



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Water Resource Management Group

• Water Resource Management September Activities

Summary

The Water Resource Management Group September 2024 Monthly Activities

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Implement Regional Conservation Program

Staff held two Water Efficient Landscaper Dual Certification Program classes for approximately 75 attendees. A Spanish class was held in partnership with Long Beach Utilities and an English class was held in partnership with San Diego County Water Authority. (*Strategic Priority 3.2.8: "Increase outdoor water use efficiency."*)

Collaborate with Member Agencies, Water Agencies, and Associations, and Provide Leadership for Policy Development, Advocacy, Outreach, and Education

Staff participated in board meetings of the Southern California Salinity Coalition (SCSC) and CalDesal. The SCSC authorized a project to develop a salinity management toolbox featuring outreach materials on the benefits of salinity management and initiated a review of its operating bylaws. CalDesal's meeting featured initial planning for the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) "Notice of Opportunity to Comment on Seawater Desalination Provisions of the California Ocean Plan" announcement. The SWRCB scheduled a public scoping meeting on the regulations for Monday, October 28, 2024, from 1:00 - 4:00 PM in Sacramento. Upcoming CalDesal events include a full Board meeting and an open mixer during the Association of California Water Agencies fall conference on Wednesday, December 4, 2024, in Palm Desert, and the annual conference which will be held on February 5 and 6, 2025, in Temecula.

On September 3, staff met with representatives from the Japanese Water Works Association to provide background on Metropolitan, as well as to discuss water supply issues within both California and Japan. (*Strategic Priority 5.1: "Grow and deepen collaboration and relationships among member agencies, interested parties, and leaders on the issues most important to them and toward mutual and/or regional benefits."*)

Position Metropolitan as a Leader in Open Water Data

Staff participated in a board meeting of the California Water Data Consortium (Consortium). The board welcomed Robyn Grimm as the Consortium's new Executive Director and discussed the strategic direction of the organization over the coming year. The board also received updates on the Consortium's projects on developing groundwater data management tools and streamlining urban water data reporting. (*Strategic Priority 3.2: "Advance the long-term reliability and resilience of the region's water sources through a One Water approach that recognizes the interconnected nature of imported and local supplies, meets both community and ecosystem needs, and adapts to a changing climate."*)

Date of Report: 10/8/2024

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Explore Opportunities to Leverage Metropolitan’s SWP and Colorado River Supplies and Storage Assets

Metropolitan Directors and staff attended a ribbon-cutting for the Pasajero Groundwater Recharge Project on August 22, 2024. The Project was completed by Westlands Water District (Westlands) and includes surface recharge basins that can capture an estimated 10,800 acre-feet per year. Metropolitan is exploring partnership opportunities with Westlands per the recently approved Memorandum of Understanding between Metropolitan, Friant Water Authority, and Westlands. Hence, Metropolitan staff are currently in discussions with Westlands on the possibility of creating a Pasajero Pilot Program. The ribbon cutting provided an opportunity for Metropolitan to see the project first-hand and ask questions. *(Strategic Priority 2.2.3: “Secure Inflation Reduction Act funding that supports Colorado River water use objectives.”)*