



**REGULAR MEETING**  
*of the*  
**OPERATIONS & CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE**  
**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT**  
**583 SAN YSIDRO ROAD, MONTECITO, CALIFORNIA**

**MONDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2026**  
**9:30 A.M.**

**Attend in Person or Join by Teleconference:**

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1651724343?pwd=a6DAuhbNObhPtDHIAgwtfRkkLpya9.1>

Webinar ID: 165 172 4343 Passcode: 916236

Tel: (669) 254-5252

**AGENDA**

**1. CALL TO ORDER, DETERMINATION OF COMMITTEE QUORUM**

**2. PUBLIC FORUM**

NOTE: This portion of the agenda may be utilized by any person to address the Operations & Customer Relations Committee on any matter within the jurisdiction of the Committee. No consideration or discussion shall be undertaken by Committee members at this time on any item not appearing on this agenda except as permitted by the Ralph M. Brown Act. Discussion items receiving recommendations by the Committee, and/or items requiring action will be placed on the agenda of a future meeting of the Montecito Water District Board of Directors.

**3. ITEMS FOR COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION**

- \* A. AB1572 Compliance: Prohibition of Potable Water Use for Nonfunctional Turf
- \* B. Resolution No. 2335 Supporting the Association Of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Vision For Our Water Future Initiative
- \* C. Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Services Contract with Wood Rodgers for construction phase services related to the Highline Repair at Bella Vista
- \* D. Award of a Professional Services Contract to Carollo Engineers for Design of a pH Adjustment System at Bella Vista Water Treatment Plant
- E. Construction Contract Change Order No. 4 with Pacific Hydrotech Corporation for the Terminal Reservoir Seismic Retrofit and Replacement Project
- F. Update on the COMB Sheffield Tunnel Rehab Project
- G. Update on Reservoir Seismic Retrofit and Replacement Project (ASADRA)

*\* Indicates attachment included for this item*

H. Update on FEMA Project Approvals and Reimbursements

\*I. Customer Relations and Public Information Update

J. Discussion of Smart Rebates Program

**4. ITEMS FOR A FUTURE AGENDA**

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

Montecito Water District conducts its meetings in-person in accordance with the Brown Act and also provides alternative methods of participation which permit members of the public to observe and address public meetings telephonically and/or electronically. These methods of participation can be accessed through the internet link provided at the top of this agenda.

This agenda was posted on the District website, and at the Montecito Water District outside display case at 9:30 a.m. on October 16, 2026. The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, the District's programs, services, or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District Office at 805-969-2271. Notification at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements.

Agendas, agenda packets, and additional materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Committee after distribution of the agenda packet are available on the District website.

**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT  
MEMORANDUM**

**SECTION: 3-A**

**DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2026**

**TO: OPERATIONS AND CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**FROM: GENERAL MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: AB1572 COMPLIANCE: PROHIBITION OF POTABLE WATER USE FOR  
NONFUNCTIONAL TURF**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Operations and Customer Relations Committee review the requirements of Assembly Bill 1572 prohibiting the use of potable water for the irrigation of nonfunctional turf and direct staff to develop a policy for the Board of Directors' consideration.

**DISCUSSION:**

**Previous Regulations and District Actions**

In June 2022, following two consecutive winters of below-average precipitation statewide, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted emergency drought regulations prohibiting the irrigation of nonfunctional turf with potable water at commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) properties. The District incorporated these restrictions into Emergency Drought Ordinance 97 and mailed notification letters to 201 CII customers. The District received 11 written requests for relief from the prohibition. Ultimately, the District did not identify nonfunctional turf within its service area.

As drought conditions improved, the District adopted Ordinance 98 in February 2023, relaxing certain water use restrictions while retaining the nonfunctional turf irrigation prohibition. In June 2024, the District adopted Ordinance 99, rescinding Ordinance 98 and establishing permanent water use efficiency policies. Ordinance 99 remains in effect but does not contain the broader CII nonfunctional turf irrigation prohibition established under the emergency regulations.

Unlike the emergency regulations adopted in 2022, AB 1572 establishes a permanent prohibition on nonfunctional turf irrigation, regardless of drought conditions. The legislation also establishes updated definitions, phased compliance deadlines, and new requirements for public water suppliers to update their policies, notify customers, and submit documentation of compliance to the State Water Resources Control Board beginning January 1, 2027.

**AB 1572 Requirements**

Assembly Bill 1572 (AB 1572), signed into law in October 2023, establishes a permanent statewide prohibition on irrigating nonfunctional turf (NFT) with potable water at commercial,

industrial, and institutional (CII) properties, and on properties of homeowners' associations (HOAs), common interest developments, and community service organizations. The prohibition takes effect in phases beginning January 1, 2027.

California Water Code § 10608.12 establishes the following definitions relevant to the nonfunctional turf irrigation prohibition:

- **“Nonfunctional Turf”** means any turf that is not functional turf, including turf located within street rights-of-way and parking lots.
- **“Functional Turf”** means a ground cover surface of turf located in a recreational use area or community space. Turf enclosed by fencing or other barriers to permanently preclude human access for recreation or assembly is not functional turf.
- **“Recreational Use Area”** means an area designated by a property owner or a governmental agency to accommodate human foot traffic for recreation, including, but not limited to, sports fields, golf courses, playgrounds, picnic grounds, and pet exercise areas. This recreation may be either formal or informal.
- **“Community Space”** means an area designated by a property owner or a governmental agency to accommodate human foot traffic for civic, ceremonial, or other community events or social gatherings.

The law provides exceptions for irrigation necessary to sustain trees and other perennial plantings, address immediate health and safety needs, and certain other uses. Cemeteries and agricultural irrigation are excluded from the prohibition. Individual residential landscapes are generally not subject to AB 1572.

The statewide prohibition takes effect according to the following schedule:

- **January 1, 2027:** Local government, public agency, and public water system properties
- **January 1, 2028:** All other commercial, industrial, and institutional properties
- **January 1, 2029:** HOA common areas, common interest developments, and community service organizations
- **January 1, 2031:** Qualifying public properties in disadvantaged communities, subject to State funding provisions

By January 1, 2027, the District must:

1. Update its regulations, ordinances, or policies to incorporate the prohibition, applicable deadlines, and statutory exceptions.
2. Communicate the requirements to customers.
3. Submit a copy of its updated regulation, ordinance, or policy to the State Water Resources Control Board as part of its Urban Water Use Objective reporting.

Additionally, CII property owners with more than 5,000 square feet of irrigated area must certify compliance with the State Water Board beginning June 30, 2030. Similar certification

requirements apply to HOAs, common-interest development, and community service organization properties beginning June 30, 2031.

### **Initial Assessment of District Service Area**

The District serves approximately 4,700 customer accounts, primarily single-family residential properties that are not subject to the prohibition. Through the District's Water Budget tool, high-resolution aerial imagery and landscaping mapping have been developed to identify and quantify various landscape types, including turf. Using these existing resources, staff conducted a preliminary assessment and identified a few CII areas that may contain nonfunctional turf, although further evaluation is needed to confirm their status.

The California Water Efficiency Partnership (CalWEP) has developed a Landscape Area Measurement (LAM) Explorer to assist water suppliers in identifying and evaluating potential nonfunctional turf, using landscape data provided by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). The release of this data has been delayed, but once available, the District intends to use the tool to supplement its existing landscape mapping to further assess potentially affected properties and support customer outreach.

### **Noncompliance and Enforcement**

AB 1572 requires public water suppliers to update their ordinances, regulations, or policies by January 1, 2027, but does not specifically require adoption of a new ordinance. The District's existing Ordinance 99 establishes water use efficiency policies and enforcement procedures for water waste violations, including written warnings and monetary fines.

AB 1572 authorizes, but does not require, public water suppliers to enforce the prohibition. Failure to comply with AB 1572 may result in civil penalties of up to \$1,000 per day under California Water Code § 1846.

Two potential approaches for compliance:

1. **Amend Ordinance 99:** Incorporate the AB 1572 requirements into the District's existing water use efficiency ordinance, utilizing its established enforcement framework.
2. **Adopt a Board Resolution:** Establish a separate policy addressing AB 1572 requirements while retaining Ordinance 99 in its current form.

### **Communication and Next Steps**

The District will develop a communication plan to inform affected customers of the prohibition, exemptions, and compliance deadlines. Outreach may include targeted customer notifications, website updates, and information about available conservation resources, including landscape conversion rebates and water conservation consultations.

Staff will coordinate with the District's Public Information Officer on outreach activities and with legal counsel on the required policy updates and enforcement provisions.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Assembly Bill 1572 - Nonfunctional Turf Law



## AB-1572 Potable water: nonfunctional turf. (2023-2024)

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Date Published: 10/16/2023 02:00 PM

### Assembly Bill No. 1572

#### CHAPTER 849

An act to amend Sections 10540, 10608.12, and 10608.22 of, to add Section 110 to, and to add Chapter 2.5 (commencing with Section 10608.14) to Part 2.55 of Division 6 of, the Water Code, relating to water.

[ Approved by Governor October 13, 2023. Filed with Secretary of State  
October 13, 2023. ]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1572, Friedman. Potable water: nonfunctional turf.

(1) Existing law establishes various state water policies, including the policy that the use of water for domestic purposes is the highest use of water.

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations concerning water use, including that the use of potable water to irrigate nonfunctional turf is wasteful and incompatible with state policy relating to climate change, water conservation, and reduced reliance on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta ecosystem. The bill would direct all appropriate state agencies to encourage and support the elimination of irrigation of nonfunctional turf with potable water.

(2) Existing law, the Integrated Regional Water Management Planning Act, authorizes a regional water management group to prepare and adopt an integrated regional water management plan in accordance with specified requirements, including, among other things, the identification and consideration of the water-related needs of disadvantaged communities in the area within the boundaries of the plan.

This bill would additionally require an integrated regional water management plan to address the identification and consideration of the water-related needs of owners and occupants of affordable housing, including the removal and replacement of nonfunctional turf.

(3) Existing law provides various findings and declarations of the Legislature related to sustainable water use and demand reduction. Existing law imposes various water use reduction requirements that apply to urban retail water suppliers, including a requirement that the state achieve a 20% reduction in urban per capita water use by December 31, 2020.

This bill would prohibit the use of potable water, as defined, for the irrigation of nonfunctional turf located on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, other than a cemetery, and on properties of homeowners' associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations or similar entities, as specified. The bill would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board to create a form for compliance certification and would require owners of covered properties to certify their compliance, as specified. The bill

would authorize a public water system, city, county, or city and county to enforce these provisions, as specified. The bill would require the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to support small and minority-owned businesses that provide services that advance compliance with these provisions.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

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## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

### **SECTION 1.** Section 110 is added to the Water Code, to read:

#### **110.** (a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of the following:

(1) The use of potable water to irrigate nonfunctional turf is wasteful and incompatible with state policy relating to climate change, water conservation, and reduced reliance on the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta ecosystem.

(2) The Governor reported in August 2022 that climate change will bring significant enduring reductions in California's water supply and that the state must take steps to respond to this reality.

(3) The State of Nevada enacted AB 356 in 2021 to prohibit the use of Colorado River water to irrigate nonfunctional turf on all properties except single-family residences by January 1, 2027.

(b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the irrigation of grasses for agricultural production shall not be limited by requirements to eliminate the use of potable water to irrigate nonfunctional turf.

(c) The Legislature hereby directs all appropriate state agencies to encourage and support the elimination of irrigation of nonfunctional turf with potable water.

### **SEC. 2.** Section 10540 of the Water Code is amended to read:

**10540.** (a) A regional water management group may prepare and adopt an integrated regional water management plan in accordance with this part.

(b) A regional water management group may coordinate its planning activities to address or incorporate all or part of any of the following actions of its members into its plan:

(1) Groundwater management planning pursuant to Part 2.75 (commencing with Section 10750), groundwater sustainability planning pursuant to Part 2.74 (commencing with Section 10720), or other specific groundwater management authority.

(2) Urban water management planning pursuant to Part 2.6 (commencing with Section 10610).

(3) The preparation of a water supply assessment required pursuant to Part 2.10 (commencing with Section 10910).

(4) Agricultural water management planning pursuant to Part 2.8 (commencing with Section 10800).

(5) City and county general planning pursuant to Section 65350 of the Government Code.

(6) Stormwater resource planning that is undertaken pursuant to Part 2.3 (commencing with Section 10560).

(7) Other water resource management planning, including flood protection, watershed management planning, and multipurpose program planning.

(c) At a minimum, all plans shall address all of the following:

(1) Protection and improvement of water supply reliability, including identification of feasible agricultural and urban water use efficiency strategies.

(2) Identification and consideration of the drinking water quality of communities within the area of the plan.

(3) Protection and improvement of water quality within the area of the plan, consistent with the relevant basin plan.

(4) Identification of any significant threats to groundwater resources from overdrafting.

(5) Protection, restoration, and improvement of stewardship of aquatic, riparian, and watershed resources within the region.

(6) Protection of groundwater resources from contamination.

(7) Identification and consideration of the water-related needs of disadvantaged communities and owners and occupants of affordable housing, including the removal and replacement of nonfunctional turf, as defined in Section 10608.12, in the area within the boundaries of the plan.

(d) This section does not obligate a local agency to fund the implementation of any project or program.

**SEC. 3.** Section 10608.12 of the Water Code is amended to read:

**10608.12.** Unless the context otherwise requires, the following definitions govern the construction of this part:

(a) "Affordable housing" has the same meaning as defined in Section 34191.30 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) "Agricultural water supplier" means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, providing water to 10,000 or more irrigated acres, excluding recycled water. "Agricultural water supplier" includes a supplier or contractor for water, regardless of the basis of right, that distributes or sells water for ultimate resale to customers. "Agricultural water supplier" does not include the department.

(c) "Base daily per capita water use" means any of the following:

(1) The urban retail water supplier's estimate of its average gross water use, reported in gallons per capita per day and calculated over a continuous 10-year period ending no earlier than December 31, 2004, and no later than December 31, 2010.

(2) For an urban retail water supplier that meets at least 10 percent of its 2008 measured retail water demand through recycled water that is delivered within the service area of an urban retail water supplier or its urban wholesale water supplier, the urban retail water supplier may extend the calculation described in paragraph (1) up to an additional five years to a maximum of a continuous 15-year period ending no earlier than December 31, 2004, and no later than December 31, 2010.

(3) For the purposes of Section 10608.22, the urban retail water supplier's estimate of its average gross water use, reported in gallons per capita per day and calculated over a continuous five-year period ending no earlier than December 31, 2007, and no later than December 31, 2010.

(d) "Baseline commercial, industrial, and institutional water use" means an urban retail water supplier's base daily per capita water use for commercial, industrial, and institutional users.

(e) "CII water use" means water used by commercial water users, industrial water users, institutional water users, and large landscape water users.

(f) "Commercial water user" means a water user that provides or distributes a product or service.

(g) "Common area" means that portion of a common interest development or of a property owned or managed by a homeowners' association or a community service organization or similar entity that is not assigned or allocated to the exclusive use of the occupants of an individual dwelling unit within the property.

(h) "Common interest development" has the same meaning as in Section 4100 of the Civil Code.

(i) "Community service organization or similar entity" has the same meaning as in Section 4110 of the Civil Code.

(j) "Community space" means an area designated by a property owner or a governmental agency to accommodate human foot traffic for civic, ceremonial, or other community events or social gatherings.

(k) "Compliance daily per capita water use" means the gross water use during the final year of the reporting period, reported in gallons per capita per day.

(l) "Disadvantaged community" means a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80 percent of the statewide annual median household income.

(m) "Functional turf" means a ground cover surface of turf located in a recreational use area or community space. Turf enclosed by fencing or other barriers to permanently preclude human access for recreation or

assembly is not functional turf.

(n) "Gross water use" means the total volume of water, whether treated or untreated, entering the distribution system of an urban retail water supplier, excluding all of the following:

(1) Recycled water that is delivered within the service area of an urban retail water supplier or its urban wholesale water supplier.

(2) The net volume of water that the urban retail water supplier places into long-term storage.

(3) The volume of water the urban retail water supplier conveys for use by another urban water supplier.

(4) The volume of water delivered for agricultural use, except as otherwise provided in subdivision (f) of Section 10608.24.

(o) "Homeowners' association" means an "association" as defined in Section 4080 of the Civil Code.

(p) "Industrial water user" means a water user that is primarily a manufacturer or processor of materials as defined by the North American Industry Classification System code sectors 31 to 33, inclusive, or an entity that is a water user primarily engaged in research and development.

(q) "Institutional water user" means a water user dedicated to public service. This type of user includes, among other users, higher education institutions, schools, courts, churches, hospitals, government facilities, and nonprofit research institutions.

(r) "Interim urban water use target" means the midpoint between the urban retail water supplier's base daily per capita water use and the urban retail water supplier's urban water use target for 2020.

(s) "Large landscape" means a nonresidential landscape as described in the performance measures for CII water use adopted pursuant to Section 10609.10.

(t) "Locally cost effective" means that the present value of the local benefits of implementing an agricultural efficiency water management practice is greater than or equal to the present value of the local cost of implementing that measure.

(u) "Nonfunctional turf" means any turf that is not functional turf, and includes turf located within street rights-of-way and parking lots.

(v) "Performance measures" means actions to be taken by urban retail water suppliers that will result in increased water use efficiency by CII water users. Performance measures may include, but are not limited to, educating CII water users on best management practices, conducting water use audits, and preparing water management plans. Performance measures do not include process water.

(w) "Potable reuse" means direct potable reuse, indirect potable reuse for groundwater recharge, and reservoir water augmentation as those terms are defined in Section 13561.

(x) "Potable water" means water that is suitable for human consumption.

(y) "Process water" means water used by industrial water users for producing a product or product content or water used for research and development. Process water includes, but is not limited to, continuous manufacturing processes, and water used for testing, cleaning, and maintaining equipment. Water used to cool machinery or buildings used in the manufacturing process or necessary to maintain product quality or chemical characteristics for product manufacturing or control rooms, data centers, laboratories, clean rooms, and other industrial facility units that are integral to the manufacturing or research and development process is process water. Water used in the manufacturing process that is necessary for complying with local, state, and federal health and safety laws, and is not incidental water, is process water. Process water does not mean incidental water uses.

(z) "Public water system" has the same meaning as defined in Section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

(aa) "Recreational use area" means an area designated by a property owner or a governmental agency to accommodate human foot traffic for recreation, including, but not limited to, sports fields, golf courses, playgrounds, picnic grounds, or pet exercise areas. This recreation may be either formal or informal.

(ab) "Recycled water" means recycled water, as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 13050.

(ac) "Regional water resources management" means sources of supply resulting from watershed-based planning for sustainable local water reliability or any of the following alternative sources of water:

(1) The capture and reuse of stormwater or rainwater.

(2) The use of recycled water.

(3) The desalination of brackish groundwater.

(4) The conjunctive use of surface water and groundwater in a manner that is consistent with the safe yield of the groundwater basin.

(ad) "Reporting period" means the years for which an urban retail water supplier reports compliance with the urban water use targets.

(ae) "Turf" has the same meaning as defined in Section 491 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.

(af) "Urban retail water supplier" means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that directly provides potable municipal water to more than 3,000 end users or that supplies more than 3,000 acre-feet of potable water annually at retail for municipal purposes.

(ag) "Urban water supplier" has the same meaning as defined in Section 10617.

(ah) "Urban water use objective" means an estimate of aggregate efficient water use for the previous year based on adopted water use efficiency standards and local service area characteristics for that year, as described in Section 10609.20.

(ai) "Urban water use target" means the urban retail water supplier's targeted future daily per capita water use.

(aj) "Urban wholesale water supplier" means a water supplier, either publicly or privately owned, that provides more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually at wholesale for potable municipal purposes.

**SEC. 4.** Chapter 2.5 (commencing with Section 10608.14) is added to Part 2.55 of Division 6 of the Water Code, to read:

#### **CHAPTER 2.5. Nonfunctional Turf**

**10608.14.** (a) The use of potable water for the irrigation of nonfunctional turf located on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, other than a cemetery, and on properties of homeowners' associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations or similar entities is prohibited as of the following dates:

(1) All properties owned by the Department of General Services, beginning January 1, 2027.

(2) All properties owned by local governments, local or regional public agencies, and public water systems, except those specified in paragraph (5), beginning January 1, 2027.

(3) All other institutional properties and all commercial and industrial properties, beginning January 1, 2028.

(4) All common areas of properties of homeowners' associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations or similar entities, beginning January 1, 2029.

(5) All properties owned by local governments, local public agencies, and public water systems in a disadvantaged community, beginning January 1, 2031, or the date upon which a state funding source is made available to fund conversion of nonfunctional turf on these properties to climate-appropriate landscapes, whichever is later.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the use of potable water is not prohibited by this section to the extent necessary to ensure the health of trees and other perennial nonturf plantings, or to the extent necessary to address an immediate health and safety need.

(c) The board may, upon a showing of good cause for reasons including economic hardship, critical business need, and potential impacts to human health or safety, postpone a compliance deadline in subdivision (a) by up to three years for certain persons, institutions, and businesses, and may create a form to be used for compliance certification to the board by property owners.

(d) Public water systems shall, by no later than January 1, 2027, revise their regulations, ordinances, or policies governing water service to include the requirements of subdivisions (a) and (b), as revised by the board pursuant to subdivision (c), and shall communicate the requirements to their customers on or before that date.

(e) (1) An owner of commercial, industrial, or institutional property with more than 5,000 square feet of irrigated area other than a cemetery shall certify to the board, commencing June 30, 2030, and every three years thereafter through 2039, that their property is in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(2) An owner of a property with more than 5,000 square feet of irrigated common area that is a homeowners' association, common interest development, or community service organization or similar entity shall certify to the board, commencing June 30, 2031, and every three years thereafter through 2040, that their property is in compliance with the requirements of this chapter.

(f) Noncompliance by a person or entity with this chapter or regulations adopted thereunder shall be subject to civil liability and penalties set forth in Section 1846, or to civil liability and penalties imposed by an urban retail water supplier pursuant to a locally adopted ordinance or policy.

(g) (1) A public water system, city, county, or city and county may enforce the provisions of this chapter.

(2) To avoid duplication of enforcement, any entity identified in paragraph (1) that is not a retail public water system shall notify the retail public water system 30 days prior to enforcement of the provisions of this chapter against a property served by such system.

(3) Nothing in paragraph (2) shall preclude enforcement by any entity identified in paragraph (1) once adequate notice is given.

(h) The department shall, when using funds appropriated for water conservation for turf replacement, prioritize financial assistance for nonfunctional turf replacement to public water systems serving disadvantaged communities and to owners of affordable housing.

(i) The department shall utilize the [saveourwater.com](http://saveourwater.com) internet website and outreach campaign to provide information and resources on converting nonfunctional turf to native vegetation.

(j) The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development shall support small and minority-owned businesses that provide services that advance compliance with this chapter.

**SEC. 5.** Section 10608.22 of the Water Code is amended to read:

**10608.22.** Notwithstanding the method adopted by an urban retail water supplier pursuant to Section 10608.20, an urban retail water supplier's per capita daily water use reduction shall be no less than 5 percent of base daily per capita water use as defined in paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) of Section 10608.12. This section does not apply to an urban retail water supplier with a base daily per capita water use at or below 100 gallons per capita per day.

**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT  
MEMORANDUM**

**SECTION: 3-B**

**DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2026**

**TO: OPERATIONS & CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**FROM: GENERAL MANAGER & DIRECTOR WICKS, DISTRICT ACWA  
REPRESENTATIVE**

**SUBJECT: RESOLUTION NO. 2335 SUPPORTING THE ASSOCIATION OF  
CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA) VISION FOR OUR WATER  
FUTURE INITIATIVE**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Operations and Customer Relations Committee recommend the Board of Directors adopt Resolution No. 2335 supporting the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Vision for Our Water Future Initiative.

**DISCUSSION:**

Water is foundational to California's communities, economy, agriculture, environment, and climate resilience. As California faces increasing challenges from climate extremes, aging infrastructure, regulatory complexity, and affordability pressures, strong statewide leadership and coordinated action on water have never been more important.

The District supports the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Vision for Our Water Future initiative and its recommendations to help guide California's water priorities under the next governor, taking office in January 2027.

The ACWA Vision for Our Water Future priorities call on state leaders to:

- Elevate water as a statewide priority through sustained leadership and coordinated action.
- Ensure safe and reliable water remains affordable through stable funding partnerships and streamlined investment delivery.
- Strengthen and modernize California's water infrastructure, including both built and natural systems.
- Improve regulatory, operational, and scientific frameworks to support efficient project delivery and adaptive water management.

The District understands firsthand the importance of reliable and resilient water supplies for the people, businesses, farms, and ecosystems we serve. Local agencies are essential partners in implementing practical, science-based solutions that meet California's diverse water needs.

**BACKGROUND:**

Montecito Water District is an active member of ACWA, which represents approximately 470 public water agencies in California. ACWA launched the Vision for Our Water Future policy initiative to actively elevate water-related priorities with California's gubernatorial candidates, legislative leadership, and administration officials in advance of a new governor taking office in 2027. On March 20, ACWA's Board of Directors unanimously approved the Vision for Our Water Future policy recommendations and backed them with the resources needed to support their success.

The Vision for Our Water Future initiative focuses on integrating members' unified priorities into campaign platforms and further establishing the Association as a leading voice in shaping California's water future. With this action, Montecito Water District will join the growing list of agencies, more than 80 to date, that have formally demonstrated alliance. Supporting this initiative is consistent with Goal 4, Water Policy Inclusion, identified in the District's 2022 Strategic Plan.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Proposed Resolution No. 2335 Supporting the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) Vision for Our Water Future Initiative
2. ACWA Vision Document

**RESOLUTION NO. 2335**

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT  
SUPPORTING THE ASSOCIATION OF CALIFORNIA WATER AGENCIES (ACWA)  
VISION FOR OUR WATER FUTURE INITIATIVE**

**WHEREAS**, in April 2026, the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) launched “Vision for Our Water Future”, a member-driven initiative to identify statewide water priorities to inform engagement with California’s next Administration; and

**WHEREAS**, the Vision for Our Water Future priorities are a set of recommendations for the next Governor, emphasizing the importance of strong leadership, sustainable investment and coordinated action across all levels of government to secure California’s water future; and

**WHEREAS**, the first priority is to lead on water and elevate water as foundational to California’s economy, agriculture, communities, environment and climate resilience through sustained leadership and coordinated state action; and

**WHEREAS**, the second priority is to ensure safe and reliable water remains affordable through sustained and predictable funding partnerships and streamlined investment delivery; and

**WHEREAS**, the third priority is to strengthen and modernize California’s water infrastructure, including both built and natural systems, to improve reliability and resilience; and

**WHEREAS**, the fourth priority is to improve regulatory, operational, and scientific frameworks to enable efficient project delivery and adaptive water management; and

**WHEREAS**, local water agencies play a critical role in delivering safe and reliable water supplies and are essential partners in implementing statewide solutions; and

**WHEREAS**, supporting the Vision recommendations demonstrates a unified commitment to collaborative, science-based and practical policies that advance a secure and resilient water future for California’s communities, farms, economy and environment; now, therefore, be it

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District hereby expresses support for ACWA’s Vision for Our Water Future recommendations and affirms its commitment to working collaboratively to advance reliable, affordable, and resilient water supplies.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Directors of the Montecito Water District this 27<sup>th</sup> day of October 2026 by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Goebel, President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nick Turner, Secretary

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# VISION

FOR OUR WATER FUTURE



## Setting the Vision

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) represents approximately 470 public water agencies that collectively deliver approximately 90 percent of the water used by Californians — in their homes, on their farms, and for their businesses.

Water agencies are being proactive and are on the front lines of the state's most pressing challenges — from droughts, floods, and wildfires to aging infrastructure and the need for more housing. Meaningful progress requires state partnership with local water suppliers to achieve common goals. Bold leadership from the governor is critical to setting a unified direction, accelerating action, and delivering results to prepare California for the future. Action is needed now.

### Why Water Matters

Water is the foundation upon which California is built. This State is the world's fourth-largest economy, the nation's breadbasket, a global technology leader, and home to extraordinary ecosystems. None of it functions without water.

Water is not a single-sector issue. It is the backbone every other sector depends on. It determines where homes can be built, whether farms can produce, how businesses operate and grow, and whether species can survive a changing climate. A safe, reliable, and affordable water supply is one of the most important investments California can make.

## ACTION IS NEEDED NOW



**Lead  
on Water**



**Protect  
Affordability**



**Deliver Critical  
Infrastructure**



**Modernize Water  
Management**

## California Thrives With Water

- › **Housing:** California must plan for 2.5 million new homes in the next decade. Every unit requires a reliable water supply.
- › **Agriculture:** California agriculture is 12% of the state's economy, contributing \$60 billion; employing over 400,000 people; and producing more than half of the nation's fruits, nuts, and vegetables. Both surface and groundwater are fundamental to California's agriculture sector.
- › **Economy:** California's \$4 trillion economy spans technology, innovation, manufacturing, trade, and tourism. Every dollar of it depends on a reliable water supply.
- › **Environment:** California's extraordinary ecosystems — its rivers, wetlands, and floodplains — depend on the same water system managed by local water suppliers. A thriving California requires managing water to sustain both communities and ecosystems.
- › **Public Health:** Water suppliers are California's first line of public health defense, delivering safe, clean drinking water to every community in the state.
- › **Climate Resilience:** Climate whiplash — the swing between extreme droughts and extreme floods — is increasing, snowpack is diminishing, and wildfires are growing more severe. Water suppliers are modernizing, but they cannot do it alone.

## Building A Modern System

Securing California's water future requires more than incremental fixes. It demands a fundamental shift in how the State leads, invests, and operates. The Vision for Our Water Future provides an essential framework for ensuring a resilient and reliable water system.

Funded, built, and managed for extreme conditions, our modern water system is resilient, coordinated, and flexible — meeting the needs of California's communities, economy, and environment.

- › **Anchored by Backbone Infrastructure:** The State Water Project and Central Valley Project form the foundation of the statewide water system. These assets capture and manage California's highly variable hydrology and move water where and when it is needed.
- › **Strengthened by Regional Resiliency:** Regional and watershed-based partnerships strengthen local water reliability under changing hydrologic conditions and during emergencies through coordinated planning, interconnected infrastructure, diversified supplies, and shared responsibility.
- › **Delivered Locally:** Water is delivered by local suppliers, even when conveyed through or interconnected with statewide or regional systems. Local agencies set rates and policies — ratepayers fund approximately 85% of California's water system costs — while navigating structural constraints from Proposition 218, regulatory mandates, and permitting complexity.

### Key Elements of A Modern Water System

- › Designed and upgraded for the future
- › Flexible and responsive to changing climate conditions
- › Supported by aligned state permitting, regulatory, and investment frameworks
- › Informed by technology, data, and science
- › Grounded in long-term affordability

**A modern water system must be resilient, coordinated, and flexible to meet California's evolving needs.**



## LEAD ON WATER

Recognize water as an essential resource and the infrastructure that underpins California's economy, housing growth, food production, environmental health, and community resilience. Sustained executive leadership is needed to improve water supply reliability, accelerate climate resilience, and ensure coordinated action across state government.

- **Set a Bold Water Agenda (First 100 Days):** Establish a focused statewide water agenda aligned with this Vision for Our Water Future.

- **Appoint Leaders to Deliver Results:** Appoint and empower leaders to deliver measurable outcomes.
- **Unify State Agencies:** Direct state agencies to align under unified statewide water priorities and jointly advance implementation in partnership with local, regional, and federal water managers. Designate a cabinet-level water policy executive, reporting directly to the Governor, to align agencies and organize state resources to implement California's water priorities.



## PROTECT AFFORDABILITY

Ensure safe and reliable water remains affordable by strengthening sustained state investment and funding partnerships with local, regional, and federal agencies to address rising infrastructure, climate, and regulatory costs. California's ratepayers fund more than 85% of the system. Without predictable investment, these costs will increasingly fall on households, businesses, and farmers.

- **Secure Sustainable Water Funding:** Create a reliable sustainable state funding source for water infrastructure that provides predictable, long-term investment. This funding should support critical water infrastructure projects, environmental needs, and California's Human Right to Water while leveraging federal, regional, and local investment.

- **Accelerate Funding:** Improve funding programs and coordination so investments reach projects faster — reducing administrative delays, lowering project costs, and accelerating infrastructure delivery.
- **Integrate Investments Across Sectors:** Align state investments and integrate water infrastructure funding across energy, housing, and climate and hazard mitigation to advance multi-benefit projects and maximize federal, state, and regional investment.





## DELIVER CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Future-proof California's critical water infrastructure to ensure reliable supplies in the face of climate change, growing economic and community demands, and escalating emergency risks. This requires strengthening the statewide water system, including both built and natural infrastructure, while advancing regional resilience to maximize systemwide reliability.

- **Strengthen the State's Water Backbone:** Upgrade, repair, and optimize California's essential backbone infrastructure — the California State Water Project and Central Valley Project.
  - ◆ **Modernize and Protect Infrastructure:** Advance a durable Delta conveyance solution, strengthen Delta levees, safeguard critical infrastructure from subsidence and seismic risk, and upgrade system technologies — including Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations, snowpack measurement, and remote monitoring control.
  - ◆ **Improve Coordinated Operations:** Integrate operations of the California State Water Project and Central Valley Project to increase system flexibility, expand the storage and movement of water, and enhance water supply reliability.
- **Safeguard Colorado River Water Supplies:** Protect California's Colorado River allocation, consistent with the State's legal entitlements and the efforts of the Colorado River Board of California.
- **Empower Regional Water Solutions:** Champion regional and watershed-based solutions. State policy should empower regions with the tools, flexibility, and investment needed to advance regional planning, partnerships, and projects that diversify water supplies, strengthen system connectivity and operational efficiency, and restore ecosystem functions to ensure reliable water supplies.



## MODERNIZE WATER MANAGEMENT

Improve California's regulatory and operational systems so water projects can move forward reliably and efficiently, infrastructure can be operated more flexibly, and agencies can respond more rapidly to changing conditions. California's regulatory framework should deliver clear, coordinated decisions grounded in the best available science, while maintaining environmental protections, public transparency, and California's existing water rights priority system.

- **Improve Permitting Performance:** Enhance the clarity, coordination, and efficiency of state permitting processes to accelerate infrastructure and operational improvements; eliminate avoidable costs; and ensure state and local agencies deliver timely, accountable results.
  - ◆ **Integrate Permit Requirements:** Integrate requirements and processes across regulatory agencies to eliminate redundancy and inconsistency.
  - ◆ **Enhance Regulatory Certainty:** Establish transparent procedures, clear criteria for permit approval, and accountable timelines for agency decisions — developed in direct partnership with water suppliers.
  - ◆ **Streamline Pathways:** Create efficient pathways to advance multi-benefit, climate-resilient water supply projects.
- **Modernize Water Operations:** Advance operational approaches that reflect changing climate realities to improve water supply reliability across environmental, agricultural, and urban sectors. This may include coordinated reservoir management, flexible diversion rules tied to real-time hydrology, accelerated groundwater recharge and conjunctive use, expanded water transfers, and other adaptive strategies.
- **Strengthen Water Data and Science:** Invest in integrated, science-based statewide data systems and technology that improve transparency, inform real-time decisions, and strengthen regulatory and operational performance to increase efficiency and better manage water resources.

**VISION**  
FOR OUR WATER FUTURE



Vision for Our Water Future is an initiative of the Association of California Water Agencies, representing approximately 470 public water agencies in California.

**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT  
MEMORANDUM**

**SECTION: 3-C**

**DATE: OCTOBER 27, 2026**

**TO: OPERATIONS & CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**FROM: GENERAL MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: AMENDMENT NO. 5 TO THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT  
WITH WOOD RODGERS FOR CONSTRUCTION PHASE SERVICES  
RELATED TO THE HIGHLINE REPAIR AT BELLA VISTA**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Operations & Customer Relations Committee recommend that the Board of Directors retroactively authorize Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Services Contract with Wood Rodgers for construction-phase services related to the Highline Repair at Bella Vista for a not-to-exceed amount of \$23,943, which is 94% reimbursable by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

**DISCUSSION:**

The District's 14-inch steel transmission main (referred to as the "Highline"), located along the foothills of Montecito, was damaged by landslides resulting from the January 9-10, 2023 winter storm in a remote area above 2500 East Valley Road. The landslides exposed 300 feet of the Highline in two adjacent ravines where it had been previously buried. The storm and subsequent land movement also pushed the Highline slightly downhill, causing the pipeline to shift. While the Highline remains operational, this project aims to reestablish the pipeline by burying it along the slope and at the ravine bottoms to reduce or eliminate the risk of future failure under similar circumstances.

On June 23, 2026, following a competitive bidding process, the Board awarded a construction contract for the Highline Repair at Bella Vista Project (Project) to Americal Pipeline Services. The Project is currently under construction and expected to be completed in November 2026. In June 2026, the Board of Directors also awarded Amendment No. 4 to a Professional Services Contract with Wood Rodgers for construction phase services for the Project. The construction phase services included engineering support and environmental monitoring. Rincon Consultants is performing all environmental monitoring as a subcontractor to Wood Rodgers.

Amendment No. 5, attached as Attachment No. 1 to this memorandum, provides for erosion and sediment control planning and stormwater inspection services as part of the scope of work provided by Rincon Consultants. These services were not included as a component of the work during the design phase and therefore are not included in the construction contract with American

Pipeline Services or the professional services contract with Wood Rodgers. The additional services involve preparing an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) and conducting stormwater inspections to support implementation of mitigation measures. The total cost for the additional services is \$23,943.

Wood Rodgers' original contract for design services, authorized on December 13, 2023, was in the amount of \$324,428.50. Amendment Nos. 1-3 updated Wood Rodgers' schedule of rates but did not modify the contract amount. Amendment No. 4 added construction-phase services including biological, paleontological, and tribal cultural resources support, and was authorized by the Board on June 23, 2026, in the amount of \$116,823. With Amendment No. 5, Wood Rodgers' total authorized budget for the Project is \$465,194.50.

### **SCHEDULE:**

Due to the threat of local rainfall around October 9, 2026, resulting from Hurricane Rachel, and the associated elevated risk of erosion and sediment movement in the project area, District management authorized Amendment No. 5 to provide sufficient time for development of the ESCP and the Contractor's implementation of mitigation measures in advance of storm arrival. Rincon prepared the ESCP, and American Pipeline Services has acquired and is prepared to deploy the mitigation measures as needed throughout construction.

### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

This project, resulting from the 2023 declared disaster, is FEMA eligible and 94% reimbursable. The District received a cash advance from CalOES of approximately \$3.1M for this project in September 2024. This amount was issued based on initial cost estimates. However, this advance far exceeds actual needs. This project is included in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 budget for a total of \$1.28M, which includes costs for construction, temporary easements, and environmental monitoring. It is anticipated that the cash advance will cover all Project costs.

### **ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Amendment No. 5 to the Professional Services Contract with Wood Rodgers for Construction Phase Services for the Highline Repair at Bella Vista Project

**FIFTH AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT  
FOR PLANNING AND DESIGN SERVICES**

This "FIFTH Amendment to Agreement for Planning and Design Services" ("FOURTH Amendment") is entered into by and between Montecito Water District ("MWD") and Wood Rodgers ("Consultant") with reference to the following facts:

**RECITALS**

- A. MWD and Consultant are parties to a "Montecito Water District Agreement for Planning and Design Services" dated December 13, 2023 ("Consulting Agreement").
- B. The Consulting Agreement requires modifications, amendments, and supplements to the Consulting Agreement to be in writing and signed by both MWD and Consultant.
- C. MWD and Consultant wish to modify the scope of Services in the Consulting Agreement and Consultant wishes to perform those Services. The additional Services are set forth in Exhibit "1" to this FIFTH Amendment, which is attached hereto and incorporated herein by this reference.

IN CONSIDERATION of the foregoing recitals, and the promises, obligations, and covenants contained in this FIFTH Amendment, MWD and Consultant hereby agree as follows:

- 1. The scope of Services set forth in Exhibit 1 to this FIFTH Amendment are authorized pursuant to the Consulting Agreement.
- 2. The total not to exceed amount of \$441,251.50 in Section 2 of the Fourth Amendment to Agreement for Planning and Design Services dated July 6, 2026 is increased by \$23,943 by this FIFTH Amendment for a total contract amount of \$465,194.50.
- 4. Except as hereby amended, all other terms and conditions of the Consulting Agreement remain unmodified and in full force and effect and applicable to the Consulting Agreement and this FIFTH Amendment.
- 5. This FIFTH Amendment may be executed in counterparts, which when taken together shall constitute a single instrument and is effective as of the latest date of the signatures set forth below.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this FIFTH Amendment as of the last date set forth below.

**Montecito Water District**

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Print: Nick Turner

Title: General Manager

Date: 10-15-26

**Wood Rodgers**

Sign: \_\_\_\_\_

Print: Karl Meier

Title: Principal

Date: 10/15/2026



October 12, 2026

Via Email: [nturner@montecitowater.com](mailto:nturner@montecitowater.com)

Mr. Nick Turner, P.E.  
General Manager  
Montecito Water District  
583 San Ysidro Road  
Montecito, California 93108

Subject: Montecito Water District – Planning & Design Services for the Highline Water Main Repair at Bella Vista (*Amendment No. 5 Request – ESCP Services*)

Dear Mr. Turner,

Per your request, Wood Rodgers, Inc. (Wood Rodgers) is providing the Montecito Water District (District) with this proposal to amend our current contract for the Highline Water Main Repair at Bella Vista as follows.

The District is advancing the subject project, which is currently in the construction phase. As such, the District has requested that Wood Rodgers and its subconsultant, Rincon Consultants, provide erosion and sediment control planning and stormwater inspection services. Rincon Consultants will prepare an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) and conduct stormwater inspections to support implementation of applicable mitigation measures. The ESCP will identify recommended best management practices appropriate to construction activities, steep terrain and nearby drainage channels. The inspections will document BMP condition and identify recommended corrective actions.

The project fee for these additional services is \$23,943 as shown in the attached proposal from Rincon Consultants.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karl F. Meier, PE  
Principal – Water Resources  
[kmeier@woodrogers.com](mailto:kmeier@woodrogers.com)  
(619) 819.9222

Attachments

October 1, 2026  
Rincon Project No. 26-19291

Adam Kanold, PE  
Assistant General Manager/Engineering Manager  
Montecito Water District  
583 San Ysidro Road  
Santa Barbara, California 93108  
Via email: [akanold@montecitowater.com](mailto:akanold@montecitowater.com)

**Subject: Proposal for Environmental Services for the Bella Vista Highline Water Main Repair Project  
Santa Barbara County, California**

Dear Mr. Kanold:

Rincon Consultants, Inc. (Rincon) is pleased to submit this proposal to provide erosion and sediment control planning and stormwater inspection services for the Montecito Water District's (District) Bella Vista Highline Water Main Repair Project (Project). Rincon recently supported the District in preparing environmental documentation for the Project, which involves replacing damaged sections of an existing water transmission pipeline exposed and displaced during the January 2023 storm event. The Project includes pipeline replacement, a temporary bypass pipeline, and channel stabilization improvements to restore reliable water service and improve system resilience.

## Scope of Work

Rincon's proposed services include preparing an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) and conducting stormwater inspections to support implementation of applicable Project mitigation measures. The ESCP will identify recommended best management practices appropriate to the construction activities, steep terrain, and nearby drainage channels. Inspections will document BMP conditions and identify recommended corrective actions.

### Task 1: Erosion and Sediment Control Program

For purposes of this proposal, Rincon assumes the Project qualifies for the routine-maintenance exclusion under Section II.D of the State Water Resources Control Board's Construction General Permit (Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ). This assumption is subject to confirmation based on the final construction scope, including associated access, staging, and channel stabilization activities.

Rincon will prepare an ESCP to support implementation of applicable Project mitigation measures and minimize erosion, sediment transport, and construction-related pollutant discharges. The ESCP will identify recommended best management practices (BMPs) appropriate to the pipeline repair activities, steep terrain, and nearby drainage channels, consistent with the CASQA Stormwater BMP Handbook: Construction. The ESCP will also describe inspection, maintenance, corrective action, and site stabilization practices.

The Contractor will be responsible for installing, maintaining, and adjusting BMPs to address field conditions and for verifying and obtaining additional permits or approvals applicable to its activities. Preparation of a CGP Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan, permit enrollment, and permit-specific monitoring or reporting are excluded from this scope and may be provided under a separate authorization if needed.



### **Task 1.1 Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP)**

Rincon will prepare a project-specific ESCP for the Bella Vista Highline Water Main Repair Project based on the available engineering plans, environmental documentation, and construction information provided by the District. The ESCP will address the pipeline repair areas and associated access routes, staging areas, and stockpiles, considering the steep terrain and nearby drainage channels.

The ESCP will incorporate applicable Project mitigation measures and construction site runoff control practices described in the County of Santa Barbara's Storm Water Management Program. BMP references and specifications will be consistent with the CASQA Stormwater BMP Handbook: Construction (2025).

The ESCP will include:

- Recommended sediment control practices and procedures for inspection and maintenance.
- Surface runoff and erosion control practices appropriate to anticipated construction activities and site conditions.
- Vegetation preservation, topsoil management, and post-construction stabilization practices.
- Track-out prevention measures and procedures for removing sediment from paved roads.
- Management practices for pipeline draining and flushing water, excavation water, construction materials, fuels, stockpiles, sanitary waste, and concrete or mortar washout, as applicable.
- A visual inspection program addressing inspection frequency, documentation, and corrective actions.
- Applicable CASQA BMP fact sheets and a sample visual inspection checklist.

BMP locations will be subject to the Contractor based on construction sequencing and field conditions. The ESCP will provide erosion and sediment control recommendations and will not include engineered drainage, geotechnical, or slope stabilization design.

### **Task 1.2 ESCP Inspections**

During construction, Rincon will conduct visual inspections at the Bella Vista Highline Water Main Repair Project to assess BMP implementation and identify measures requiring maintenance, repair, replacement, or supplementation. Inspections will address accessible pipeline repair areas, construction access routes, staging areas, and stockpile locations.

Inspections will be conducted weekly and prior to a Qualifying Precipitation Event (QPE). A QPE is any weather pattern forecast to have a 50 percent or greater Probability of Precipitation (PoP) and a Quantitative Precipitation Forecast (QPF) of 0.5 inches or more within a 24-hour period. The event begins with the 24-hour period when 0.5 inches has been forecast and continues on subsequent 24-hour periods when 0.25 inches of precipitation or more is forecast. When feasible, weekly and pre-QPE inspections will be conducted concurrently.

Each inspection will include a visual inspection checklist and supporting photographs documenting observed conditions, BMP deficiencies, and recommended corrective actions. Findings will be provided to the District and Contractor for follow-up. During subsequent scheduled inspections, Rincon will document the status of previously identified deficiencies.

### **Assumptions**

This proposal incorporates the following assumptions for the technical analyses:

- Rincon's inspection services will conclude by November 30, 2026. Services beyond this date will require additional authorization.



- The budget includes up to 9 weekly inspections during the authorized construction period and up to 3 additional pre-rain inspection visits. Weekly and pre-rain inspections will be combined where feasible. Additional during-rain, post-rain, or follow-up visits are excluded unless separately authorized.
- Each inspection includes up to four hours for travel, field observations, documentation, and coordination.
- Rincon assumes the Project qualifies for the routine-maintenance exclusion under Section II.D of the State Water Resources Control Board's Construction General Permit (Order No. 2022-0057-DWQ).
- Inspections will occur during scheduled construction hours and will be limited to safely accessible areas. Weekend, holiday, and after-hours services are excluded.
- The District and Contractor will provide current engineering plans, construction schedules, approved access and staging limits, applicable permit conditions, and available information regarding anticipated water discharges.
- The scope includes one draft ESCP, one consolidated round of District and Contractor comments, and one final electronic ESCP. Substantial revisions resulting from changes to the construction scope, work limits, or permit conditions will require additional authorization.
- BMP placement will be determined and adjusted by the Contractor based on field conditions and construction sequencing, consistent with the ESCP, approved work limits, and applicable Project commitments. Detailed BMP installation drawings, engineering calculations, surveying, and drainage or slope stabilization design are excluded.
- The Contractor is responsible for BMP installation, maintenance, repair, replacement, and removal. Rincon's inspections are periodic observations and do not constitute continuous construction oversight or a guarantee of BMP performance.
- Water quality sampling, laboratory analysis, discharge treatment design, permit applications, and agency negotiations are excluded.
- Corrective-action status will be evaluated during subsequent scheduled inspections. Dedicated verification visits and long-term revegetation or restoration monitoring are excluded.



## Cost Estimate

Rincon will complete Task 1 on a T&M basis in accordance with our standard fee schedule for professional services (Attachment 1), not to exceed the projected costs without written request and authorization. Services required beyond this scope of work would be provided on a T&M basis, upon written request and authorization. Rincon recommends establishing the estimated budget described below.

**Table 1 Cost Summary**

| Task         |                                          | Estimated Cost  |
|--------------|------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Task 1       | Erosion and Sediment Control Program     |                 |
| Task 1.1     | Erosion and Sediment Control Plan (ESCP) | \$9,196         |
| Task 1.2     | ESCP Inspections                         | \$14,747        |
| <b>Total</b> |                                          | <b>\$23,943</b> |

Thank you for considering Rincon for this assignment. This proposal is valid for a period of 30 days. If you have any questions regarding this proposal, please contact Stephanie Lopez at 805-729-6644 or [slopez@rinconconsultants.com](mailto:slopez@rinconconsultants.com), or Andy Nelson at 805-258-8856 or [anelson@rinconconsultants.com](mailto:anelson@rinconconsultants.com).

Sincerely,  
**Rincon Consultants, Inc.**

Stephanie Lopez  
Supervising Biologist

Andy Nelson, PG, QSD/P, QISP  
Director

## Attachments

Attachment 1 Rincon 2026 Fee Schedule

## Standard Fee Schedule for Environmental Sciences and Planning Services

| Professional, Technical and Support Personnel* | January 1, 2026 – December 31, 2026 |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Senior Principal                               | \$342                               |
| Principal                                      | \$329                               |
| Director                                       | \$329                               |
| Senior Supervisor II                           | \$313                               |
| Supervisor I                                   | \$292                               |
| Senior Professional II                         | \$273                               |
| Senior Professional I                          | \$255                               |
| Professional IV                                | \$226                               |
| Professional III                               | \$210                               |
| Professional II                                | \$186                               |
| Professional I                                 | \$166                               |
| Associate III                                  | \$140                               |
| Associate II                                   | \$125                               |
| Associate I                                    | \$117                               |
| Field Technician                               | \$100                               |
| Technical Editor                               | \$157                               |
| Project Accountant                             | \$134                               |
| Billing Specialist                             | \$115                               |
| Publishing Specialist                          | \$128                               |
| Clerical                                       | \$115                               |

\* Professional classifications include environmental scientists, urban planners, biologists, geologists, marine scientists, GHG verifiers, sustainability, cultural resources, GIS, data technology, and other professionals. Expert witness services consisting of depositions or in-court testimony are charged at the hourly rate of \$400.

## Reimbursable Expenses

| Equipment                                  | Rate      |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Equipment Package (covers field equipment) | \$150/day |
| UAS Drone                                  | \$300/day |
| Boat (20-foot Boston Whaler or Similar)    | \$800/day |
| Light-Duty and Passenger Vehicles*         | \$90/day  |
| 4WD and Off-Road Vehicles*                 | \$150/day |

\* Current IRS mileage rate for mileage over 50 and for all miles incurred in employee-owned vehicles.

**Direct Costs.** Other direct costs associated with the execution of a project, that are not included in the hourly rates above, are billed at cost plus 16%. These may include, but are not limited to, printing and production, laboratory and drilling services, subcontractors, vendors, authorized travel expenses, permit charges and filing fees, mailings and postage, performance bonds, sample handling and shipment, rental equipment, and vehicles other than covered by the above charges.

**Budget Reallocation.** Rincon reserves the right to reallocate the budget between tasks and staff classifications, while remaining within the approved contract amount.

**Annual Escalation.** Standard rates subject to 3.5% annual escalation on January 1.

**Payment Terms.** All fees will be billed to Client monthly and shall be due and payable upon receipt or as indicated in the contract provisions for the assignment. Invoices are delinquent if not paid within 10 days from receipt or per the contractually required payment terms.

Effective January 1, 2026

**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT  
MEMORANDUM**

**SECTION: 3-D**

**DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2026**

**TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**FROM: OPERATIONS & CUSTOMER RELATIONS COMMITTEE**

**SUBJECT: AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO CAROLLO ENGINEERS FOR DESIGN OF A pH ADJUSTMENT SYSTEM AT BELLA VISTA WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Operations & Customer Relations Committee recommend that the Board of Directors award a Professional Services Contract to Carollo Engineers for the design of a pH Adjustment System at Bella Vista Water Treatment Plant for the not-to-exceed amount of \$239,014.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Montecito Water District (District) operates two surface water treatment plants that serve approximately 13,000 customers in Montecito, Summerland, and portions of Toro Canyon. Calcium carbonate scaling has been a persistent challenge for the District, causing significant operational impacts at the Bella Vista Treatment Plant (BVTP), Doulton Treatment Plant (DTP), and within nearby sections of the distribution system. Elevated calcium concentrations and alkalinity in water delivered from Doulton Tunnel promote calcium carbonate precipitation during treatment, resulting in fouling of treatment media, increased maintenance requirements, reduced treatment efficiency, and shortened media life. Adjusting pH before the treatment process will help mitigate calcium carbonate scaling within the system.

The District retained Water Quality Treatment Solutions (WQTS), now part of Hazen and Sawyer, to evaluate treatment alternatives for automated pH adjustment. This evaluation was completed and presented to the Board on August 25, 2026. At that meeting, the Board considered the options, including the pros and cons of each, and chose to proceed with implementation of a carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) dosing system for pH adjustment at the BVTP.

The District obtained proposals from two qualified engineering firms to perform design services for the Project, including developing bid documents for a new CO<sub>2</sub> dosing system, including storage and feed system at BVTP. Proposals were obtained from Hazen and Sawyer, and Carollo Engineers. The proposed costs to provide the design services are provided in the table below.

| <u>Consultant</u> | <u>Fee (\$)</u> |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| Hazen and Sawyer  | \$403,635       |
| Carollo Engineers | \$239,014       |

**SCHEDULE:**

If approved, design will begin as soon as a contract is in place and is expected to take approximately 8 months.

Project implementation will require approval of a permit amendment from the California Division of Drinking Water (DDW). Staff will prepare and submit the permit amendment application following Board authorization. The DDW review and approval process is anticipated to require approximately 2 to 3 months.

Once the DDW permit amendment is complete, the District may proceed with the bid and construction phase of the Project. Construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2027. Construction, startup, operator training, and commissioning are expected to be completed around the end of 2027.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2027 adopted budget includes \$900,000 for the implementation of a pH adjustment system at the BVTP. The construction cost of the CO<sub>2</sub> System is estimated to be \$828,000. At its August 25, 2026 meeting, the Board took action to proceed with the CO<sub>2</sub> System for managing calcification at the BVTP at an estimated cost of \$828,000 and to allocate the remaining budget (\$72k) to the water softening system for DTP. Therefore, the total cost for the CO<sub>2</sub> System at BVTP is anticipated to exceed the current budget and will require the allocation of additional funds for award of a construction contract. Given the schedule presented above, it is likely that the construction phase of the Project will occur in FY2028. Staff recommend waiting until the project bids are received before considering a budget increase for this project.

| <u>Item</u>                | <u>BVTP</u>        | <u>DTP</u>       |
|----------------------------|--------------------|------------------|
| FY2027 Budget              | \$900,000          | \$90,000         |
| FY2027 Budget Reallocation | \$828,000          | \$162,000        |
| Design Costs               | \$239,014          | \$0              |
| Construction Estimate      | \$828,000          | \$150,000        |
| <b>Total Project Cost</b>  | <b>\$1,067,014</b> | <b>\$150,000</b> |
| Over/(Under) Budget        | \$239,014          | (\$12,000)       |

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Proposal from Carollo Engineers for design of a pH Adjustment System at Bella Vista Water Treatment Plant



## MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT

### Carbon Dioxide Project for Bella Vista Water Treatment Plant

**Date:** 9/25/2026  
**Prepared By:** Scott Weddle, PE  
**Reviewed By:** Jason Assouline, PE  
**Subject:** Scope of Work  
**cc:** Andy Salveson, PE

---

This Scope of Work establishes Carollo Engineers, Inc. (Carollo) services, time of performance, and payment provisions in connection with the Montecito Water District's (District) Bella Vista Water Treatment Plant (BVWTP) Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) Project.

#### General Project Description

The District operates two surface water treatment plants serving a population of approximately 12,000 in Montecito and Summerland in Santa Barbara County. The District has been experiencing significant calcification at the BVWTP and in the distribution system and premise plumbing. The District requested a scope and budget proposal from Carollo to design a new CO<sub>2</sub> storage and feed system to lower the pH of raw water entering BVWTP to address the calcification challenges. Previous studies (by others) recommended various acid system alternatives and a CO<sub>2</sub> system was selected by the District as the preferred alternative. The District conducted preliminary sizing of the CO<sub>2</sub> system and obtained a preliminary quote from TOMCO Systems (TOMCO) to furnish the equipment.

Carollo's scope of work for the project consists of preparing a Basis of Design Report (BODR) and design services to develop bid documents for the new CO<sub>2</sub> storage and feed system at BVWTP. The District desires to incorporate equipment furnished by TOMCO into the design (sole source) and implement the project using a traditional design-bid-build approach. The current scope of work is only for design services and a future scope of work is anticipated for bidding and construction phase services.

This project will include the following tasks.

#### Task 100 - Project Management and Coordination

- » Monitor project progress and provide monthly progress report and invoices which includes the following:
  - Status updates of the scope, schedule, and budget for the project.
  - Any anticipated out-of-scope items which would require approval via a contract amendment from the District.
- » Maintain Action Item and Decision Logs for project-related issues.
- » Hold biweekly calls with the District to discuss project progress and review action items and decisions.

- **Assumptions:**
  - » 8-month project duration.
  - » All deliverables will be submitted electronically.
- **Deliverables:**
  - » Monthly progress reports.
  - » Updates to action item and decision logs.

## Task 200 – Basis of Design Report

- Task 210 – Review Existing Information:
  - » Review BVWTP as-built drawings and other design-related information including survey and geotechnical data provided by the District.
- Task 220 – Conduct Site Visit and Workshop:
  - » Carollo’s Project Manager and Project Engineer will visit BVWTP to tour existing facilities and hold a meeting at the site with District staff to discuss key design considerations and reach decisions with staff on items including:
    - Location of CO2 storage and feed equipment.
    - CO2 injection location.
    - Pipe routing from the CO2 feed system to the injection location.
    - Coordination with existing buried utilities.
    - Connection to existing power supply equipment and ductbank routing to the CO2 system.
    - Connection of new CO2 system input and output signals to the existing SCADA system.
    - Location of new analyzers and sample taps.
    - District preferences for equipment, valves, piping, and analyzers.
- » Task 230 - Prepare Draft and Final Basis of Design Report:
  - Prepare and submit for District review a draft BODR that documents decisions, design criteria and assumptions, and updates the project schedule.
  - Prepare and submit the final BODR incorporating District comments received on the draft.
- **Assumptions:**
  - » District will provide up-to-date surveying, geotechnical, and WTP as-built information for Carollo’s use. New surveying and geotechnical investigations are not be included in the current scope of work.
    - District shall furnish Carollo available studies, reports and other data pertinent to Carollo’s services; furnish to Carollo services of others required for the performance of Carollo’s services hereunder, and Carollo shall be entitled to use and rely upon all such information and services provided by the District or others in Performing Consultant’s services under this Agreement. The District does not guarantee the accuracy of the information provided and will not hold Carollo accountable for errors in the District-provided documents.
  - » The kickoff/BODR workshop will be attended by District staff who are authorized to provide direction to Carollo on key design issues.
  - » The site visit and workshop will be conducted within 15 business days of receiving notice to proceed from the District.
  - » The draft BODR will be provided within 15 business days of conducting the site visit.
  - » The District will review and provide BODR comments within 10 business of receiving the draft BODR.

- » The final BODR will be provided 10 business days after receiving District comments on the draft.

- **Deliverables:**

- » Kickoff workshop and site visit notes.
- » Draft and Final BODR.

### Task 300 - Final Design

- Task 310 - Design Drawings:

- » Includes development of design drawings assuming approximately 20 drawings.
- » Drawings include General, Civil, Process/Mechanical, Electrical, Instrumentation, and Typical Details.

- Task 320 - Specifications:

- » The District will provide front end (Division 0) specifications. Carollo will prepare all Division 1 and technical specifications.

- Task 330 - Progress Submittals and QA/QC:

- » Prepare and submit 60 percent, 90 percent, and 100 percent-level design drawings and specifications for District review. The District will review the submittals, resolve conflicting comments and combine all review comments for each submittal into one package, and submit to Carollo. The District will have a three-week review period for each progress submittal.
  - Internal QA/QC reviews of progress submittals will be made by Carollo staff. Carollo's internal review comments can be made available to the District upon request.

- Task 340 - Opinion of Probable Construction Costs (OPCC):

- » Prepare and submit an OPCC within two (2) weeks after the 60 percent and 90 percent (permitting) submittals. The 60 percent OPCC will be an AACE Class 3 estimate, and the 90 percent estimate will be Class 2 estimate.

- **Assumptions:**

- » CO2 storage and feed equipment will be located outdoors on a new concrete foundation. No new overhead structures (e.g., canopy or other architectural features) are included in the design.
- » TOMCO system will be specified as sole source and procured by the selected general contractor. No pre-purchase documents will be prepared.
- » In providing opinions of cost, financial analyses, economic feasibility projections, and schedules for potential projects, Carollo has no control over cost or price of labor and material; unknown or latent conditions of existing equipment or structure that may affect operation and maintenance costs; competitive bidding procedures and market conditions; time or quality of performance of third parties; quality, type, management, or direction of operating personnel; and schedule. Therefore, Carollo makes no warranty that the District's actual project costs, financial aspects, economic feasibility, or schedules will not vary from Carollo's opinions, analyses, projections, or estimates.
- » All deliverables will be submitted electronically.

- **Deliverables:**

- » 60, 90, and 100 percent Plans and Specifications (electronic copies).
- » 60 and 90 percent OPCC.

## Task 400 – Permitting Support:

- » Provide support to the District in preparing documents required for permitting prior to construction of the project. The 90 percent drawings and specifications will be used for permitting. It is assumed that permitting includes Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and Montecito Fire Department only.
- » Also provide support to the District in obtaining approvals and permits from State Division of Drinking Water (DDW) and local Fire District for the project.
- **Assumptions:**
  - » The District will take the lead in preparing and submitting documents to permitting agencies. Carollo will provide supporting documents, recommendations, and attend up to two (2) virtual meetings with DDW or Fire District upon request.
  - » Permitting through other authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs) is not required for projects of this nature and therefore building permits are not required.
- **Deliverables:**
  - » Meeting notes and agendas.

## Schedule

Work described in this scope of work is anticipated to be completed over a 8-month timeframe, starting from the date of the signed agreement to delivering final bid documents.

## Compensation

Total compensation and breakdown for the scope of services is provided in Attachment 1. Monthly project invoices will be submitted based on the rate schedule and classifications shown in fee table. The 2026 rates will also apply to project work in 2027. Future work in 2027 and 2028 may be subjected to escalation, as agreed upon by the District.



ATTACHMENT 1  
MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT  
PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES  
CARBON DIOXIDE SYSTEM DESIGN  
FEE ESTIMATE

|                                  |                                           |             | PIC      | Project Manager | QA/QC    | Project Engineer | Project Engineer Support | Instrumentation and Control | Electrical | Structural | CAD Graphics | Doc. Process/ Clerical | TotalCarollo Labor Hours | Total Carollo Labor Cost | PECE(2)   | Other Direct Costs | Total Cost |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------|----------|-----------------|----------|------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------|--------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------|--------------------|------------|
| Carollo Labor Rates <sup>1</sup> |                                           |             | \$367.00 | \$351.00        | \$351.00 | \$270.00         | \$175.00                 | \$307.00                    | \$307.00   | \$270.00   | \$237.00     | \$159.00               |                          |                          | \$17.00   |                    |            |
|                                  |                                           |             |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        |                          |                          |           |                    |            |
| Task                             | Subtask                                   | Description |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        |                          |                          |           |                    |            |
| 100                              | Project Management                        |             |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        |                          |                          |           |                    |            |
| 100                              | Project Administration, Biweekly Meetings |             | 2        | 24              |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              | 8                      | 34                       | \$ 10,430                | \$ 578    |                    | \$ 11,008  |
|                                  | TASK 100 TOTAL                            |             | 2        | 24              | -        | -                | -                        | -                           | -          | -          | -            | 8                      | 34                       | \$ 10,430                | \$ 578    | \$ -               | \$ 11,008  |
| 200                              | Basis of Design Workshop and Site Visit   |             |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        |                          |                          |           |                    |            |
| 210                              | Review Existing Information               |             |          | 4               |          | 8                |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | 12                       | \$ 3,564                 | \$ 204    |                    | \$ 3,768   |
| 220                              | Conduct site visit and workshop           |             |          | 8               |          | 16               |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | 24                       | \$ 7,128                 | \$ 408    | \$ 3,000           | \$ 10,536  |
| 230                              | Prepare Draft and Final BODR              |             |          | 8               | 4        | 24               |                          |                             |            |            | 8            | 4                      | 48                       | \$ 13,224                | \$ 816    |                    | \$ 14,040  |
|                                  | TASK 200 TOTAL                            |             | -        | 20              | 4        | 48               | -                        | -                           | -          | -          | 8            | 4                      | 84                       | \$ 23,916                | \$ 1,428  | \$ 3,000           | \$ 28,344  |
| 300                              | Final Design                              |             |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        |                          |                          |           |                    |            |
| 310                              | Design Drawings                           |             |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        |                          |                          |           |                    |            |
| 310.1                            | Prepare 60% Drawings                      |             |          | 8               |          | 20               | 60                       | 8                           | 8          | 4          | 96           |                        | 204                      | \$ 47,452                | \$ 3,468  |                    | \$ 50,920  |
| 310.2                            | Prepare 90% Drawings                      |             |          | 8               |          | 8                | 20                       | 8                           | 8          | 2          | 40           |                        | 94                       | \$ 23,400                | \$ 1,598  |                    | \$ 24,998  |
| 310.3                            | Prepare 100% Drawings                     |             |          | 8               |          | 8                | 20                       | 4                           | 4          | 2          | 32           |                        | 78                       | \$ 19,048                | \$ 1,326  |                    | \$ 20,374  |
| 320                              | Prepare Specifications                    |             |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | -                        | \$ -                     |           |                    |            |
| 320.1                            | Prepare 60% Specs                         |             |          | 4               |          | 20               | 40                       | 8                           | 8          | 2          |              | 40                     | 122                      | \$ 25,616                | \$ 2,074  |                    | \$ 27,690  |
| 320.2                            | Prepare 90% Specs                         |             |          | 4               |          | 12               | 40                       | 8                           | 8          | 2          |              | 24                     | 98                       | \$ 20,912                | \$ 1,666  |                    | \$ 22,578  |
| 320.3                            | Prepare 100% Specs                        |             |          | 4               |          | 4                | 12                       | 4                           | 4          | 2          |              | 24                     | 54                       | \$ 11,396                | \$ 918    |                    | \$ 12,314  |
| 330                              | Progress Submittals and QA/QC             |             |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | -                        | \$ -                     |           |                    |            |
| 330.1                            | Prepare 60% submittal                     |             |          | 2               |          | 4                |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | 6                        | \$ 1,782                 | \$ 102    |                    | \$ 1,884   |
| 330.2                            | 60% QA/QC Review                          |             |          |                 | 20       |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | 20                       | \$ 7,020                 | \$ 340    |                    | \$ 7,360   |
| 330.3                            | Prepare 90% submittal                     |             |          | 2               |          | 8                | 8                        |                             |            |            |              |                        | 18                       | \$ 4,262                 | \$ 306    |                    | \$ 4,568   |
| 330.4                            | 90% QA/QC Review                          |             |          |                 | 20       |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | 20                       | \$ 7,020                 | \$ 340    |                    | \$ 7,360   |
| 330.1                            | Prepare 100% submittal                    |             |          | 2               |          | 4                | 8                        |                             |            |            |              |                        | 14                       | \$ 3,182                 | \$ 238    |                    | \$ 3,420   |
| 330.2                            | 100% QA/QC Review                         |             |          |                 | 4        |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | 4                        | \$ 1,404                 | \$ 68     |                    | \$ 1,472   |
| 340                              | Opinion of Probable Construction Cost     |             |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | -                        | \$ -                     |           |                    |            |
| 340.1                            | 60% OPCC                                  |             |          | 2               | 2        | 12               |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | 16                       | \$ 4,644                 | \$ 272    |                    | \$ 4,916   |
| 340.2                            | 90% OPCC                                  |             |          | 2               | 2        | 8                |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | 12                       | \$ 3,564                 | \$ 204    |                    | \$ 3,768   |
|                                  | TASK 300 TOTAL                            |             | -        | 46              | 48       | 108              | 208                      | 40                          | 40         | 14         | 168          | 88                     | 760                      | \$ 180,702               | \$ 12,920 | \$ -               | \$ 193,622 |
| 400                              | Permitting Support                        |             |          |                 |          |                  |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        |                          |                          |           |                    |            |
| 400                              | Permitting Support                        |             | 4        | 4               | 2        | 8                |                          |                             |            |            |              |                        | 18                       | \$ 5,734                 | \$ 306    |                    | \$ 6,040   |
|                                  | TASK 400 TOTAL                            |             | 4        | 4               | 2        | 8                | -                        | -                           | -          | -          | -            | -                      | 18                       | \$ 5,734                 | \$ 306    | \$ -               | \$ 6,040   |
| Totals                           |                                           |             | 6        | 94              | 54       | 164              | 208                      | 40                          | 40         | 14         | 176          | 100                    | 896                      | \$ 220,782               | \$ 15,232 | \$ 3,000           | \$ 239,014 |

Notes:  
1.Rates shown are based on 2026 rates.  
2. Project Equipment Communication Expense.  
3. Other direct expenses include mileage traveling to/from meetings at IRS Federal Rate, and travel expenses at cost.

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**MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT  
MEMORANDUM**

**SECTION: 3-I**

**DATE: OCTOBER 19, 2026**

**TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**FROM: PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER**

**SUBJECT: CUSTOMER RELATIONS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION UPDATE**

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Information only.

**DISCUSSION:**

Communications are consistent with the District's 2022 5-Year Strategic Plan and regional and State initiatives, including "Water Conservation is a California Way of Life". District outreach methods include e-News, bill inserts, bill messages, press releases, website updates, articles, social media posts, advertisements, presentations to community organizations, and participation in events. Daily customer contact is an essential District role conducted by an informed and responsive customer service team and staff.

In addition to outgoing information, incoming public information is vital to the functioning of the District. Timely relay of relevant community news and safety updates is ongoing to staff, the Board, and to the wider community as appropriate. Currently, the historically strong El Niño weather pattern, ongoing extreme heat, and other environmental conditions are pertinent.

On October 15, 2026, all staff participated in a Statewide annual earthquake drill known as "The Great ShakeOut." The drill focused on reviewing and testing internal alert mechanisms, practicing proper safety conduct during an earthquake, and providing information on informational resources.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**November 7, 2026, Montecito Beautification Day.**

Montecito Water District to table / provide water at Upper Village.

**November -December**

Charitable Donations boxes located at the District Office for Thanksgiving and December holidays in collaboration with Unity Shoppe and Toys for Tots.

## Attachment 1

Public information is both outgoing and incoming, as the District keeps the public informed and stays current on pertinent local affairs.



# SPOOKY GOOD WATER SAVINGS



A Reliable Supply Since 1921

**Fall Back on Water Use** - No tricks, when you adjust clocks simply adjust time for irrigation, too!

**Rainy Day Savings** - Turn sprinkler systems off before, during, and after rain for big water savings. What a treat!

**Leak Alerts** - Set up WaterSmart to catch lurking leaks before they haunt you! [montecitowater.com/smart](https://montecitowater.com/smart)



Montecito Beautification Day is Saturday November 7 See You There!

[www.montecitowater.com](https://www.montecitowater.com) | 805.969.2271 |  

Advertisement and enews



## County to Livestream El Niño Information Meeting

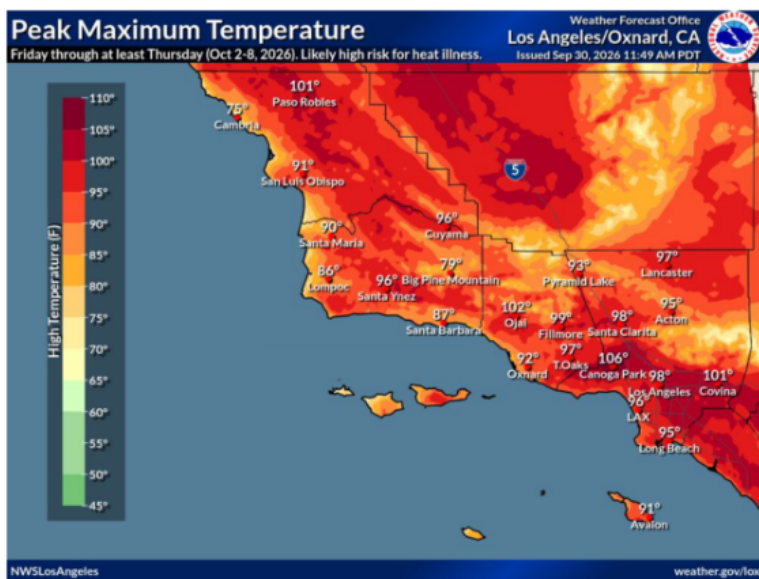
Thursday, October 1, 5:30-7 p.m.

Virtual El Niño Community Meeting to provide important information on this year's weather outlook, storm-season preparations, and emergency readiness. Due to significant public interest, the presentation will be livestreamed on YouTube in both English and Spanish. A recording will be available immediately following the livestream through the same links.

To view the meeting in English please watch on the County's YouTube page: [County of Santa Barbara El Niño Community Meeting](#)

To view the meeting in Spanish please watch on the County's Español YouTube page: [Reunión comunitaria sobre El Niño para el condado de Santa Barbara](#)

Ready SBC »



National Weather Service forecasts an extended heat wave beginning Friday and lasting through at least next Thursday, possibly longer. Cautions include elevated risk for heat illness and fire conditions.

## Water Wise Tips for Heat Waves

For you, family, friends, and pets--hydration is essential:

- Drink plenty of liquids: start early in the day, don't wait until you feel