

LAS POSAS BASIN POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

NOTICE OF MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Las Posas Basin Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) will hold a **REMOTE** meeting at 3:00 P.M. on **Thursday, December 19, 2024, VIA ZOOM ONLY**:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84816327542?pwd=Y-bN4zt674FOphU6wRyxXw9swYTqvA.9bNuXf3yWWBZyrae>

Webinar ID: 848 1632 7542 | Passcode: 400774

AGENDA

A. Call to Order

B. Roll Call

C. Agenda Review

D. Public Comments

E. PAC Member Comments

F. Regular Agenda

1. Approve the minutes of the November 21, 2024 Regular Meeting

2. 2025 Calendar

The PAC's regular meeting schedule is the first and third Thursday of every month, at 3:00 P.M. Most meetings are held in person at the Calleguas Municipal Water District office; all meetings have a teleconferencing option.

The Calleguas office remains available for in-person meetings. The PAC will discuss the timing and frequency of its regular meetings for 2025.

3. Draft Basin Optimization Plan

Watermaster submitted the attached memo and draft copy of the Basin Optimization Plan. The amended Watermaster Rules give the PAC 63 days from date of receipt of the draft Optimization Plan to submit Recommendation Reports to Watermaster, making the deadline February 13, 2025.

The PAC may discuss preliminary responses to the draft document and may consider forming an ad hoc committee to develop, in concert with the PAC Administrator, a recommendation report.

G. PAC Subcommittee Reports

PAC representatives on subcommittees will provide reports

- a. Operations Subcommittee
- b. Executive Subcommittee
- c. Fiscal Subcommittee
- d. TAC Subcommittee

H. Written Communication

None.

I. Future Agenda Items

The PAC will consider items for future agendas.

J. Adjourn

Item F-1

LAS POSAS VALLEY BASIN POLICY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes for November 21, 2024

The Las Posas Valley Basin Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) held a virtual regular meeting at 3:00 PM on Thursday, November 21, 2024, via Zoom.

A. Call to Order: Chair Ian Prichard called the meeting to order at 3:02 PM.

B. Roll Call:

The following PAC members were present:

1. Calleguas Municipal Water District – Ian Prichard, Chair
2. West Las Posas Large Agriculture – Rob Grether, Vice-Chair
3. Commercial – Arturo Aseo
4. Zone Mutual Water Company – John Menne
5. Watermaster (non-voting) – Farai Kaseke
6. East Las Posas Large Agriculture – David Schwabauer
7. East Las Posas Mutual Water Company – Laurel Servin
8. West Las Posas Small Agriculture – Richard Cavaletto
9. West Las Posas Mutual Water Company – Steven Murata

The following PAC members were absent:

10. Ventura County Waterworks District Nos. 1 and 19 – David Fleisch
11. East Las Posas Small Agriculture – Josh Waters

C. Agenda Review: There were no comments or requests related to the agenda.

D. Public Comments: There were no public comments.

E. PAC Member Comments: There were no PAC member comments.

F. Regular Agenda

- 1. Approve the Minutes of the November 7, 2024, regular PAC meeting:** Vice-chair Grether moved to approve the minutes as stated for the November 7, 2024, meeting; John Menne seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 7 Ayes; 0-Nays; 0-Abstentions.
- 2. Scholle Ranches Protest:** This item is being continued to an unknown future date at the request of William Scholle who could not attend today's meeting, and wishes to provide additional information on this matter.
- 3. Draft Basin Optimization Yield Study and Draft Basin Optimization Yield Plan:**

Per the Court's ruling at the joint status conference on September 4, 2024, Watermaster was required to submit draft copies of the Basin Optimization Yield Study and Basin Optimization Plan to the PAC for review and consultation no later than November 15, 2024.

On November 14, 2024, Watermaster submitted a memo along with outlines of the two documents to the PAC for review, accompanied by a statement that they will provide a formal request for consultation to the PAC with a status update and additional materials in the coming weeks.

These annotated outlines did not contain sufficient data for review by the PAC. Watermaster was asked about the scarce content in the documents and outside counsel for Watermaster stated that their understanding was that only an outline was due by November 15, 2024, and not actual draft documents. Watermaster indicated that these same documents were also submitted to the Court.

Upon receipt of a formal request for consultation from Watermaster, PAC will discuss responses to the draft documents and may consider forming an ad hoc committee to develop, in concert with the PAC Administrator, a draft recommendation report.

G. PAC Subcommittee Reports:

1. Operations Subcommittee: No meeting; nothing to report.
2. Executive Subcommittee: No meeting; nothing to report.
3. Fiscal Subcommittee: No meeting; nothing to report.
4. TAC Subcommittee: No meeting due to a lack of agenda items.

H. Written Communication: None.

I. Future Agenda Items:

The PAC discussed the possible development of a policy/plan to address all protests that might be received from Las Posas Basin constituents in the United Water Conservation District service area. Development of a uniform policy would allow the PAC to ensure that all current and future cases of this nature are handled equitably.

J. Adjournment: Chair Prichard adjourned the meeting at 3:35 PM.

Item F-3

FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY LAS POSAS VALLEY WATERMASTER



MEMORANDUM

Date: December 12, 2024

To: Las Posas Valley Policy Advisory Committee

From: Kudzai F. Kaseke, Assistant Groundwater Manager

RE: Draft Basin Optimization Yield Plan

Dear Las Posas Valley Policy Advisory Committee (PAC):

As the Watermaster for the Las Posas Valley Basin (LPVB), Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) is responsible for preparing the Basin Optimization Plan for the LPVB. The Judgement in *Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency VENC100509700* (Judgement) requires LPVB committee consultation during development of the Basin Optimization Plan. (Judgment, §§4.10 and 5.3) In compliance with the judgment, Watermaster refers the draft Basin Optimization Plan to your committee for consultation.

The amended Watermaster Rules give your committee 63 days from date of receipt of the draft Optimization Plan to submit Recommendation Reports to Watermaster. Please provide feedback to Watermaster by February 13, 2025, in accordance with the amended Watermaster Rules.

Please contact me at (805) 654-2010 or LPV.Watermaster@ventura.org with any questions or concerns.

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Las Posas Valley Basin Optimization Plan

DECEMBER 2024

Prepared for:

**FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY
LAS POSAS VALLEY BASIN WATERMASTER**

800 South Victoria Avenue

Ventura, California 93009-1610

Contact: Farai Kaseke, PhD, PH, PMP, CSM

Prepared by:

DUDEK

605 Third Street

Encinitas, California 92024

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- A Project Evaluation Checklist and Project Ranking Sheet
- B Project Ranking Sheets
- C Schedule for Implementing the Basin Optimization Projects
- D 5-Year Budget for Implementing the Basin Optimization Projects

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym/Abbreviation	Definition
AF	Acre-Feet
AFY	Acre-Feet per Year
ASR	Aquifer Storage and Recovery
CPI	Consumer Price Index
City	City of Simi Valley
CMWD	Calleguas Municipal Water District
ELPMA	East Las Posas Management Area
FCGMA	Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
Judgment	Judgment in Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition, et al., v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara Sup. Ct. Case No. VENC100509700
LPV	Las Posas Valley Groundwater Basin (DWR Basin No. 4-008)
MWC	Mutual Water Company
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
O&M	Operations and Maintenance
PAC	Policy Advisory Committee
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SVWQCP	Simi Valley Water Quality Control Plant
TAC	Technical Advisory Committee
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
VCWWD-1	Ventura County Waterworks District No. 1
VCWWD-19	Ventura County Waterworks District No. 19
WLPMA	West Las Posas Management Area

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1 Introduction

1.1 LPV Judgment

On July 10, 2023, the Santa Barbara Superior Court issued a statement of decision adopting a judgment in Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition, et al., v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, Santa Barbara Sup. Ct. Case No. VENC100509700 (Judgment). The Judgment adjudicates all groundwater rights in the Las Posas Valley Groundwater Basin (LPV) and provides for the LPV's sustainable management pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The Judgment appoints Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA) as the Watermaster to implement and administer the Judgment.

As outlined in the Judgment, FCGMA, in consultation with the LPV Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), is responsible for developing a Basin Optimization Plan for the LPV. The Basin Optimization Plan is designed to identify, evaluate, and prioritize projects that are “practical, reasonable, and cost-effective to implement prior to 2040 to maintain the Operating Yield at 40,000 [acre-feet per year] AFY or as close thereto as achievable” (Judgment §5.3).¹ Consistent with this objective, the Basin Optimization Plan is required to include:

- Criteria for determining the priority and feasibility of each Basin Optimization Project;
- A description of Basin Optimization Projects;
- An analysis of whether any of the Basin Optimization Projects (i) are consistent with SGMA and the achievement of Sustainable Groundwater Management, and (ii) will prevent or alleviate, or cause or exacerbate, Undesirable Results or Material Injury;
- A prioritization schedule of the Basin Optimization Projects to be implemented;
- A schedule for the Basin Optimization Projects which are to be evaluated, scoped, designed, financed, or developed; and
- A five-year budget for the costs of capital improvements, and operation and maintenance (O&M), of the Basin Optimization projects.

Projects included in this plan have been identified by FCGMA and stakeholders via the Judgment, the LPV Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), and the 2025 Periodic Evaluation of the LPV GSP. These projects are summarized below (Section 1.2, Summary of Projects Evaluated). Sections 2 through 5 present the project evaluations, schedule for implementation, and estimated capital and O&M costs through December 31, 2029, respectively.

¹ The cumulative amount of Allocated Groundwater that may be sustainably Extracted from the Basin for Use in any particular Water Year under the terms of this Judgment, excluding the Use of any Groundwater pursuant to the right of Carryover. Consistent with the definition of “Total Safe Yield” in the Phase 1 Order, the components of the Operating Yield include all native and non-native sources of water within the Basin, or within either subbasin (as the context requires), presently and in the future, including native Groundwater, surface water underflow, Return Flows from the use of imported water within the Basin, recharge from treated wastewater, recharge from septic systems, storm water recharge (intentional or otherwise), recharge from natural and non-natural sources originating inside or outside the Basin, excepting augmented yield physically existing within, and recoverable from, the Basin as a result of the Calleguas ASR Project, if any.

1.2 Summary of Projects Evaluated

A total of 10 projects are evaluated in the Basin Optimization Plan (Table 1). All 10 projects identified in the Basin Optimization Plan are designed to:

- Increase the sustainable yield of the LPV;
- Provide a new source of water supply to the LPV;
- Improve water quality management of the LPV; and/or
- Address data gaps identified in the GSP and 2025 Periodic Evaluation of the LPV GSP.

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Table 1. Summary of Projects Evaluated

Project No.	Project Title	Description	Water Supply / Yield Augmentation	Project Proponent	Source(s)
1	Arroyo-Simi Las Posas Arundo Removal	Arundo donax removal, and periodic maintenance, from Arroyo Simi-Las Posas corridor	Up to 2,680 AFY	FCGMA	Judgment No. 1 (§ 5.4.1) GSP Project No. 2 GSP Evaluation Project No. 2
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD for Basin Replenishment ^a	Purchase of 1,760 AFY of imported water from CMWD for delivery to Zone MWC and / or VCWWD-19 in lieu of groundwater extraction	1,760 AFY	FCGMA	Judgment Nos. 1&2 (§§ 5.4.2 & 5.4.9) GSP Project No. 1 GSP Evaluation Project No. 1
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture and Recharge	Storm water capture and recharge at existing Moorpark Water Treatment Plant percolation ponds to increase recharge to the ELPMA	Up to 2,000 AFY	VCWWD-1	Judgment No. 3 (§ 5.4.3) GSP Evaluation No. 6
4	Moorpark Desalter	Construction of a desalter well field, conveyance infrastructure, and treatment system to manage water quality and increase recharge in southern ELPMA	Up to 2,200 AFY	VCWWD-1	Judgment No. 4 (§ 5.4.4) GSP Evaluation Project No. 5
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition	Formalize an agreement between FCGMA and the City of Simi Valley to maintain discharges from SVWQCP to Arroyo Simi-Las Posas to maintain recharge to the ELPMA	Up to 4,700 AFY	FCGMA	Judgment No. 5 (§ 5.4.5) GSP Project No. 3 GSP Evaluation Project No. 3
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Valley Users via Pipeline	Construction of conveyance infrastructure, and development of agreements, to deliver SVWQCP recycled water to Las Posas Valley users via pipeline	Up to 3,000 AFY	FCGMA	Judgment No. 6 (§ 5.4.6)
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern East Las Posas Management Area Feasibility Study	Study to evaluate the feasibility of providing supplemental water supplies to the northern area of the ELPMA	Unknown	FCGMA	Judgment No. 7 (§ 5.4.7) GSP Evaluation Project No. 9
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program	Study to develop a program for the least cost acquisition of Allocation Basis or Annual Allocations, or Carryover	Unknown	FCGMA	Judgment No. 8 (§ 5.4.8)
9	Construction of additional dedicated groundwater monitoring wells	Construction of up to four (4) nested monitoring wells to address spatial data gaps in groundwater elevation monitoring the LPV	Not Applicable	FCGMA	GSP Evaluation Project No. 7
10	Installation of transducers in groundwater monitoring Wells	Installation of up to 11 pressure transducers to address temporal data gaps in groundwater elevation monitoring in the LPV	Not Applicable	FCGMA	GSP Evaluation Project No. 8

Notes: Projects are not in order of prioritization. FCGMA = Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency; VCWWD-1 = Ventura County Waterwork District No. 1; AFY = Acre-Feet per Year.

^a Projects identified in Judgement sections 5.4.2 and 5.4.9 were combined based on TAC recommendation (TAC, August 27, 2024).

2 Project Evaluation and Prioritization

2.1 Project Evaluation Criteria

FCGMA, in consultation with the LPV PAC and TAC, developed the following criteria to evaluate and prioritize projects that are “practical, reasonable, and cost-effective to implement prior to 2040 to maintain the Operating Yield at 40,000 AFY or as close thereto as achievable” (Judgment §5.3). These criteria are divided into four categories: water supply / yield augmentation, timing and feasibility, cost and funding, and additional project considerations. FCGMA has assigned scores to each project evaluation category such that water supply / yield augmentation, timing and feasibility, and cost and funding are equally weighted, and the additional project considerations hold lesser weight in evaluating the project’s benefits and feasibility for implementation. Projects are prioritized by total project score.

These project evaluation criteria were designed to evaluate and rank the benefits of water-supply projects. As a result, feasibility studies and data-gap projects tend to rank lower than projects that are well defined and readily implementable. Because FCGMA recognizes the importance of feasibility studies and data-gap projects, these projects are ranked and prioritized independently from the water supply projects (Section 4).

Draft project evaluation criteria were submitted to the LPV PAC for consultation on April 4, 2024 and to the LPV TAC for consultation on July 10, 2024. TAC prepared an August 27, 2024, recommendation report and Watermaster prepared a September 19, 2024, response report, which was accepted by the Watermaster Board on September 25, 2024.² The project evaluation criteria used for this Plan are summarized below and included in Appendix A.

2.1.1 Water Supply

This category is defined to establish the estimated project benefits to the LPV through an increase in the sustainable yield, increase in the availability of supplemental water for use in lieu of groundwater, or a reduction in groundwater demand. Project benefits are scored based on:

1. The annual volume of increased sustainable yield, available supplemental water, or reduced groundwater demand provided by the project (maximum of 25 points).
2. The documentation provided to support the estimated quantification (maximum of 25 points).

A maximum of 50 points can be assigned to each project under the Water Supply category.

2.1.2 Timing and Feasibility

Under the Judgment and SGMA, the LPV is mandated to achieve Sustainable Groundwater Management by 2040. This category addresses the timing and uncertainty of the project and evaluates the likelihood of a project’s ability to be implemented and operational prior to 2040. Timing and feasibility are scored based on seven components:

1. Project implementation timeframe (maximum of 20 points)
2. Current stage of project development (maximum of 5 points)

² FCGMA / Watermaster Board meeting agenda packages and meeting minutes are available at www.fcgma.org.

3. Status of approvals, permits, and environmental compliance (maximum of 5 points)
4. Project complexity (maximum of 5 points)
5. Status of, and requirements for, land acquisition or easements (maximum of 5 points)
6. Dependency on other unbuilt or unfunded projects (maximum of 5 points)
7. Project lifespan (maximum of 5 points)

A maximum of 50 points can be assigned to each project under the Timing / Feasibility category.

2.1.3 Cost and Funding

This category evaluates the cost / benefit of the project and the amount of capital and operations and maintenance (O&M) of non-FCGMA funding that is committed to the project. The cost and funding category is scored based on three separate components:

8. Total project cost per acre-foot (AF) of water generated or saved (maximum of 20 points)
9. Funding match for project construction (maximum of 15 points)
10. Funding match for O&M (maximum of 15 points)

A maximum of 50 points can be assigned to each project under the Cost and Funding category.

2.1.4 Additional Project Considerations

This category evaluates whether the Basin Optimization Projects (i) are consistent with SGMA and the achievement of Sustainable Groundwater Management, and (ii) will prevent or alleviate, or cause or exacerbate, Undesirable Results³ or Material Injury⁴. This assessment is based on the relationship between project implementation and the sustainability indicators defined in SGMA that are applicable to the LPV. These include benefits relative to chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reduction of groundwater in storage, degraded water quality, land subsidence, and depletion of interconnected surface water. A total of 20 points can be assigned based on the number of sustainability indicators addressed by the project.

³ Undesirable Result(s) is defined in Judgment section 1.108: As defined in Water Code section 10721(x), one or more of the following effects caused by Groundwater conditions occurring throughout the Basin: (1) Chronic lowering of groundwater levels indicating a significant and unreasonable depletion of supply if continued over the planning and implementation horizon. Overdraft during a period of drought is not sufficient to establish a chronic lowering of groundwater levels if extractions and groundwater recharge are managed as necessary to ensure that reductions in groundwater levels or storage during a period of drought are offset by increases in groundwater levels or storage during other periods. (2) Significant and unreasonable reduction of groundwater storage. (3) Significant and unreasonable seawater intrusion. (4) Significant and unreasonable degraded water quality, including the migration of contaminant plumes that impair water supplies. (5) Significant and unreasonable land subsidence that substantially interferes with surface land uses. (6) Depletions of interconnected surface water that have significant and unreasonable adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water.

⁴ Material Injury is defined in Judgment section 1.64: A material and unreasonable impact to the Basin, any Management Area, Water Rights Holder, Party, well or water supply caused by the Extraction, storage, or Transfer of Groundwater in the Basin. Material Injury does not include economic injury that results from other than direct physical causes, including any adverse effect on water rates, lease rates, or demand for water. If fully mitigated, Material Injury shall no longer be considered to be occurring. Topics that may be considered in an analysis for a Material Injury determination include the following: (i) groundwater levels; (ii) groundwater in storage; (iii) groundwater quality; (iv) land subsidence; (v) natural recharge; and (vi) minimum thresholds and measurable objectives as set forth in SGMA and implementing regulations.

Additionally, this category is used identify whether the collaboration, cooperation, or participation of the FCGMA, Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD), WWDs, United Water Conservation District, or the Water Right Holders is necessary or desirable for implementation of the Basin Optimization Project.

2.2 Project Evaluations

2.2.1 Project 1: Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal

The Arroyo Simi–Las Posas Arundo Removal Project involves removal of the invasive plant species *Arundo donax* from approximately 324 acres of land along the Arroyo Simi-Las Posas corridor. *Arundo donax* (*Arundo*) would be replaced with native riparian plant species, which are estimated to consume approximately 6 to 25 AFY per acre less water than *Arundo* (VCWSD 2015). If all of the *Arundo* within the 324-acre area is removed, this project could result in up to an additional 2,680 AFY of recharge to the ELPMA (VCWSD 2015). This project is anticipated to increase groundwater recharge to the ELPMA and improve the health of riparian habitat along Arroyo Simi-Las Posas.

This project was proposed for inclusion in the GSP in 2018 and requires an update to assess the current location, extent, and density of *Arundo* in the Arroyo Simi-Las Posas corridor. Because of this, this project would be implemented in two phases.

Phase I would cover project implementation planning activities and consist of the following tasks:

- The examination of the originally proposed project area and comparison to the current state/condition of the removal areas,
- Identification of landowners within the project area,
- Establishment of access agreements with landowners,
- Reassessment of project area and evaluation of invasive vegetation extent,
- Preparation of a removal project workplan, and
- Environmental permit and compliance coordination.

This planning step is essential for evaluating removal-restoration labor and material costs, permitting requirements/restrictions, private property access agreements, restoration needs and ongoing maintenance.

Phase II would involve field work to remove *Arundo* from the Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Corridor. The full scope of work and project costs for this project phase will be developed in Phase I of the project. Giant reed removal activities performed by various local interests (e.g., Ventura County Public Works Agency, various developers, Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks District, and others) are ongoing in the Arroyo Simi and can serve as a model for the removal of invasive vegetation downstream as the Arroyo Simi transitions to the Arroyo Las Posas, within the Las Posas Valley Basin.

This project is consistent with the project in the Judgment titled *Removing, and periodic removal maintenance of Arundo donax from the Las Posas Valley watershed in an environmentally safe manner* (Judgment §5.4.1).

2.2.1.1 Water Supply

Implementation of this project could increase recharge to the ELPMA by as much as 2,680 AFY (VCWSD 2015). This is based on the estimated reduction in evapotranspiration demands associated with the project, or portion of which would occur upstream of the LPV (VCWSD 2015). Additional modeling is required to characterize the volume of water that would recharge the ELPMA.

2.2.1.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

This project consists of two phases to support project planning, permitting, and coordination with landowners (Phase I) and project implementation (Phase II). This project is informed by a feasibility study, initially prepared in 2015, that requires updating through additional field and desktop activities to re-evaluate the Arundo removal locations, water saving estimates, and maintenance recommendations. FCGMA estimates that implementation of both project phases could be completed within four years of project initiation.

Environmental and Permitting

This project is in the planning phase and specific permitting and CEQA requirements will be identified in Phase I of project implementation.

Project Complexity

This project relies on existing technology and similar projects have been implemented across the Ventura Watershed by various local interests (e.g., Ventura County Public Works Agency, various developers, Rancho Simi Recreation and Parks District, and others). FCGMA anticipates the need to coordinate with landowners along Arroyo Simi-Las Posas for access agreements to perform field activities, including initial Arundo mapping, Arundo removal, and Arundo removal maintenance.

While this project is not dependent on other unbuilt projects, the full benefits of this project may require implementation of other projects, like the Moorpark Desalter (Project No. 4), that lower groundwater elevations in the Shallow Alluvial Aquifer to increase available storage in the ELPMA and limit discharge of the increased arroyo flows downstream into the Pleasant Valley Basin.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

FCGMA anticipates that the project lifespan could exceed 25 years.

2.2.1.3 Cost and Funding

FCGMA estimates that the cost to implement Phase I of this project would be approximately \$400,000. This includes costs to: (i) perform the initial field investigation / identification of Arundo removal locations, (ii) negotiate easements with landowners, (iii) identify CEQA and permitting requirements, and (iv) develop an Arundo removal and maintenance work plan.

Capital and O&M costs for Phase II of this project were estimated by The Nature Conservancy in 2018 to support GSP development (FCGMA 2019). Adjusting The Nature Conservancy's cost estimates by the increase in Consumer Price Index (CPI) between 2020 and 2024 leads to a capital cost estimate for Phase II of \$9,100,00 and an O&M cost of \$250 per acre-foot (AF) of water.⁵

Assuming a 25-year project lifespan and that the project will increase recharge to the ELPMA by 2,680 AFY, the total cost to implement this project is estimated to be approximately \$390 per AF. No outside funding sources have been identified for this project.

2.2.1.4 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

Within the ELPMA, Arundo is estimated to consume approximately 1,900 AFY more than native riparian species. This is approximately 11% of the estimated 17,800 AFY sustainable yield of the ELPMA. By increasing surface water flow in the Arroyo Simi-Las Posas and decreasing ET losses from invasive species within the ELPMA, this project is projected to increase recharge along Arroyo Simi-Las Posas. The increased recharge will directly impact the water levels and groundwater in storage to provide increased flexibility in basin management to maintain groundwater levels above minimum thresholds and at the measurable objectives.

Implementation of this project is anticipated to support groundwater level and storage management within the ELPMA and is consistent with Sustainable Groundwater Management in the LPV. Implementation of this project is not anticipated to cause Undesirable Results and/or result in Material Injury that cannot be mitigated.

Collaboration Requirements

Implementation of this project will require coordination with landowners in the LPV to develop access agreements for Arundo mapping, removal, and O&M.

2.2.2 Project 2: Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD for Basin Replenishment

The Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD for Basin Replenishment project would supply imported water to the eastern part of the WLPMA in lieu of groundwater production (FCGMA 2019). This project would result in decreased groundwater production from water in the area of a groundwater depression in the WLPMA, would rely on existing delivery infrastructure, and would be limited to water purveyors with the ability to receive water from CMWD (FCGMA 2019).

Based on TAC recommendation, this project combines the two projects in the Judgment titled, *Importing of surplus water and Using Calleguas Facilities for Replenishment* (Judgment §5.4.2 and 5.4.9).

⁵ https://www.bls.gov/data/inflation_calculator.htm

2.2.2.1 Water Supply

During development of the GSP, FCGMA coordinated with CMWD, Zone MWC, and VCWWD-19, to estimate the volume of imported water that may be available to water purveyors within the WLPMA in CMWD's service area. In 2019, it was estimated that 1,762 AFY of CMWD water would be available for purchase and delivery to Zone MWC and VCWWD-19. CMWD represented in recent consultation that the limiting factor is the volume of imported water the two purveyors can accept to offset their pumping in the WLPMA. FCGMA used these projections for analysis of the project for this Plan.

2.2.2.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

This project would reinitiate a Metropolitan Water District of Southern California incentivized program implemented by CMWD that was operational in the WLPMA between 1995 and 2008. Because this project will rely on existing infrastructure, it is anticipated that this project would consist of a single phase and could be implemented following the development of project policy by the Watermaster Board, establishment of funds, and an agreement to purchase water from CMWD.

Environmental and Permitting

Because this project will utilize existing infrastructure, no additional permitting or CEQA compliance is required to implement this project.

Project Complexity

This project relies on existing infrastructure and would re-establish a program that was operational between 1998 and 2005. Initiation and operation of this project is not technically complex and does not dependent on other unbuilt projects.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

During development of the GSP, CMWD indicated that this project lifespan could exceed 50 years.

2.2.2.3 Cost and Funding

The cost to implement this project is driven by CMWD's water rates. CMWD's 2024 Tier 1 water rate is \$1,730 per AF⁶. This cost includes O&M to maintain CMWD's conveyance infrastructure. The project is envisioned to incentivize VCWWD-19 and Zone MWC by funding the difference between the cost of CMWD and the cost of pumping.

⁶ https://www.calleguas.com/images/docs-financial/water_rates_2024.pdf

2.2.2.4 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

Implementation of this project would reduce groundwater production from the pumping depression located in the eastern portion of the WLPMA and assist with water-level recovery. Between 1995 and 2008, groundwater elevations in the eastern part of the WLPMA recovered by as much as 80 feet in response to in lieu deliveries from CMWD. These measured groundwater elevation recoveries demonstrate the efficacy of this project in managing groundwater levels in the LPV (FCGMA 2019). Implementation of this project is not anticipated to cause Undesirable Results and/or result in Material Injury that cannot be mitigated.

Collaboration Requirements

Implementation of this project will require coordination between FCGMA, CMWD, VCWWD-19, and Zone MWC.

2.2.3 Project 3: Arroyo Las Posas storm water capture and recharge

The Arroyo Las Posas storm water capture and recharge project proposes to divert storm flows from Arroyo Simi-Las Posas for recharge to the ELPMA. The proposed diversions would occur during high flow events via a new surface intake located near the existing stabilizer structure in the Arroyo Simi-Las Posas adjacent to the Moorpark Water Reclamation Facility operated by VCWWD-1. The storm flows would then be delivered to the existing 40-acres of percolation ponds to recharge the aquifers in the ELPMA.

This project is consistent with the project in the Judgment titled *Arroyo Las Posas storm water capture and recharge* (Judgment §5.4.3).

2.2.3.1 Water Supply

VCWWD-1 has undertaken significant efforts to advance this project. These include geophysical surveys to characterize their existing percolation ponds and estimate infiltration rates, and hydrologic modeling to estimate the volume of storm flows that would be available for diversion. Their hydrologic modeling studies suggest that implementation of this project could provide up to 2,000 AFY of diversions to their percolation ponds (VCWWD-1, 2020). No groundwater modeling has been conducted to characterize the storage capacity of the Shallow Alluvial Aquifer, which underlies the existing percolation ponds, and the volume of recharged water that would remain in the ELPMA.

2.2.3.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

VCWWD-1 is conducting a feasibility study for this project, which they anticipate completing by March 30, 2025. VCWWD-1 anticipates that construction of the diversion facilities could be completed in a single phase by June 30, 2027. FCGMA recommends that modeling be conducted prior to project construction to characterize the volume of recharged water that would remain in the ELPMA. This modeling should include assumptions that are consistent with the GSP and incorporate findings from VCWWD-1 existing studies, including, but not limited to: (i) existing

infiltration pond capacity, (ii) estimated infiltration rates (Ulrich et. al, Not Dated), and (iii) the volume of stormflows available for diversion (VCWWD-1, 2020).

Environmental and Permitting

VCWWD-1 anticipates that project implementation will require CEQA and NEPA compliance, with additional permitting and coordination with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Regional Water Quality Control Board, Army Corps of Engineers, and VCWPD. Permitting and CEQA/NEPA compliance has not started.

No access agreements or land acquisition is required to implement this project.

Project Complexity

While this project will rely on existing technology, the project is considered moderately complex and will require the construction of diversion facilities, including the construction of pipeline, pumping stations, a fish ladder, and improvements (as necessary) to VCWWD-1's existing percolation ponds. Permitting and design of the fish ladder will be better defined prior to project construction and implementation. Additionally, while this project is not dependent on other unbuilt projects, the full benefits of this project may require implementation of other projects, like the Moorpark Desalter (Project No. 4), that lower groundwater elevations in the Shallow Alluvial Aquifer to provide adequate available storage to realize the full benefits of recharge to the ELPMA.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

VCWWD-1 anticipates that this project lifespan could exceed 25 years.

2.2.3.3 Cost and Funding

VCWWD-1 estimates that the capital cost to construct this project is approximately \$4,000,000. O&M costs have not been estimated. No outside sources of funding to construct this project have been identified.

2.2.3.4 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

Implementation of this project is anticipated to support groundwater level and storage management within the ELPMA and is consistent with Sustainable Groundwater Management in the LPV. Implementation of this project is not anticipated to cause Undesirable Results and/or result in Material Injury that cannot be mitigated.

Providing additional recharge to the ELPMA will directly impact groundwater levels, which are used to characterize the potential onset of undesirable results associated with the four sustainability indicators applicable to the LPV, by providing additional water supplies to the LPV. The implementation of this project would aid in maintaining groundwater elevations above the minimum thresholds throughout the ELPMA.

Collaboration Requirements

Implementation of this project will require coordination between FCGMA and VCWWD-1.

2.2.4 Project 4: Moorpark Desalter

The Moorpark Desalter project consists of a new groundwater desalter facility located east of the Moorpark Water Reclamation Facility, along Los Angeles Avenue. The project goals are to improve water quality in the southern portion of the ELPMA and provide an additional source of potable water supply to the LPV. The project aims to achieve these goals by pumping and treating high-TDS groundwater from the southern portion of the ELPMA. In doing this, the project would: (1) reduce the dependence on imported water in the LPV by providing new local potable supplies, (2) improve groundwater quality in the southern portion of the ELPMA, and (3) create additional groundwater storage within the ELPMA.

This Project will include: (1) construction of new groundwater extraction wells to pump high-TDS groundwater from the ELPMA, and (2) construction of a desalter facility that would treat the low-quality groundwater prior to incorporation into the VCWWD-1 delivery system. Additionally, this project may require construction of additional pipeline to connect the desalter's brine disposal system to CMWD's Salinity Management Pipeline, which discharges brine from various desalters and water treatment plants to the Pacific Ocean. Preliminary analyses for the proposed desalter have been completed and the project is in the planning phase.

This project is consistent with the project in the Judgment titled *Constructing desalter(s) to address water quality issues in Arroyo Simi Creek* (Judgment §5.4.4).

2.2.4.1 Water Supply

VCWWD-1 has conducted preliminary numerical groundwater flow modeling to evaluate project feasibility. Their groundwater flow modeling study suggests that pumping 6,270 AFY for the desalter project would result in an additional 2,200 AFY of recharge to the ELPMA. Based on this, it is estimated that this project would increase the sustainable yield of the ELPMA by 2,200 AFY. Additional modeling is required to evaluate the effects of the proposed desalter under scenarios that are consistent with those evaluated in the GSP and Basin Optimization Yield study.

2.2.4.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

VCWWD-1 has not completed a feasibility study for this project. Because of this, project phasing and timing are not well defined.

Environmental and Permitting

VCWWD-1 anticipates that project implementation will require CEQA and NEPA compliance, but the specific permitting and regulatory requirements to construct and operate the project are not well defined. Additionally, easement or land acquisition requirements to implement this project are not well defined.

Permitting, environmental compliance, and land acquisitions would be identified through an initial feasibility study.

Project Complexity

While this project will not rely on new technology, the project is considered moderately complex and will require the construction of a desalter well field, treatment system, and conveyance infrastructure. This project is not dependent

on other unbuilt projects or projects that are currently under construction, however, implementation of this project could provide additional benefits to projects that increase and/or maintain flows in Arroyo Simi-Las Posas by creating additional storage capacity within the Shallow Alluvial Aquifer. VCWWD-1 may need to develop an agreement with CMWD to dispose of brine produced at the desalter via CMWD's Salinity Management Pipeline.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

VCWWD-1 anticipates that this project lifespan could exceed 25 years.

2.2.4.3 Cost and Funding

VCWWD-1 estimates that the capital costs to construct this project are approximately \$40,000,000 but has not estimated costs to maintain the facilities. No outside sources of funding to construct this project have been identified.

2.2.4.4 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

Implementation of this project is anticipated to improve groundwater quality by removing constituents of concern from the southern portion of the ELPMA, which has been impacted by degraded water quality resulting from surface water recharge originating from outside the LPV boundaries. The project aims to achieve these goals by pumping and treating high-TDS groundwater from southern portion of the ELPMA. In doing this, the project would: (1) reduce the dependence on imported water in the LPV by providing new local potable supplies, (2) improve groundwater quality in the southern portion of the ELPMA, and (3) create additional underground storage within the ELPMA

Providing additional recharge to the ELPMA will directly impact groundwater levels, which are used to characterize the potential onset of undesirable results associated with the four sustainability indicators applicable to the LPV. Groundwater elevation minimum thresholds were established at 15 wells to characterize the potential onset of undesirable results associated with the four sustainability indicators applicable to the LPV. The impact of this project on groundwater elevations and their relation to minimum thresholds will be evaluated as project planning progresses. Depending on the operational conditions and distribution of desalted water, this project.

Collaboration Requirements

Implementation of this project will require coordination between FCGMA, VCWWD-1, and CMWD.

2.2.5 Project 5: Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition

The Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition project would involve the purchase of recycled water from the City of Simi Valley (City) (FCGMA 2019). In return, the City would commit to continuing to discharge the purchased or leased water from its shallow dewatering wells and/or the Simi Valley Water Quality Control Plant (SVWQCP) to the Arroyo Simi-Las Posas for downstream recharge to the LPV. The City has indicated that 3,000 AFY of recycled water from the SVWQCP would be available and 1,700 AFY would be available from the dewatering wells (FCGMA 2019). However, due to the riparian use of the water along the Arroyo Simi-Las Posas, an estimated 1,000 to 2,500 AFY of the water may be lost due to plant uptake and evaporation, leaving 2,200 to 3,700 AFY available as surface flow and recharge to the ELPMA.

This project is consistent with the project in the Judgment titled *Formalizing an agreement with the City of Simi Valley (“City”) to maintain up-stream wastewater treatment plant discharges, or treated effluent, into Arroyo Simi Creek, which shall include cooperation with and support of the City, as necessary, in its interactions with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (“LA Waterboard”) on this issue of treated effluent discharge into Arroyo Simi Creek* (Judgment §5.4.5).

2.2.5.1 Water Supply

The 2025 Periodic Evaluation of the GSP evaluated the benefits of maintaining SVWQCP discharges to Arroyo Simi-Las Posas. Results from the modeling suggest that implementation of this project could increase the sustainable yield of the ELPMA by as much as 2,000 AFY.

2.2.5.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

The project will rely on existing infrastructure and will require negotiation of real property (i.e., recycled water) pricing and availability. These negotiations have not started, and the final agreed upon terms are uncertain. While the project could be implemented immediately following the final negotiations, the time required to develop this agreement is not well defined.

Environmental and Permitting

Discharges of SVWQCP recycled water to Arroyo Simi-Las Posas will need to comply with the City’s NPDES permit and the RWQCB TMDL limits.

Additional permitting is not anticipated for this project.

Project Complexity

This project will rely on existing infrastructure and can be implemented once an agreement is developed and finalized between the City and FCGMA.

This project and project number 6, Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Valley users via pipeline, both would rely on recycled water produced at the SVWQCP. Because of this, the volume of water available for discharge maintenance to Arroyo Simi Creek will depend on the volume of water delivered to Las Posas Valley users via pipeline. Additionally, the full benefits of this project may require implementation of other projects, like the Moorpark Desalter (Project No. 4), which lowers groundwater elevations in the Shallow Alluvial Aquifer, and the Arundo Removal Project (Project No. 1), which reduces evapotranspiration losses upstream of the LPV.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

FCGMA anticipates that the lifespan of this project will exceed 25 years.

2.2.5.3 Cost and Funding

While the cost to purchase SVWQCP water from the City is not well defined, FCGMA anticipates that this water will cost less than the \$500/AF evaluation criterion, and that the City will be responsible for Operation and Maintenance of the SVWQCP and its discharge infrastructure.

2.2.5.4 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

Surface water infiltration through the bottom of Arroyo Simi–Las Posas is a primary recharge mechanism for the ELPMA. Perennial flow in Arroyo Simi–Las Posas did not begin until the 1970s, when discharges of treated wastewater effluent, and eventually discharge from shallow dewatering wells, began upstream of the ELPMA boundary. These perennial flows resulted in rising groundwater levels throughout the southern part of the ELPMA between 1974 and 2015. The beneficial users of surface water and groundwater in the ELPMA do not have control over the upstream discharges of water to Arroyo Simi–Las Posas, and recharge to the ELPMA would be reduced if those discharges are reduced. Therefore, purchase of this discharge would provide a measure of security for the users of groundwater and surface water in the ELPMA. Fundamentally, this project would help maintain groundwater elevations in Arroyo Simi–Las Posas and directly addresses the measurable objectives selected for the ELPMA. Additionally, this project would maintain native habitat and provide flood control benefit.

While implementation of this project is anticipated to support groundwater level and storage management within the ELPMA, perennial surface water flow in Arroyo Simi–Las Posas is also thought to be the primary source of high TDS concentrations observed in the groundwater in the southern ELPMA (FCGMA 2019). Consequently, the water quality of the surface water flows will have to be investigated further and addressed through project implementation.

Collaboration Requirements

Implementation of this project will require coordination between FCGMA and the City of Simi Valley.

2.2.6 Project 6: Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Valley Users via Pipeline

The Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Valley Users via Pipeline project would consist of constructing a pump station and conveyance pipeline, in addition to formalizing an agreement with the City, to deliver recycled water from SVWQCP to Las Posas Valley users. In 2017, an initial evaluation of this project identified Berylwood Heights MWC and Zone MWC as potential recipients of this water, however, the project has not undergone additional development since the initial study (CMWD 2017).

This project is consistent with the project in the Judgment titled *Formalizing an agreement with the City for recycled water deliveries to Las Posas Valley uses via pipeline, which shall include cooperation with and support of the City, as necessary, in its interactions with the LA Waterboard on this issue of recycled water* (Judgment §5.4.6).

2.2.6.1 Water Supply

In 2017, the City indicated that approximately 3,000 AFY of recycled water would be available for delivery to Berylwood Heights MWC and Zone MWC.

2.2.6.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

Because this project has not been further evaluated since 2017, FCGMA anticipates that this project would be implemented in two phases:

Phase I will consist of a feasibility study to better define the:

- Users who would participate in this project by using recycled water in lieu of groundwater.
- Project benefits.
- Conveyance infrastructure requirements.
- Permitting, land agreements, and environmental compliance requirements.
- Capital and O&M costs.
- Schedule for project construction and maintenance.

FCGMA anticipates that implementation of Phase I could be completed within a 2-year timeframe following commitment of funds for the feasibility study.

Phase II would consist of negotiating easements, environmental compliance and permitting, project construction, and developing agreements between FCGMA, the City, and Las Posas Valley users to receive SVWQCP recycled water. The schedule to implement Phase II is not presently well defined and would be determined during the Phase I feasibility study.

Environmental and Permitting

Full implementation of this project would require construction of a pump station and conveyance infrastructure. Permitting requirements to construct these facilities would be identified through an initial feasibility study.

Project Complexity

While this project will rely on existing technology, it is considered moderately complex because: (i) project construction may require significant coordination and mitigation to negotiate easements and convey recycled water from the Simi Valley to Zone MWC and/or Berylwood Heights MWC, (ii) project construction may require multiple phases, and (iii) project feasibility and operation will depend on the long-term availability, and price, of SVWQCP recycled water. The volume of water available for this project will also depend on the volume of SVWQCP recycled water that is committed to Project Number 5, Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition. Construction phasing will be identified in the Phase I feasibility study.

Additionally, recipients of the recycled water may be required to construct, operate, and maintain desalter facilities to reduce constituent concentrations to levels suitable for irrigation and to ensure that long-term use of this water does not result in a significant and unreasonable degradation of water quality in the LPV. The need to desalt recycled water prior to use will be characterized in the Phase I feasibility study.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

FCGMA anticipates that the lifespan of this project will exceed 25 years.

2.2.6.3 Cost and Funding

FCGMA estimates that the cost to complete the Phase I feasibility study is approximately \$400,000.

In 2017, CMWD estimated costs to construct this project. Assuming that the project would require the construction of a 100 HP pump station and 8.6-miles of 16-inch conveyance pipeline, CMWD estimated that the cost to construct this project would be approximately \$17.2 million. Adjusting this by the CPI leads to an estimated capital cost for Phase II of this project of \$22.1 million. Assuming:

- O&M costs are equal to 3% of the capital costs;
- The project would provide 3,000 AFY of SVWQCP recycled water to users via pipeline; and
- A 25-year project lifespan

Leads to a cost estimate of approximately \$700 per AF to construct and operate Phase II of this project. This does not include the cost to purchase and/or lease water from the City. Additionally, this does not include any costs required to construct, operate, and maintain local desalters to treat the recycled water to levels suitable for irrigation and to avoid significant and unreasonable degradation of water quality.

2.2.6.4 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

FCGMA anticipates that project benefits would be similar to Project Number 2, Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD for Basin Replenishment, because implementation of this project would reduce groundwater production and assist with water level recovery. FCGMA anticipates that the water level recovery benefits would be quantified through numerical modeling conducted in the Phase I Feasibility Study.

The SVWQCP NPDES permit sets limits on the TDS, chloride, and sulfate concentrations of the tertiary treated recycled water. The limits may locally exceed the concentrations of TDS, chloride, and sulfate measured in groundwater. Consequently, if this project is pursued further, the water quality of the SVWQCP recycled water will have to be investigated further and addressed in the feasibility study.

Collaboration Requirements

Implementation of this project will require coordination between FCGMA, the City, and Las Posas Valley Users able to receive and use SVWQCP recycled water in lieu of groundwater.

2.2.7 Project 7: In Lieu Deliveries to Northern East Las Posas Feasibility Study

This project seeks to evaluate the feasibility of providing supplemental water supplies to the northern area of the ELPMA. The GSP identified the area of the ELPMA north of the Moorpark anticline as a region where groundwater elevations have exhibited historical declines that locally exceed 250 feet. Groundwater elevation trends in this part

of the ELPMA differ from those measured in the southern portion of the ELPMA, where groundwater elevations have experienced periods of recovery in response to increasing flow in Arroyo Simi-Las Posas. Groundwater elevations north of the Moorpark anticline are less responsive to flows in Arroyo Simi-Las Posas and are primarily influenced by groundwater production and CMWD's Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) operations. Supplemental water supplies to this area will reduce groundwater demand in this part of the ELPMA.

This project is consistent with the project in the Judgment titled *Designing and constructing new or modified infrastructure in order to deliver In Lieu Water to water deficit areas for Use in lieu of Extracted Groundwater and to increase water conveyance within the Basin* (Judgment §5.4.7).

2.2.7.1 Water Supply

This project is a feasibility study and will not provide a new source of water supply to the LPV. Preliminary modeling has been conducted, but a feasibility study needs to be completed to identify infrastructure needs, waters supply availability, and Las Posas Valley Users in the northern ELPMA willing to use a supplemental source of water in lieu water of groundwater.

2.2.7.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

This feasibility study would be completed in a single phase, and it is anticipated that the study can be completed within a 2-year timeframe following commitment of funds for the project. If a feasible project is identified through this study, timetables for permitting, construction, and project implementation will be developed.

Environmental and Permitting

This is a paper study that will not require permitting and /or environmental compliance.

Project Complexity

This paper study is considered low complexity and is not dependent on other projects.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

Not applicable.

2.2.7.3 Cost and Funding

FCGMA anticipates that this feasibility study can be completed for approximately \$110,000.

2.2.7.4 Benefits relative to Sustainable Groundwater Management

2.2.7.5 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

This feasibility study is expected to provide a clear understanding of volume of supplemental water supplies, and corresponding piping infrastructure, required to offset groundwater demands and maintain groundwater elevations above the minimum thresholds in the northern portion of the ELPMA. In addition, this feasibility study will provide stakeholders with estimated costs associated with the supplemental water deliveries and corresponding infrastructure requirements and will also provide stakeholders with an estimate of the potential increase to the sustainable yield of the ELPMA.

Collaboration Requirements

This feasibility study may require coordination with MWCs and/or water purveyors whose service area extends north of the Moorpark anticline to identify entities that are able to receive and deliver supplemental water supplies to offset groundwater extractions.

2.2.8 Project 8: Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program

This project seeks to develop a program for the least cost acquisition of allocation basis or annual allocations, or Carryover, as an alternative to Basin replenishment. This would include, but may not be limited to, developing a framework for:

- The cost to purchase annual allocations or Carryover.
- The cost to purchase allocation basis.
- The prioritization of purchases from water deficit areas of the LPV.
- The identification of a recommended program mechanism and alternatives.

This project is consistent with the project in the Judgment titled *Developing a program for the least cost acquisition of Allocation Basis or Annual Allocations, or Carryover as an alternative to Replenishment* (Judgment §5.4.8).

2.2.8.1 Water Supply

This project is a paper study to develop a Least Cost Acquisition Program. The study will not provide a new water supply or directly increase the yield of the LPV.

2.2.8.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

This study would be completed in a single phase and FCGMA anticipates that this can be completed within a 1-year timeframe following commitment of funds for the project. Importantly, this program would require development of a policy framework by the Watermaster Board in consultation with the PAC and TAC. The timeline to implement the Least Cost Allocation Acquisition Program will be developed as part of the initial paper study.

Environmental and Permitting

This is a paper study that will not require permitting and /or environmental compliance.

Project Complexity

FCGMA anticipates that the development of this program will be moderately complex and will require development of a framework to ensure that water costs, acquisition timing, and acquisition preference / locale are appropriately defined. This will require policy development by the Watermaster Board in consultation with PAC and TAC and input from Water Rights Holders. This paper study is not dependent on other projects.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

FCGMA anticipates that the Program developed through this project would have a lifespan that exceeds 25 years. However, this Program should be re-evaluated at a 5-year frequency to ensure that water costs and priority areas are appropriately reflected in the Program.

2.2.8.3 Cost and Funding

FCGMA anticipates that this study will cost approximately \$100,000. Annual costs to implement the resulting Program will be estimated through this study.

2.2.8.4 Benefits relative to Sustainable Groundwater Management

2.2.8.5 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

This study is expected to provide a clear understanding of costs and mechanism(s) through which FCGMA can implement a program to purchase and/or lease allocation basis, annual allocations, or Carryover, as an alternative to Basin replenishment. Implementation of the resulting program is anticipated to support groundwater level stabilization in water deficit areas of the LPV and maintain groundwater elevations above the minimum thresholds, thereby improving groundwater level and storage management. Implementation of the resulting program is not anticipated to result in undesirable results or Material Injury that cannot be mitigated.

Collaboration Requirements

Implementation of this project will require coordination between FCGMA and the PAC and TAC to appropriately define water costs and priority Program implementation areas.

2.2.9 Project 9: Construction of additional dedicated monitoring wells

This project proposes installation of multi-depth monitoring wells in the WLPMA and ELPMA of the LPV to assess groundwater conditions in the principal aquifers of the LPV that lack data. The GSP determined that there were spatial data gaps in the understanding of aquifer conditions and identified four potential new well locations that

would help fill the identified gaps. In the WLPMA, the GSP identified the boundary between the WLPMA and the Oxnard Subbasin as an area that would benefit from additional groundwater monitoring to improve characterization of groundwater gradients across the basin boundary. In the ELPMA, the GSP identified the potential groundwater dependent ecosystem located along Arroyo Simi-Las Posas as a region that would benefit from additional groundwater monitoring. A new multi-depth groundwater monitoring well in this location would provide data on whether the vegetation in the riparian corridor relies on groundwater or soil moisture from infiltrating surface water. In addition, the GSP notes that there are limited dedicated monitoring wells screened in the Grimes Canyon aquifer in the ELPMA and that adding a monitoring well would improve the understanding of groundwater gradients between the Fox Canyon aquifer and Grimes Canyon aquifer.

Since submittal of the GSP, well 02N20W04F02S, a key well in the ELPMA, was destroyed. A new dedicated monitoring well to replace this well would provide better characterization of groundwater conditions in the western part of the ELPMA. In addition to this well, FCGMA identified the pumping depression in the eastern portion of the WLPMA as an area that would benefit from a new dedicated monitoring well.

2.2.9.1 Water Supply

This project will improve the monitoring and characterization of groundwater conditions within the LPV but will not increase water supplies or the sustainable yield of the LPV.

2.2.9.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

Installation of monitoring wells could be completed in two phases:

Phase I would consist of an initial well siting study, development of a well specification package, and development of request for bid documentation. This phase could be completed within a 6-month timeframe following commitment of funds for the project.

Phase II would consist of: procuring a drilling contractor; designing, constructing, and developing each dedicated monitoring well; and preparing well completion reports. This phase could be completed within a 1.5-year timeframe following commitment of funds for the project.

Environmental and Permitting

CEQA and NEPA are not required to implement this project. FCGMA will coordinate with VCWPD to permit the proposed monitoring wells.

Project Complexity

This project is not considered technically complex. FCGMA successfully completed the drilling, design, and construction of dedicated monitoring wells in the Oxnard Subbasin and Pleasant Valley Basin in 2024.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

FCGMA anticipates that the lifespan of the monitoring wells constructed through this project would exceed 25 years.

2.2.9.3 Cost and Funding

The cost to complete Phase I of this project is approximately \$50,000. The cost per new well, based on FCGMA's recent well construction activities, is anticipated to be approximately \$550,000. No outside sources of funding to construct this project have been identified, however, Watermaster staff continuously monitor for potential grant funding and will investigate the possibility of installing one or more wells through the DWR Technical Support Services program. Because this project will not increase water supplies within the LPV, FCGMA has assigned the total water costs to implement this project a value of ">\$3,000 per AF".

2.2.9.4 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

The expected benefits of this project lie in the additional data gathered from the well installation process and the ongoing monitoring of the groundwater conditions at the well sites. This data can be used to refine the conceptual and numerical models of the LPV. Such refinement may result in reevaluation and adjustment of the minimum thresholds or measurable objectives and is anticipated to improve groundwater level, storage, and quality management within the LPV by providing new data in areas and aquifers identified as data gaps. Implementation of this project is consistent with SGMA and is not anticipated to result in undesirable results or cause Material Injury that cannot be mitigated.

Collaboration Requirements

Implementation of this project may require coordination between FCGMA and Water Rights Holders to obtain necessary easements and access agreements to construct and monitoring the new dedicated monitoring wells. Land access and easement requirements will be identified during initial project planning.

2.2.10 Project 10: Installation of transducers in groundwater monitoring wells

This project proposes installation of transducers in representative monitoring points, or key wells, in the LPV. The GSP determined that there were temporal data gaps in the understanding of aquifer conditions. These data gaps limit the number of wells that can be used to contour spring high and fall low groundwater conditions. These temporal data gaps also impact estimates of the change in groundwater in storage in the LPV. The temporal data gaps have persisted in each annual report prepared after the GSP was submitted to DWR. Additionally, as most key wells are agricultural irrigation wells, transducers will help assure that measured groundwater levels are static water levels unaffected by recovery or potential well interference. The addition of transducers will help ensure that spring high and fall low groundwater levels are collected from representative monitoring points within a 2-week window, as recommended by DWR, and will provide a clearer understanding of groundwater conditions during the spring and fall measurement events. This will allow better comparison for annual change in storage estimates and will facilitate sustainable management of the LPV.

2.2.10.1 Water Supply

Installation of transducers can be completed within a 1-year timeframe following commitment of funds for the project.

2.2.10.2 Timing and Feasibility

Project Phasing and Timing

Installation of transducers can be completed within a 2-year timeframe following commitment of funds for the project.

Environmental and Permitting

Equipping existing wells with transducers will not require additional environmental compliance or permitting.

Project Complexity

This project is not considered technically complex. However, because the majority of key wells in the LPV are active groundwater extraction wells, the feasibility of equipping each well with a transducer will depend on the existing well construction and uses. Installation of transducers in wells equipped with turbine pumps may require installation of sounding tubes and modification of the wellheads.

Anticipated Project Lifespan

FCGMA anticipates the need to replace transducers every 5 to 10 years.

2.2.10.3 Cost and Funding

The cost is anticipated to be approximately \$140,000 for eleven well locations. Potential funding sources include DWR TSS or SGM grant funds, as well as potential funding through the Basin Assessment. Because this project will not increase water supplies within the LPV, FCGMA has assigned the total water costs to implement this project a value of “>\$3,000 per AF”.

2.2.10.4 Additional Project Considerations

Consistency with SGMA and Likelihood of Causing Material Injury or Undesirable Results

The expected benefits of this project lie in the additional high-frequency data gathered from the well, which is anticipated to provide a clearer understanding of groundwater conditions during the spring and fall measurement events. This will allow for better comparison for annual change in groundwater in storage estimates and will facilitate sustainable groundwater management of the LPV.

Implementation of this project is consistent with SGMA and is not anticipated to result in undesirable results or cause Material Injury that cannot be mitigated.

Collaboration Requirements

Implementation of this project will require coordination between FCGMA and Water Rights Holders to develop agreements to outfit and maintain transducers in privately owned wells.

2.3 Project Prioritization

This section of the Basin Optimization Plan summarizes the scores and rank of each project. A detailed description of the project scoring is included in Appendix B, Project Ranking Sheets.

2.3.1 Water Supply Projects

Of the 10 projects evaluated, six are projects that would increase water supply and/or increase the Operating Yield of the LPV. Three projects are sufficiently defined to implement without additional feasibility studies to define project scopes, costs, and benefits. These projects are: (i) Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal, (ii) Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD for Basin Replenishment, and (iii) Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition. The prioritization of these three projects, based on their individual project scores and ranks, are included in Table 2.

Table 2. Water Supply Project Prioritization

Project No.	Project Title	Summary of Evaluation					
		Total Score	Water Supply Benefit	Timing / Feasibility	Cost	Benefits relative to SGM	Recommended for Inclusion in the BOY
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition	95	35	23	22	15	Yes
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD for Basin Replenishment	92	15	50	12	15	Yes
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal	90	15	38	12	15	Yes

Notes: CMWD = Calleguas Municipal Water District. BOY = Basin Optimization Yield Study.

2.3.2 Feasibility Study and Data Gap Projects

The seven remaining projects evaluated in the Basin Optimization Plan are recommended for additional feasibility studies or implementation to address data gaps in the LPV. The prioritization of these projects, based on their individual project scores and ranks, are included in Table 3.

Table 3. Feasibility Study and Data Gap Project Prioritization

Project No.	Project Title	Summary of Evaluation					
		Total Score	Water Supply Benefit	Timing / Feasibility	Cost	Benefits relative to SGM	Recommended for Inclusion in the BOY
8	Designing a Least Cost Acquisition Program	80	10	38	22	10	No
4	Moorpark Desalter	69	25	21	3	20	No
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture and Recharge	66	15	33	3	15	No
6	Deliveries of Recycled Water to Las Posas Valley Users via Pipeline	64	20	17	12	15	No
9	Design and Installation of Dedicated Monitoring Wells	59	10	41	3	5	No
10	Installation of Pressure Transducers in Groundwater Monitoring Wells	59	10	41	3	5	No
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern East Las Posas Feasibility Study	57	15	34	3	5	No

Notes: BOY = Basin Optimization Yield Study.

3 Project Implementation Schedule

Appendix C provides a schedule to implement all 10 of the projects evaluated in this plan. The schedule is separated by project type (i.e., water supply vs. feasibility study and data gap project) and provides estimated completion dates for each project and phase, as applicable.

4 5-Year Project Implementation Budget

Appendix D provides a high-level cost estimate to implement all 10 projects through the end of 2029. The costs are presented by quarterly estimate and are separated by project type (i.e., water supply vs. feasibility study and data gap project). To develop these quarterly cost estimates, the total estimated project cost was evenly distributed across the anticipated project implementation timeframe and/or lifespan, as appropriate. The costs included here are intended to provide a high-level estimate of total project costs and distributions, with further refinement provided as each project is scoped, funded, and implemented.

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5 References

Calleguas Municipal Water District (CMWD). 2017. Las Posas Replacement Water Study. Prepared by Kennedy Jenks. August 2017.

Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA). 2019. Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Las Posas Valley Basin. January 2019.

Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency (FCGMA). 2024. Draft First Periodic Evaluation: Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Las Posas Valley Basin. August 2024.

Ventura County Water and Sanitation Department (VCWSD). 2015. Arroyo Las Posas and Arroyo Simi Arundo Removal Feasibility and Water Savings Study. Prepared by Wildscape Restoration. January 2015.

Ventura County Waterworks District No. 1 (VCWWD-1). 2020. Draft Technical Memorandum: MWRP Stormwater Diversion and Groundwater Recharge Feasibility Study. Prepared by Resource Consultants, Inc.

Ulrich, C., S. Uhlemann, M. Newcomer, and P. Fish. Not Dated. Arroyo Las Posas Stormwater Diversion Feasibility Study and Diversion Test. Prepared for Ventura County Waterworks District No. 1.

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Appendix A

Project Evaluation Checklist and Project Ranking Sheet

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LAS POSAS VALLEY WATERMASTER

c/o Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency

800 S. Victoria Avenue | Ventura, CA 93009-1610 | Tel: (805) 654-2010 | LPV.Watermaster@ventura.org

Project Evaluation Checklist

BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
Project Name:	(Please fill in)
Purpose of Project:	(Please select one)
Project Type:	(Please select one)
Sponsoring Agency:	(Please fill in)
Management Area:	(Please select one)
Location:	(Please fill in)
Project Description:	(Please fill in)
Implementation Trigger (if applicable):	(Please fill in)
Evaluation Criteria	Response (Applicant to Complete)
Water Supply	
Annual increase in Sustainable Yield (AFY):	(Please fill in)
Annual increase in supplemental water in lieu of pumping (AFY):	(Please fill in)
Groundwater demand reduction (AFY):	(Please fill in)
List all sustainability indicators addressed by the project:	(Please fill in)
Project documentation included?	(Please select one)
Timing/Feasibility	
Project Implementation Timeframe	
Current Project status:	(Please select one)
Estimated time to Project completion (years):	(Please fill in)
Timeline / feasibility documentation included?	(Please select one)
Environmental	
CEQA/NEPA type:	(Please select one)
Status of CEQA/NEPA review and permitting:	(Please select one)
Will the Project likely be permitted?	(Please select one)
Sensitivity of location:	(Please fill in)
Permitting	
Permits required:	(Please fill in)
Status / time required:	(Please fill in)
Likelihood of Project being permitted:	(Please select one)

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Project Evaluation Checklist

Project Complexity	
Does the Project use new technology:	(Please select one)
Does the Project require land acquisition:	(Please select one)
Status of the land acquisition process:	(Please select one)
Is the Project dependent on other unbuilt or unfunded projects:	(Please select one)
Is the Project dependent on funded projects currently under construction:	(Please select one)
Description of Operation and Maintenance (if applicable):	(Please fill in)
Project Lifespan	
What is the projected lifespan of the Project:	(Please fill in)
Project Phasing	
<i>Please provide documentation of anticipated project phasing, including schedules and costs (capital and O&M) for each phase, as an attachment to this form.</i>	
Does Project require multiple phases of construction?	(Please select one)
No. of anticipated construction phases:	(Please fill in)
Description of phases:	(Please fill in)
Phasing timeline:	(Please fill in)
Total cost per phase:	(Please fill in)
Project phasing documentation attached?	(Please select one)
Cost and Funding	
Total capital cost:	(Please fill in)
Total annual Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Cost:	(Please fill in)
Is the project Proponent providing a funding match to construct the project?	(Please fill in)
Is there a funding source other than FCGMA for ongoing operation and maintenance costs?	(Please fill in)
Additional Project Considerations	
Is it necessary to collaborate and/or coordinate with FCGMA, Calleguas, WWDs, United Water Conservation District, or the Water Rights Holders for project implementation?	(Please select one)
If yes, please describe the anticipated collaboration/coordination.	(Please fill in)
Describe any material and unreasonable impacts that cannot be mitigated and/or any negative impacts to sustainability indicators caused by the project.	(Please fill in)
Project Proponent Contact Information	Response (Applicant to Complete)
Name:	(Please fill in)

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Project Evaluation Checklist

Title:	_____	(Please fill in)
Organization:	_____	(Please fill in)
Email:	_____	(Please fill in)
Phone:	_____	(Please fill in)
Date:	_____	(Please fill in)

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Project Ranking Sheet

Project Name _____ **Project Type** _____

Sponsoring Agency _____ **Mgmt. Area** _____

WATER SUPPLY

1. Total Sustainable Yield / Supplemental Water / Reduced Demand

Total additional water supplied by the project for the benefit of the basin through increase to sustainable yield, supplemental water to be delivered in lieu of pumping, or reduction in groundwater demand.

_____ AFY increased sustainable yield

_____ AFY supplemental water in lieu of pumping

_____ AFY groundwater demand reduction

Points Awarded

5	10	15	20	25
<500 AFY	≤500 AFY <2,500 AFY	≤2,500 to AFY <5,000 AFY	≤5,000 AFY <7,500 AFY	≥7,500 AFY

2. Sustainable Yield / Supplemental Water / Reduced Demand Documentation

Project documentation includes verifiable quantified estimate of increased sustainable yield, supplemental water, and/or reduced groundwater demand.

Points Awarded

5	10	15	20	25
Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	Conceptual estimate - limited supporting documentation	Initial feasibility study supporting estimate	Preliminary design and/or modeling supporting estimate	Detailed design and/or modeling supporting estimate

TIMING / FEASIBILITY

3. Project Implementation Timeframe

What is the project implementation timeframe?

Points Awarded

1	5	10	15	20
Cannot be implemented prior to 2040	May be operational by 2040, but uncertain	Can be operational by 2040	Can be operational in 10 years or less	Can be operational in 5 years or less

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4. Development Phase

How far along is the definition, feasibility, design, and development of the project?

Points Awarded

1	2	3	4	5
Conceptual – no feasibility or design, project not well defined	Feasibility study in progress, project well defined	Initial feasibility study completed	30% engineering design	60% or greater engineering design

5. Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review

What is the status of NEPA/CEQA review and permitting?

Points Awarded

1	2	3	4	5
Permit requirements not identified or unknown	Expected to take >5 years	Underway and approvals expected <3 years	Underway and approvals expected ≤1 year	Permitting and CEQA / environmental review complete

6. Project Complexity

How complex is the project? For example, does it require multiple phases of construction; does it use proven technology; does it require land acquisition; is dependent upon other projects; and/or does it require complex permitting?

Points Awarded

1	2	3	4	5
Very complex, relies on unproven technology		Moderately complex		Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology

7. Land Acquisition

Does the project require land acquisition or easements, and if so, what is the status?

Points Awarded

1	2	3	4	5
Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	Process started, but less than 25% complete	>25% but <50% complete	More than 50% complete	Not required or all acquisitions and/or easements complete

8. Dependency on Other Projects

Is the project dependent upon other projects?

Points Awarded

1	2	3	4	5
Project is dependent on other unbuilt and unfunded projects		Project is dependent on funded projects under construction		Not dependent on other unbuilt projects

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9. Project Lifespan

What is the projected lifespan of the project?

Points Awarded

1	2	3	4	5
≤5 years		10 years		≥20 years

COST & FUNDING

10. Water Cost

Projected total cost of water produced, saved, or increase in sustainable yield.

\$ _____ Total capital cost

\$ _____ Total annual O&M cost

\$ _____ Annual O&M cost per AF

\$ _____ Annual cost (all costs including capital and O&M) per AF

Points Awarded

1	5	10	15	20
≥\$3,000 / AF	≤\$2,000 / AF <\$3,000 / AF	≤\$1,000 / AF <\$2,000 / AF	>\$500 / AF <\$1,000 / AF	≤\$500 / AF

11. Funding Match for Construction

Is the project proponent providing a funding match to construct the project?

Points Awarded

1	4	8	12	15
No match	<10% match	10 to 25% match	25 to 50% match	>50% match

12. O&M Funding

Is there a funding source other than FCGMA for ongoing operation & maintenance costs?

Points Awarded

1	4	8	12	15
No funding identified	25%	50% of funding committed	75%	100% of funding committed

ADDITIONAL PROJECT CONSIDERATIONS

13. Collaboration/Cooperation/Participation

Is it necessary or desirable to collaborate and/or coordinate with FCGMA, Calleguas, WWDs, United Water Conservation District, or the Water Right Holders for project implementation?

Points Awarded

N/A
Coordination requirements will not impact final project scoring.

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14. Impact on Sustainability Indicators

What impact will the project have on sustainability indicators applicable to the LPVB (i.e., chronic lowering of groundwater levels, reduction of groundwater in storage, degraded groundwater quality, land subsidence, depletions of interconnected surface water)?

Points Awarded

1	5	10	15	20
May have negative impact on sustainability indicator.	Does not address sustainability indicators.	May help mitigate one sustainability indicator.	May help mitigate two sustainability indicators.	May help mitigate three or more sustainability indicators.

Ranked by _____ Date _____

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Appendix B
Project Ranking Sheets

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**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Project Number	Project Names	FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores			
		Water Supply			
		Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	Pts	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Pts
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal	500 to <2500 AFY	10	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	5
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CWMD for Basin Replenishment	500 to <2500 AFY	10	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	5
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture and Recharge	500 to <2500 AFY	10	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	5
4	Moorpark Desalter	500 to <2500 AFY	10	Initial feasibility study supporting estimate	15
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition	2500 to <5000 AFY	15	Preliminary Design and / or modeling supporting estimate	20
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Valley Users via Pipeline	2500 to <5000 AFY	15	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	5
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA Feasibility Study	<500 AFY	5	Conceptual Estimate - limited documentation	10
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program	<500 AFY	5	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	5
9	Construction of Additional Dedicated Monitoring Wells	<500 AFY	5	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	5
10	Installation of Transducers in Groundwater Monitoring Wells	<500 AFY	5	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	5

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Project Number	Project Names	FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores													
		Timing / Feasibility													
		Project Implementation Timeframe	Pts	Development Phase	Pts	Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Pts	Project Complexity	Pts	Land Acquisition	Pts	Dependency on Other Projects	Pts	Project Lifespan	Pts
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal	Can be operational in 5 years or less	20	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	1	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	1	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	5	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	1	Not dependent on other unbuilt projects	5	>20 years	5
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CWMD for Basin Replenishment	Can be operational in 5 years or less	20	60% or greater engineering design	5	Permitting and CEQA/ environmental review complete	5	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	5	Not required or all acquisitions an/or easements complete	5	Not dependent on other unbuilt projects	5	>20 years	5
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture and Recharge	Can be operational by 2040	10	FS in progress, project well defined	2	Underway and approvals expected < 3 years	3	Moderately Complex	3	Not required or all acquisitions an/or easements complete	5	Not dependent on other unbuilt projects	5	>20 years	5
4	Moorpark Desalter	May be operational by 2040, but uncertain	5	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	1	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	1	Moderately Complex	3	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	1	Not dependent on other unbuilt projects	5	>20 years	5
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition	May be operational by 2040, but uncertain	5	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	1	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	1	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	5	Not required or all acquisitions an/or easements complete	5	Project is dependent on other unbuilt and unfunded projects	1	>20 years	5
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Valley Users via Pipeline	May be operational by 2040, but uncertain	5	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	1	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	1	Moderately Complex	3	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	1	Project is dependent on other unbuilt and unfunded projects	1	>20 years	5
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA Feasibility Study	Can be operational in 5 years or less	20	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	1	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	1	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	5	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	1	Not dependent on other unbuilt projects	5	<5 years	1
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program	Can be operational in 5 years or less	20	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	1	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	1	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	5	Not required or all acquisitions an/or easements complete	5	Not dependent on other unbuilt projects	5	<5 years	1
9	Construction of Additional Dedicated Monitoring Wells	Can be operational in 5 years or less	20	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	1	Underway and approvals expected <1 year	4	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	5	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	1	Not dependent on other unbuilt projects	5	>20 years	5
10	Installation of Transducers in Groundwater Monitoring Wells	Can be operational in 5 years or less	20	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	1	Underway and approvals expected <1 year	4	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	5	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	1	Not dependent on other unbuilt projects	5	>20 years	5

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Project Number	Project Names	FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores										TOTAL POINTS	Project Rank
		Cost & Funding						Additional Project Considerations					
		Water Cost	Pts	Funding Match for Construction	Pts	O&M Funding	Pts	Collaboration / Participation Required	Pts	Impacts on Sustainability Indicators	Pts		
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal	<\$500 / AF	20	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	Yes	0	May help mitigate two sustainability indicators	15	90	3
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CWMD for Basin Replenishment	\$1000 to \$2000 /AF	10	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	Yes	0	May help mitigate two sustainability indicators	15	92	2
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture and Recharge	>\$3000 / AF	1	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	Yes	0	May help mitigate two sustainability indicators	15	66	6
4	Moorpark Desalter	>\$3000 / AF	1	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	Yes	0	May help mitigate three or more sustainability indicators	20	69	5
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition	<\$500 / AF	20	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	Yes	0	May help mitigate two sustainability indicators	15	95	1
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Valley Users via Pipeline	\$1000 to \$2000 /AF	10	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	Yes	0	May help mitigate two sustainability indicators	15	64	7
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA Feasibility Study	>\$3000 / AF	1	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	No.	0	Does not address sustainability indicators	5	57	10
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program	<\$500 / AF	20	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	No.	0	May help mitigate one sustainability indicator	10	80	4
9	Construction of Additional Dedicated Monitoring Wells	>\$3000 / AF	1	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	No.	0	Does not address sustainability indicators	5	59	8
10	Installation of Transducers in Groundwater Monitoring Wells	>\$3000 / AF	1	No Match	1	No funding identified	1	No.	0	Does not address sustainability indicators	5	59	8

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Arroyo Simi Las Posas Arundo Removal		Criteria		Notes
FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	500 to <2500 AFY	To support development of the GSP, the Nature Conservancy estimated that Arundo Donax removal from approximately 324 acres of land within the Arroyo Simi-Las Posas corridor could result in an increase in up to an additional 2,680 AFY of recharge to the ELPMA. These estimates were based on a 2015 feasibility study conducted by VCWSD.
		Points	10	
	Water Supply	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentati on	In 2015, VCWSD conducted a study to characterize water savings associated with removing Arundo Donax from the Arroyo Simi-Las Posas corridor. The study demonstrates that the net water savings associated with Arundo Removal is 2,680 AFY. However, the volume of this water savings that ultimately recharges the ELPMA is not characterized. Additional modeling is required.
		Points	5	
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Implementation Timeframe	Can be operational in 5 years or less	The project will be implemented in two phases: Phase (1) - development of an arundo work plan (2 years) Phase (2) - Arundo Removal (1 to 2 years)
		Points	20	
		Development Phase	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	The work plan for this project has not been developed. Because of this, the scope / scale of this project is considered preliminary.
		Points	1	
	Cost & Funding	Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Permit requirement s not identified or unknown	Specific permitting and CEQA requirements will be identified as part of the work plan development.
		Points	1	
		Project Complexity	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	
	Points	5		
	Timing / Feasibility	Land Acquisition	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	Access to perform field assessment tasks is required. Easements or access agreements to be secured with property owners
		Points	1	
		Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt	Not dependent on other projects to implement. However, the full benefits of this project may require implementation of other projects, like the Moorpark Desalter, that lower groundwater elevations within the Shallow Alluvial Aquifer.
		Points	5	
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Lifespan	>20 years	Project lifespan is indefinite, with annual O&M costs to ensure long-term removal.
		Points	5	
	Cost & Funding	Water Cost	<\$500 / AF	See cost estimation below.
		Points	20	
Funding Match for Construction		No Match	This project would be funded through the Basin assessment. FCGMA anticipates pursuing grant funding for this, as it becomes available.	
Points		1		
Cost & Funding	O&M Funding	No funding identified	O&M would be funded through the Basin assessment.	
	Points	1		
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	Yes	Collaboration with water rights holders may be required to develop access agreements for initial Arundo removal and O&M.	
	Points	0		
	Indicators	mitigate two	This project is expected to support groundwater quality, level, and storage management within the ELPMA.	
Points	15			

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Purchase of Imported Water from CWMD for Basin Replenishment		Criteria		Notes
FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	500 to <2500 AFY	For the GSP, it was assumed that 1,762 AFY of CMWD water would be purchased and delivered in the WLPMA to ZMWC and VCWWD-19. FCGMA assumes that this same volume would be available for this Project.
		Points	10	
	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	No additional supporting information has been developed since the GSP	
	Points	5		
	Project Implementation Timeframe	Can be operational in 5 years or less	Project would use existing delivery infrastructure. ZMWC pipeline improvements, which are underway, are required to fully utilize the water provided through this project. Implementation timeline is ultimately contingent on funding availability and negotiations between FCGMA, ZMWC, and VCWWD-19.	
	Points	20		
	Development Phase	60% or greater engineering design	This project would re-establish a program that operated within the LPV between 1998 and 2005.	
	Points	5		
	Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Permitting and CEQA/ environmental review complete	Permitting and CEQA is not required to implement this project.	
	Points	5		
	Project Complexity	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	Project uses existing infrastructure and was successfully implemented between 1995 and 2008.	
	Points	5		
	Land Acquisition	Not required or all acquisitions an/or easements complete	Project uses existing infrastructure. No additional land acquisition or easements are required.	
	Points	5		
	Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt	Project is not depened on other unbuilt projects. CMWD has indicated that there is sufficeint water supplies to implement this project at a variety of scales in most years.	
	Points	5		
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Lifespan	During development of the GSP, CMWD indicates that this Project lifespan would exceed 50 years.	
	Points	>20 years		
	Cost & Funding	Water Cost	2024 Tier 1 rate for CMWD water is \$1,730/AF.	
	Points	\$1000 to \$2000 /AF		
Points	10	No additional funding sources have been identified.		
Points	1			
Cost & Funding	Funding Match for Construction	CMWD O&M costs for delivering water is included in the Tier 1 pricing structure. Potential O&M costs for water purveyors infrastructure is not known.		
Points	No Match			
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	Coordination is required between FCGMA, CMWD, and participating water purveyors.		
Points	Yes			
Additional Benefits	Indicators	Supports groundwater elevation and storage management within the WLPMA.		
Points	mitigate two			
Points	15			

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

**Arroyo Las Posas
Storm Water Capture
and Recharge**

		Criteria		Notes		
FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	500 to <2500 AFY	VCWWD-1 estimates that this project will provide an additional 2,000 AFY of recharge to the ELPMA.		
		Points	10			
	Water Supply	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentati on	5	VCWWD-1 has undertaken significant efforts to advance this project, including conducting geophysical surveys/investigations to help design their recharge basins and performing hydrologic modeling to estimate the volume of storm flows that would be available for diversion. However, no groundwater modeling has been conducted to characterize the storage capacity of the ELPMA and volume of recharged water that remains in the ELPMA	
		Points	5			
	Water Supply	Project Implementation Timeframe	Can be operational by 2040	10	VCWWD-1 anticipates that this project could be constructed by June 30, 2027. Documentation provided by VCWWD indicates that the feasibility study will not be completed until March 30, 2025. No construction timeline was provided.	
		Points	10			
	Water Supply	Development Phase	FS in progress, project well defined	2	VCWWD-1 anticipates completing the Feasibility Study by March 30, 2025.	
		Points	2			
	Water Supply	Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Underway and approvals expected < 3 years	3	VCWWD-1 has not started the permitting process, but understands that coordination with CDFW, RWQCB, ACOE, and VCWPD will be required. VCWWD anticipates that permitting will take 1 year.	
		Points	3			
	Water Supply	Project Complexity	Moderately Complex	3	The project does not employ new or novel technologies, but construction of the project is moderately complex, and includes construction of diversion and percolation facilities (pipelines, pumping stations, and a fish ladder).	
		Points	3			
	Water Supply	Land Acquisition	Not required or all acquisitions an/or easements complete	5	VCWWD-1 indicates that no land acquisitions or easements are required.	
		Points	5			
	Water Supply	Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt	5	Las Posas during storm flow events and recharge the ELPMA with the diverted water. Overall increase in sustainable yield / volume of recharged water may be impacted by implementation of other projects (e.g., Desalter) that increases the available storage in the southern ELPMA.	
		Points	5			
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Lifespan	>20 years	5	VCWWD-1 anticipates a 25 year project lifespan.	
		Points	5			
	Cost & Funding	Water Cost	>\$3000 / AF	1	has not provided estimates of O&M costs. Because of this, total water costs associated with the Project cannot be calculated and, therefore, have been assigned a value of ">\$3,000/AF" to reflect uncertainty in overall Project costs.	
		Points	1			
Funding Match for Construction		No Match	1			No additional funding sources have been identified.
Points		1				
Cost & Funding	O&M Funding	No funding identified	1	No funding match for O&M has been identified.		
	Points	1				
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	Yes	0	Collaboration between VCWWD-1, VCWPD, and FCGMA will be required.		
	Points	0				
	Indicators	mitigate two			15	Supports groundwater elevation and storage management within the WLPMA.
	Points	15				

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Moorpark Desalter		Criteria	Notes	
FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	500 to <2500 AFY	VCWWD-1 estimates that this project will provide an additional 7,000 AFY of additional water supply to the ELPMA. Modeling conducted in 2016 indicates that operation of the desalter wells at 6,270 AFY would induce an additional 2,200 AFY of recharge to the ELPMA. Therefore, FCGMA believes that 2,200 AFY is a more appropriate estimate for the increase in sustainable yield associated with this project
		Points	10	
	Water Supply	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Initial feasibility study supporting estimate	VCWWD-1 conducted feasibility numerical groundwater flow modeling in 2016 to support an initial assessment of the proposed desalter. Additional modeling would be required to evaluate the effects of the desalter under different management scenarios to characterize project benefits and sustainable yield increase.
		Points	15	
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Implementation Timeframe	May be operational by 2040, but uncertain	No feasibility study or design has been completed for this project.
		Points	5	
		Development Phase	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	No feasibility study or design has been completed for this project.
		Points	1	
		Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	VCWWD-1 anticipates that CEQA and NEPA will be required, but the specific permits and regulatory requirements have not been identified.
		Points	1	
		Project Complexity	Moderately Complex	The project does not employ new technology. However, the project would require construction of a desalter well field, treatment system, and conveyance infrastructure.
		Points	3	
		Land Acquisition	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	Land acquisition / easements will be identified through an initial feasibility study.
		Points	1	
	Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt	Project does not depend on other projects, but could impact the efficacy of other projects that aim to maintain flows in Arroyo Simi-Las Posas by lowering the water table in southern East Las Posas.	
	Points	5		
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Lifespan	>20 years	VCWWD-1 anticipates a 25 year project lifespan.
		Points	5	
	Cost & Funding	Water Cost	>\$3000 / AF	has not provided estimates of O&M costs. Because of this, total water costs associated with the Project cannot be calculated and, therefore, have been assigned a value of ">\$3,000/AF" to reflect uncertainty in overall Project costs.
		Points	1	
Funding Match for Construction		No Match	No additional funding sources have been identified.	
Points		1		
Additional Benefits	O&M Funding	No funding identified	No funding match for O&M has been identified.	
	Points	1		
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	Yes	Collaboration between VCWWD-1 and FCGMA will be required. Additionally, it is anticipated that VCWWD-1 will need to coordinate with CMWD to dispose of desalter brine through CMWD's existing disposal infrastructure.	
	Points	0		
	Additional Benefits	Indicators	mitigate	Supports groundwater level, storage, and quality management in southern ELPMA.
Additional Benefits	Points	20		

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition		Criteria		Notes
FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	2500 to <5000 AFY	Maintenance of discharges to Arroyo Las Posas could increase the sustainable yield by more than 2,500 AFY, depending on the volume of SVWQCP discharges maintained in Arroyo Simi-Las Posas.
		Points	15	
	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Preliminary Design and / or modeling supporting estimate	Modeling conducted for the periodic GSP evaluations indicate that maintaining SVWQCP discharges may provide between 2,400 and 3,600 AFY of additional recharge to the ELPMA, compared to what was projected in FCGMA (2019). Additional modeling will need to be conducted when a final volume of discharges is agreed upon by both FCGMA, Water Rights Holders, and the City of Simi Valley.	
	Points	20		
	Project Implementation Timeframe	May be operational by 2040, but uncertain	The project does not require new infrastructure, but will require negotiation of real property (i.e. recycled water) pricing and availability. Final agreed upon terms are uncertain.	
	Points	5		
	Development Phase	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	Additional modeling is recommended to characterize recharge benefits under a range of project scenarios.	
	Points	1		
	Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	Discharges will need to comply with the City's NPDES permit and TMDL limits. Additional permitting is not anticipated for this project.	
	Points	1		
	Project Complexity	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	Project does not involve new technology or infrastructure. Project is readily implementable once agreement is developed and finalized with the City of Simi Valley.	
	Points	5		
	Land Acquisition	Not required or all acquisitions an/or easements complete	No additional land acquisition or easements are required.	
	Points	5		
	Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt and	The volume of water made available to this Project is dependent on the volume of water allocated for the Recycled Water Pipeline project. The full benefits from this project may also require implementation of the Arundo Removal project and Desalter for full benefits.	
	Points	1		
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Lifespan	>20 years	Project lifespan will depend upon final negotiations.
		Points	5	
	Cost & Funding	Water Cost	<\$500 / AF	No construction is required.
		Points	20	
Funding Match for Construction		No Match		
Points		1		
Cost & Funding	O&M Funding	No funding identified	SVWQCP O&M will be managed by the City of Simi Valley	
	Points	1		
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	Yes	Coordination and collaboration required with FCGMA and the City of Simi Valley.	
	Points	0		
	Indicators	mitigate two		
Points	15	Supports groundwater level and storage management in the ELPMA.		

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Users via Pipeline		Criteria		Notes	
		Criteria	Points	Notes	
FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	2500 to <5000 AFY	In 2017, the City of Simi indicated approx. 3,000 AFY of RW would be available for delivery to Berylwood Heights MWC and Zone MWC via pipeline as part of this project.	
		Points	15		
	Water Supply	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	5	The volume of RW available for delivery and use in lieu of groundwater is uncertain and will depend upon multiple factors, including: (i) the willingness of Zone MWC and / or Berylwood Heights MWC to use RW water with relatively high salinity, (ii) the volume of water acquired by FCGMA for discharge to Arroyo Simi Las Posas.
		Points	5		
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Implementation Timeframe	May be operational by 2040, but uncertain	5	The project requires new infrastructure and the negotiation of real property (i.e. recycled water) pricing and availability. Final agreed upon terms and infrastructure requirements are uncertain.
		Points	5		
	Timing / Feasibility	Development Phase	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	1	No feasibility has been conducted to evaluate infrastructure needs, current RW demands, and current RW availability.
		Points	1		
	Timing / Feasibility	Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	1	This project would require construction of new pump station and conveyance infrastructure. Permitting requirements to construct these facilities would be identified through an initial feasibility study.
		Points	1		
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Complexity	Moderately Complex	3	This project does not rely on new technology, but is technically complex because it will likely require multiple construction phases and depend on is contingent on negotiating RW availability and long-term demands
		Points	3		
	Timing / Feasibility	Land Acquisition	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	1	land acquisition and easement requirements will be identified through an initial feasibility study.
		Points	1		
	Timing / Feasibility	Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt and	1	The volume of RW available for delivery via pipeline will be impacted by the volume of water discharged to Arroyo Simi-Las Posas.
		Points	1		
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Lifespan	>20 years	5	Not well defined.
		Points	5		
	Cost & Funding	Water Cost	\$1000 to \$2000 /AF	10	Infrastructure costs are based on estimates developed by Kennedy Jenks (2017). Assuming that recycled water price would remain less than 500/AF.
		Points	10		
		Funding Match for Construction	No Match	1	None identified. Project is conceptual.
		Points	1		
	Cost & Funding	O&M Funding	No funding identified	1	None identified. Project is conceptual.
		Points	1		
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	Yes	0	Coordination is required between FCGMa, MWCs, and City of Simi Valley	
	Points	0			
	Additional Benefits	Indicators	mitigate two	15	Supports groundwater level and storage management in the ELPMA.
Points	15				

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA Feasibility Study				
	Criteria		Notes	
FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	<500 AFY	
		Points	5	This project is a feasibility study and will not provide a new source of water to LPV.
	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Conceptual Estimate - limited documentation		
	Points	10	Preliminary modeling conducted and presented to the FCGMA Board.	
	Project Implementation Timeframe	Can be operational in 5 years or less		
	Points	20	FS can be completed within a 1-year timeframe	
	Development Phase	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined		
	Points	1	Not applicable.	
	Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Permit requirements not identified or unknown		
	Points	1	Permits required to implement this project will be identified through the FS.	
	Project Complexity	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology		
	Points	5	Low complexity paper study.	
	Land Acquisition	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain		
	Points	1	This is a feasibility study - no land acquisition required.	
	Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt		
	Points	5	Feasibility Study can be conducted independent of other projects..	
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Lifespan	<5 years	
	Points	1		
	Cost & Funding	Water Cost	>\$3000 / AF	
	Points	1	Feasibility Study does not provide a new source of water supply to the LPV. A cost of "\$3,000/AF" was included here to reflect uncertainty in the final project pricing.	
	Funding Match for Construction	No Match		
	Points	1	No Match.	
	O&M Funding	No funding identified		
	Points	1	No funding identified.	
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	No.		
Points	0	Collaboration is not anticipated to conduct the Feasibility Study.		
Indicators	address	Information developed through this study will inform the design of a project that may help to manage groundwater levels and storage.		
Points	5			

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program	Criteria		Notes	
	FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	<500 AFY
Points			5	
Water Supply		Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	Study has not been initiated.
		Points	5	
Timing / Feasibility		Project Implementation Timeframe	Can be operational in 5 years or less	Project does not require any new infrastructure and Watermaster has authority under the Judgment to levy fees that could be used to purchase allocation.
		Points	20	
Timing / Feasibility		Development Phase	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	Project is conceptual and will be further defined through this study.
		Points	1	
Timing / Feasibility		Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Permit requirements not identified or unknown	Permits not required.
		Points	1	
Timing / Feasibility		Project Complexity	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	
		Points	5	
Timing / Feasibility		Land Acquisition	Not required or all acquisitions an/or easements complete	
		Points	5	
Timing / Feasibility		Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt	
		Points	5	
Timing / Feasibility		Project Lifespan	<5 years	
		Points	1	
Cost & Funding		Water Cost	<\$500 / AF	It is anticipated that the LCA will be based on assessment fees, however, final costs will be determined through this study.
		Points	20	
		Funding Match for Construction	No Match	
		Points	1	
Cost & Funding		O&M Funding	No funding identified	
		Points	1	
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	No.	Information developed through this study will help to define a program that supports groundwater level and storage management.	
	Points	0		
	Indicators	mitigate one		
	Points	10		

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Construction of Additional Dedicated Monitoring Wells	Criteria		Notes
	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	<500 AFY
Points		5	
Water Supply	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	Not applicable.
	Points	5	
Timing / Feasibility	Project Implementation Timeframe	Can be operational in 5 years or less	Project can be implemented within a 2-year timeframe following commitment of funds.
	Points	20	
Timing / Feasibility	Development Phase	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	Initial planning and well siting study is required to identify suitable locations.
	Points	1	
Timing / Feasibility	Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Underway and approvals expected <1 year	Approvals by VCWPD expected to take less than 1 year.
	Points	4	
Timing / Feasibility	Project Complexity	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	Low complexity - FCGMA has recently installed dedicated monitoring wells in the Oxnard Subbasin and Pleasant Valley Basin.
	Points	5	
Timing / Feasibility	Land Acquisition	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	Easements are likely required.
	Points	1	
Timing / Feasibility	Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt	Not dependent on other projects.
	Points	5	
Timing / Feasibility	Project Lifespan	>20 years	>20 year lifespan.
	Points	5	
Cost & Funding	Water Cost	>\$3000 / AF	Project does not provide new water supply and, therefore, was assigned a value of ">\$3,000/AF"
	Points	1	
	Funding Match for Construction	No Match	
	Points	1	
Cost & Funding	O&M Funding	No funding identified	None identified
	Points	1	
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	No.	None identified
	Points	0	
	Indicators	address	
Additional Benefits	Points	5	None identified

**Appendix B
Project Scoring Matrix**

Installation of Pressure Transducers	Criteria		Notes	
FCGMA Evaluation Criteria Scores	Water Supply	Total Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand	<500 AFY	Project will not increase water supplies.
		Points	5	
	Water Supply	Sustainable Yield/ Supplemental Water/ Reduced Demand Documentation	Conceptual estimate - no supporting documentation	Not applicable.
		Points	5	
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Implementation Timeframe	Can be operational in 5 years or less	Project can be implemented within a 18-month timeframe following commitment of funds.
		Points	20	
	Timing / Feasibility	Development Phase	Conceptual - no feasibility or design, project not well defined	Initial planning and coordination required to better define wellhead modification requirements.
		Points	1	
	Timing / Feasibility	Status of Approvals, Permits, and Environmental Review	Underway and approvals expected <1 year	Not applicable.
		Points	4	
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Complexity	Low complexity, uses readily available proven technology	Low complexity.
		Points	5	
	Timing / Feasibility	Land Acquisition	Required, not started and/or potential eminent domain	Access agreements likely required to modify wellheads and equip wells with pressure transducers.
		Points	1	
	Timing / Feasibility	Dependency on Other Projects	dependent on other unbuilt	Not dependent on other projects.
		Points	5	
	Timing / Feasibility	Project Lifespan	>20 years	>20 year lifespan.
		Points	5	
	Cost & Funding	Water Cost	>\$3000 / AF	Project does not provide new water supply and, therefore, was assigned a value of ">\$3,000/AF"
		Points	1	
Funding Match for Construction		No Match		
Points		1		
Cost & Funding	O&M Funding	No funding identified	None identified	
	Points	1		
Additional Benefits	Collaboration / Participation Required	No.	None identified	
	Points	0		
	Indicators	address		
Additional Benefits	Points	5	None identified	

Appendix C

Schedule for Implementing the Basin Optimization Projects

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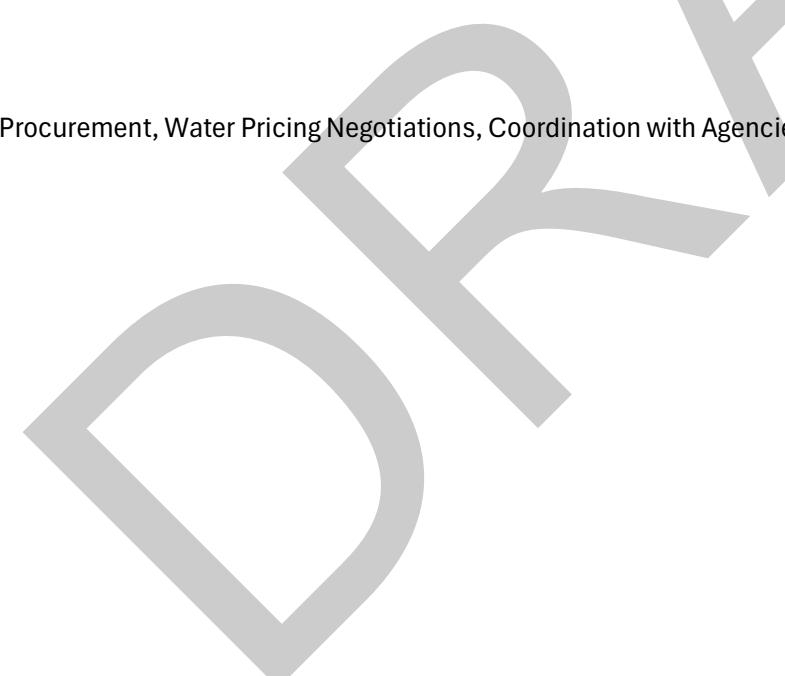
Appendix C

Schedule to Implement the Basin Optimization Projects

Project Number	Project Name	Dates				2025				2026				2027				2028				2029			
		Start	Stop	Duration		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
				Days	Months																				
	Adoption of Basin Optimization Plan (Tentative)	3/26/2025																							
Water Supply Projects																									
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal	3/26/2025	2/28/2029	1435	48																				
	Phase I: Work Plan Development	3/26/2025	2/28/2027	704	23																				
	Phase II: Arundo Removal	3/1/2027	2/28/2029	730	24																				
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition	3/26/2025	12/31/2029	1741	58																				
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD	3/26/2025	12/31/2029	1741	58																				
Feasibility Studies and Data Gap Projects																									
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program	3/26/2025	7/15/2026	476	16																				
4	Moorpark Desalter Project	3/26/2025	7/15/2026	476	16																				
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture	11/22/2024	6/30/2027	950	32																				
	Phase I: Feasibility Study	11/22/2024	6/30/2025	220	7																				
	Phase II: Project Construction	6/30/2025	6/30/2027	730	24																				
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Users via Pipeline	1/1/2027	12/31/2028	730	24																				
9	Construction of Dedicated Monitoring Wells	3/26/2026	12/31/2029	1376	46																				
	Phase I: Well Siting Evaluation and Bid Documentation	3/26/2025	9/30/2025	188	6																				
	Phase II: Well Contrustion	1/1/2026	6/30/2027	545	18																				
10	Installation of Pressure Transducers	3/26/2026	9/30/2027	553	18																				
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA	1/1/2027	12/31/2027	364	12																				

Legend

- Active Project Implementation or Construction
- Agency Activities (Easements, Consultant / Contractor Procurement, Water Pricing Negotiations, Coordination with Agencies, Water Rights Holders, or Land Owners)
- Operation and Maintenance



Appendix D

5-Year Budget for Implementing the Basin Optimization Projects

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Appendix D
5-Year Basin Optimization Projects Budget

Project Number	Project Name	2025			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Adoption of Basin Optimization Plan					
Water Supply Projects					
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal				
	<i>Phase I: Work Plan Development</i>			\$ 57,200.00	\$ 57,200.00
	<i>Phase II: Arundo Removal</i>				
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition ^a				
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD				
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ -	\$ 57,200.00	\$ 57,200.00	
Feasibility Studies and Data Gap Projects					
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program ^b				\$ 25,000.00
4	Moorpark Desalter Project				\$ 50,000.00
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture				
	<i>Phase I: Feasibility Study</i>	\$ -	\$ -		
	<i>Phase II: Project Construction</i>				\$ 500,000.00
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Users via Pipeline				
9	Construction of Dedicated Monitoring Wells				
	<i>Phase I: Well Siting Evaluation and Bid Documentation</i>	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00		
	<i>Phase II: Well Contrustion^c</i>				
10	Installation of Pressure Transducers				\$ 23,500.00
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA				
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 598,500.00	
Total		\$ 25,000.00	\$ 82,200.00	\$ 655,700.00	

Notes:

Project costs do not include Agency costs (staff, legal, etc.) or costs for easements, land acquisition, or access agreements.

^a Assumes a price of \$100/AF and an annual purchase of 4,700 AFY from the City of Simi Valley

^b Long-term costs are uncertain and will be defined through the initial study to develop the program.

^c Assumes construction of six dedicated monitoring wells

Active Project Implementation or Construction

Agency Activities (Easements, Consultant / Contractor Procurement, Water Pricing Negotiations, Coordination)

Operation and Maintenance

Appendix D
5-Year Basin Optimization Projects Budget

Project Number	Project Name	2026			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Adoption of Basin Optimization Plan					
Water Supply Projects					
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal				
	<i>Phase I: Work Plan Development</i>	\$ 57,200.00	\$ 57,200.00	\$ 57,200.00	\$ 57,200.00
	<i>Phase II: Arundo Removal</i>				
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition ^a	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ 1,039,700.00	\$ 1,039,700.00	\$ 1,039,700.00	\$ 1,039,700.00
Feasibility Studies and Data Gap Projects					
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program ^b	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	
4	Moorpark Desalter Project	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture				
	<i>Phase I: Feasibility Study</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Project Construction</i>	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Users via Pipeline				
9	Construction of Dedicated Monitoring Wells				
	<i>Phase I: Well Siting Evaluation and Bid Documentation</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Well Contrustion^c</i>	\$ 550,000.00	\$ 550,000.00	\$ 550,000.00	\$ 550,000.00
10	Installation of Pressure Transducers	\$ 23,500.00	\$ 23,500.00	\$ 23,500.00	\$ 23,500.00
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA				
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ 1,148,500.00	\$ 1,148,500.00	\$ 1,148,500.00	\$ 1,073,500.00
Total		\$ 2,188,200.00	\$ 2,188,200.00	\$ 2,188,200.00	\$ 2,113,200.00

Notes:

Project costs do not include Agency costs (staff, legal, etc.) or costs for easements, land acquisition, or access agreements.

^a Assumes a price of \$100/AF and an annual purchase of 4,700 AFY from the City

^b Long-term costs are uncertain and will be defined through the initial study to de

^c Assumes construction of six dedicated monitoring wells

	Active Project Implementation or Construction
	Agency Activities (Easements, Consultant / Contractor Procurement, Water Pri
	Operation and Maintenance

**Appendix D
5-Year Basin Optimization Projects Budget**

Project Number	Project Name	2027			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Adoption of Basin Optimization Plan					
Water Supply Projects					
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal				
	<i>Phase I: Work Plan Development</i>	\$ 57,200.00			
	<i>Phase II: Arundo Removal</i>		\$ 1,137,500.00	\$ 1,137,500.00	\$ 1,137,500.00
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition ^a	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ 1,039,700.00	\$ 2,120,000.00	\$ 2,120,000.00	\$ 2,120,000.00
Feasibility Studies and Data Gap Projects					
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program ^b				
4	Moorpark Desalter Project				
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture				
	<i>Phase I: Feasibility Study</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Project Construction</i>	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	\$ 500,000.00	
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Users via Pipeline	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
9	Construction of Dedicated Monitoring Wells				
	<i>Phase I: Well Siting Evaluation and Bid Documentation</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Well Contrustion^c</i>	\$ 550,000.00	\$ 550,000.00		
10	Installation of Pressure Transducers	\$ 23,500.00			
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ 1,148,500.00	\$ 1,125,000.00	\$ 575,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
Total		\$ 2,188,200.00	\$ 3,245,000.00	\$ 2,695,000.00	\$ 2,195,000.00

Notes:

Project costs do not include Agency costs (staff, legal, etc.) or costs for easements, land acquisition, or access agreements.

^a Assumes a price of \$100/AF and an annual purchase of 4,700 AFY from the City

^b Long-term costs are uncertain and will be defined through the initial study to de

^c Assumes construction of six dedicated monitoring wells

	Active Project Implementation or Construction
	Agency Activities (Easements, Consultant / Contractor Procurement, Water Pri
	Operation and Maintenance

Appendix D
5-Year Basin Optimization Projects Budget

Project Number	Project Name	2028			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Adoption of Basin Optimization Plan					
Water Supply Projects					
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal				
	<i>Phase I: Work Plan Development</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Arundo Removal</i>	\$ 1,137,500.00	\$ 1,137,500.00	\$ 1,137,500.00	\$ 1,137,500.00
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition ^a	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ 2,120,000.00	\$ 2,120,000.00	\$ 2,120,000.00	\$ 2,120,000.00
Feasibility Studies and Data Gap Projects					
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program ^b				
4	Moorpark Desalter Project				
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture				
	<i>Phase I: Feasibility Study</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Project Construction</i>				
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Users via Pipeline	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
9	Construction of Dedicated Monitoring Wells				
	<i>Phase I: Well Siting Evaluation and Bid Documentation</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Well Contrustion^c</i>				
10	Installation of Pressure Transducers				
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA				
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Total		\$ 2,170,000.00	\$ 2,170,000.00	\$ 2,170,000.00	\$ 2,170,000.00

Notes:

Project costs do not include Agency costs (staff, legal, etc.) or costs for easements, land acquisition, or access agreements.

^a Assumes a price of \$100/AF and an annual purchase of 4,700 AFY from the City

^b Long-term costs are uncertain and will be defined through the initial study to de

^c Assumes construction of six dedicated monitoring wells

	Active Project Implementation or Construction
	Agency Activities (Easements, Consultant / Contractor Procurement, Water Pri
	Operation and Maintenance

**Appendix D
5-Year Basin Optimization Projects Budget**

Project Number	Project Name	2029			
		Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Adoption of Basin Optimization Plan					
Water Supply Projects					
1	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal				
	<i>Phase I: Work Plan Development</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Arundo Removal</i>	\$ 1,137,500.00	\$ 670,000.00	\$ 670,000.00	\$ 670,000.00
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition ^a	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00	\$ 117,500.00
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00	\$ 865,000.00
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ 2,120,000.00	\$ 1,652,500.00	\$ 1,652,500.00	\$ 1,652,500.00
Feasibility Studies and Data Gap Projects					
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program ^b				
4	Moorpark Desalter Project				
3	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture				
	<i>Phase I: Feasibility Study</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Project Construction</i>				
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Users via Pipeline				
9	Construction of Dedicated Monitoring Wells				
	<i>Phase I: Well Siting Evaluation and Bid Documentation</i>				
	<i>Phase II: Well Construction^c</i>				
10	Installation of Pressure Transducers				
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA				
<i>Subtotal</i>		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total		\$ 2,120,000.00	\$ 1,652,500.00	\$ 1,652,500.00	\$ 1,652,500.00

Notes:

Project costs do not include Agency costs (staff, legal, etc.) or costs for easements, land acquisition, or access agreements.

^a Assumes a price of \$100/AF and an annual purchase of 4,700 AFY from the City

^b Long-term costs are uncertain and will be defined through the initial study to de

^c Assumes construction of six dedicated monitoring wells

- Active Project Implementation or Construction
- Agency Activities (Easements, Consultant / Contractor Procurement, Water Pri
- Operation and Maintenance

Appendix D
5-Year Basin Optimization Projects Budget

Project Number	Project Name	Total Project Costs	
	Adoption of Basin Optimization Plan		
Water Supply Projects			
	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Arundo Removal		
	<i>Phase I: Work Plan Development</i>	\$	400,400.00
1	<i>Phase II: Arundo Removal</i>	\$	11,110,000.00
5	Arroyo Simi-Las Posas Water Acquisition ^a	\$	1,880,000.00
2	Purchase of Imported Water from CMWD	\$	13,840,000.00
	<i>Subtotal</i>	\$	27,230,400.00
Feasibility Studies and Data Gap Projects			
8	Developing a Least Cost Acquisition Program ^b	\$	100,000.00
4	Moorpark Desalter Project	\$	200,000.00
	Arroyo Las Posas Storm Water Capture	\$	-
	<i>Phase I: Feasibility Study</i>	\$	-
3	<i>Phase II: Project Construction</i>	\$	4,000,000.00
6	Delivery of Recycled Water to Las Posas Users via Pipeline	\$	400,000.00
	Construction of Dedicated Monitoring Wells	\$	-
	<i>Phase I: Well Siting Evaluation and Bid Documentation</i>	\$	50,000.00
9	<i>Phase II: Well Construction^c</i>	\$	3,300,000.00
10	Installation of Pressure Transducers	\$	141,000.00
7	In Lieu Deliveries to Northern ELPMA	\$	100,000.00
	<i>Subtotal</i>	\$	8,191,000.00
	Total	\$	35,421,400.00

Notes:

Project costs do not include Agency costs (staff, legal, etc.) or costs for easements, land acquisition, or access agreements.

^a Assumes a price of \$100/AF and an annual purchase of 4,700 AFY from the City

^b Long-term costs are uncertain and will be defined through the initial study to de

^c Assumes construction of six dedicated monitoring wells

	Active Project Implementation or Construction
	Agency Activities (Easements, Consultant / Contractor Procurement, Water Pri
	Operation and Maintenance