THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Board Report

Office of Safety, Security, and Protection (OSSP)

- **OSSP Monthly Activities Report for July 2026**

Summary

This monthly report provides a summary of OSSP activities for July 2026 in the following key areas:

- Safety, Regulatory, and Training (SRT)
  - Health and Safety Programs
  - Environmental Programs
  - Safety and Technical Training Programs
  - Apprenticeship Programs
- Security Management
- Emergency Management

Purpose

Informational

Attachments

Attachment 1: Detailed Report – OSSP Monthly Activities for July 2026

Date of Report: August 18, 2026

THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

Office of Safety Security Protection

OSSP Monthly Activities Report
July 2026

Objectives:

Improve the workplace and promote Safety, Teamwork, Accountability, Respect, and Transparency (START) values.

Strengthen safety training. Expand security and emergency management capabilities.

SAFETY, REGULATORY & TRAINING (SRT)

SRT Health and Safety Programs

The Health and Safety Team has issued a new Near Miss Recognition Safety Advisory on Dunnage to Secure Loads, highlighting lessons learned on properly securing loads.

Three Safety Talks, Grief and Loss, Stress in the Workplace, Employee Assistance Program (EAP), and Responding to a Regulatory Agency Visit have been updated to reflect recent changes to the EAP resources.

Lastly, the HSE 101 Injury and Illness Prevention Program and HSE 101.3 Hazard Assessment Procedure have been revised. HSE 101 now incorporates workplace hazards related to COVID-19, and HSE 101.3 includes additional guidance on the Job Safety Hazard Checklist.

SAFETY ADVISORY June 2026

NEAR MISS RECOGNITION

The Safety, Regulatory, and Training (SRT) Section recognizes the Construction Services Unit for identifying and addressing unsafe conditions related to the proper securing of loads with appropriate dunnage (i.e., stabilizing material). By reporting potentially hazardous conditions and near misses, we share lessons-learned and improve safety awareness throughout Metropolitan.

Event Details

Background: PVC piping for a discharge piping replacement project arrived tightly packed on a compromised pallet. To unload them, employees inserted wooden wedges along the front piping to secure the load while utilizing a backhoe to separate the tightly packed piping to allow spacing for slings to be used.

Incident location

Example of proper dunnage and transportation set-up

Safety Issue: During pipe unloading, a backhoe lifted a pipe from a flatbed using rigging wrapped around the load. As the operator applied upward force, the pipe unexpectedly shifted, dislodging a wooden wedge that was securing the front of the pipe stack. This caused the remaining wedges to fail, triggering the entire stack of pipes to roll off the trailer and into the trench where an employee had been standing moments earlier. Although no one was struck, this was a serious near-miss with high potential for severe injury.

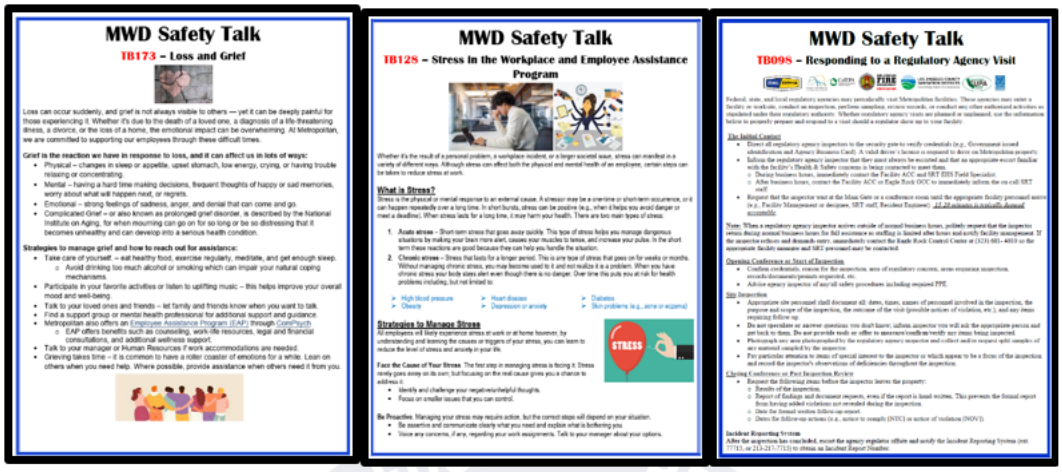
Resolution: The incident is attributed to the delivery vendor's inadequate packaging and securement of the pipe load. To prevent recurrence:

- Properly package and stabilize all cylindrical materials prior to transport and unloading.
- Correct, repackage, or restack loads that are inadequately secured upon receipt.
- Rig and remove materials in a controlled, deliberate manner to prevent unexpected shifting or rolling.
- Verify that all stabilizing components remain secure throughout the lift.

Key Take-Aways

1. **Inspect all delivered materials.** Never assume packaging is adequate. Inspect all pallets and packaging and correct deficiencies immediately.
2. **Prepare and secure materials for transportation.** Cylindrical materials must be properly spaced with appropriate dunnage to prevent shifting and rolling. Confirm packaging is adequate and in good condition before unloading.
3. **Maintain communication and stay clear.** Stay out of potential travel paths, drop zones, or roll zones during unloading activities.
4. **Plan and anticipate potential hazards.** Use the Job Safety Hazard Checklist during planning to identify any potential risks and ensure proper controls are in place.

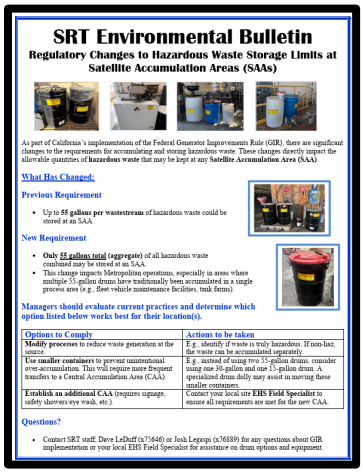
Dunnage to Secure Load Near Miss Advisory



Updated Safety Talks – Loss and Grief, EAP, Regulatory Agency Visit

SRT Environmental Programs

The Environmental Team updated the HSE 204.107, Fugitive Dust Procedure, providing guidance on best available control measures for fugitive dust and issuing a new bulletin outlining regulatory changes to hazardous waste storage limits at satellite accumulation areas. Staff also participated in the Joint Utility Vendor Audit Consortium audit of Lighting Resources, a company that recycles lamps and batteries, and collaborated with Clean Water SoCal to provide comments to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) on the Draft Plasma Arc and Laser Metal Cutting chapter.



Satellite Accumulation Areas Environmental Bulletin

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SRT Safety and Technical Training Programs

The Safety and Technical Training Team developed a comprehensive Indoor and Outdoor Heat Illness Prevention training module to strengthen employee awareness of heat-related hazards in all work environments. The training covers recognizing early warning signs, implementing preventive measures, and responding effectively to heat-related illnesses, ensuring all personnel understand their roles in preventing and managing heat stress.

Heat Illness Prevention Training Module

SRT Apprenticeship Programs

The Electrical Class of 2026 began their eighth and final period of apprenticeship instruction, focusing on reviewing previous skills in preparation for the cumulative Demonstrated Proficiency Assessment. The Electrical and Mechanical Class of 2029 completed their joint Period 1 coursework and transitioned into separate trade-specific instruction for Period 2. Meanwhile, the Mechanical Class of 2027 completed their machining midterm examinations, held at Mt. San Antonio College.

Machine Shop Class at Mt. San Antonio College

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Security Management

Personal Security Awareness Training

Metropolitan Security Specialists conducted an in-person Personal Security Awareness Training for Las Virgenes Municipal Water District Board members and staff based on their combined unique experiences as both retired law enforcement officers and current critical infrastructure protection specialists. The PowerPoint presentation included topics such as:

- Security roles and responsibilities at Metropolitan
- CA Senate Bill 553 Workplace Violence (WPV) Prevention
- Lessons Learned from historical WPV incidents
- Recommended Department of Homeland Security (DHS) response to Active Shooter events – RUN – HIDE– FIGHT
- Expectations of law enforcement response to active shooter events

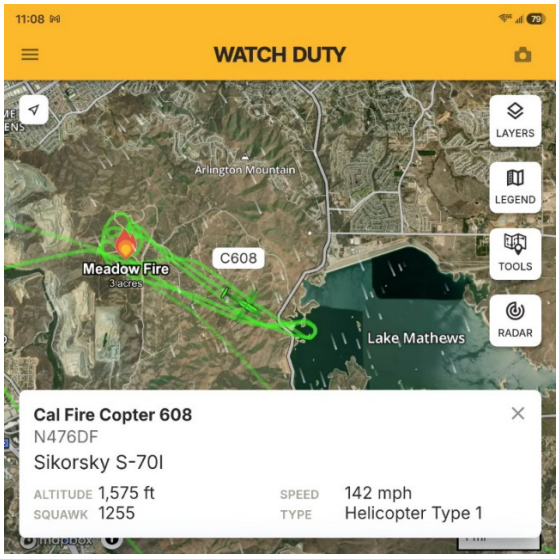
Topics covered in the Personal Security Awareness Training

Emergency Management

Multiple Wildfire Responses

Staff monitored seven wildfires during this reporting period that were near Metropolitan facilities or had the potential of impacting employee safety and/or operations. Metropolitan and Department of Water Resources sites were used during some of these fires as water sources to fight the fires. The fires, which were in Los Angeles and Riverside Counties, illustrated an expected increase in wildfire activity this year and may be a precursor to a busy 2026 fire season.

Zebra Fire Unified Command Post, near Morris Dam



Screenshot from Watch Duty app for the Meadow Fire near Lake Mathews water source

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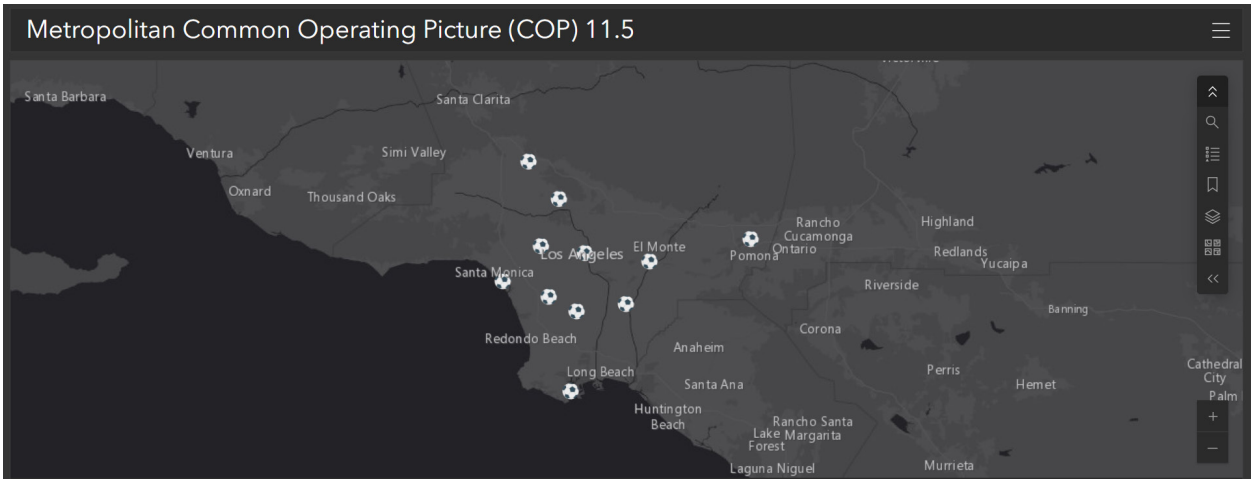
Preparations and Response to World Cup 2026 Activities

The Metropolitan Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated, at a low level, to monitor activities in Metropolitan's service area. This included a four-day virtual activation at the end of June to monitor the FIFA Fan Zone Event at Union Station, next door to the Metropolitan's Headquarters building.

The Metropolitan EOC was activated eight times during the 2026 World Cup and communicated with the Los Angeles City and County EOCs to stay updated on World Cup-related events in the County.

These EOC activations give staff the opportunity to test new EOC technology and provide hands-on practice for EOC leadership staff.

Union Station FIFA Fan Zone



Locations of World Cup 2026 Matches and Fan Zone Events in Metropolitan's Service Area

Planning

Staff completed Cal OES-required annual updates for the Live Oak and Cajalco Creek Dam Emergency Action Plans (EAPs) last month. Copies of the updated plans were distributed to all internal and external plan holders.

Preparedness and Outreach

Staff participated in multiple meetings with Union Station Emergency Management and First Responder agencies in preparation for the June 25–28 FIFA Fan Zone Event at Union Station.

Staff also met with Fire Department officials from the Los Angeles County and the US Forest Service during the Zebra Fire in Azusa on July 14. These agencies established a Command Post near Morris Dam, and a Metropolitan Agency Rep responded to confirm dam access and fire status.

FEMA Recovery

Staff dedicated a significant amount of time working with Finance staff to update year-end financial information from past FEMA recovery projects.