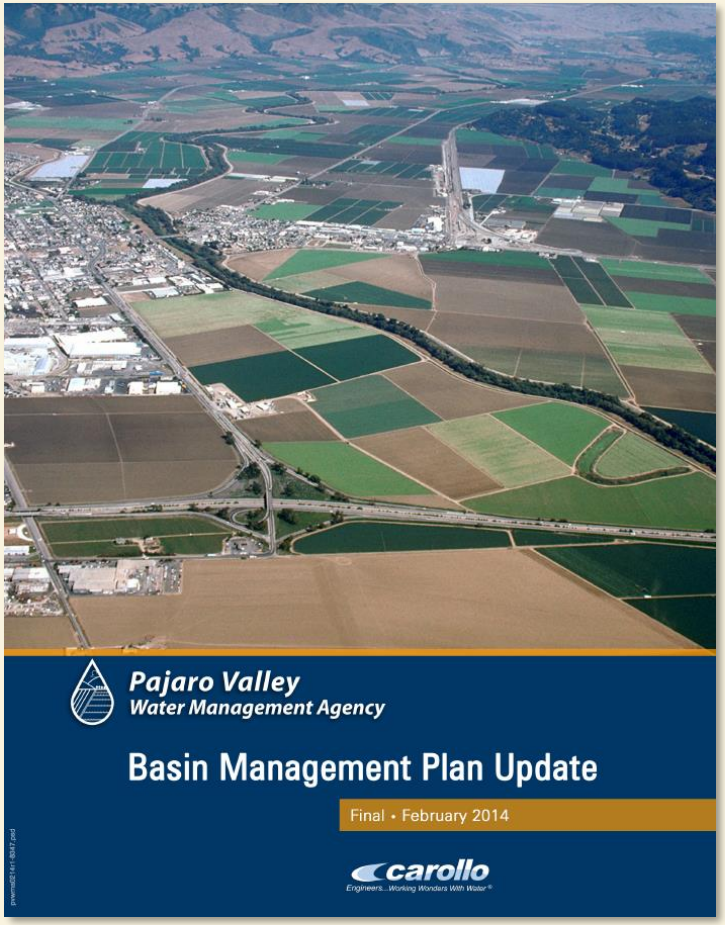
- *Environmental* and *Fiscal* issues need to be analyzed by staff and discussed at the Board level, with input from the public and key stakeholders before PV Water can make any final decisions regarding moving forward with the proposed project.

Community Input is Critical

- Community input has been and remains important to the PV Water Board and to staff
- BMP Update Development
  - 2010 – 2012: BMP Stakeholder Committee Mtgs
  - 2012 – 2014: CEQA Process, Programmatic EIR
- Community Meetings
  - September 29, 2016, College Lake Community Mtg
  - July 10, 2017, Open House & Community Meeting
- Regularly scheduled Board and Committee Meetings
- Staff attendance at Stakeholder meetings
- Annual Reports, Newsletters, Social Media, etc.

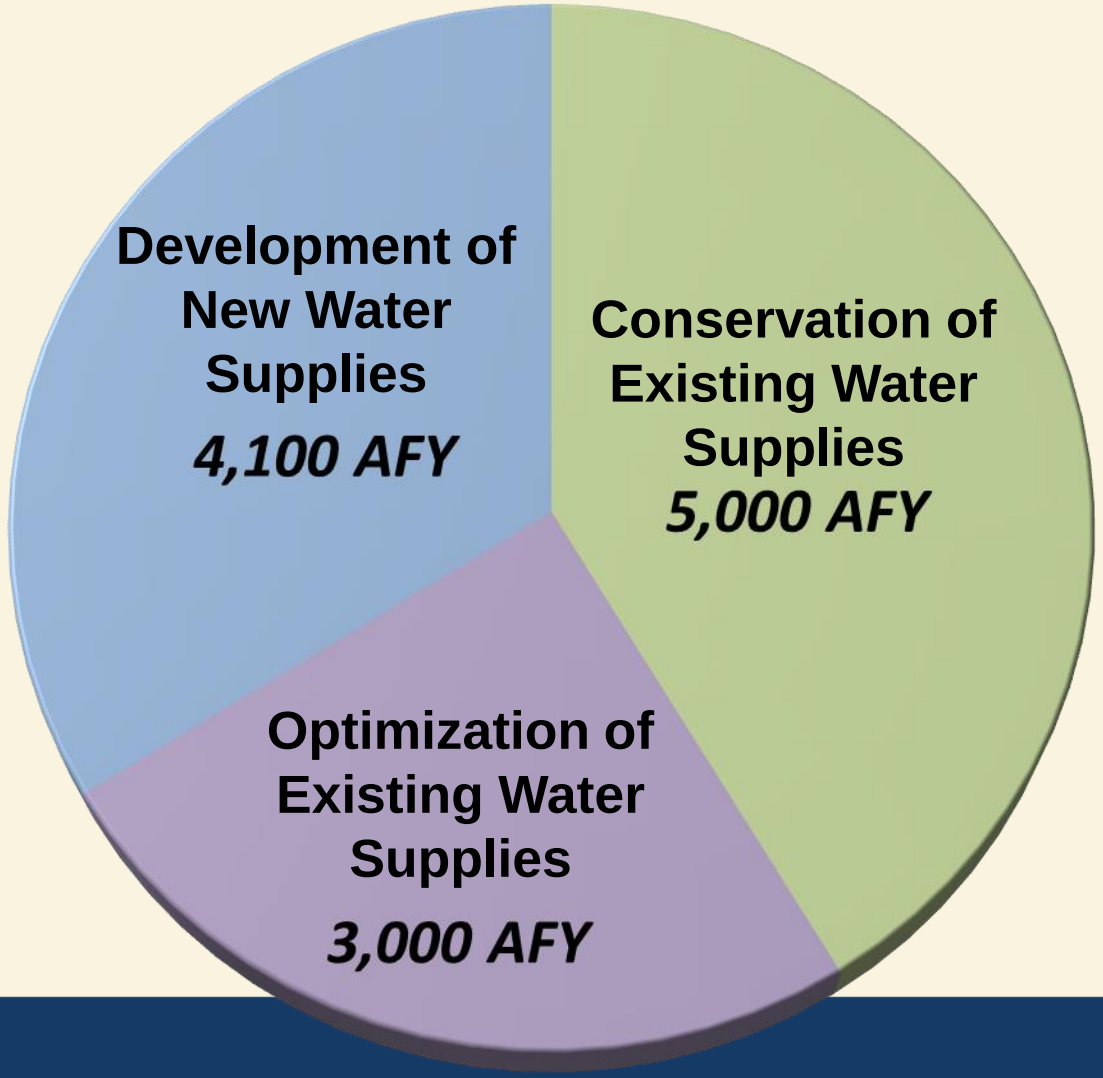
Basin Management Plan Update

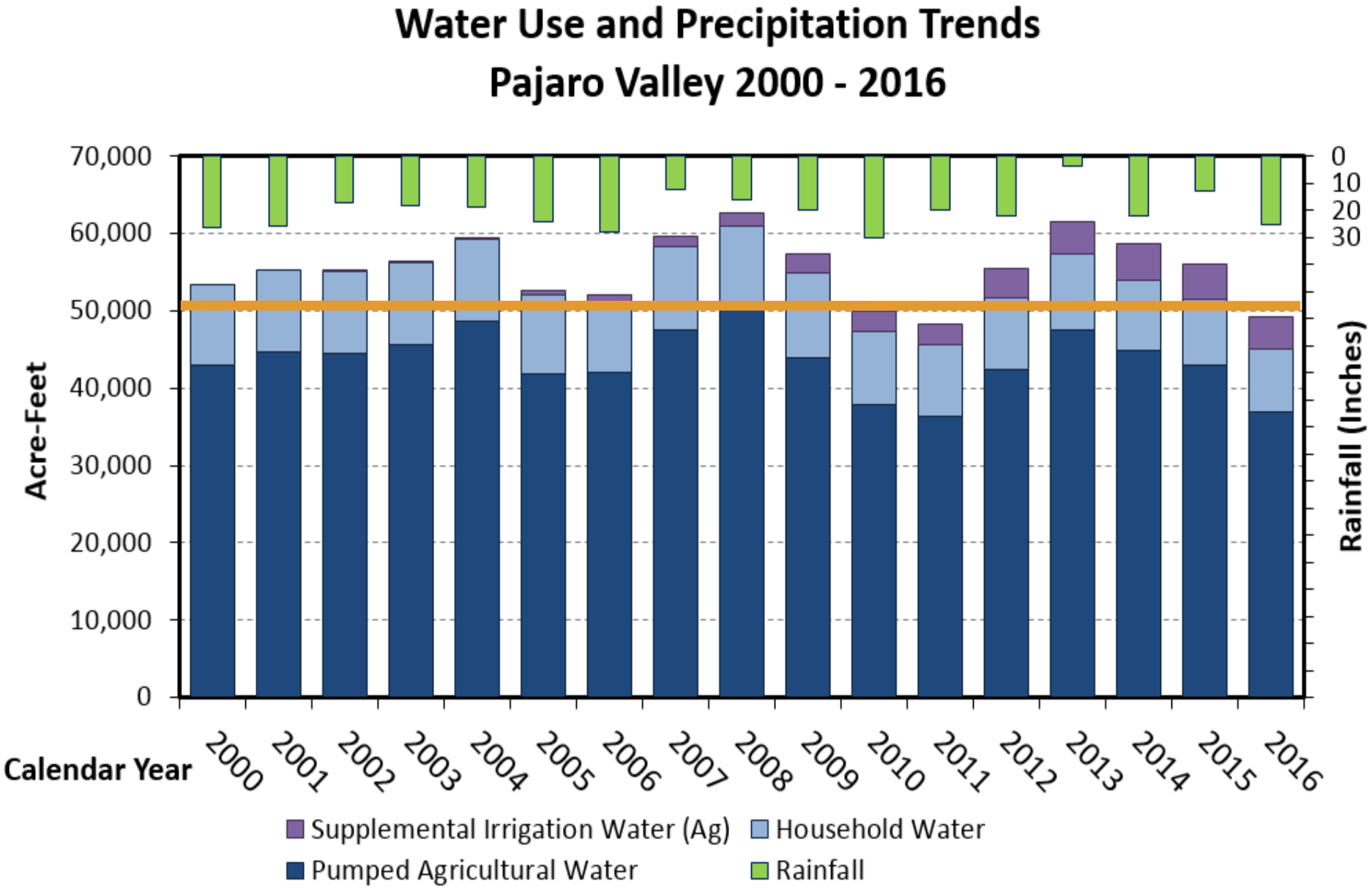
- 21 Member Stakeholder Committee
  - Investigated all practical options at the time
- 44 Potential Solutions Discussed
  - 7 Projects & Programs Recommended
- Multi-year, Public Process
  - > 1,500 person hours & 23 meetings



Basin Management Plan Update

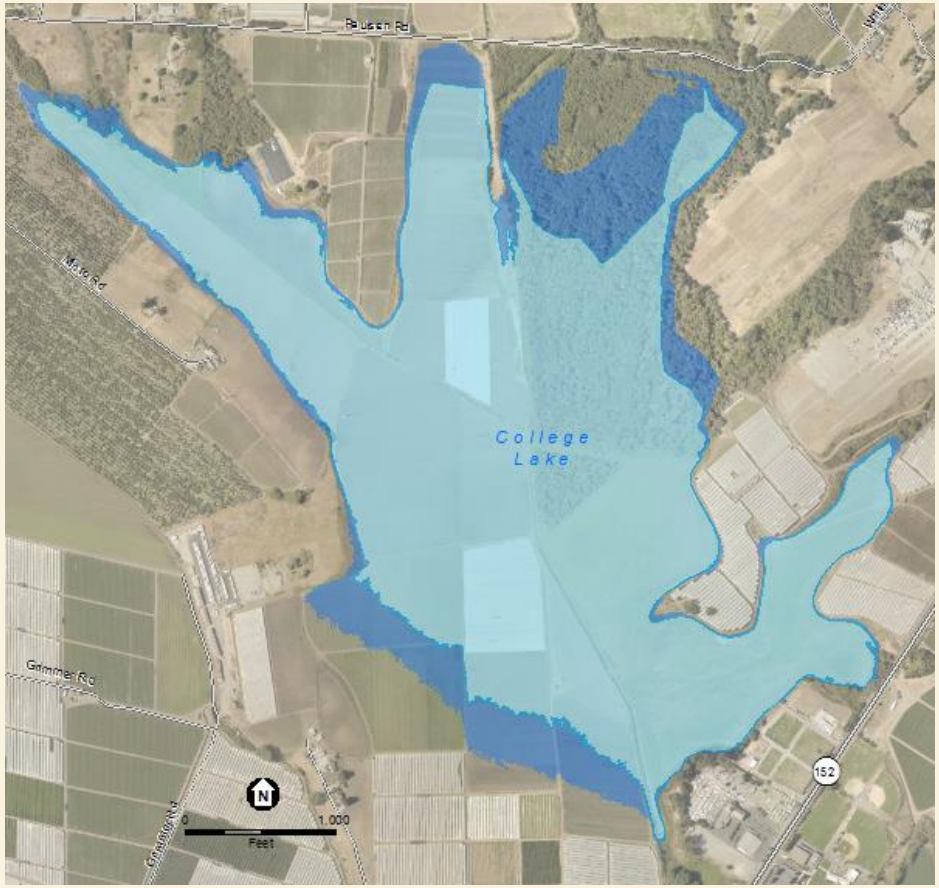
contains three primary components to achieve 12,100 AFY




Water Use and Precipitation Trends
Pajaro Valley 2000 - 2016
70,000
60,000
50,000
40,000
30,000
20,000
10,000
0
Acre-Feet
0
10
20
30
Rainfall (Inches)
Calendar Year
2000
2001
2002
2003
2004
2005
2006
2007
2008
2009
2010
2011
2012
2013
2014
2015
2016
Supplemental Irrigation Water (Ag)
Household Water
Pumped Agricultural Water
Rainfall

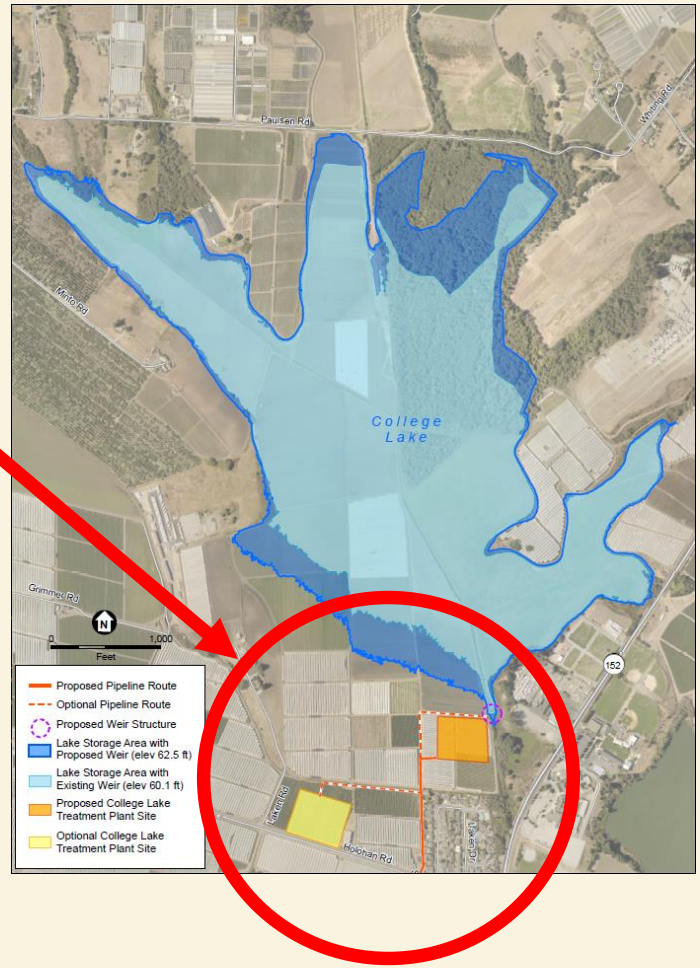
Proposed College Lake Project

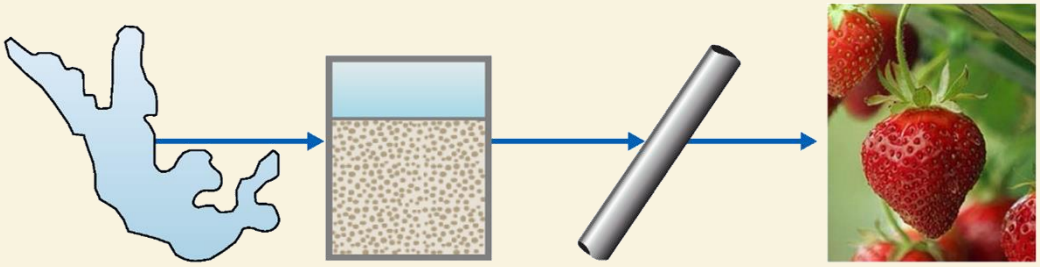
- Current College Lake Reclamation District Operations
- Purpose of Proposed Project
  - Help to achieve a sustainable groundwater basin by using surface water to offset groundwater pumping.



Project Components

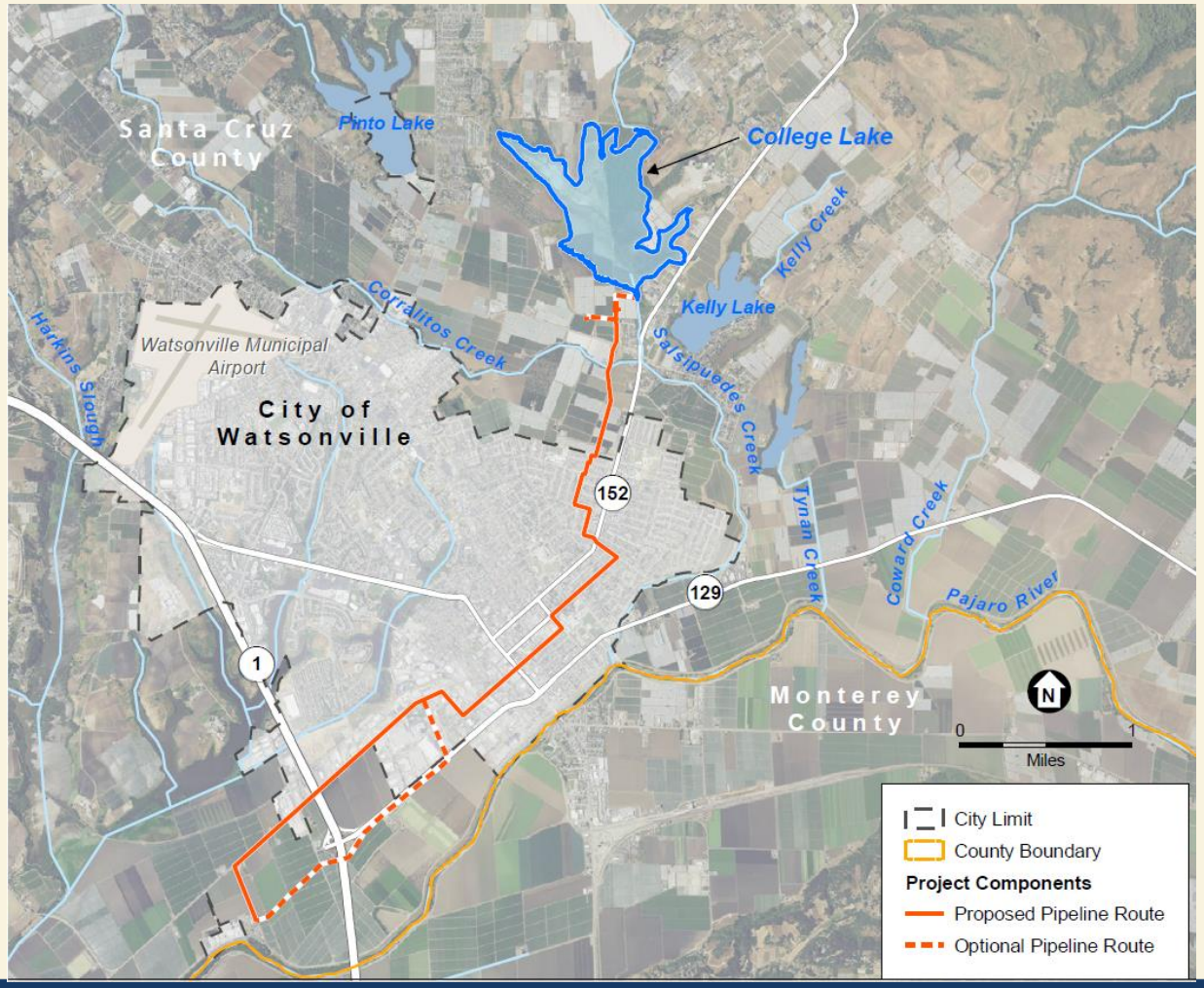
- Water Storage Area (285 acres, 1764 AF)
- Weir Structure, Screened Intake, and Pump Station
- Water Treatment Plant (4 acres)
- Pipeline (5.5 miles)





Source Treatment Conveyance End Users

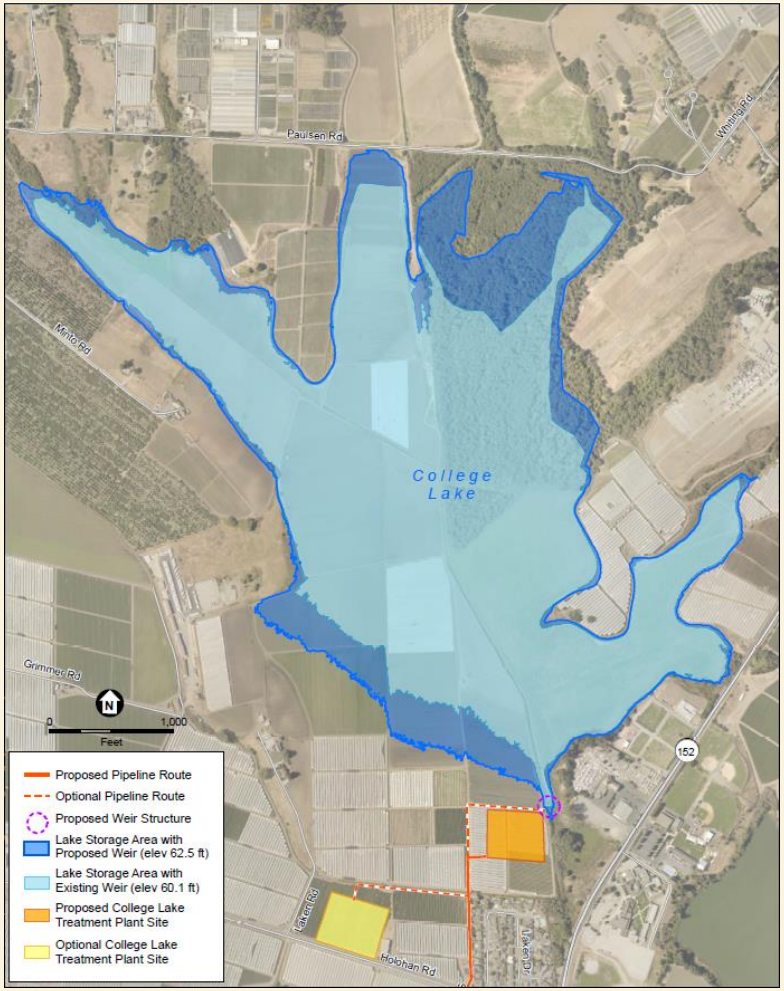
Proposed Pipeline Alignment



- Connects College Lake to CDS and recycled water facilities at Watsonville WWTP.
- Serve agricultural uses along route.

Proposed Operations

- Water stored during dry weather season.
- Weir adjusted seasonally for water storage and fish passage.
- Treatment Plant and Weir Structure operated automatically with routine maintenance.



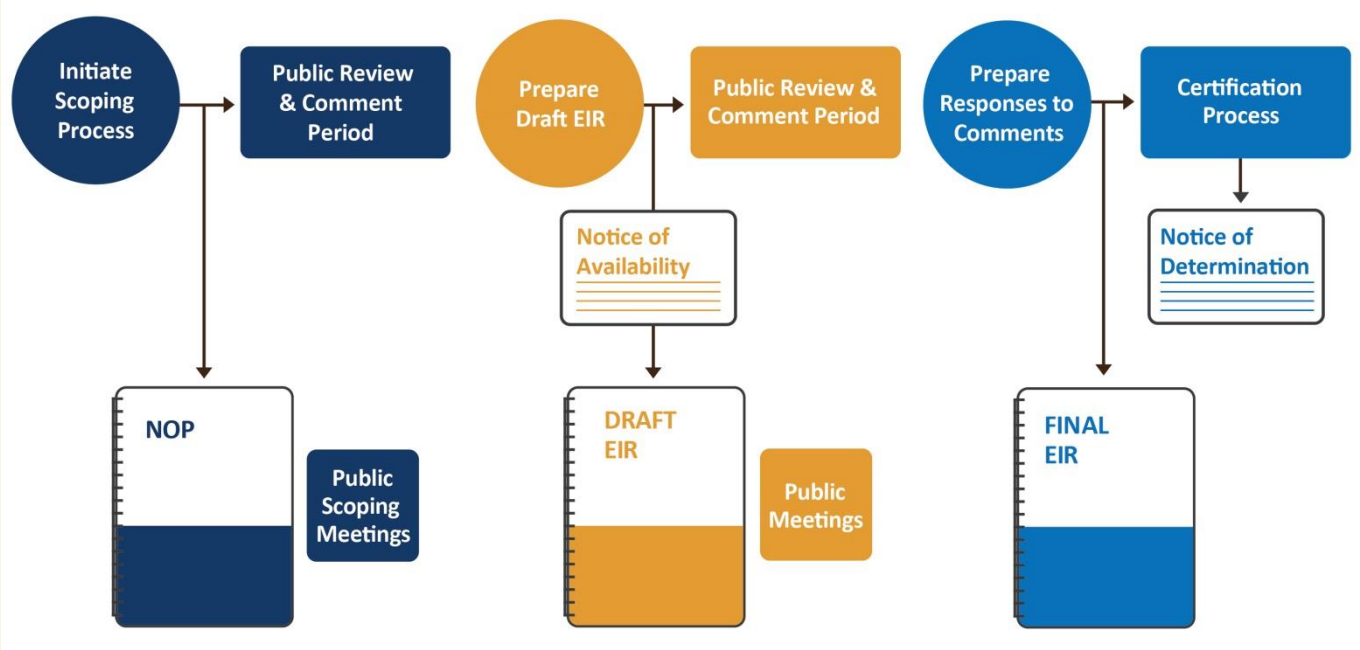
TASK	ESTIMATED SCHEDULE
Environmental Review	Ongoing – 2018
Planning & Preliminary Design	Ongoing – 2019
Permitting (Environmental, Water-Right, Etc.)	2017 – 2022
Board Considers Certification of EIR Board Considers Approval of Project	2018 / 2019 Following EIR Certification
Assuming Board Approval of the Proposed Project… Final Design & Construction	 2019 – 2025
BMP Update Implementation Goal	2025

Environmental Review Process

California Environmental Quality Act

- Encourage agencies to minimize impacts of projects on the environment
- Facilitate public involvement in project planning
- CEQA Roles and Responsibilities
  - Lead Agency – PV Water
  - Other Agencies
    - *National Marine Fisheries Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, State Water Resources Control Board, Regional Water Quality Control Board, CA Department of Fish & Wildlife, Santa Cruz County, etc*
  - Office of Planning and Research and State Clearinghouse
  - The Public

Environmental Impact Report Process



December 2017 Summer 2018 December 2018

Relation to BMP Update Program EIR

BMP Update PEIR

- Analyzed 7 BMP Update projects including College Lake
- Level of Analysis: General
- Identified 20 significant environmental impacts for College Lake project
- Identified 43 mitigation measures to reduce impacts of College Lake project
- Mitigation Measures adopted by PV Water Board of Directors

College Lake EIR

- Focus: College Lake project
- Other BMP Update projects considered in cumulative impacts
- Level of Analysis: more detailed, based on current design, construction, operations information
- Adopted mitigation measures now part of the College Lake Project

EIR Content

- Executive Summary
- Project Description
  - Purpose and objectives, design, construction and operation of Project Components; Approvals
- Environmental Setting
- Environmental Impacts
- Ways to Reduce Significant Impacts
  - Mitigation Measures
  - Alternatives

Issues to be Investigated in the EIR

Issues to be Investigated in the EIR

- Aesthetic Resources
- Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Agricultural Resources
- Biological Resources
  - Fish, birds, other wildlife
  - Plants, wetlands
- Cultural Resources
- Hazards and Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology and Water Quality
  - Flooding, groundwater
- Land Use
- Noise
- Public Services, Utilities
- Transportation and Traffic
- Impacts from Cumulative Projects
- Alternatives

Concern: flooding due to proposed weir elevation

PEIR

Implement Mitigation Measure HWQ-4:

> Facilities shall be designated to comply with FEMA and County of Santa Cruz requirements to floodproof the facilities and *shall not exacerbate upstream or downstream flood hazards on other properties*. The FEMA process will require identification of the FEMA floodway zone and may require no increase water elevations for a one percent chance annual flood. To meet the specific FEMA requirements for the component, substantial modifications to the facility design and additional mitigation may be required.

See NOP appendix for full text of Mitigation Measures - pvwater.org

Concern: flooding due to proposed weir elevation

Current Efforts

- Conducting hydrologic modeling of lake operations
- Initiating investigations regarding implementation of Mitigation Measure HWQ-4
  - How will operations of proposed project affect water surface elevations during a 100-year storm event?

Concern: adverse effects on waterfowl

PEIR

- Measures to avoid or mitigate impacts to:
  - Wetland/riparian habitat
  - Special status species
  - Nesting birds
- Development of a multi-species Adaptive Management Plan

Current Efforts

- Waterfowl surveys
- Reviewing initial hydrologic modeling outputs
- Requesting property access to conduct additional fieldwork (e.g., botanical surveys)

See NOP appendix for full text of Mitigation Measures - pvwater.org

Other concerns related to biological resources

- Fisheries (including steelhead)
  - PEIR: 10 mitigation measures adopted
    - Avoid water diversion (and construction) during specified periods; determine fish flow/passage requirements, conduct streamflow monitoring, worker training, monitoring, etc
  - Current efforts:
    - Streamflow monitoring, critical riffle analysis, initiating investigation of fish passage/flow requirements
- Other biological resources
  - PEIR:
    - Includes measures for avoiding, minimizing impacts to wetlands, special status plants, wildlife (e.g., California red legged frog, western pond turtle)
  - Current efforts:
    - Obtaining property access and scheduling field work

See NOP appendix for full text of Mitigation Measures - pvwater.org

Concern: Effect on Farmland

- PEIR
  - Permanent conversion of one acre farmland (no feasible mitigation)
- EIR will investigate:
  - Temporary and permanent effect on farmland associated with construction and operation of the project
  - Effect on farming from changes in the size of the water storage area and length of time of inundation

Comments

- Notice of Preparation (NOP) available online: **pvwater.org**
- Written comments accepted through **5:00 pm, January 5, 2018**
- Submit written comments by comment card, mail or email:

Brian Lockwood, General Manager

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency

36 Brennan Street

Watsonville, CA 95076

Email: eir@pvwater.org

Questions and Comments