

INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Ridgecrest City Hall 100 W California Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555 760-499-5002

BOARD OF DIRECTORS A G E N D A

Wednesday, May 14, 2025

Closed Session – 10:00 a.m.

Open Session will begin at 11:00 a.m.

Pursuant to California Government Code 54953(b)(1) two additional call-in locations have been established for Board Members who will attend this meeting via teleconference at 14955 Dale Evans Parkway, Apple Valley, CA. 92307 and 1360 N Main St Bishop, CA. 93514.

NOTICE: *In accordance with the evolving public health declarations, we will continue to provide live stream video for those wishing to participate virtually. Please see the Public Comment Notice below for detailed instructions on submitting public comment as well as websites for livestream broadcasting.*

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you are a disabled person and you need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact April Keigwin at (805) 764-5452. Requests must be made as early as possible and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting. Documents and material relating to an open session agenda items that are provided to the IWVGA Board of Directors prior to a regular meeting will be available for public inspection and copying at Ridgecrest City Hall, 100 W California Ave, Ridgecrest, CA 93555, or online at <https://iwvga.org/>.

Statements from the Public

The public will be allowed to address the Board during Public Comments about subjects within the jurisdiction of the IWVGA Board and that are NOT on the agenda. No action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. Questions posed to the Board may be answered after the meeting or at a future meeting. Dialog or extended discussion between the public and the Board or staff will be limited in accordance with the Brown Act. All Public Comment portions of the meeting shall be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker. Each person is limited to one comment during Public Comments.

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION

4. CLOSED SESSION

- CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS
(Government Code Section 54956.8) - Property: Purchase of Water Rights; Agency Negotiator: Jeff Simonetti; Negotiating Parties: Renewable Resources Group; Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment.

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) - Name of case: Searles Valley Minerals Inc v. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, et. al. - Orange County Superior Court 30-2022-01239487-CU-MC-CJC)
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (§ 54956.9)
Name of Case: Searles Valley Minerals, Inc v. IWVGA [Case Number 30-2025-01457804-CU-WM-CJC]
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) - Name of case: Mojave Pistachios, LLC v Indian Wells Valley Water District, et al. Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2021-01187275-CU-OR-CJC)

5. OPEN SESSION – no earlier than 11:00 a.m.

- a. Report on Closed Session
- b. Pledge of Allegiance
- c. Roll Call

6. PUBLIC COMMENT

This time is reserved for the public to address the Board about matters NOT on the agenda. No action will be taken on non-agenda items unless authorized by law. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.

7. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

This time is reserved for comments by Board members and/or staff and to identify matters for future Board business.

8. CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approve Minutes of Board Meeting March 12, 2025
- b. Approve Expenditures
 - *To view itemized invoices please visit <https://iwvga.org/iwvga-meetings>.
 - *Due to cancellation of April board meeting, totals below are for multiple months.
 - i. \$151,111.41 – Stetson Engineers
 - ii. \$334,992.34 – Provost & Pritchard – (SGMA IP)
 - iii. \$72,690.00 – Transystems (SGMA IP)
 - iv. \$60,252.06 – Regional Government Services – (Replenishment / Extraction)
 - v. \$45,180.00 – Westbound Communication – (Extraction)
 - vi. \$41,387.50 – Capitol Core Group – (Replenishment)

9. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION 01-25 ESTABLISHING A SECOND TRANSIENT POOL

10. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

11. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER REPORT

- a. Grant Funding
- b. GSP Implementation Projects/Management Action Updates
 - i. Imported Water Project
 - ii. Shallow Well Mitigation Program

- c. Miscellaneous Items
 - i. Data Collection and Monitoring
 - ii. IWVGA Basin Model Configuration Management Plan
 - iii. Rose Valley Subflow Update
 - iv. Rademacher Consolidation Update

12. GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

- a. Monthly Financial Report
- b. C&E Plan Update
- c. Report on IWVGA's Water Marketer (Capitol Core Group)

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – JUNE 11, 2025

14. ADJOURN

PUBLIC COMMENT NOTICE

IWVGA meetings will be open to the public for physical attendance; However, for those who wish to continue using virtual alternatives please follow the directions below for access to live stream video as well as ways to submit public comment.

- **Watch meetings on-line:**

All of our meetings are streamed live at <https://ridgecrest-ca.gov/369/Watch> (4 second streaming delay) or on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/cityofridgecrest/live> (22 second streaming delay) and are also available for playback after the meeting.

- **Call in for public comments:**

If you wish to make verbal comment, *please call (760) 499-5010*. This phone line will allow only one caller at a time, so if the line is busy, please continue to dial. We will be allowing a 20-30 second pause between callers to give time for media delays and callers to dial in. Due to media delays, please mute your streaming device while making public comment. If you wish to comment on multiple items, you will need to call in as each item is presented.

- **Submit written comments:**

We encourage submittal of written comments supporting, opposing, or otherwise commenting on an agenda item, for distribution to the Board prior to the meeting. Send emails to akeigwin@rgs.ca.gov written correspondence may be sent to April Keigwin, Clerk of the Board, 100 W. California Ave., Ridgecrest, CA 93555. Please specify to which agenda item your comment relates.

- **Large Groups:**

If you are part of a large group that would like to comment on an agenda item, please consider commenting in writing. This will be as impactful to the Board as having a large group in attendance.

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INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

City of Ridgecrest, Indian Wells Valley Water District, Inyo County, Kern County, San Bernardino County

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES Wednesday, March 12, 2025

IWVGA Members Present:

Chairman Scott Hayman, City of Ridgecrest	Carol Thomas-Keefer, IWVGA General Manager
Phillip Peters, Kern County	Keith Lemieux, Legal Counsel
Tim Itnyre, San Bernardino County	Steve Johnson, Stetson Engineers
John Vallejo, Inyo County	Commander Corinne Sims, US Navy, DoD Liaison
Thomas Bickauskas, Bureau of Land Management	April Keigwin, Clerk of the Board

Attending via teleconference is Tim Itnyre.

Meeting recording, public comment letters submitted, and all board meeting related documents are made available at:

<https://iwvga.org/iwvga-meetings/>

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Hayman calls the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by John Vallejo to approve adoption of the agenda.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Hayman	Aye
Vice Chair Peters	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Griffin	Absent

3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON CLOSED SESSION:

The board hears public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk.

Chairman Hayman calls the meeting into Closed Session at 10:25 a.m.

4. CLOSED SESSION:

- CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATIONS
(Government Code Section 54956.8) - Property: Purchase of Water Rights; Agency Negotiator: Jeff Simonetti; Negotiating Parties: Renewable Resources Group; Under Negotiation: Price and terms of payment.
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) - Name of case: Searles Valley Minerals Inc v. Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, et. al. - Orange County Superior Court 30-2022-01239487-CU-MC-CJC

- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION (§ 54956.9)
Name of Case: Searles Valley Minerals, Inc v. IWVGA [Case Number 30-2025-01457804-CU-WM-CJC]
- CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL- EXISTING LITIGATION
(Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1) - Name of case: Mojave Pistachios, LLC v Indian Wells Valley Water District, et al. Orange County Superior Court Case No. 30-2021-01187275-CU-OR-CJC)

Closed Session adjourns at 11:03 p.m.

5. OPEN SESSION – no earlier than 11:00 a.m.

Meeting reconvenes into Open Session at 11:06 a.m.

- a. Report on Closed Session – Counsel Lemieux reports RWG Law was assigned to defend case against Searles Valley Minerals.
- b. Pledge of Allegiance is led by Chairman Hayman
- c. Roll Call

Chairman Hayman	Present
Vice Chair Peters	Present
Director Vallejo	Present
Director Itnyre	Present
Director Griffin	Absent

6. PUBLIC COMMENT:

The board hears public comment from Renee Westa-Lusk and Judie Decker.

7. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

None.

8. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. Approve Minutes of Board Meeting February 12, 2025
- b. Insurance Renewal
- c. Approve Expenditures

**To view itemized invoices please visit <https://iwvga.org/iwvga-meetings>.*

- i. \$237,726.36 – Stetson – (December 2024 & January 2025 invoice)
- ii. \$123,017.92 – Provost & Pritchard – (SGMA IP)
- iii. \$61,130.98 – Indian Wells Valley Water District (Consolidation)
- iv. \$24,882.54 – Regional Government Services – (Replenishment / Extraction)
- v. \$19,691.00 – Insurica (Extraction)
- vi. \$16,362.50 – Capitol Core Group – (Replenishment)
- vii. \$9,595.00 – Transystems (SGMA IP)
- viii. \$2,398.00 – WellIntell (Extraction)
- ix. \$570.00 – The Daily Independent (Extraction)
- x. \$100.00 – California Association of Mutual Water Companies (Extraction)

Chairman Hayman requests item 8.c.iii be xpulled for further discussion.

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by John Vallejo to approve amending item 8.c.iii to reflect change to invoice #1268 to reduce costs for IWVWD legal counsel costs incurred bringing an updated total payment to IWVWD \$56,741.98.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Hayman	Aye
Vice Chair Peters	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye

Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Griffin	Absent

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by Chuck Griffin to approve Minutes of Board Meeting February 12, 2025, Insurance Renewal, and the following expenditures in the amount of \$237,726.36, \$123,017.92 to Provost & Pritchard, \$24,882.54 to Regional Government Services, \$19,691.00 to Insurica, \$16,362.50 to Capitol Core Group, \$9,595.00 to Transystems, 2,398.00 to Wellntel, \$570.00 to The Daily Independent and \$100.00 to California Association of Mutual Water Companies.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Hayman	Aye
Vice Chair Peters	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Griffin	Absent

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by John Vallejo to approve amending item 8.c.iii to reflect a reduction to invoice #1268 removing costs for IWVWD legal counsel. Bringing an updated total payment to IWVWD \$56,741.98.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Hayman	Aye
Vice Chair Peters	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Griffin	Absent

9. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH REGIONAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES:

Carol Thomas-Keefer presents staff report and agreement.

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by John Vallejo to approve professional services agreement with Regional Government Services and to add a closed session item to the April board meeting for staff performance evaluation.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Hayman	Aye
Vice Chair Peters	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Griffin	Absent

10. BOARD REVIEW AND POTENTIAL ACTION ON PERIODIC EVALUATION:

Jeff Helsley presents periodic evaluation.

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by John Vallejo to approved submission of the periodic evaluation to Department of Water Resources.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Hayman	Aye
Vice Chair Peters	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Griffin	Absent

11. BOARD TO RECEIVE AND FILE 2024 WATER YEAR ANNUAL REPORT:

Heather Steele of Stetson Engineers provide 2024 water year annual report.

12. PROVOST & PRITCHARD CHANGE ORDER FOR RARE PLANT SURVEY:

Bianca Cabrera presents staff report and change order.

The Board hears public comment from Judie Decker and Renee Westa-Lusk

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by John Vallejo to approve change order with Provost & Pritchard for rare plant survey.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Hayman	Aye
Vice Chair Peters	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Griffin	Absent

13. AMENDMENT NO. 1 TO REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT WITH ANTELOPE VALLEY EAST KERN:

Bianca Cabrera presents staff report and amendment.

Motion made by Phillip Peters and seconded by John Vallejo to approve amendment to agreement with Antelope Valley East Kern.

Motion carries by the following roll call vote:

Chairman Hayman	Aye
Vice Chair Peters	Aye
Director Vallejo	Aye
Director Itnyre	Aye
Director Griffin	Absent

14. WATER RESOURCES MANAGER REPORT:

Jeff Helsley provides updates on the following items:

- a. Grant Funding
- b. GSP Implementation Projects/Management Action Updates
 - i. Imported Water Project
 - ii. Shallow Well Mitigation Program
- c. Miscellaneous Items
 - i. Data Collection and Monitoring
 - ii. IWVGA Basin Model Configuration Management Plan
 - iii. Rose Valley Subflow Update
 - iv. Rademacher Consolidation Update

The Board hears public comment from Josh Nugent and Renee Westa-Lusk.

15. GENERAL MANAGER REPORT:

Carol Thomas-Keefer presents financial report and updates on the water marketer, communication and engagement outreach and the second transient pool.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – APRIL 9, 2025

17. ADJOURN:

Chairman Peters adjourns the meeting at 12:03 p.m. on March 12, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

April Keigwin
Clerk of the Board
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority

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2171 E. Francisco Blvd., Suite K • San Rafael, California 94901
Phone: (415) 457-0701 • FAX: (415) 457-1638 • Website: www.stetsonengineers.com

Northern California • Southern California • Arizona • Colorado • Oregon

Invoice

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
Ms. Carol Thomas-Keefer
100 W. California Ave.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Invoice Number: 2652-91
Invoice Date: 04/17/25

Project #: 2652 **Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority**

Professional Services through 2/28/2025

Water Resources Management 2025

01 - Meetings & Prep

Professional Services

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	18.50	\$244.00	\$4,514.00
Supervisor I	28.25	\$212.00	\$5,989.00
Senior III	3.00	\$138.00	\$414.00
Associate III	90.75	\$114.00	\$10,345.50
Assistant II	3.00	\$96.00	\$288.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$21,550.50

Reimbursables

	<u>Charge</u>
Reproduction (Color)	\$43.61
Mileage	\$198.80
Reproduction	\$19.80

Reimbursables Subtotal: \$262.21

Meetings & Prep Subtotal: \$21,812.71

02.01 - SGMA IP Grant Administration

Professional Services

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor I	2.00	\$212.00	\$424.00
Senior III	6.00	\$138.00	\$828.00
Associate III	12.25	\$114.00	\$1,396.50
Assistant II	18.00	\$96.00	\$1,728.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$4,376.50

SGMA IP Grant Administration Subtotal: \$4,376.50

02.02 - Urban Community Drought Relief Funding Administration

Professional Services

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Senior III	6.25	\$138.00	\$862.50
Associate III	1.25	\$114.00	\$142.50
Assistant II	3.00	\$96.00	\$288.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$1,293.00

Urban Community Drought Relief Funding Administration Subtotal: \$1,293.00

04 - Data Mgmt System Support

Professional Services

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Senior III	9.50	\$138.00	\$1,311.00
Senior Associate	7.50	\$132.00	\$990.00
GIS Manager	0.50	\$126.00	\$63.00

**04 - Data Mgmt System Support****Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Associate III	1.00	\$114.00	\$114.00
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$2,478.00</u>
<i>Data Mgmt System Support Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$2,478.00</u>

05 - General Project Mgmt**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor I	2.75	\$212.00	\$583.00
Supervisor II	13.50	\$197.00	\$2,659.50
Senior III	3.50	\$138.00	\$483.00
Senior Associate	0.50	\$132.00	\$66.00
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$3,791.50</u>
<i>General Project Mgmt Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$3,791.50</u>

06 - Model Transfer & Upgrade**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor II	3.50	\$197.00	\$689.50
Associate III	1.25	\$114.00	\$142.50
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$832.00</u>
<i>Model Transfer & Upgrade Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$832.00</u>

07.01 - Imported Water: Planning/Design/Environmental**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	5.00	\$244.00	\$1,220.00
Supervisor I	12.00	\$212.00	\$2,544.00
Associate III	13.00	\$114.00	\$1,482.00
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$5,246.00</u>
<i>Imported Water: Planning/Design/Environmental Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$5,246.00</u>

11 - Data Collection, Monitoring & Data Gaps**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor II	29.50	\$197.00	\$5,811.50
Senior Associate	26.75	\$132.00	\$3,531.00
Associate III	0.25	\$114.00	\$28.50
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$9,371.00</u>

Reimbursables

Reimbursables		<u>Charge</u>
Equipment Purchase		\$1,294.74
Other Expenses		\$54.00
<i>Reimbursables Subtotal:</i>		<u>\$1,348.74</u>

Data Collection, Monitoring & Data Gaps Subtotal: \$10,719.74

14 - Production Reporting, Transient Pool & Fee Support**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Associate III	2.25	\$114.00	\$256.50
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$256.50</u>
<i>Production Reporting, Transient Pool & Fee Support Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$256.50</u>

18.1 - Navy/Coso Cooperative Agreement**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Special Project Director	0.25	\$244.00	\$61.00
Supervisor I	1.00	\$212.00	\$212.00

**18.1 - Navy/Coso Cooperative Agreement****Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Associate III	0.25	\$114.00	\$28.50

Professional Services Subtotal: \$301.50

Navy/Coso Cooperative Agreement Subtotal: \$301.50

20 - Shallow Well Mitigation Program: Outreach & Impacts Evaluation**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Assistant II	2.50	\$96.00	\$240.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$240.00

Shallow Well Mitigation Program: Outreach & Impacts Evaluation Subtotal: \$240.00

21 - General Engineering**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	2.00	\$244.00	\$488.00
Supervisor I	0.50	\$212.00	\$106.00
Supervisor II	20.50	\$197.00	\$4,038.50
Associate III	2.00	\$114.00	\$228.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$4,860.50

General Engineering Subtotal: \$4,860.50

22 - GSP 5-Year Update**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	5.00	\$244.00	\$1,220.00
Supervisor II	2.00	\$197.00	\$394.00
Senior III	7.00	\$138.00	\$966.00
Technical Illustrator	1.50	\$91.00	\$136.50

Professional Services Subtotal: \$2,716.50

GSP 5-Year Update Subtotal: \$2,716.50

23 - Annual Report Preparation**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor II	16.50	\$197.00	\$3,250.50
Senior III	18.00	\$138.00	\$2,484.00
GIS Manager	0.25	\$126.00	\$31.50
Associate III	3.00	\$114.00	\$342.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$6,108.00

Annual Report Preparation Subtotal: \$6,108.00

26 - Budget Support**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Assistant II	1.00	\$96.00	\$96.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$96.00

Budget Support Subtotal: \$96.00

27 - Litigation Support**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	9.50	\$244.00	\$2,318.00
Special Project Director	5.50	\$244.00	\$1,342.00
Supervisor I	16.50	\$212.00	\$3,498.00
Senior III	3.25	\$138.00	\$448.50



Project #: 2652

Invoice No: 2652-91

April 17, 2025

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27 - Litigation Support

Professional Services

Associate III

<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
15.50	\$114.00	\$1,767.00
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>		<u>\$9,373.50</u>
<i>Litigation Support Subtotal:</i>		<u>\$9,373.50</u>
<i>Water Resources Management 2025 Subtotal:</i>		<u>\$74,501.95</u>

***** Invoice Total *****

\$74,501.95

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Invoice

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
Ms. Carol Thomas-Keefer
100 W. California Ave.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Invoice Number: 2652-92
Invoice Date: 05/06/25

Project #: 2652 **Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority**

Professional Services through 3/31/2025

Water Resources Management 2025

01 - Meetings & Prep

Professional Services

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	21.00	\$244.00	\$5,124.00
Supervisor I	28.25	\$212.00	\$5,989.00
Senior III	6.00	\$138.00	\$828.00
Associate III	71.00	\$114.00	\$8,094.00
Assistant II	1.00	\$96.00	\$96.00
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$20,131.00</u>

Reimbursables

Reimbursables	<u>Charge</u>
Mileage	\$193.20
Reproduction	\$18.60
<i>Reimbursables Subtotal:</i>	<i>\$211.80</i>
<i>Meetings & Prep Subtotal:</i>	<i>\$20,342.80</i>

02.01 - SGMA IP Grant Administration

Professional Services

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Senior III	0.50	\$138.00	\$69.00
Associate III	10.00	\$114.00	\$1,140.00
Assistant II	4.00	\$96.00	\$384.00
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$1,593.00</u>
<i>SGMA IP Grant Administration Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$1,593.00</u>

02.02 - Urban Community Drought Relief Funding Administration

Professional Services

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Senior III	0.50	\$138.00	\$69.00
Associate III	0.25	\$114.00	\$28.50
Assistant II	5.25	\$96.00	\$504.00
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$601.50</u>
<i>Urban Community Drought Relief Funding Administration Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$601.50</u>

02.03 - EPA Resiliency Grant Administration

Professional Services

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	5.50	\$244.00	\$1,342.00
Supervisor I	3.25	\$212.00	\$689.00
Senior III	1.50	\$138.00	\$207.00
Associate III	7.50	\$114.00	\$855.00
<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$3,093.00</u>



EPA Resiliency Grant Administration Subtotal: \$3,093.00

04 - Data Mgmt System Support**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Senior III	6.75	\$138.00	\$931.50
Senior Associate	0.75	\$132.00	\$99.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$1,030.50

Data Mgmt System Support Subtotal: \$1,030.50

05 - General Project Mgmt**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor I	2.00	\$212.00	\$424.00
Senior III	1.50	\$138.00	\$207.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$631.00

General Project Mgmt Subtotal: \$631.00

06 - Model Transfer & Upgrade**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Associate III	0.50	\$114.00	\$57.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$57.00

Sub-Contractors

	<u>Charge</u>
Board of Regents	\$7,714.33

Sub-Contractors Subtotal: \$7,714.33

Model Transfer & Upgrade Subtotal: \$7,771.33

07.01 - Imported Water: Planning/Design/Environmental**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	10.50	\$244.00	\$2,562.00
Supervisor I	22.00	\$212.00	\$4,664.00
Associate III	67.50	\$114.00	\$7,695.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$14,921.00

Imported Water: Planning/Design/Environmental Subtotal: \$14,921.00

11 - Data Collection, Monitoring & Data Gaps**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor II	0.50	\$197.00	\$98.50
Senior Associate	83.75	\$132.00	\$11,055.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$11,153.50

Reimbursables

	<u>Charge</u>
Car Rental	\$618.97
Lodging	\$379.14
Meals	\$74.82
Mileage	\$15.40
Other Expenses	\$54.00

Reimbursables Subtotal: \$1,142.33

Data Collection, Monitoring & Data Gaps Subtotal: \$12,295.83

12 - Shallow Well Consolidation Project**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	2.00	\$244.00	\$488.00
Associate III	0.25	\$114.00	\$28.50

Professional Services Subtotal: \$516.50



Shallow Well Consolidation Project Subtotal: \$516.50

18.1 - Navy/Coso Cooperative Agreement**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Special Project Director	0.75	\$244.00	\$183.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$183.00

Navy/Coso Cooperative Agreement Subtotal: \$183.00

20 - Shallow Well Mitigation Program: Outreach & Impacts Evaluation**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor I	0.75	\$212.00	\$159.00
GIS Manager	1.00	\$126.00	\$126.00
Associate III	3.75	\$114.00	\$427.50
Assistant II	12.00	\$96.00	\$1,152.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$1,864.50

Shallow Well Mitigation Program Outreach & Impacts Evaluation Subtotal: \$1,864.50

21 - General Engineering**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor I	3.00	\$212.00	\$636.00
Senior III	2.25	\$138.00	\$310.50

Professional Services Subtotal: \$946.50

General Engineering Subtotal: \$946.50

22 - GSP 5-Year Update**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Supervisor I	2.00	\$212.00	\$424.00
Supervisor II	1.00	\$197.00	\$197.00
Associate III	4.25	\$114.00	\$484.50

Professional Services Subtotal: \$1,105.50

GSP 5-Year Update Subtotal: \$1,105.50

23 - Annual Report Preparation**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	1.50	\$244.00	\$366.00
Supervisor I	4.75	\$212.00	\$1,007.00
Supervisor II	1.00	\$197.00	\$197.00
Senior III	24.50	\$138.00	\$3,381.00
GIS Manager	0.25	\$126.00	\$31.50
Associate III	2.50	\$114.00	\$285.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$5,267.50

Annual Report Preparation Subtotal: \$5,267.50

26 - Budget Support**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Associate III	3.00	\$114.00	\$342.00
Assistant II	2.00	\$96.00	\$192.00

Professional Services Subtotal: \$534.00

Budget Support Subtotal: \$534.00

27 - Litigation Support**Professional Services**

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
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Project #: 2652

Invoice No: 2652-92

May 06, 2025

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27 - Litigation Support

Professional Services

	<u>Bill Hours</u>	<u>Bill Rate</u>	<u>Charge</u>
Principal	9.00	\$244.00	\$2,196.00
Special Project Director	6.75	\$244.00	\$1,647.00
Senior III	0.50	\$138.00	\$69.00

<i>Professional Services Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$3,912.00</u>
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<i>Litigation Support Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$3,912.00</u>
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<i>Water Resources Management 2025 Subtotal:</i>			<u>\$76,609.46</u>
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*** Invoice Total ***			<u>\$76,609.46</u>
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PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP

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April Keigwin
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

March 25, 2025
Project: No: 04101-23-002
Invoice No: 118427

Project Name: IWVGA Imported Water Conveyance Design Services

Client Project #:

Professional Services from February 01, 2025 to February 28, 2025

Phase: 121P Coordination Meetings

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	1.00	195.00	195.00	
Principal Engineer	.40	227.00	90.80	
Totals	1.40		285.80	
Total Labor				285.80
			Total this Phase:	\$285.80

Phase: 122S Stantec Coordination Meetings

Consultants

Consultants			310.50	
Total Consultants			310.50	310.50
			Total this Phase:	\$310.50

Phase: 131P P&P General Project Management

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	36.80	195.00	7,176.00	
Senior Specialist	.60	165.00	99.00	
Principal Engineer	.40	227.00	90.80	
Principal Engineer	10.00	248.00	2,480.00	
Project Administrator	.10	83.00	8.30	
Project Administrator	2.90	101.00	292.90	
Totals	50.80		10,147.00	
Total Labor				10,147.00
			Total this Phase:	\$10,147.00

Phase: 132S Stantec General Project Management

Consultants

Consultants			553.44	
Total Consultants			553.44	553.44
			Total this Phase:	\$553.44

Phase: 221P Environmental & ROW Consultant Coordination

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For billing inquiries, please email Billing@ppeng.com.

Project	04101-23-002	IWVGA Imported Water Conveyance Design	Invoice	118427
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Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	1.40	195.00	273.00	
Totals	1.40		273.00	
Total Labor				273.00
Total this Phase:				\$273.00

Phase: 231P Surveying

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Licensed Surveyor	.50	180.00	90.00	
Totals	.50		90.00	
Total Labor				90.00

Reimbursable Expenses

Travel & Mileage			425.85	
Per Diem - Meals & Incidentals			127.66	
Total Reimbursables			553.51	553.51

Unit Billing

Lumber				
2/25/2025	Lumber	72.0 Units @ 2.30	165.60	
	Total Units	1.0 times	165.60	165.60
Total this Phase:				\$809.11

Phase: 271P BLM Special Use Permit

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Travel Time	8.00	80.00	640.00	
1-Man Survey Crew PW	9.50	200.00	1,900.00	
Senior Engineer	6.10	195.00	1,189.50	
Associate Engineer	18.50	140.00	2,590.00	
Assistant Engineer	.50	126.00	63.00	
Senior Biologist	.30	137.00	41.10	
Senior Specialist	4.30	165.00	709.50	
Intern	31.40	70.00	2,198.00	
Totals	78.60		9,331.10	
Total Labor				9,331.10
Total this Phase:				\$9,331.10

Phase: 274P Kern County Roads Franchise Agreement/Encroachment Permit

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	1.00	195.00	195.00	
Totals	1.00		195.00	
Total Labor				195.00
Total this Phase:				\$195.00

Phase: 275P SCE Encroachment Permit (Transmission Line Under Crossing)

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	16.00	178.00	2,848.00	

Project	04101-23-002	IWVGA Imported Water Conveyance Design	Invoice	118427
Senior Engineer		1.30	195.00	253.50
Senior Biologist		2.90	137.00	397.30
Senior Project Administrator		1.00	115.00	115.00
Totals		21.20		3,613.80
Total Labor				3,613.80
Total this Phase:				\$3,613.80
Phase:	284S	Scour Analysis of BLM Drainage Crossings		
Consultants				
Consultants				1,817.00
Total Consultants			1,817.00	1,817.00
Total this Phase:				\$1,817.00
Phase:	31T7	Instrumentation and Controls TM		
Consultants				
Consultants				379.50
Total Consultants			379.50	379.50
Total this Phase:				\$379.50
Phase:	323S	Stantec 60% Pumping Facility Design and Specs		
Consultants				
Consultants				11,603.50
Total Consultants			11,603.50	11,603.50
Total this Phase:				\$11,603.50
Phase:	324T	60% Bennett Trenchless Consultants		
Consultants				
Consultants				138.00
Total Consultants			138.00	138.00
Total this Phase:				\$138.00
Phase:	331P	P&P 90% Submittal		
Labor				
		Hours	Rate	Amount
Senior Engineer		30.00	178.00	5,340.00
Senior Engineer		5.00	171.00	855.00
Senior Engineer		42.70	195.00	8,326.50
Senior Technician		24.10	130.00	3,133.00
Assistant Engineer		53.50	126.00	6,741.00
Principal Engineer		4.40	207.00	910.80
Principal Engineer		2.70	227.00	612.90
Principal Structural Engineer		1.50	210.00	315.00
Senior Structural Engineer		18.20	163.00	2,966.60
Totals		182.10		29,200.80
Total Labor				29,200.80
Total this Phase:				\$29,200.80
Phase:	332D	P&P Drafting 90% Submittal		

Project	04101-23-002	IWVGA Imported Water Conveyance Design	Invoice	118427
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Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	8.50	178.00	1,513.00	
Senior Technician	10.70	150.00	1,605.00	
Assistant Engineer	25.20	133.00	3,351.60	
Totals	44.40		6,469.60	
Total Labor				6,469.60
			Total this Phase:	\$6,469.60

Phase: 333S 90% Pumping Facility Design and Specifications

Consultants

Consultants			18,066.50	
Total Consultants			18,066.50	18,066.50
			Total this Phase:	\$18,066.50

Billing Limits

	Current	Prior	To-Date	
Total Billings	93,193.65	4,140,733.68	4,233,927.33	
Budget			4,692,613.03	
Budget Remaining			458,685.70	
			Total this Invoice	<u>\$93,193.65</u>

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April Keigwin
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

April 30, 2025
Project: No: 04101-23-002
Invoice No: 119443

Project Name: IWVGA Imported Water Conveyance Design Services

Client Project #:

Professional Services from March 01, 2025 to March 31, 2025

Phase: 121P Coordination Meetings

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	7.00	195.00	1,365.00	
Associate Engineer	2.00	140.00	280.00	
Principal Engineer	.80	227.00	181.60	
Totals	9.80		1,826.60	
Total Labor				1,826.60
			Total this Phase:	\$1,826.60

Phase: 131P P&P General Project Management

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	17.60	195.00	3,432.00	
Senior Specialist	.70	165.00	115.50	
Principal Engineer	12.00	248.00	2,976.00	
Project Administrator	1.10	101.00	111.10	
Totals	31.40		6,634.60	
Total Labor				6,634.60
			Total this Phase:	\$6,634.60

Phase: 132S Stantec General Project Management

Consultants

Consultants			704.38	
Total Consultants			704.38	704.38
			Total this Phase:	\$704.38

Phase: 231P Surveying

Reimbursable Expenses

Other Direct Reimb Expenses			429.90	
Total Reimbursables			429.90	429.90
			Total this Phase:	\$429.90

Phase: 271P BLM Special Use Permit

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Project	04101-23-002	IWVGA Imported Water Conveyance Design	Invoice	119443
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Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	3.30	195.00	643.50	
Associate Engineer	5.50	140.00	770.00	
Intern	7.20	70.00	504.00	
Totals	16.00		1,917.50	
Total Labor				1,917.50
Total this Phase:				\$1,917.50

Phase: 273P City of California City Permit

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	5.60	178.00	996.80	
Totals	5.60		996.80	
Total Labor				996.80
Total this Phase:				\$996.80

Phase: 275P SCE Encroachment Permit (Transmission Line Under Crossing)

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	27.50	178.00	4,895.00	
Senior Engineer	5.90	195.00	1,150.50	
Senior Biologist	4.80	137.00	657.60	
Senior Project Administrator	.50	115.00	57.50	
Totals	38.70		6,760.60	
Total Labor				6,760.60
Total this Phase:				\$6,760.60

Phase: 276P Coordination with Cal Parks

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Principal Engineer	2.30	207.00	476.10	
Totals	2.30		476.10	
Total Labor				476.10
Total this Phase:				\$476.10

Phase: 284S Scour Analysis of BLM Drainage Crossings

Consultants

Consultants			20,866.75	
Total Consultants			20,866.75	20,866.75
Total this Phase:				\$20,866.75

Phase: 314G Soils Engineering 30% Submittal

Consultants

Consultants			51,351.41	
Total Consultants			51,351.41	51,351.41
Total this Phase:				\$51,351.41

Phase: 31T7 Instrumentation and Controls TM

Project	04101-23-002	IWVGA Imported Water Conveyance Design	Invoice	119443
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Consultants

Consultants		2,783.00	
Total Consultants		2,783.00	2,783.00
Total this Phase:			\$2,783.00

Phase: 31TX Mechanical Process-Pump Selection

Consultants

Consultants		276.00	
Total Consultants		276.00	276.00
Total this Phase:			\$276.00

Phase: 323S Stantec 60% Pumping Facility Design and Specs

Consultants

Consultants		4,416.00	
Total Consultants		4,416.00	4,416.00
Total this Phase:			\$4,416.00

Phase: 331P P&P 90% Submittal

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	32.70	178.00	5,820.60	
Senior Engineer	3.00	171.00	513.00	
Senior Engineer	44.90	195.00	8,755.50	
Associate Engineer	4.50	140.00	630.00	
Senior Technician	13.00	130.00	1,690.00	
Assistant Engineer	33.30	126.00	4,195.80	
Principal Engineer	10.00	207.00	2,070.00	
Principal Engineer	1.20	227.00	272.40	
Project Administrator	2.80	101.00	282.80	
Senior Structural Engineer	11.80	163.00	1,923.40	
Totals	157.20		26,153.50	
Total Labor				26,153.50

Reimbursable Expenses

Other Direct Reimb Expenses		2,587.50	
Total Reimbursables		2,587.50	2,587.50
Total this Phase:			\$28,741.00

Phase: 332D P&P Drafting 90% Submittal

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Engineer	5.00	178.00	890.00	
Senior Technician	34.00	130.00	4,420.00	
Senior Technician	63.10	150.00	9,465.00	
Assistant Engineer	11.50	133.00	1,529.50	
Totals	113.60		16,304.50	
Total Labor				16,304.50
Total this Phase:				\$16,304.50

Phase: 333S 90% Pumping Facility Design and Specifications

Project	04101-23-002	IWVGA Imported Water Conveyance Design	Invoice	119443
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Consultants

Consultants		43,430.90	
Total Consultants		43,430.90	43,430.90
	Total this Phase:		\$43,430.90

Billing Limits

	Current	Prior	To-Date
Total Billings	187,916.04	4,233,927.33	4,421,843.37
Budget			4,692,613.03
Budget Remaining			270,769.66
		Total this Invoice	\$187,916.04

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April Keigwin
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

March 27, 2025
Project No: 04101-23-001
Invoice No: 118533

Project Name: Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority-CEQA/NEPA Documents and Permit Documentation

Client Project #:

For the month of February 2025, Provost & Pritchard performed the following services for the IWVGA Imported Water Pipeline Project:

Phase TSK 2 Geotechnical Studies: Preparation and review of revegetation plan for geotechnical boring areas per BLM POD.

Phase TSK5 Regulatory Compliance and Permitting: Continued coordination and correspondence with permitting agencies for Project. Research for biological compliance needs for Project.

Phase TSK7: Geotechnical Monitoring: Coordination for biological and cultural monitoring during geotechnical boring drilling work.

Professional Services from February 01, 2025 to February 28, 2025

Phase: TSK2 Geotechnical Studies

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Assistant Biologist	.30	117.00	35.10	
Totals	.30		35.10	
Total Labor				35.10
Total this Phase:				\$35.10

Phase: TSK5 Regulatory Compliance and Permitting

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Technician	2.00	144.00	288.00	
Assistant Specialist	2.20	116.00	255.20	
Associate Specialist	2.90	133.00	385.70	
Associate Specialist	1.80	156.00	280.80	
Senior Biologist	5.20	156.00	811.20	
Senior Specialist	9.90	163.00	1,613.70	
Principal Planner	1.50	204.00	306.00	
Totals	25.50		3,940.60	
Total Labor				3,940.60
Total this Phase:				\$3,940.60

Phase: TSK7 Geotechnical Borings - Monitoring Svcs

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Biologist	9.60	156.00	1,497.60	
Senior Project Administrator	2.20	128.00	281.60	
Totals	11.80		1,779.20	
Total Labor				1,779.20

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Project	04101-23-001	IWVGA CEQA_NEPA Permitting	Invoice	118533
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Consultants

Consultants		10,022.14	
Total Consultants		10,022.14	10,022.14
	Total this Phase:		\$11,801.34
	Total this Invoice		<u>\$15,777.04</u>

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April Keigwin
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

April 22, 2025
Project No: 04101-23-001
Invoice No: 119177

Project Name: Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority-CEQA/NEPA Documents and Permit Documentation

Client Project #:

For the month of March 2025, Provost & Pritchard performed the following services for the IWVGA Imported Water Pipeline Project:

Phase TSK 2 Geotechnical Studies: Coordinated pre-construction surveys for biological resources ahead of remaining geotechnical boring drilling.

Phase TSK5 Regulatory Compliance and Permitting: Continued coordination and correspondence with permitting agencies for Project. Research for biological compliance needs for Project.

Phase TSK7: Geotechnical Monitoring: Coordination for biological and cultural monitoring during geotechnical boring drilling work.

Professional Services from March 01, 2025 to March 31, 2025

Phase: TSK2 Geotechnical Studies

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Biologist	1.00	156.00	156.00	
Totals	1.00		156.00	
Total Labor				156.00
Total this Phase:				\$156.00

Phase: TSK5 Regulatory Compliance and Permitting

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Associate Specialist	.10	133.00	13.30	
Senior Biologist	6.50	156.00	1,014.00	
Principal Engineer	1.20	247.00	296.40	
Senior Project Administrator	1.50	128.00	192.00	
Totals	9.30		1,515.70	
Total Labor				1,515.70
Total this Phase:				\$1,515.70

Phase: TSK7 Geotechnical Borings - Monitoring Svcs

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Biologist	13.00	156.00	2,028.00	
Senior Specialist	.70	163.00	114.10	
Principal Planner	.30	204.00	61.20	
Associate Biologist	.10	142.00	14.20	
Senior Project Administrator	1.00	128.00	128.00	
Totals	15.10		2,345.50	
Total Labor				2,345.50

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Project	04101-23-001	IWVGA CEQA_NEPA Permitting	Invoice	119177
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Consultants

Consultants		6,727.50	
Total Consultants		6,727.50	6,727.50
	Total this Phase:		\$9,073.00
	Total this Invoice		<u>\$10,744.70</u>

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April Keigwin
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

March 27, 2025
Project: No: 04101-24-002
Invoice No: 118534

Project Name: IWVGA Imported Pipeline Mojave Tank Farm Alternative

Client Project #:

For the month of February 2025, Provost & Pritchard performed the following tasks for the IWVGA Mojave Tank Farm Project:

Phase TSK1 Initial Coordination: Continued coordination meeting with BLM, applicant, USFWS, and DOD for project status and next steps update for the Phase 2 - Mojave Tank Farm Environmental tasks.

Phase TSK2 Technical Studies: Continued Bio and cultural survey preparations and coordination. Data mapping. Updates draft bio report with Mojave Tank Farm portion findings. Check in meetings and email correspondence with agency cultural staff and sub consultant. Reimbursable expenses from technical surveys. Subconsultant invoice for cultural resources survey.

Professional Services from February 01, 2025 to February 28, 2025

Phase: TSK1 IWVGA Imported Pipeline Project Mojave Tank Farm Analysis Initial Coordination

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Technician	1.00	144.00	144.00	
Senior Biologist	8.80	156.00	1,372.80	
Associate Planner	18.40	137.00	2,520.80	
Associate Planner	.70	144.00	100.80	
Assistant Planner	.50	123.00	61.50	
Principal Planner	10.30	204.00	2,101.20	
Senior Project Administrator	31.30	128.00	4,006.40	
Totals	71.00		10,307.50	
Total Labor				10,307.50
Total this Phase:				\$10,307.50

Phase: TSK2 IWVGA Mojave Tank Farm Analysis Technical Studies

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Senior Biologist	2.10	156.00	327.60	
Associate Planner	10.70	137.00	1,465.90	
Totals	12.80		1,793.50	
Total Labor				1,793.50

Consultants

Consultants			9,434.31	
Total Consultants			9,434.31	9,434.31

Total this Phase: \$11,227.81

Total this Invoice \$21,535.31

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April Keigwin
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 West California Avenue
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

April 22, 2025
Project: No: 04101-24-002
Invoice No: 119178

Project Name: IWVGA Imported Pipeline Mojave Tank Farm Alternative

Client Project #:

For the month of March 2025, Provost & Pritchard performed the following tasks for the IWVGA Mojave Tank Farm Project:
Phase TSK1 Initial Coordination: Continued coordination meeting with BLM, applicant, USFWS, and DOD for project status and next steps update for the Phase 2 - Mojave Tank Farm Environmental tasks.

Professional Services from March 01, 2025 to March 31, 2025

Phase: TSK1 IWVGA Imported Pipeline Project Mojave Tank Farm Analysis Initial Coordination

Labor

	Hours	Rate	Amount	
Associate Specialist	6.00	133.00	798.00	
Principal Planner	6.70	204.00	1,366.80	
Senior Project Administrator	28.60	128.00	3,660.80	
Totals	41.30		5,825.60	
Total Labor				5,825.60
			Total this Phase:	\$5,825.60
			Total this Invoice	<u>\$5,825.60</u>

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TranSystems Corporation

www.transystems.com

Invoice

Please remit payment to:
P.O. Box 71368
Chicago, IL 60694-1368

If you have any questions, please call:
(562) 304-2000

Client:

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authorit
Attn: April Keigwin - Clerk of the Board
100 W California Ave.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Reference:

Invoice Date: 2/28/2025
Project No: P601230025
Invoice No: INV-0004793842

Project Name: IWV-Imported Water Pipeline

For professional services rendered through February 28, 2025 for the above referenced project.

Staff Type	Name	Rate	Hours	Amount
Labor				
Project Consultant 3	Donald M. Anderson	150.00	2.80	\$420.00
R/W Specialist III	William J. Kinnett	150.00	90.50	\$13,575.00
R/W Specialist IV	Linwood A. Carleton	200.00	126.50	\$25,300.00
Total Labor			219.80	\$39,295.00
Invoice Total				\$39,295.00

TranSystems Corporation

Donald M. Anderson
Project Manager

TERMS: PAYABLE UPON RECEIPT

1 1/2% INTEREST CHARGE PER MONTH WILL BE ADDED TO ALL PAST DUE INVOICES OLDER THAN 45 DAYS IF INDICATED IN THE CONTRACT TERMS

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Invoice

Please remit payment to:
P.O. Box 71368
Chicago, IL 60694-1368

If you have any questions, please call:
(562) 304-2000

Client:

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authorit
Attn: April Keigwin - Clerk of the Board
100 W California Ave.
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

Reference:

Invoice Date: 3/31/2025
Project No: P601230025
Invoice No: INV-0004819007

Project Name: IWW-Imported Water Pipeline

For professional services rendered through March 31, 2025 for the above referenced project.

Staff Type	Name	Rate	Hours	Amount
Labor				
Project Consultant 3	Donald M. Anderson	150.00	0.80	\$120.00
R/W Specialist III	William J. Kinnett	150.00	66.50	\$9,975.00
R/W Specialist IV	Linwood A. Carleton	200.00	116.50	\$23,300.00
Total Labor			183.80	\$33,395.00
Invoice Total				\$33,395.00

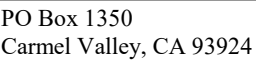
TranSystems Corporation

Donald M. Anderson
Project Manager

TERMS: PAYABLE UPON RECEIPT

1 1/2% INTEREST CHARGE PER MONTH WILL BE ADDED TO ALL PAST DUE INVOICES OLDER THAN 45 DAYS IF INDICATED IN THE CONTRACT TERMS

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Date	Invoice #
2/28/2025	18246

IWVGA Comm & Eng

Invoice is due 30 days from Inv Sent date

Total	\$8.63
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IWVGA Comm & Eng

Revised Invoice for January					
Month	Advisor	Hours	Bill Rate	Revised Bill Rate	Amount Due
January	AK	1.50	\$ 110.25	\$ 116.00	\$ 8.63
				Total	\$ 8.63

January invoice number 18045 (\$165.37)
Revised amount \$174.00
Total Due \$8.63

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PO Box 1350
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/28/2025	18302

Bill To:

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 W California Ave
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

P.O. No.	Inv Sent
	3/31/2025

Date	Description	Amount
2/28/2025	Reimbursable Expenses for Buraglio & Ridgecrest Monthly Rent (\$60+\$276+\$300) - please see attached	636.00

Invoice is due 30 days from Inv Sent date

Total **\$636.00**

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PO Box 1350
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
2/28/2025	18239

Bill To:

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 W California Ave
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

P.O. No.	Inv Sent
	3/21/2025

Date	Description	Amount
2/28/2025	Contract Services for February - please see attached	27,870.23

Invoice is due 30 days from Inv Sent date	Total	\$27,870.23
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PO Box 1350
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2025	18330

Bill To:

IWVGA Comm & Eng

P.O. No.	Inv Sent
	4/10/2025

Date	Description	Amount
3/31/2025	Contract Services for March - please see attached	92.80
Invoice is due 30 days from Inv Sent date		Total \$92.80

IWVGA Comm & Eng

Month: March, 2025

Hours and Rates by Pay Period					
1st -15th		16th - EOM			Monthly
Advisor	Reg Hrs	Bill Rate	Reg Hrs	Bill Rate	Total Billed
AK	0.00	\$ -	0.80	\$ 116.00	\$ 92.80
	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	\$ -
	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	\$ -
Totals	0.00		0.80		\$ 92.80

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PO Box 1350
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2025	18440

Bill To:

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 W California Ave
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

P.O. No.	Inv Sent
	4/23/2025

Date	Description	Amount
3/31/2025	Reimbursable Expenses for Ridgecrest Monthly Rent - please see attached	300.00

Invoice is due 30 days from Inv Sent date

Total **\$300.00**

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PO Box 1350
Carmel Valley, CA 93924

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
3/31/2025	18329

Bill To:

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 W California Ave
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

P.O. No.	Inv Sent
	4/10/2025

Date	Description	Amount
3/31/2025	Contract Services for March - please see attached	30,744.40
	Technology Fee	600.00

Invoice is due 30 days from Inv Sent date

Total \$31,344.40

Indian Wells Valley

Month: **March, 2025**

Hours and Rates by Pay Period					
1st -15th			16th - EOM		Monthly
Advisor	Reg Hrs	Bill Rate	Reg Hrs	Bill Rate	Total Billed
CT	27.00	\$ 150.00	10.50	\$ 150.00	\$ 5,625.00
AK	79.70	\$ 116.00	77.70	\$ 116.00	\$ 18,258.40
GL	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	\$ -
HI	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	\$ -
DN	0.00	\$ -	0.00	\$ -	\$ -
GS	15.00	\$ 140.00	32.75	\$ 140.00	\$ 6,685.00
RM	0.00	\$ -	1.00	\$ 176.00	\$ 176.00
Sub Totals	121.70		121.95		\$ 30,744.40

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Westbound Communications, Inc.
3649 Mission Inn Ave., First Floor Rotunda
Riverside, CA 92501 US
951-462-1106
tmoran@westboundcommunications.com
www.westboundcommunications.com



BILL TO

Carol Thomas-Keefer
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
100 W California Ave
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

INVOICE 5760

DATE 04/25/2025 **TERMS** Net 30

DUE DATE 05/25/2025

P.O. NUMBER

March 2025

DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
Professional fees for public relations counsel and services in support of Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority. Period of Service: March 2025	52.25	240.00	12,540.00
There were no reimbursable expenses for the billing period.			

TOTAL DUE **\$12,540.00**

We appreciate your business and look forward to helping you again soon.

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Westbound Communications, Inc.
3649 Mission Inn Ave., First Floor Rotunda
Riverside, CA 92501 US
951-462-1106
tmoran@westboundcommunications.com
www.westboundcommunications.com



BILL TO

Carol Thomas-Keefer
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater
Authority
100 W California Ave
Ridgecrest, CA 93555

INVOICE 5718

DATE 03/22/2025 **TERMS** Net 30

DUE DATE 04/21/2025

P.O. NUMBER

Jan-Feb 2025

DESCRIPTION	QTY	RATE	AMOUNT
Professional fees for public relations counsel and services in support of Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority. Period of Service: January 2025	83	240.00	19,920.00
Professional fees for public relations counsel and services in support of Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority. Period of Service: February 2025	53	240.00	12,720.00
There were no reimbursable expenses for the billing period.			

TOTAL DUE

\$32,640.00

We appreciate your business and look forward to helping you again soon.

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Capitol Core Group
205 Cartwheel Bend (Operations Dept.)
Austin, TX 78738 US
+15125683084
operations@capitolcore.com
www.capitolcore.com

BILL TO

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater
Authority
500 West Ridgecrest Blvd.
Ridgecrest, California 93555
USA

INVOICE 2025-026**DATE** 04/01/2025 **TERMS** Net 45**DUE DATE** 05/16/2025**VENDOR ID**

195953

INVOICE PERIOD

March 2025

DATE	ACCOUNT SUMMARY	AMOUNT
03/03/2025	Balance Forward	48,231.25
	Other payments and credits after 03/03/2025 through 03/31/2025	-48,231.25
04/01/2025	Other invoices from this date	0.00
	New charges (details below)	17,137.50
	Total Amount Due	17,137.50

ACTIVITY	HOURS	RATE	AMOUNT
Charges			
Project 1: Imported Water Supplies			
P1-A: Water Sales Negotiations			
Government Relations: Intergovernmental Affairs A: Private Seller 4 -- Negotiations {Tatum}	1	275.00	275.00
Government Relations: Intergovernmental Affairs A: Water Supplies Meeting {Simonetti}	2.50	250.00	625.00
P1-B: Regulatory Approvals			
P1-C: Other Required Agreements			
P1-D: 2025 Water Market			
Government Relations: Intergovernmental Affairs D: 2025 Water Marketing {Tatum}	4	275.00	1,100.00
Project 1 Invoice Total: \$2,000.00			
Project 2: Water Replenishment Pipeline			
P2A: 119th Congressional Session			
Government Relations: Federal A: Water District/SVM Opposition Letter -- Response/Questions {Tatum}	1	275.00	275.00
Government Relations: Federal A: Congressional: Meetings w/ Senator Schiff, Representative Obernolte and Representative Fong {Simonetti}	1.50	250.00	375.00
Government Relations: Federal	2.50	250.00	625.00

ACTIVITY	HOURS	RATE	AMOUNT
A: Agency: USEPA Grant Review and internal discussions {Simonetti}			
P2-B: Environmental Mitigation Credits			
P2-C: Regulatory Support			
P2-D: USACE Transition			
Government Relations:Federal D: County of Kern and Internal Meetings USACE Letter of Intent {McKinney}	4	275.00	1,100.00
Government Relations:Federal D: Agency: USACE -- LOI preparation, internal calls and meetings {Tatum}	3	275.00	825.00
Project 2 Invoice Total: \$3,200.00			
Project 3: Other Projects Supporting the GSP			
P3-A: Well Mitigation and System Consolidation			
P3-B: Land Repurposing			
P3-C: Water Recycling			
P3-D: Groundwater Adjudication Legislation			
Government Relations:California D: Legislative -- Direct Advocacy: Assembly, Senate, Governor -- AB 1413 and AB 1466 {McKinney}	19	275.00	5,225.00
Government Relations:California D: Agency -- Direct Advocacy: Department of Water Resources {McKinney}	1.50	275.00	412.50
Miscellaneous Sales:Public Affairs D: ACWA Member Agency Calls re: Adjudication Legislation {Tatum}	2.50	275.00	687.50
Government Relations:California D: Legislative: Direct Advocacy, Materials Preparation, and Coalition Development/Assembly {Simonetti}	13	250.00	3,250.00
P3-E: Governmental Affairs (General)			
Government Relations:California D: General Government Affairs -- Legislative Analysis and Tracking Report {Simonetti}	0.50	250.00	125.00
Project 3 Invoice Total: \$9,700.00			
Project Administration:			
PA-A: Monthly Board Meetings			
General Business Items:Project Administration A: March Board Meeting, Materials Preparation and internal meetings/communications {McKinney}	3	275.00	825.00
General Business Items:Project Administration A: March Board Meeting {Tatum}	1.50	275.00	412.50
General Business Items:Project Administration A: Monthly Materials Preparation and March Meeting {Simonetti}	4	250.00	1,000.00
PA-B: Milestone Reports			
PA-C: Ad Hoc Reporting			
Invoice Total Project Administration: \$2,237.50			

Regulatory Compliance Reporting			
Invoice Total State of California: \$9,700.00			

ACTIVITY	HOURS	RATE	AMOUNT
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1st Quarter Total State of California: \$23,750.00

Invoice Total Federal: \$3,200.00

1st Quarter Total Federal: \$7,7683.75

Thank you for your business. Please make checks payable to
Capitol Core Group, Inc.

SUBTOTAL	17,137.50
TOTAL	17,137.50
TOTAL OF NEW CHARGES	17,137.50

TOTAL DUE	\$17,137.50
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Capitol Core Group
205 Cartwheel Bend (Operations Dept.)
Austin, TX 78738 US
+15125683084
operations@capitolcore.com
www.capitolcore.com

BILL TO

Indian Wells Valley Groundwater
Authority
500 West Ridgecrest Blvd.
Ridgecrest, California 93555
USA

INVOICE 2025-030**DATE** 05/05/2025 **TERMS** Net 45**DUE DATE** 06/19/2025**VENDOR ID**

195953

INVOICE PERIOD

April 2025

DATE	ACCOUNT SUMMARY	AMOUNT
04/01/2025	Balance Forward	17,137.50
	Other payments and credits after 04/01/2025 through 05/04/2025	0.00
05/05/2025	Other invoices from this date	0.00
	New charges (details below)	24,250.00
	Total Amount Due	41,387.50

ACTIVITY	HOURS	RATE	AMOUNT
Charges			
Project 1: Imported Water Supplies			
P1-A: Water Sales Negotiations			
Government Relations: Intergovernmental Affairs A: Water Negotiations with Seller {Tatum}	2	275.00	550.00
P1-B: Regulatory Approval			
P1-C: Other Required Agreements			
P1-D: 2025 Water Market			
Government Relations: Intergovernmental Affairs D: 2025 Water Sales {Simonetti}	1	250.00	250.00
Government Relations: Intergovernmental Affairs D: 2025 Water Sales Calls {Tatum}	4	275.00	1,100.00
Project 1 Invoice Total: \$1,900.00			
Project 2: Water Replenishment Pipeline Project			
P2-A: 119th Congressional Session			
P2-B: Environmental Mitigation Credit			
P2-C: Regulatory Support			
P2-D: USACE Transition			
Government Relations: Federal Agency: USACE Transition -- internal discussions {McKinney}	3.50	275.00	962.50

ACTIVITY	HOURS	RATE	AMOUNT
Government Relations:Federal	5	275.00	1,375.00
P2-D: Agency -- USACE Transition {Tatum}			
Project 2 Invoice Total: \$2,337.50			
Project 3: Other Projects in Support of the GSP			
P3-A: Well Mitigation and System Consolidation			
P3-B: Land Repurposing			
P3-C: Water Recycling			
P3-D: Groundwater Adjudication Legislation			
Government Relations:California	32	275.00	8,800.00
Legislative: Direct Advocacy -- AB 1413 and AB 1466: Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife, Assembly Committee on the Judiciary, Assembly Committee on Appropriations, Testimony, White Paper Development, Strategy Development, Coalition Building {McKinney}			
Government Relations:California	28.50	250.00	7,125.00
Legislative: Direct Advocacy -- AB 1413 and AB 1466: Assembly Committee on Water Parks and Wildlife, Assembly Committee on the Judiciary, Assembly Committee on Appropriations, Coalition Management, Opposition management {Simonetti}			
Government Relations:California	2	250.00	500.00
Legislative: Strategy Research, Strategy Development and Collateral Materials Development {Peterson}			
Government Relations:California	10	250.00	2,500.00
Legislative: Direct Advocacy -- AB 1413 and AB 1466: Assembly Committee on Judiciary {Peterson}			
P3-E: General Legislative Affairs			
Miscellaneous Sales:Public Affairs	3.50	200.00	700.00
Communications Items {Tatum}			
Project 3 Invoice Total: \$19,625.00			
Project Administration			
PA-A: Board Meetings			
General Business Items:Project Administration	0.50	275.00	137.50
PA-A: Monthly Materials {McKinney}			
General Business Items:Project Administration	1	250.00	250.00
PA-A: Monthly Board Meeting Materials Preparation {Simonetti}			
PA-B: Milestone Report			
PA-C: Ad Hoc Reports			
Invoice Total Project Administration: \$387.5			

Regulatory Reporting Notes:			
Federal Total Invoice: \$2,337,550			
State Total Invoice: \$19,625.00			

Thank you for your business. Please make checks payable to Capitol Core Group, Inc.	SUBTOTAL		24,250.00
	TOTAL		24,250.00
	TOTAL OF NEW		24,250.00

CHARGES

TOTAL DUE

\$41,387.50

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BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

In the matter of:

Resolution No.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A SECOND TRANSIENT POOL

I, _____, Clerk of the Board of Directors for the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, do certify that the following resolution, on motion of Director _____, seconded by Director _____, was duly passed and adopted by the Board of Directors at an official meeting this ____ day of _____ 2025, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

Clerk of the Board of Directors
Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority

RESOLUTION

Section 1. RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority (the "Authority") is committed to providing sustainable groundwater management within the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Basin (the "Basin") for the benefit of all landowners; and,

WHEREAS, roughly 6 decades of Basin overdraft has resulted in several undesirable results, including significantly declining groundwater levels and well failures; and,

WHEREAS, the need for basin management has been acknowledged for roughly three decades by the Indian Wells Valley Water District and others via the formation of Indian Wells Valley Cooperative Groundwater Management Group and the District's adoption of its Water Supply Enhancement General Plan; and,

WHEREAS, the Indian Wells Valley Water District has gone so far as to spend significant sums to buy land in another basin for the express purpose of trying to import that water to the Valley through

the Los Angeles Aqueduct. However, after more than a decade, the water district still does not have an agreement to use the Aqueduct, nor does it have an operable plan to accomplish bringing that claimed water into the basin, nor can the district even be legally assured that it obtained water rights with those lands, and even if it did that those rights could be legally transferred to another basin; and,

WHEREAS, the Indian Wells Valley Water District commissioned a study nearly 16 years ago which concluded that the Basin's sustainable yield was insufficient to meet the Basin's domestic water needs alone; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority concluded nearly 6 years ago that the Indian Wells Valley Water District was correct in its conclusion that the Basin's sustainable yield was insufficient to meet the Basin's domestic water needs alone; and,

WHEREAS, while some, including the Indian Wells Valley Water District, have recently asserted that the Basin's sustainable yield is greater than the adopted and approved sustainable yield, the Water District has failed to provide an allocation chart showing how that alternative yield can be stretched to meet the basins pumping needs without an import source; and,

WHEREAS, knowledgeable representatives of the Indian Wells Valley Water District recently admitted in a public meeting that their prior alternative yield claims were off by a factor of roughly 35% of more; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority's Periodic Evaluation process was recently concluded and the recent updates to the Authority's groundwater model further support the conclusion that the Basin's sustainable yield is insufficient to meet the Basin's domestic water needs; and,

WHEREAS, during the Periodic Evaluation process no credible evidence was presented to the Authority that would lead to the conclusion that the Basin sustainable yield was sufficient to meet the Basin's needs without an import supply; and

WHEREAS, the Indian Wells Valley Water District has tried to publicly assert that it provided the Authority with information during that process but in fact it only released conclusionary reports without supporting data and it failed to turn over its modeling data in the time frame initially proscribed by the court because of issues with the individual building the model – a model what was still not complete nearly 8 months after release of the conclusionary report which the Water District now asserts was off by a factor of roughly 35% of more;

WHEREAS, while there have been claims that an import supply is not needed, those making said claims, have not supported those claims with a water allocation chart showing how pumping can be limited to their claimed sustainable yield – in short they have not, and cannot, provide a water budget showing their yield claims are sufficient to meet basin demands; and

WHEREAS, claims that an import supply is not needed are counter to the results of 12 different independent studies over the last 50 years; and

WHEREAS, during its roughly 25 years of existence, the Cooperative Groundwater Group chaired by the Indian Wells Valley Water District and its current hydrological expert were unable to develop projects to stop the Basin's overdraft and the associated damages; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority recognizes that implementation measures will disrupt the status quo and must be tempered with a reasonable transition period; and,

WHEREAS, in recognition of the need for a transition period, the Authority has previously established a Transient Pool and Fallowing Program to manage groundwater extractions and promote sustainable practices within the Basin; and,

WHEREAS, the Fallowing Program was never implemented because the Indian Wells Valley Water District, refused to take part in the Program it was an integral part in developing; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority's management actions over the last five years have led to less annual groundwater pumping than was initially anticipated and it is highly likely that this will be a continuing trend; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority's management actions and activities have led to significant successes in obtaining federal funding authorization for the importation program; and,

WHEREAS, the Authority would like to take advantage of the recent successes to further minimize the disruption caused by the needed transition to a balanced basin by increasing the size of the transient pool; and

WHEREAS, Mojave Pistachios, LLC ("Mojave") was not provided any water in the prior transient pool but having concluded its litigation efforts would like to now be a part of any transient pool moving forward; and,

Section 2. THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority, as follows:

1. This Board finds that the recited facts are true and that it has the jurisdiction to consider, approve, and adopt this Resolution.

2. Establishment of the Second Transient Pool. The Authority hereby establishes a Second Transient Pool comprising a total of 20,000 acre-feet (AF) of groundwater.

3. Allocation of the Second Transient Pool.

A. Mojave Allocation: Recognizing that Mojave was not provided a First Transient Pool allotment, Mojave is granted first priority to 16,000 AF of the Second Transient Pool, which it has already accepted.

B. Remaining Allocation: The remaining 4,000 AF shall be allocated to other agricultural participants who:

- 1) have accepted awards from the First Transient Pool; and,
- 2) have been actively using their accepted First Transient Pool award; and,
- 3) agree that imported water is immediately needed to meet basin demands; and
- 4) agree that their future use, beyond de minimus use as defined by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, will cease once their awarded pool water is exhausted.

C. If any portion of this 4,000 AF is not allocated, it shall be offered to Mojave.

4. Pricing Structure. A tiered pricing model is established to encourage conservation and sustainable extraction, as follows:

Annual Groundwater Extraction (AF)	Price per AF
0 - 1,000	\$150
1,001 - 2,000	\$175
2,001 - 3,000	\$200
3,001 - 4,000	\$225

4,001 - 5,000	\$250
Over 5,001	\$300

5. Annual Price Adjustments. Beginning on January 1, 2029, pricing shall be annually adjusted based on the increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the Los Angeles Metro area. The increase, however, cannot exceed 4% in any single year. If the Authority does not adjust in a given year that deferred increase can be added to a subsequent year's increase provided that the combined increase does not exceed 4%.

6. Payment Terms. The method of payment shall mirror the method of payment in the First Transient Pool.

7. Transferability. Allocations from the Second Transient Pool may be transferred among agricultural producers under the terms and conditions approved by the Authority.

8. Wavier of Claims. All participants will be required to waive claims against the Authority at the time of acceptance.

9. Acceptance Date. All participants shall indicate their desire to participate by July 15, 2025 and in said election they shall be required to provide the number of actively irrigated acres on January 1, 2020.

10. Division of Second Transient Pool. At the August 2025 meeting of the Board of Directors, or shortly thereafter, the Board shall officially divide the 4,000 AF pool amongst those that have accepted participation by July 15, 2025, and signed the required waiver of claims, in proportion to the actively irrigated acreage they own.

11. CEQA Compliance. The Board finds that no further environmental review is required and all CEQA determinations made by staff are true and hereby incorporates them in their entirety.

12. Effective Date. This Resolution shall become effective immediately.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED, by the Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority
this ____th day of _____, 2025.

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IWVGA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

STAFF REPORT

TO: IWVGA Board Members

DATE: May 14, 2025

FROM: IWVGA Staff

SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

BACKGROUND

IWVGA is the primary proponent on two pieces of State Legislation dealing with groundwater adjudication. These bills were developed in response to a legislative proposal, authored by the authority for the 2025-2026 Legislative Session.

Current Adjudications impact SGMA implementation in the following ways:

- Efforts to modify the Safe Yield and/or Sustainable Yield through the adjudication process impact the implementation of sustainability measures. The ability of the GSA, public water agencies, or utilities to finance those sustainability measures is removed. Lenders, bonding agencies and other government agencies will not finance an infrastructure project or augmented water purchases as the pending litigation, with the ability to modify or render the project useless, creates risk in their investment. As an example, in a September 2021 staff report, the Indian Wells Valley Water District expressly acknowledged this feature of its adjudication efforts as a reason why it could not finance its needed import water supplies.
- Adjudications create the opportunity to initiate competing or conflicting water management plans. Nothing in the statute indicates that DWR's actions can be overturned in an adjudication and nothing in the statute indicates that a physical solution (the court-implemented sustainability measures) in an adjudication has to follow the GSP.
- Adjudications, which can take decades, delay the implementation of sustainability measures and allow continued over-drafting of groundwater supplies during the adjudication process. SGMA requires implementation of sustainability measures commence upon approval of the GSP. Adjudications allow for the status quo of uncontrolled critical overdraft to be maintained throughout the trial until a final judgment is provided by the court. SGMA requires sustainability be achieved by at least 2040, staying sustainability measures and continuing over-drafting of groundwater supplies threatens the GSA's ability to meet the deadlines.

SGMA Facts:

- 86 Basins in the State have a GSP.
- 71 GSPs have been approved by a GSA and sent to DWR for review
(21 Critically Over-drafted Basins and 65 Highly Over-drafted or Moderately Over-drafted Basins)
- Nine are currently being reviewed by DWR.

- 13 have been deemed by DWR to be incomplete.
- 23 have been deemed inadequate by DWR and referred to State Water Resources Control Board for enforcement action.
- 26 GSPs have been approved by DWR
- Nine GSPs are approved as “Alternative GSPs”
- Five Critically over-drafted basins are or were involved in an adjudication (four active and one settled)
- 23% of approved GSPs resulted in adjudication (thus far)
- There are threats of adjudications in four other basins

ASSEMBLY BILL 1413 (Papan): Groundwater Adjudications

Status:

Assembly Committee on Appropriations – Hearing 05/14/2025

Assembly Committee on the Judiciary – Do Pass by a vote of 9-3

Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife – Do Pass by vote of 9-4

The bill prohibits a court from adopting a sustainable yield in a comprehensive groundwater adjudication proceeding if such yield allows more total pumping from the basin annually or on average than the sustainable yield of the basin established in the latest validated groundwater sustainability plan covering the basin. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Requires a groundwater adjudication involving an action against a groundwater sustainability agency that is located in that basin to be consolidated with the comprehensive groundwater adjudication if the action concerns the adoption, substance, or implementation of a groundwater sustainability plan, or the groundwater sustainability agency’s compliance with the timelines in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.
- 2) Requires the court in an action consolidated pursuant to try the cause of action for judicial review of the groundwater sustainability plan’s determination of a basin’s sustainable yield before trying any other issue in the action.
- 3) Provides that a judgment in a comprehensive groundwater adjudication substantially impairs the ability of a groundwater sustainability agency, the State Water Resources Control Board, or the Department of Water Resources to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and to achieve sustainable groundwater management if it allows more total pumping from the basin annually or on average than the sustainable yield of the basin established in the latest groundwater sustainability plans covering the basin and either of the following apply:
 - a. The groundwater sustainability plan or plans have been validated by a final judgment issuing from a validation action; or
 - b. The groundwater sustainability plan or plans have been validated by operation of law because no validation action was filed.
- 4) Prohibits in an adjudication action for a basin required to have a groundwater sustainability plan, the court from establishing a safe yield or sustainable yield for the basin that exceeds the sustainable yield of the basin as established in a valid groundwater sustainability plan for the basin.

DISCUSSION:

The legislature has enacted two statutes requiring the court not substantially impair the ability to implement a GSP. These are found in Code of Civil Procedure §850(b) and Water Code §10737.8, both providing direction to the court.

Code of Civil Procedure §850(b) The court may enter judgment in an adjudication action for a basin required to have a groundwater sustainability plan under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Part 2.74 (commencing with Section 10720) of Division 6 of the Water Code), if in addition to the criteria enumerated in subdivision (a), the court also finds that the judgment will not substantially impair the ability of a groundwater sustainability agency, the State Water Resources Control Board, or the department to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and the achieve sustainable groundwater management. {Emphasis added}

Water Code §10737.8 In addition to making any findings required by subdivision (a) of Section 850 of the Code of Civil Procedure or any other law, the court shall not approve entry of judgment in an adjudication action for a basin required to have a groundwater sustainability plan under this part unless the court finds that the judgment will not substantially impair the ability of a groundwater sustainability agency, the board, or the department to comply with this part and to achieve sustainable groundwater management. {Emphasis added}

This bill recognizes that some parties in adjudication are seeking to re-litigate the sustainable yield determinations in comprehensive adjudications. By forcing courts to reconsider valid, scientific, determinations by regulatory agencies, the existing process is adding time and expense to groundwater adjudications and substituting valid scientific determinations with that of a judge. Seeking to avoid duplicative and costly legal proceedings, this measure would prohibit a judge in a groundwater adjudication from adopting a sustainable yield that is in excess of the sustainable yield established in a validated GSP. This bill acknowledges that local elected officials adopting a GSP will be inclined to set the sustainable yield as high as they reasonably believe possible because the sustainable yield is the measure to which implementation projects are built, or not – in other words if the basin pumping is below the sustainable yield number then costly augmentation projects are not needed. With this acknowledgment, this bill provides that if a party believes the sustainable yield should be set lower for the determination of water rights between the basin pumpers, the parties are free to pursue that claim. With this in mind, the Authority's legal team anticipates that Searles Valley Minerals will argue that the sustainable yield is lower than provided in the GSP because that would benefit their water rights claims against others including the Indian Wells Valley Water District.

AB 1413 will prevent pumpers unhappy with needed sustainability measures from filing a comprehensive groundwater adjudication to get around and delay a GSP while rehashing the sustainable yield (or groundwater budget) established in a GSP. Unfortunately, this is occurring in pending groundwater adjudications in basins subject to SGMA. This delays sustainable groundwater management and is redundant. While the court has an important role to play in determining individual groundwater rights, the GSP development and implementation processes are the best forums for determining the sustainable yield for a given groundwater basin (akin to land use planning and zoning) and if there are those that are unhappy with the sustainable yield determination they have a legal process outside of adjudications in which they can challenge the determination. This is even more the case when taking into account the fact that the two state agencies with technical expertise in water management – DWR and the State Water Board – take an active and ongoing role in overseeing SGMA implementation. To avoid delay in reversing groundwater overdraft and avoid shutting out smaller actors, this bill directs courts to not exceed the sustainable yield identified in a valid GSP when entering a judgment in a comprehensive groundwater adjudication.

It should also be pointed out that these bills are reflective of what many believe current SGMA law requires. In fact, the Department of Justice has filed legal briefing asserting the very point that adjudications are not a vehicle to end run SGMA.

OPPOSITION ARGUMENTS:

Opponents argue:

- 1) The inability to argue and challenge the GSP through the current adjudication process is removing their right to properly adjudicate water rights in a groundwater basin.

The legislature must determine a process to harmonize the conflicts between adjudications and the SGMA process without infringing on the ability to determine water rights. SGMA ensures that groundwater is used sustainably and seeks to minimize future groundwater basin adjudications. Recognizing that groundwater adjudications are inefficient and do not necessarily produce comprehensive strategies for protecting water and the environment, in 2014, the Legislature adopted the SGMA to provide statewide standards for groundwater management. A critical aspect of the SGMA framework is the adoption of GSPs by local groundwater agencies. The GSPs must be developed locally, with input from public stakeholders, and are subject to review by the Department of Water Resources.

AB 1413 builds on prior Legislative efforts to streamline groundwater proceedings and synchronize the GSP development and approval process with groundwater adjudications. First, this bill requires a court to consolidate any action against a GSA in a basin subject to groundwater adjudication into the comprehensive adjudication proceedings. Once the proceedings have been consolidated, the bill requires the court to try the issues related to a GSP's sustainable yield prior to adjudicating other issues. The bill also provides that a judgment in an adjudication impermissibly impairs the ability of the GSA to regulate groundwater if the court's sustainable yield determination exceeds the amount of total pumping from a basin that is specified in a GSP that has been subject to a validation action or deemed valid by operation of law. This provision essentially applies the estoppel principle to an adjudication when the sustainable yield was previously approved by a court in a validation action.

Additionally, it should be noted that if someone is unhappy with the GSP's sustainable yield determination the proper process should be to litigate that issue with the GSA rather than sue everyone single landowner in the basin. Applying that principle to the facts occurring in this basin, if the Water District believes that the sustainable yield which it voted to adopt was too high or too low, all they needed to do was file a validation action directly challenging that determination – they did not need to challenge the Navy's rights and they did not need to sue every landowner in the valley in a process that will cost the valley in excess of \$10 million.

- 2) The validation process is insufficient to satisfy the ability of parties to challenge the GSP and determine, therefore infringing on their water rights. They further claim that validation proceedings fail to properly protect the due process interests of water rights holders.

On the first point of this objection, proponents disagree. What is at question is the correct procedural venue to challenge the GSP and that does not infringe on the determination of a water right through an adjudication. On the second point, we realize that a validation proceeding asks whether the agency complied with the law when taking the challenged action. If the court finds that the agency did something wrong, all the court can do is direct the agency to redo the action, this time following the law. This does not impact the ability of the court in a validation action to hear evidence or new science challenging the GSP.

It is also not the single and only time the GSP can be challenged. By design, SGMA established a five-year review process (the periodic evaluation) which, if substantively amended, subjects the GSP to an additional validation action.

Here, the Legislature must determine whether the local agency process – including stakeholder input, public meetings, and scientific data – and the review by the administrative state, coupled with ability of any interested party to challenge the process through a validation action is sufficient to meet due process requirements needed to determine groundwater rights. As the statute currently reads, courts cannot avoid substantially interfering with SGMA. Again, it should be noted that the Department of Justice believes this was the original intent and wording of SGMA.

AB 1466 (Hart): Groundwater Adjudications: Standard of Review

Status:

Assembly Floor – Pending Vote

Assembly Committee on Appropriations – Do Pass by a vote of 11-4

Assembly Committee on the Judiciary – Do Pass by a vote of 9-3

Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife – Do Pass by a vote of 9-4

AB 1466:

1. Establishes the standard of review for the GSP at “Substantial Evidence.”
2. Allows the court to request a report to address small farmer and disadvantaged community member needs.

Problems being addressed:

SGMA requires a local public process, with stakeholder input, and scientific-based evidence. The State of California has invested over \$1 billion in the development of the approved GSPs. Currently, some litigants are arguing that adjudications require a de novo review – starting from scratch as if the SGMA process did not exist. Utilizing the “Substantial Evidence” standard of review, the local, State-approved process is not set aside and can be used as a starting point for adjudication.

The Legislature enacted protections within Section 850(a)(4) of the Code of Civil Procedures requiring the court “consider the water use and accessibility of water for small farmers and disadvantaged communities” as defined within Section 850(e). Small farmers and disadvantaged communities, as defined, are a subset of de minimis users. A mechanism is needed to allow the court to fulfill the requirements in Section 850(a)(4).

OPPONENTS ARGUMENTS:

- 1) Complete review – otherwise known as “de novo review” – is required to meet due process standards.

Opponents are arguing that they must have complete review – a start from scratch approach – to present new evidence that will determine the Safe Yield of the basin. SGMA established a process that determines the Sustainable Yield. Safe Yield determinations in adjudications are part of the calculation of Sustainable Yield. SGMA also established a process for introducing new evidence and revising the GSP, subject to a validation action. As required by law, this is an open process lead by elected officials and public comments

at both the GSA level of adoption and the State level of approval are encouraged. In this valley, the State expressly took into count and responded to public comments about the conditions of the basin when the State approved the GSP.

The Legislature will have to determine the appropriate standard of review. Proponents argue that the local process – requiring scientific based evidence, local stakeholder input and public meetings – is favorable over litigation which removes the public aspect, limits stakeholder input to only those that can afford to participate and requires endless litigation to modify. In the Indian Wells Valley Adjudication, the court has expressly stated that it does not know what standard it will need to apply in coming phases so this legislative guidance is timely and needed by the court.

- 2) All parties must be present in an adjudication to present to the court evidence in support of their water rights and it is the right of those litigants that do participate to default those that are not present in the adjudication.

Historically, de minimis extractors of groundwater were exempt from adjudications. That is not the case in the current adjudications. Put another way, opponents have stated it is their right to take away the water rights of those that cannot or do not participate in the adjudication, be they de minimis extractors or small farmers that are unable to afford the litigation costs. We simply disagree. The practice of defaulting those that cannot afford the costs of adjudication preys on the water rights of the most vulnerable in our communities. It advances the *pay-to-play* aspects of groundwater litigation and forces a determination of winners and losers based on economic status.

- 3) The required report is outside the ability of the GSA.

The GSP required the GSA to identify and address the needs of de minimis users (two acre-feet/year). The report does not require development of new information by a GSA.

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IWVGA ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

STAFF REPORT

TO: IWVGA Board Members

DATE: May 14, 2025

FROM: IWVGA Water Resources Manager

SUBJECT: AGENDA ITEM 10 – WATER RESOURCES MANAGER’S REPORT

AGENDA ITEM 10a – GRANT FUNDING UPDATE

SGMA Implementation Round 1 Update

- Invoice #9
 - Covers July 2024 to September 2024
 - Total requested payment: \$1,170,595.86
 - Status: Received payment.
- Invoice #10
 - Covers October 2024 to December 2024
 - Total requested payment: \$504,898.51
 - Status: Received payment.
- The next invoice (Invoice #11) for January 2025 to March 2025 is due to DWR by May 31, 2025.

Urban Community Drought Relief Program Update

- The IWVGA has been awarded \$3,345,000 to consolidate shallow well system(s) into a public water system.
- Potential systems/wells for consolidation in areas near impacted shallow wells are being further investigated, preliminary feasibility study and cost estimates are currently being prepared.
 - Rademacher consolidation project currently underway
 - Reimbursement Agreement between IWVGA and IWVWD signed
 - Phase 1 construction started week of April 21, not expected to be complete until transmission line repairs are completed
 - Phase 2 design currently at 90%
- Stark St consolidation feasibility study underway
- Invoice #3
 - Covers July 2024 to September 2024
 - Total requested payment: \$26,849.00
 - Status: Received payment.
- Invoice #4
 - Covers October 2024 to December 2024
 - Total requested payment: \$23,757.75

- o Status: Received payment.
- The next invoice (Invoice #5) for January 2025 to March 2025 is due to DWR by May 31, 2025.

AGENDA ITEM 10b – GSP IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS/MANAGEMENT ACTION UPDATES

Imported Water Project

- Imported Water Pipeline Design Services
 - o Coordination Meetings:
 - Bi-weekly meetings with BLM
 - Continuing ongoing coordination with State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW), Caltrans, United Pacific Rail Road (UPRR), California Department of Parks and Recreation (Cal Parks), and Southern California Edison (SCE)
 - Bi- weekly meetings with SCE
 - Continued discussion with SCE design staff on design requirements for crossing underneath active SCE lines.
 - Continued to engage with SCE environmental staff and the Project's environmental consultant on the potential requirements for incorporating the new SCE infrastructure
 - SCE determined their preference of the source for additional power is an extension of a powerline from Pump Station No 1 along Redrock Randsburg Rd. and Garlock Rd to Pump Stations No. 2 and No. 3
 - UPRR continuing review of encroachment permit for crossing along alignment near Highway 395
 - Continuing to engage Cal Parks with review of 60% Design Plans and proposed permanent and temporary construction easements on Cal Parks land
 - Planning to meeting with Cal Trans in May to provide update on proposed plans along Hwy 395 and the Cal Trans easement near China Lake Blvd
 - o Geotechnical Consultant (SEI, Inc.) performed all soil borings under CDFW LSA jurisdictional areas. Some of the soil boring results indicate conditions that could cause a change in the alignment—potentially moving the crossing of Highway 395 approximately 400-500 feet north
 - Continuing work on the geotechnical reports for each of the main components of the conveyance system (pipeline, pump stations, tank, trenchless crossings)
 - Corrosion subconsultant completed a technical memorandum on corrosion design (a 30% design deliverable) for Staff review and is continuing to further the corrosion design for the 90% submittal based on the remaining geotechnical results
 - o AVEK's Technical Memorandum of additional modeling for design considerations of upstream hydraulics and constraints for California City Feeder and North Feeder is scheduled to be provided by the end of May
 - Amendment 1 to the Reimbursement Agreement with AVEK was executed

March 12, 2024 for an extension of the terms through March 12, 2025 and additional deposit of \$75,000 to AVEK

- o Next Steps:
 - Finalize Tank TM after revised AVEK (Kennedy/Jenks) hydraulic modeling results are available (a 30% submittal deliverable)
 - Provide the System Hydraulics and Transient Mitigation Analysis TM
 - Provide the updated Preliminary Permitting Requirements TM per Staff comments
 - Provide Draft Corrosion Design TM
 - Provide Draft Trenchless Crossing TM
 - Incorporate additional SCE power infrastructure into design plans
 - Next Milestones
 - Provide 90% Design Submittal in June 2025
 - Provide 100% Design by the end of December 2025
- Imported Water Pipeline Environmental Services
 - o Coordination Meetings
 - Weekly meetings with BLM
 - Finalized the plans required by the BLM Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan including a Raven Management Plan, Burrowing Owl Translocation Plan, Mojave Ground Squirrel Translocation Plan, and a Desert Tortoise Translocation Plan
 - Continued to engage with SCE environmental staff and the Project's design consultant on the potential requirements for incorporating the new SCE infrastructure into the Environmental documents
 - o SCE determined their preference of the source for additional power is an extension of a powerline from Pump Station No 1 along Redrock Randsburg Rd. and Garlock Rd to Pump Stations No. 2 and No. 3
 - SCE previously suggested an option for an additional power line alignment beginning north of the town of Randsburg along Goler Road, then continue 4.3 miles north towards Garlock Road.
 - In late-March, South Environmental subconsultants performed time-sensitive Spring botanical surveys along the Golder Road alignment option and the alignment option extending from Pumpstation No. 1 to Pumpstation No. 2 and No. 3
 - All other previous biological and cultural surveys are applicable to the preferred alignment option extending from Pumpstation No. 1
 - P&P is developing an updated schedule based on additional coordination of this item with SCE
 - o Updating the Draft EA/ EIR joint document per additional SCE components
 - o Draft Biological Evaluation to be updated for additional SCE components
 - o Draft Biological Assessment to be updated for additional SCE component
 - o Coordinating with United States Fish and Wildlife Service, BLM, and GA/ WRM Staff on requirements to obtain an Incidental Take Permit
 - o BLM and US Department of Defense completing the Final Redacted Draft of the Cultural Report
 - o Continuing coordination with AVEK on Mojave Tank Farm Alignment
 - o Continuing to consider right-of-way alignment options with Kern County
 - o Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas, Energy, and Noise reports to be updated for additional SCE components

- Next Steps:
 - Provide updated schedule
 - Provide draft EA for 45- day Public Comment Period
- Next Milestones:
 - Provide Final EA/ EIR
- Imported Water Pipeline Right-of-Way Services
 - Continuing Acquisition Services Task, Preliminary Title Report and Appraisal Report tasks
 - Provided draft format of legal descriptions for Staff review
 - Staff reviewing draft Right of Way Acquisition Plan
 - Next Milestone:
 - Provide a final Right of Way Acquisition Plan by late-2025
 - Complete plats and legal descriptions mid- 2025
 - Complete appraisals by end of 2025
- Submittals to DWR
 - Continuing monthly coordination meetings with DWR on IP Grant progress
 - On April 25, 2025, Amendment 1 of the DWR IP Grant Amendment was executed for extension of the planning work to December 31, 2025 and reallocation of budget within existing tasks
- US Army Corps of Engineers Planning Assistance to States (PAS) Program
 - GA Staff is re-evaluating and prioritizing list of proposed tasks
 - Next Steps:
 - Provide updated proposed project list to USACE staff after prioritization
 - Execute an agreement with Army Corps
- Pipeline Construction
 - Passage of the Thomas R. Carper Water Resources Development Act of 2024 (WRDA-24) authorized \$50 million for the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to begin activities for water and water supply infrastructure in Kern County, California
 - IWVGA provided a Letter of Intent to the USACE which requests USACE's assistance in the construction of the Project and acknowledges the IWVGA's responsibility for the 25% non-federal sponsor funding match for construction costs and assumption of ownership, and all operations, and maintenance requirements of the Project after construction.
 - Capital Core is coordinating a kick-off meeting with the USACE Los Angeles Division

Shallow Well Mitigation Program

There are currently no active applications. There is an anticipated application from Mr. Matt Jackson at 4123 N. Bull Run Street, Inyokern. Mr. Jackson emailed IWVGA on January 16, 2025, and reported that he believes his well is running dry. IWVGA staff responded to Mr. Jackson with the application materials and notified him that the well must be registered with IWVGA. Mr. Jackson submitted an application on March 16, 2025, however a more recent well evaluation is needed to determine the well's flow rate and groundwater level. Mr. Jackson is currently waiting

to have Garrison Brothers complete the evaluation.

AGENDA ITEM 10c – MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Data Collection and Monitoring

- Received access permission to install transducers/data loggers in the Hospital well (26S/40E-28J01) and Navy well TTIWV-MW12 (25S/40E-14H)
 - o New transducers/data loggers installed
- DMS updated with WellIntel data
- DWR field check performed week of January 27
 - o State well numbers corrected and telemetry data uploaded to state database
- Spring 2025 water level monitoring event conducted week of March 3.

Subflow from Rose Valley to IWV

- Ongoing work with BLM regarding Cultural Survey and Permitting for second monitoring well
- BLM started SF-299 review (application submitted September 2023) for alternative monitoring well RVS-2 drilling and installation project. Stetson and Epsilon Systems staff worked with BLM staff, re-supplying documents and revising materials as requested
- BLM provided field authorization for cultural/archeological field survey
- Next steps: (1) obtain BLM concurrence on the scope of the cultural/archeological field survey, (2) conduct a cultural/archeological field survey, and (3) BLM Right-of-Way grant
- Navy/Coso contract deadline is February 2025 for completing the RVS Monitoring Well project.
 - o Contract amendment approved by the Board
 - o Pending SAM.gov registration reactivation

ACTION(S) REQUIRED BY THE BOARD

There are no actions required by the Board.

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To: Carol Thomas-Keefer, General Manager IWVGA

From: Michael W. McKinney, President

cc:

Date: May 9, 2025

Subject: Project Update Memorandum – March and April Activities

The following update summarizes Capitol Core Group activities for March and April 2025.

PROJECT 1: IMPORTED WATER SUPPLIES

Capitol Core Group continued to work with Private Seller #5 on negotiations to purchase imported water supplies finalizing water needs. The board will receive specific details during the April meeting as part of the real property negotiations in the closed session.

PROJECT 2: WATER REPLENISHMENT PIPELINE

Planning Activities

Capitol Core has received several questions concerning the “cancellation of the grant-award to IWVGA” stemming from Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) activities. IWVGA staff, Stetson and Capitol Core continues to work with USEPA on project description revisions to the USEPA-IWVGA funding agreement. The grant-award has not been cancelled or revoked at this time.

Construction Activities

IWVGA’s Letter of Intent (LOI) to the U.S. Army Corps was finalized in March and transmitted in early April. Discussions with both the Los Angeles Division and the Pentagon. Capitol Core, Stetson, and Mr. Phill Hall are working with BLM and USACE to determine required changes to planning documents necessitated by the different processes undertaken by each Agency. Resolution of the process requirements is expected to take a couple of months.

Similar to the USEPA grants, Capitol Core has received questions concerning “cancellation of the pipeline authorization” stemming from DOGE activities and opposition from a local coalition led by Searles Valley Minerals and the IWV Water District. The authorization is a statutory requirement and cannot be “cancelled” or revoked by regulatory fiat. Appropriations for the project were not sought in Fiscal Year 2025/2026 due to the timeline of the completion of planning activities for the project. Simply put, there

are no requested funds to cancel. Opposition activities stated misconceptions regarding the need for the project and potential project alternatives (such as a water recycling plant). These were cleared with the Congressional offices and questions concerning ownership/control of feedwater effluent were directed to the City of Ridgecrest.

PROJECT 3: OTHER PROJECTS SUPPORTING THE GSP

A full Legislative Tracking Report is included with this memorandum.

Federal

The Senate has begun bipartisan efforts to reauthorize portions of the water provisions contained in the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act ("IIJA")*. A summary is included in the Legislative Tracking Report.

A detailed summary of the FY2025 Full Continuing Resolution is contained in the Legislative Tracking Report.

State of California

Senate Informational Hearing (April)

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water conducted an oversight hearing on March 11, 2025, featuring panels from DWR, State Water Resources Control Board and small farming associations including those involved in the Cuyama Basin adjudication. The agencies highlighted conflicting issues between the Streamlined Adjudications Act and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. The hearing highlighted the conflicts, focusing primarily on the Cuyama Basin adjudication, of requested de novo review of the sustainable yield within the confines of the Safe Yield Trial Phase of a groundwater adjudication. The Agencies indicated these conflicting areas should be reviewed by the Legislature to provide clarification to the courts on the stated intent of SGMA.

FY2025-2026 State Budget Act

A detailed discussion of the Governor's January proposal and the legislative actions (February to April) going into the May budget revision is included within the tracking report. In summary of the report, continued reductions or deferment from the FY2021-2022 and FY2022-2023 State Budget Act authorizations are included in the drought resilience, water recycling, and other water programs are being considered. The Senate is considering rescission ("*claw back*") of \$700 million in uncommitted water funding to attempt to offset budget reductions in the current fiscal year. The Authority would not be impacted by the Senate's suggested rescission.

AB 1413 (Papan): Groundwater Adjudications

Origins of the bill stemmed from a legislative proposal sponsored by IWVGA and supported by Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, 1st District Supervisor – San Luis Obispo County James Paulding, and the California Alliance for Family Farmers (CAFF). This coalition representing the three current adjudications.

AB 1413 clarifies the court's review standards and establishes the correct venue to challenge a GSP. The bill further directs the court to not establish a safe yield at an amount greater than the sustainable yield of an approved plan. **The bill does not remove the ability of any interested parties to challenge a GSP.** It directs such challenges, in conjunction with AB 1466 (summarized below), be made through a validation action brought by an interested party within 180-days of the GSP's adoption. Further, **AB 1413 does not modify the ability of a groundwater user to request the court determine water rights through an adjudication.** The legislation attempts to close loopholes within the streamlined adjudication act being utilized to delay sustainability measures, continue overdraft of a groundwater basin, and attack funding mechanisms for such sustainability measures.

AB 1413 passed the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife by a vote of 9-4 on April 8, 2025, and passed the Assembly Committee on the Judiciary by a vote of 9-3 on April 29, 2025. The bill is scheduled for hearing in the Assembly Committee on Appropriations for May 14, 2025.

AB 1466 (Hart): Groundwater Adjudications: Standards of Review

Origins of this legislation stemmed from the ongoing adjudication in the Cuyama Basin but attempted to address similar issues in the Indian Wells Valley and Oxnard Pleasant Valley Basins as well as those currently being threatened in the Kern County Subbasin and Salinas Valley Basin.

IWVGA worked closely with Assembly Member Hart during March to secure amendment language, which is reflected in the current version of the bill. AB 1466 establishes the standard of review courts shall use when reviewing actions of a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) and sets forth a process to protect the rights of small water users in an adjudication. The bill requires courts to use the "Substantial Evidence" standard of review when, during an adjudication, it reviews the actions of a GSA. This would require that a court reviewing decision of a GSA, especially in administrative law or judicial review, to uphold the decision if there's enough evidence that a reasonable mind would accept as adequate to support the conclusion. The substantial evidence standard typically shows deference to the decision-maker's findings, meaning the appellate court will not substitute its judgment for that of the lower court or agency, unless the evidence is insufficient to support the conclusion.

Within the three groundwater adjudications litigants have asked for a de novo review standard when reviewing the GSP's sustainable yield determination – this is a complete and without deference review to any of the previous work conducted. Similar to AB 1413, AB 1466 does not remove anyone's ability

to challenge a GSP through the validation process and does not preclude the court determining groundwater rights through an adjudication.

AB 1466 has passed the following Committees and is pending debate on the Assembly Floor:

- Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife by a vote of 9-4 on April 8, 2025.
- Assembly Committee on the Judiciary by a vote of 9-3 on April 22, 2025.
- Assembly Committee on Appropriations by a vote of 11-4 on May 7, 2025.

The bill is supported by IWVGA, Fox Canyon GMA, 1st District San Luis Obispo County, California Alliance for Family Farmers and other interested organizations.

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STATUS (May 2025 Deadline):
118th Congressional Session, 1st
2025-2025 California Session



INDIAN WELLS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY STATUS REPORT



PRIORITY LEGISLATION

PRIORITY BILL DESCRIPTION

Legislation of significant impact on operations or interests. Legislation where a public position may be taken with the legislative body. Updates are provided to staff as they occur, potentially requiring action, and reported herein.

POSITIONS TAKEN



SUPPORT:

Indicating a public position of support with written documentation and active advocacy.



OPPOSE:

Indicating a public position of opposition with written documentation and active advocacy.



NEUTRAL:

Indicating a neutral or no public position taken on the legislation. Legislation is of significance and is being constantly monitored.



AMEND:

Presenting amendment language for consideration that would change the public position from neutral to Support.



OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED:

Indicating a public position of opposition with written documentation and active advocacy while presenting amendment language for consideration that would remove opposition.



NEW: Water Provision Infrastructure Reauthorization

The Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works has begun discussions and oversight hearings to reauthorize water provisions originally contained in the *Infrastructure, Investment and Jobs Act* (commonly known as “IIJA” or the “Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill” – Public Law 117-58, Statutes of 2021, 135 Stat. 429, HR 3684). IIJA authorized \$50 billion in water infrastructure funding programs primarily through three federal agencies – USEPA, USACE, and USBR. Between \$17 and \$35 billion in IIJA funding has not been expended and are subject to rescission or sunset provisions. This includes unallocated funding in the Lead Pipe Replacement, PFAS/PFOA Remediation, MS4/Stormwater, and Title XVI programs that will sunset. It also includes rescission of allocations in Clean Water State Revolving Fund, Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, Lead Pipe Replacement, Water Infrastructure/Section 7001, and Title XVI programs. Astonishingly, only six percent (6%) of USEPA authorized funding program (not associated with the State Revolving Funds) have been allocated. Over 90% of cybersecurity and PFAS/PFOA Remediation will sunset. \$40 million in Title XVI funding through USBR, allocated to IWVGA and offered to the Water District, will be subject to rescission at the end of FY2026 (September 2026).

President Trump signaled early on in the Administration a willingness to reauthorize certain infrastructure programs, including water funding programs that would sunset with IIJA. The Senate is working in a bipartisan manner to accomplish the reauthorization. There is no current timetable for introduction of the reauthorization bill.

**CALIFORNIA PRIORITY LEGISLATION
2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**



UPDATE: AB 293 (Bennett): Groundwater Sustainability Agencies: Transparency

Version: As Introduced 01/22/2025

Position: 

Status: **Senate Committee on Rules – Pending Referral**

Assembly Floor – PASSED 62-5

Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife – DO PASS 11-2

Summary: This bill would require each groundwater sustainability agency to publish the membership of its board of directors on its internet website, or on the local agency's internet website, as provided. The bill would also require each groundwater sustainability agency to publish a link on its internet website or its local agency's internet website to the location on the Fair Political Practices Commission's internet website where the statements of economic interests, filed by the members of the board and executives of the agency, can be viewed. IWVGA already complies with the requirements.

UPGRADED: UPDATE: AB 514 (Petrie-Norris): Water: Emergency Supplies

Version: **As Amended 04/03/2025**

Position: 

Status: **Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife – Hearing 04/29/2025**

Summary: This bill would declare that it is the established policy of the state to encourage, but not mandate, the development of emergency water supplies by local **and regional** water suppliers, and to support their use during times of drought or unplanned service or supply disruption. Within the critically overdrafted and isolated Indian Wells Valley basin insufficient water supplies existing to deal with unplanned service disruptions. The bill amends the State water policy to encourage the development of emergency supplies in the case of such service disruptions and places the requirements of ensuring the maintenance of retail water infrastructure on the providing entities including the Water District, Community Service District, and various mutual water companies.

UPDATE: AB 709 (Gonzalez): Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: Sustainability Plans

Version: As Introduced 02/14/2025

Position: 

Status: **Assembly Floor -- Pending**

Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife – DO PASS 13-0

Summary: The author contends this bill addresses an ambiguity under existing law by allowing GSAs to amend their coordination agreements in between DWR periodic reviews if necessary to address emerging needs or trends. According

to the author, “SGMA requires continued cooperation and coordination to advance a more sustainable groundwater system for California’s agricultural community, residents, and economy. California’s laws must ensure flexibility for those parties that are responsible for [GSPs] to work together – especially those under coordinated agreements. Providing the legal and statutory authority to amend their coordination agreements will foster adaptive management strategies to address any deficiencies or necessary changes in internal governance. Several groundwater basins in California have more than 20 groundwater sustainability agencies responsible for various sub-basins.

It is not clear if the statutory changes in this bill are necessary to allow GSAs to amend coordination agreements required under SGMA. The Author is unable to identify examples where GSAs have not been able to amend coordination agreements or, at least, where any ambiguity under existing law has hindered efforts to amend coordination agreements. This created IWVGA concerns over possible amendments to AB 709 allowing for the creation of overlying GSAs within a basin. IWVGA proposed clarifying amendments. The Author’s staff has assured IWVGA the bill will have no impact on the Indian Wells Valley or attempt to address issues within the current IWV adjudication. Based on that assurance and at the request of the Author and the Chair, IWVGA modified its position from Oppose Unless Amended to Neutral but will maintain the bill on the Priority list for immediate observation of all actions.

UPDATE: AB 1413 (Papan): Groundwater Adjudication

Version: As Amended 04/09/2025

Position: 

Status: Assembly Committee on Appropriations – Hearing 04/14/2025
Assembly Committee on the Judiciary – DO PASS 9-3
Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife – DO PASS AS AMENDED 9-4

Summary: This bill would ensure that a comprehensive adjudication of groundwater rights in a basin does not interfere with the timely completion and implementation of a groundwater sustainability plan. Further, it avoids redundancy and unnecessary costs in developing technical information and a physical solution. Lastly, it is consistent with the attainment of sustainable groundwater management within the timeframes established by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

UPDATE: AB 1466 (Hart): Groundwater Adjudication

Version: As Amended 04/08/2025

Position:



Status:

Assembly Floor – To 2nd Reading File

Assembly Committee on Appropriations – DO PASS 11-4

Assembly Committee on the Judiciary – DO PASS 9-3

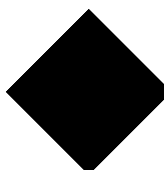
Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife – DO PASS AS AMENDED 9-4

Summary:

This bill establishes the standard of review courts shall use when reviewing actions of a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) and sets forth a process to protect the rights of small water users in an adjudication. In conjunction with your AB 1413, this bill seeks to close loopholes within the groundwater adjudication process that are being used to impede the implementation of SGMA, including delaying groundwater sustainability measures while failing to protect the rights of small water users. It builds upon the efforts of the Legislature in 2023's Assembly Bill 779. Fox Canyon GMA and opponents have amendments pending consideration by the Author; IWVGA supports the Fox Canyon and opponent amendments provided report requirements are not removed from the bill.



WATCH BILL LIST



WATCH BILL DESCRIPTION

Legislation of interest. The Authority may adopt a “neutral” position or take no public position. No direct advocacy is provided on watch bills. Updates are provided monthly unless the amendment warrants immediate notification to staff.

California “spot bills ” are included in the Watch Bill List. This legislation is a placeholder, making non-substantive changes to the code in anticipation of later amendments to meet legislative deadlines.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION OF INTEREST 119TH CONGRESSIONAL SESSION



DOWNGRADED: HR 302 (Maloy, R-UT 2nd): Water Rights Protection Act of 2025

Version: As Reported with Amendments in the Nature of a Substitute

Status: Reported House Committee on Natural Resources

Summary: This bill would prohibit the Department of Interior and Agriculture from undermining our water laws by requiring the transfer of co-ownership of water rights as a condition for permit agreement or renewals on federal land. Analysis concluded the bill will have little impact on IWV. Downgraded to Watch List.



None at this time

119th CONGRESSIONAL SESSION
BUDGET RECONCILIATION ACT OF 2025



UPDATE: House Reconciliation Bill

The House of Representatives pass a Budget Resolution by 216-214 vote on April 10, 2025 — which outlines the parameters for the tax cut and [debt ceiling](#) increase. The bill had been delayed a day so Trump and Republican Congressional leaders could assuage a [dissident group](#) of conservative spending hawks pressing for deeper cuts in safety-net programs. The president worked the holdouts by phone and in a White House meeting. Republicans are planning to renew Trump’s first-term tax cuts for households and the owners of privately held businesses, and enact a fresh round of reductions, including expanding the state and local tax deduction and eliminating levies on tipped wages. Conservative hardliners in the House say they want a final package to trim \$2 trillion in spending over the next decade, a significant increase over the \$4 billion the Senate is directed to cut in the budget passed Saturday. To make those reductions they’ll likely need to curb Medicaid, food stamps and other social programs with tens of millions of beneficiaries. A group of moderate Republicans sought — and gained — assurances from Johnson during the vote that the final bill would not cut benefits for qualified Medicaid individuals and institutions. The group, however, is open to eligibility reviews and work requirements for Medicaid recipients. The budget outline punts many of the hard decisions for lawmakers to hammer out later in the tax-cut negotiations. That could lead to a standoff with the Senate at the end of the process, where several members are resistant to large cuts in safety-net programs.

UPDATE: Senate Reconciliation Bill

The Senate early April 5, 2025, passed the budget resolution by a 51-48 margin after an overnight marathon of votes on amendments. Two Republican senators, [Susan Collins](#) of Maine and [Rand Paul](#) of Kentucky, joined all Democrats in opposing the budget resolution. The [measure](#) allows congressional Republicans to craft legislation to extend Trump’s 2017 tax cuts for individuals and closely held businesses that expire at the end of 2025. Even so, spending cuts remain caught up in a lingering dispute between House and Senate GOP members. It also permits for \$1.5 trillion in new tax cuts over a decade and calls for a \$5 trillion increase to the federal borrowing limit to avert the Treasury Department hitting the debt ceiling this summer.

**STATE LEGISLATION OF INTEREST
2025-2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**



UPDATE: AB 430 (Alanis): State Water Resources Control Board: Emergency Regulations

Version: **As Amended 04/21/2025**

Status: **Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife – Pending Hearing**

Summary: This bill would require the board, before 80-days renewal of any emergency regulation or upon its repeal, to conduct a comprehensive economic study assessing the impacts of the regulation, as specified. The bill would require the board to make the study publicly available on its internet website no later than 30 days before the date of the subsequent renewal, or one year from the date of the repeal of the emergency regulation.

UPDATE: AB 990 (Hadwick): Emergency Water Notification Plan

Version: **As Introduced 02/20/2025**

Status: **Senate Committee on Rules – Pending Referral**

Assembly Floor – PASSED 75-0

**Assembly Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials – DO
PASS 7-0**

Summary: This bill would authorize and encourage a public water system to provide notification to water users in their preferred language when updating the emergency notification plan, if resources are available.

UPDATE: AB 1044 (Macedo): SGMA: Tulare Basin

Version: **As Introduced 02/20/2025**

Status: **Assembly Committee on Appropriations – Pending Hearing**

Assembly Committee on Local Government – DO PASS 10-0

Assembly Committee on Water, Parks and Wildlife – DO PASS 13-0

Summary: This bill would create the Tulare Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would establish the agency's initial boundaries. The bill would authorize the boundaries of the agency to be adjusted, as specified. The bill would require the agency to elect to be a groundwater sustainability agency under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act for that portion of the Tule Subbasin that lies within the boundaries of the agency and would require the agency to develop and implement a groundwater sustainability plan to achieve sustainable groundwater management within the territory of the agency. The bill would generally specify the powers and purposes of the agency. The bill would prescribe the composition of the 5-member board of directors of the agency and would require members and alternates to be chosen, as specified. By imposing duties on the agency and the County of Tulare, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would deem the Tulare Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency the exclusive local

agency with powers to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.



UPDATE: SB 31 (McNerney): Water Recycling Facilities: State Policy

Version: **As Amended 04/21/2025**

Status: **Senate Committee on Appropriations – Hearing Scheduled 05/12/2025**
Senate Committee on Environmental Quality – DO PASS AS AMENDED 8-0
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water – Do Pass 7-0

Summary: The bill amends the circumstances when a person is required to notify the regional water board of an unauthorized discharge of 50,000 gallons or more of recycled water into waters of the state to additionally require that it is recycled water that has completed the required treatment process and has entered a storage tank, pipeline, or canal for conveyance or distribution. ~~Additionally prohibit a person or public agency from using potable water for common areas of a residential community irrigated by a homeowners' association if suitable recycled water is available.~~

UPDATE: SB 72 (Caballero and Rubio): State Water Plan: Long Term Supply Targets

Version: **As Amended 04/10/2025**

Status: **Senate Committee on Appropriations – Suspense File**
Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water – DO PASS 6-0

Summary: As amended this bill would revise and recast certain provisions regarding The California Water Plan to, among other things, require the department to expand the membership of the advisory committee to include, among others, tribes, labor, and environmental justice interests. The bill would require the department, as part of the 2033 update to the plan, to update the interim planning target for 2050, as provided. The bill would require the target to consider the identified and future water needs *for all beneficial uses, including, but not limited to, urban uses, agricultural uses, tribal uses, and the environment*, and ensure safe drinking water for all Californians, among other things. The bill would require the plan to include specified components, including a discussion of the estimated *costs, benefits, and impacts* of any project type or action that is recommended by the department within the plan that could help achieve the water supply targets. The bill would require the department to report to the Legislature the amendments, supplements, and additions included in the updates of the plan, together with a summary of the department's conclusions and recommendations, in the session in which the updated plan is issued. The bill would also require the department to conduct public workshops to give interested parties an opportunity to comment on the plan.



FEDERAL AND STATE BUDGETS

FEDERAL FY2025

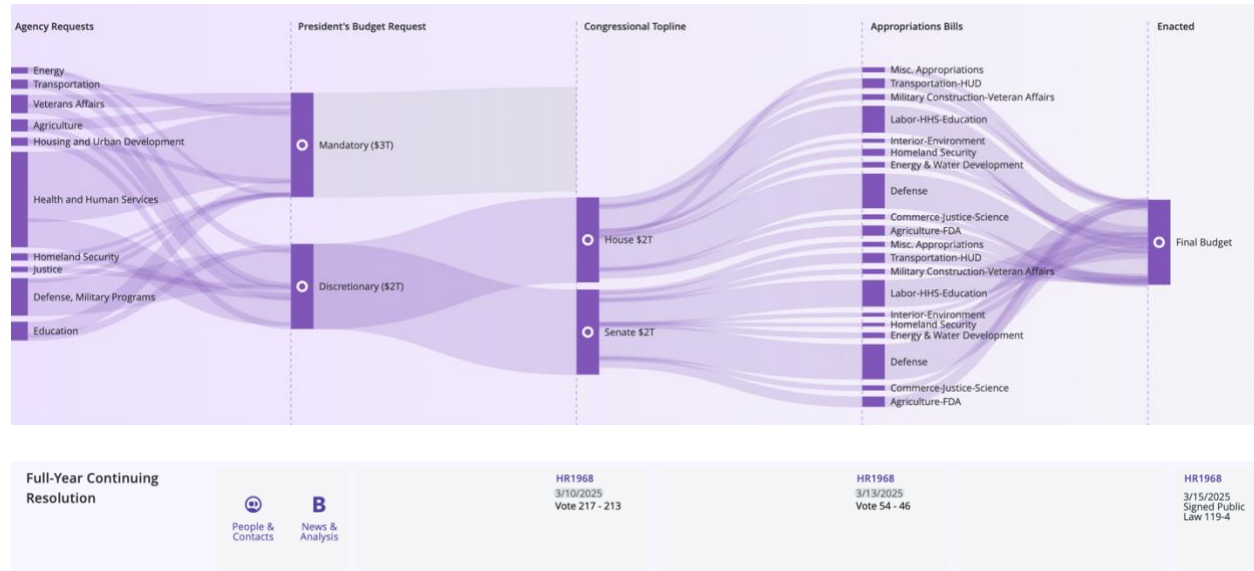
FEDERAL FY2026

CALIFORNIA FY2025-2026 STATE BUDGET

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2025



FINAL ACTION: HR 1968 (Cole, R-OK): FY2025 Full Year Continuing Resolution Act



NEW: Analysis of FY2025 CR

Government funding would be provided through Sept. 30 under [H.R. 1968](#), the full-year fiscal 2025 continuing resolution released by House Republicans.

While the measure would generally extend the funding levels from the fiscal 2024 spending laws ([Public Law 118-42](#) and [Public Law 118-47](#)), it includes key changes such as increases for defense spending and immigration enforcement and reductions for some nondefense funds. The measure would eliminate all the earmarked projects provided by the fiscal 2024 appropriations laws. It also omits the \$15.9 billion in earmarked projects that would have been funded by the fiscal 2025 House and Senate appropriations bills released last year.

The measure would claw back another \$20.2 billion in IRS funds from Democrats' 2022 tax-climate-health law ([Public Law 117-169](#)) and extend expiring health provisions and other programs, including the National Flood Insurance Program and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program.

Key DOD funding — including for military personnel and operation and maintenance — would be slightly increased compared to fiscal 2024 levels. The measure would reduce funding compared with current law for Air Force and Navy aircraft procurement and defense wide research programs.

Water Resource Projects: The measure would decrease funding for the Bureau of Reclamation, providing \$1.7 billion for its water resource projects account for fiscal 2025.

The measure would maintain fiscal 2024 funding levels for various water storage and supply projects that were identified by the Interior Department in a May 2024 letter.

The measure would prohibit funding for Army Corps of Engineers water management projects that aren't active as of the date of enactment, and the Corps would have to submit to Congress an updated work plan for its fiscal 2025 projects. The measure would give the Defense Department more flexibility to initiate new projects by omitting the "no new starts" provision common in continuing resolutions that bars the initiation or resumption of programs that aren't underway.

Environmental Protection Agency: The measure would increase to \$3.2 billion the funding level for EPA environment and management programs, including geographic programs and enforcement activities. It would remove \$1.4 billion in earmarks for fiscal 2024 for clean water and safe drinking water project capitalization grants, and a \$38 million earmark for other environmental management assistance.

FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2026

UPDATE: Member portals for Congressionally Directed Spending Requests are open for FY2026. Appropriations guidance has not been released and topline for the fiscal year have not been determined. No pending requests from the Authority.

2025-2026 STATE BUDGET



January 10, 2025, Budget Release (at the request of the Governor)

2025-26 Governor's Budget General Fund Budget Summary (Dollars in Millions)

	2024-25	2025-26
Prior Year Balance	\$35,877	\$26,299
Revenues and Transfers	\$222,473	\$225,095
Total Resources Available	\$258,350	\$251,394
Non-Proposition 98 Expenditures	\$146,998	\$144,290
Proposition 98 Expenditures	\$85,053	\$84,602
Total Expenditures	\$232,051	\$228,892
Fund Balance	\$26,299	\$22,502
Reserve for Liquidation of Encumbrances	\$18,001	\$18,001
Special Fund for Economic Uncertainties	\$8,298	\$4,501
Public School System Stabilization Account	\$1,157	\$1,533
Safety Net Reserve	-	-
Budget Stabilization Account/Rainy Day Fund	\$18,045	\$10,945

Note: Numbers may not add due to rounding.

UPDATE: AB 227/SB 65 (Gabriel and Weiner, respectively): State Budget Act of Fiscal Year 2025-2026

Version: As Introduced 01/10/2025
At the Request of the Governor
Status: **Assembly and Senate Floor, respectively**
Summary: Establishes the State Budget

NEW: Discussion of May Budget Revision and Current Actions

Summary:

The 2022-23 budget appropriated and intended to provide a combined \$8.8 billion (\$8.3 billion from the General Fund and about \$450 million from other funds) over several years to various departments for emergency drought response and water resilience activities. Nearly half of the funding (\$4 billion) was to support activities related to drinking water quality and availability, water recycling and groundwater cleanup, water supply, and flood management. About \$1.4 billion was intended for immediate drought response activities, such as for the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to respond to drinking water emergencies. The remaining funding (\$3.3 billion) was to support habitat restoration, water quality, and conservation activities. The 2023-24 budget agreement reduced total multiyear funding by \$632 million General Fund (7 percent). Major reductions included \$278 million for water recycling, \$119 million

for Salton Sea restoration activities, and \$60 million for local assistance grants related to implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

The net impact of fiscal reductions since FY2022-2023 State Budget Act have been:

1. Elimination of the SGMA Implementation Funding
2. Reduction of overall DWR funding by 50%
3. State Revolving Fund investments (from the State) were eliminated for FY2023-2024 and FY2024-2025 (this did not impact or redirect federal programmatic funding)
4. Reduction of water recycling programs by 57%

The Governor's FY2025-2026 Budget:

Reduces \$810 Million, Delays \$100 Million, and Delays and Shifts \$21 Million. The Governor's budget proposes to reduce multiyear General Fund spending for water and drought resilience, relative to the 2023-24 budget agreement, by \$810 million. (The \$7.3 billion the Governor proposes to retain represents 84 percent of the original 2022-23 package.) The proposal would revert \$100 million appropriated in earlier years for water recycling projects administered by SWRCB and delay providing it until the next fiscal year. Similarly, for the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA's) State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program, the proposal would revert \$21 million General Fund appropriated in earlier years and instead provide the same amount of funding from GGRF in the next fiscal year. Proposed reductions of interest to the Authority and City include:

- **Watershed Climate Resilience.** The budget proposes to reduce funding by \$438 million (\$126 million to the Department of Water Resources [DWR] and \$312 million to the Wildlife Conservation Board [WCB]), retaining just 11 percent (\$56 million) of the original amount. DWR indicates that the proposed reduction would affect the number of long-term projects it can fund but not its near-term program plan, which includes six pilot studies and a subsequent set of grants. While the reduction will lead to WCB awarding fewer grants, it has other funding sources available for these types of projects, including \$43 million from Proposition 68 (2018) and annual support of \$21 million from the Habitat Conservation Fund.
- **Water Recycling and Groundwater Cleanup: The proposal would reduce funding for groundwater cleanup by \$55 million and for water recycling by \$119 million (the 2023-24 budget already reduced funding by \$278 million).** (The budget also would delay \$100 million for water recycling.) Relative to the original package, the budget would retain \$348 million, or 43 percent for these two programs. SWRCB indicates it would prioritize providing low-cost financing for water recycling projects through its State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs and providing grants for water recycling and clean water projects in disadvantaged communities. In addition, the federal IJA is providing more federal funding than normal for SRF programs between 2022 and 2026 (\$1.16 billion for the Drinking Water SRF and \$790 million for the Clean Water SRF), which can be used for water recycling and groundwater cleanup projects.
- **Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAs) Support.** The proposal would reduce funding for addressing PFAs by \$102 million (retaining \$53 million, or 27 percent, of the original total, after accounting for additional reductions made in 2023-24). PFAs are long-lasting chemicals which are hard to break down and have been used in a variety of consumer and industrial products. Reduced funding would result in fewer and/or smaller state-funded grants. However, SWRCB will receive

approximately \$460 million in federal funds through its SRF programs from 2022 through 2026 to address “emerging contaminants,” which include PFAs.

- **Agricultural Programs.** The budget would reduce funding for drought relief for small farmers by \$13 million and for on-farm technical assistance by \$6 million. (Relative to the original package, the budget would retain \$21 million, or 53 percent, for these two programs.) CDFA indicates that demand for drought relief grants was lower than anticipated (it awarded about \$12 million of the available \$25 million), perhaps in part due to a similar program being offered through the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz). The on-farm technical assistance program was similarly undersubscribed, although CDFA indicates this could reflect the limited capacity of technical assistance providers, rather than the needs of farmers.

Assembly Recommendations (Subcommittee #4, Natural Resources):

Going into the May revision, the Assembly is adopting the Governor’s budget recommendations with only slight variations.

Senate Recommendations (Subcommittee #2, Natural Resources):

Going into the May revision, the Senate is considering several options for additional and/or alternative reductions from the water and drought resilience package.

- **Water Storage Projects (\$500 Million in 2025-26).** The administration’s original proposal for this funding noted that it would build on the \$2.7 billion provided by Proposition 1 (2014) for water storage projects, yet specific details on how the funds would be used have not been provided. Given this funding has not yet been appropriated, eliminating it likely would be less disruptive compared to certain other options before the Legislature.
- **Drinking Water Project Grants (\$200 Million).** While these programs are important, the state currently has an unprecedented amount of federal funding available for these purposes through the federal SRFs. In addition, state statute requires an annual GGRF appropriation of \$130 million (through 2030) to SWRCB for the same types of drinking water projects. As such, the state could continue to pursue its goals and focus on the drinking water needs of disadvantaged communities even with a reduction in General Fund support.
- **Water Recycling (Reduce Rather Than Delay \$100 Million).** Although eliminating this funding—rather than delaying it, as proposed by the Governor—would reduce the number of projects SWRCB could support with state funding (which is more flexible than federal funding), other funding sources are available for these projects. Specifically, SWRCB can use federal funds provided through the SRF for water recycling projects.
- **Revert Unspent Funding Provided in Earlier Budgets.** Of the \$6.5 billion General Fund already appropriated for water and drought resilience packages across 2021-22, 2022-23, and 2023-24, the Governor proposes reducing about \$524 million of uncommitted funds (as discussed above). Based on the LAO’s review of other uncommitted funds, the Legislature could consider additional reductions of close to \$775 million. For example, SWRCB has about \$300 million in uncommitted funds for drinking water/wastewater programs. SWRCB expects to commit a good portion of this funding between April and June, with an estimated \$65 million remaining by the end of the 2023-

24 fiscal year. Consequently, depending on how much of this funding the Legislature wished to pull back, it may have to act quickly to capture the potential savings that currently are available. While these programs remain important, particularly among disadvantaged communities, SWRCB could partially offset reductions with federal SRF funding and its annual GGRF appropriation. Additionally, Natural Resources Agency has approximately \$228 million in uncommitted funds for water resilience grants. The administration indicates it will select awardees in the March/April time frame, meaning the Legislature would have a short window to act and reduce these funds to solve the budget problem. Other examples include \$50 million for dam safety (given the Governor already proposes a reduction of the other \$50 million, an additional reduction would eliminate the pilot program) and \$104 million for WCB's streamflow enhancement program.



BILLS REMOVED FROM REPORT

Legislation no longer of interest to the Authority or legislation having a final action previously reported.

BILLS REMOVED SINCE LAST MONTH

FINAL ACTION: AB 295 (Macedo): CEQA: Water Storage, Water Conveyance, Groundwater Recharge
Version: As Introduced 01/23/2025

Status: **Died in Assembly Committee on Natural Resources – Hearing Cancelled at the Author’s Request**

Summary: This bill would extend the application of the act to water storage projects, water conveyance projects, and groundwater recharge projects that provide public benefits and drought preparedness. Because a lead agency would be required to prepare the record of proceedings for water storage projects, water conveyance projects, and groundwater recharge projects pursuant to the act, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

FINAL ACTION: SB 557 (Hurtado): SGMA: Basin Boundaries

Version: As Introduced 02/20/2025

Position: Spot Bill

Status: **Died in Senate Committee on Rules**

Summary: This bill is a spot bill pending amendments. The bill would require a 2/3rds Rule Waiver and amendments to proceed. Capitol Core staff will continue to monitor SB 557 for potential action but we are removing it from the list at this time.

AMENDED OUT: SB 650 (Cabaldon): Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009

Version: **As Amended 04/24/2024**

Status: Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water

Summary: This bill would provide certain deadlines for legal actions arising out of specified actions of the council and would make related changes. The bill would add state and local public agencies to those entities authorized to appeal regarding a certification of consistency.

AMENDED OUT: SB 838 (Durazo): Housing Accountability Act: Housing Development

Version: **As Amended 03/26/2025**

Status: Senate Committee on Local Government: Do Pass 9-2

Summary: Originally a bill to require local general plans to conform to Groundwater Sustainability Plans, the bill has been significantly amended to deal with housing development projects. No interest to the Authority.

FINAL ACTION: HR 22 (Soria): Groundwater Awareness Week

Version: **As Revised**

Status: **Adopted**

Summary: This Resolution would establish the week of March 9, 2025 as Groundwater Awareness Week.

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