Westlands Water District
Notice of Regular Meeting and Agenda

Notice is hereby given that a Regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Westlands Water District will be held on November 17, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at the District's Fresno Office, 286 W. Cromwell Avenue, Fresno, California 93711.

Join the meeting from a computer, tablet or smartphone:

Join Zoom

Meeting ID: 837 5907 8735
Passcode: 3130

Dial-In Number:
(669) 900-9128

Use the meeting ID and passcode from above. After you join, please mute your line.

If you have problems using Zoom prior to the start of the meeting, please contact the District's IT staff at 559-224-1523 or itstaff@wwd.ca.gov. Requests for assistance made during the meeting may not be responded to timely.

Meeting Agenda

Public Comment: Any member of the public may address the Board concerning any matter on the Agenda when the item is considered by the Board. Public comment is limited to three minutes per person and no more than fifteen minutes per topic. For good cause, the meeting Chair may waive these limitations. Reminder that this meeting is being recorded.

Pursuant to the Brown Act, any person who willfully disrupts the meeting to render orderly conduct of the meeting infeasible, or who refuses to comply with the orders of the Chair, may be removed from the meeting. While the Board welcomes public participation, it does not endorse any remarks or conduct that fail to uphold commonly understood standards of civility and decorum.

1. **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**
   The Chair may acknowledge Board members participating remotely as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

2. **Board of Directors to Consider Modifications, Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as Authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.**

3. **Consent Calendar**
   All items listed on the Consent Calendar are routine and non-controversial and will be acted upon by a single action of the Board of Directors, unless a Board Member requests separate consideration of the item. If such a request is made, the item may be heard as an action item at this meeting.

   Board of Directors to Consider:
   a. Approving the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 20, 2026
   b. Approving the Accounts Payable Reports (Dix)
   c. Approving a FY 2026-2027 Budget Transfer for Costs Associated with Unanticipated Repairs and Capital Project Needs (Dix)
   d. Accepting Golden State Clean Energy's Withdrawal as Real Property Negotiator and Making Corresponding Amendments to the Land Disposition Plan

4. **General Manager's Report (Febbo)**
   a. Water Supply, Water Operations and Projected Water Supply and Use and Central Valley Project/State Water Project Operations, Drainage, Energy, Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan-Voluntary Agreement Update, Endangered Species Act Consultation on and Environmental Review for the Coordinated Long-Term Operation of the CVP and SWP, and

Other Resources Activities (Febbo/Campbell)
b. Science Program Update (Cavallo)
c. Federal & State Legislative Affairs (Febbo)
d. Public Outreach, External Affairs, and Consultant Review (Febbo)
e. Operations & Maintenance Report (Vandergon)
f. Strategic Plan Status Update (Febbo/Farmer)

5. Outside Agency Activities (Board)

Reports on activities of outside agencies: Family Farm Alliance [Bourdeau], San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority [Freeman], Association of California Water Agencies [Freeman], State and Federal Contractors Water Agency [Gutierrez], Central Valley Project Water Association [Farmer], Power and Water Resources Pooling Authority [Campbell], San Joaquin Valley Blueprint [Freeman]

6. Valley Clean Infrastructure Plan (VCIP) (Gutierrez/Freeman)

a. Update on VCIP transmission infrastructure activities (Gutierrez/Freeman)
b. Update on Community Benefits Plan activities (Febbo)

7. Finance & Administration Committee (Bourdeau)

The Committee Chair will report, and the Board may act upon the following items within the Committee's jurisdiction.

a. Board of Directors to Consider Investment and Financial Reports (Dix)
b. Board of Directors to Receive an Update on District Special Benefit Assessment Renewal (Dix)
c. Board of Directors to Receive an Update on Customer Service Initiative (Dix)
d. Board of Directors to Receive an Update on Fresno County Board of Supervisors Appointment of District Directors (Farmer)

8. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

Serving as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency of the Westside Subbasin:

a. Board of Directors to Receive an Update and/or Provide Input on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation/Compliance Activities, including Actions to Implement the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Campbell)

9. Board of Directors to Consider Approval of Revisions to the District's Regulations for the Groundwater Allocation Program and Use of Groundwater within the Westside Subbasin, Rules and Regulations for the Allocation and Use of Agricultural Water, and Regulations Regarding the Application for and Use of Municipal and Industrial Water pertaining to Proper Land Stewardship (Freeman)

10. **Board of Directors to Consider Appeal to District Rules and Regulations, Terms and Conditions, and Other Financial Provisions pertaining to Proper Land Stewardship from Cantua Creek Vineyards I LLC, Cantua Creeks Vineyard II LLC, Cantua Creeks Vineyard III LLC, and Cantua Creeks Vineyard IV LLC (Campbell)**

11. **Board of Directors to Consider Appeal to District Rules and Regulations, Terms and Conditions, and Other Financial Provisions pertaining to Proper Land Stewardship from ACDF, LLC (Campbell)**

12. **Board of Directors to Consider Appeal to District Rules and Regulations, Terms and Conditions, and Other Financial Provisions pertaining to Proper Land Stewardship from Tafazoli Yazdi/Abazari Revocable Trust (Campbell)**

13. **Board of Directors to Consider Adopting the Policy for the Transfer of Water Out of the District (Campbell)**

14. **Board of Directors to Consider Adopting a Media Protocol Policy (Febbo)**

15. **Board of Directors to Consider Adopting an Energy Strategy as an Addition to the District Strategic Plan (Farmer)**

16. **Public Comment**
    Any member of the public may address the District Board of Directors concerning any matter not on the Agenda but within the Board's jurisdiction. Public comment is limited to three minutes per person and no more than fifteen minutes per topic. For good cause, the meeting Chair may waive these limitations. In accordance with the Brown Act, the Board cannot act on any items not on the Agenda. Public questions and comments on items listed on the Agenda will be accepted at the time the item is considered by the Board.

17. **Closed Session**
    Board members' opportunity to disclose their recusal from a closed session item because of a conflict of interest under Government Code section 87100.

    Members of the public may provide comments on any closed session item at this time.

    The Board will meet with Legal Counsel in closed session pursuant to the Government Code sections noted to discuss the following:

    a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
       Significant exposure to litigation (Pursuant to Cal. Gov. Code section 54956.9(d)(2)) and/or initiation of litigation (Pursuant to Cal.

Gov. Code section 54956.9(d)(4)) – 6 potential cases

b. Conference with Real Property Negotiators (Pursuant to Cal. Gov. Code section 54956.8)

1) Property: APNs 010-041-53S, 010-080-45S
Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties: Edwin Joseph Diedrich, Jr.
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

2) Property: APN 010-041-40S
Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties: Delerio Family Farms LLC
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

3) Property: APN 009-052-25S
Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties: Marv Coit Farms LP
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

4) Property: APNs 009-052-24S, 009-070-10, 009-070-04S, 009-060-81S
Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties: Westside Agriculture
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

5) Property: APN 010-041-39S
Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties: Herman 2008 Revocable Trust
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

6) Property: APNs 011-100-07S, 011-100-16S, 011-100-17S
Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties: Horizon Nut
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

7) Property: APN 019-050-62S
Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
Negotiating Parties: D&S&E LLC
Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

8) Property: APN 019-110-02
   Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
   Negotiating Parties: Ensher Alexander & Barsoom Inc
   Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

9) Property: APNs 027-180-86S, 027-180-70, 027-180-67, 027-180-68
   Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
   Negotiating Parties: Joseph M. Procacci
   Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

10) Property: APN 027-180-69
   Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
   Negotiating Parties: Gargiulo Inc
   Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

11) Property: APNs 027-171-81S, 027-171-82S
   Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
   Negotiating Parties: Sair Partnership 7 LLC
   Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

12) Property: APN 027-171-25S
   Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
   Negotiating Parties: Sunnmore Land Corporation
   Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

13) Property: APNs 027-171-08S, 027-171-10S, 027-171-20S
   Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
   Negotiating Parties: Joseph O. Souza, Jr.
   Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

14) Property: APN 027-171-05S
   Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
   Negotiating Parties: William R. & Donna G. Souza, Trustees
   Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

15) Property: APN 027-171-86
   Agency Negotiator: General Manager or Designee
   Negotiating Parties: Lisa V. Seasholtz; William R. & Donna G. Souza, Trustees; and Mollring

Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment

c. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Existing Litigation Pursuant to paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9

1) Firebaugh Canal Water District et al. v. United States of America et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case Nos. 1:88-cv-634-JLT-SKO, 1:91-cv-048-LJO/DLB
2) Westlands Water District v. United States, United States Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit, Case No. 13-5069
3) North Coast Rivers Alliance et al. v. U.S. Department of the Interior et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:16-cv-00307-JLT-SKO and Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Case No. 25-5137 ("Challenge to Interim Renewal Contracts & Repayment Contracts")
4) Hoopa Valley Tribe v. United States Bureau of Reclamation et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:20-cv-01814-JLT-EPG ("Challenge to Repayment Contracts")
5) Center for Biological Diversity et al. v. United States Bureau of Reclamation et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:20-cv-0706-JLT-EPG and Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Case No. 25-5137 ("Challenge to Repayment Contracts")
6) State Water Board Cases, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. JCCP 5013 ("WQCP Phase 1 Litigation")
7) Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Association et al. v. Raimondo, et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 1:20-cv-0431-JLT-EPG ("2019 ROC on LTO NGO Litigation")
8) California Sportfishing Protection Alliance et al. v. State Water Resources Control Board et al., Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2021-80003761 ("2021 Order Re TUCP")
9) California Sportfishing Protection Alliance et al. v. State Water Resources Control Board et al., Sacramento County Superior Court, Case No. 34-2021-80003763 ("2021 Order Re Shasta Temp. Mgmt. Plan")
10) State Water Resources Curtailment Cases, Santa Clara County Superior Court Case No. 22CV402030, JCCP No. 5229
11) State Water Resources Control Board, Administrative Hearings Office, Proceeding re Petitions for Change of Water Rights Permits 16478, 16479, 16481, and 16482 (Applications 5630, 14443, 14445A, and 17512, respectively) of the Department of Water Resources ("Delta Conveyance Project Proceeding")
12) Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority et al. v. California Department of Water Resources et al., Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 24WM000183; San Francisco Baykeeper et al. v. California

Department of Water Resources et al., Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 24WM000185, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance et al. v. California Department of Water Resources et al., Sacramento Superior Court Case No. 24WM000181, Central Delta Water Agency and South Delta Water Agency v. California Department of Water Resources, Sacramento Superior Court Case No. TBD ("2024 State Water Project LTO/ITP")

13) San Francisco Baykeeper, et al. v. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, et al., United States District Court, Eastern District of California, Case No. 2:26-cv-00671-JLT EPG ("2024 BiOp case")
14) LS Power Grid California, LLC v. Olivia M. Chaney, Westlands Water District, et al., Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 26CECG01238 ("LS Power-Chaney eminent domain proceeding")
15) LS Power Grid California, LLC v. Joseph O. Souza, Jr., Westlands Water District, et al., Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 26CU00873; ("LS Power-Souza I eminent domain proceeding")
16) LS Power Grid California, LLC v. William & Donna Souza, Westlands Water District, et al., Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 26CU00897; ("LS Power-Souza II eminent domain proceeding")
17) LS Power Grid California, LLC v. Sair Partnership 7, LLC, Westlands Water District, et al., Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 26CU00852 ("LS Power-Sair eminent domain proceeding")
18) LS Power Grid California, LLC v. Procacci, Westlands Water District, et al., Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 26CU01405 ("LS Power-Procacci eminent domain proceeding")
19) LS Power Grid California, LLC v. Luna Valley Land Holdings, LLC, Westlands Water District, et al., Fresno County Superior Court Case No. 26CU1426 ("LS Power-Luna Valley eminent domain proceeding")

18. Report from Closed Session, if any, Required by Government Code Section 54957.1

19. Adjournment

Order of Business

The order of business reflected in this Agenda is subject to change.

Accessibility

A person with a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 may request the District provide a disability-related modification or accommodation in order to facilitate that person's participation in any public meeting of the District. Such assistance includes appropriate alternative formats for the Agendas and Agenda packets used for any public meetings of the District. Requests for such assistance may be made in person at the District's Fresno office, which is located at 286 W. Cromwell Avenue, Fresno, California, 93711, by telephone (559-224-1523), facsimile (559-241-6277), email to Abby Castillo (acastillo@wwd.ca.gov), or written correspondence addressed to Westlands Water District, Attn: Abby Castillo, P.O. Box 5199, Fresno, California 93711. Notifications of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will assist staff in assuring that reasonable arrangements can be made.

Remote Participation by Members of the Public

At this time, the District permits remote meeting participation by telephone or video conference through Zoom. This option is offered as a courtesy and is not required by law. Telephone and internet access and reliability varies widely, and District staff may not be able to assist members of the public with technical difficulties. To avoid issues that may arise from participating remotely by phone or video, members of the public who wish to provide public comment are encouraged to attend in person at the noticed location.

At the appropriate time, the meeting Chair will acknowledge members of the public wishing to provide comments. Participants attending by video conference are asked to use the "Raise Hand" tool in the Zoom interface when seeking to provide public comment on an item. Remote public comment is limited to three minutes per person and no more than fifteen minutes per topic.

Document Availability

Written material related to an item on this Agenda that is distributed less than 72 hours prior to this meeting to at least a majority of the members of the legislative body will be available for inspection at the District's Fresno office located at 286 W. Cromwell Avenue, Fresno, California 93711. Electronic material related to an item on this Agenda that is distributed electronically less than 72 hours prior to this meeting will be made available on the District's website (https://wwd.ca.gov/).

Written material distributed during a public meeting will be available for public inspection at the meeting if prepared by District staff or a member of its legislative body, or after the meeting if prepared by some other person.

Disclosure

This Agenda has been prepared pursuant to applicable laws of the State of California, including but not limited to, Government Code section 54950, et seq. This Agenda and supporting materials have not been prepared to inform an investment decision concerning the District, including in any of District's bonds, notes, or any other financial obligations. Any projections, plans, or other forward-looking statements included in the information in this Agenda or supporting materials are subject to a variety of uncertainties that could cause any actual plans or results to differ materially from such statements. The information in this Agenda and supporting materials is not intended to be used by investors or potential investors in considering the purchase or sale of the District's bonds, notes, or other financial obligations.

Investors and potential investors should rely only on information filed by the District on the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board's Electronic Municipal Market Access System for municipal securities disclosures and the District's Investor Relations website, maintained on the World Wide Web at emma.msrb.org and wwd.ca.gov/investor-relations, respectively. For purposes of this note, "District" means Westlands Water District, Westlands Water District Distribution District No. 1, Westlands Water District Distribution District No. 2, San Luis Unit/Westlands Water District Financing Authority, and/or Westlands Water District Financing Corporation.

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of
Westlands Water District
October 20, 2026

The Board of Directors of Westlands Water District held a Regular Meeting on October 20, 2026, at the District's Fresno office, 286 W. Cromwell, Fresno, California 93711.

Directors:
Jeff Fortune, President
Jim Anderson, Vice President
Jeremy Hughes, Secretary (Absent)
William Bourdeau, Treasurer (Absent)
Frank Coelho, Jr.
Justin Diener
Ross Franson
Ryan Ferguson
Ernie Costamagna

Staff present:
Allison Febbo, General Manager
Jose Gutierrez, Assistant General Manager
Stephen Farmer, Chief Administrative Officer
Russ Freeman, Deputy General Counsel
Katarina Campbell, Deputy General Manager, Resources
Sherman Dix, Deputy General Manager, Finance & Administration
Jacob Smith, Information Technology Officer
Jasdeep Singh, Senior Information Technology Analyst
Antonio Solorio, Resources Engineer
Brad Cavallo, Director of Science
Peter Maraccini, Supervisor of Resources
Liana Leyva, Executive Assistant
Abby Castillo, Administrative Assistant

Others present:
Scott Slater, Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck

Item 1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

President Fortune called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. He announced the open session portion of the meeting was being recorded and held at the Fresno District Office. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Mr. Farmer confirmed that a quorum of the Board was present.

Item 2. Board of Directors to Consider Modifications, Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as Authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

Mr. Farmer requested that Item 4e, Operations and Maintenance Report, including the golden mussel presentation, be removed from the agenda because Kelly Vandergon, Deputy General Manager of Operations and Maintenance, was unable to attend.

Director Diener moved to approve the change to the agenda, President Fortune seconded the motion, and there were no public comments. The Board of Directors approved the change to the agenda with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Fortune, Diener, Coelho, Franson, Ferguson, Costamagna, Anderson
Nays: None
Absent: Hughes, Bourdeau

Item 3. Consent Calendar

President Fortune reported all items listed on the Consent Calendar were routine and non-controversial and would be acted upon by a single action of the Board of Directors.

Director Coelho moved to approve the Consent Calendar, Director Diener seconded the motion, and there were no public comments. The Board of Directors approved the Consent Calendar with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Fortune, Diener, Coelho, Franson, Anderson, Ferguson, Costamagna
Nays: None
Absent: Hughes, Bourdeau

Item 4. General Manager's Report

Item 4.a. Water Supply, Project Operations, Energy, and Water Quality

Ms. Febbo updated the Board on key operational, regulatory, and water supply matters, highlighting the start of the new water year. She reported that she and District staff continue to advocate for an additional water allocation, noting there is significant evidence that additional water is available for allocation to District growers. She also reported that the State Water Resources Control Board released its final draft of the

Water Quality Control Plan (WQCP) and that staff will review the document to determine whether the District's comments were addressed. Regarding water supply, Ms. Febbo noted that growers continue to pump groundwater and that allocable water remains available in San Luis Reservoir. The District continues to work with the Bureau of Reclamation to secure additional water, and Ms. Febbo expressed appreciation to growers who responded to the survey regarding the need for additional water.

Item 4.a.1 Water Supply

Ms. Campbell updated the Board on current water supply conditions and related operational and regulatory matters, highlighting that the District's projected 2026-2027 surface water supply is approximately 584,000 acre-feet based on a 28% Central Valley Project allocation. She noted that September surface water deliveries totaled approximately 40,000 acre-feet, exceeding the forecasted 29,000 acre-feet, with cumulative deliveries tracking about 28,000 acre-feet above forecast. Ms. Campbell also reported that the District has allocated 82,722 acre-feet of supplemental water and projects approximately 260,000 acre-feet of groundwater pumping during the contract water year. In addition, she provided an update on reservoir conditions, noting that the Central Valley Project share of San Luis Reservoir storage was approximately 484,000 acre-feet, while storage levels at Shasta and Folsom reservoirs were 104% and 99% of average, respectively.

Item 4.b. Science Program Update

Mr. Cavallo updated the Board on fisheries investment strategy, providing an update on current fisheries conditions, agency activities, and planned recovery investments. He noted that winter-run egg incubation results indicate the potential production of approximately 1.5 to 3 million juvenile fish, representing one of the highest production levels since 2010. Mr. Cavallo also reported that an independent scientific panel is evaluating the effects of South Delta exports on juvenile salmon and steelhead, with findings expected in December 2026. In addition, he stated that staff continues to develop winter-run recovery actions focused on reintroduction efforts in the McCloud River and improvements to hatchery operations through collaborative partnerships and shared funding opportunities.

Directors inquired about the potential purchase of a drone to assist with tracking and monitoring predatory fish in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Mr. Cavallo stated that staff is exploring the acquisition of a drone for District use and will report back to the Board as additional information becomes available.

Item 4.c. Federal & State Legislative Affairs

Ms. Febbo updated the Board on federal and state legislative and regulatory matters affecting the District's efforts to protect Central Valley Project contracts, secure water supplies, enhance groundwater resources, and address infrastructure needs. She reported that Congress is operating under a shortened legislative calendar, with action anticipated on federal funding, water infrastructure legislation, and permitting reform measures. Ms. Febbo also reviewed state legislative and budget developments, including measures addressing groundwater adjudication, water-use reporting, invasive species response, wildfire preparedness, and water affordability, as well as funding allocations for recycled water, conveyance, drinking water, and wildfire resilience programs. In addition, she discussed pending regulatory proceedings, including the State Water Board's consideration of Bay-Delta Plan updates and ongoing Delta Conveyance Project reviews, along with federal regulatory proposals related to water recycling projects and the definition of waters of the United States. She concluded by highlighting several upcoming state and federal deadlines, including the November 2026 general election, the start of California's 2027-28 legislative session, implementation of new state laws, and the expiration of federal interim funding in December 2026.

Item 4.d. Public Outreach, External Affairs and Consultant Review

Ms. Febbo updated the Board on key activities including press inquiries regarding the WQCP update; El Niño planning and potential recharge opportunities with assistance from State and Federal agencies; an SJV Sun article regarding the energy and water nexus; and a CalMatters interview concerning gubernatorial candidates and the golden mussel. She also discussed District recharge incentives, including a pilot creek recharge program, potential updates to the 2023 recharge agreements to provide longer

terms subject to Board approval, Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) projects, and a proposed grower meeting discussion item.

Item 4.e. Operations and Maintenance Report

Item 4e was removed from the agenda under Item 2.

Item 4.f. Strategic Plan Status Update

Mr. Farmer updated the Board on the Strategic Plan, including a proposed new objective focused on energy and power. A draft will be presented to the Board for review and input, with additional feedback to be gathered at the next grower meeting and the objective to be reconsidered at the November meeting.

Item 5. Outside Agency Activities

Family Farm Alliance

No report provided.

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA)

Mr. Freeman updated the Board on San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA), which held its board meeting on October 8, 2026, including Executive Director Barajas' report on operations and maintenance, general membership, legislative operations, and science matters. SLDMWA adopted the Central Valley Project Performance Framework to integrate its policy, science, and communications programs with a focus on reliability, affordability, and accountability. The framework is organized around three pillars: water resilience, environmental stewardship, and science, governance, and readiness. Additional actions included approving a contract for banking services to address needs associated with significant infrastructure grant funding and an agreement to reserve mitigation credits for the B.F. Sisk Dam Raise and Reservoir Expansion. The update also noted that development of the 2028 budget is underway, with a workshop scheduled for December 17 and the operations and maintenance budget proceeding through committee, member, and funding partner review.

Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)

Mr. Freeman updated the Board on Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) activities, including the ongoing development of ACWA's Vision for Water Future and the October 9 Region 6/7 tour of Westlands, which highlighted subsidence along the San Luis Canal, ASR, solar development, desalination, and on-farm recycling. The update also included preparations for the ACWA Fall Conference in Anaheim, scheduled for November 30 through December 3, including meetings with other public water agencies and Reclamation, as well as participation in panel discussions and regional committee meetings.

State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA)

No report provided.

Central Valley Project Water Association (CVPWA)

Mr. Farmer provided the Board with a brief update on CVPWA, noting that he and several other CVPWA Directors recently met with Reclamation to discuss various ongoing issues, including communication challenges associated with staffing shortages at Reclamation. He also reported that the next CVPWA Board meeting is scheduled for Friday, October 23.

Power and Water Resources Pooling Authority (PWRPA)

Ms. Campbell reported that the PWRPA Board held its meeting at the District office earlier in the month, with discussion focused on succession planning and the 2027 budget. She noted that the Board is expected to adopt a rate of $0.19 per kilowatt-hour, which would remain consistent with the current year's rate. Ms. Campbell also reported that, in anticipation of the PWRPA General Manager's retirement, a committee is developing a succession plan for the position.

San Joaquin Valley Blueprint

Mr. Freeman provided an update on the San Joaquin Valley Blueprint initiative, noting that the previous meeting focused on gathering feedback regarding guiding principles for the strategic plan. He also reported that the upcoming Wednesday meeting will

include an action item to evaluate standard operating procedures for requests for grant letters of support.

Item 6. Valley Clean Infrastructure Plan

Item 6.a. VCIP Transmission Infrastructure Activities

Mr. Gutierrez updated the Board on the Valley Clean Infrastructure Plan (VCIP) transmission infrastructure activities, including the cluster study, which identified additional upgrades outside the District necessary to support the full buildout of 21 gigawatts of generation. Options to address the identified upgrades are being developed and will be presented for future consideration. Easement acquisition efforts are also ongoing, with commitments needed by year-end to support California Independent System Operator (CAISO) integration. A landowner meeting was held at the District office on October 19 and was well attended.

Item 6.b. Board to Receive an Update on Community Benefits Plan Activities

Ms. Febbo provided an update on development of the Community Benefits Agreement Plan required under Assembly Bill 2661, including ongoing outreach efforts and potential governance structures. She explained that the plan is intended to ensure meaningful participation and benefits for local governments and communities affected by the Valley Clean Infrastructure Plan, with potential benefits including local hiring and training opportunities, use of local businesses and vendors, and funding for community projects. Ms. Febbo reported that consultants are conducting focus groups, surveys, and community meetings, while staff continues coordinating with community organizations and educational partners to gather input on local priorities and concerns. She noted that early outreach findings identified water reliability, agricultural employment, and energy affordability as key community issues.

In addition, Ms. Febbo reviewed several potential governance options for administering community benefits and discussed the advantages and challenges associated with each approach. She concluded by recommending that staff continue outreach efforts, solicit

proposals, engage stakeholders on governance alternatives, and schedule a future workshop with local communities and interested parties.

Item 7. Finance & Administration Committee

Item 7.a. Board of Directors to Consider Investment and Financial Reports

Mr. Dix requested that the Board approve the September 2026 Investment and Financial Reports. He noted that investment yields increased during the month, with average returns exceeding 4 percent across most holdings, and interest earnings are projected to exceed the fiscal year 2026-2027 budget. Mr. Dix also reported that September revenues totaled $16.1 million, while year-to-date revenues reached $167.8 million, with lower agricultural water sales partially offset by increased groundwater power usage and interest earnings. Year-to-date expenses totaled $156.1 million, or 61.95 percent of budget, remaining generally consistent with the prior year. In addition, he reported that scheduled bond payments were completed in September, reducing outstanding long-term debt to approximately $207.3 million, and noted that the District submitted reimbursement requests totaling $180,018, primarily related to the Westside Subbasin Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program project.

Director Ferguson moved to approve Item 7a, President Fortune seconded the motion, and there were no public comments. The Board of Directors approved Item 7a, with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Fortune, Coelho, Franson, Ferguson, Anderson, Costamagna, Diener
Nays: None
Absent: Hughes, Bourdeau

Item 7.b. Board of Directors to Consider Approving 2026-2027 Mid-year Budget Transfers, Augmentations and Updates

Mr. Dix requested that the Board of Directors approve the mid-year 2026-2027 budget reflecting increased Central Valley Project water allocations, revised delivery projections, updated operating costs, and anticipated savings across District divisions. He noted that the budget assumptions have been updated to reflect a 28% Central

Valley Project allocation, increasing projected delivered water supplies to approximately 463,672 acre-feet, including 87,000 acre-feet of supplemental water. Mr. Dix also reported that budgeted Operations and Maintenance expenses are expected to decrease by approximately $1.2 million due to savings on salaries and benefits, legal services, elections, consulting, and contingency, offset in part by benefit assessment shortfalls. In addition, he reviewed several proposed budget adjustments, including increased water purchase costs and reductions in power purchase, salary, and legal expenses, along with adjustments related to technology, facilities, land management, capital assets, and reserve contributions. He concluded by noting that approximately $590,000 in contingency funding would remain available following approval of the proposed budget transfer and augmentation.

Director Ferguson moved to approve Item 7b, President Fortune seconded the motion, and there were no public comments. The Board of Directors approved Item 7b, with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Fortune, Coelho, Franson, Anderson, Ferguson, Costamagna, Diener
Nays: None
Absent: Bourdeau, Hughes

Item 7.c. Board of Directors to Consider Approving Revised 2026-2027 Water Rates and Charges Retroactive to March 1, 2026

Mr. Dix requested that the Board approve the revised 2026-2027 water rates and charges to reflect updated water delivery projections, mid-year budget adjustments, and the actual cost of supplemental water. He noted that projected deliveries increased from 398,220 acre-feet to approximately 463,672 acre-feet following the final 28% Central Valley Project allocation, resulting in adjustments to several delivery-related rates and credits. Mr. Dix also reported that budget reductions of approximately $1.2 million are expected to lower Operations and Maintenance costs, while the Overuse of Water Supply Fee would increase to reflect the actual fully delivered cost of supplemental water. He concluded by stating that most proposed rates and charges would decrease or remain unchanged, with the exception of the Overuse of Water Supply Fee, which increases from $718 to $783 per acre-foot retroactive to March 1, 2026, and a modest

increase in the Bureau of Reclamation Restoration Fund component, which is not retroactive.

Director Ferguson moved to approve Item 7c, Director Coelho seconded the motion, and there were no public comments. The Board of Directors approved Item 7c, with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Fortune, Coelho, Franson, Anderson, Ferguson, Diener, Costamagna
Nays: None
Absent: Hughes, Bourdeau

Item 7.d. Board of Directors to Receive an Update on 2027-2028 Budget Schedule

Mr. Dix updated the Board on the proposed 2027-2028 budget schedule, outlining key milestones for budget preparation, review, and adoption. He noted that a special Finance & Administration Committee meeting may be held in January 2027 to review budget presentations from the District's four divisions. Mr. Dix further reported that the Proposed Budget is scheduled for presentation on January 19, 2027, with the Recommended Budget planned for Board review and approval on February 16, 2027.

Item 7.e. Board of Directors to Consider Approving the Allocation of Drought Pool Water, Cushion Water and System Gain

Mr. Farmer requested that the Board approve allocating the District's share of Drought Pool water, Cushion Water, and System Gain during the 2026-2027 contract year to support groundwater management and maximize available water supplies. He noted that Reclamation is making the District's Drought Pool supply available for allocation to help reduce groundwater pumping and facilitate in-lieu recharge within the Westside Subbasin. Mr. Farmer also reported that staff is prepared to allocate approximately 33,000 acre-feet of Drought Pool water, 7,000 acre-feet of Cushion Water, and 1,000 acre-feet of System Gain. In addition, he reviewed the proposed allocation methodology, under which Drought Pool water, Cushion Water, and System Gain would be distributed according to established allocation criteria based on water user requests, irrigable acreage, and eligible water use during the contract year.

Director Ferguson moved to approve Item 7e with the following changes: Drought Pool water, Cushion Water, and System Gain will be allocated as a single pool; open agricultural water applications will be filled first; availability will be noticed to growers as soon as possible; and growers will have seven days to accept or decline. Director Anderson seconded the motion, and there were no public comments. The Board of Directors approved Item 7e, as amended, with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Fortune, Coelho, Franson, Anderson, Ferguson, Diener, Costamagna
Nays: None
Absent: Hughes, Bourdeau

Item 7.f. Board of Directors to Consider Approving a Revised Salary Schedule Effective October 16, 2026

Mr. Farmer requested that the Board adopt a proposed revision to the District's salary schedule effective October 16, 2026, to support workforce development and ensure compliance with California retirement-system compensation requirements. He noted that the revision would add a Water Resources Specialist classification and correct clerical errors within existing classifications. Mr. Farmer explained that the new position is intended to support water resources planning, groundwater management, regulatory analysis, water supply reliability, and activities related to the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. He further reported that approval of the revised salary schedule would not impact the adopted fiscal year 2026-2027 budget, as the position would be filled using existing approved staffing authority.

Director Ferguson moved to approve Item 7f, Director Coelho seconded the motion, and there were no public comments. The Board of Directors approved Item 7f, with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Fortune, Franson, Ferguson, Anderson, Coelho, Diener, Costamagna
Nays: None
Absent: Hughes, Bourdeau

Item 8. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

Item 8.a. Board of Directors to Receive an Update and/or Provide Input on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation/Compliance Activities, including Actions to Implement the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Mr. Solorio updated the Board on the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation and groundwater sustainability activities for the Westside Subbasin, highlighting recent accomplishments, groundwater balances, and upcoming priorities. Landowners pumped 20,200 acre-feet (AF) in September, while cone penetration testing was conducted to evaluate potential recharge areas in drainage-impaired locations. Near-term efforts include constructing two recharge projects, refining monitoring networks, conducting groundwater monitoring, adding subsidence benchmarks, and holding an advisory committee meeting on February 22, 2027. As of September 30, 2026, the subbasin held approximately 2.1 million AF in total groundwater credits, including 454,454 AF in current water-year credits, with 216,406 AF used year to date.

Item 8.b. Board of Directors to Receive an Update on the 2026/27 Groundwater Conditions

Mr. Maraccini updated the Board on groundwater conditions within the Westside Subbasin for the 2026-2027 Contract Water Year. During the first two quarters, 554 active wells pumped groundwater, including 55 Upper Aquifer wells, 399 Lower Aquifer wells, and 100 composite wells. District-wide groundwater pumping totaled approximately 195,000 acre-feet (AF) through August, with approximately 18 percent pumped from the Upper Aquifer and 82 percent from the Lower Aquifer. Based on irrigated acreage and historical groundwater use, total pumping for the 2026-2027 Contract Water Year is projected at 260,000 AF, which remains below the Westside Subbasin's sustainable yield of 305,000 AF.

Item 8.c. Board of Directors to Consider a Request for Variance from Article 1: Regulations for the Groundwater Allocation Program and Use of the Groundwater Within the Westside Subbasin, regarding the Acceptance of a Revised Groundwater

Allocation Application Agreement from EBC Farms, LLC for Sections 8, 16, 17, and 21 in Township 18, Range 19

Director Costamagna recused himself from Item 8c due to a conflict of interest before the item was heard.

Ms. Campbell requested that the Board consider a request from EBC Farms, LLC to revise its 2026-2027 groundwater allocation application to add 952.1 acres across four parcels located outside District boundaries but within the Westside Subbasin, resulting in an additional 952.1 acre-feet (AF) of groundwater allocation. The request was submitted after the July 31 deadline and therefore required a variance. District staff determined that the request did not provide sufficient evidence to support the required variance findings, including that the variance would not adversely affect implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan or other groundwater users and was reasonably necessary to prevent unreasonable physical and economic harm.

Following the staff presentation, Director Coelho and Director Diener noted that nonfunctioning meters, together with a related staff error, prevented the groundwater use on the four parcels from being accurately measured and reported. They requested that the variance be amended to address only the circumstances caused by the nonfunctioning meters, and that the groundwater actually pumped on the four parcels be excluded from the variance and remain the responsibility of the water user. Director Diener moved to approve Item 8c, as amended, granting the variance on the basis of the nonfunctioning meters, with the groundwater actually pumped on the four parcels excluded from the variance and remaining the responsibility of the water user. Director Anderson seconded the motion, and there were no public comments. The Board of Directors approved Item 8c, as amended, with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Fortune, Coelho, Franson, Ferguson, Diener, Anderson
Nays: None
Absent: Hughes, Bourdeau
Recused: Costamagna

Item 8.d. Board of Directors to Receive an Update on Potential Revisions to the Subsidence Prone Areas Within the Westside Subbasin

Prior to discussion of Item 8d, it was noted that certain Directors had conflicts of interest with respect to the item. With Directors Hughes and Bourdeau absent, the recusal of each Director with a conflict would have resulted in the lack of a quorum. Accordingly, consistent with the legally required participation provisions of the Political Reform Act (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 2, § 18705), a random drawing was conducted to select the Directors needed to establish a quorum. Directors Fortune and Coelho were recused from the item and did not participate in the discussion. Directors Anderson, Costamagna, Diener, Ferguson, and Franson participated in the discussion of Item 8d. Directors Hughes and Bourdeau were absent.

Ms. Campbell updated the Board on potential revisions to the Subsidence Prone Areas (SPAs) within the Westside Subbasin based on updated subsidence data and recommendations from the Department of Water Resources. The proposed revisions would more closely align the SPA boundaries with areas near the San Luis Reservoir where subsidence poses the greatest risk to surface infrastructure and would limit both the Northern and Southern SPAs to a two-mile-wide area. Under the proposed revisions, the Northern SPA would be reduced by approximately 35,000 acres and the Southern SPA by approximately 500 acres. If the Board elects to revise the boundaries, District staff will return with corresponding revisions to the groundwater regulations and notify affected growers.

Item 9. Board of Directors to Consider (a) Finding Exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act the Execution of a Water Exchange Agreement with Santa Clara Valley Water District and (b) Authorizing the General Manager or Designee to Execute Said Agreement and Related Actions.

Ms. Campbell requested that the Board of Directors approve the proposed water exchange agreement with Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water) to support a pilot groundwater banking and exchange program. She explained that the agreement would allow Valley Water to provide up to 5,000 acre-feet of Central Valley Project

water to the District by December 31, 2028, with Westlands returning 80 percent of the delivered volume within 10 years. Ms. Campbell noted that the exchange is covered by applicable federal environmental review and is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act requirements. She concluded by recommending authorization for the General Manager or designee to execute the agreement, subject to non-material modifications.

Director Ferguson stepped out of the boardroom prior to the vote on Item 9 and was not present for the vote.

Director Diener moved to approve Item 9, Director Coelho seconded the motion, and there were no public comments. The Board of Directors approved Item 9, with the vote as follows:

Ayes: Fortune, Coelho, Franson, Anderson, Costamagna, Diener
Nays: None
Absent: Ferguson, Bourdeau, Hughes

Item 10. Public Comment

President Fortune asked for public comment; however, none were offered.

Item 11. Closed Session

Mr. Slater announced the basis for the Closed Session, as identified in the agenda. Prior to moving into Closed Session, Mr. Slater asked for public comments; however, none were given. The Board moved into Closed Session at 11:27 a.m.

Item 12. Report from Closed Session, if any, Required by Government Code Section 54957.1

The Board reconvened in open session at 12:42 p.m. Mr. Slater reported that, during Closed Session, the Board conferred with Legal Counsel and took no reportable action.

Public Comment

President Fortune asked for public comments; however, none were offered.

Item 13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:43 p.m.

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Stephen Farmer, Assistant Secretary

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE END-OF-MONTH
OCTOBER 30, 2026

Vend	Vendor	Invoice Amount	Discount Amount	Description
A 1160	GUARDIAN	4,449.42		LIFE INSURANCE
A 1160	GUARDIAN	5,956.68		DISABILITY INSURANCE
A 1161	UNITED CONCORDIA INSURANCE	9,311.70		DENTAL INSURANCE
C 0019	AT&T	258.55		INTERNET SERVICE
C 0070	ADVANCED GRID STRATEGIES	4,225.00		CONSULTING SERVICES-VCIP
C 0070	ADVANCED GRID STRATEGIES	650.00		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 0455	AMERICAN HOFMANN CORP	950.00		TEST ROTOR
C 0461	AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC	36.07		DRUM PUMP
C 0461	AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC	43.95		HEAVY DUTY WIRE BRUSHES
C 0569	VESTIS	2,611.24		UNIFORM SERVICE
C 0878	AT&T MOBILITY	1,575.11		WIRELESS DATA SERVICE - TABLETS
C 1235	BASLER ELECTRIC COMPANY	22,404.52		PVPP VAR RELAY PROJECT
C 1425	BICKER, CASTILLO & FAIRBANKS	25,000.00		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 1470	BIG BEARS HAULING SOLUTION	3,630.00		JUNK HAUL
C 1516	BILLINGSLEY TIRE SERVICE	690.78		ALL TERRAIN TIRES
C 1682	BLUE TECH WATER	28,175.20		WATER TREATMENT
C 1996	BROWNSTEIN, HYATT, FARBER,	25,000.00		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 1996	BROWNSTEIN, HYATT, FARBER,	25,000.00		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 2220	BURLINGTON SAFETY LAB OF CA	225.00		RUBBER INSULATING GLOVES
C 2440	CPS-HUMAN RESOURCE SERV.	9,000.00		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 2498	CAB WORLDWIDE LLC	7,827.50		FLANGE TURBINE
C 2875	CARAHSOFT TECHNOLOGY CORP	17,009.23		ZOOM ANNUAL RENEWAL
C 2875	CARAHSOFT TECHNOLOGY CORP	7.04		ZOOM OVERAGES
C 2971	CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY	2,300.28		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 3040	FLEXTG	318.82		TONER
C 3044	CAMPORA PROPANE SERVICE	1,066.74		REFILL PROPANE TANKS
C 3921	COFFEE BREAK SERVICE INC	372.00		COFFEE - FPSFO
C 4475	CRAMER FISH SCIENCES	19,298.85		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 4475	CRAMER FISH SCIENCES	6,377.78		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 4475	CRAMER FISH SCIENCES	11,877.13		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 5405	EG FARMING TRUST	13,275.31		FARMING & IRRIGATION SERVICES
C 5405	EG FARMING TRUST	32,113.10		FARMING & IRRIGATION SERVICES
C 5450	EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, INC	7,695.75		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 5450	EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, INC	27,680.50		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 5492	EL DORADO IRRIGATION DIST	511,395.74		WATER PURCHASES
C 7121	FERGUSON INDUSTRIAL	8,685.91		CLAMP REPAIRS
C 7245	G3 ENGINEERING, INC	13,725.78		BOWL ASSEMBLY
C 7245	G3 ENGINEERING, INC	4,285.53		BOWL ASSEMBLY
C 8150	GRAINGER, INC.	22.89		CELLULOSE SPONGES
C 8345	GREAT VALLEY RESILIENCE	36,000.00		GRANT FUNDING-SP CK
C 8500	HACH COMPANY, INC.	37.44		PHENOL RED INDICATOR
C 8621	THE HALLMARK GROUP	4,406.75		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 8621	THE HALLMARK GROUP	4,726.75		CONSULTING SERVICES
C 9840	GEIL ENTERPRISES INC	2,727.00		JANITORIAL SERVICES-OCT
C 9890	TERRY JOHNSON TRUCKING INC	876.89		CRUSHED ROCK
D 0444	KINGS COUNTY TREASURER	44,220.97		WATER PURCHASES
D 1099	LIVE OAK ASSOCIATES, INC	522.50		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 1239	LUHDORFF & SCALMANINI	996.50		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 1239	LUHDORFF & SCALMANINI	14,201.08		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 1624	MATSON ALARM CO INC	79.50		ALARM SERVICE-PVPP

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE END-OF-MONTH
OCTOBER 30, 2026

Vend	Vendor	Invoice Amount	Discount Amount	Description
D 1740	MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY CO	195.40		DOUBLE BRAIDED NYLON ROPE
D 1910	METROPOLIS TECHNOLOGIES	75.00		SACRAMENTO PARKING FEES
D 2042	MLJ ENVIRONMENTAL	29,010.75		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 2042	MLJ ENVIRONMENTAL	507.50		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 2060	MID-VALLEY DISTRIBUTORS	770.63		REPLENISH NUTS, BOLTS, SCREWS
D 2539	NAPA WEST AUTO	52.16		TPMS SENSOR
D 2539	NAPA WEST AUTO	49.67		AVIATION TIN SNIPS & METAL MARKERS
D 2539	NAPA WEST AUTO	242.91		SUSPENSION BALL JOINT
D 2539	NAPA WEST AUTO	77.35		EXPANSION VALVE
D 2539	NAPA WEST AUTO	87.59		INSECT WASH
D 2539	NAPA WEST AUTO	44.94		BRAKE PADS
D 2539	NAPA WEST AUTO	52.16		TPMS SENSOR
D 2539	NAPA WEST AUTO	3.63		BATTERY CABLE TERMINAL
D 2539	NAPA WEST AUTO	396.02		DISC PADS & OIL FILTERS
D 2680	NEW ENGLAND SHEET METAL	520.00		PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE-TFO
D 2680	NEW ENGLAND SHEET METAL	82.82		HVAC FILTERS
D 2989	OUTFITTER SATELLITE INC	193.54		SATELLITE PHONE SERVICE
D 3100	PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC	7,092.73		UTILITY BILLING-SP CK
D 3235	PATTON AIR CONDITIONING	1,308.00		HVAC PREVENTATIVE MAINTENANCE
D 3458	BECKY PIERCE	49.21		REPLENISH PETTY CASH
D 3686	PROVOST AND PRITCHARD	281.40		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 3769	QUADIENT LEASING	568.33		POSTAGE MACHINE LEASE
D 4070	RAIN FOR RENT	5,057.85		TANK DELIVERY & INSTALLATION
D 4300	REPUBLIC SERVICES #917	354.46		RECYCLING SERVICES
D 5195	SAN JOAQUIN PEST CONTROL	120.00		PEST CONTROL-CROMWELL
D 5240	SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA	256,082.00		B.F. SISK DAM RAISE PROJECT
D 5242	SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA	3,942,250.00		WATER PURCHASES-WIRE
D 5572	SEQUOIA RIVERLANDS TRUST	24,768.83		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 5572	SEQUOIA RIVERLANDS TRUST	1,547.35		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 5972	SOFTCHOICE CORP	4,855.00		NETWORK MONITOR-SUBSCRIPTION
D 6420	STRAETER AG SERVICES	4,397.84		WEEDING
D 6420	STRAETER AG SERVICES	21,495.56		LAND DISKING
D 6425	STUTZMAN PUBLIC AFFAIRS, LLC	6,650.00		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 6990	TECHNOFLO SYSTEMS	1,511.65		LITHIUM BATTERIES
D 7340	TJ-H2b ANALYTICAL SERVICES	6,240.00		CONSULTING SERICES
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	300.66		MONTHLY CHGS-PERDUE-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	6,638.55		MONTHLY CHGS-GEN ACCT-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	267.31		MONTHLY CHGS-FEBBO-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	2,715.90		MONTHLY CHGS-BOURDEAU-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	511.10		MONTHLY CHGS-CASTILLO-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	154.42		MONTHLY CHGS-FARMER-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	1,330.35		MONTHLY CHGS-CAMPBELL-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	680.44		MONTHLY CHGS-LEYVA-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	48.43		MONTHLY CHGS-HUGHES-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	823.48		MONTHLY CHGS-MENDEZ-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	2,740.42		MONTHLY CHGS-GA SUBS-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	716.30		MONTHLY CHGS-CHIN-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	10.00		MONTHLY CHGS-GUTIERREZ-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	819.10		MONTHLY CHGS-CAVALLO-SP CK
D 7679	US BANK CORP PYMT SYSTEM	108.75		MONTHLY CHGS-ACUNA-SP CK

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE END-OF-MONTH
OCTOBER 30, 2026

Vend	Vendor	Invoice Amount	Discount Amount	Description
D 8000	VESERIS	1,779.93		INSECTICIDE SPRAY
D 8325	VALLEY PROPANE, INC.	1,422.68		PROPANE REFILL-TFO
D 8325	VALLEY PROPANE, INC.	220.27		PROPANE REFILL
D 8325	VALLEY PROPANE, INC.	367.12		PROPANE REFILL
D 8440	VALLEY WROUGHT IRON	392.50		GATE REPAIR
D 8658	VERIZON WIRELESS	1,421.38		WIRELESS DATA SERVICE - FPSFO
D 9150	WATSON AG IRRIGATION	48,815.74		EISIP-CASACA VINEYARDS
D 9350	WEST ENERGY GRID CONSULTING	10,062.50		CONSULTING SERVICES-VCIP
D 9971	CERESCOLLAB, LLC	3,437.50		CONSULTING SERVICES
D 9983	ZORO TOOLS INC	107.26		WATER FILTER CARTRIDGE
D 9983	ZORO TOOLS INC	67.87		THREAD SEALANT TAPE
D 9983	ZORO TOOLS INC	734.29		SEALANT, RUST SPRAY, BALL VALVES
L 0200	DALE GIES	64.60		EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
L 0200	DALE GIES	21.30		EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
L 1035	KATARINA BUELNA CAMPBELL	166.79		EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
L 1134	BOJANCO HADZIKIMOV	137.17		EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
L 1196	DANIEL FULMER	703.25		EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
T 8110	SILVER CREEK GIN	2,468.08		WATER USER REFUND
	JOHN BLACKBURN	1,500.80		WATER USER REFUND
	ROYAL PACKING CO	313.75		WATER USER REFUND
	ANDERSON CLAYTON CORP	170.91		WATER USER REFUND
	N S FARMS INC	3,108.80		WATER USER REFUND
		5,375,666.46	0.00	

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
NOVEMBER 17, 2026

Vendor	Invoice Amount	Discount Amount	Description
FRANCHISE TAX BOARD	215.00		PAYROLL RELATED
FRANCHISE TAX BOARD	586.00		PAYROLL RELATED
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES'	82,322.29		PAYROLL RELATED - ACH
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES'	172,501.94		PAYROLL RELATED - ACH
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES'	17,496.00		PAYROLL RELATED - ACH
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES'	7,341.18		PAYROLL RELATED - ACH
ACTION EQUIPMENT RENTALS INC	412.38		LIGHT TOWER RENTAL
REXEL USA, INC	16,508.43		INSPECTION WINDOW
REXEL USA, INC	61.69		THREADED CONDUIT BODY
REXEL USA, INC	1,196.52		ELECTRICAL TAPE & DUCT SEALS
AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC	22.39		PACKING TAPE ROLLS
AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC	21.17		FIRST AID REFILLS
AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC	1,273.36	9.14	HEADSETS & WIRELESS KEYBOARDS
AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC	6.27		PETTY CASH BOOK
AMAZON.COM SERVICES LLC	104.49		BRADY LABEL
AUTOMATED OFFICE SYSTEMS	173.97		COPIER LEASE/CHGS-IM4000
AUTOZONE PARTS INC	80.92		RUST PREVENTATIVE COATING
AUTOZONE PARTS INC	161.83		RUST PREVENTATIVE COATING
BLACKBURN MFG. CO., INC.	333.67		CUSTOM MARKING FLAGS
CAL NORTH FORESTRY	7,800.00		BRUSH CLEARING
555 CAP PARTNERS, LP	7,517.76		RENT SACRAMENTO OFFICE
CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS	10,839.00		ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
NUTRIEN AG SOLUTIONS, INC	5,436.54		ROUND UP PRO CONCENTRATE
DE LAGE LANDEN FIN. SER.	286.46		COPIER LEASE-LJET X57945dn & X55745dn
DE LAGE LANDEN FIN. SER.	459.24		COPIER LEASE-KON MINOLTA C450i
DE LAGE LANDEN FIN. SER.	216.50		COPIER LEASE-KON MINOLTA 808
DE LAGE LANDEN FIN. SER.	212.57		COPIER LEASE-KON MINOLTA 808
DISCOUNT SHRED	100.00		SHREDDING SERVICES
DUDEK	11,125.00		CONSULTING SERVICES
DUNN-EDWARDS CORPORATION	453.49		PAINT
ELBERT DISTRIBUTING	534.86		MOTORCYCLE CHAIN LUBRICANT
ELECTRIC MOTOR SHOP, INC.	306.30		LED AREA LIGHT
ELECTRIC MOTOR SHOP, INC.	242.94		LED EXTERNAL DRIVERS
FIRST CHOICE COFFEE SERVICES	332.75		COFFEE - FRESNO
FRESNO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	1,072.00		MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL
FRESNO MOBILE RADIO, INC.	850.00		MONTHLY RADIO CHARGES
FERGUSON INDUSTRIAL	195.65		COUPLINGS, UNIONS, VALVES
G3 ENGINEERING, INC	5,544.52		BOWL ASSEMBLY
GFT INFRASTRUCTURE, INC	18,694.13		CONSULTING SERVICES
GFT INFRASTRUCTURE, INC	1,134.00		CONSULTING SERVICES
GRAINGER, INC.	873.45		DIFFERENTIAL PRESSURE SWITCH
GREGS PETROLEUM SERVICE INC	929.83		OIL DRUMS
HACH COMPANY, INC.	621.89		CALIBRATION VIAL
THE HALLMARK GROUP	5,859.25		CONSULTING SERVICES
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICE	32.48		FLEXIBLE KNEE PADS
HOME DEPOT CREDIT SERVICE	30.20		TWIST DRILL BIT SET
IN-SITU INC	200.00		SUBSCRIPTION-PRO CELLULAR
ICF ENVIRONMENTAL INC	669.50		CONSULTING SERVICES
ICF ENVIRONMENTAL INC	3,398.55		CONSULTING SERVICES
ICF ENVIRONMENTAL INC	5,794.68		CONSULTING SERVICES

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
NOVEMBER 17, 2026

Vendor	Invoice Amount	Discount Amount	Description
KINGS COUNTY GLASS	1,101.84		WINDSHIELD REPAIR
KINGS COUNTY GLASS	580.04		BACK WINDOW REPLACEMENT
LITHIA FORD LINCOLN OF FRESNO	61.98		TUBE ASSEMBLY
MKN & ASSOCIATES	41,419.50		CONSULTING SERVICES
MATSON ALARM CO INC	79.50		ALARM SERVICE-PVPP
MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY CO	203.21		CLEVIS ROD ENDS
MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY CO	361.82		SILICA GEL & LOCKOUT HASP
MLJ ENVIRONMENTAL	7,432.50		CONSULTING SERVICES
MLJ ENVIRONMENTAL	1,440.25		CONSULTING SERVICES
NAPA WEST AUTO	281.81		DIESEL EXHAUST FLUID
NAPA WEST AUTO	265.60		WATER JUG & GASKET MAKERS
NAPA WEST AUTO	131.73		PEDAL SENSOR
NAPA WEST AUTO	98.15		V-BELTS
ODP BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, LLC	207.35	1.92	HAND SOAP, NAPKINS, PLATES
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC	9.70		COST OF OWNERSHIP-COALINGA CANAL
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC	10.82		COST OF OWNERSHIP-COALINGA CANAL
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC	9.70		COST OF OWNERSHIP-COALINGA CANAL
PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC	10.82		COST OF OWNERSHIP-COALINGA CANAL
PALM MEDICAL GROUP INC.	104.00		RESPIRATORY EXAM
PALM MEDICAL GROUP INC.	104.00		RESPIRATORY EXAM
PALM MEDICAL GROUP INC.	202.00		PHYSICAL & RESPIRATORY EXAM
PALM MEDICAL GROUP INC.	104.00		RESPIRATORY EXAM
PALM MEDICAL GROUP INC.	104.00		RESPIRATORY EXAM
PALM MEDICAL GROUP INC.	104.00		RESPIRATORY EXAM
PALM MEDICAL GROUP INC.	202.00		PHYSICAL & RESPIRATORY EXAM
PALM MEDICAL GROUP INC.	104.00		RESPIRATORY EXAM
PAPE' MACHINERY	3,983.96		PARTS & LABOR FOR OIL & HYDRAULIC LEAK
PAYCHEX	2,994.56		PAYROLL SERVICE
PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGE	450.00		ANSWERING SERVICE-FPSFO
QUINN COMPANY	664.05		KNUCKLEBOOM RENTAL
RUBICON SYSTEMS AMERICA, INC	4,708.79		LITHIUM BATTERY & BLADEVALVE ASSEMBLY
SAN JOAQUIN PEST CONTROL	49.00		PEST CONTROL-TFO
SAN JOAQUIN PEST CONTROL	49.00		PEST CONTROL-TFO
SAN JOAQUIN PEST CONTROL	271.00		PEST CONTROL-FPSFO
SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA	20,000.00		CONSULTING SERVICES-WIRE
STAPLES, INC	434.16		CUTLERY & PAPER TOWELS
CA DEPT OF TAX & FEE	593.00		USE TAX 2026 - 4TH QUARTER
STONEY'S SAND & GRAVEL, LLC	2,654.26		CRUSHED ROCK
SUBURBAN PROPANE	75.00		TANK RENTAL-FPSFO
TECHNOFLO SYSTEMS	90,457.14		DIGITAL CONVERSION KITS
UNWIRED BROADBAND, INC	816.97		INTERNET CONNECTION-FIELD
WEX BANK	7,431.83		FUEL CHARGES
ZENITH INSURANCE COMPANY	29,256.00		WORKERS' COMPENSATION PMT
CHUCK SERRANO	20.00		EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
JOSE MORENO	34.65		EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
JOSE MORENO	34.65		EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
BOJANCO HADZIKIMOV	142.50		EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENT
JAGPAL BATTH	5,095.13		WATER USER REFUND
TWO NUTS LLC	1,670.06		WATER USER REFUND
	619,203.07	11.06	

Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 3c

Subject:
Board of Directors to Consider Approving a FY 2026-2027 Budget Transfer for Costs Associated with Unanticipated Repairs and Capital Project Needs

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
5. Manage Finances Effectively

Discussion:
The purpose of this item is for the Board of Directors (Board) to consider approval of a FY 2026-2027 budget transfer to fund Operations and Maintenance Division repair costs that were not anticipated to occur at budget adoption or during the mid-year budget process.

Over the past year, the septic system at the Pleasant Valley Pumping Plant has experienced recurring issues, requiring the septic tank to be pumped multiple times. Following completion of the mid-year budget process, staff determined that the original leach field is no longer functioning and must be replaced. Based on a preliminary soils review and initial calculations, staff anticipates that the new leach field can be installed without disturbing the asphalt parking area or replacing the existing septic tank. Staff solicited estimates from multiple septic contractors and received two comparable proposals for the work. A budget transfer of $30,000 is requested to fund the necessary repairs and restore the functionality of the facility's septic system.

Staff is also requesting a transfer of $50,000 to fund an 'add alternate' bid item under the Subline/Division Valve Replacement Phase 2 project. Because bids for the project were received after the mid-year budget review, the cost of this work could not be addressed during the mid-year budget process. The add alternate provides for replacement of the valve at 5L-6.0, which failed during the fiscal year and was subsequently removed. Replacement of the valve is recommended given its location

and function for isolating over five miles of mainline and preventing excess water loss during future maintenance and repairs.

Budget Transfer

The District's Budget Manual requires Board approval for all capital expenditures and for budget transfers between different expense codes when the transfer amount is $10,000 or greater. Accordingly, staff has prepared the attached budget transfer request consisting of the following:

- Transfer $30,000 from the Distribution System - Valves budget to the Field Office Maintenance budget to fund replacement of the Pleasant Valley Pumping Plant leach field.
- Transfer $50,000 from the Distribution System – Traveling Water Screens budget to the Division 9 Capital Projects Division to increase funding for the Subline Division Valve Replacement Phase 2 project.

The proposed transfer, totaling $80,000, will have no impact on the overall fiscal year 2026-2027 budget, as the increased expenditure authority will be fully offset by corresponding reductions in the other expense categories.

Proposed Motion:
Move that the Board of Directors approve a FY 2026-2027 Budget Transfer for Costs Associated with Unanticipated Repairs and Capital Project Needs.

Recommendation:
Approve the proposed motion.

Attachments:
1. FY 2026-2027 Budget Transfer for Costs Associated with Unanticipated Repairs and Capital Project Needs.

Westlands Water District
Agenda Item - Budget Transfer
Proposed Motion
Attachment 1
Item 3c November 17, 2026

Budget Code Expense	Description	Increase Expense	Decrease Expense
52900-03-31-10-02-00	FIELD OFFICE - MAINTENANCE (01)	30,000	
52200-03-31-02-40-00	DIST SYSTEM - VALVES (01)		30,000
11910-09-21-93-18-00	NEW CONS-DS-REPAIR/REPLACE (01)	50,000	
54200-03-41-02-31-00	DIST SYS-TRAVELING WTR SCREENS (01)		50,000
	Sub-Total	**80,000**	**80,000**
	TOTAL EXPENSE		**0**

Budget Code Revenue	Description	Decrease Revenue	Increase Revenue
	Sub-Total	**0**	**0**
	TOTAL REVENUE		**0**

(01) - Funds are for unanticipated maintenance expenditures - 52900-03-31-10-02-00
(01) - Butterfly Valve Parts - 52200-03-31-02-40-00
(01) - Cost to Rebuild 3 Traveling Wtr Screens - 54200-03-41-02-31-00
(01) - Subline Division Valve Replacement Phase 2 - 11910-09-21-93-18-00

Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 4a

Subject:
General Manager's Report on Water Supply, Water Operations, Projected Water Supply and Use, Drainage, and Energy Activities

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
1. Protect Central Valley Project Contract and Secure Supplemental Water Supplies
2. Enhance Groundwater Resources

Discussion:

2026-2027 Water Supply

On October 27, Reclamation increased the Central Valley Project (CVP) South of Delta (SOD) agricultural contractor's allocation from 28% to 31%.

At a 31% allocation, the District's 2026-2027 Surface Water Supply is 630,400 acre-feet (AF) for the Contract Water Year (CWY), as summarized in Attachment 1, "Available Supply and Total Estimated Use through October 2026".

Surface Water Use and Deliveries Forecast

Table 1 presents and compares the 20-year average surface water deliveries, CWY 2025-2026 actual deliveries, the 31% CWY 2026-2027 delivery forecast, which includes projected incoming water transfers, and actual surface water deliveries through February 2027.

The District's estimated surface water use in October was 31,500 AF, as shown in Table 2, which is on par with the forecasted amount for October (31,500 AF). The forecast from October 2026 through February 2027 was adjusted due to the increased SOD allocation. Cumulative usage to date is about 30 TAF above the cumulative forecast due to the abnormally high temperatures, and the resulting higher water usage, in March and September.

Table 1: Surface Water Delivery Forecast and Delivery Comparison

	Surface Water Deliveries												
	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Total
	Values in thousands of acre-feet												
20-yr avg	30.0	47.7	80.4	104.0	108.6	73.0	39.6	30.5	18.1	15.2	23.9	40.0	611.1
2025-2026	26.5	75.5	116.0	141.9	134.8	90.9	54.8	30.7	10.2	6.0	19.9	53.5	760.7
Forecast	19.0	41.0	50.4	80.2	87.0	52.0	29.0	31.5	18.0	16.5	26.5	36.9	488.0
Actual	36.6	44.5	56.1	75.5	78.2	55.5	41.0	31.5					418.9

Table 2: October Surface Water Use

Surface Water Supply Source	Amount (AF)
2026 Repayment Contract	20,742
2026 Assignment Contract	1,409
Municipal & Industrial	585
Water User Transfers In	1,959
District Transfers In	6,805
Transfer/Exchange Out	0
Total	**31,500**

Historically, November's average surface water use is 18,137 AF. November deliveries are currently projected to be on par with the forecasted 18,000 AF.

2026 Supplemental Water

The District received 89,676 AF in requests on 239,655 acres for the 2026-2027 Supplemental Program. The District acquired Supplemental Water from multiple sources for CWY 2026-2027 to match requests. The District allocated 86,488 AF of Supplemental Water to date, including 54,000 AF on April 30, 4,000 AF on July 20, 15,000 AF on July 23, 9,727 AF on October 8 and 3,761 AF on November 6. All timely requests have been fulfilled, with only 3,188 AF of the late request remaining. A future allocation may occur if the assumed Delta Carriage Water Loss for transfers from north of Delta drops below 35%.

Groundwater Pumping Summary

For October 2026, Groundwater Management Plan (GWMP) wells pumped approximately 3,500 AF and non-GWMP wells pumped approximately 6,500 AF. Total District-wide groundwater pumping for CWY 2026-2027 is estimated at 235,000 AF at a 31% CVP SOD allocation.

Table 3: 2026-2027 Groundwater Pumping

	October (AF)	Contract Year to Date (AF)	Projections (AF)
GWMP	3,500	67,000	70,000
Non-GWMP	6,500	160,000	165,000
District-Wide Total	10,000	227,000	235,000

Project Operations

- Jones Pumping Plant (PP) decreased to one-unit operation starting on October 23, resulting in a daily average of 950 cfs. Banks PP is pumping at 800 cfs and is expected to range between 500 and 2,000 cfs depending on Delta water quality conditions. Reclamation's latest operations forecast projects November Jones pumping between 900 and 2300 cfs under dry and median hydrologic conditions.
- Shasta storage is 2,264 thousand acre-feet (TAF), 93% of average. Storage decreased by about 166 TAF compared to last month. Inflow into Shasta was between 1,700 cfs and 4,200 cfs over the last month and averaged about 2,800 cfs.
- Folsom storage was at 369 TAF, 88% of average. Storage decreased by about 53 TAF compared to last month. Folsom releases declined from 2,200 cfs in October to 1,300 cfs in November. Releases averaged 1,750 cfs over the last month.
- From November 1 through November 8, O'Neill has released an average of 615 AF/day for power generation, with no pumping into San Luis Reservoir. Over the same time period, Dos Amigos PP is pumping on average 655 AF/day on the Federal side and 4,585 AF/day on the State side.
- Through November 12, the Northern Sierra 8-Station Precipitation Index seasonal total is 0.7 inches, or 14% of average (4.9 inches) to date, and the San Joaquin 5-Station Precipitation Index seasonal total is 1.8 inches, or 51% of average (3.5 inches) to date.

San Luis Reservoir Operations

The CVP share of San Luis Reservoir (SLR) storage is approximately 430 TAF with an average decrease of about 1.8 TAF per day over the last month. Reclamation's end-of-October 90% exceedance is forecasting 400 TAF will remain in the SLR at the end of November and storage will start to fill in December. Actual storage may be lower as end-of-October storage was about 5 TAF less than forecast. Reclamation's 50% exceedance forecasts that the CVP SLR could fill in March. The 90% forecast does not anticipate that the CVP SLR will fill.

Water Quality

Table 4: CVP Water Quality

Location	Electro Conductivity (EC)	Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	pH
Clifton Court (Jones)	366 uS/cm	210 mg/L	7.4
SLC Check 13 (O'Neill)	386 uS/cm	221 mg/L	7.7
SLC Check 21 (Kettleman)	404 uS/cm	231 mg/L	8.2

Proposed Motion:
No proposed motion.

Recommendation:
None.

Attachment:
1 – Available Water Supply and Total Estimated Use through October 2026

2 – Exceedance Hydrology Charts

BOARD MEETING of November 17, 2026 **11/05/26**

ITEM: 4.a. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT
SUBJECT: Water Use and Supply - - 2026-2027 Water Year
DISCUSSION: Available Supply and Total Estimated Use Through October 2026

AVAILABLE SUPPLY	CURRENT MONTH (AF)	2026-2027 Y-T-D (AF)	2026-2027 TOTAL SUPPLY (AF) [5]	2026-2027 FORECAST (AF)	2025-2026 Totals (AF)	2016-2025 Averages (AF)
WATER YEAR ALLOCATION		**31%**	**31%**	**31%**	**55%**	**46%**
REPAYMENT CONTRACT - AG [1]	20,742	179,146	355,628	355,628	625,763	510,764
RESCHEDULED CONTRACT [4]	0	113,775	113,775	113,775	113,901	78,008
ASSIGNMENT: DD#1 / DD#2 /MERCY SPRINGS/ ORO LOMA / BROADVIEW [3]	1,409	9,859	14,554	14,554	25,822	
RESCHEDULED 2025/26 ASSIGNMENT [3]	0	4,695	4,695	4,695	4,069	
CONTRACT - INCIDENTAL NON - AG M & I [2]	585	3,234	4,886	4,886	4,016	
2026 Yuba Stored	0	0	9,548	9,548	0	
2026 PCWA Stored	0	0	12,350	12,350	0	
2026 El Dorado ID Stored	0	0	3,088	3,088	0	
2026 Georgetown Divide PUD	0	0	2,007	2,007	0	
2026 Foresthill PUD	0	0	1,235	1,235	0	
2025 Yuba Stored	0	354	354	354	364	
CONTRACT AND STORED CARRYOVER	22,736	311,063	522,119	522,119	773,631	680,382
DISTRICT SUPPLEMENTAL & WATER USER TRANSFERS (net) [6]	8,764	107,927	108,281	114,000	121,075	
DISTRIBUTION INTEGRATION PROGRAM (DIP)	0	0	0		0	
GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (GWMP)	3,500	67,030	67,030	70,000	12,570	
CANAL INTEGRATION PROGRAM (CIP)	0	0	0	0	0	
TOTAL SUPPLY	35,000	486,020	697,430	706,119	907,276	891,421
CONTRACT CUSHION			0	0	0	
OTHER CUSHION						
TOTAL AVAILABLE SUPPLY	35,000	486,020	697,430	706,119	907,276	919,667
WATER USE						
AGRICULTURAL	31,809	413,197	413,197	483,114	767,107	
GWMP	3,500	67,030	67,030	70,000	12,570	
DIP	0	0	0	0	0	
CIP (delivered)	0	0	0	0	0	
NON-AG M&I	585	3,234	3,234	4,886	4,016	
CLOSE-OUT ADJUSTMENT [7]	0	5,059	5,059	0	0	
SYSTEM LOSS/(GAIN) (calculated estimate) [8]	(894)	(2,500)	(2,500)	(8,000)	(10,475)	
TOTAL USE [5]	35,000	486,020	486,020	550,000	773,218	707,536
TOTAL REMAINING SUPPLY			211,410		134,058	183,885

NOTES:

Total net cropped acreage in Westlands 2025-2026	316,550
Fallowed acreage 2025-2026	247,410

[1] 2026 CVP allocation 355,628 AF (1,150,000 AF - 2,814 AF (M&I historic use avg) X 31%).
[2] M&I: 2,195 AF Water Shortage Policy (78% historic use avg 3 years unconstrained) + 2,691 AF PHS supply = 4,886 AF.
[3] Assignment (14-06-200-8092-R5-P, 8018B-IR5-P, 3365AC-IR5-P, 7823J-LTR1-P, 7-07-20-W0055-B-IR5-P, 14-06-200-3365AB-IR5-P) allocation of 31% = 14,554 AF + 4,695 AF rescheduled 2025 Assignment Contract water.
[4] 2025 Rescheduled CVP supply 115,000 AF which includes 1,225 AF in estimated storage loss.
[5] Total Supply column includes close-out adjustment with system gain together for complete actual use.
[6] Transfer/Exchanges (In and Out): 8,764 AF in, 0 AF out.
[7] Close-Out Adjustment: Difference between DWR meter readings and WWD meter readings due to timing. WWD meters are usually read 3-5 days prior to receiving DWR readings.
[8] System Loss/(Gain): Acre-foot difference between WMIS delivery report vs. DWR delivery report.

SUBJECT: Water Use - - 2026-2027 Water Year

WATER USE :

Month	Repayment Contract						GWMP (AF)	SLC,CC Conveyance Contracts (AF)	CIP (AF)	Assignment Contracts (AF) [1]	Transfer In (AF)	Transfer Out (AF)	Lat. 6 & 7 Deliveries (AF)	DIP (AF)	GWMP/DIP Combined (AF)
	Ag (AF)	3(f) Ag (AF)	215 Contract (AF)	Rescheduled (AF)	215 M&I (AF)	M&I (AF)									
March 2026	0	0	0	31,705	0	181	3,125	0	0	4,695	0	0	0	0	0
April	0	0	0	43,246	0	237	8,995	1,003	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
May	0	0	0	38,824	0	258	13,085	3,431	0	0	13,601	0	21	0	0
June	31,231	0	0	0	0	362	13,375	4,889	0	2,818	35,516	0	719	0	0
July	65,321	0	0	0	0	413	12,130	1,066	0	2,817	7,986	0	627	0	0
August	36,772	0	0	0	0	592	8,480	726	0	1,408	15,940	0	98	0	0
September	25,080	0	0	0	0	606	4,340	1,691	0	1,407	12,203	0	0	0	0
October	**20,742**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**585**	**3,500**	**1,000**	**0**	**1,409**	**7,764**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
November															
December															
January 2027															
February															
Totals	**179,146**	**0**	**0**	**113,775**	**0**	**3,234**	**67,030**	**13,806**	**0**	**14,554**	**93,010**	**0**	**1,465**	**0**	**0**

NOTES:

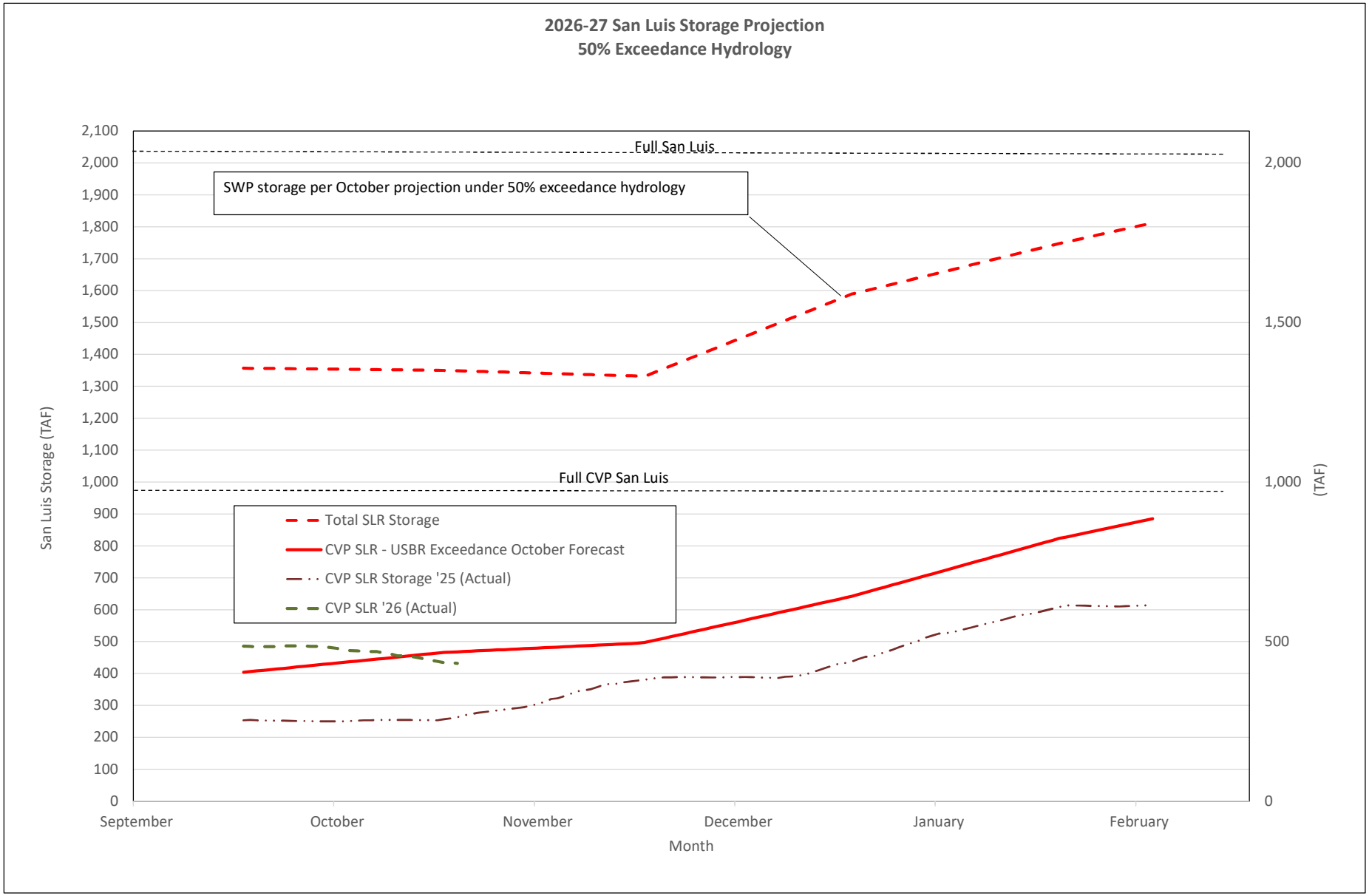
[1] 4,695 AF of 2025 Rescheduled Assignment allocation in March.

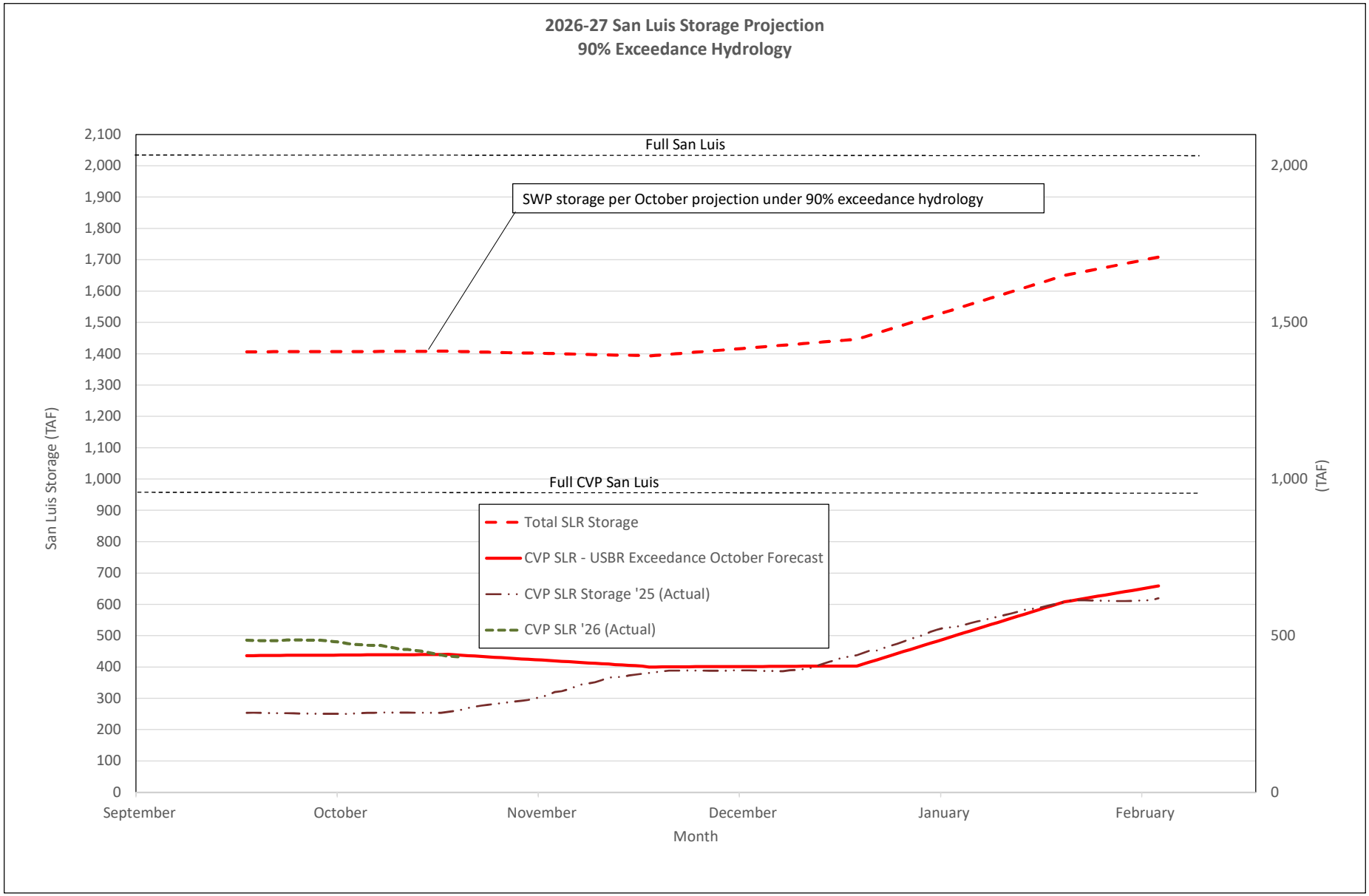
WATER YEAR SUMMARY

USE-SUPPLY ALLOCATION		
Repayment Contract		292,921
EST. DWR/USBR meter error		0
Conveyance Contracts		13,806
Transfers In		93,010
Transfers Out		0
DIP		0
GWMP		67,030
GWMP/DIP Combined		0
CIP		0
Lat 6 & 7 NP Deliveries		1,465
Assignment Contracts		14,554
M&I		3,234
NASL M&I Supply (SWP)		1,620
SWP Kings County Table A		0
Reach 6 Kings County Deliveries		0
Excludes Transfers Out	Total Use	487,640

DELIVERY SUMMARY		
Ag Total		413,197
WWD Groundwater Program (GWMP)		67,030
DIP		0
GWMP/DIP Combined		0
CIP		0
M&I		3,234
NASL M&I Supply (SWP)		1,620
SWP Kings County Table A		
Close-out adjustment		5,059
	Total Deliveries	490,140

SYSTEM GAIN/(LOSS)	AF
Quantity	2,500
Percent of Supply	0.51%


2026-27 San Luis Storage Projection
50% Exceedance Hydrology
Full San Luis
SWP storage per October projection under 50% exceedance hydrology
Full CVP San Luis
Total SLR Storage
CVP SLR - USBR Exceedance October Forecast
CVP SLR Storage '25 (Actual)
CVP SLR '26 (Actual)
San Luis Storage (TAF)
(TAF)
Month
September
October
November
December
January
February
2,100
2,000
1,900
1,800
1,700
1,600
1,500
1,400
1,300
1,200
1,100
1,000
900
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0
2,000
1,500
1,000
500
0


2026-27 San Luis Storage Projection
90% Exceedance Hydrology
Full San Luis
SWP storage per October projection under 90% exceedance hydrology
Full CVP San Luis
Total SLR Storage
CVP SLR - USBR Exceedance October Forecast
CVP SLR Storage '25 (Actual)
CVP SLR '26 (Actual)
San Luis Storage (TAF)
(TAF)
Month
September
October
November
December
January
February
2,100
2,000
1,900
1,800
1,700
1,600
1,500
1,400
1,300
1,200
1,100
1,000
900
800
700
600
500
400
300
200
100
0

Westlands Water District Board of Directors
Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026
Item 4c

Subject:
Board of Directors to Receive an Update on Federal and State Affairs and Legislative Matters

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
1. Protect Central Valley Project (CVP) Contract and Secure Supplemental Water Supplies
2. Enhance Groundwater Resources
3. Prioritize Critical Infrastructure Needs
4. Cultivate Collaborative Relationships

Discussion:
The purpose of this item is for the Board of Directors (Board) to receive an update on State and Federal Affairs, including legislation.

Federal Affairs Update
Unofficial results from the November 3 General Election show some turnover in the region's legislative delegation, according to a November 4 briefing prepared by the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA). Results remain preliminary: mail ballots postmarked by Election Day count if received by November 10, counties report final official results by December 4, and the Secretary of State certifies results on December 11.

In Congress, Randy Villegas (D) leads Representative David Valadao (R) roughly 68%–32% in the 22nd Congressional District (CD-22), and the race has now been called. Representative Valadao has served as the Valley's senior Republican on the House Appropriations Committee. Representative Adam Gray (D) was re-elected in CD-13 by approximately 61%–39%, and Representative Vince Fong (R) was re-elected in CD-20. The 120th Congress will be seated on January 3, 2027.

Congress returns to Washington the second week of November for the lame duck session. ACWA's federal team will focus on the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA), the Farm Bill, appropriations, reauthorization of key federal water programs and permitting reform. ACWA Executive Director Karla Nemeth was scheduled to visit Washington, D.C. the week of November 9 to meet with members of Congress and federal agency officials on federal water infrastructure funding, California's water management challenges, drought and emergency response preparedness, and water affordability.

On October 13, the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California temporarily halted the administration's reorganization of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which would have relocated and consolidated staff into five regional hubs and closed numerous regional offices. The order bars USDA from using congressionally appropriated funds for the reorganization, including the Forest Service, Rural Development and the Farm Production and Conservation mission area. Because the order is tied to current appropriations, which expire in December, it would not prevent a reorganization afterward if Congress agrees with USDA's plan. ACWA previously commented on the plan, urging that any reorganization maintain expertise, avoid funding delays and include a western USDA hub office in California.

FEMA is also moving forward with an internal reorganization under Administrator Hamilton. Reported changes include renaming the Office of Response and Recovery as the Office of Civil Preparedness; placing the Hazard Mitigation Directorate, including the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), under that office; and moving the National Flood Insurance Program into the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. These are organizational changes rather than announced changes to program eligibility or funding, though they may affect how programs are administered for states and local agencies.

The ACWA Federal Affairs Committee will meet on December 1 during the ACWA Fall 2026 Conference and Exhibition in Anaheim (December 1–3). On October 9, ACWA

submitted comments to EPA and the Army Corps of Engineers on the updated definition of “waters of the United States.”

State Affairs Update

Xavier Becerra (D) was elected Governor and will be sworn in on January 4, 2027. In the State Senate, Assemblymember Esmeralda Soria (D), author of the District-sponsored Assembly Bill 2728 was elected in Senate District 14 to succeed Senator Anna Caballero, who was termed out, and Senator Melissa Hurtado (D) was re-elected in Senate District 16. Senate District 4 remains too close to call between Alexandra Duarte (R) and Jaron Brandon (D). In the Assembly, Fresno County Supervisor Brian Pacheco (D) was elected to succeed Soria in Assembly District 27, Assembly Republican Leader Alexandra Macedo (R) leads 50.5%–49.5% in Assembly District 33, and Speaker Robert Rivas (D) was re-elected in Assembly District 29. The Legislature convenes its organizing session on December 7.

Among the statewide ballot measures, Proposition 45, which would have set deadlines on CEQA review and litigation for “essential projects,” including water infrastructure, was rejected. Proposition 2, which raises the Rainy Day Fund cap from 10 to 20 percent of General Fund revenue, passed with approximately 60 percent in favor, and Proposition 43, which would have required two-thirds voter approval for voter-initiated local special taxes, failed.

Regulatory Update

Staff are tracking policy, regulatory and rulemaking processes, including but not limited to the following:

On October 29, the State Water Board adopted the final Water Quality Control Plan for the Bay-Delta (Bay-Delta Plan) at a two-day public meeting. Pending approval by the Office of Administrative Law, State Water Board staff will release a draft implementation methodology within one year and develop implementing regulations within two years. The Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program will begin implementation no later than October 1, 2027.

On November 4, the State Water Board unanimously approved water rights decision and permit for Sites Reservoir. Reclamation is developing an Excess Capacity Contract and Partnership Agreement to set terms and conditions for conveyance of water through federal facilities.

On October 27, Governor Newsom issued an Executive Order temporarily suspending certain state laws and regulations to expedite flood protection work in advance of potentially severe El Niño flooding during the 2026–27 fall and winter. The Executive Order builds on the previously issued emergency proclamation.

On October 6, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the Draft 2026 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program Guideline Amendment and Draft Proposal Solicitation Package, which govern funding for groundwater storage, banking, recharge and other conjunctive use projects. Public comments are due December 4, 2026. State agencies also continue to draft guidelines for Proposition 4 funding allocations.

On October 22, the California State Parks Division of Boating and Waterways increased the Mussel Fee Sticker to $21 for even years and $42 for odd years for a full two-year cycle. Proceeds support invasive mussel prevention efforts, including for golden mussels.

The State Water Board will consider adoption of the Draft Fiscal Year 2026–27 Fund Expenditure Plan for the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund on November 17, 2026.

Key State and Federal Legislative Deadlines

California State Legislature:

– November 10, 2026 – Last day for mail ballots postmarked by Election Day to be

received and counted.
– December 4, 2026 – Counties report final official election results to the Secretary of State.
– December 7, 2026 – Legislature convenes the 2027–28 Regular Session.
– December 11, 2026 – Secretary of State certifies the General Election results.
– January 4, 2027 – Governor-elect Becerra is sworn in.

U.S. Congress:
– Week of November 9, 2026 – Congress returns to Washington for the lame duck session.
– December 2026 – Current federal appropriations expire.
– January 3, 2027 – The 120th Congress is seated.

Proposed Motion:
None

Recommendation:
Direct staff as appropriate.

Attachments:
- ACWA Regulatory Roundup, November 2026
- 2026 General Election: What Changed in the Water Authority's Legislative Delegation (SLDMWA, November 4, 2026)

Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 4e

Subject:
Board of Directors to Receive an Update on Operations and Maintenance (O&M) Division Activities and Consider Directing Staff as Appropriate.

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
3. Prioritize Critical Infrastructure Needs.

Discussion:
The tables below summarize current distribution system capacity limitations and service interruptions. Unless otherwise noted, the remainder of the distribution system is operating without interruption.

Table 1: Pumps Out of Service

Location / Unit #	Issue	Status	Return to Service (Est.)	Capacity Reduction (cfs)
1R-2.0 #3	Check Valve Failure	Sourcing Parts	Dec. 31	3
27R #3	Pump & Motor Failure	Repair in process	Jan. 31	7.4
1R-4.0B #1	Motor Failure	Repair in process	Mar. 30	22.0

Table 2: Lateral Shutdown

Lateral Shutdown		
Lateral	**Dates**	**Work to be Performed**
13R	Nov. 16 – Nov. 22	Quinquennial
31L	Nov. 16 – Nov. 21	DWR Slide Gate Replacement
4L P-Line Meters Affected (4005 – 4025)	Nov. 16 – Nov. 20	Contractor to Replace Transformer
5L	Nov. 7 – Dec. 5	Pipeline Repair
Coalinga Canal	Dec. 1 – Dec. 4	Deferred Maintenance
16R	Dec. 1 – Dec. 4	PG&E Infrastructure Maintenance
18R	Dec. 1 – Dec. 4	PG&E Infrastructure Maintenance
2R	Dec. 7 – Dec. 13	Quinquennial
25L	Dec. 7 – Dec. 12	DWR Slide Gate Replacement
15R	Dec. 14 – Dec. 19	Quinquennial

Surface Water AMI

As of November 6, staff has completed 322-meter conversions/swaps, replacing mechanical with digital (Sensus output) registers. In addition, 351 MiNet nodes have been installed, and Civil Maintenance has begun replacing older Victaulic meters with new digital Vertiflow Meters. Staff continues to expand deployment efforts and refine the meter conversion process to improve efficiency.

Painting Projects

Staff executed contracts in September for the annual regulating tank and pumping plant painting projects following well attended pre-bid job walks in July. Both projects are currently underway and include painting four pumping plants (1L, 14R-C, 17R-A, and PV2) and the interior and exterior of the 30R regulating tank. Both projects were awarded below budget and are anticipated to be completed by year-end. Upon completion, 20 pumping plants and three tanks will remain to be painted before the District transitions to an as needed painting schedule.

Golden Mussel Update

Staff is currently reviewing the data from the Golden Mussel treatments on Laterals 4L and 7R which were conducted between July 27 and September 14. Initial notes reveal that 70 to 80 percent mortality was achieved on both laterals within approximately 14 days. Within seven weeks, the treatment had achieved 100 percent mortality in all 6 monitoring locations. During subsequent inspections on 7R, no live mussels were observed within the headworks, pipeline, and reservoirs. Staff was also informed some shells had been found in the backwash filters on Lateral 4L. Based on anticipated flow rates, water temperature, and veliger populations in the Delta, staff does not anticipate that additional treatments are necessary on these laterals this year. Staff are currently evaluating spot treatments at the 24R Terminal Tank and at PV3.

Staff was informed that the application for the Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration (REPI) Program funding, which was applied for in coordination with Naval Air Station Lemoore (NASL) in July, has been elevated to the Base HQ and staff anticipate scoring and feedback in December. The overall funding request was for approximately

$1.4 million to support up to two Zequanox treatments on Laterals 29L and 30L. There are no anticipated matching funds required for this grant and final projects selected will be required to submit full funding applications in early 2027.

Staff is preparing several Proposition 4 funding applications, including for the $20 million in invasive species funding available through the Department of Food and Agriculture. While the opening of the application process has been delayed, draft guidance documents have been published and are being reviewed. Of the four projects being considered is a research project in coordination with California State University Fresno on veliger populations and travel patterns in the CVP. One aspect of this project is to identify ways of tracking mussel populations without the need to dewater and visually inspect infrastructure. If successful, this could be a critical part of the District's control plan moving forward. The other projects being considered are related to filtration improvements at the Pleasant Valley Pumping Plant, and future treatment projects on the District's distribution system.

The Bureau of Reclamation announced a funding call on October 5, for fiscal year 2027 Mussels and Aquatic Invasive Species Spend Plan. Staff completed a joint application with the Authority to develop treatment processes at both the Pleasant Valley and O'Neill Pumping Plants for idle pumping units to prevent mussel settlement. This project is similar to one submitted last year by the District which scored just below the funding cutoff. Staff anticipates a joint project with the Authority will score higher and provide better results for both facilities.

Staff has reviewed the draft Golden Mussel Monitoring and Control Plan and is working on providing comments back to the consultant this month. The District's consultant, Dudek was tasked with finishing out the plan started by staff in March. The plan will focus on preventing the spread of Golden Mussels, but will also provide guidance on efficient treatment processes based on lateral specific operational considerations. Staff anticipates submitting the completed plan to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in the coming months.

Staff continues to coordinate with regional partners and monitor ongoing research efforts to better understand water quality and temperature effects on the golden mussel.

Proposed Motion:
No proposed motion.

Recommendation:
None.

Attachments:
1 – Golden Mussel PowerPoint

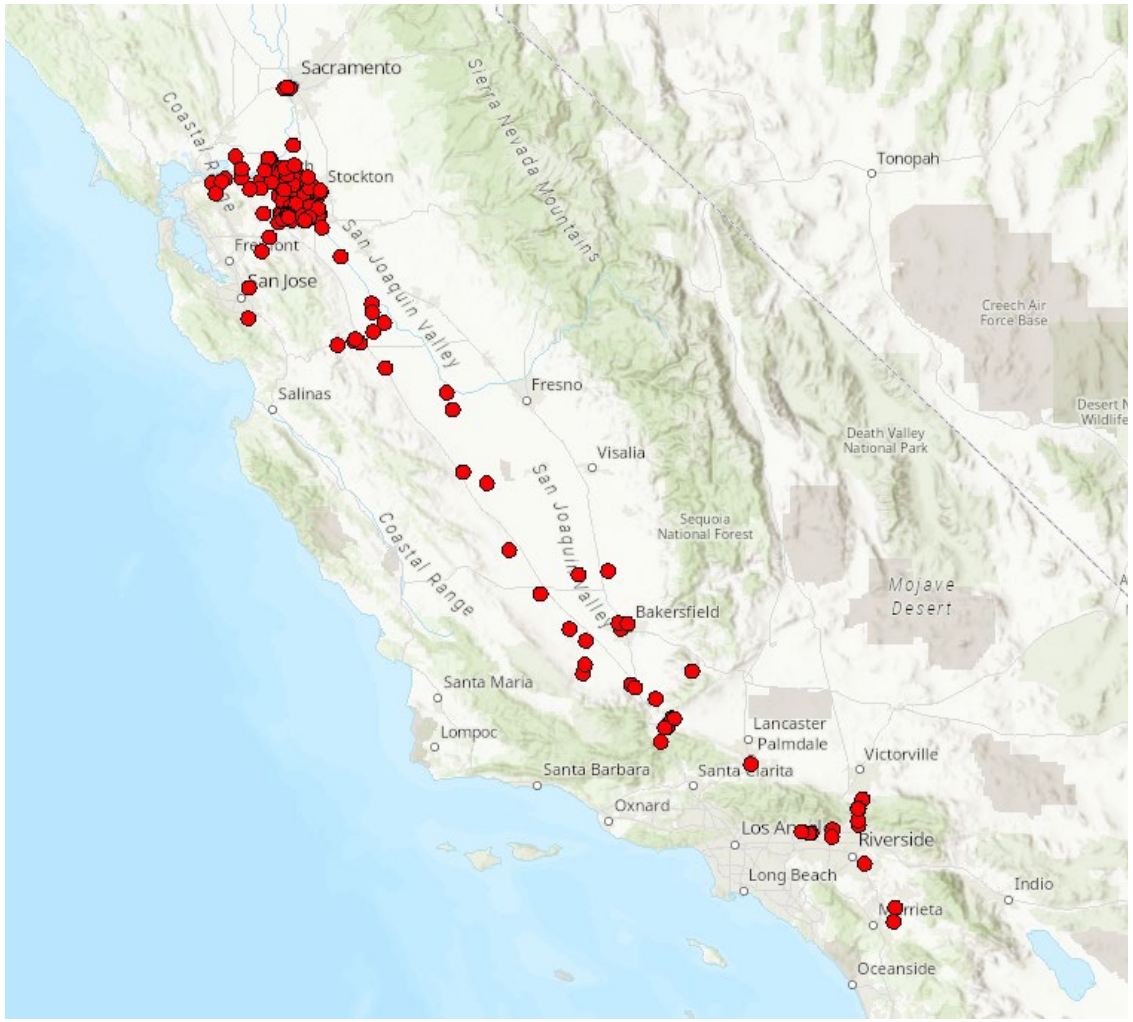
Westlands Water District

Golden Mussel

Background

Golden Mussel and its presence within the State Water Project, Central Valley Project, and Westlands Water District Distribution System poses a significant risk to the reliable delivery of water.



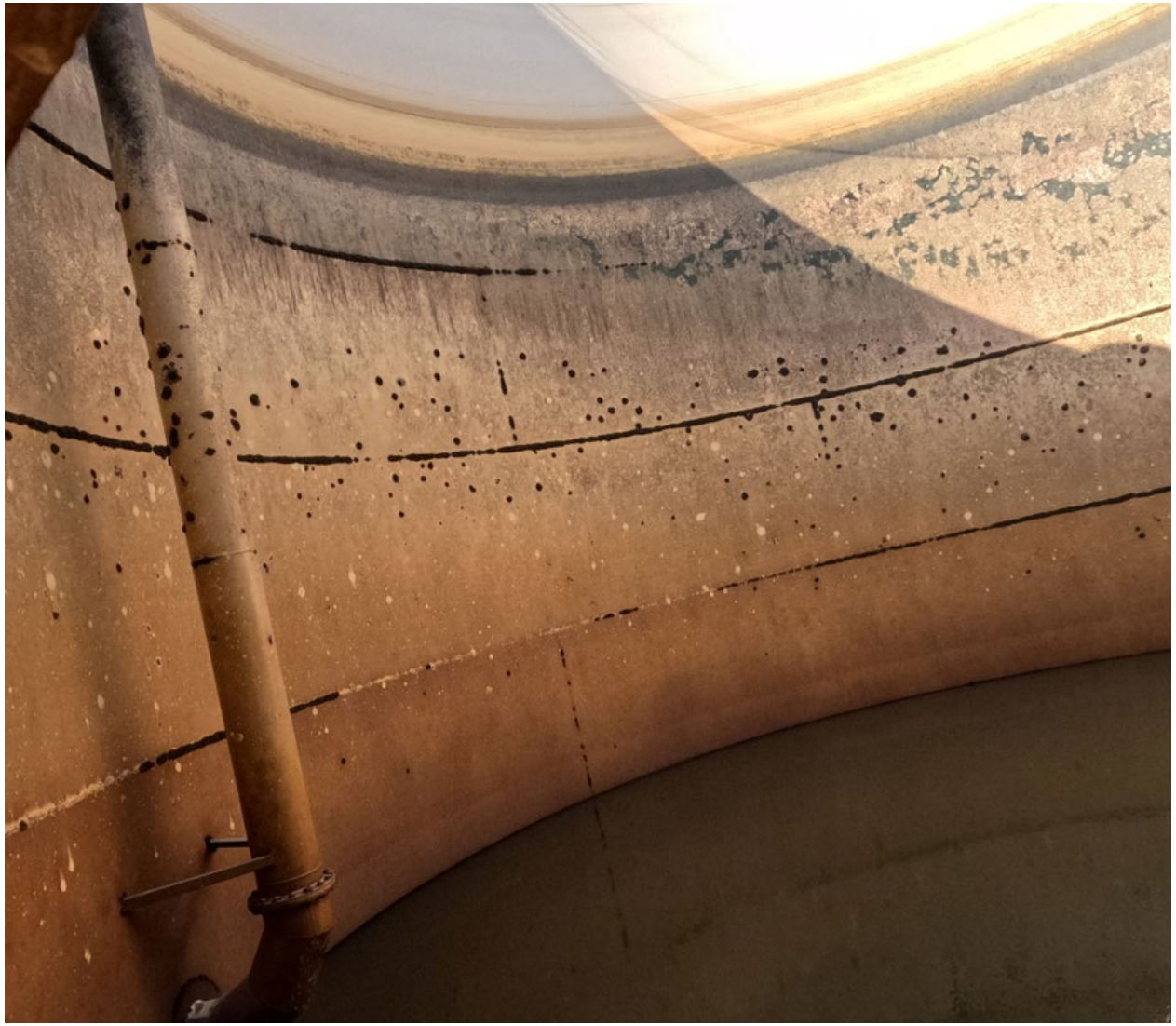


Golden Mussel

Presence in California

- State Water Project Facilities
  - Priority to “At Risk” facilities
  - Critical systems intolerant to biofouling
    - UV Disinfection
    - Chemical Treatment
    - Hot Water Decontamination
- Research
  - Life Cycle and Spawning
  - Treatment Options
  - Physical and Environmental Conditions
- Containment
  - Recreational Activities
  - Water Discharges to Uncontaminated Waters

Westlands Water District



Golden Mussel

Presence in Westlands

- PVPP Quinquennial Inspection
  - October 2024
- 2025
  - Pump Columns During Repairs
  - Pipeline Repairs
  - Quinquennial Inspections
- 2026
  - Pump Columns
  - Pipeline Repairs
  - Regulating Tanks (24R Terminal Tank at Left)
  - Slide Gate Structures

Westlands Water District

Westlands Golden Mussel Response

Plan / Budget	**Plan / Budget for Worst Case** • Treat Laterals Every Other Year • Utilizing Low Dose Copper and Qualified Applicator
Adapt	**Adapt Plan Based on Annual Inspection Results** • Quinquennial • Pipe Repairs • Meter Maintenance (AMI Swaps)
Modify	**Modify Maintenance Activities to Include Golden Mussel Mitigation** • Sump Silt Removal • Capital Valve Replacement Projects

Target Critical Infrastructure and Facilities Where Observed Population Densities Present Threat to Continued Water Deliveries.

Westlands Water District

Plan / Budget

- Annual Budget
  - Set 218 Rate to Treat 32 Laterals on a Two-Year Rotation
    - Used Average (45%) Water Allocation
    - $2,700,000
- Develop Task Based Contracts for Rapid Treatment Response
  - Receive Proposals and Develop Prioritized Vendor List
    - Adaptable to Applicator and/or Material Availability
- Finalize Golden Mussel Control Plan
  - In Progress with Dudek
    - Target Completion for December 2026

Westlands Water District

Adapt

- Develop Treatment Plan Based on Annual Inspections
  - Collaborate with Other Agencies
- Research Activities
  - Water Chemistry
  - Water Temperatures
  - Methods for Determining Mussel Population
    - eDNA
- Evaluate Emerging Technologies
  - Alternative UV Applications
  - Zequanox – Gen 2 Applications

Westlands Water District

Modify

- Develop Data Collection Facilities
  - Water Quality
    - Parameters that are known to and/or could influence treatments
  - Water Temperature
  - Mainline Flow Rates / Velocities Downstream of Headworks
- Develop and Install Dedicated Treatment Sites
  - Injection Connections to Pipelines
  - Flow Rates / Velocities Downstream of Headworks
- Transition Treatment Activities to Internal Staff
  - Training and Certification
  - Evaluate Staff Time Needed

Westlands Water District



Westlands
Water District

Family Farm ALLIANCE®

PROTECTING WATER FOR WESTERN IRRIGATED AGRICULTURE

MEMORANDUM

TO: **WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

FROM: SAMANTHA BARNCASTLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

DATE: NOVEMBER 13, 2026

This executive director's report is intended to keep you apprised as to what is happening behind the scenes on policy and other issues the Alliance is engaged in or is otherwise tracking. This report is intended for your use, but I understand that you may wish to share this information with your local board members and close associates. I would ask that you be circumspect when you distribute this, however. Here is your update on activities during the last several weeks:

GOVERNMENT FUNDING

Lawmakers return to Washington this week for a lame-duck session with a full environmental agenda. The list includes government funding, the annual defense bill, a contested permitting overhaul, a farm bill, and water infrastructure.

- FY 2027 Spending: Current stopgap funding runs out December 11. Lawmakers have fewer than 25 scheduled session days and must fund the government by Dec. 11. There may be another stopgap CR rather than full-year spending bills, because Democrats may prefer to wait for more leverage in January. The defense authorization bill remains stalled over Iran war policy and the Administration's $1.5 trillion Pentagon request. Some Republicans are also pushing for a final party-line reconciliation package, though many doubt there is enough time to pass one.
- WRDA 2026: The Water Resources Development Act is likely to move, either on its own or attached to spending legislation. The Senate version would reauthorize EPA's clean and drinking water state revolving funds at higher levels. Supplemental IIJA funding for those programs lapsed Sept. 30.
- FY 2027 NDAA: The House version of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) calls for a pilot program to test portable single-pass PFAS destruction technology. The Senate version would require interim PFAS cleanup actions at 100 or more military sites and would make DOD resume routine reviews of wind energy projects. The bill has been an annual "must-pass" bill in past Congresses.

• Farm Bill: With the House farm bill already approved, the Senate has only moved their version out of committee on a partisan vote, making a bipartisan Senate vote exceeding the 60-vote requirement more difficult. At issue are changes to the SNAP (food stamp) program cost share. Congress will need to act either way as many farm programs would either lapse or revert to 20th Century funding levels and policies at the end of the year.

Senate Republicans have released five proposed FY2027 appropriations bills, including funding measures for the Department of the Interior, EPA, Department of Energy and Army Corps of Engineers. The proposals largely reject the Trump Administration's recommended cuts, instead increasing funding for Interior and Energy programs and replenishing the wildfire suppression fund, while providing a modest reduction for EPA. The bills establish Senate Republican funding priorities but differ from House Republican proposals and have not secured Democratic support. With government funding set to expire in approximately one month, significant bipartisan negotiations will be necessary before final spending measures can advance. For the Family Farm Alliance, the proposed funding levels for Reclamation, water infrastructure and Army Corps programs will be particularly important to monitor as the FY2027 appropriations process moves forward.

TRUMP 47 ADMINISTRATION

1. DOI Issues Secretarial Order on Refuges

The Department of the Interior (DOI) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) released a comprehensive review of the National Wildlife Refuge System titled *Rooted in Purpose,* outlining 29 recommendations intended to improve wildlife habitat management, strengthen field operations and expand public access and recreational opportunities. The accompanying Secretary's Order directs FWS to reduce administrative bureaucracy, prioritize on-the-ground management and focus resources on the primary purposes of individual refuges. Of particular interest to Western agricultural interests, the recommendations specifically support the appropriate use of prescribed fire, grazing, agriculture, active forest management, invasive species control and predator management as tools for habitat conservation. The plan also emphasizes stronger partnerships with states, tribes and private landowners, streamlined administrative processes and more timely decisions on proposed refuge uses. DOI will use the recommendations to develop an implementation plan identifying responsible offices, necessary resources and required approvals. The initiative presents potential opportunities to advance active land management approaches and strengthen the role of agriculture and livestock grazing in federal wildlife habitat management. More information here: https://www.doi.gov/pressreleases/interior-announces-plan-strengthen-wildlife-habitat-management-and-expand-refuge

2. DOI Strategic plan on land disposal

The Department of the Interior (DOI) released a strategic plan outlining its priorities and objectives through fiscal year 2030, emphasizing domestic resource development, energy production, infrastructure and the use of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence. The plan highlights Interior's role in supplying the materials and resources needed to build and power homes, data centers and other infrastructure, while responding to growing electricity demand

associated with AI development. Of particular significance for Western states, the plan also signals an interest in disposing of certain federal public lands, allowing the Department to concentrate resources on lands it considers nationally significant and its core federal responsibilities. DOI suggests that proceeds from potential land sales could help fund conservation efforts elsewhere. The proposed direction raises important questions about which public lands could be considered for disposal, how those decisions would be made and the potential implications for existing land uses, grazing, water resources and agricultural operations. The Alliance will monitor implementation of the strategic plan, particularly any proposed federal land disposals or policy changes that could affect Western agricultural communities, water infrastructure and the long-term management of public lands.

3. BLM Rulemaking surrounding land use planning

The Department of the Interior (DOI) has proposed revisions to the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) public land use planning regulations, which have remained largely unchanged since their adoption in 1979. The proposed rule is intended to streamline the planning process, eliminate duplicative and outdated requirements, improve coordination with state and local governments and accelerate federal land management decisions. The revisions would also provide BLM greater flexibility in designating Areas of Critical Environmental Concern (ACECs), allowing the agency to better target conservation protections and avoid unnecessarily expansive buffer designations that can restrict other multiple-use activities. DOI describes the changes as an effort to restore a more balanced approach to public land management, supporting conservation while facilitating responsible resource development, food production and energy production. The proposed rule will be published in the Federal Register with a 60-day public comment period. A virtual public information session is scheduled for December 3, 2026, at 5 p.m. Mountain Time. The Alliance will be monitoring the proposed rule for its implications for Western agriculture, grazing, water infrastructure and the BLM's multiple-use mandate, and evaluating opportunities to provide input during the public comment period. For information and a link to the virtual information session, go here: https://www.blm.gov/sites/default/files/docs/2026-11/faq-planning-rule-blm-2026.pdf

4. USDA reorganization effort continues

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has asked a federal judge to lift a temporary court order blocking its plans to relocate approximately 2,600 employees as part of the Administration's broader agency reorganization. The October 13 stay, issued in response to a lawsuit brought by labor unions, nonprofit organizations and local governments, prevents USDA from issuing or enforcing relocation and reassignment directives outside employees' existing commuting areas. The Department argues the restrictions are interfering with critical agency operations, particularly its ability to fill vacancies in wildfire management, avalanche mitigation and agricultural research. Forest Service Chief Tom Schultz told the court that 25 fire management leadership positions remain vacant and that restrictions on relocating personnel could leave leadership gaps at 10 of the agency's 14 Western avalanche centers heading into winter. USDA also argues the court order is delaying the closure of its Beltsville Agricultural Research Center in Maryland, creating continued operating costs and uncertainty for approximately 30 employees. Opponents of the relocation plan contend it is effectively a workforce reduction strategy that circumvents congressional restrictions on agency reorganizations. The dispute remains before the federal court, with the Administration

arguing that new evidence demonstrates operational harm from the existing stay. The outcome has implications for the staffing and operational capacity of USDA and the Forest Service, particularly their ability to deliver wildfire management, snowpack and avalanche monitoring, agricultural research and other services important to Western agricultural communities.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE 119TH CONGRESS

5. The Election outcome and what it means for farm policy

The November 3 midterm elections resulted in a significant shift in congressional control, with Democrats winning majorities in both the House and Senate, including several traditionally Republican farm-state seats. The results will reshape federal agriculture policy beginning in January 2027, when Democrats assume control and gain greater oversight authority over USDA and the Administration's agricultural policies. Key priorities are expected to include addressing rising agricultural input and fuel costs, trade uncertainty, strengthening farm safety-net programs, protecting nutrition assistance and revisiting changes to USDA programs and operations. In the immediate term, attention is focused on whether Congress can reach a bipartisan agreement on a five-year farm bill during the post-election lame-duck session, while Republicans still control both chambers. The principal obstacle remains disagreement over Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) cost-sharing requirements enacted under last year's reconciliation legislation. Republicans have reportedly floated a one-year delay, while Democrats are seeking a two-year delay, creating uncertainty over whether a compromise can be reached before year's end. Other outstanding negotiations involve conservation provisions, country-of-origin labeling and expanded year-round E15 fuel sales. Passage of a comprehensive farm bill before the end of the year is increasingly unlikely, making another extension of the existing farm bill a distinct possibility. Looking ahead, the election creates an opportunity for renewed bipartisan agriculture policy discussions, although divided government between a Democratic Congress and Republican White House will require continued negotiation.

6. Leadership Sprint

a. House Minority Leader

Now that the election is over, new elections must occur (within the Halls of Congress). House Speaker Mike Johnson (R-LA) did not run to lead House Republicans in the new Congress. His decision follows midterm losses that will put the GOP in the minority in January, and it set up a contested race for the conference's top job. Two candidates emerged: current Majority Leader Steve Scalise (R-LA) and Judiciary Chairman Jim Jordan (R-OH). Jordan announced his bid in a letter to colleagues last Wednesday, describing himself as experienced in oversight and familiar with Democrats' tactics. The deadline for candidates to notify colleagues was November 6. House Republicans went onto elect Jim Jordan as their minority leader behind closed doors on Tuesday, November 10. A candidate needs a majority of the incoming GOP conference to win. That is a lower bar than the near-unanimous support Jordan failed to reach when he ran for speaker in 2023 after Kevin McCarthy's ouster.

b. House Natural Resources

Rep. Jared Huffman (D-CA) formally announced last week that he will run to chair the House Natural Resources Committee when Democrats take the majority in January. As the panel's current ranking member, Huffman is the expected pick and isn't likely to face a Democratic challenger. In a letter to colleagues, Huffman said he would keep the committee focused on oversight of the Trump Administration while pursuing a broad environmental agenda. His priorities include public lands stewardship, species protection, wildfire and drought resilience, clean energy deployment, and what he called responsible permitting reform. He also pledged to advance climate action, environmental justice, tribal sovereignty and support for U.S. territories. A former Natural Resources Defense Council attorney, Huffman has spent the past two years criticizing the administration's push to expand fossil fuel development on public lands. He has also broken with some in his party on permitting. He was among the first Democrats to oppose the bipartisan Senate permitting deal (S. 5653) last month, and after the midterms he renewed his call to renegotiate it. The contest for the committee's top Republican slot looks more contentious. Reps. Pete Stauber (R-MN) and Paul Gosar (R-AZ) are both running for ranking member, and current Chairman Bruce Westerman (R-AR) hasn't ruled out seeking a waiver to stay on as the panel's GOP leader. On a related note – Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM) is expected to take the gavel on the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee.

c. Appropriations Committees

The 2026 elections will also reshape leadership of the House and Senate Appropriations committees. Senate Appropriations Chair Susan Collins (R-ME) lost to Democrat Troy Jackson, and with Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY) retiring, Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-AK) is in line to become the panel's top Republican. A moderate who has often broken with her party, Murkowski would have to balance the demands of the new Democratic majority, her GOP colleagues and the Trump Administration. She would also become the senior Republican on the Defense Subcommittee, and Collins's departure leaves the top GOP spot on State-Foreign Operations open as well. On the Democrat side, Sen Patty Murray (D-WA) is likely to Chair the Senate Appropriations Committee in the 120th Congress.

In the House, Democrats' defeat of Rep. David Valadao (R-CA) opens the top Republican seat on the Legislative Branch subcommittee, and other subcommittee leaders, including Sen. Cindy Hyde-Smith (R-MS), were in races still too close to call. Retirements will drive more changes. Sen. Chris Coons (D-DE) is expected to leave the top Democratic Defense spot to chair Foreign Relations, Rep. Mark Pocan (D-WI) is expected to succeed retiring Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-MD) on Financial Services-General Government, where he plans to scrutinize OMB, the IRS and the FCC, and Rep. Mike Quigley (D-IL) expects to chair the Legislative Branch panel. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen's (D-NH) retirement opens the Agriculture-FDA subcommittee, and Rep. Mark Amodei's (R-NV) departure opens the top GOP slot on Homeland Security. Once elected, party leaders in both chambers will begin to fill the vacancies.

d. House Agriculture Committee

The race for leadership of the House Agriculture Committee is taking shape as Democrats prepare to assume control, with Reps. Jim Costa (D-Calif.) and Shontel Brown (D-Ohio) competing for the committee's top position. Costa, a third-generation farmer and 22-year committee veteran, is emphasizing his extensive legislative experience, bipartisan relationships and involvement in previous farm bills. Both candidates have identified passage of a new farm bill, food affordability and nutrition assistance as priorities, but Costa has specifically stressed the importance of restoring the bipartisan approach that historically characterized farm bill negotiations. The committee faces a significant agenda, including unresolved farm bill legislation and oversight of proposed USDA restructuring and nutrition program changes. The Family Farm Alliance is supporting Jim Costa for Chairman, recognizing that he is the only Westerner in the race, and further recognizing the importance of his agricultural background, experience, and longstanding engagement in federal farm policy.

7. Permitting reform conversations continue

The Senate advanced a bipartisan permitting reform package, the Bipartisan American Affordability and Jobs Act (S. 5653), by a 73–25 procedural vote on November 10, marking significant progress toward the first major federal permitting overhaul in decades. The legislation would accelerate federal reviews and shorten litigation timelines for major energy and infrastructure projects, including transmission lines, pipelines and power generation facilities. It also includes provisions requiring data centers to bear the full costs of the electricity and infrastructure they require, helping protect existing ratepayers.

For the Family Farm Alliance, permitting reform has important implications beyond energy development. More efficient and predictable federal permitting processes could help advance critical Western infrastructure, including water storage, conveyance, irrigation modernization and watershed restoration projects that have historically faced lengthy reviews and administrative delays. However, the legislation remains controversial, particularly regarding changes to NEPA, the Clean Water Act, the Endangered Species Act and tribal consultation requirements. Although Senate negotiators incorporated amendments addressing several concerns, opposition remains, and the bill's ultimate passage is uncertain following Democrats' gains in the midterm elections. The Alliance should continue monitoring the legislation and advocating for permitting reforms that accelerate essential water infrastructure while maintaining appropriate environmental protections, state authority and meaningful tribal consultation.

8. Farm Bill (not likely soon)

The path to completing a new Farm Bill before the end of 2026 has become increasingly uncertain following the November elections and the expected change in congressional leadership. Although the House passed a bipartisan bill and the Senate Agriculture Committee advanced its version, disagreements over SNAP cost-sharing requirements and livestock provisions have stalled negotiations. The election results have further complicated the outlook, with Democrats expected to assume control of both chambers in January 2027 and potentially having less incentive to accept a year-end compromise. With a crowded lame-duck calendar and unresolved government funding issues, another extension of the 2018 Farm Bill is increasingly likely. The remaining Farm Bill

provisions include important programs related to conservation, rural development, research, agricultural lending and other USDA programs. Agricultural organizations and former policymakers are urging Congress to preserve bipartisan cooperation and address the financial pressures facing family farms, including high input costs, tight margins and trade uncertainty. For Western agriculture, continued delays leave uncertainty around the reauthorization and future direction of programs that support producers, rural communities and agricultural infrastructure.

IN THE COURTS

9. 9th Circuit rules on CVP water service contracts

The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals has upheld a lower court ruling in favor of the Bureau of Reclamation, rejecting a challenge to the conversion of Central Valley Project (CVP) water service contracts into repayment contracts under the 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. The court determined that the Act requires Reclamation to convert eligible contracts when requested by a water district and does not give the agency discretion to alter water delivery terms during that process. As a result, the court found that Reclamation was not required to conduct separate, contract-specific environmental reviews under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) or consultations under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) before completing each conversion. The decision concerns the conversion process itself, not the environmental review requirements governing ongoing CVP operations and water deliveries. The conversions allow districts to prepay their share of federal project construction costs in exchange for repayment contracts that provide greater long-term certainty. The ruling is an important victory for Reclamation contractors and reinforces the value of reliable, long-term federal water contracts in supporting agricultural operations, investment and water supply planning.

ALLIANCE INITIATIVES

10. Data centers on Federal Lands

The proposed development of artificial intelligence data centers on federal public lands is drawing increasing congressional scrutiny, particularly over water and energy demands, environmental review and public transparency. On November 6, Sen. Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.), ranking member of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, demanded that the Bureau of Land Management disclose information about at least 15 proposed data center or related infrastructure projects spanning more than 17,000 acres across six Western states. Heinrich questioned the legal authority for these developments and the administration's approach to approving projects without additional environmental review, citing the 88-acre Townsite Data Center project in Boulder City, Nevada, which was approved through an amendment to an existing right-of-way authorization. Data center development is also emerging as a significant political and policy issue ahead of the midterm elections, with growing bipartisan concerns about impacts on rural communities, electricity rates, water resources and local control. Congressional proposals include requiring data centers to pay for associated grid infrastructure, secure dedicated power sources and undergo more

rigorous environmental review and public engagement before locating on federal lands. Arizona Democratic senators have specifically requested information from Interior regarding pending data center applications in the state, including projected water demand and electricity requirements. The debate presents important implications for Western water users as federal land management decisions increasingly intersect with competing demands for water, energy and economic development.

11. Endangered Species reform

The Trump administration's efforts to narrow protections under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) are drawing increased congressional and legal scrutiny. Forty-two Democratic members of Congress have urged Interior Secretary Doug Burgum and Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick to reverse proposed reinterpretations of the Act's definitions of "incidental take" and "harm," following September memoranda issued by the directors of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and NOAA. Under the new Fish and Wildlife Service guidance, the ESA's prohibition on "take" would generally apply only when protected species are intentionally targeted, potentially excluding foreseeable but unintended harm from activities such as logging, construction and dam operations. The changes follow a July rule narrowing the definition of "harm" and depart from longstanding agency interpretations that included certain indirect impacts on protected species and their habitat. Democrats are expected to use expanded congressional oversight authority when they assume control of the House and Senate in January 2027, although their ability to directly reverse agency policy will be more limited. For Western agriculture and water users, the resulting regulatory and legal uncertainty warrants attention, particularly where ESA implementation affects water operations, infrastructure development, irrigation deliveries and land management.

Separately, a federal judge ruled that the Bureau of Land Management failed to adequately analyze the effects of livestock grazing on sage grouse research areas in Eastern Oregon. The court found that BLM violated federal land management and environmental review requirements by allowing grazing in portions of 13 research natural areas and changing management definitions without adequate analysis or public comment. The judge ordered BLM to reopen the public comment period and better explain its changes. In the meantime, the agency must make efforts to keep livestock out of areas where grazing is prohibited.

12. Wildfire & Grazing Policy

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has proposed changes to U.S. Forest Service grazing regulations that could expand livestock grazing opportunities across approximately 95 million acres of National Forest System lands in 16 Western states. The proposal would increase available grazing allotments, reopen certain previously retired allotments and streamline permitting requirements, bringing Forest Service policies more in line with recent Bureau of Land Management reforms. Separately, Montana State University research found that a 10-percentage-point increase in grazing activity was associated with a 12.6% reduction in total wildfire acreage burned and an 11.9% reduction in high-severity burns, with estimated annual wildfire suppression savings of $324 million across Western National Forests. Together, these developments underscore the potential value of properly managed livestock grazing as both an agricultural use of federal lands and a practical wildfire mitigation tool.

Wildfires burned more than 9 million acres nationwide in 2026, damaging grazing lands, displacing livestock and threatening rural water supplies and infrastructure. Beyond immediate losses, ranchers face prolonged grazing closures, lost forage, supplemental feed costs and fence repairs. Burned watersheds also become more vulnerable to erosion and runoff, carrying ash and debris into rivers, reservoirs and irrigation systems, increasing water treatment costs and threatening downstream water supplies and communities. For the Family Farm Alliance, these issues reinforce the importance of advocating for active, collaborative management of federal forests and rangelands. The bipartisan Fix Our Forests Act, with provisions to accelerate restoration, reduce administrative barriers and recognize grazing as a fuel-management tool, represents an important opportunity to advance these priorities while protecting watershed health, reliable irrigation supplies and Western agricultural operations.

WESTERN WATER "HOT SPOTS"

13. Water Supply Conditions Across the West

An active storm pattern is developing across the Pacific Northwest and southwestern Canada and is expected to move into California, bringing the state's first significant winter precipitation of the season. Two storms are forecast to move through California, with the first arriving in Northern California Thursday night and spreading south through Saturday, followed by a second system Sunday into Monday. The North Coast could receive more than five inches of rain, while the Sierra Nevada is expected to receive several inches of snow. The storms are arriving amid forecasts for an exceptionally strong El Niño, potentially one of the strongest on record, raising concerns about increased precipitation, flooding, infrastructure impacts and emergency preparedness throughout the West. California water agencies and local governments are already drawing lessons from the significant flooding experienced in 2023 and preparing for potential impacts this winter, something we're all watching closely as it plays out. For Western water users, the developing El Niño pattern warrants close attention, particularly regarding reservoir operations, flood control, water supply management and the need to balance opportunities to capture additional runoff with public safety and infrastructure constraints.

14. California weather and water supply

a. California water supply

California is entering Water Year 2027 with cautious optimism as a strong to potentially very strong El Niño is expected to influence the winter weather pattern. The climate pattern increases the likelihood of wetter-than-average conditions, particularly in Southern California, and could bring much-needed precipitation to the Sierra Nevada snowpack, replenish groundwater basins and improve water supply conditions. However, El Niño is not a guarantee of drought relief, and the timing, location and temperature of winter storms will determine how much water is actually captured and stored. As of November 11, statewide reservoir storage was approximately 104% of historical average, while precipitation for the new water year was only 68% of average. California water managers are preparing for both opportunities to capture additional supplies and the potential for damaging storms, flooding and runoff.

b. California approves Sites Reservoir water right permit

California's State Water Resources Control Board unanimously approved a water right permit for the Sites Reservoir late last Wednesday, clearing the last regulatory hurdle before construction can begin on one of Gov. Gavin Newsom's (D) top water priorities. The vote came after hours of heated testimony and a week after the board approved Newsom's Bay-Delta plan. Located in a valley northwest of Sacramento, the off-stream reservoir will divert Sacramento River water during wet periods and release it during dry seasons, storing enough for more than 4.5 million homes a year, according to the governor's office. It would be the state's largest new reservoir in more than 50 years. State officials say the project is essential as climate change brings more frequent droughts and extreme storms. Sites is the only surviving project of several reservoirs planned with funds from a $7.5 billion water bond voters approved in 2014, and it will receive more than $1 billion from that bond plus other state and federal money, for a total estimated cost of nearly $7 billion. Supporters include the state, some municipal water agencies, farmers and President Trump. Tribes, environmentalists and fishing groups oppose it, arguing it will harm endangered fish and destroy sacred sites and burial grounds, and critics also question its cost relative to its water yield. Construction is set to begin next year, with completion targeted for 2034.

c. California approves changes to Bay-Delta Plan

California's State Water Resources Control Board voted 4-1 on October 29 to approve a major update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan, establishing a new framework for managing water diversions and balancing water supply reliability with environmental protections across the Sacramento-San Joaquin River watershed. The plan allows agricultural and municipal water agencies to pursue voluntary agreements under the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program, providing greater flexibility in water diversions in exchange for funding habitat restoration, improving river flows and supporting fish and wildlife. Agencies that do not participate would be subject to a more traditional regulatory pathway requiring minimum river flows. The approximately $2.9 billion initiative has drawn significant opposition from environmental organizations, tribal representatives and fishing groups, who argue the voluntary agreements do not provide sufficient protections for declining fish populations and river ecosystems. Meanwhile, the Bureau of Reclamation and some major agricultural water agencies have raised concerns that the plan imposes excessive regulatory oversight and could undermine water supply reliability, leaving questions about federal participation and funding.

15. Columbia, Snake and Yakima River Basins (ID/OR/MT/WA)

The Pacific Northwest is experiencing an active and unusually wet weather pattern, with successive atmospheric river systems bringing heavy rainfall, strong winds and significant coastal impacts to Washington and Oregon. Forecasts call for periods of torrential rain, coastal wind gusts of 50–60 mph and ocean waves reaching 20–25 feet, with concerns about localized flooding, saturated soils and coastal erosion. Higher elevations are also expected to receive additional mountain snow as colder air moves into the region. While early-season snowfall in northeast Washington has provided some encouraging signs—with snow-water equivalent at one Pend Oreille County monitoring station reaching approximately 160% of normal—significant long-term drought persists in portions of the state, including exceptional drought conditions in Stevens

County. After several years of accumulated moisture deficits and historically low mountain snowpack, sustained winter snowfall will be essential to replenishing streamflows, reservoirs and irrigation supplies heading into 2027.

16. Colorado River Basin (AZ/CA/CO/NV/NM/UT/WY)

a. General update

Despite recent heavy precipitation and flooding across the Southwest, the broader Colorado River water supply crisis remains unresolved. The storms have provided a temporary boost to critically low reservoirs, with Lake Powell reportedly rising approximately 17 feet from its historic low, but experts caution that short-term runoff does little to address the basin's long-term supply-demand imbalance. The increasingly volatile pattern of extreme drought followed by intense precipitation also raises concerns about the reliability of future water supplies and the ability to capture and store runoff. Meanwhile, water users and municipalities are preparing for continued shortages and difficult management decisions. Phoenix expects to enter Stage 2 of its drought management plan in January 2027, including surcharges for high-volume water users and voluntary conservation targets of 5% for residents and businesses. Separately, the Central Arizona Project board voted against renewing its financial commitment to cloud-seeding programs in the Upper Basin, ending a partnership that provided nearly $447,000 last year and had been expected to expand. The decision reflects growing tensions among Colorado River states over water management, funding priorities and the distribution of benefits from conservation and supply-enhancement efforts.

b. Southwest Water Supply update

The Southwest has experienced an unusually active and moisture-heavy storm pattern, bringing significant precipitation and both welcome water supply benefits and damaging flooding. In southwest Colorado, back-to-back atmospheric river events in late October and early November produced widespread flooding, prompting mandatory evacuations, road closures and significant damage to infrastructure and agricultural communities. The storms also delivered substantial mountain precipitation and runoff, providing some relief from prolonged dry conditions. In Arizona, recent storms boosted Lake Powell approximately 12 feet in two weeks, although the reservoir remains at only about 25% capacity; Lake Mead is similarly low at approximately 23% capacity. Water experts caution that while the recent precipitation has provided a temporary boost, it does not resolve the broader Colorado River supply crisis. More than 80% of Colorado River system flows originate from upper Rocky Mountain snowpack, making sustained winter snowfall in Colorado, Wyoming and Utah essential to improving reservoir storage and long-term water supply conditions.

ADMINISTRATIVE

- In case you missed it: we updated our address! Please contact us by mail going forward at P.O. Box 1556, Las Cruces, NM 88004.
- In October, just before the conference, I gave a tour of Southern NM irrigation facilities and farms to the Western States Water Council. Representatives from water resources departments, governors' offices, and more were present from throughout the West,

including California, Oregon, Colorado, Arizona and others. The tour offered an opportunity to see water management through the eyes of an area of the world that has been through years of difficult litigation, flooding, infrastructure failures, and even success stories along the way. While not completely representative of the rest of the West and the many unique water issues we all encounter, it was a good way to present the voice of the Alliance on the ground. I also gave them a bunch of pecans, great Mexican food along the way, and one of the coolest tours of a Chile Processing Facility even I have ever seen!

- Boots on the Ground continues into 2027!! The Board of Directors has seen the massive positive impact that was made in the 2026 Boots on the Ground tour, so we're going forward. There's a lot to still see, learn, and do out in the West, and the more we get out and about, the more we tell our story effectively. Contact me directly to schedule a boots on the ground tour, discuss your district's issues more directly, or to catch up on the big picture – I continue to welcome member feedback!
- I spoke to the Columbia Basin Development league this morning and gave a Washington DC and Family Farm Alliance update.
- Upcoming travel for the month includes Nebraska's Irrigation Association Annual Meeting, Oregon Water Resources Annual meeting, Washington State Water Resources Association Annual meeting, and the Colorado River Water Users Annual Meeting.

This is a quick summary of just a few of the issues the Alliance has been engaged in, some of which has come directly from other authors, such as Alliance Contractors. Please do not hesitate to contact me at 575-202-2705 or samantha@familyfarmalliance.org if you have specific questions or would like further information about what the Alliance is doing to protect water for Western irrigated agriculture.

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY

Official Memorandum

PO Box 2157
Los Banos, CA 93635
sldmwa.org

To: Westlands Water District Board of Directors
Allison Febbo, General Manager, Westlands Water District

From: Federico Barajas, Executive Director, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

Date: November 17, 2026

RE: Update on Key Water Authority Activities

Background

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority ("Water Authority") performs a number of activities that provide common benefit to its members. A list of key activities performed over the last month is provided below.

Activities

Activity and Water Authority Fund	Description of Work / Objective
Operations and Maintenance (Fund 01)	• Coordination of CVP and SWP operations between south-of-delta CVP contractors and CA Department of Water Resources. • Coordinated and led a tour of Phase 1 Task 1 of the Delta-Mendota Canal Subsidence Correction Project. • Finance Committee recommendation to Board to approve FY28 OM&R budget. • Participated and coordinated with member agencies on operations groups, including the Delta Action Team, Fish and Water Operations Group, Sacramento River Group, and Water Operations Management Team. Focused discussions on Shasta operations, including fall-flow planning, temperature management, and green sturgeon incidental take.
General Membership (Fund 03)	• Continued effort to update Water Authority website. • Coordinated media information related to operations, infrastructure, species impacts, and revisions to Project operations. • Coordinated with Family Farm Alliance on agency and Congressional engagement. • Coordinated engagement with Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley re: blog posts, Communications and Education Workgroup activities, including release of Unified Water Plan and Blueprint Board Strategic Planning workshop.

	• Coordinated engagement with ACWA on the ACWA Vision for Water to align with San Joaquin Valley priorities. • Coordinated engagement with San Joaquin Valley Collaborative Action Program. • Coordinated and provided support for the Great Valley Farm Water Partnership, to advance understanding of key priorities: (1) South Delta Channel Siltation, (2) Permanent operable gates in the South Delta, and (3) Water conveyance and storage needs for the San Joaquin Valley.
Leg/Ops (Fund 05)	• Coordinated knowledge transfer and onboarding process for Invariant as the Coalition Coordinator and federal lobbyist for the Water Authority. • Submitted comment letters on (1) Bay-Delta Plan Update Revised Draft, (2) WOTUS Proposed Rule, and (3) SB 599 funding. • Ongoing coordination of CVP contractors related to key policy issues. • Coordinated CVP contractor/Reclamation meetings. • Coordinated Water Authority member agencies on shared Water Authority priorities, including federal and state affairs coordination calls. • Engaged with Congressional and administrative staff regarding FY 2027 appropriations requests, priority water legislation, infrastructure funding, oversight, and LTO implementation, including adaptive management. • Engaged with State legislative staff and administration officials on priority legislation, infrastructure funding, oversight, and ITP/LTO implementation, including adaptive management. • Coordinated with Water Authority member agencies on Water Quality Control Plan, Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program, and Trinity River consultation. • Coordinated with State Water Contractors and Coalition for a Sustainable Delta.
Science Program (Fund 05)	• Led public water agency efforts on golden mussel response coordination, including performing site assessments of Water Authority facilities by RNT Consulting, a specialized contractor providing vulnerability assessments and mitigation options, and established facilitation support for a water agency coordination group. • Participated in Steering Committee for Delta Science Program Peer Review on entrainment analysis to advance lines of evidence on potential tools for entrainment management in the Delta. • Engagement with National Academies of Sciences Panel on CVP and SWP Long-Term Operations.

	• Engagement with Reclamation on implementation of special studies that would inform Adaptive Management in the Record of Decision on CVP and SWP Operations. • Coordination of key partners on shared Science Objectives and desired Policy Outcomes, including advancement of fisheries monitoring data analysis and acoustic telemetry improvements.
Westlands FLOWS Activity Agreement (Fund 72)	• Coordinated with Reclamation and District staff on advancing the project.

Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 7a

Subject:
Board of Directors to Consider Investment and Financial Reports

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
5. Manage Finances Effectively

Discussion:
Each month the Deputy General Manager of Finance & Administration provides an update to the Board on the previous months financial results. Below is an analysis of the current fiscal standing of the District including:

Investments (Treasurer's Report)

- Investment yields have increased recently, and most accounts are now solidly 4% or higher (approximately 4.01%-4.7%) across District holdings. Interest earnings are on track to meet or exceed the FY 2026–2027 interest revenue budget.
- The first allocation of $100 million has been placed in a custody account with U.S. Bank and invested with the assistance of our Investment Advisor Meeder Public Funds. Initial average yields are 4.66%.

Budget to Actual (Consolidated Revenue & Budget Report)

- Land-Based Charges and Assessments reflect the full amount to be billed for FY 2026–2027.
- Total revenues are lower than in October 2025, primarily due to lower agricultural water sales resulting from a lower overall allocation. This decrease is partially offset by higher revenues from groundwater power usage and interest earnings. Overall revenues are likely trending to meet budget expectations.
- Total expenses are slightly lower than in October 2025, primarily due to lower distribution system and land management costs.

Debt Service & Grant Report

- No Bond Payments Due.
- Grant reimbursements increased by $696,965 in October. This increase was related to reimbursable expenses for the MultiBenefit Land Repurposing Program (MLRP) Westside Subbasin project and the WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant used for surface water meters.

Proposed Motion:
Move to receive and file the Investment and Financial Reports.

Recommendation:
Approve the proposed motion.

Attachments:
1. October 2026 Investment & Financial Reports

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
TREASURER'S REPORT OF CASH AND INVESTMENTS
OCTOBER 31, 2026

HOLDINGS REPORT BY INVESTMENT TYPE

	Value	Market Price	Market Value	Cost Value	Unrealized Gain/(Loss)	Yield	
BMO							
Checking	9,343.24	100.00	9,343.24	9,343.24			
CITIZENS							
Checking	2,794,144.69	100.00	2,794,144.69	2,794,144.69			
LOCAL AGENCY INVESTMENT FUND (3)	72,274,763.21	100.00	71,877,512.52	72,274,763.21	(397,250.69)	3.99%	
CALTRUST							
Liquidity Fund	131,163,956.02	1.00	131,163,956.02	131,163,956.02	0.00	4.01%	
Short Term	30,616.13	10.02	30,526.33	30,616.13	(89.80)	4.32%	
Medium Term	73,700,304.39	9.72	71,518,692.28	73,700,304.39	(2,181,612.11)	4.70%	
TOTAL OPERATING CASH	$279,973,127.68		$277,394,175.08	$279,973,127.68			
MEEDER							
Custodial Account (8)	100,000,000.00		$100,000,000.00	$100,000,000.00			
	$100,000,000.00		$100,000,000.00	$100,000,000.00			
LAND & WATER FUND							
CalTrust - Short Term	40,077,439.59	10.02	39,764,729.18	40,077,439.59	(312,710.41)	4.32%	
Citizens Business Bank - Money Market	0.00	1.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.00%	(4)
TOTAL LAND & WATER FUND	$40,077,439.59		$39,764,729.18	$40,077,439.59			
2020 BOND FUNDS (7)							
CalTrust - Short Term 2020A	$0.00	10.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.32%	
CalTrust - Short Term 2020B	$0.00	10.02	0.00	0.00	0.00	4.32%	
TOTAL 2020 BOND FUNDS	$0.00		$0.00	$0.00			
TRUST FUNDS							
Section 125 Trust - CBB	13,145.27	100.00	13,145.27	13,145.27			
Debt Service Trust Funds							
US Bank - Revenue Bonds 2016A Pmt Fund	4,703.09	100.00	4,703.09	4,703.09		3.58%	
US Bank - Revenue Bonds 2020A Pmt Fund	5,478.91	100.00	5,478.91	5,478.91		3.58%	
US Bank - Custody Account	28,108,012.72	100.00	28,108,012.72	28,108,012.72			
CERBT - Post Empoyment Retirement Benefits	20,971,008.92		20,971,008.92	20,971,008.92			(5)
TOTAL TRUST FUNDS	$49,102,348.91		$49,102,348.91	$49,102,348.91			
PORTFOLIO TOTALS	**$469,152,916.18**		**$466,261,253.17**	**$469,152,916.18**	**($2,891,663.01)**		

NOTES:

1. The year-to-date weighted average yield on all funds invested or maintained in financial institutions, excluding the land & water fund and trust funds, is 3.77%
2. The investments reflected in this report have been made in compliance with the Statement of Investment Policy. As currently invested, the District
3. The unrealized gain/(loss) for LAIF funds represents Unrealized Gain/(Loss) as of March 30, 2026
4. Proceeds from the sale of land to Darden Energy were deposited into the CalTRUST Liquidity account, earning interest at a rate of 4.03% for total
5. CERBT funds report are issued quarterly.
6. The LAIF interest rate had not been udpated as of the date of this report
7. The 2020A and 2020B CalTrust Bond Funds accounts were closed in October with remaining balances transferred to the CalTrust Liquidity Fund.
8. Account with Meeder opened in October. October statement not available at time of report preperation.

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
CONSOLIDATED REVENUE REPORT - OCTOBER 31, 2026

REVENUES AND FUNDS AVAILABLE	2026-27 BUDGET		2025-26 ENCUMBERED BUDGET [1]	CURRENT REVENUE		YEAR TO DATE	BALANCE REMAINING	66.67% PERCENT REVENUE
IRRIGATION WATER TOLLS	$ 142,716,600	8		$ 5,318,864.86		$ 107,333,069.59	$ 35,383,530.41	75.21%
M & I WATER TOLLS	2,368,000			392,662.28		1,444,784.55	923,215.45	61.01%
TEMPORARY FACILITIES POWER	1,145,000	8		70,984.46		713,071.41	431,928.59	62.28%
NON-PROJECT POWER	84,200	8		2,628.77		43,897.85	40,302.15	52.14%
GROUNDWATER MGMT PROGRAM-POWER	15,390,800			630,436.74		14,145,456.50	1,245,343.50	91.91%
ASSESSMENTS	21,358,600			-		21,293,231.66	65,368.34	99.69%
LAND BASED CHARGES	10,371,600	8		-		10,050,626.68	320,973.32	96.91%
VCIP - APPLICATION FEES	1,200,000	4		-		720,000.00	480,000.00	60.00%
IRRIGATION SYSTEM LEASE REVENUE	4,600,000			-		-	4,600,000.00	0.00%
LAND LEASE REVENUE	284,800			36,723.39		336,600.24	(51,800.24)	118.19%
INTEREST	12,000,000			970,343.45	a	8,780,408.38	3,219,591.62	73.17%
MISCELLANEOUS	19,516,000	2,5,7,8		740,411.80		10,762,997.45	8,753,002.55	55.15%
FUNDS CARRIED OVER			5,094,600	-		-	5,094,600.00	0.00%
TRANSFER FROM RESERVES / NET POSITION	25,186,400	2,3,5,6,8		9,249.76		376,723.54	24,809,676.46	1.50%
	$ 256,222,000		$ 5,094,600	$ 8,172,305.51		$ 176,000,867.85	$ 85,315,732.15	67.35%

[1] Funds Carried Over from WY 25-26
[2] Budget Augmentation 6/16/26 - AMI Grant Funding
[3] Budget Augmentation 6/16/26 - Golden Muscle
[4] Budget Augmentation 6/16/26 - VCIP
[5] Budget Augmentation 7/21/26 - SLDMWA Deficit Billing
[6] Budget Augmentation 8/18/26 - BF Sisk
[7] Budget Augmentation 8/18/26 - MLRP
[8] MidYear Budget Review 10/20/26

	2026-2027	2025-2026
AG A/F ADJUSTED BUDGET	389,709	392,893
Y-T-D DELIVERED	417,893	671,234
M&I A/F ADJUSTED BUDGET	7,784	4,600
Y-T-D BILLED	4,389	4,638

[a] Does not include interest on Meeder Managed Funds

MONTH END A/F OVERUSE BALANCE: 0

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
CONSOLIDATED BUDGET REPORT - OCTOBER 31, 2026

	EXPENSE	2026-27 BUDGET		2025-26 ENCUMBERED BUDGET [1]	CURRENT EXPENDITURES	YEAR -TO-DATE	BALANCE REMAINING	66.67% PERCENT EXPENDED
00	SALARIES & WAGES	$ 12,909,700	10		$ 1,013,122.11	$ 7,653,015.14	$ 5,256,684.86	59.28%
33	FRINGE BENEFITS	5,752,900	10		361,813.62	4,561,955.96	1,190,944.04	79.30%
01	PREMIUM PAY	149,200	10		12,625.60	70,580.40	78,619.60	47.31%
02	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM MAINT.	5,774,300	3,1	310,700	167,180.21	1,776,250.85	4,308,749.15	29.19%
03	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIP EXPENSE	88,700	10	5,300	1,006.51	47,455.28	46,544.72	50.48%
04	VEHICLE & ROLLING EQUIP REPAIR	225,900		15,100	7,816.57	110,068.32	130,931.68	45.67%
05	VEHICLE FUELS & LUBRICANTS	577,200	10		68,501.63	280,585.23	296,614.77	48.61%
06	SAFETY SUPPLIES & TRAINING	122,900	10	1,300	5,021.44	73,376.80	50,823.20	59.08%
07	GENERAL SUPPLIES & SERVICES	303,600	2,1	55,200	5,938.47	164,692.10	194,107.90	45.90%
09	TELEPHONE EXPENSE	38,200	10		3,475.43	21,135.89	17,064.11	55.33%
10	FIELD OFFICE EXPENSE	442,500	10	7,700	27,019.63	213,370.61	236,829.39	47.39%
11	COMPUTER RELATED EXPENSES	732,900	2,4	18,000	37,798.53	321,821.19	429,078.81	42.86%
14	SCHOOLS & SEMINARS	108,300	2	15,000	5,168.00	27,701.43	95,598.57	22.47%
15	RADIO EXPENSE	12,500			850.00	9,396.15	3,103.85	75.17%
17	ADVERTISING & PUBLIC NOTICES	90,600	9,10		10,470.15	29,653.11	60,946.89	32.73%
18	EMPLOYEE RELATIONS	51,000			4,700.00	29,654.49	21,345.51	58.15%
20	FRESNO OFFICE EXPENSE	577,500	10	1,300	11,720.81	91,238.84	487,561.16	15.76%
21	OUTSIDE PRINTING	49,700			441.85	14,636.92	35,063.08	29.45%
22	OFFICE SUPPLIES	77,900	10		3,229.96	30,493.67	47,406.33	39.14%
23	POSTAGE & POSTAL PERMITS	30,000			246.00	10,127.69	19,872.31	33.76%
24	DUES, SUBSCRIPT. & PUBLICATIONS	4,516,700	7,10		268,581.39	1,796,756.18	2,719,943.82	39.78%
25	LEGAL EXPENSES	5,015,000	10	9,500	588,036.67	2,661,944.24	2,362,555.76	52.98%
26	CONSULTANT COSTS	8,451,900	4,8	2,140,500	579,415.89	4,171,757.44	6,420,642.56	39.38%
27	ACCOUNTING EXPENSE	60,000	10		-	50,400.00	9,600.00	84.00%
28	ELECTION EXPENSE	20,000	10		-	-	20,000.00	0.00%
29	SUBSISTENCE & TRAVEL	195,300	10		6,428.05	60,175.12	135,124.88	30.81%
30	CHARTERS & TOURS	35,000			277.76	765.24	34,234.76	2.19%
31	DIRECTOR'S EXPENSES	110,000		15,000	1,011.10	38,662.59	86,337.41	30.93%
32	INSURANCE PREMIUMS	630,000			-	584,885.25	45,114.75	92.84%
39	LAND MANAGEMENT	2,801,600	10	131,500	29,523.40	1,327,426.19	1,605,673.81	45.26%
90	CAPITAL ASSETS	1,082,200	10	62,600	9,249.76	487,200.95	657,599.05	42.56%
	TOTAL	$ 51,033,200		$ 2,788,700	$ 3,230,670.54	$ 26,717,183.27	$ 27,104,716.73	49.64%
12	POWER PURCHASES	$ 16,120,000	10		$ 693,972.93	$ 10,317,462.63	$ 5,802,537.37	64.00%
13	WATER PURCHASES	128,926,100	10		7,583,566.01	101,312,205.56	27,613,894.44	78.58%
40	MISCELLANEOUS	16,476,400	6,10		-	16,270,819.58	205,580.42	98.75%
47	IRRIGATION SYSTEM PROJECTS	4,600,000			207,154.32	207,154.32	4,392,845.68	4.50%
48	GRANTS	589,500	8		-	-	589,500.00	0.00%
50	RESERVE CONTRIBUTIONS	3,111,800	10		-	677,541.56	2,434,258.44	21.77%
69	REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS 2016A	2,000	10		2,000.00	4,750.00	(2,750.00)	0.00%
70	REFUNDING REVENUE BONDS 2020A	11,628,100			-	8,529,449.26	3,098,650.74	73.35%
72	SLDMWA BONDS REFUNDING REV 2021B	1,641,800			-	1,631,246.95	10,553.05	99.36%
93	NEW CONST. - DIST. (GENERAL)	13,023,100	8,1	2,305,900	180,285.36	2,360,876.50	12,968,123.50	15.40%
97	LAND & WATER	-			-	-	0.00	0.00%
98	CONTINGENCY RESERVE	1,590,000	9,10		-	-	1,590,000.00	0.00%
	TOTAL	$ 197,708,800		$ 2,305,900	$ 8,666,978.62	$ 141,311,506.36	$ 58,703,193.64	70.65%
	TOTAL BUDGET & EXPENDITURES	$ 248,742,000		$ 5,094,600	$ 11,897,649.16	$ 168,028,689.63	$ 85,807,910.37	66.20%

1 Fund Carried Over from WY 25-26
2 Budget Transfer - Computer Related Exp
3 Budget Augmentation - 6/16/26 - Golden Muscle Abatement
4 Budget Augmentation - 6/16/26 - VCIP
5 Budget Augmentation - 6/16/26 - AMI
6 Budget Augmentation - 7/21/26 - SLDMWA Deficit Billing
7 Budget Augmentation - 8/21/26 - BF Sisk
8 Budget Augmentation - 8/21/26 - MLRP
9 Budget Transfer - 9/15/26 Recruitment Expenses
10 Midyear Budget Adjustment - 10/20/26

BOLLIBOKKA
CONSOLIDATED BUDGET REPORT - OCTOBER 31, 2026

CURRENT REVENUE AND FUNDS AVAILABLE		2026-27 BUDGET		2025-26 ENCUMBERED BUDGET [2]	CURRENT REVENUE	YEAR-TO-DATE	BALANCE REMAINING	66.67% PERCENT REVENUE
XX	USER FEES	$ 594,500	3	$ 56,200	24,665.67	$ 478,741.67	$ 171,958.33	73.57%
	TOTAL	$ 594,500		$ 56,200	$ 24,665.67	$ 478,741.67	$ 171,958.33	73.57%

EXPENSE		2026-27 BUDGET		2025-26 ENCUMBERED BUDGET [2]	CURRENT EXPENDITURES	YEAR-TO-DATE	BALANCE REMAINING	66.67% PERCENT EXPENDED
00	SALARIES & WAGES	$ 72,800	3		$ 6,062.00	$45,465.00	$ 27,335.00	62.45%
33	FRINGE BENEFITS	70,600			2,473.54	63,032.88	7,567.12	89.28%
03	SMALL TOOLS & EQUIP EXPENSE	9,500	1		75.10	8,732.94	767.06	91.93%
04	VEHICLE & ROLLING EQUIP REPAIR	3,000			-	1,853.97	1,146.03	61.80%
05	VEHICLE FUELS & LUBRICANTS	7,500			648.77	4,799.72	2,700.28	64.00%
07	GENERAL SUPPLIES & SERVICES	6,000			54.04	284.88	5,715.12	4.75%
09	TELEPHONE EXPENSES	3,300			193.54	2,392.79	907.21	72.51%
10	FIELD OFFICE EXPENSE	33,000	1		1,585.82	4,817.50	28,182.50	14.60%
26	CONSULTANT COSTS	187,200			9,866.27	191,496.67	(4,296.67)	102.30%
29	SUBSISTANCE AND TRAVEL	1,600			-	659.58	940.42	41.22%
32	INSURANCE	-			-	-	-	0.00%
90	CAPITAL EQUIPMENT	200,000		56,200	7,800.00	87,789.92	168,410.08	34.27%
	TOTAL	$ 594,500		$ 56,200	$ 28,759.08	$ 411,325.85	$ 239,374.15	63.21%

1 Budget Transfer Maint to Small Equip $1,500

2 Funds Carried Over from WY 25-26

3 Midyear Budget Review - 10/20/26

Westlands Water District
Long Term Debt
October - 2026

Debt Outstanding & Notes	Total Bond Issue	Interest Rates	Total Debt Service	Paid to Date	Balance	Next Principal Payment	Next Interest Payment	Payment Due
Revenue Bond Series 2020A On April 1, 2020 the San Luis Unit/Westlands Water District Financing Authority issued $197,990,000 Revenue Bonds, Series 2020A. The proceeds of the Bonds were used to secure a perpetual right to purchase water from the CVP and to prepay the District's capital obligation to Reclamation for the water contracts.	$ 197,990,000.00	1.599% - 3.737%	$ 330,395,471.33	$ 10,675,000.00	$ 187,315,000.00	$ -	$ 3,096,926.00	3/1/2027
						$ 5,480,000.00	$ 3,096,926.00	9/1/2027
2021B San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Revenue Refund On January 26, 2021, the San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority (the Authority), issued Refunding Revenue Bonds Series 2021B in the amount of $32,725,000 and other funds to refund $33,080,000 of the outstanding Authority Refunding Revenue Bonds Series 2013A. The District is responsible for 82.885% of this debt.	$ 27,124,116.25	0.35% - 3.04%	$ 34,579,481.02	$ 7,148,831.00	$ 19,975,285.25	$ 1,131,380.25	$ 252,622.70	3/1/2027
						$ -	$ 244,250.49	9/1/2027
Total LTD	**$ 252,489,116.25**		**$ 393,075,510.56**	**$ 45,198,831.00**	**$ 207,290,285.25**	**$ 6,611,380.25**	**$ 6,690,725.20**	

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT

GRANT REVENUE REPORT - OCTOBER 2026

Agency	Grant Name	Project	Total Award	Cost Share	Award Expensed to Date*	Grant Completion Date
DWR	Prop 68 Implementation Round 1 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Grant	Westside Subbasin Recharge Optimization Study and Program	$ 7,600,000	$ -	$ 7,600,000	05/31/2026
DWR	Proposition 1 Water Desalination Grant Program	Desalination and On-Farm Recycling Project	1,500,000	706,760	898,527	03/30/2028
DWR	LandFlex Grant Program	Westlands Water District GSA LandFlex Program	5,400,000	-	5,400,000	01/31/2026
DOC	MultiBenefit Land Repurposing Program (MLRP)	Westside Subbasin MLRP	8,890,000	-	832,684	03/30/2027
USBR	WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant	Westlands Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project	1,160,000	1,059,583	1,059,583	06/30/2024
USBR	FY 2022 WaterSMART Small- Scale Water Efficiency Projects Grant	7-1 Pumping Plant Metering Project	100,000	33,898	33,898	05/31/2026
USBR	WaterSMART Planning and Project Design Grant	Westlands Lateral Interconnection Project	200,000	45,248	109,596	09/30/2027
USBR	WaterSMART Water and Energy Efficiency Grant	Westlands Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project - Surface Water Meters	1,808,338	547,077	547,077	12/31/2028
DWR	Flood Diversion and Recharge Enhancement (FDRE) Initiative	FDRE Initiative (Land Clearing)	999,475	-	999,380	06/30/2026
CalOES	State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Program (SLCGP)	CalOES Cybersecurity Grant	247,000	-	139,843	06/30/2026
		Total:	**$ 27,904,813**	**$ 2,392,566**	**$ 17,620,586**	

* Cost Share not included

Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 7b

Subject:
Board of Directors to Receive an Update on the Proposition 218 Special Benefit Assessment Renewal Election and December 15, 2026, Public Hearing.

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
5. Prioritize Critical Infrastructure Needs

Discussion:
In 2017, the District adopted its current Special Benefit Assessment for a period of 10 years. Since the current Special Benefit Assessment will expire in fiscal year 2027, the Board of Directors approved the Engineer's Report for the proposed renewal of the District's Special Benefit Assessment ("Proposed Assessment Renewal") and initiated the Proposition 218 assessment ballot proceeding at the Board of Directors' September 15, 2026 regular meeting.

The Board also established December 15, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. as the date and time for the Public Hearing and the Prop 218 assessment ballot proceeding.

Ballots and required notices for the election were mailed to affected landowners on October 22, 2026. Since the mailing, District staff has responded to questions and feedback from landowners regarding the Proposed Assessment Renewal, ballot procedures, land ownership and replacement ballots, and the effect of the Proposed Assessment Renewal on other District rates and charges. Staff and MK Election Services are also reviewing returned or undeliverable ballots and reissuing ballots when appropriate.

Staff has continued its outreach efforts to assist landowners in understanding the Proposed Assessment Renewal and the election process. At the November Grower Meeting, staff addressed several frequently asked questions, including confirming:

1) The proposal renews an existing assessment that was approved in 2017 for a ten-year term.
2) The Proposed Assessment Renewal would be effective beginning in fiscal year 2027-28.
3) The proposed rates represent maximum authorized rates and the Board may establish lower rates where appropriate.
4) Ballots may be returned by mail, deposited in the District's ballot lock box, or delivered at the December 15 Public Hearing. Where multiple record owners submit ballots for the same property, the ballots will be weighted in proportion to their respective ownership interests.

An attachment to this item provides all of the frequently asked questions addressed at the meeting.

Impact on District Rates and Charges

If the Proposed Assessment Renewal is approved, the proposed maximum assessment rates for fiscal year 2027-28 would be $86.36 per acre for Priority CVP Benefit lands and $18.02 per acre for Other Water Benefit lands. The Proposed Assessment Renewal would replace the existing assessment that is set to expire in fiscal year 2027 and shift certain costs that were previously recovered under the land-based charge and variable water charge into the Proposed Assessment Renewal. The only new charge in the Proposed Assessment Renewal is an increase to the Golden Mussel mitigation budget.

If the Proposed Assessment Renewal is not approved, the existing assessment will expire. The District would then need to recover the costs necessary to support District operations and obligations through other available rates and charges, including variable water rates and/or separate land-based charges. Increasing variable water rates and land-based charges to account for the costs necessary to support the District operations and obligations, rather than renewing the existing assessment, would require an additional Prop 218 assessment ballot proceeding and Board approval. An attachment to this item compares projected per-acre land-based charges and per-acre-foot Contract water rates under scenarios in which the Proposed Assessment Renewal is approved or is not approved.

December 15 Public Hearing and Ballot Tabulation

The Board will open the Proposition 218 Public Hearing at 9:00 a.m. on December 15, 2026. During the Public Hearing, landowners and other interested parties will have an opportunity to provide written and oral testimony regarding the proposed assessment. The Board will consider all written and oral testimony, in addition to responding to any timely submitted written objections that the Board receives prior to the Public Hearing in accordance with the District's AB 2257 procedures. The Board President will conduct the Public Hearing in accordance with an established sequence of procedural steps. Staff and District counsel will provide the Board President with a detailed hearing procedure in advance of the Public Hearing to assist in conducting the Public Hearing and completing the required actions.

Assessment ballots may continue to be submitted up to the close of the public testimony portion of the Public Hearing. Ballots may be returned by mail in accordance with the ballot instructions, deposited in the ballot lock box at the District office, or delivered during the Public Hearing. Ballots received after the public testimony portion of the Public Hearing is closed will not be counted. Ballot return envelopes will remain sealed until ballot tabulation begins at the conclusion of the public testimony portion of the Public Hearing.

Following the conclusion of the public testimony portion of the Public Hearing, MK Election Services will collect the ballots received through the designated post office box and District ballot lock box, together with any ballots received at the Public Hearing. MK Election Services will then begin opening, reviewing, and tabulating the ballots in a District conference room. The ballot tabulation will be conducted in a manner open to the public for observation. The Board may not approve the Proposed Assessment Renewal if a majority protest exists, i.e., if ballots returned in opposition to the assessment exceed the ballots returned in favor of the assessment, weighted by proportional financial obligation of the affected property.

If ballot tabulation is completed before adjournment of the Board meeting, the Board will announce the results of the ballot tabulation and consider adoption of the Proposed Assessment Renewal if no majority protest exists.. If tabulation is not completed before

the meeting concludes, the Board will continue the Public Hearing and announce the time and location of the continued Public Hearing for the purpose of completing the tabulation of ballots in public view, announcing the results of the ballot tabulation, and considering adoption of the Proposed Assessment Renewal if no majority protest exists.

Proposed Motion:
No proposed motion.

Recommendation:
Receive the update and direct staff as appropriate.

Attachments:
1. November 2026 Westlands Water District Grower Meeting Slides

Westlands Water District

PROP 218

Special Benefit Assessment Update

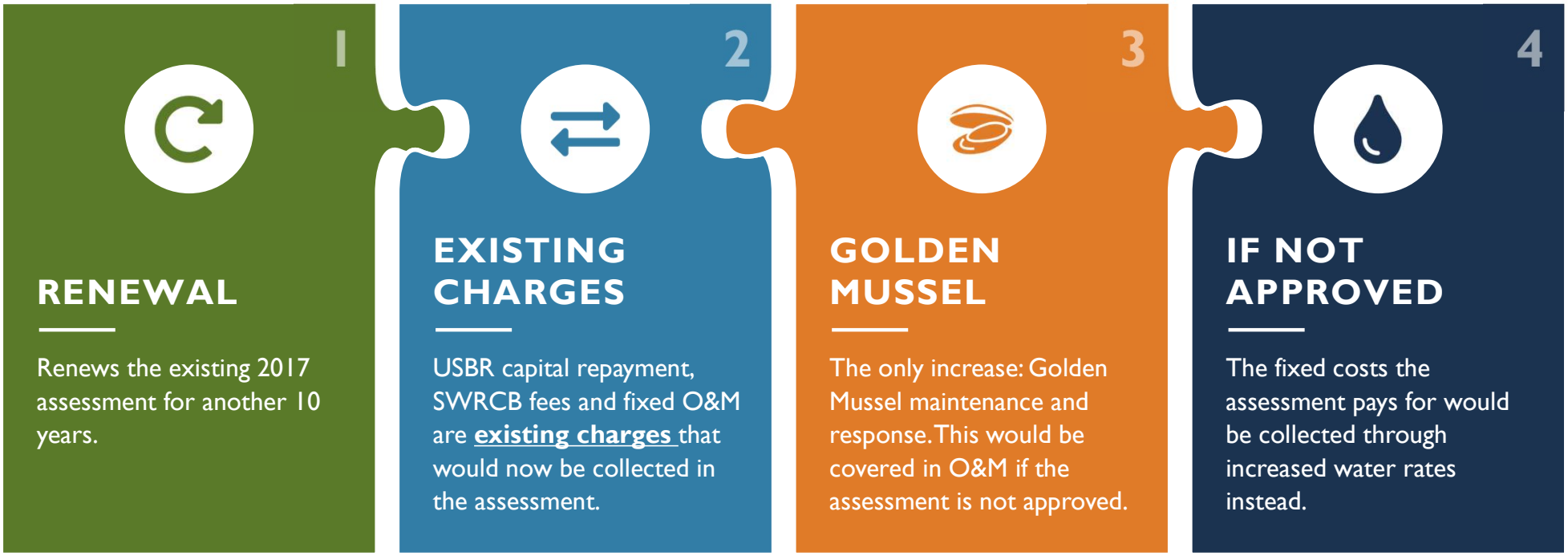


NOVEMBER 17, 2026



PROP 218 SPECIAL BENEFIT ASSESSMENT RENEWAL

How the Pieces Fit Together



The big picture: the assessment is not designed to increase total District revenue. It changes how existing costs are collected.

PROP 218 SPECIAL BENEFIT ASSESSMENT RENEWAL

Frequently Asked Questions

Is this a new charge? 1

NO

It **renews the existing assessment**, and moves some fixed charges that are now collected through other land-based charges and water rates. Only new charge is an increase to the Golden Mussel mitigation budget.

Why is this happening now? 2

EXPIRING

The current assessment was approved in **2017** for 10 years and expires this year. The renewal is for another 10 years.

When will I pay these charges? 3

NOV 2027

The Board sets the rates at the assessment hearing in May 2027. The first payment is due in **November 2027**.

Will the rates go up? 4

MAXIMUM RATES

These are the **maximum** first-year rates. The maximum is reviewed each year against published CPI. The Board can always **assess less** than the maximum.

Do I mail my ballot to the District office? 5

IT DEPENDS

Return it one of three ways: mail it to the **PO Box** on the ballot instructions, drop it in the **lock box** at our office, or bring it to the **December 15 public hearing**. If you do mail it to our office, please make sure it is clearly marked as "BALLOT" so that it is handled properly.

Why did only one owner get a ballot? 6

OWNER OF RECORD

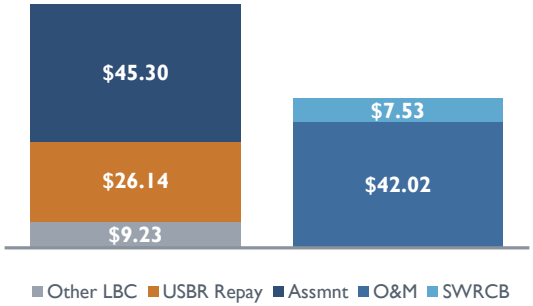
Prop 218 requires a ballot for the **majority owner** of record. Co-owners who want to vote separately can **contact us to request separate ballots**. If more than one record owner submits a ballot for a parcel, each ballot will be tabulated in proportion to the ownership interests.

PROP 218 SPECIAL BENEFIT ASSESSMENT · FY 2027-28

What the vote means for your charges

If it passes, costs shift from water rates and land charges into the assessment. If it fails, the assessment ends and the fixed costs it pays for fall onto Contract water rates.

FY 2026-2027 Rates



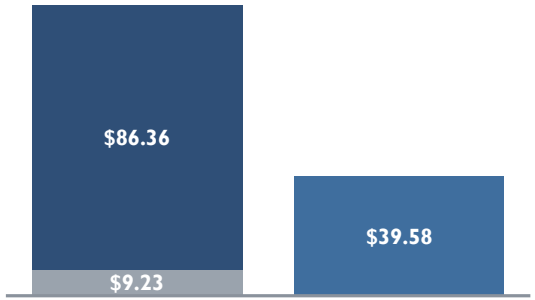
Land-based
$80.67
per acre

Contract water
$49.55
per acre-foot

Assessment $45.30, USBR land charge $26.14, O&M $42.02 plus $7.53 SWRCB fee.

IF IT PASSES

Costs shift to assessment



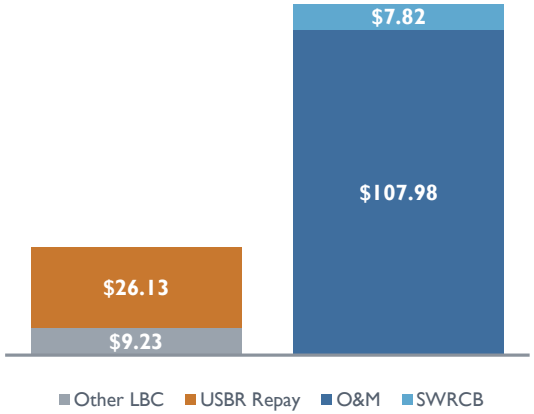
Land-based
$95.59
per acre

Contract water
$39.58
per acre-foot

Assessment rises to $86.36. USBR land charge and SWRCB water fee are removed. O&M drops to $39.58.

IF IT FAILS

Assessment ends



Land-based
$35.36
per acre

Contract water
$115.80
per acre-foot

No assessment. Fixed costs it pays for move to the water rate, so O&M rises to $107.98.

Based on 20% Allocation

PROP 218 SPECIAL BENEFIT ASSESSMENT RENEWAL

Public Hearing & Ballot Tabulation

DECEMBER

15

2026

Tuesday at 9:00 AM

District office
286 W. Cromwell Ave, Fresno

TO BE APPROVED

Majority

of the weighted ballots returned must favor the assessment.

DURING THE HEARING

1 Hearing Opens

Opens at 9:00 a.m. The Board President will open and conduct the hearing.

2 Public Testimony

Landowners and other interested parties can give testimony and submit comments on the proposed assessment.

3 Final Ballots Accepted

Accepted until the hearing closes: by mail, in the office lock box, or in person. Late ballots are not counted.

AFTER THE HEARING CLOSES

4 Hearing Closes

Envelopes stay sealed until now. Election Consultant collects ballots from the PO box, lock box and hearing.

5 Tabulation

Election Consultant opens and tabulates ballots in a District location, open to public observation.

6 Results

Reported once tabulation is complete, potentially at the same Board meeting.

PROP 218 SPECIAL BENEFIT ASSESSMENT RENEWAL

Important Reminders

PUBLIC HEARING

DECEMBER
15
2026 · 9:00 AM

Tuesday, December 15, 2026 at 9:00 AM

Ballots can be submitted at the Public hearing. Ballots must be received before the Public hearing closes.

Westlands Water District office
286 W. Cromwell Ave. Fresno, CA 93711

RETURN YOUR BALLOT

50% +1

Only returned ballots count

It passes with 50% + 1 of returned ballots in support, weighted by each parcel's assessment amount. Unreturned ballots are not counted.

Mail it, use the office lock box, or bring it to the hearing

QUESTIONS?

SD **Sherman Dix**

DC **Dalia Cano**

We're here to help

Contact Sherman or Dalia with any questions about the assessment, your ballot, or how it affects your charges.

(559) 241-6250
customeraccounting@wwd.ca.gov

Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 7c

Subject:
Board of Directors to Receive an Update on Customer Service Initiatives

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
5. Manage Finances Effectively

Discussion:
In 2025, District staff initiated a Customer Service/Experience Improvement Project in response to Board direction and customer feedback. The project is intended to improve customers' access to District information and services, expand online service options, reduce reliance on paper-based processes, and improve the overall customer experience. Staff has continued to advance these initiatives, including implementation and ongoing enhancement of the Point & Pay online payment platform and development of a digital annual agricultural water allocation application.

Online Payment Platform (Point & Pay)
District staff launched the Point & Pay online payment platform in February 2026, beginning with a phased rollout to Automatic Bill Pay (ABP) customers before expanding access districtwide in April. As of October 31, 2026, customers have created 356 online bill payer accounts, established 103 AutoPay schedules, and completed 2,324 online payment transactions totaling $18.5 million. Customers are actively using the portal to make water and land payments. Step-by-step video tutorials, written instructions, and a link to the payment portal have been made available on the District's website under Online Payments. Staff continues to transition ABP customers to the new platform, answer customer questions, and work through the remaining implementation tasks. Staff is also working to expand online payment availability to include Municipal and Industrial (M&I) charges.

Digital Annual Agricultural Water Application

District staff is developing a digital version of the annual agricultural water application. The digital application is intended to provide water users with a more convenient way to review, complete, and submit their annual applications while reducing paper handling, duplicate data entry, and manual processing by District staff. Development of an online agricultural application was previously identified as an in-progress customer service initiative intended to simplify the customer process and improve administrative efficiency.

The application is being designed to allow an authorized user to securely access the system using the user's account information and access code. After authentication, the user will be able to review information associated with the account, including applicable field, contact, and mailing-address information; identify or submit requested changes; and electronically complete and submit the annual application. The system is also expected to generate a PDF copy of the completed application and provide submission notifications to the appropriate customer contacts and District staff.

The form has been reviewed and adjusted several times internally and Staff has connected with a select number of water users who have been invited to test the digital form in late November and early December 2026. Their feedback will be used to identify any necessary adjustments before the application is made more broadly available at some point for use in the 2027–2028 annual agricultural application period.

Proposed Motion:
No proposed motion.

Recommendation:
None.

Attachments:
1. Customer Service Initiative Presentation

Westlands Water District

Customer Service Initiative Update



NOVEMBER 17, 2026



Westlands Water District

Online Payments Update

NOW AVAILABLE

Pay all major District charges online through one secure platform.

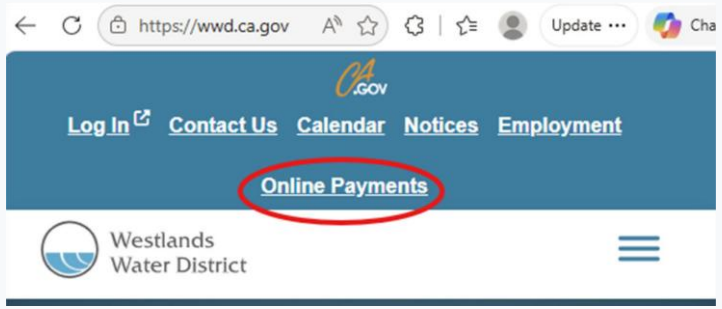
18.5M
Total Online Payments Processed

2,324
Online Payment Transactions To Date

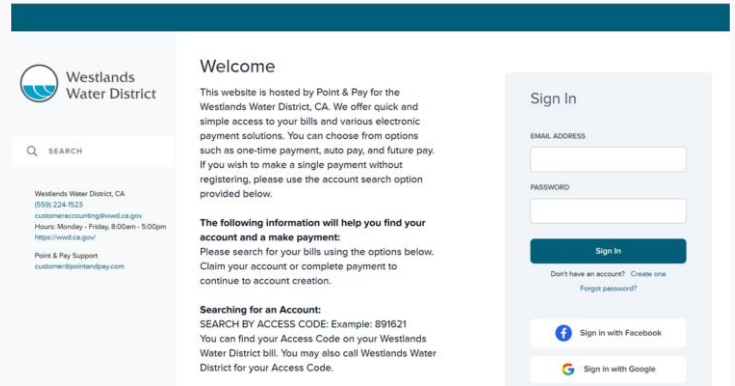
356
Online Bill Payer Accounts

13%
Percentage of Total Payments in FY 2027

1 Click Online Payments at wwd.ca.gov



2 Sign in, or search by your access code



paydici.com/westlands-water-district-ca

Key Features

Fast & Secure
No mailed checks or USPS processing delays.

One Platform
Pay water charges, land-based charges and assessments.

Many Ways to Pay
E-check, debit card, credit card or digital wallet.

Payment Fees

$0.00 Electronic check / savings

2.75% Credit / debit card, $2.00 min.

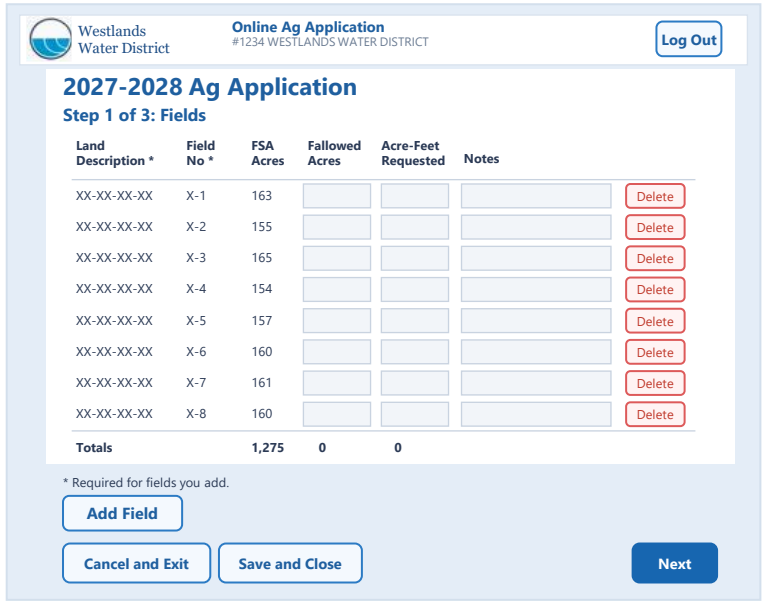


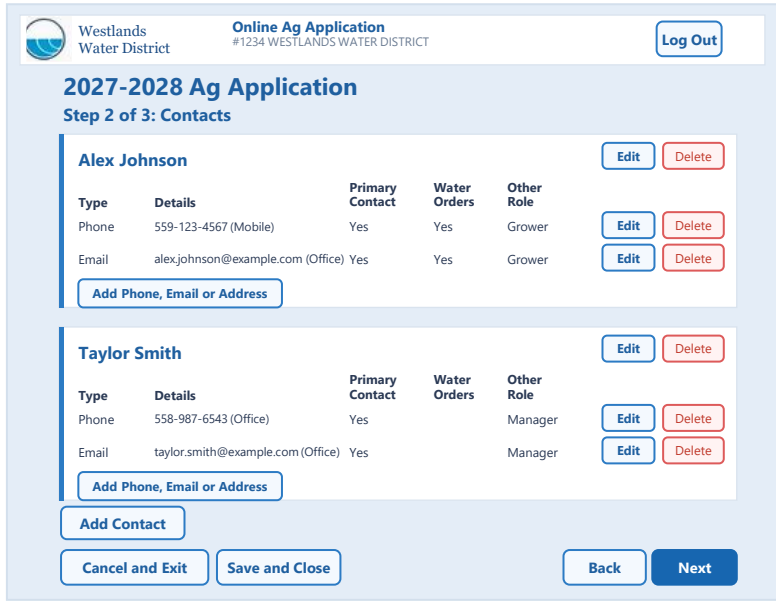
Westlands Water District

Digital Agricultural Allocation Application

SNEAK PEEK

District staff is developing a digital Agricultural Allocation Application to simplify the annual application process and reduce manual processing.





Key Features

Secure Access
Account information and access code.

Review & Update Information
Review field and contact information.

Complete & Submit Online
Submit the Agricultural Allocation Application electronically.

Revisions & Corrections
District staff can request revisions or corrections through the same system.

Receive a Copy
Completed application generated as a PDF.

Submission Notifications
Customers and District staff receive status updates.

Development and Next Steps

The application has been reviewed internally. Select water users will test the digital form in late November and early December 2026, with feedback incorporated before launch.

Go Live / Applications Sent Out

TBD

2027–2028 Agricultural Allocation Applications



Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 7d

Subject:
Board of Directors to Receive an Update on the 2026 District General Election and Appointments to the Board of Directors

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
- Cultivate Collaborative Relationships

Discussion:
On June 16, 2026, the Board of Directors called the District's 2026 General Election for November 3, 2026, to fill four Director positions for four-year terms. The District conducted the election process pursuant to the Uniform District Election Law, California Water District Law, and the District's Bylaws. The candidate filing period opened July 13, 2026, and was initially scheduled to close at 5:00 p.m. on August 7, 2026, but was extended through August 12, 2026, because an incumbent did not file a Declaration of Candidacy. At the close of the extended filing period, only four candidates had filed Declarations of Candidacy for the four Director positions to be filled.

California Elections Code section 10515 provides a process for appointment in lieu of conducting a general district election when the number of candidates for at-large Director positions does not exceed the number of offices to be filled. Consistent with Elections Code section 10515, the District Election Officer certified that the number of candidates did not exceed the number of Director positions to be filled and that no qualifying petition requesting that the election be held had been received. The District therefore did not conduct the November 3, 2026, Director election and submitted the required certification and request for appointment to the Fresno County Board of Supervisors.

The Fresno County Board of Supervisors serves as the supervising authority for purposes of this appointment process because the majority of the District is located

within Fresno County. On October 20, 2026, the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, acting pursuant to Elections Code section 10515, appointed the following individuals to the Westlands Water District Board of Directors in lieu of election:

- Justin Diener
- Donald Franson III
- Chuck K. Herrin Jr.
- Jeremy Hughes

Each appointment is for a term commencing December 4, 2026, and expiring December 6, 2030.

Proposed Motion:
No proposed motion.

Recommendation:
None.

Attachments:
None

Westlands Water District Board of Directors Serving as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency of the Westside Subbasin

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 8a

Subject:
Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) - Serving as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) of the Westside Subbasin, Board of Directors to Receive an Update and/or Provide Input on SGMA Implementation / Compliance Activities, including Actions to Implement the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:

1. Protect Central Valley Project (CVP) Contract and Secure Supplemental Water Supplies
2. Enhance Groundwater Resources

Prior Month Accomplishments:

- Landowners pumped 10,000 AF of groundwater in October.
- Staff conducted subsidence benchmark surveys in October.
- Staff began the Creek Recharge Pilot Project in the Arroyo Pasajero Creek, which included a pre-pilot environmental survey, installation of recharge piping, and start of recharge on November 4, 2026.
- Proposal period closed for the Los Gatos Recharge Project Design/Build on November 10, 2026.

Near-Term Deliverables (Six Months):

- Board consideration of award of the construction contract for the Los Gatos Recharge Project.
- Finalize the design and bid, and obtain Board consideration of the award of the construction contract of the Pasajero Groundwater Recharge Project Phase 2.
- Complete Arroyo Pasajero Creek Recharge Pilot Project.
- Finish electrical improvements and programming for the Broadview Aquifer Storage and Recovery Well.

- Revise the Subsidence Prone Areas and SGMA Monitoring Network, and conduct outreach to potentially affected landowners.
- Finish deep and shallow groundwater level monitoring by end of November.
- Construct and survey additional subsidence benchmarks within the Westside Subbasin.
- Host the next AC/TAC Meeting scheduled for February 22, 2027.

Proposed Motion:
No proposed motion.

Recommendation:
None.

Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 13

Subject:
Board of Directors to Consider Adoption of a Policy for the Transfer of Water Out of the District

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
1. Protect Central Valley Project (CVP) Contract and Secure Supplemental Water Supplies
2. Enhance Groundwater Resources

Discussion:
The purpose of this item is for the Board of Directors (Board) to consider adopting the Policy for the Transfer of Water Out of the District (Policy) to establish procedures for considering such transfers. The Board requested that staff develop a Policy for the Transfer of Water Out of the District in 2025. The Policy was then drafted and presented to the Finance and Administration Committee (Committee) on October 20, 2026, at which time the Committee recommended that the Board adopt the Policy.

Policy Background
The proposed Policy establishes the guidelines and conditions under which a Water User may request the Board to consider a transfer of water outside the District. Transfers are only permitted when District water supplies are at risk of loss due to Reclamation's policies, the transfer will not increase groundwater pumping in the Westside Subbasin, and the transfer generally benefits a related existing "farming" entity in a receiving district.

More specifically, a Transfer Out may only be considered when at least one of the following sub criteria is satisfied:

1. There is a risk of loss of water in San Luis Reservoir (SLR) due to USBR rescheduling limitations (Cap Loss or Rescheduling Loss as described in Article 2.10); or

2. There is a surplus of surface water available for the Transfer Out due to an acquired long-term supply that is assigned to or was transferred into the District for at least the prior 5 years; or
3. The Supplemental Water Program is undersubscribed, and the water is not storable in SLR.

Groundwater banking transfers are excluded from this Policy and governed by Policy No. 12, the Board's delegation of authority to the General Manager to approve transfers under certain conditions, which applies to Transfers Out that support water banking programs, with an obligation to return water in a subsequent year via an exchange.

Consistent with historic practice, all non-banking transfer requests under this Policy will continue to be subject to review and approval by the Board.

The proposed action involves administrative, organizational, or procedural activities that will not result in any direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect change in the physical environment. Accordingly, the action does not constitute a project and is not subject to CEQA pursuant to CEQA Guidelines sections 15378 and 15060(c).

Proposed Motion:
Move that the Board of Directors adopt the Policy for the Transfer of Water Out of the District.

Recommendation:
Approve the proposed motion.

Attachments:
1. Westlands Water District Policy for the Transfer of Water Out of the District

APPENDIX B
DRAFT
Westlands Water District
Policy for the Transfer of Water Out of the District
Board Policy No. ##

I. PURPOSE

Westlands Water District (District) Policy for the Transfer of Water Out of the District (Policy) establishes guidelines for staff to consider when evaluating requests for water transfers out of the District submitted by Water Users under Article 2.6(A). This Policy ensures that transfers out of the District (Transfer Out) may only be considered when at least one of the following criteria is satisfied: (1) a risk of loss due to the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) rescheduling limitations (Cap Loss or Rescheduling Loss); (2) surplus long-term water supply; (3) or unsubscribed non-storage Supplemental Water. The Policy seeks to optimize the District's water supplies and flexible water management, while protecting the interests of all District Water Users.

II. POLICY

All Transfer Out requests must be initiated by a District Water User, benefit a related transferee in the receiving district, not increase groundwater pumping in the Westside Subbasin, and be subject to District Board of Director approval as provided below.

Groundwater Banking Transfers are governed by Policy No. 12, which applies to Transfers Out with an obligation to return water in a subsequent year via an exchange. See Policy No. 12 for more information.

All Transfer Out requests (other than those governed by Policy No. 12) are permitted only when the Board of Directors makes all the following findings:

1. The Transfer Out request meets at least one of the following sub criteria and 2 through 4:
    a. There is a risk of loss of water in San Luis Reservoir (SLR) due to USBR rescheduling limitations (Cap Loss or Rescheduling Loss as described in Article 2.10); or
    b. There is a surplus of surface water available for the Transfer Out due to an acquired long-term supply that is assigned to or was transferred into the District for at least the prior 5 years; or
    c. The Supplemental Water Program is undersubscribed and the water is not storable in SLR.

2. Water User agrees with enforceable commitments to not pump groundwater from any of their accounts for the balance of the Contract Water Year
3. The Transfer Out request includes an official statement from the requesting District Water User confirming finding number 2 requirements; and
4. The Transfer Out benefits the requesting Water User's related entity(ies).
5. Water User has satisfied all the requirements of this Policy, including attempting to transfer water internal to the District before it permits a Transfer Out.
6. The Transfer Out will not impair the District's interest in recharging water, or the Subbasin's recharge needs are otherwise satisfied.

III. Water Transfer Out Request Procedure

1. The requesting Water User shall post the proposed Transfer Out water on the District's Water User Portal for 30 days, either for the exchange of equivalent groundwater credits or for purchase at the current year's Supplemental Water rate, prior to submission of a Transfer Out request to the District.
2. The requesting Water User must submit a written request 30 days in advance of the requested Transfer Out date to the District and provide:
    a. All necessary authorizations, including approvals and permits and documentation required for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), to Transfer Out, proof of posting on Water User Portal; and
    b. The quantity and source of water proposed for Transfer Out; and
    c. The proposed transferee, the relationship between the transferor and transferee, and intended use; and
    d. Commitment to pay all District rates and charges, plus any conveyance costs necessary to transport the Transfer Out; and
    e. Commitment to not increase groundwater pumping in the Westside Subbasin; and
    f. The Water User's accounts involved in the transfer must be in good standing.
2. The General Manager, or designee, will review the request and supporting documentation to determine if the Transfer Out meets the conditions outlined above. District staff will determine whether or not the District's water demands are satisfied and the proposed Transfer Out will mitigate the rescheduling risk criteria.
3. If the request is consistent with this Policy, applicable law, and District rules, the General Manager, or designee, will seek approval for the Transfer Out from the Board of Directors, except where the Board has already delegated approval

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authority to the General Manager, subject to any necessary agreements and conditions.

IV. Conditions of Approval

The District may place conditions on the approval of a requested Transfer Out, including, but not limited to, the following:

1. If the proposed Transfer Out is not included in USBR's Accelerated Water Transfer Program, the Water User must obtain all necessary authorizations from relevant federal, state, and local agencies for the Transfer Out and provide proof thereof to the District 30 days prior to the requested Transfer Out date; and
2. The transferor shall execute a Water Transfer Agreement with the District, which shall include, but is not limited to the commitment to pay all District rates and charges plus all incremental costs and fees associated with the Transfer Out, including administrative, operations, and maintenance expenses; and
3. All Transfer Out approvals are contingent upon payment of all rates and charges in advance, and compliance with the terms of the Transfer Agreement. Under no circumstances shall a Transfer Out be approved if the Water User pumps groundwater from any of their accounts for the balance of the Contract Water Year; and
4. The District shall find that the Transfer Out is acceptable because the Westside Subbasin groundwater conditions are in good condition in accordance with Article 1; and
5. The transferor shall not receive an internal transfer of surface water or pump additional groundwater from the submission date of the Transfer Out written request until the start of the next Contract Water Year.

V. Reporting

All transfers shall be documented and tracked in accordance with the District's accounting policies. A summary of approved transfers out of the District will be documented on the District's water schedule.

VI. Amendments

The Board retains discretion to amend or rescind this Policy at any time by formal action.

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Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 14

Subject:
Board of Directors to Consider Adopting a Media Protocol Policy

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
7. Cultivate Collaborative Relationships

   Enhance Communication with Growers and Stakeholders

Discussion:
The purpose of this item is for the Board of Directors (Board) to consider adopting a Media Protocol Policy (Attachment 1).

The District does not have a written policy on how it handles media inquiries. The proposed Media Protocol Policy would define the process for responses to media inquiries to ensure that the District speaks with one voice and the information it gives the public is accurate. It was prepared by the District's Communications Team with input from General Counsel.

The protocol does the following:

1) Defines authorized spokespersons as the General Manager, the Deputy General Manager - Government & Public Affairs, and the Public Affairs Representative. The General Manager or the Deputy General Manager may, in turn, ask a Board member, staff member, or consultant to respond on a particular subject, in coordination with the Public Affairs Representative.
2) Identifies the Public Affairs Representative as the central point for all incoming media inquiries and outgoing media calls, including inquiries made directly to Board members or staff.
3) Identifies a protocol for Board members and staff who are contacted directly to take down the reporter's name, outlet, contact information, and deadline, pass it to the Public Affairs Representative, and not discuss the substance of the inquiry.

4) Defines a process for issuance of all District news releases, statements, and advisories through Public Affairs.
5) Requires that communications with the media reflect the District's position consistent with formal Board action, not an individual's opinion.
6) Provides periodic media training for selected senior staff and Board members.
7) Clarifies that when a Board member or staff member speaks in a personal capacity, they should make clear they are not speaking for the District and identifies a process for notice to the Public Affairs Representative before the communication or as soon as possible after.

The protocol would take effect on adoption.

Proposed Motion:
Move that the Board of Directors adopt the Media Protocol Policy, as shown in Attachment 1, effective immediately.

Recommendation:
Approve the proposed motion.

Attachments:
1. Media Protocol

MEDIA PROTOCOL

Westlands Water District is committed to effective communications utilizing a diverse set of media platforms. Effective communication helps drive Westlands' mission, ensures accurate information is conveyed to the public, keeps the public engaged and informed, and maintains public trust and confidence. To coordinate media inquiries and ensure Westlands is speaking with one coordinated voice, Westlands employs the following protocols:

General Policy: Only authorized spokespersons shall speak on behalf of Westlands. All inquiries from the media shall be directed to the Public Affairs Department.

Approved Spokespersons: Westlands' primary spokespersons are the General Manager, the Deputy General Manager- Government & Public Affairs, and the Public Affairs Representative. The General Manager or the Deputy General Manager- Government & Public Affairs may request a Board member or other District staff or consultant to respond to an inquiry based on the subject of the media request. In all cases, the person who will engage with the media shall coordinate with the Public Affairs Representative prior to communicating with the media.

Media Requests: The Public Affairs Representative will serve as Westlands' central clearing house for all incoming media inquiries and outgoing media calls. All media requests, whether made to a Board member or staff member shall be directed to the Public Affairs Representative. The Public Affairs Representative is responsible for gathering information about a reporter's line of inquiry, compiling background information and data, and coordinating responses, on-the-record interviews, quotes, and comments.

If Board members or staff are approached by the media directly, please:

- Record the name of the person who made the contact, media outlet, phone number (preferably cell phone), email address, and the deadline of their request, then provide this information to the Public Affairs Representative promptly, and
- Avoid engaging in a substantive conversation; instead let the person who made the contact know the Westlands Public Affairs Representative will be in touch with them shortly.

Media Releases: All Westlands news releases, statements, and advisories are distributed by the Public Affairs Department.

District Message: All communications with the media shall be conducted in an honest and professional manner. Any communication with the media or responses shall reflect the position of Westlands consistent with formal Board action and not the opinion or position of an individual.

Media Training: Select senior staff and members of the Board will receive periodic media training.

Communications on Non-Board Approved Matters: When communicating outside of an official capacity as an officer or staff of Westlands:

- Every effort shall be made to clearly express that the perspectives provided are made in one's personal capacity, and
- Inform the Public Affairs Representative of the communication prior to the communication or as soon as possible thereafter.

Westlands Water District Board of Directors

Regular Board Meeting of November 17, 2026

Item 15

Subject:
Board of Directors to Consider Adopting an Energy Strategy as an Addition to the District Strategic Plan

Strategic Plan Key Strategies:
3. Prioritize Critical Infrastructure Needs
4. Evaluate Adaptive Land Use Strategies
5. Manage Finances Effectively
7. Cultivate Collaborative Relationships

Discussion:
The purpose of this item is for the Board of Directors (Board) to consider adopting an energy strategy, Advance Energy Development and Management, as Section 8 of the District Strategic Plan. The proposed section is Attachment 1.

The Strategic Plan does not have a strategy dedicated to energy. Energy now affects the District in several ways, including through implementation of the Valley Clean Infrastructure Plan (VCIP) and associated development of both generation and transmission capacity, power costs for growers and District operations, and non-VCIP solar development on lands within the District. A separate strategy gives staff one set of goals for this work and gives the Board one place to track it.

Staff introduced the draft section to the Board at its September 15, 2026 meeting and gave a status update on October 20, 2026. Growers reviewed the draft at the November 4, 2026 grower meeting. The draft was not changed as a result of that review.

The section's goal is to develop, manage, and optimize the District's energy resources and infrastructure, including transmission capacity, generation, and Power and Water Resources Pooling Authority (PWRPA) power program participation, to reduce grower

and District energy costs, support core water operations, and capture new revenue opportunities.

It lists seven key activities:

1) Advance VCIP as the District's flagship energy initiative, including completing the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) interconnection cluster study, coordinating county land-use entitlements and environmental review, and structuring project agreements.
2) Evaluate and pursue transmission system upgrades, including new or expanded 500 kV and 115 kV lines.
3) Participate in PWRPA to secure program funding, favorable metering and enrollment terms, and cost-sharing opportunities that reduce energy costs for the Groundwater Management Program and Irrigation System Management Program.
4) Expand electrical service capacity serving Kings County and Naval Air Station Lemoore.
5) Evaluate behind-the-meter and District- or grower-owned solar generation and track third-party solar development within the District.
6) Explore new forms of power generation and storage.
7) Maintain public affairs and stakeholder engagement on energy initiatives.

Adopting the section sets direction for staff. It does not approve any project, agreement, or expenditure. Each of those will come to the Board as its own item. Staff will report progress on the energy strategy through the monthly Strategic Plan Status Update.

Proposed Motion:
Move that the Board of Directors adopt the energy strategy, Advance Energy Development and Management, as Section 8 of the District Strategic Plan, as shown in Attachment 1.

Recommendation:
Approve the proposed motion.

Attachments:
1. Strategic Plan Section 8, Advance Energy Development and Management

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ADVANCE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

Develop, manage, and optimize the District's energy resources and infrastructure — including transmission capacity, generation, and PWRPA power program participation — to reduce grower and District energy costs, support core water operations, and capture new revenue opportunities.

KEY ACTIVITIES:

a) Advance the Valley Clean Infrastructure Plan (VCIP) as the District's flagship energy initiative — completing the California Independent System Operator (CAISO) interconnection cluster study, coordinating county land-use entitlements and environmental review, and structuring project agreements to secure long-term value for the District while appropriately allocating construction and ongoing operating and maintenance responsibilities.

b) Evaluate and pursue transmission system upgrades, including new or expanded 500kV and 115kV lines, to relieve constraints identified through interconnection and capacity studies and to support VCIP and future generation and storage projects.

c) Participate actively in the Power and Water Resources Pooling Authority (PWRPA) to secure program funding, favorable metering and enrollment terms, and cost-sharing opportunities that increase grower participation and reduce energy costs for the Groundwater Management Program and Irrigation System Management Program.

d) Expand and reinforce electrical service capacity serving Kings County and Naval Air Station Lemoore.

e) Evaluate opportunities for behind-the-meter and District- or grower-owned solar generation and continue tracking third-party solar development within the District to identify partnership, revenue, and land-use benefits.

f) Explore development of new and diversified forms of power generation and storage to strengthen the District's long-term energy reliability and revenue base.

g) Maintain proactive public affairs and stakeholder engagement on energy initiatives, ensuring transparent communication with growers, regulators, partner agencies, and the community regarding project status and community benefits.