

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY



MEMORANDUM

Date: May 19, 2021
To: Operations Committee
From: Kim Loeb, Groundwater Manager
Subject: Item E – Water Supply and Infrastructure Projects in the Las Posas Valley Basin

Background

Natural sources of recharge and current infrastructure do not supply sufficient water to ensure sustainable management and support current rates of groundwater extraction in the Las Posas Valley (LPV) Basin. The basin is divided into two subbasins by the Somis Fault as described in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) which defines the East and West Las Posas Management Areas (ELPMA and WLPMA). The two management areas have different sources of recharge and different sustainable yields. For example, treated wastewater effluent and Simi Valley dewatering flows in the Arroyo Simi–Las Posas provide a significant source of recharge in the southern ELPMA while Santa Clara River diversions for groundwater recharge by United Water Conservation District (UWCD) in the Oxnard Subbasin Forebay provide subsurface inflow to the western portion of the WLPMA. The GSP estimated future sustainable yield forecasts that the ELPMA will not be sustainable without implementation of projects and/or reductions in pumping and that pumping in the WLPMA will negatively affect sustainable management of the adjacent Oxnard Subbasin without implementation of projects and/or reductions in pumping.

GSP Projects

The GSP adopted by the Agency in December 2019 includes several potential projects. To be included in the GSP projections of future sustainable yield, projects must meet the checklist feasibility requirements in the GSP Regulations including expectation and evaluation of benefits and estimated cost and description of funding plan. Projects were selected for inclusion in the GSPs through an Operations Committee process with significant stakeholder engagement conducted over seven meetings in February through August 2018. The Board approved the Operations Committee's recommendations for projects to include in the GSPs at the August 29, 2018 meeting. The projects included in the GSP modeling of future sustainable yield are summarized in the following table.

Project	Estimated Water / Increased SY
ELPMA – Arundo removal in the Arroyo Simi–Las Posas to reduce evaporative losses	up to 2,680 AFY
ELPMA – Purchase of 4,691 AFY of SVWCQP effluent to maintain baseflows in the Arroyo Simi–Las Posas	4,691 AFY
WLPMA – Purchase of 1,762 AFY of imported water from CMWD to be delivered to the eastern portion of WLPMA in lieu of groundwater extraction	1,762 AFY

SY = Sustainable Yield

AF = Acre-foot

AFY = Acre-foot per year

SVWQCP = Simi Valley Water Quality Control Plant

CMWD = Calleguas Municipal Water District

Potential Opportunity for Additional Imported Water

CMWD staff informed the Agency that there may be opportunity for purchase of additional imported water for delivery in the LPV Basin in lieu of pumping. CMWD staff will discuss potential opportunities with the Operations Committee.