

# The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California

# Agenda

The mission of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California is to provide its service area with adequate and reliable supplies of high-quality water to meet present and future needs in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

## **OW&S Committee**

T. Quinn, Chair  
S. Faessel, Vice Chair  
L. Ackerman  
D. Alvarez  
J. Armstrong  
G. Cordero  
D. De Jesus  
D. Erdman  
L. Fong-Sakai  
S. Goldberg  
C. Kurtz  
R. Lefevre  
J. Lewitt  
C. Miller  
B. Pressman  
N. Sutley

## **One Water and Stewardship Committee - Final - Revised 1**

Meeting with Board of Directors \*

**July 8, 2024**

**3:30 p.m.**

## **Monday, July 8, 2024 Meeting Schedule**

**09:00 a.m. EOT  
11:30 a.m. Break  
12:00 p.m. LEG  
01:30 p.m. Legal  
03:30 p.m. OWS**

**Agendas, live streaming, meeting schedules, and other board materials are available here:**

**<https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Written public comments received by 5:00 p.m. (business days) before the meeting is scheduled will be posted under the Submitted Items and Responses tab available here:  
<https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Legislation.aspx>.**

**If you have technical difficulties with the live streaming page, a listen-only phone line is available at 1-877-853-5257; enter meeting ID: 873 4767 0235. Members of the public may present their comments to the Board on matters within their jurisdiction as listed on the agenda via in-person or teleconference.**

**To participate via teleconference 1-833-548-0276 and enter meeting ID: 876 9484 9772 or click  
[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87694849772?](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87694849772?pwd=V3dGZGRYUjJ3allqdUxXTIJRM044Zz09)  
[pwd=V3dGZGRYUjJ3allqdUxXTIJRM044Zz09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87694849772?pwd=V3dGZGRYUjJ3allqdUxXTIJRM044Zz09)**

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**MWD Headquarters Building • 700 N. Alameda Street • Los Angeles, CA 90012**

**Teleconference Locations:**

**Cedars-Sinai Imaging Medical Group • 8700 Beverly Blvd., Suite M 313 • Los Angeles, CA 90048**

**Conference Room • 1545 Victory Blvd. 2nd Floor • Glendale, CA 91201**

**Allendale Ins Agency • 337 W. Foothill Blvd. • Glendora, CA 91741**

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\* The Metropolitan Water District's meeting of this Committee is noticed as a joint committee meeting with the Board of Directors for the purpose of compliance with the Brown Act. Members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee may participate as members of the Board, whether or not a quorum of the Board is present. In order to preserve the function of the committee as advisory to the Board, members of the Board who are not assigned to this Committee will not vote on matters before this Committee.

**1. Opportunity for members of the public to address the committee on matters within the committee's jurisdiction (As required by Gov. Code Section 54954.3(a))**

**\*\* CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION \*\***

**2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS - ACTION**

- A.** Approval of the Minutes of the One Water and Stewardship Committee for June 10, 2024 (Copies have been submitted to each Director, any additions, corrections, or omissions) **21-3545**

**Attachments:** [07082024 OWS 2A \(06102024\) Minutes](#)

**3. CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS - ACTION**

- 7-3** Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$401,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Chino Basin Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. [SUBJECT REVISED 6/28/24] **21-3528**

**Attachments:** [07092024 OWS 7-3 B-L](#)  
[07082024 OWS 7-3 to 7-8 Presentation](#)

- 7-4** Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$298,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. [SUBJECT REVISED 6/28/24] **21-3529**

**Attachments:** [07092024 OWS 7-4 B-L](#)  
[07082024 OWS 7-4 Presentation](#)

- 7-5** Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the San Diego County Water Authority under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. [SUBJECT REVISED 6/28/24] **21-3530**

**Attachments:** [07092024 OWS 7-5 B-L](#)  
[07082024 OWS 7-5 Presentation](#)

- 7-6** Authorize entering into a not-to exceed \$499,802 funding agreement with the City of Long Beach under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. [SUBJECT REVISED 6/28/24] [21-3531](#)

**Attachments:** [07092024 OWS 7-6 B-L](#)  
[07082024 OWS 7-6 Presentation](#)

- 7-7** Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. [SUBJECT REVISED 6/28/24] [21-3532](#)

**Attachments:** [07092024 OWS 7-7 B-L](#)  
[07082024 OWS 7-7 Presentation](#)

- 7-8** Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the OceanWell Pilot Study; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA. [SUBJECT REVISED 6/28/24] [21-3533](#)

**Attachments:** [07092024 OWS 7-8 B-L](#)  
[07082024 OWS 7-8 Presentation](#)

**\*\* END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS \*\***

**4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS - ACTION**

- 8-2** By a two-thirds vote, authorize payments of up to \$4.18 million for participation in the State Water Contractors for fiscal year 2024/25 and up to \$4.30 million for fiscal year 2025/26; the General Manager has determined the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA [21-3527](#)

**Attachments:** [07092024 OWS 8-2 B-L](#)  
[07082024 OWS 8-2 Presentation](#)

**5. BOARD INFORMATION ITEMS**

NONE

## 6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Update on the State Water Project: Presented by John Yarbrough, California Department of Water Resources [21-3553](#)  
**Attachments:** [07082024 OWS 6a Presentation](#)
- b. Update on Delta Levee Real-Time Monitoring Innovation Project [21-3551](#)  
**Attachments:** [07082024 OWS 6b Presentation](#)
- c. Science Update: Salmon Reorienting to Recovery Project [21-3552](#)  
**Attachments:** [07082024 OWS 6c Presentation](#)
- d. Palo Verde Valley Regenerative Farming Studies Update [21-3555](#)  
**Attachments:** [07082024 OWS 6d Presentation](#)
- e. Update on Conservation Program [21-3554](#)  
**Attachments:** [07082024 OWS 6e Presentation](#)

## 7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HIGHLIGHTS

- a. Bay-Delta Resources activities [21-3546](#)  
Colorado River Resources activities  
Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation activities  
Water Resource Management activities  
**Attachments:** [07092024 OWS 7a Bay-Delta Resources Report](#)  
[07092024 OWS 7a Colorado River Resources Report](#)  
[07082024 OWS 7a Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Report](#)  
[07092024 OWS 7a Water Resource Management Report](#)

## 8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a. Report on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Meeting [21-3547](#)
- b. Report on Delta Conveyance Finance Authority Meeting [21-3548](#)
- c. Report on the Bay-Delta Ad Hoc Meeting [21-3549](#)



## **9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

- a. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Demand Management and Conservation Programs and Priorities [21-3550](#)

## **10. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

NONE

## **11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

## **12. ADJOURNMENT**

**NOTE:** This committee reviews items and makes a recommendation for final action to the full Board of Directors. Final action will be taken by the Board of Directors. Committee agendas may be obtained on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. This committee will not take any final action that is binding on the Board, even when a quorum of the Board is present.

Writings relating to open session agenda items distributed to Directors less than 72 hours prior to a regular meeting are available for public inspection at Metropolitan's Headquarters Building and on Metropolitan's Web site <https://mwdh2o.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>.

Requests for a disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to attend or participate in a meeting should be made to the Board Executive Secretary in advance of the meeting to ensure availability of the requested service or accommodation.

# **THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**

## **MINUTES**

### **ONE WATER AND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE**

**June 10, 2024**

Chair Quinn called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Members present: Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Cordero, De Jesus (teleconference posted location), Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre (AB 2449 just cause), Miller, Pressman (teleconference posted location), Quinn, and Sutley.

Members absent: None.

Other Board Members present: Directors Dennstedt, Dick, Lewitt, Luna (AB 2449 just cause), McMillan, Morris, Ortega, Ramos (teleconference posted location), and Seckel.

Director Lefevre indicated that he was participating under AB 2449 “just cause” regarding caregiving. Director Lefevre appeared by audio and on camera and stated that he was alone.

Director Luna indicated that he was participating under AB 2449 “just cause” regarding official business travel. Director Luna appeared by audio and on camera.

Committee Staff present: Crosson, Goshi, Hasencamp, Hawk, Schlotterbeck, Upadhyay, Wheeler, and Winn.

#### **1. OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON MATTERS WITHIN THE COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION**

##### Public Speakers included:

1. Connor Everts, Statewide Environmental Water Caucus, Southern California Watershed Alliance, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
2. Charlie Wilson, Southern California Water Coalition, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
3. Justin Brack, LA Water Keeper, spoke in opposition of the Delta Conveyance item.
4. Catie Wagner, Sierra Club California, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
5. Bruce Reznik, Executive Director, LA Water Keeper spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
6. Kylie Griffiths, California for Water Security, spoke in support of the Delta Conveyance item.
7. John Rosenfield, Director San Francisco Bay Keeper, spoke in opposition of the Delta Conveyance item.
8. Anna Fuentes, spoke in opposition of the Delta Conveyance item.
9. Victor Reyes, spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
10. Emily Papallardo, DCC Engineering, spoke in support of item the Delta Conveyance item.

11. Sarah, BizFed spoke in support of Delta Conveyance spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
12. George Boutros, Orange County business council spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
13. Omar Gonzalez, Los Angeles area Chamber of Commerce spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
14. Sydney, spoke in opposition of Delta Conveyance.
15. Joan Taylor, spoke in opposition of Delta Tunnel cost analysis.
16. Manny Leon, California Alliance for Jobs spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
17. Matt Cremens, California and Nevada Operating Engineers spoke in support of Delta Conveyance
18. Ocean Reserve, Delta County Coalition, spoke on item the Delta Conveyance item.
19. Jan Warren, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
20. Wesley Chong, Los Angeles Resident, spoke on the Delta Conveyance item.
21. Charming Evelyn, Spoke in opposition of the Delta Conveyance item.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS -- ACTION**

#### **2. CONSENT CALENDAR OTHER ITEMS -- ACTION**

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Subcommittee on Bay-Delta Meeting for May 13, 2024

#### **3 CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS – ACTION**

Director Goldberg made a motion, seconded by Director Miller, to approve the consent calendar consisting of item 2A.

Director Lafevre announced that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

The vote was:

Ayes:	Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Cordero, De Jesus, Erdman, Faessel, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Pressman, Quinn, and Sutley
Noes:	None.
Abstentions:	Director Fong-Sakai
Absent	None.

The motion for item 2A passed by a vote of 14 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstention, and 0 absent.

### **END OF CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS**

#### 4. OTHER BOARD ITEMS – ACTION

**8-2**      Subject:            By a two-thirds vote, authorize two payments of up to \$993,600 for support of the Colorado River Board, Six Agency Committee, and Colorado River Joint Powers Authority for fiscal year 2024/2025 and \$1,023,408 for fiscal year 2025/2026; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

Presented by:      Tom J. Ryan, Resource Specialist, Water Resource Management

Motion:            By a two-thirds vote, authorize two payments of up to \$993,600 for support of the CRB, SAC, and Authority for FY 2024/2025 and \$1,023,408 for FY 2025/2026.

Mr. Ryan’s presentation described the proposed action that would give the General Manager the authority to make the annual payments in each of the next two fiscal years that are required of Metropolitan as a funding agency for the Colorado River Board, Six Agency Committee, and Colorado River Joint Powers Authority.

After completion of the presentation, Director Sutley made a motion, seconded by Director Goldberg, to approve option 1 of the board letter.

Director Lefevre announced that no one was in the room with him 18 years of age or older.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1. Cordero
2. De Jesus

The vote was:

Ayes:            Directors Ackerman, Alvarez, Armstrong, Cordero, De Jesus, Erdman, Faessel, Fong-Sakai, Goldberg, Kurtz, Lefevre, Miller, Pressman, Quinn, and Sutley.

Noes:            None.

Abstentions:    None.

Absent:          None.

The motion for item 8-2 passed by a vote of 15 ayes, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, and 0 absent.

#### 5. COMMITTEE INFORMATION ITEMS

None

## 6. COMMITTEE ITEMS

- a. Subject: Update on Delta Conveyance Project-Costs Estimate and Benefit-Cost Analysis: presented by Karla Nemeth, Department of Water Resources Director and Special Advisor to the Governor on Water; Graham Bradner, Executive Director, Delta Conveyance Design and construction Authority; and Dr. David Sunding, Vice Chairman, Berkeley Research Group

Presented by: Karla Nemeth, Department of Water Resources Director and Special Advisor to the Governor on Water

Graham Brader, Executive Director, Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority

Dr. David Sunding, Vice Chairman, Berkeley Research Group

General Manager Hagekhalil provided background information and introductory comments.

Ms. Nemeth provided additional background information and opening remarks.

Mr. Bradner's portion of the presentation focused on the project cost estimate, while Dr. Sunding's portion focused on the benefit-cost analysis.

The following Directors provided comments or asked questions:

1

1. Goldberg

2. Sutley

3. Quinn

4. Miller

5. Erdman

6. Seckel

7. Ortega

8. Alvarez

Chair Quinn announced that there would be adjustments to the meeting agenda – noting that the remaining items after 6b would be deferred.

- b. Subject: Update on California System Conservation Projects 2024-2026

Presented by: Laura Lamdin, Engineer, Water Resource Management

Mr. Bill Hasencamp, Manager, Colorado River Resources provided brief background information and introduced Ms. Lamdin.

Ms. Lamdin gave a presentation on information on what forbearance is and why it is important in the context of system conservation agreements, and provided an update to the Board on the status of Colorado River System Conservation Agreements and related forbearance for 2024-2026.

- c. Subject: Update on Water Surplus and Drought Management

Deferred.

- d. Subject: Update on Conservation Program

Deferred.

- c. Subject: Update on Conservation

Deferred.

## **7. MANAGEMENT ANNOUNCEMENT**

- a. Subject: Bay-Delta Resources, Colorado River Resources, Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation, and Water Resource Management activities

Deferred.

## **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- a. Report on the Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority Meeting

None.

- b. Report on Delta Conveyance Finance Authority Meeting

None.

- c. Report on Bay-Delta Ad Hoc Meeting

None.

## **9. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS AND DISCUSSION**

- a. Discuss and provide direction to Subcommittee on Demand Management and Conservation Programs and Priorities

None

## **10. FOLLOW-UP ITEMS**

None

**11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

None

**12. ADJOURNMENT**

The next meeting will be held on July 8, 2024.

The meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Tracy Quinn  
Chair





- **Board of Directors**  
***One Water and Stewardship Committee***

7/9/2024 Board Meeting

7-3

## Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$401,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Chino Basin Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into one of the agreements with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program) for the Chino Basin Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility.

In December 2023, Metropolitan issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) under the FSA Program. The FSA Program funds technical studies and pilot tests targeting barriers to future production of recycled water, stormwater, seawater desalination, and groundwater resources.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. A technical review panel evaluated the proposals and developed a collective rating. Based on the panel findings and compliance with program requirements, staff recommends funding all eight proposals.

Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require board approval. This letter concerns one of these proposals.

## Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

### Staff Recommendation: Option #1

#### Option #1

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$401,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the FSA Program for the Chino Basin Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility.

**Fiscal Impact:** The funding requested for the proposed study will be expended over a two-year period and is within the approved FSA Program budget of \$3 million for Fiscal Years 24/25 and 25/26. The total expenditures for the eight proposed studies under the FSA Program is \$2.96 million.

**Business Analysis:** By providing funding for member agency studies under the FSA Program, Metropolitan will remove barriers to future water resource production and increase regional water supply reliability.

#### Option #2

Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$401,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the FSA Program for the Chino Basin Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility.

**Fiscal Impact:** No impact. Metropolitan would miss leveraging \$401,500 of FSA Program funds for the study.

**Business Analysis:** Metropolitan would potentially delay an opportunity to remove a barrier to local resource development.

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### **Alternatives Considered**

Not applicable

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### **Applicable Policy**

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

By Minute Item 48449, dated October 12, 2010, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2010 Integrated Resources Plan Update, as set forth in the letter signed by the General Manager.

By Minute Item 49381, dated April 9, 2013, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved the proposal, Foundational Actions Funding Program, and directed staff to issue a Request for Proposals.

By Minute Item 50358, dated January 12, 2016, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2015 Integrated Resources Plan Update.

By Minute Item 51168, dated April 10, 2018, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

By Minute Item 53409, dated October 10, 2023, the Board approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

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### **Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)**

Not applicable

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### **Summary of Outreach Completed**

Member Agency Manager's Meeting:

- August 2023 – Round 3 Authorization
- June 2024 – Round 3 Recommended Proposals

Webinars:

- August 2023 – Workshop for Round 3
- December 2023 – Request for Proposals – Pre-Bid

Member Agency:

- November 2023 – West Basin Caucus
- January 2024 – Foothill MWD

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### **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

#### **CEQA determination for Option #1:**

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action that a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15306.)

#### **CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required

## Details and Background

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### Background: Future Supply Actions Funding Program

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Management Plan Update (2010 IRP Update) recognized the need to prepare for an uncertain future and that additional resources beyond the region's core supplies may be required. To address this uncertainty, the 2010 IRP Update established a Foundational Actions approach for removing barriers to new supply development. Foundational Actions are low-risk, preliminary steps that the region can take to accelerate the development of new water resources should the need arise. The 2010 IRP Update identified the following four local resources for Foundational Actions:

- Recycled water (including direct and indirect potable reuse)
- Seawater desalination
- Stormwater capture
- Groundwater enhancement

In 2013, the Board approved the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to advance technical studies and pilot tests to address critical resource development barriers. Under the FAF Program, Metropolitan provided \$2.97 million in co-funding for 13-member agency-sponsored technical studies. The goals of the program were to:

- Advance the field of knowledge for future water resource production.
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Remove barriers to water resource implementation.

The 13 studies funded under the FAF Program yielded tangible regional benefits for each of the local resources. These benefits included furthering the science of seawater desalination intake technologies, developing implementation pathways for stormwater capture, validating new technologies for groundwater treatment, and completing preliminary studies for direct potable reuse. The FAF Program concluded with a symposium where results from the studies were shared with over 230 participants from across Southern California.

The 2015 Integrated Water Resources Plan Update called for the region to continue the Foundational Actions approach and revised the program's name to the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program). In 2018, the Board approved a follow-up to the original FSA Program that included two components:

1. A \$975,000 funding agreement with WRF for seven potable and non-potable reuse studies.
2. A second round of member agency funding totaling \$3.5 million for 14 studies.

The 21 studies funded under the FSA Program produced valuable regional benefits for the targeted local resources. These benefits included progressing in the fields of artificial intelligence applications in recycled water projects, stormwater diversion and percolation analysis, desalination brine diffusion, and groundwater utilization analysis. The studies within the program have concluded with MWD and WRF-hosted webinars. Webinar recordings and final reports for each study are available on the FSA Program's website: <https://www.mwdh2o.com/planning-for-tomorrow/funding-opportunities/>.

### Third Round of the FSA Program

In October 2023, the Board authorized two additional rounds of funding for the FSA Program totaling \$6 million. In December 2023, Metropolitan released an RFP for the first of the two authorized funding rounds (**Attachment 1**). Member agencies could request up to \$500,000 for one or more proposals, which they must match dollar-for-dollar with other funds. Member agencies were encouraged to partner with other member agencies as well as other stakeholders. Staff held an informational webinar and answered member agency questions.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. These proposals covered all four resource types and ranged from a data-driven planning study to pilot tests of innovative new technologies.

A technical review panel of Metropolitan staff and external experts performed independent evaluations of each proposal. Once completed, the panel convened to compare findings and collectively rate the proposals.

**Attachment 2** contains a list of the panel members and their affiliations. The proposals were evaluated against the following criteria:

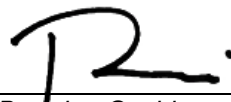
- How does the proposal increase the water supply resiliency of future production?
- Does the proposal address a catalytic/critical path to implementation for local supplies?
- Will the potential results from the study have regional applicability?
- Does the proposal have a well-defined and innovative work plan?

Based on the panel's findings, compliance with program requirements, and available funding, staff recommends funding all eight proposals. Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require board approval.

### **Funding Agreement**

The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into an agreement with Inland Empire Utilities Agency for the Chino Basin Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility Study. The agreement funds portions of the design and construction of an approximately 100 GPM Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility for the Chino Basin Program, which will guide the design and operation of a full-scale advanced water purification facility with significant water supply resilience and reliability benefits. The Demonstration Facility will test microfiltration, high-recovery reverse osmosis, and an ultraviolet light and advanced oxidation process. The demonstration study will advance research and innovation related to advanced water treatment technologies, with findings applicable to advanced water treatment projects and the industry.


Staff requests board authorization to enter into an FSA Program funding agreement for a not-to-exceed amount of \$401,500 with Inland Empire Utilities Agency for the Chino Basin Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility.



Brandon Goshi  
Interim Manager  
Water Resource Management

7/1/2024

Date



for Devan N. Upadhyay  
Interim General Manager

7/2/2024

Date

**Attachment 1 – 2023 Request for Proposals Foundational Supply Actions Funding Program**

**Attachment 2 – Review Panel Members and Affidavit**

**Attachment 3 – Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**Water Resource Management Group**

**2023 Request for Proposals for  
Future Supply Actions Funding Program**



**KEY DATES**

Request for Proposals (RFP) Issued.....December 1, 2023.  
Pre-bid webinar.....December 13, 2023 @ 02:00 P.M.  
Proposals due by.....February 5, 2024 @ 02:00 PM.

**NOTICE**

**An optional pre-bid webinar** will be held on **December 13, 2023**, from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m.  
All Member Agencies and proposal partners are encouraged to participate.

Metropolitan Contact: Jonathan Jordan  
E-mail Address: [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com)

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## **SECTION 1: INFORMATION FOR MEMBER AGENCIES**

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is designed to promote an objective process for distributing funds for technical studies or pilot tests under the Future Supply Actions (FSA) Funding Program. The FSA Funding Program goal is to enable effective future resource planning and potential development of recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater enhancement. This RFP contains information concerning the 2023 FSA Funding Program objectives, who can submit, funding, schedule, and review process. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) invites its Member Agencies to submit study proposals for the program described herein.

### **1.1 Objective**

Metropolitan has proposed a 2023 FSA Funding Program with objectives to help address regional funding needs for actions that:

- Augment water resiliency to reduce climate change driven water resource barriers.
- Advance the field of knowledge for the four resources (recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater).
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Represent a catalytic/critical path to water resource implementation.

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Plan (IRP) established a planning framework, including a core resources program, designed to ensure the region's reliability into the future. The 2010 IRP Update recognized that the future is uncertain and additional water resources may need to be developed under some conditions. To address this future uncertainty, the 2010 IRP established Foundational Actions, which are low-risk, preliminary actions that can be taken to ensure the region will be ready to implement new water supplies should the need arise.

In 2013, Metropolitan established the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to fund Member Agency studies focused on removing barriers to future local supply production. The 2015 IRP reaffirmed this forward-looking approach and updated the name to Future Supply Actions. Future Supply Actions represent one component of the overall 2015 IRP strategy. In 2018, Metropolitan released a second round of FSA funding for member agency studies. The 2020 IRP continued this progressive trend by adopting a scenario-based strategy to ensure regional reliability through 2045, referred to as the "Regional Needs Assessment." Given the successes of the 2013 and 2018 programs, the 2023 FSA reinforces Metropolitan's commitment to the 2020 IRP strategy in maintaining existing and developing new local supplies.

In 2022, Metropolitan's Board of Directors (Board) adopted a resolution calling for "Equitable reliability across the service area through a balanced combination of infrastructure, storage, demand management, and water supply programs." Metropolitan is collaborating with our Member Agencies on the regional Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W). CAMP4W will consider Member Agency projects that innovate and enhance regional water supply reliability. The FSA Funding Program has proven to be a capable vehicle for achieving the goals outlined in the resolution. To that end, Metropolitan encourages its member



agencies to propose innovative studies that benefit the region, innovate, reduce barriers, and create a climate change-resilient region.

## **1.2 Description**

The FSA Funding Program promotes technical studies and pilot tests that enable effective future resource planning and potential implementation for the following resources:

- Recycled water, including potable reuse
- Desalination
- Stormwater
- Groundwater enhancement

These actions are meant to identify and investigate opportunities to develop future water resources. Examples of studies under the FSA Funding Program may include, but are not limited to:

- Pilot and bench-scale studies
- Demonstration studies
- Tracer alternative studies
- System integration studies
- Innovative treatment processes
- New sensor technologies
- Advanced ocean intakes and outfall tests
- Brine disposal or harvesting research
- Novel approaches for AI and machine learning

Examples of Member Agency studies funded under the 2013 FAF and 2018 FSA programs are listed on the FSA Funding Program's website: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

The FSA Funding Program is designed to encourage short-term studies targeting barriers to future supply production and would not include:

- Design of full-scale projects
- Long-term studies requiring more than two years to complete
- Construction of full-scale projects
- Funding CEQA documentation for projects
- Existing studies or projects
- Acquisition of property

## **1.3 Who Can Submit?**

The RFP is open to Metropolitan Member Agencies (Member Agencies). Member Agencies may partner with other Member Agencies or other non-Member Agency entities. A single designated lead Member Agency must submit the proposal. The proposal must disclose the names of the partnering Member Agencies or other entities. Each Member Agency may be the

lead agency on a maximum of three proposals per funding round. If partnering on a proposal, the lead Member Agency submitting the proposal shall be responsible for any priority ranking of multiple proposals from that Member Agency.

#### **1.4     Funding**

Metropolitan expects to fund approximate 12 to 16 technical studies or pilot tests total during two separate rounds. This round of the FSA Funding Program will fund up to 8 technical studies or pilot tests, and up to \$3 million. The next FSA Funding Program round is expected to begin in two to three years. In total, up to \$6 million are available for the current and following funding rounds. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP will only be considered for the current funding round.

Member Agencies may submit proposal funding requests of up to \$500,000 per agency or up to \$500,000 for a single study. Each proposal requires a non-Metropolitan monetary match of at least 100 percent of the Metropolitan funded amount. Member Agencies can include in-kind services in their proposal; however, in-kind services do not count towards the required funding match. If partnering on a proposal, a breakdown of each Member Agency's funding request and the respective monetary match is required and will be used to track that agency's total funding request (see Section 2.2F). The Member Agency match funding may not be associated with other Metropolitan funding programs.

A significant FSA Funding Program principle is having the studies or tests benefit the Metropolitan's services area. Due to this core principle, studies or tests funded through this program must be publicly accessible to the extent allowed under applicable law.

### 1.5 Anticipated Schedule

Date	Milestone
12/01/2023	Release of RFP
12/13/2023	Non-mandatory pre-bid webinar at 02:00 p.m.
01/12/2024	Questions for clarification will close at 1:00 p.m.
02/05/2024	<b>RFP proposals due by 2:00 p.m.</b>
Q1 2024	Proposal awards (Contingent upon Board action)
Q1—Q2 2024	Agreements signed by recipients (Goal)
Q1 2025	Work Initiation Deadline
Q4 2026	Final Report Deadline

### 1.6 Non-mandatory Pre-Bid Webinar

- A pre-bid Webinar will be held from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m., Wednesday, **December 13, 2023**. Metropolitan will discuss the details of the FSA Funding Program RFP and answer questions. Written questions regarding this RFP may be submitted from the release of the RFP to one week following the pre-proposal webinar (see Questions for Clarification section).
- While participation is not mandatory, all interested parties and prospective applicants are encouraged to attend. Participants are invited to present relevant questions at the pre-proposal webinar.
- Directions on how to participate in the pre-proposal Webinar will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

### 1.7 Questions for Clarification

Questions for clarification regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing via e-mail to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 1:00 p.m., Friday, **January 12, 2024**. As appropriate, Metropolitan will respond to questions, provide information updates, and issue RFP addendums through the following link: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa). The responsibility solely lies with each interested party and prospective applicant to check and review the FSA Funding Program website for all updates.

### 1.8 General Proposal Information

1. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review this RFP in its entirety before the proposal preparation.
2. All proposals submitted become the property of Metropolitan. Metropolitan has no expressed or implied obligation to reimburse the responding party for any expenses incurred in preparing proposals in response to this request.
3. Applicants may modify or amend proposals only if Metropolitan receives the amendment before the deadline stated herein for receiving proposals.

4. A proposal that is conditional, incomplete, contains alterations of form, additions not called for, or other irregularities that may constitute a material change to the proposal may be considered non-responsive.
5. Additional copies of the RFP will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).
6. Submission of a proposal indicates acceptance by the party of the conditions contained in this request for proposals, unless clearly and specifically noted in the proposal submitted and confirmed in the contract between Metropolitan and the recipient(s).

#### **1.9 Rights Reserved to Metropolitan**

Metropolitan reserves the right to:

1. Reject any and all proposals, revise terms and conditions, or elect not to award full program funding.
2. Select the proposal(s) most advantageous to Metropolitan.
3. Verify all information submitted in the proposal.
4. Cancel this solicitation at any time without prior notice and furthermore, makes no representations that any contract will be awarded to any applicant responding to this RFP.
5. Negotiate the final contract with any applicant(s) as necessary to serve the best interests of Metropolitan.
6. Amend the RFP.
7. Amend the final contract to incorporate necessary attachments and exhibits or to reflect negotiations between Metropolitan and the successful recipient(s).

#### **1.10 Validity**

Proposals must be valid for a period of at least 12 months from the closing date and time of this RFP. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP only qualify for the current funding round. Once submitted, the proposal is the property of Metropolitan and may not be physically withdrawn after the submission date. However, the applicant may request for the submitted proposal not to be considered for funding prior to the funding award.

#### **1.11 Confidentiality**

1. Metropolitan is subject to the Public Records Act, California Government Code Section (Gov. Code) 7920.000 et. seq. All required submittal information is subject to disclosure to the general public. Unless specifically required by the solicitation, the applicant should not submit personal data such as driver's license information, social security numbers, etc. to avoid the possibility of inadvertent disclosure of this personal information. Please note that Metropolitan cannot consider proposals marked confidential in their entirety.

2. The applicant may provide supplemental information exempt from public disclosure under Gov. Code Section 7929.42 including “trade secrets” under Evidence Code Section 1060. Such supplemental information **shall not be material** to the required submittal information and Metropolitan shall be under no obligation to consider such supplemental information in its evaluation.
3. If submitting confidential or supplemental information, such information should be sectioned separately from the rest of the submittal and clearly marked "Confidential." Upon completion of its evaluation, Metropolitan will destroy any confidential information submitted, or return such information to the applicant if so requested.

#### **1.12 Evaluation and Selection Process**

1. Proposals will be evaluated by an independent review panel comprised of Metropolitan and non-Metropolitan professionals familiar with water resources in Southern California. The review panel will ensure compliance with the FSA Funding Program objectives and eligibility and will evaluate each proposal based on selection criteria as described further in this document. Metropolitan staff will review the panel suggestions and develop a list of recommended proposals and funding levels for Board approval.
2. During the evaluation process, Metropolitan may request clarification from the applicant as necessary. Applicant(s) should not misconstrue a clarification request as negotiations.
3. If similar proposals, or proposals that would provide similar results are submitted, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding. Also, if multiple proposals are submitted that are, or could be, collectively part of an overall study or pilot test, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding.
4. If applicable, Member Agencies with study work plans contingent on regulatory permitting must provide a list of required permits, expected award date, and the anticipated study timeline impacts if the permitting process is delayed. The ability to complete studies in the FSA Funding Program round timeframe is a scoring consideration. Metropolitan may request additional information on the permitting schedule.

#### **1.13 Agreement Process**

1. After proposals are selected for funding, Metropolitan will enter into agreements upon successful contract negotiations. Funding may be withdrawn if the recipient does not sign agreements within three months of final contract negotiations.
2. Metropolitan may negotiate proposal scope and funding changes if deemed beneficial.
3. Recipients must submit deliverables by task, including reports, invoices, interim study or test documents, and a final report documenting study or test results, other findings, and recommendations for future action. Recipients must provide any generated presentations or preliminary reports to Metropolitan during the life of the agreement.
4. The final report and symposium presentation will be worth 25 percent of the total funding and can be invoiced after the delivery of the final report and presentation.

Metropolitan will withhold the final funding until the final report and presentation are accepted by Metropolitan staff.

5. Performance provisions may be incorporated into the program agreements. These provisions would allow Metropolitan to adjust or withdraw financial commitments to the proposal based on performance.
6. The FSA invoice intervals will be flexibly negotiated on a case-by-case basis during the agreement process; options available to agencies in this FSA round include quarterly, semi-annual, or based on deliverables. Funds will be disbursed after verification of study status based on submitted progress reports, invoices, and appropriate documentation. The non-Metropolitan funding match must equal or exceed the Metropolitan funded amount per submitted progress payment.
7. Funding recipients are expected to provide an initial forecast of spending to Metropolitan after the study or test initiation. The recipient will need to provide a forecast as a part of the submitted progress reports.
8. Final reports must be completed and submitted by **December 28, 2026**, unless extended by Metropolitan. Final payment will be made within 60 days of acceptance of the final report and presentation.
9. Member Agencies and study/pilot test participants will also be encouraged to participate in the FSA symposium. The symposium will highlight the study results and allow participants to present the final presentation to other member agencies and regional stakeholders.
10. Attachment A is Metropolitan's Sample Agreement. Applicant is requested to carefully review and comment as necessary on any of the provisions set forth in the Sample Agreement. Metropolitan reserves the right to modify, add or delete any of the provisions of the Agreement before issuance.

#### **1.14 Negotiations**

Negotiations regarding agreement terms, conditions, work plan, schedule, and funding may or may not be conducted with the applicant. If Metropolitan engages the applicant in negotiations and satisfactory agreement provisions cannot be reached, then negotiations may be terminated.

#### **1.15 Selection Criteria**

The review panel will use the criteria provided below to evaluate and rank the proposals. In addition, the review panel will identify and weigh each proposal's significant strengths, weaknesses, and miscellaneous issues.

Recommendations will reflect the collective findings of the review panel. To be qualified for funding, proposals must satisfy each criterion category and subcategory listed as follows and in Section 2.2 of this document.

**Criteria and Weight:**

1. Reduces Barriers to Future Production: 30 percent
2. Regional Benefit/Applicability: 20 percent
3. Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology: 20 percent
4. Work Plan/Schedule: 15 percent
5. Costs: 15 percent

The selection criteria are described further in Section 2.2 of this document.

In addition to the selection criteria above, Metropolitan will award a bonus to studies that objectively demonstrate regional benefit across the Metropolitan service area. To incentivize Member Agency cooperation on regional studies, Metropolitan will grant a 5% bonus to the proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies. Partner Agencies must have at least \$10,000 vested in the study or test to qualify as a participating agency.



## SECTION 2: PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

The following format and content requirements shall be adhered to for proposals to be considered responsive. Applicants should use the numbering and lettering system outlined in these guidelines. Concise informative proposals within the page limitations are encouraged.

### 2.1 Proposal Submittal and PDF Format Guidelines

- Proposals will only be accepted in PDF format.
- The proposal must be formatted for white 8 1/2" x 11" size paper with black text in a 12-point font, and table/graphics with text no smaller than a 10-point font.
- Proposals shall be no more than 20 pages, including attachments.
- Materials presented in the Appendix will not be used in the proposal evaluation and should exclusively contain reference or supplementary content
- Proposals shall be clear, accurate, and comprehensive. Excessive or irrelevant materials will not be favorably received.
- The PDF should include the entire proposal (executive summary, support letters, attachments, etc.) in one file.
- Support letters: Proposals can include no more than five support letters of no longer than one page. Support letters will not count against the page limitations and will be considered to support regional benefit. Support letters should be addressed to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by the proposal submittal deadline. Support letters received after the proposal submittal deadline will not be considered.
- **Proposals that do not conform to these formatting requirements and the following content requirements may be deemed non-responsive and rejected.**

### 2.2 Content Requirements

Proposals shall be organized and lettered in the order presented below:

- A. Executive Summary Letter
- B. Entities Participating in Proposal
- C. Key Individuals
- D. Proposal Description
- E. Criteria One – Reduces Barriers to Future Production
- F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability
- G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology
- H. Criteria Five – Work Plan / Schedule / Permitting
- I. Criteria Four – Costs
- J. Appendix A: Support Letters

**A. Executive Summary Letter**

This letter shall be a formal signed letter from the applicant Member Agency (and any partnering Member Agency(s)). The letter shall provide a brief description of the proposal and information regarding the organization and its ability to meet the objectives and requirements of this RFP.

The letter should be signed by an individual(s) authorized to bind the proposing Member Agency and shall identify all materials and enclosures being forwarded in response to this RFP. An unsigned Executive Summary Letter may be grounds for rejection. The letter must include the following language:

**“I am informed and believe that the information contained in this proposal is true and that the supporting data is accurate and complete.”**

Please include the following information in your letter:

<b>Name of Proposal</b>	
Water Resource Category (Recycled Water, Seawater Desalination, Stormwater, Groundwater)	
Member Agency Name(s) (As it appears on W-9 Tax form)	
Federal ID #	
Address	
City, State & Zip	
Main Telephone	
Contact Name	
Contact Telephone	
Contact E-mail Address	
Website Address (if applicable)	

**B. Entities Participating in Proposal**

- List other entities participating in proposal.
- Provide support letters from study participants (not considered as part of the 20-page limit for proposals) in Section I.

**C. Key Individuals**

- Proposal participants / cooperating agencies

- Identify key individuals including program manager and management team
  - Name, title
  - Title
  - Phone Number
  - Mailing address
  - Fax Number
  - E-mail Address
  - Relevant experience

**D. Proposal Description**

Provide a concise summary that includes an overall description of the proposal and conveys a clear understanding of the proposal's goals and objectives.

**E. Criteria One – Increases Water Supply Resiliency**

In this section, the applicant shall describe the following in narrative form all of which is applicable:

- Describe how the proposed actions increase future local supply potential.
- Describe how the proposed actions are critical to resource resiliency and planning for climate change-driven uncertainty.
- Describe how the proposed actions **removes barriers** to supply development including, but not limited to, technical, regulatory, permitting, and institutional barriers.
- Describe how the proposed actions increase regional climate resiliency or safeguards current local supplies.

**F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how the results of this proposal would apply to Metropolitan's member agencies, retail agencies, and regional stakeholders. The proposal should describe how the study results are transferable to other regional member agencies and stakeholders.
- If applicable, describe other co-benefits, such as water quality, energy, wastewater, infrastructure, environmental, etc.
- Metropolitan will award a 5% bonus to proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies.

**G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how these actions are unique and innovative. Describe the current state of technology. Identify similar completed or ongoing studies and how the proposed actions differ (include a literature search summary).

- Describe how these actions will advance the field of knowledge to develop future water resources. Include how the results of the proposed actions could be used in future research.
- Describe how the study or test results enable future actions that address regional barriers when compared to the status quo. Identify and describe the follow-up actions necessary for wide-scale implementation, such as submission of results to the State or Federal regulators required for regulatory acknowledgment or adoption. Include any future studies or steps to leverage results from the study or test.

#### **H. Criteria Four – Work Plan / Schedule**

Provide a detailed work plan describing each proposed task and deliverable, and how proposal success will be measured. Every task must have a specific deliverable and due date. Meeting dates and study milestones should be identified. Deliverables may include but are not limited to technical memoranda, summary reports, progress reports, draft technical reports, final technical reports, presentations, and related information. If partnering on a proposal with other entities, describe the role/involvement of each partner and their relationship to the proposal. Describe factors that may affect the feasibility of implementing the proposal. Also, describe the technical expertise of the proposal team.

Cite the proposed schedule, including the start date (no later than **January 01, 2025**), tasks, deliverables, reports, completion date (no later than **December 28, 2026**), and other key milestone dates. The schedule should be linked to the tasks and task deliverables. Identify components and tasks that could be broken out to allow funding to be provided for a particular activity or combination of activities. The description must clearly describe how funds would be used.

The following includes additional information and instructions for evaluation:

- Work plan and schedule must provide detail and completeness to measure the proposed implemented actions for success. Identify potential challenges, issues, and prerequisites related to proposal implementation and describe how they will be addressed.
- Describe how the proposed objectives can be achieved in the stated time period with the allotted personnel and budget.
- The proposal should include a table of required permits describing each permit, expected award date, and impact to the study workplan if delayed.

#### **I. Criteria Five – Costs**

Proposal must provide a cost breakdown of the work plan consistent with the schedule. This should be itemized in tabular form (see following tables). Each work plan task should include a breakdown of the applicant's monetary funding match, source of the funding match (e.g., name of the Member Agency, outside grant agency, etc.), and requested Metropolitan funds. Do not include in-kind services in the funding match. If partnering with other Member Agencies, provide separate cost tables and a proposal total cost table for each Member Agency. The

grand total non-Metropolitan funding match for each cost table must equal or exceed the requested Metropolitan funded amount. Also, provide a list summarizing all sources of the funding match, their respective monetary contribution, and the status of the funding match (e.g., funding budgeted and approved by the Member Agency's Board of Directors, grant received, applying for a grant, etc.). Include supporting information for the budget (such as labor categories, hourly rates, labor time estimates, materials and supplies, and subcontractor/consultant quotes) and the matching funds.

Cost Table Example – Study Total				
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)	Requested MWD Funding	Total
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines			
(b)	Proposed Task			
(c)	...			
Grand Total				

Cost Table Example – Lead Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

Cost Table Example – Partner Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

The following includes additional information and instruction for evaluation:

- Describe the cost-effectiveness of the proposed work plan budget.
- Describe the readiness to proceed with the matching funds, and how the matching funds will be committed by the Member Agency before the Member Agency signs the FSA Funding Program agreement.

### **2.3 Submittal Instructions**

Proposals for this RFP will be accepted in PDF format via e-mail.

#### **By e-mail:**

- **Proposal must be submitted electronically as an attachment to an e-mail at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 02:00 p.m. PST, on February 05, 2024**
- The e-mail date and time will act as a timestamp for the submittal. Notice of receipt will be sent upon successful receipt of the proposal.
- The PDF file size is limited to no more 20 MB.
- The e-mail subject line should contain the following: "Proposal for Future Supply Actions Funding Program".
- The e-mail's body should include the proposal's title, lead Member Agency name, the applicable resource (groundwater, recycling, seawater desalination or stormwater), and contact information.
- If submitting multiple proposals, please submit each proposal individually in a separate e-mail.
- Member Agencies are encouraged to submit proposals before the closing time and date.

Proposals received after the stated time and date will be considered late and automatically rejected by Metropolitan. Member agencies are **responsible for submitting the proposal correctly in form and content and within the stipulated deadline**. Late proposals will be deemed non-responsive and not considered during the evaluation process.

**Proposals will be received until 02:00 p.m., February 05, 2024.**

## **2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program**

### **Review Panel Members and Panel Affidavit**

**Heather Collins**

Assistant Group Manager, Treatment & Water Quality Group, Metropolitan Water District  
President-Elect, American Water Works Association

**Dr. Adrian Hightower**

Sustainability and Resilience Manager, Metropolitan Water District

**Dr. Malynda Cappelle**

Facility Manager, Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility, Bureau of Reclamation

**Dr. Roy Wolfe**

Wolfe Water Consulting, LLC.

**Dr. Robert Wilkinson**

Adjunct Professor, Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California,  
Santa Barbara



DocuSign Envelope ID: 55107BE7-2B6D-4340-8FC9-B3A7E84057CD

## Affidavit

### Affidavit for Review Panelists

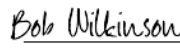
The undersigned members of the Review Panel for the Future Supply Actions Funding Program 2023 RFP objectively reviewed the proposals to ensure compliance with the FSA Program objectives and eligibility requirements and confirm the panel's collective findings.

DocuSigned by:



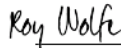
Marynda Cappelle, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



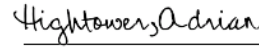
Robert Wilkinson, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



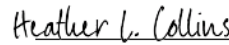
Roy Wolfe, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



Adrian Hightower, PhD  
Special Projects Manager

DocuSigned by:



Heather Collins, PE  
Assistant Group Manager

**2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program RFP**  
**Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
<b>Groundwater</b>			
Pilot Study of New Electrolytic Method for In-situ Generation of Ferric Arsenic Treatment	Western MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This pilot study will generate ferric chemicals onsite and offers the potential to lower treated water arsenic concentrations using the coagulation-filtration method.</li> <li>This technology offers potential operations and maintenance cost savings and avoids manganese addition that typically occurs for liquid ferric chemicals.</li> </ul>	\$207,500
PFAS and Groundwater Wells	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study seeks to demonstrate to the water supply industry that improved well construction and development processes can reduce or eliminate certain PFAS contamination in groundwater wells.</li> <li>Three Valleys MWD, Western MWD, and Jurupa Community Services District are also participating in the study.</li> </ul>	\$298,500
Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study	Long Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study will evaluate the impacts of using recycled water to augment groundwater resources in the Central and West Coast Basins.</li> <li>The outcomes of the Project will ultimately increase Long Beach's water supply reliability by reducing its reliance on imported water supplies and integrating new water resources into its supply portfolio.</li> </ul>	\$499,802
<b>Stormwater</b>			
Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study	SDCWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Pilot Study is intended to inform the Vista Irrigation District and the City of Escondido regarding the effectiveness of oxygenation in limiting harmful algal bloom formation and cyanotoxin production.</li> <li>Oxygenation systems have not been tested in a broad, shallow lake such as Lake Henshaw and have not been systematically quantified in lakes in general.</li> </ul>	\$500,000

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
Data-Driven Resource Optimization and Planning System (DROPS)	Foothill MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DROPS is a pioneering tool that integrates advanced data analytics with artificial intelligence to enhance water management capabilities.</li> <li>DROPS achieves previously unattained levels of accuracy in terms of identifying impervious areas by triangulating aerial imagery, topographical data, remote-sensing data, and environmental databases and supplementing those datasets with analysis and insights from AI integration.</li> </ul>	\$54,900

Recycled Water			
Chino Basin Advance Water Purification Demonstration Facility	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstration study for the design and construction of an approximately 100 gpm Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility for the Chino Basin Program.</li> <li>The demonstration study will advance innovative technologies and approaches related to advanced water treatment technologies, with findings applicable to advanced water treatment projects and the industry.</li> </ul>	\$401,500
Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot	LADWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The objective of the pilot is to demonstrate compliance with the recently approved DPR regulations and test advanced treatment technologies.</li> <li>The pilot will explore the feasibility of post-RO treatment strategies for chemical control.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
Seawater Desalination			
OceanWell: A Climate-Resilient, Eco-Friendly, Submerged Reverse Osmosis System	Las Virgenes MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot study of the OceanWell submerged reverse osmosis system in the Las Virgenes Reservoir.</li> <li>The study will serve as a stress test that will bring the technology from a TRL 4 to TRL 6.</li> <li>Calleguas MWD and Eastern MWD are contributing to this study.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 Studies</b>		<b>\$2,962,202</b>



One Water and Stewardship Committee

# Authorization for Future Supply Action Funding Program Agreements

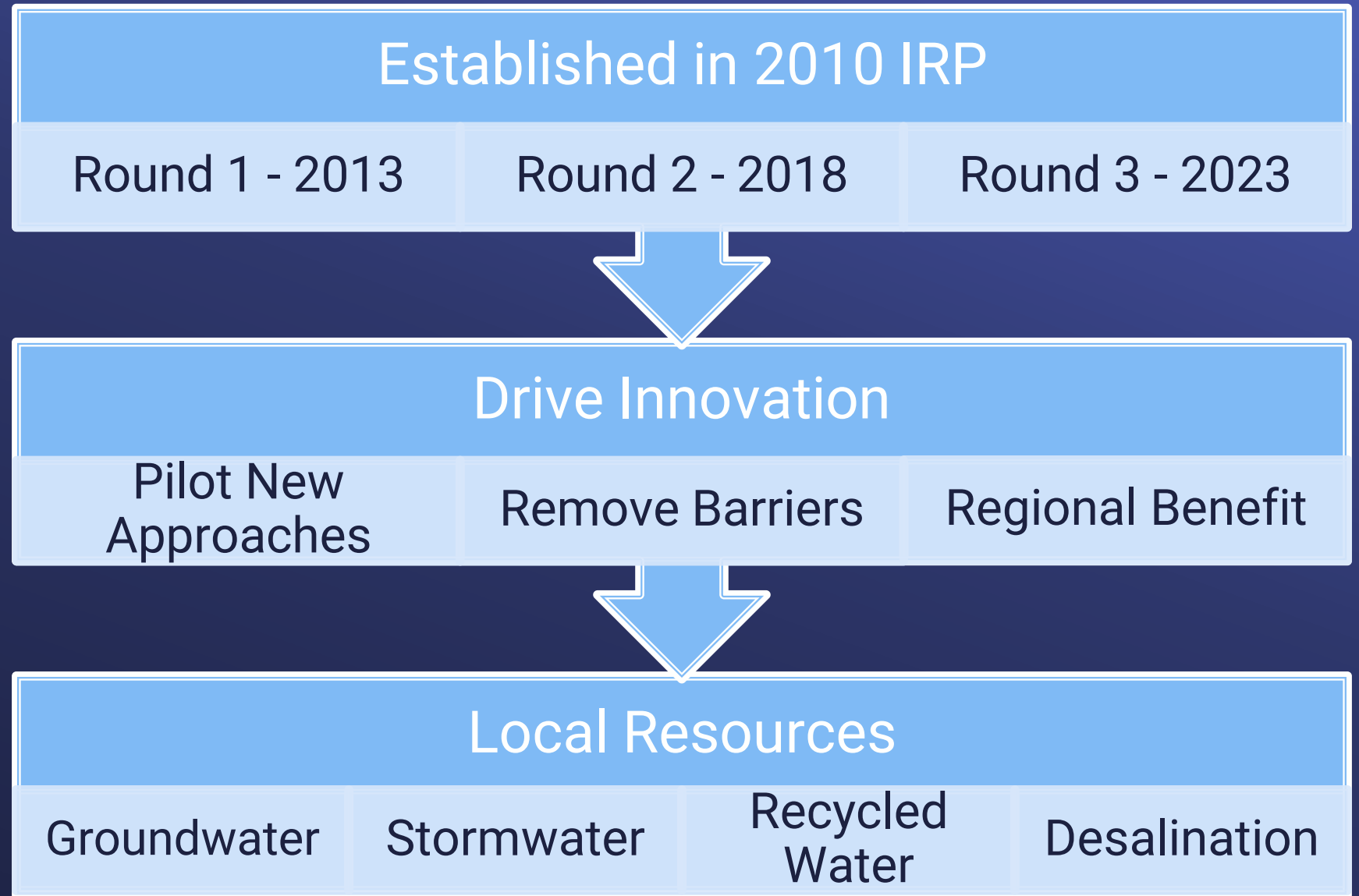
Items 7-3, 7-4, 7-5, 7-6, 7-7, 7-8  
July 8, 2024

# Overview

- Background
- Round 3
- Proposals Received
- Next Steps



# Background



# FSA Round 3 Core Program Elements



Up to 8 Studies



Up to \$3 Million



Up to \$500k per member agency or per study



100% dollar-for-dollar match



2-year studies



Selected through RFP



Studies must meet minimum criteria



Selected by expert panel



# FSA Round 3 Timeline

October 2023 – Board authorized rounds 3 and 4

December 2023 – RFP released / pre-bid webinar

February 2024 – RFP closed

April 2024 – Expert review completed

June 2024 – Member Agency Managers Meeting

July 2024 – OWS Committee



# Proposals Received



10 Agencies

Resources Represented	Proposals	Funding
Groundwater	3	\$1,005,802
Stormwater	2	\$554,900
Recycled Water	2	\$901,500
Seawater Desalination	1	\$500,000
Total	8	\$2,962,202

# Scoring Criteria and Reviewers



Reviewers composed of 2 internal and 3 external subject matter experts



Proposals were ranked based on evaluation criteria

Ranking Criteria	Percentage
Reduces Barriers to Future Production	30%
Regional Benefit/Applicability	20%
Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology	20%
Work Plan/Schedule	15%
Costs	15%

# Eight Recommended Proposals – Process for Agreements

## Proposals under \$250K - GM Authority

**WMWD** – Pilot Study of New Electrolytic Method for In-situ Generation of Ferric Arsenic Treatment

**FMWD** – Data-Driven Resource Optimization and Planning System (DROPS)

## Proposals over \$250K – Board Approval Needed

**LVMWD** – OceanWell - Offshore Desalination Buoy Pilot

**IEUA** – Chino Basin Advance Water Purification Demonstration Facility

**LBU** – GW Augmentation, Collection System, and New Wells Site Study

**IEUA** – PFAS and Groundwater Wells

**SDCWA** – Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study

**LADWP** – Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot

# Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study

## Item 7-3



Inland Empire Utilities Agency (Lead),  
TVMWD, WMWD, and Jurupa Community  
Services District



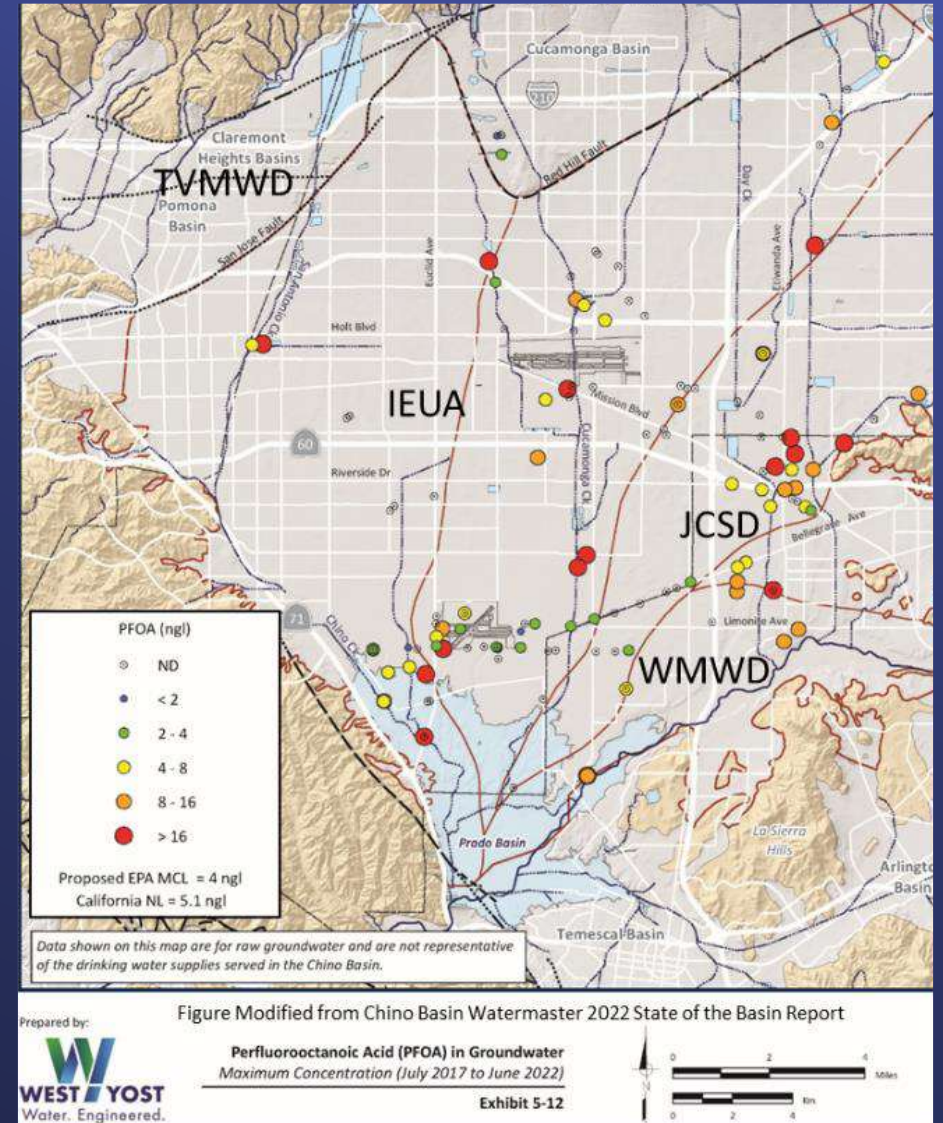
Requested: \$298,500  
Total Funding: \$597,000



Groundwater



The study seeks to demonstrate to the  
water supply industry that improved well  
construction and development processes  
can reduce or eliminate certain PFAS  
contamination in groundwater wells.



# Chino Basin Advance Water Purification Demonstration Facility

## Item 7-4



Inland Empire Utilities Agency



Requested: \$401,500

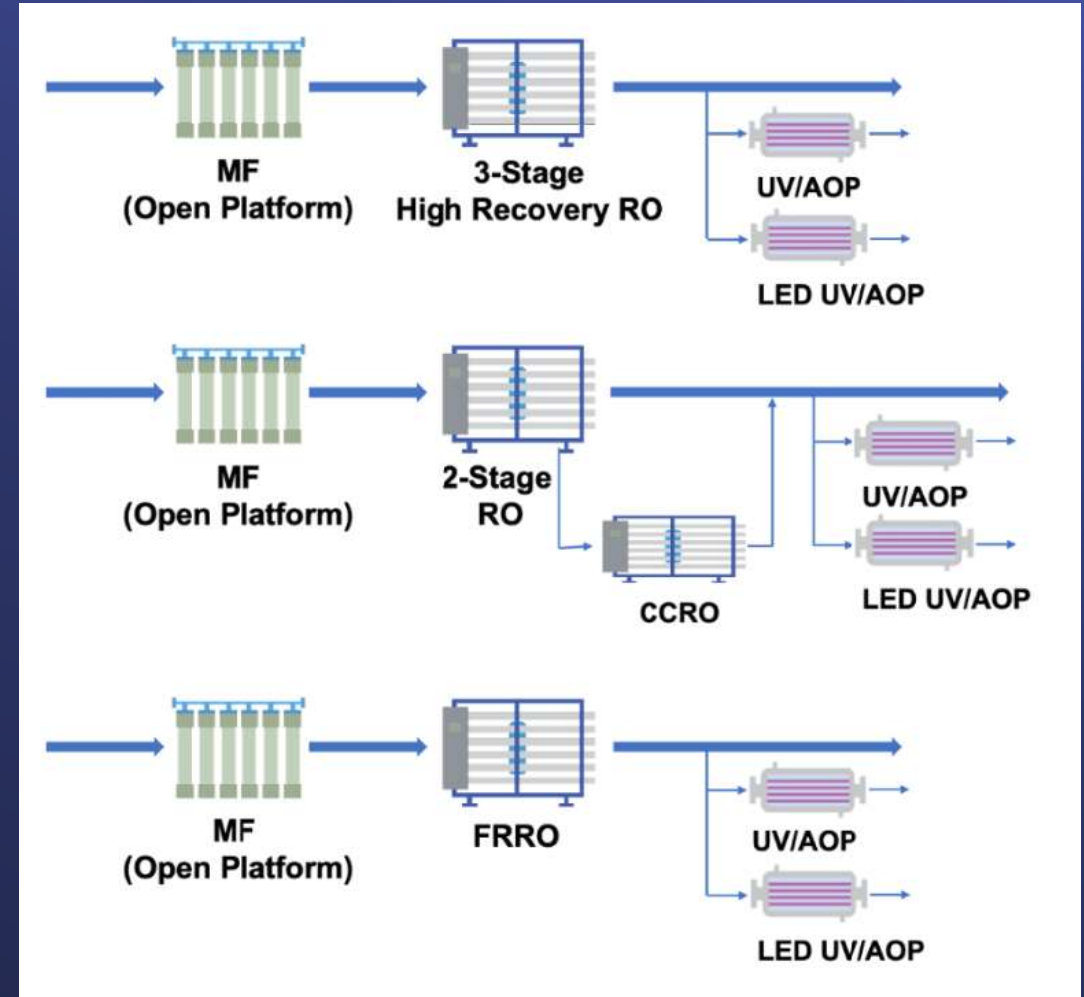
Total Funding: \$5,348,500



Recycled Water



The demonstration study will advance research and innovation related to advanced water treatment technologies.





# Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study

## Item 7-5



San Diego County Water Authority (Lead),  
Vista Irrigation District, and City of  
Escondido



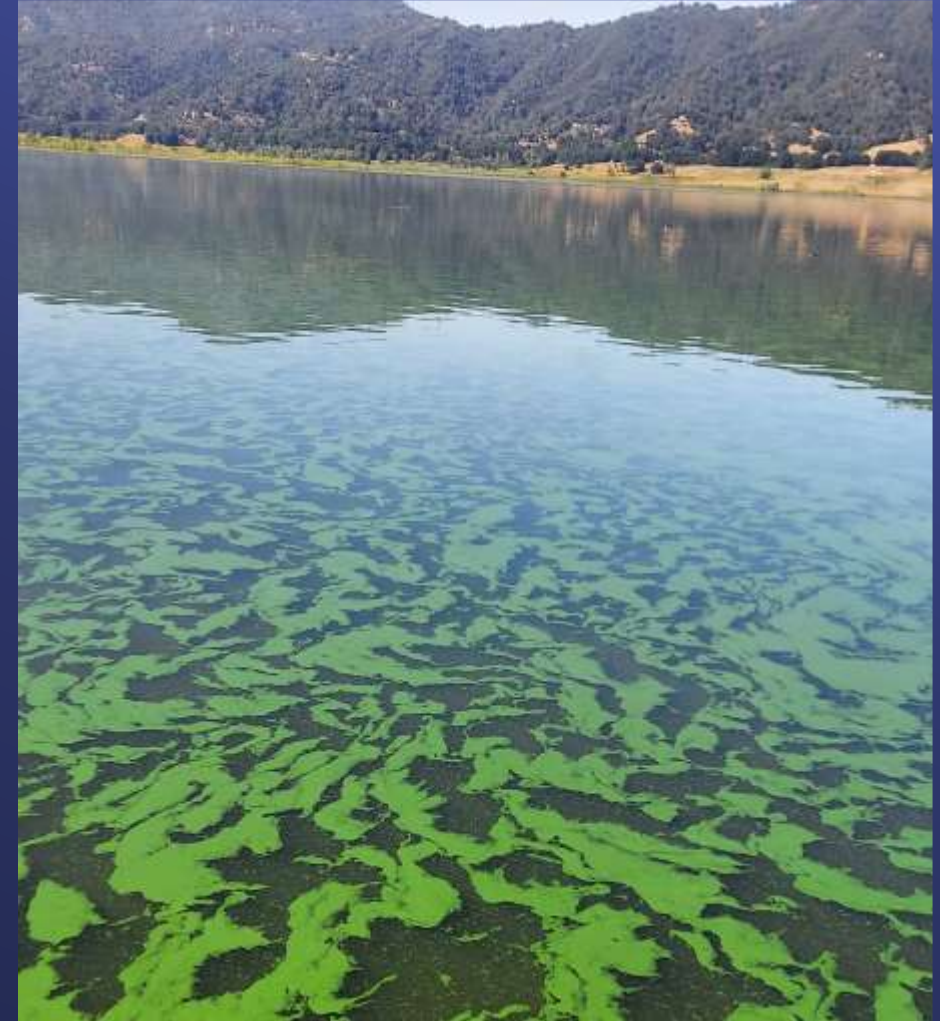
Requested: \$500,000  
Total Funding: \$2,747,307



Stormwater



The Pilot Study is intended to inform the  
Vista Irrigation District and the City of  
Escondido regarding the effectiveness of  
oxygenation in limiting harmful algal bloom  
formation and cyanotoxin production.



# GW Augmentation, Collection System, and New Wells Site Study

## Item 7-6



Long Beach Utilities (Lead) and Water Replenishment District



Requested: \$499,902  
Total Funding: \$ 2,038,580



Groundwater



The objective of the study is to evaluate the impacts of using recycled water to augment groundwater resources in the Central and West Coast Basins.

Metropolitan Water District of Southern California  
2023 Future Supply Actions  
Funding Program Application

Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater  
Collection System and New Wells Site Study



1800 E. Wardlow Road  
Long Beach, CA 90807

*Applicant Information:*

Christopher J. Garner  
General Manager  
Long Beach Utilities Department

Submittal Date: February 5, 2023

# Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot

## Item 7-7



Los Angeles DWP



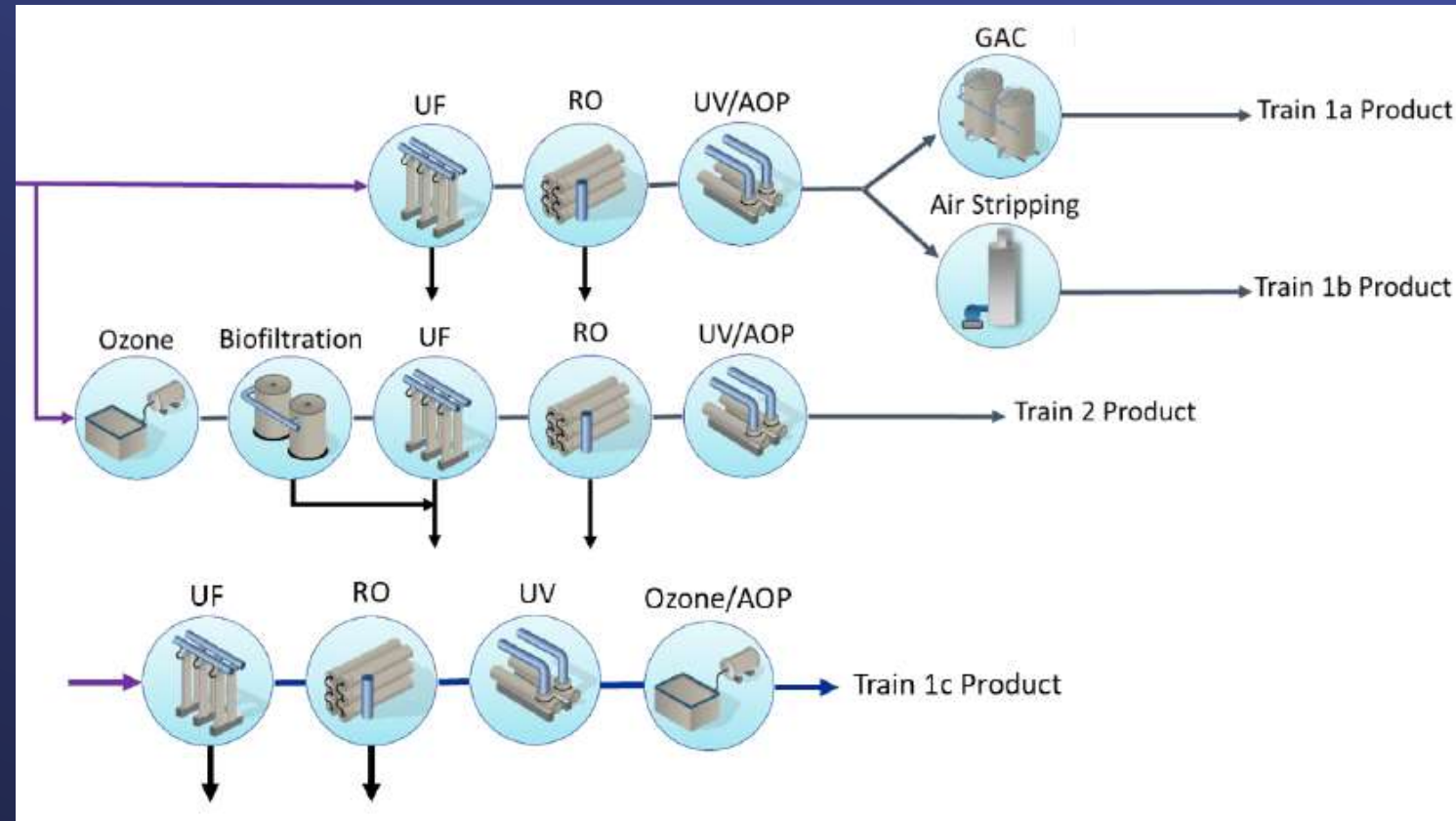
Requested: \$500,000  
Total Funding: \$3,996,026



Recycled Water



The objective is to demonstrate compliance with the recently approved DPR regulations and test advanced treatment technologies.





# OceanWell – Offshore Desalination Buoy Pilot

## Item 7-8



Las Virgenes Municipal Water District (Lead), CMWD, and EMWD



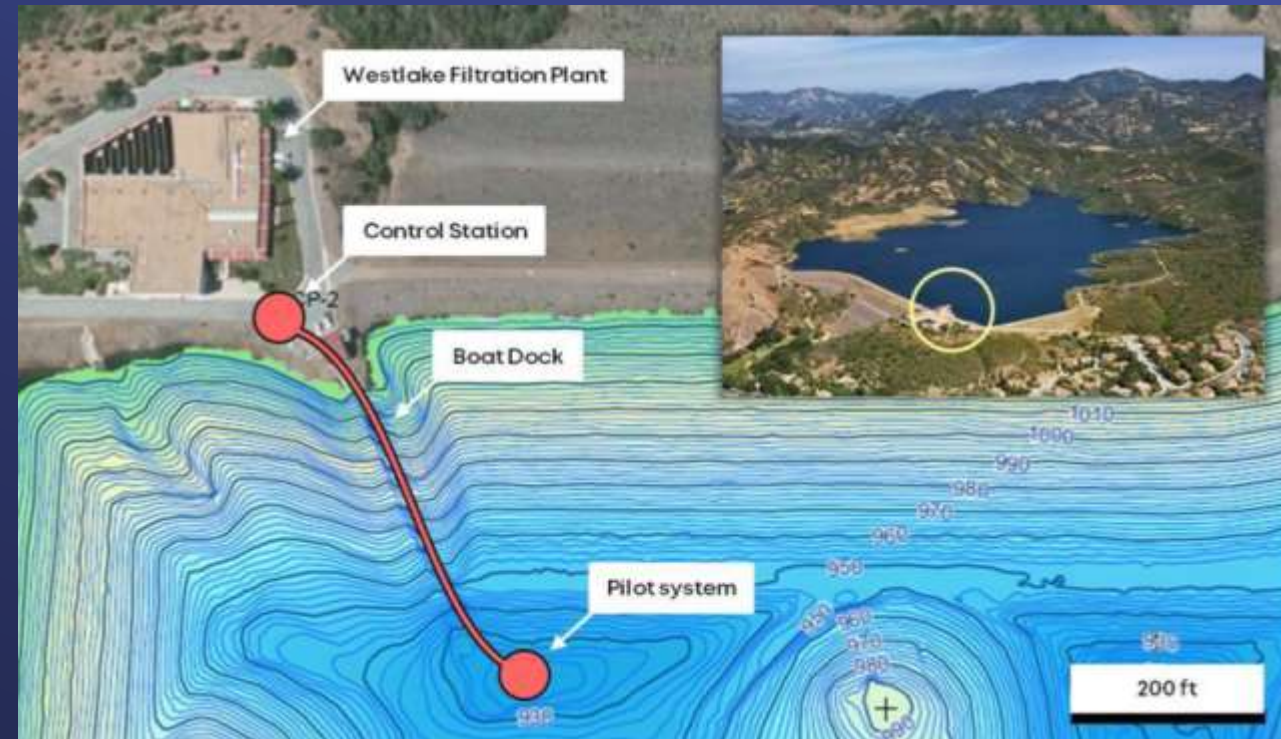
Requested: \$500,000  
Total Funding: \$1,296,910



Seawater Desalination



The study seeks to validate the OceanWell submerged reverse osmosis technology by conducting a pilot test in the Las Virgenes Reservoir.



# Next Steps

Implement funding agreements with selected proposals



Track the progress of the studies



Hold a symposium to share results when studies are complete



2017 - Foundational Actions Funding Program Symposium







- **Board of Directors**  
***One Water and Stewardship Committee***

7/9/2024 Board Meeting

7-4

## Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$298,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into one of the agreements with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program) for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study.

In December 2023, Metropolitan issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) under the FSA Program. The FSA Program funds technical studies and pilot tests targeting barriers to future production of recycled water, stormwater, seawater desalination, and groundwater resources.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. A technical review panel evaluated the proposals and developed a collective rating. Based on the panel findings and compliance with program requirements, staff recommends funding all eight proposals.

Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require board approval. This letter concerns one of these proposals.

## Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

### Staff Recommendation: Option #1

#### Option #1

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$298,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the FSA Program for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study.

**Fiscal Impact:** The funding requested for the proposed study will be expended over a two-year period and is within the approved FSA Program budget of \$3 million for Fiscal Years 24/25 and 25/26. The total expenditures for the eight proposed studies under the FSA Program is \$2.96 million.

**Business Analysis:** By providing funding for member agency studies under the FSA Program, Metropolitan will remove barriers to future water resource production and increase regional water supply reliability.

#### Option #2

Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$298,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the FSA Program for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study.

**Fiscal Impact:** No impact. Metropolitan would miss leveraging \$298,500 of other funds for the study.

**Business Analysis:** Metropolitan would potentially delay an opportunity to remove a barrier to local resource development.

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**Alternatives Considered**

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Not applicable

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**Applicable Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

By Minute Item 48449, dated October 12, 2010, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2010 Integrated Resources Plan Update, as set forth in the letter signed by the General Manager.

By Minute Item 49381, dated April 9, 2013, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved the proposal, Foundational Actions Funding Program, and directed staff to issue a Request for Proposals.

By Minute Item 50358, dated January 12, 2016, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2015 Integrated Resources Plan Update.

By Minute Item 51168, dated April 10, 2018, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

By Minute Item 53409 dated October 10, 2023, the Board approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

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**Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)**

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Not applicable

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**Summary of Outreach Completed**

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Member Agency Manager's Meeting:

- August 2023 – Round 3 Authorization
- June 2024 – Round 3 Recommended Proposals

Webinars:

- August 2023 – Workshop for Round 3
- December 2023 – Request for Proposals – Pre-Bid

Member Agency:

- November 2023 – West Basin Caucus
- January 2024 – Foothill MWD

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**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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**CEQA determination for Option #1:**

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action that a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15306.)

**CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required

## Details and Background

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### Background: Future Supply Actions Funding Program

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Management Plan Update (2010 IRP Update) recognized the need to prepare for an uncertain future and that additional resources beyond the region's core supplies may be required. To address this uncertainty, the 2010 IRP Update established a Foundational Actions approach for removing barriers to new supply development. Foundational Actions are low-risk, preliminary steps that the region can take to accelerate the development of new water resources should the need arise. The 2010 IRP Update identified the following four local resources for Foundational Actions:

- Recycled water (including direct and indirect potable reuse)
- Seawater desalination
- Stormwater capture
- Groundwater enhancement

In 2013, the Board approved the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to advance technical studies and pilot tests to address critical resource development barriers. Under the FAF Program, Metropolitan provided \$2.97 million in co-funding for 13-member agency-sponsored technical studies. The goals of the program were to:

- Advance the field of knowledge for future water resource production.
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Remove barriers to water resource implementation.

The 13 studies funded under the FAF Program yielded tangible regional benefits for each of the local resources. These benefits included furthering the science of seawater desalination intake technologies, developing implementation pathways for stormwater capture, validating new technologies for groundwater treatment, and completing preliminary studies for direct potable reuse. The FAF Program concluded with a symposium where results from the studies were shared with over 230 participants from across Southern California.

The 2015 Integrated Water Resources Plan Update called for the region to continue the Foundational Actions approach and revised the program's name to the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program). In 2018, the Board approved a follow-up to the original FSA Program that included two components:

1. A \$975,000 funding agreement with WRF for seven potable and non-potable reuse studies.
2. A second round of member agency funding totaling \$3.5 million for 14 studies.

The 21 studies funded under the FSA Program produced valuable regional benefits for the targeted local resources. These benefits included progressing in the fields of artificial intelligence applications in recycled water projects, stormwater diversion and percolation analysis, desalination brine diffusion, and groundwater utilization analysis. The studies within the program have concluded with MWD and WRF-hosted webinars. Webinar recordings and final reports for each study are available on the FSA Program's website: <https://www.mwdh2o.com/planning-for-tomorrow/funding-opportunities/>.

### Third Round of the FSA Program

In October 2023, the Board authorized two additional rounds of funding for the FSA Program totaling \$6 million. In December 2023, Metropolitan released an RFP for the first of the two authorized funding rounds (**Attachment 1**). Member agencies could request up to \$500,000 for one or more proposals, which they must match dollar-for-dollar with other funds. Member agencies were encouraged to partner with other member agencies as well as other stakeholders. Staff held an informational webinar and answered member agency questions.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. These proposals covered all four resource types and ranged from a data-driven planning study to pilot tests of innovative new technologies.

A technical review panel of Metropolitan staff and external experts performed independent evaluations of each proposal. Once completed, the panel convened to compare findings and collectively rate the proposals.

**Attachment 2** contains a list of the panel members and their affiliations. The proposals were evaluated against the following criteria:

- How does the proposal increase the water supply resiliency of future production?
- Does the proposal address a catalytic/critical path to implementation for local supplies?
- Will the potential results from the study have regional applicability?
- Does the proposal have a well-defined and innovative work plan?

Based on the panel's findings, compliance with program requirements, and available funding, staff recommends funding all eight proposals. Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require board approval.

### **Funding Agreement**

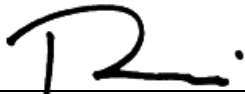
The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into a not-to-exceed \$298,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study. Three Valleys Municipal Water District, Western Municipal Water District, and Jurupa Community Services District will be contributing to the study as partners, with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency serving as the Lead Agency.

The study seeks to demonstrate to the water supply industry that improved well construction and development processes can reduce or eliminate certain PFAS contamination in groundwater wells. This knowledge can be used as one means of keeping PFAS from the groundwater environment. Elimination of this PFAS source will increase the reliability of existing and new water supply wells and provide a viable alternative to well-head PFAS treatment.

The study will be conducted in the following steps:

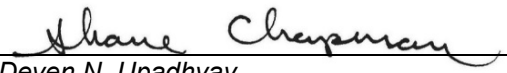
1. Obtaining a variety of drilling mud products and Chino Basin well water samples and submitting them for chemical analyses for PFAS.
2. Conducting bench-scale testing of tested PFAS-producing drilling products to illustrate short-term (up to 90 days) impacts on water when in contact with the drilling mud products in an aqueous environment simulating groundwater conditions.
3. Select and conduct pilot chemical well rehabilitation for both a monitoring well and production well with PFAS detection in water samples and other indicators of the presence of drilling mud. Pilot chemical well rehabilitation using a more aggressive chemical process can be employed to oxidize and remove lingering drilling mud products and remove or reduce PFAS from detection.

Staff requests board authorization to enter into an FSA Program funding agreement for a not-to-exceed amount of \$298,500 with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brandon Goshi  
Interim Manager,  
Water Resource Management

7/1/2024

Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
for Deven N. Upadhyay  
Interim General Manager

7/2/2024

Date

**Attachment 1 – 2023 Request for Proposals for Foundational Supply Actions Funding Program**

**Attachment 2 – Review Panel Members and Affidavit**

**Attachment 3 – Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Ref# wrm12693575



**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**Water Resource Management Group**

**2023 Request for Proposals for  
Future Supply Actions Funding Program**



**KEY DATES**

Request for Proposals (RFP) Issued.....December 1, 2023.  
Pre-bid webinar.....December 13, 2023 @ 02:00 P.M.  
Proposals due by.....February 5, 2024 @ 02:00 PM.

**NOTICE**

**An optional pre-bid webinar** will be held on **December 13, 2023**, from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m.  
All Member Agencies and proposal partners are encouraged to participate.

Metropolitan Contact: Jonathan Jordan  
E-mail Address: [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com)

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## **SECTION 1: INFORMATION FOR MEMBER AGENCIES**

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is designed to promote an objective process for distributing funds for technical studies or pilot tests under the Future Supply Actions (FSA) Funding Program. The FSA Funding Program goal is to enable effective future resource planning and potential development of recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater enhancement. This RFP contains information concerning the 2023 FSA Funding Program objectives, who can submit, funding, schedule, and review process. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) invites its Member Agencies to submit study proposals for the program described herein.

### **1.1 Objective**

Metropolitan has proposed a 2023 FSA Funding Program with objectives to help address regional funding needs for actions that:

- Augment water resiliency to reduce climate change driven water resource barriers.
- Advance the field of knowledge for the four resources (recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater).
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Represent a catalytic/critical path to water resource implementation.

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Plan (IRP) established a planning framework, including a core resources program, designed to ensure the region's reliability into the future. The 2010 IRP Update recognized that the future is uncertain and additional water resources may need to be developed under some conditions. To address this future uncertainty, the 2010 IRP established Foundational Actions, which are low-risk, preliminary actions that can be taken to ensure the region will be ready to implement new water supplies should the need arise.

In 2013, Metropolitan established the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to fund Member Agency studies focused on removing barriers to future local supply production. The 2015 IRP reaffirmed this forward-looking approach and updated the name to Future Supply Actions. Future Supply Actions represent one component of the overall 2015 IRP strategy. In 2018, Metropolitan released a second round of FSA funding for member agency studies. The 2020 IRP continued this progressive trend by adopting a scenario-based strategy to ensure regional reliability through 2045, referred to as the "Regional Needs Assessment." Given the successes of the 2013 and 2018 programs, the 2023 FSA reinforces Metropolitan's commitment to the 2020 IRP strategy in maintaining existing and developing new local supplies.

In 2022, Metropolitan's Board of Directors (Board) adopted a resolution calling for "Equitable reliability across the service area through a balanced combination of infrastructure, storage, demand management, and water supply programs." Metropolitan is collaborating with our Member Agencies on the regional Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W). CAMP4W will consider Member Agency projects that innovate and enhance regional water supply reliability. The FSA Funding Program has proven to be a capable vehicle for achieving the goals outlined in the resolution. To that end, Metropolitan encourages its member

agencies to propose innovative studies that benefit the region, innovate, reduce barriers, and create a climate change-resilient region.

## **1.2 Description**

The FSA Funding Program promotes technical studies and pilot tests that enable effective future resource planning and potential implementation for the following resources:

- Recycled water, including potable reuse
- Desalination
- Stormwater
- Groundwater enhancement

These actions are meant to identify and investigate opportunities to develop future water resources. Examples of studies under the FSA Funding Program may include, but are not limited to:

- Pilot and bench-scale studies
- Demonstration studies
- Tracer alternative studies
- System integration studies
- Innovative treatment processes
- New sensor technologies
- Advanced ocean intakes and outfall tests
- Brine disposal or harvesting research
- Novel approaches for AI and machine learning

Examples of Member Agency studies funded under the 2013 FAF and 2018 FSA programs are listed on the FSA Funding Program's website: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

The FSA Funding Program is designed to encourage short-term studies targeting barriers to future supply production and would not include:

- Design of full-scale projects
- Long-term studies requiring more than two years to complete
- Construction of full-scale projects
- Funding CEQA documentation for projects
- Existing studies or projects
- Acquisition of property

## **1.3 Who Can Submit?**

The RFP is open to Metropolitan Member Agencies (Member Agencies). Member Agencies may partner with other Member Agencies or other non-Member Agency entities. A single designated lead Member Agency must submit the proposal. The proposal must disclose the names of the partnering Member Agencies or other entities. Each Member Agency may be the

lead agency on a maximum of three proposals per funding round. If partnering on a proposal, the lead Member Agency submitting the proposal shall be responsible for any priority ranking of multiple proposals from that Member Agency.

#### **1.4     Funding**

Metropolitan expects to fund approximate 12 to 16 technical studies or pilot tests total during two separate rounds. This round of the FSA Funding Program will fund up to 8 technical studies or pilot tests, and up to \$3 million. The next FSA Funding Program round is expected to begin in two to three years. In total, up to \$6 million are available for the current and following funding rounds. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP will only be considered for the current funding round.

Member Agencies may submit proposal funding requests of up to \$500,000 per agency or up to \$500,000 for a single study. Each proposal requires a non-Metropolitan monetary match of at least 100 percent of the Metropolitan funded amount. Member Agencies can include in-kind services in their proposal; however, in-kind services do not count towards the required funding match. If partnering on a proposal, a breakdown of each Member Agency's funding request and the respective monetary match is required and will be used to track that agency's total funding request (see Section 2.2F). The Member Agency match funding may not be associated with other Metropolitan funding programs.

A significant FSA Funding Program principle is having the studies or tests benefit the Metropolitan's services area. Due to this core principle, studies or tests funded through this program must be publicly accessible to the extent allowed under applicable law.

### 1.5 Anticipated Schedule

Date	Milestone
12/01/2023	Release of RFP
12/13/2023	Non-mandatory pre-bid webinar at 02:00 p.m.
01/12/2024	Questions for clarification will close at 1:00 p.m.
02/05/2024	<b>RFP proposals due by 2:00 p.m.</b>
Q1 2024	Proposal awards (Contingent upon Board action)
Q1—Q2 2024	Agreements signed by recipients (Goal)
Q1 2025	Work Initiation Deadline
Q4 2026	Final Report Deadline

### 1.6 Non-mandatory Pre-Bid Webinar

- A pre-bid Webinar will be held from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m., Wednesday, **December 13, 2023**. Metropolitan will discuss the details of the FSA Funding Program RFP and answer questions. Written questions regarding this RFP may be submitted from the release of the RFP to one week following the pre-proposal webinar (see Questions for Clarification section).
- While participation is not mandatory, all interested parties and prospective applicants are encouraged to attend. Participants are invited to present relevant questions at the pre-proposal webinar.
- Directions on how to participate in the pre-proposal Webinar will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

### 1.7 Questions for Clarification

Questions for clarification regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing via e-mail to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 1:00 p.m., Friday, **January 12, 2024**. As appropriate, Metropolitan will respond to questions, provide information updates, and issue RFP addendums through the following link: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa). The responsibility solely lies with each interested party and prospective applicant to check and review the FSA Funding Program website for all updates.

### 1.8 General Proposal Information

1. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review this RFP in its entirety before the proposal preparation.
2. All proposals submitted become the property of Metropolitan. Metropolitan has no expressed or implied obligation to reimburse the responding party for any expenses incurred in preparing proposals in response to this request.
3. Applicants may modify or amend proposals only if Metropolitan receives the amendment before the deadline stated herein for receiving proposals.

4. A proposal that is conditional, incomplete, contains alterations of form, additions not called for, or other irregularities that may constitute a material change to the proposal may be considered non-responsive.
5. Additional copies of the RFP will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).
6. Submission of a proposal indicates acceptance by the party of the conditions contained in this request for proposals, unless clearly and specifically noted in the proposal submitted and confirmed in the contract between Metropolitan and the recipient(s).

#### **1.9 Rights Reserved to Metropolitan**

Metropolitan reserves the right to:

1. Reject any and all proposals, revise terms and conditions, or elect not to award full program funding.
2. Select the proposal(s) most advantageous to Metropolitan.
3. Verify all information submitted in the proposal.
4. Cancel this solicitation at any time without prior notice and furthermore, makes no representations that any contract will be awarded to any applicant responding to this RFP.
5. Negotiate the final contract with any applicant(s) as necessary to serve the best interests of Metropolitan.
6. Amend the RFP.
7. Amend the final contract to incorporate necessary attachments and exhibits or to reflect negotiations between Metropolitan and the successful recipient(s).

#### **1.10 Validity**

Proposals must be valid for a period of at least 12 months from the closing date and time of this RFP. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP only qualify for the current funding round. Once submitted, the proposal is the property of Metropolitan and may not be physically withdrawn after the submission date. However, the applicant may request for the submitted proposal not to be considered for funding prior to the funding award.

#### **1.11 Confidentiality**

1. Metropolitan is subject to the Public Records Act, California Government Code Section (Gov. Code) 7920.000 et. seq. All required submittal information is subject to disclosure to the general public. Unless specifically required by the solicitation, the applicant should not submit personal data such as driver's license information, social security numbers, etc. to avoid the possibility of inadvertent disclosure of this personal information. Please note that Metropolitan cannot consider proposals marked confidential in their entirety.

2. The applicant may provide supplemental information exempt from public disclosure under Gov. Code Section 7929.42 including “trade secrets” under Evidence Code Section 1060. Such supplemental information **shall not be material** to the required submittal information and Metropolitan shall be under no obligation to consider such supplemental information in its evaluation.
3. If submitting confidential or supplemental information, such information should be sectioned separately from the rest of the submittal and clearly marked "Confidential." Upon completion of its evaluation, Metropolitan will destroy any confidential information submitted, or return such information to the applicant if so requested.

#### **1.12 Evaluation and Selection Process**

1. Proposals will be evaluated by an independent review panel comprised of Metropolitan and non-Metropolitan professionals familiar with water resources in Southern California. The review panel will ensure compliance with the FSA Funding Program objectives and eligibility and will evaluate each proposal based on selection criteria as described further in this document. Metropolitan staff will review the panel suggestions and develop a list of recommended proposals and funding levels for Board approval.
2. During the evaluation process, Metropolitan may request clarification from the applicant as necessary. Applicant(s) should not misconstrue a clarification request as negotiations.
3. If similar proposals, or proposals that would provide similar results are submitted, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding. Also, if multiple proposals are submitted that are, or could be, collectively part of an overall study or pilot test, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding.
4. If applicable, Member Agencies with study work plans contingent on regulatory permitting must provide a list of required permits, expected award date, and the anticipated study timeline impacts if the permitting process is delayed. The ability to complete studies in the FSA Funding Program round timeframe is a scoring consideration. Metropolitan may request additional information on the permitting schedule.

#### **1.13 Agreement Process**

1. After proposals are selected for funding, Metropolitan will enter into agreements upon successful contract negotiations. Funding may be withdrawn if the recipient does not sign agreements within three months of final contract negotiations.
2. Metropolitan may negotiate proposal scope and funding changes if deemed beneficial.
3. Recipients must submit deliverables by task, including reports, invoices, interim study or test documents, and a final report documenting study or test results, other findings, and recommendations for future action. Recipients must provide any generated presentations or preliminary reports to Metropolitan during the life of the agreement.
4. The final report and symposium presentation will be worth 25 percent of the total funding and can be invoiced after the delivery of the final report and presentation.



Metropolitan will withhold the final funding until the final report and presentation are accepted by Metropolitan staff.

5. Performance provisions may be incorporated into the program agreements. These provisions would allow Metropolitan to adjust or withdraw financial commitments to the proposal based on performance.
6. The FSA invoice intervals will be flexibly negotiated on a case-by-case basis during the agreement process; options available to agencies in this FSA round include quarterly, semi-annual, or based on deliverables. Funds will be disbursed after verification of study status based on submitted progress reports, invoices, and appropriate documentation. The non-Metropolitan funding match must equal or exceed the Metropolitan funded amount per submitted progress payment.
7. Funding recipients are expected to provide an initial forecast of spending to Metropolitan after the study or test initiation. The recipient will need to provide a forecast as a part of the submitted progress reports.
8. Final reports must be completed and submitted by **December 28, 2026**, unless extended by Metropolitan. Final payment will be made within 60 days of acceptance of the final report and presentation.
9. Member Agencies and study/pilot test participants will also be encouraged to participate in the FSA symposium. The symposium will highlight the study results and allow participants to present the final presentation to other member agencies and regional stakeholders.
10. Attachment A is Metropolitan's Sample Agreement. Applicant is requested to carefully review and comment as necessary on any of the provisions set forth in the Sample Agreement. Metropolitan reserves the right to modify, add or delete any of the provisions of the Agreement before issuance.

#### **1.14 Negotiations**

Negotiations regarding agreement terms, conditions, work plan, schedule, and funding may or may not be conducted with the applicant. If Metropolitan engages the applicant in negotiations and satisfactory agreement provisions cannot be reached, then negotiations may be terminated.

#### **1.15 Selection Criteria**

The review panel will use the criteria provided below to evaluate and rank the proposals. In addition, the review panel will identify and weigh each proposal's significant strengths, weaknesses, and miscellaneous issues.

Recommendations will reflect the collective findings of the review panel. To be qualified for funding, proposals must satisfy each criterion category and subcategory listed as follows and in Section 2.2 of this document.

**Criteria and Weight:**

1. Reduces Barriers to Future Production: 30 percent
2. Regional Benefit/Applicability: 20 percent
3. Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology: 20 percent
4. Work Plan/Schedule: 15 percent
5. Costs: 15 percent

The selection criteria are described further in Section 2.2 of this document.

In addition to the selection criteria above, Metropolitan will award a bonus to studies that objectively demonstrate regional benefit across the Metropolitan service area. To incentivize Member Agency cooperation on regional studies, Metropolitan will grant a 5% bonus to the proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies. Partner Agencies must have at least \$10,000 vested in the study or test to qualify as a participating agency.

## SECTION 2: PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

The following format and content requirements shall be adhered to for proposals to be considered responsive. Applicants should use the numbering and lettering system outlined in these guidelines. Concise informative proposals within the page limitations are encouraged.

### 2.1 Proposal Submittal and PDF Format Guidelines

- Proposals will only be accepted in PDF format.
- The proposal must be formatted for white 8 1/2" x 11" size paper with black text in a 12-point font, and table/graphics with text no smaller than a 10-point font.
- Proposals shall be no more than 20 pages, including attachments.
- Materials presented in the Appendix will not be used in the proposal evaluation and should exclusively contain reference or supplementary content
- Proposals shall be clear, accurate, and comprehensive. Excessive or irrelevant materials will not be favorably received.
- The PDF should include the entire proposal (executive summary, support letters, attachments, etc.) in one file.
- Support letters: Proposals can include no more than five support letters of no longer than one page. Support letters will not count against the page limitations and will be considered to support regional benefit. Support letters should be addressed to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdeh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdeh2o.com) by the proposal submittal deadline. Support letters received after the proposal submittal deadline will not be considered.
- **Proposals that do not conform to these formatting requirements and the following content requirements may be deemed non-responsive and rejected.**

### 2.2 Content Requirements

Proposals shall be organized and lettered in the order presented below:

- A. Executive Summary Letter
- B. Entities Participating in Proposal
- C. Key Individuals
- D. Proposal Description
- E. Criteria One – Reduces Barriers to Future Production
- F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability
- G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology
- H. Criteria Five – Work Plan / Schedule / Permitting
- I. Criteria Four – Costs
- J. Appendix A: Support Letters

**A. Executive Summary Letter**

This letter shall be a formal signed letter from the applicant Member Agency (and any partnering Member Agency(s)). The letter shall provide a brief description of the proposal and information regarding the organization and its ability to meet the objectives and requirements of this RFP.

The letter should be signed by an individual(s) authorized to bind the proposing Member Agency and shall identify all materials and enclosures being forwarded in response to this RFP. An unsigned Executive Summary Letter may be grounds for rejection. The letter must include the following language:

**“I am informed and believe that the information contained in this proposal is true and that the supporting data is accurate and complete.”**

Please include the following information in your letter:

<b>Name of Proposal</b>	
Water Resource Category (Recycled Water, Seawater Desalination, Stormwater, Groundwater)	
Member Agency Name(s) (As it appears on W-9 Tax form)	
Federal ID #	
Address	
City, State & Zip	
Main Telephone	
Contact Name	
Contact Telephone	
Contact E-mail Address	
Website Address (if applicable)	

**B. Entities Participating in Proposal**

- List other entities participating in proposal.
- Provide support letters from study participants (not considered as part of the 20-page limit for proposals) in Section I.

**C. Key Individuals**

- Proposal participants / cooperating agencies

- Identify key individuals including program manager and management team
  - Name, title
  - Title
  - Phone Number
  - Mailing address
  - Fax Number
  - E-mail Address
  - Relevant experience

#### **D. Proposal Description**

Provide a concise summary that includes an overall description of the proposal and conveys a clear understanding of the proposal's goals and objectives.

#### **E. Criteria One – Increases Water Supply Resiliency**

In this section, the applicant shall describe the following in narrative form all of which is applicable:

- Describe how the proposed actions increase future local supply potential.
- Describe how the proposed actions are critical to resource resiliency and planning for climate change-driven uncertainty.
- Describe how the proposed actions **removes barriers** to supply development including, but not limited to, technical, regulatory, permitting, and institutional barriers.
- Describe how the proposed actions increase regional climate resiliency or safeguards current local supplies.

#### **F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how the results of this proposal would apply to Metropolitan's member agencies, retail agencies, and regional stakeholders. The proposal should describe how the study results are transferable to other regional member agencies and stakeholders.
- If applicable, describe other co-benefits, such as water quality, energy, wastewater, infrastructure, environmental, etc.
- Metropolitan will award a 5% bonus to proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies.

#### **G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how these actions are unique and innovative. Describe the current state of technology. Identify similar completed or ongoing studies and how the proposed actions differ (include a literature search summary).

- Describe how these actions will advance the field of knowledge to develop future water resources. Include how the results of the proposed actions could be used in future research.
- Describe how the study or test results enable future actions that address regional barriers when compared to the status quo. Identify and describe the follow-up actions necessary for wide-scale implementation, such as submission of results to the State or Federal regulators required for regulatory acknowledgment or adoption. Include any future studies or steps to leverage results from the study or test.

#### **H. Criteria Four – Work Plan / Schedule**

Provide a detailed work plan describing each proposed task and deliverable, and how proposal success will be measured. Every task must have a specific deliverable and due date. Meeting dates and study milestones should be identified. Deliverables may include but are not limited to technical memoranda, summary reports, progress reports, draft technical reports, final technical reports, presentations, and related information. If partnering on a proposal with other entities, describe the role/involvement of each partner and their relationship to the proposal. Describe factors that may affect the feasibility of implementing the proposal. Also, describe the technical expertise of the proposal team.

Cite the proposed schedule, including the start date (no later than **January 01, 2025**), tasks, deliverables, reports, completion date (no later than **December 28, 2026**), and other key milestone dates. The schedule should be linked to the tasks and task deliverables. Identify components and tasks that could be broken out to allow funding to be provided for a particular activity or combination of activities. The description must clearly describe how funds would be used.

The following includes additional information and instructions for evaluation:

- Work plan and schedule must provide detail and completeness to measure the proposed implemented actions for success. Identify potential challenges, issues, and prerequisites related to proposal implementation and describe how they will be addressed.
- Describe how the proposed objectives can be achieved in the stated time period with the allotted personnel and budget.
- The proposal should include a table of required permits describing each permit, expected award date, and impact to the study workplan if delayed.

#### **I. Criteria Five – Costs**

Proposal must provide a cost breakdown of the work plan consistent with the schedule. This should be itemized in tabular form (see following tables). Each work plan task should include a breakdown of the applicant's monetary funding match, source of the funding match (e.g., name of the Member Agency, outside grant agency, etc.), and requested Metropolitan funds. Do not include in-kind services in the funding match. If partnering with other Member Agencies, provide separate cost tables and a proposal total cost table for each Member Agency. The

grand total non-Metropolitan funding match for each cost table must equal or exceed the requested Metropolitan funded amount. Also, provide a list summarizing all sources of the funding match, their respective monetary contribution, and the status of the funding match (e.g., funding budgeted and approved by the Member Agency's Board of Directors, grant received, applying for a grant, etc.). Include supporting information for the budget (such as labor categories, hourly rates, labor time estimates, materials and supplies, and subcontractor/consultant quotes) and the matching funds.

Cost Table Example – Study Total				
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)	Requested MWD Funding	Total
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines			
(b)	Proposed Task			
(c)	...			
Grand Total				

Cost Table Example – Lead Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

Cost Table Example – Partner Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

The following includes additional information and instruction for evaluation:

- Describe the cost-effectiveness of the proposed work plan budget.
- Describe the readiness to proceed with the matching funds, and how the matching funds will be committed by the Member Agency before the Member Agency signs the FSA Funding Program agreement.

### **2.3 Submittal Instructions**

Proposals for this RFP will be accepted in PDF format via e-mail.

#### **By e-mail:**

- **Proposal must be submitted electronically as an attachment to an e-mail at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 02:00 p.m. PST, on February 05, 2024**
- The e-mail date and time will act as a timestamp for the submittal. Notice of receipt will be sent upon successful receipt of the proposal.
- The PDF file size is limited to no more 20 MB.
- The e-mail subject line should contain the following: "Proposal for Future Supply Actions Funding Program".
- The e-mail's body should include the proposal's title, lead Member Agency name, the applicable resource (groundwater, recycling, seawater desalination or stormwater), and contact information.
- If submitting multiple proposals, please submit each proposal individually in a separate e-mail.
- Member Agencies are encouraged to submit proposals before the closing time and date.

Proposals received after the stated time and date will be considered late and automatically rejected by Metropolitan. Member agencies are **responsible for submitting the proposal correctly in form and content and within the stipulated deadline**. Late proposals will be deemed non-responsive and not considered during the evaluation process.

**Proposals will be received until 02:00 p.m., February 05, 2024.**



## **2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program**

### **Review Panel Members and Panel Affidavit**

**Heather Collins**

Assistant Group Manager, Treatment & Water Quality Group, Metropolitan Water District  
President-Elect, American Water Works Association

**Dr. Adrian Hightower**

Sustainability and Resilience Manager, Metropolitan Water District

**Dr. Malynda Cappelle**

Facility Manager, Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility, Bureau of Reclamation

**Dr. Roy Wolfe**

Wolfe Water Consulting, LLC.

**Dr. Robert Wilkinson**

Adjunct Professor, Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California,  
Santa Barbara

DocuSign Envelope ID: 55107BE7-2B6D-4340-8FC9-B3A7E84057CD

## Affidavit

### Affidavit for Review Panelists

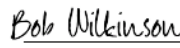
The undersigned members of the Review Panel for the Future Supply Actions Funding Program 2023 RFP objectively reviewed the proposals to ensure compliance with the FSA Program objectives and eligibility requirements and confirm the panel's collective findings.

DocuSigned by:



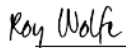
Marynda Cappelle, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



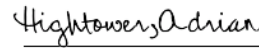
Robert Wilkinson, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



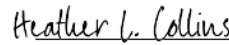
Roy Wolfe, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



Adrian Hightower, PhD  
Special Projects Manager

DocuSigned by:



Heather Collins, PE  
Assistant Group Manager

**2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program RFP**  
Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
<b>Groundwater</b>			
Pilot Study of New Electrolytic Method for In-situ Generation of Ferric Arsenic Treatment	Western MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This pilot study will generate ferric chemicals onsite and offers the potential to lower treated water arsenic concentrations using the coagulation-filtration method.</li> <li>This technology offers potential operations and maintenance cost savings and avoids manganese addition that typically occurs for liquid ferric chemicals.</li> </ul>	\$207,500
PFAS and Groundwater Wells	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study seeks to demonstrate to the water supply industry that improved well construction and development processes can reduce or eliminate certain PFAS contamination in groundwater wells.</li> <li>Three Valleys MWD, Western MWD, and Jurupa Community Services District are also participating in the study.</li> </ul>	\$298,500
Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study	Long Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study will evaluate the impacts of using recycled water to augment groundwater resources in the Central and West Coast Basins.</li> <li>The outcomes of the Project will ultimately increase Long Beach's water supply reliability by reducing its reliance on imported water supplies and integrating new water resources into its supply portfolio.</li> </ul>	\$499,802
<b>Stormwater</b>			
Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study	SDCWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Pilot Study is intended to inform the Vista Irrigation District and the City of Escondido regarding the effectiveness of oxygenation in limiting harmful algal bloom formation and cyanotoxin production.</li> <li>Oxygenation systems have not been tested in a broad, shallow lake such as Lake Henshaw and have not been systematically quantified in lakes in general.</li> </ul>	\$500,000

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
Data-Driven Resource Optimization and Planning System (DROPS)	Foothill MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DROPS is a pioneering tool that integrates advanced data analytics with artificial intelligence to enhance water management capabilities.</li> <li>DROPS achieves previously unattained levels of accuracy in terms of identifying impervious areas by triangulating aerial imagery, topographical data, remote-sensing data, and environmental databases and supplementing those datasets with analysis and insights from AI integration.</li> </ul>	\$54,900

Recycled Water			
Chino Basin Advance Water Purification Demonstration Facility	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstration study for the design and construction of an approximately 100 gpm Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility for the Chino Basin Program.</li> <li>The demonstration study will advance innovative technologies and approaches related to advanced water treatment technologies, with findings applicable to advanced water treatment projects and the industry.</li> </ul>	\$401,500
Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot	LADWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The objective of the pilot is to demonstrate compliance with the recently approved DPR regulations and test advanced treatment technologies.</li> <li>The pilot will explore the feasibility of post-RO treatment strategies for chemical control.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
Seawater Desalination			
OceanWell: A Climate-Resilient, Eco-Friendly, Submerged Reverse Osmosis System	Las Virgenes MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot study of the OceanWell submerged reverse osmosis system in the Las Virgenes Reservoir.</li> <li>The study will serve as a stress test that will bring the technology from a TRL 4 to TRL 6.</li> <li>Calleguas MWD and Eastern MWD are contributing to this study.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 Studies</b>		<b>\$2,962,202</b>



## One Water & Stewardship Committee

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$298,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study

Item 7-4

July 8, 2024

# Item 7-4 Introduction Slide

## Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$298,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study

## Purpose

Reduce Barriers to future water resource production within the Metropolitan service area.

## Recommendations

Authorize staff to enter into a \$298,500 funding agreement with Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the FSA Program for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study.

## Fiscal Impact

Metropolitan would invest \$298,500 in the proposed study under the FSA Program over a two-year period.

# Board Options: Item 7-4

(IEUA – PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study – FSA Program)

## Option #1

- Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$298,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the FSA Program for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study.

## Option #2

- Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$298,500 funding agreement with the Inland Empire Utilities Agency under the FSA Program for the Identifying and Removing PFAS Used in Well Drilling Pilot Study.

# Staff Recommendation

Option #1







- **Board of Directors**  
***One Water and Stewardship Committee***

7/9/2024 Board Meeting

7-5

## Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the San Diego County Water Authority under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into one of the agreements with the San Diego County Water Authority under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program) for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study.

In December 2023, Metropolitan issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) under the FSA Program. The FSA Program funds technical studies and pilot tests targeting barriers to future production of recycled water, stormwater, seawater desalination, and groundwater resources.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. A technical review panel evaluated the proposals and developed a collective rating. Based on the panel findings and compliance with program requirements, staff recommends funding all eight proposals.

Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require Board approval. This letter concerns one of these proposals.

## Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

### Staff Recommendation: Option #1

#### Option #1

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the San Diego County Water Authority under the FSA Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study.

**Fiscal Impact:** The funding requested for the proposed study will be expended over a two-year period and is within the approved FSA Program budget of \$3 million for Fiscal Years 24/25 and 25/26. The total expenditures for the eight proposed studies under the FSA Program is \$2.96 million.

**Business Analysis:** By providing funding for member agency studies under the FSA Program, Metropolitan will remove barriers to future water resource production and increase regional water supply reliability.

#### Option #2

Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the San Diego County Water Authority under the FSA Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study.

**Fiscal Impact:** No impact. Metropolitan would miss leveraging \$500,000 of other funds for the study.

**Business Analysis:** Metropolitan would potentially delay an opportunity to remove a barrier to local resource development.

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**Alternatives Considered**

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Not applicable

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**Applicable Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

By Minute Item 48449, dated October 12, 2010, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2010 Integrated Resources Plan Update, as set forth in the letter signed by the General Manager.

By Minute Item 49381, dated April 9, 2013, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved the proposal. Foundational Actions Funding Program, and directed staff to issue a Request for Proposals.

By Minute Item 50358, dated January 12, 2016, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2015 Integrated Resources Plan Update.

By Minute Item 51168, dated April 10, 2018, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

By Minute Item 53409, dated October 10, 2023, the Board approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

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**Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)**

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Not applicable

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**Summary of Outreach Completed**

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Member Agency Manager's Meeting:

- August 2023 – Round 3 Authorization
- June 2024 – Round 3 Recommended Proposals

Webinars:

- August 2023 – Workshop for Round 3
- December 2023 – Request for Proposals – Pre-Bid

Member Agency:

- November 2023 – West Basin Caucus
- January 2024 – Foothill MWD

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**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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**CEQA determination for Option #1:**

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action that a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15306.)

**CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required

## Details and Background

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### Background: Future Supply Actions Funding Program

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Management Plan Update (2010 IRP Update) recognized the need to prepare for an uncertain future and that additional resources beyond the region's core supplies may be required. To address this uncertainty, the 2010 IRP Update established a Foundational Actions approach for removing barriers to new supply development. Foundational Actions are low-risk, preliminary steps that the region can take to accelerate the development of new water resources should the need arise. The 2010 IRP Update identified the following four local resources for Foundational Actions:

- Recycled water (including direct and indirect potable reuse)
- Seawater desalination
- Stormwater capture
- Groundwater enhancement

In 2013, the Board approved the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to advance technical studies and pilot tests to address critical resource development barriers. Under the FAF Program, Metropolitan provided \$2.97 million in co-funding for 13-member agency-sponsored technical studies. The goals of the program were to:

- Advance the field of knowledge for future water resource production;
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region; and
- Remove barriers to water resource implementation.

The 13 studies funded under the FAF Program yielded tangible regional benefits for each of the local resources. These benefits included furthering the science of seawater desalination intake technologies, developing implementation pathways for stormwater capture, validating new technologies for groundwater treatment, and completing preliminary studies for direct potable reuse. The FAF Program concluded with a symposium where results from the studies were shared with over 230 participants from across Southern California.

The 2015 Integrated Water Resources Plan Update called for the region to continue the Foundational Actions approach and revised the program's name to the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program). In 2018, the Board approved a follow-up to the original FSA Program that included two components:

1. A \$975,000 funding agreement with WRF for seven potable and non-potable reuse studies.
2. A second round of member agency funding totaling \$3.5 million for 14 studies.

The 21 studies funded under the FSA Program produced valuable regional benefits for the targeted local resources. These benefits included progressing in the fields of artificial intelligence applications in recycled water projects, stormwater diversion and percolation analysis, desalination brine diffusion, and groundwater utilization analysis. The studies within the program have concluded with MWD and WRF-hosted webinars. Webinar recordings and final reports for each study are available on the FSA Program's website: <https://www.mwdh2o.com/planning-for-tomorrow/funding-opportunities/>.

### Third Round of the FSA Program

In October 2023, the Board authorized two additional rounds of funding for the FSA Program totaling \$6 million. In December 2023, Metropolitan released an RFP for the first of the two authorized funding rounds (**Attachment 1**). Member agencies could request up to \$500,000 for one or more proposals, which they must match dollar-for-dollar with other funds. Member agencies were encouraged to partner with other member agencies as well as other stakeholders. Staff held an informational webinar and answered member agency questions.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. These proposals covered all four resource types and ranged from a data-driven planning study to pilot tests of innovative new technologies.

A technical review panel of Metropolitan staff and external experts performed independent evaluations of each proposal. Once completed, the panel convened to compare findings and collectively rate the proposals.

**Attachment 2** contains a list of the panel members and their affiliations. The proposals were evaluated against the following criteria:

- How does the proposal increase the water supply resiliency of future production?
- Does the proposal address a catalytic/critical path to implementation for local supplies?
- Will the potential results from the study have regional applicability?
- Does the proposal have a well-defined and innovative work plan?

Based on the panel's findings, compliance with program requirements, and available funding, staff recommends funding all eight proposals. Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require board approval.

### **Funding Agreement**

The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the San Diego County Water Authority under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study. Oxygenation systems have not been tested in a broad, shallow lake such as Lake Henshaw and have not been systematically quantified in lakes in general. The Pilot Study involves a field trial to evaluate the performance and effectiveness of oxygenation to improve water quality and mitigate HABs at Lake Henshaw using a supersaturated dissolved oxygen system.

This study is being proposed by the San Diego County Water Authority, in partnership with Vista Irrigation District (the District), with support from the City of Escondido (the City). The Pilot Study is intended to inform the District and the City regarding the effectiveness of oxygenation in limiting harmful algal bloom formation and cyanotoxin production.

Staff requests board authorization to enter into an FSA Program funding agreement for a not-to-exceed amount of \$500,000 with San Diego County Water Authority under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study.



Brandon Goshi  
Interim Manager,  
Water Resource Management

7/2/2024

Date

for   
Devan N. Upadhyay  
Interim General Manager

7/2/2024

Date

**Attachment 1 – 2023 Request for Proposals for Foundational Supply Actions Funding Program**

**Attachment 2 – Review Panel Members and Affidavit**

**Attachment 3 – Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Ref# wrm12695302

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**Water Resource Management Group**

**2023 Request for Proposals for  
Future Supply Actions Funding Program**



**KEY DATES**

Request for Proposals (RFP) Issued.....December 1, 2023.  
Pre-bid webinar.....December 13, 2023 @ 02:00 P.M.  
Proposals due by.....February 5, 2024 @ 02:00 PM.

**NOTICE**

**An optional pre-bid webinar** will be held on **December 13, 2023**, from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m.  
All Member Agencies and proposal partners are encouraged to participate.

Metropolitan Contact: Jonathan Jordan  
E-mail Address: [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com)

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## **SECTION 1: INFORMATION FOR MEMBER AGENCIES**

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is designed to promote an objective process for distributing funds for technical studies or pilot tests under the Future Supply Actions (FSA) Funding Program. The FSA Funding Program goal is to enable effective future resource planning and potential development of recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater enhancement. This RFP contains information concerning the 2023 FSA Funding Program objectives, who can submit, funding, schedule, and review process. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) invites its Member Agencies to submit study proposals for the program described herein.

### **1.1 Objective**

Metropolitan has proposed a 2023 FSA Funding Program with objectives to help address regional funding needs for actions that:

- Augment water resiliency to reduce climate change driven water resource barriers.
- Advance the field of knowledge for the four resources (recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater).
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Represent a catalytic/critical path to water resource implementation.

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Plan (IRP) established a planning framework, including a core resources program, designed to ensure the region's reliability into the future. The 2010 IRP Update recognized that the future is uncertain and additional water resources may need to be developed under some conditions. To address this future uncertainty, the 2010 IRP established Foundational Actions, which are low-risk, preliminary actions that can be taken to ensure the region will be ready to implement new water supplies should the need arise.

In 2013, Metropolitan established the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to fund Member Agency studies focused on removing barriers to future local supply production. The 2015 IRP reaffirmed this forward-looking approach and updated the name to Future Supply Actions. Future Supply Actions represent one component of the overall 2015 IRP strategy. In 2018, Metropolitan released a second round of FSA funding for member agency studies. The 2020 IRP continued this progressive trend by adopting a scenario-based strategy to ensure regional reliability through 2045, referred to as the "Regional Needs Assessment." Given the successes of the 2013 and 2018 programs, the 2023 FSA reinforces Metropolitan's commitment to the 2020 IRP strategy in maintaining existing and developing new local supplies.

In 2022, Metropolitan's Board of Directors (Board) adopted a resolution calling for "Equitable reliability across the service area through a balanced combination of infrastructure, storage, demand management, and water supply programs." Metropolitan is collaborating with our Member Agencies on the regional Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W). CAMP4W will consider Member Agency projects that innovate and enhance regional water supply reliability. The FSA Funding Program has proven to be a capable vehicle for achieving the goals outlined in the resolution. To that end, Metropolitan encourages its member



agencies to propose innovative studies that benefit the region, innovate, reduce barriers, and create a climate change-resilient region.

## **1.2 Description**

The FSA Funding Program promotes technical studies and pilot tests that enable effective future resource planning and potential implementation for the following resources:

- Recycled water, including potable reuse
- Desalination
- Stormwater
- Groundwater enhancement

These actions are meant to identify and investigate opportunities to develop future water resources. Examples of studies under the FSA Funding Program may include, but are not limited to:

- Pilot and bench-scale studies
- Demonstration studies
- Tracer alternative studies
- System integration studies
- Innovative treatment processes
- New sensor technologies
- Advanced ocean intakes and outfall tests
- Brine disposal or harvesting research
- Novel approaches for AI and machine learning

Examples of Member Agency studies funded under the 2013 FAF and 2018 FSA programs are listed on the FSA Funding Program's website: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

The FSA Funding Program is designed to encourage short-term studies targeting barriers to future supply production and would not include:

- Design of full-scale projects
- Long-term studies requiring more than two years to complete
- Construction of full-scale projects
- Funding CEQA documentation for projects
- Existing studies or projects
- Acquisition of property

## **1.3 Who Can Submit?**

The RFP is open to Metropolitan Member Agencies (Member Agencies). Member Agencies may partner with other Member Agencies or other non-Member Agency entities. A single designated lead Member Agency must submit the proposal. The proposal must disclose the names of the partnering Member Agencies or other entities. Each Member Agency may be the

lead agency on a maximum of three proposals per funding round. If partnering on a proposal, the lead Member Agency submitting the proposal shall be responsible for any priority ranking of multiple proposals from that Member Agency.

#### **1.4     Funding**

Metropolitan expects to fund approximate 12 to 16 technical studies or pilot tests total during two separate rounds. This round of the FSA Funding Program will fund up to 8 technical studies or pilot tests, and up to \$3 million. The next FSA Funding Program round is expected to begin in two to three years. In total, up to \$6 million are available for the current and following funding rounds. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP will only be considered for the current funding round.

Member Agencies may submit proposal funding requests of up to \$500,000 per agency or up to \$500,000 for a single study. Each proposal requires a non-Metropolitan monetary match of at least 100 percent of the Metropolitan funded amount. Member Agencies can include in-kind services in their proposal; however, in-kind services do not count towards the required funding match. If partnering on a proposal, a breakdown of each Member Agency's funding request and the respective monetary match is required and will be used to track that agency's total funding request (see Section 2.2F). The Member Agency match funding may not be associated with other Metropolitan funding programs.

A significant FSA Funding Program principle is having the studies or tests benefit the Metropolitan's services area. Due to this core principle, studies or tests funded through this program must be publicly accessible to the extent allowed under applicable law.

### 1.5 Anticipated Schedule

Date	Milestone
12/01/2023	Release of RFP
12/13/2023	Non-mandatory pre-bid webinar at 02:00 p.m.
01/12/2024	Questions for clarification will close at 1:00 p.m.
02/05/2024	<b>RFP proposals due by 2:00 p.m.</b>
Q1 2024	Proposal awards (Contingent upon Board action)
Q1—Q2 2024	Agreements signed by recipients (Goal)
Q1 2025	Work Initiation Deadline
Q4 2026	Final Report Deadline

### 1.6 Non-mandatory Pre-Bid Webinar

- A pre-bid Webinar will be held from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m., Wednesday, **December 13, 2023**. Metropolitan will discuss the details of the FSA Funding Program RFP and answer questions. Written questions regarding this RFP may be submitted from the release of the RFP to one week following the pre-proposal webinar (see Questions for Clarification section).
- While participation is not mandatory, all interested parties and prospective applicants are encouraged to attend. Participants are invited to present relevant questions at the pre-proposal webinar.
- Directions on how to participate in the pre-proposal Webinar will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

### 1.7 Questions for Clarification

Questions for clarification regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing via e-mail to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 1:00 p.m., Friday, **January 12, 2024**. As appropriate, Metropolitan will respond to questions, provide information updates, and issue RFP addendums through the following link: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa). The responsibility solely lies with each interested party and prospective applicant to check and review the FSA Funding Program website for all updates.

### 1.8 General Proposal Information

1. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review this RFP in its entirety before the proposal preparation.
2. All proposals submitted become the property of Metropolitan. Metropolitan has no expressed or implied obligation to reimburse the responding party for any expenses incurred in preparing proposals in response to this request.
3. Applicants may modify or amend proposals only if Metropolitan receives the amendment before the deadline stated herein for receiving proposals.

4. A proposal that is conditional, incomplete, contains alterations of form, additions not called for, or other irregularities that may constitute a material change to the proposal may be considered non-responsive.
5. Additional copies of the RFP will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).
6. Submission of a proposal indicates acceptance by the party of the conditions contained in this request for proposals, unless clearly and specifically noted in the proposal submitted and confirmed in the contract between Metropolitan and the recipient(s).

#### **1.9 Rights Reserved to Metropolitan**

Metropolitan reserves the right to:

1. Reject any and all proposals, revise terms and conditions, or elect not to award full program funding.
2. Select the proposal(s) most advantageous to Metropolitan.
3. Verify all information submitted in the proposal.
4. Cancel this solicitation at any time without prior notice and furthermore, makes no representations that any contract will be awarded to any applicant responding to this RFP.
5. Negotiate the final contract with any applicant(s) as necessary to serve the best interests of Metropolitan.
6. Amend the RFP.
7. Amend the final contract to incorporate necessary attachments and exhibits or to reflect negotiations between Metropolitan and the successful recipient(s).

#### **1.10 Validity**

Proposals must be valid for a period of at least 12 months from the closing date and time of this RFP. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP only qualify for the current funding round. Once submitted, the proposal is the property of Metropolitan and may not be physically withdrawn after the submission date. However, the applicant may request for the submitted proposal not to be considered for funding prior to the funding award.

#### **1.11 Confidentiality**

1. Metropolitan is subject to the Public Records Act, California Government Code Section (Gov. Code) 7920.000 et. seq. All required submittal information is subject to disclosure to the general public. Unless specifically required by the solicitation, the applicant should not submit personal data such as driver's license information, social security numbers, etc. to avoid the possibility of inadvertent disclosure of this personal information. Please note that Metropolitan cannot consider proposals marked confidential in their entirety.

2. The applicant may provide supplemental information exempt from public disclosure under Gov. Code Section 7929.42 including “trade secrets” under Evidence Code Section 1060. Such supplemental information **shall not be material** to the required submittal information and Metropolitan shall be under no obligation to consider such supplemental information in its evaluation.
3. If submitting confidential or supplemental information, such information should be sectioned separately from the rest of the submittal and clearly marked "Confidential." Upon completion of its evaluation, Metropolitan will destroy any confidential information submitted, or return such information to the applicant if so requested.

#### **1.12 Evaluation and Selection Process**

1. Proposals will be evaluated by an independent review panel comprised of Metropolitan and non-Metropolitan professionals familiar with water resources in Southern California. The review panel will ensure compliance with the FSA Funding Program objectives and eligibility and will evaluate each proposal based on selection criteria as described further in this document. Metropolitan staff will review the panel suggestions and develop a list of recommended proposals and funding levels for Board approval.
2. During the evaluation process, Metropolitan may request clarification from the applicant as necessary. Applicant(s) should not misconstrue a clarification request as negotiations.
3. If similar proposals, or proposals that would provide similar results are submitted, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding. Also, if multiple proposals are submitted that are, or could be, collectively part of an overall study or pilot test, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding.
4. If applicable, Member Agencies with study work plans contingent on regulatory permitting must provide a list of required permits, expected award date, and the anticipated study timeline impacts if the permitting process is delayed. The ability to complete studies in the FSA Funding Program round timeframe is a scoring consideration. Metropolitan may request additional information on the permitting schedule.

#### **1.13 Agreement Process**

1. After proposals are selected for funding, Metropolitan will enter into agreements upon successful contract negotiations. Funding may be withdrawn if the recipient does not sign agreements within three months of final contract negotiations.
2. Metropolitan may negotiate proposal scope and funding changes if deemed beneficial.
3. Recipients must submit deliverables by task, including reports, invoices, interim study or test documents, and a final report documenting study or test results, other findings, and recommendations for future action. Recipients must provide any generated presentations or preliminary reports to Metropolitan during the life of the agreement.
4. The final report and symposium presentation will be worth 25 percent of the total funding and can be invoiced after the delivery of the final report and presentation.

Metropolitan will withhold the final funding until the final report and presentation are accepted by Metropolitan staff.

5. Performance provisions may be incorporated into the program agreements. These provisions would allow Metropolitan to adjust or withdraw financial commitments to the proposal based on performance.
6. The FSA invoice intervals will be flexibly negotiated on a case-by-case basis during the agreement process; options available to agencies in this FSA round include quarterly, semi-annual, or based on deliverables. Funds will be disbursed after verification of study status based on submitted progress reports, invoices, and appropriate documentation. The non-Metropolitan funding match must equal or exceed the Metropolitan funded amount per submitted progress payment.
7. Funding recipients are expected to provide an initial forecast of spending to Metropolitan after the study or test initiation. The recipient will need to provide a forecast as a part of the submitted progress reports.
8. Final reports must be completed and submitted by **December 28, 2026**, unless extended by Metropolitan. Final payment will be made within 60 days of acceptance of the final report and presentation.
9. Member Agencies and study/pilot test participants will also be encouraged to participate in the FSA symposium. The symposium will highlight the study results and allow participants to present the final presentation to other member agencies and regional stakeholders.
10. Attachment A is Metropolitan's Sample Agreement. Applicant is requested to carefully review and comment as necessary on any of the provisions set forth in the Sample Agreement. Metropolitan reserves the right to modify, add or delete any of the provisions of the Agreement before issuance.

#### **1.14 Negotiations**

Negotiations regarding agreement terms, conditions, work plan, schedule, and funding may or may not be conducted with the applicant. If Metropolitan engages the applicant in negotiations and satisfactory agreement provisions cannot be reached, then negotiations may be terminated.

#### **1.15 Selection Criteria**

The review panel will use the criteria provided below to evaluate and rank the proposals. In addition, the review panel will identify and weigh each proposal's significant strengths, weaknesses, and miscellaneous issues.

Recommendations will reflect the collective findings of the review panel. To be qualified for funding, proposals must satisfy each criterion category and subcategory listed as follows and in Section 2.2 of this document.

**Criteria and Weight:**

1. Reduces Barriers to Future Production: 30 percent
2. Regional Benefit/Applicability: 20 percent
3. Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology: 20 percent
4. Work Plan/Schedule: 15 percent
5. Costs: 15 percent

The selection criteria are described further in Section 2.2 of this document.

In addition to the selection criteria above, Metropolitan will award a bonus to studies that objectively demonstrate regional benefit across the Metropolitan service area. To incentivize Member Agency cooperation on regional studies, Metropolitan will grant a 5% bonus to the proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies. Partner Agencies must have at least \$10,000 vested in the study or test to qualify as a participating agency.

## SECTION 2: PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

The following format and content requirements shall be adhered to for proposals to be considered responsive. Applicants should use the numbering and lettering system outlined in these guidelines. Concise informative proposals within the page limitations are encouraged.

### 2.1 Proposal Submittal and PDF Format Guidelines

- Proposals will only be accepted in PDF format.
- The proposal must be formatted for white 8 1/2" x 11" size paper with black text in a 12-point font, and table/graphics with text no smaller than a 10-point font.
- Proposals shall be no more than 20 pages, including attachments.
- Materials presented in the Appendix will not be used in the proposal evaluation and should exclusively contain reference or supplementary content
- Proposals shall be clear, accurate, and comprehensive. Excessive or irrelevant materials will not be favorably received.
- The PDF should include the entire proposal (executive summary, support letters, attachments, etc.) in one file.
- Support letters: Proposals can include no more than five support letters of no longer than one page. Support letters will not count against the page limitations and will be considered to support regional benefit. Support letters should be addressed to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by the proposal submittal deadline. Support letters received after the proposal submittal deadline will not be considered.
- **Proposals that do not conform to these formatting requirements and the following content requirements may be deemed non-responsive and rejected.**

### 2.2 Content Requirements

Proposals shall be organized and lettered in the order presented below:

- A. Executive Summary Letter
- B. Entities Participating in Proposal
- C. Key Individuals
- D. Proposal Description
- E. Criteria One – Reduces Barriers to Future Production
- F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability
- G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology
- H. Criteria Five – Work Plan / Schedule / Permitting
- I. Criteria Four – Costs
- J. Appendix A: Support Letters



**A. Executive Summary Letter**

This letter shall be a formal signed letter from the applicant Member Agency (and any partnering Member Agency(s)). The letter shall provide a brief description of the proposal and information regarding the organization and its ability to meet the objectives and requirements of this RFP.

The letter should be signed by an individual(s) authorized to bind the proposing Member Agency and shall identify all materials and enclosures being forwarded in response to this RFP. An unsigned Executive Summary Letter may be grounds for rejection. The letter must include the following language:

**“I am informed and believe that the information contained in this proposal is true and that the supporting data is accurate and complete.”**

Please include the following information in your letter:

<b>Name of Proposal</b>	
Water Resource Category (Recycled Water, Seawater Desalination, Stormwater, Groundwater)	
Member Agency Name(s) (As it appears on W-9 Tax form)	
Federal ID #	
Address	
City, State & Zip	
Main Telephone	
Contact Name	
Contact Telephone	
Contact E-mail Address	
Website Address (if applicable)	

**B. Entities Participating in Proposal**

- List other entities participating in proposal.
- Provide support letters from study participants (not considered as part of the 20-page limit for proposals) in Section I.

**C. Key Individuals**

- Proposal participants / cooperating agencies

- Identify key individuals including program manager and management team
  - Name, title
  - Title
  - Phone Number
  - Mailing address
  - Fax Number
  - E-mail Address
  - Relevant experience

**D. Proposal Description**

Provide a concise summary that includes an overall description of the proposal and conveys a clear understanding of the proposal's goals and objectives.

**E. Criteria One – Increases Water Supply Resiliency**

In this section, the applicant shall describe the following in narrative form all of which is applicable:

- Describe how the proposed actions increase future local supply potential.
- Describe how the proposed actions are critical to resource resiliency and planning for climate change-driven uncertainty.
- Describe how the proposed actions **removes barriers** to supply development including, but not limited to, technical, regulatory, permitting, and institutional barriers.
- Describe how the proposed actions increase regional climate resiliency or safeguards current local supplies.

**F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how the results of this proposal would apply to Metropolitan's member agencies, retail agencies, and regional stakeholders. The proposal should describe how the study results are transferable to other regional member agencies and stakeholders.
- If applicable, describe other co-benefits, such as water quality, energy, wastewater, infrastructure, environmental, etc.
- Metropolitan will award a 5% bonus to proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies.

**G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how these actions are unique and innovative. Describe the current state of technology. Identify similar completed or ongoing studies and how the proposed actions differ (include a literature search summary).

- Describe how these actions will advance the field of knowledge to develop future water resources. Include how the results of the proposed actions could be used in future research.
- Describe how the study or test results enable future actions that address regional barriers when compared to the status quo. Identify and describe the follow-up actions necessary for wide-scale implementation, such as submission of results to the State or Federal regulators required for regulatory acknowledgment or adoption. Include any future studies or steps to leverage results from the study or test.

#### **H. Criteria Four – Work Plan / Schedule**

Provide a detailed work plan describing each proposed task and deliverable, and how proposal success will be measured. Every task must have a specific deliverable and due date. Meeting dates and study milestones should be identified. Deliverables may include but are not limited to technical memoranda, summary reports, progress reports, draft technical reports, final technical reports, presentations, and related information. If partnering on a proposal with other entities, describe the role/involvement of each partner and their relationship to the proposal. Describe factors that may affect the feasibility of implementing the proposal. Also, describe the technical expertise of the proposal team.

Cite the proposed schedule, including the start date (no later than **January 01, 2025**), tasks, deliverables, reports, completion date (no later than **December 28, 2026**), and other key milestone dates. The schedule should be linked to the tasks and task deliverables. Identify components and tasks that could be broken out to allow funding to be provided for a particular activity or combination of activities. The description must clearly describe how funds would be used.

The following includes additional information and instructions for evaluation:

- Work plan and schedule must provide detail and completeness to measure the proposed implemented actions for success. Identify potential challenges, issues, and prerequisites related to proposal implementation and describe how they will be addressed.
- Describe how the proposed objectives can be achieved in the stated time period with the allotted personnel and budget.
- The proposal should include a table of required permits describing each permit, expected award date, and impact to the study workplan if delayed.

#### **I. Criteria Five – Costs**

Proposal must provide a cost breakdown of the work plan consistent with the schedule. This should be itemized in tabular form (see following tables). Each work plan task should include a breakdown of the applicant's monetary funding match, source of the funding match (e.g., name of the Member Agency, outside grant agency, etc.), and requested Metropolitan funds. Do not include in-kind services in the funding match. If partnering with other Member Agencies, provide separate cost tables and a proposal total cost table for each Member Agency. The

grand total non-Metropolitan funding match for each cost table must equal or exceed the requested Metropolitan funded amount. Also, provide a list summarizing all sources of the funding match, their respective monetary contribution, and the status of the funding match (e.g., funding budgeted and approved by the Member Agency's Board of Directors, grant received, applying for a grant, etc.). Include supporting information for the budget (such as labor categories, hourly rates, labor time estimates, materials and supplies, and subcontractor/consultant quotes) and the matching funds.

Cost Table Example – Study Total				
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)	Requested MWD Funding	Total
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines			
(b)	Proposed Task			
(c)	...			
Grand Total				

Cost Table Example – Lead Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

Cost Table Example – Partner Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

The following includes additional information and instruction for evaluation:

- Describe the cost-effectiveness of the proposed work plan budget.
- Describe the readiness to proceed with the matching funds, and how the matching funds will be committed by the Member Agency before the Member Agency signs the FSA Funding Program agreement.

### **2.3 Submittal Instructions**

Proposals for this RFP will be accepted in PDF format via e-mail.

**By e-mail:**

- **Proposal must be submitted electronically as an attachment to an e-mail at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 02:00 p.m. PST, on February 05, 2024**
- The e-mail date and time will act as a timestamp for the submittal. Notice of receipt will be sent upon successful receipt of the proposal.
- The PDF file size is limited to no more 20 MB.
- The e-mail subject line should contain the following: "Proposal for Future Supply Actions Funding Program".
- The e-mail's body should include the proposal's title, lead Member Agency name, the applicable resource (groundwater, recycling, seawater desalination or stormwater), and contact information.
- If submitting multiple proposals, please submit each proposal individually in a separate e-mail.
- Member Agencies are encouraged to submit proposals before the closing time and date.

Proposals received after the stated time and date will be considered late and automatically rejected by Metropolitan. Member agencies are **responsible for submitting the proposal correctly in form and content and within the stipulated deadline**. Late proposals will be deemed non-responsive and not considered during the evaluation process.

**Proposals will be received until 02:00 p.m., February 05, 2024.**

## **2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program**

### **Review Panel Members and Panel Affidavit**

**Heather Collins**

Assistant Group Manager, Treatment & Water Quality Group, Metropolitan Water District  
President-Elect, American Water Works Association

**Dr. Adrian Hightower**

Sustainability and Resilience Manager, Metropolitan Water District

**Dr. Malynda Cappelle**

Facility Manager, Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility, Bureau of Reclamation

**Dr. Roy Wolfe**

Wolfe Water Consulting, LLC.

**Dr. Robert Wilkinson**

Adjunct Professor, Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California,  
Santa Barbara

DocuSign Envelope ID: 55107BE7-2B6D-4340-8FC9-B3A7E84057CD

## Affidavit

### Affidavit for Review Panelists

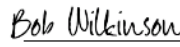
The undersigned members of the Review Panel for the Future Supply Actions Funding Program 2023 RFP objectively reviewed the proposals to ensure compliance with the FSA Program objectives and eligibility requirements and confirm the panel's collective findings.

DocuSigned by:



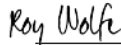
Malynnda Cappelle, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



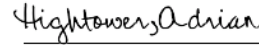
Robert Wilkinson, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



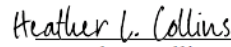
Roy Wolfe, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



Adrian Hightower, PhD  
Special Projects Manager

DocuSigned by:



Heather Collins, PE  
Assistant Group Manager

**2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program RFP  
Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
<b>Groundwater</b>			
Pilot Study of New Electrolytic Method for In-situ Generation of Ferric Arsenic Treatment	Western MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This pilot study will generate ferric chemicals onsite and offers the potential to lower treated water arsenic concentrations using the coagulation-filtration method.</li> <li>This technology offers potential operations and maintenance cost savings and avoids manganese addition that typically occurs for liquid ferric chemicals.</li> </ul>	\$207,500
PFAS and Groundwater Wells	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study seeks to demonstrate to the water supply industry that improved well construction and development processes can reduce or eliminate certain PFAS contamination in groundwater wells.</li> <li>Three Valleys MWD, Western MWD, and Jurupa Community Services District are also participating in the study.</li> </ul>	\$298,500
Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study	Long Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study will evaluate the impacts of using recycled water to augment groundwater resources in the Central and West Coast Basins.</li> <li>The outcomes of the Project will ultimately increase Long Beach's water supply reliability by reducing its reliance on imported water supplies and integrating new water resources into its supply portfolio.</li> </ul>	\$499,802
<b>Stormwater</b>			
Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study	SDCWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Pilot Study is intended to inform the Vista Irrigation District and the City of Escondido regarding the effectiveness of oxygenation in limiting harmful algal bloom formation and cyanotoxin production.</li> <li>Oxygenation systems have not been tested in a broad, shallow lake such as Lake Henshaw and have not been systematically quantified in lakes in general.</li> </ul>	\$500,000



Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
Data-Driven Resource Optimization and Planning System (DROPS)	Foothill MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DROPS is a pioneering tool that integrates advanced data analytics with artificial intelligence to enhance water management capabilities.</li> <li>DROPS achieves previously unattained levels of accuracy in terms of identifying impervious areas by triangulating aerial imagery, topographical data, remote-sensing data, and environmental databases and supplementing those datasets with analysis and insights from AI integration.</li> </ul>	\$54,900

Recycled Water			
Chino Basin Advance Water Purification Demonstration Facility	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstration study for the design and construction of an approximately 100 gpm Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility for the Chino Basin Program.</li> <li>The demonstration study will advance innovative technologies and approaches related to advanced water treatment technologies, with findings applicable to advanced water treatment projects and the industry.</li> </ul>	\$401,500
Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot	LADWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The objective of the pilot is to demonstrate compliance with the recently approved DPR regulations and test advanced treatment technologies.</li> <li>The pilot will explore the feasibility of post-RO treatment strategies for chemical control.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
Seawater Desalination			
OceanWell: A Climate-Resilient, Eco-Friendly, Submerged Reverse Osmosis System	Las Virgenes MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot study of the OceanWell submerged reverse osmosis system in the Las Virgenes Reservoir.</li> <li>The study will serve as a stress test that will bring the technology from a TRL 4 to TRL 6.</li> <li>Calleguas MWD and Eastern MWD are contributing to this study.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 Studies</b>		<b>\$2,962,202</b>



## One Water & Stewardship Committee

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the San Diego County Water Authority under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study

Item 7-5

July 8, 2024

# Item 7-5 Introduction Slide

## Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the San Diego County Water Authority under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study

## Purpose

Reduce Barriers to future water resource production within the Metropolitan service area.

## Recommendations

Authorize staff to enter into a \$500,000 funding agreement with San Diego County Water Authority under the FSA Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study.

## Fiscal Impact

Metropolitan would invest \$500,000 in the proposed study under the FSA Program over a two-year period.

# Board Options: Item 7-5

(SDCWA – Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study – FSA Program)

## Option #1

- Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with San Diego County Water Authority under the FSA Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study.

## Option #2

- Do not authorize staff to enter into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with San Diego County Water Authority under the FSA Program for the Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study.

# Staff Recommendation

Option #1







- **Board of Directors**  
***One Water and Stewardship Committee***

7/9/2024 Board Meeting

7-6

## Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to exceed \$499,802 funding agreement with the City of Long Beach under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into one of the agreements with the City of Long Beach under the Future Supply Actions Program (FSA Program) for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System and New Wells Site Study.

In December 2023, Metropolitan issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) under the FSA Program. The FSA Program funds technical studies and pilot tests targeting barriers to future production of recycled water, stormwater, seawater desalination, and groundwater resources.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. A technical review panel evaluated the proposals and developed a collective rating. Based on the panel findings and compliance with program requirements, staff recommends funding all eight proposals.

Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require board approval. This letter concerns one of these proposals.

## Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

### Staff Recommendation: Option #1

#### Option #1

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$499,802 funding agreement with the City of Long Beach under the FSA Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System and New Wells Site Study.

**Fiscal Impact:** The funding requested for the proposed study will be expended over a two-year period and is within the approved FSA Program budget of \$3 million for Fiscal Years 24/25 and 25/26. The total expenditures for the eight proposed studies under the FSA Program is \$2.96 million.

**Business Analysis:** By providing funding for member agency studies under the FSA Program, Metropolitan will remove barriers to future water resource production and increase regional water supply reliability.

**Option #2**

Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$499,802 funding agreement with the City of Long Beach under the FSA Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System and New Wells Site Study.

**Fiscal Impact:** No impact. Metropolitan would miss leveraging \$499,802 of other funds for the study.

**Business Analysis:** Metropolitan would potentially delay an opportunity to remove a barrier to local resource development.

**Alternatives Considered**

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Not applicable

**Applicable Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

By Minute Item 48449, dated October 12, 2010, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2010 Integrated Resources Plan Update, as set forth in the letter signed by the General Manager.

By Minute Item 49381, dated April 9, 2013, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved the proposal. Foundational Actions Funding Program, and directed staff to issue a Request for Proposals.

By Minute Item 50358, dated January 12, 2016, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2015 Integrated Resources Plan Update.

By Minute Item 51168, dated April 10, 2018, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

By Minute Item 53409, dated October 10, 2023, the Board approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

**Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)**

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Not applicable

**Summary of Outreach Completed**

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Member Agency Manager's Meeting:

- August 2023 – Round 3 Authorization
- June 2024 – Round 3 Recommended Proposals

Webinars:

- August 2023 – Workshop for Round 3
- December 2023 – Request for Proposals – Pre-Bid

Member Agency:

- November 2023 – West Basin Caucus
- January 2024 – Foothill MWD

**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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**CEQA determination for Option #1:**

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action that a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15306.)



**CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required

**Details and Background**

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**Background**

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Management Plan Update (2010 IRP Update) recognized the need to prepare for an uncertain future and that additional resources beyond the region's core supplies may be required. To address this uncertainty, the 2010 IRP Update established a Foundational Actions approach for removing barriers to new supply development. Foundational Actions are low-risk, preliminary steps that the region can take to accelerate the development of new water resources should the need arise. The 2010 IRP Update identified the following four local resources for Foundational Actions:

- Recycled water (including direct and indirect potable reuse)
- Seawater desalination
- Stormwater capture
- Groundwater enhancement

In 2013, the Board approved the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to advance technical studies and pilot tests to address critical resource development barriers. Under the FAF Program, Metropolitan provided \$2.97 million in co-funding for 13-member agency-sponsored technical studies. The goals of the program were to:

- Advance the field of knowledge for future water resource production.
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Remove barriers to water resource implementation.

The 13 studies funded under the FAF Program yielded tangible regional benefits for each of the local resources. These benefits included furthering the science of seawater desalination intake technologies, developing implementation pathways for stormwater capture, validating new technologies for groundwater treatment, and completing preliminary studies for direct potable reuse. The FAF Program concluded with a symposium where results from the studies were shared with over 230 participants from across Southern California.

The 2015 Integrated Water Resources Plan Update called for the region to continue the Foundational Actions approach and revised the program's name to the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program). In 2018, the Board approved a follow-up to the original FSA Program that included two components:

1. A \$975,000 funding agreement with WRF for seven potable and non-potable reuse studies.
2. A second round of member agency funding totaling \$3.5 million for 14 studies.

The 21 studies funded under the FSA Program produced valuable regional benefits for the targeted local resources. These benefits included progressing in the fields of artificial intelligence applications in recycled water projects, stormwater diversion and percolation analysis, desalination brine diffusion, and groundwater utilization analysis. The studies within the program have concluded with MWD and WRF-hosted webinars. Webinar recordings and final reports for each study are available on the FSA Program's website: <https://www.mwdh2o.com/planning-for-tomorrow/funding-opportunities/>.

**Third Round of the FSA Program**

In October 2023, the Board authorized two additional rounds of funding for the FSA Program totaling \$6 million. In December 2023, Metropolitan released an RFP for the first of the two authorized funding rounds (**Attachment 1**). Member agencies could request up to \$500,000 for one or more proposals, which they must match dollar-for-dollar with other funds. Member agencies were encouraged to partner with other member

agencies as well as other stakeholders. Staff held an informational webinar and answered member agency questions.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. These proposals covered all four resource types and ranged from a data-driven planning study to pilot tests of innovative new technologies.

A technical review panel of Metropolitan staff and external experts performed independent evaluations of each proposal. Once completed, the panel convened to compare findings and collectively rate the proposals.

**Attachment 2** contains a list of the panel members and their affiliations. The proposals were evaluated against the following criteria:

- How does the proposal increase the water supply resiliency of future production?
- Does the proposal address a catalytic/critical path to implementation for local supplies?
- Will the potential results from the study have regional applicability?
- Does the proposal have a well-defined and innovative work plan?

Based on the panel's findings, compliance with program requirements, and available funding, staff recommends funding all eight proposals. Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require board approval.

#### **Funding Agreement**

The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into a not-to-exceed \$499,802 funding agreement with the City of Long Beach under the FSA Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System and New Wells Site Study. The objective of the study is to evaluate the impacts of using recycled water to augment groundwater resources in the Central and West Coast Basins.

An existing groundwater model, prepared by the United States Geological Survey, will be updated and calibrated to serve as the backbone of the study. Potential areas for groundwater recharge through means of direct injection will be evaluated within the Central Basin. Once potential recharge areas are identified, the City of Long Beach will update and calibrate its groundwater collection system hydraulic model to recommend system improvements in support of future groundwater augmentation infrastructure. Once both groundwater and hydraulic models are updated and system improvements are recommended, potential injection and extraction well sites will be evaluated for feasibility with the intent that the most suitable sites will advance into design. The results of the study will be summarized in a Final Report and establish a framework for the City of Long Beach's future Groundwater Augmentation Program.

Staff requests board authorization to enter into an FSA Program funding agreement for a not-to-exceed amount of \$499,802 with the City of Long Beach under the FSA Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System and New Wells Site Study.



*Brandon Goshi*  
*Interim Manager,*  
*Water Resource Management*

*7/2/2024*

*Date*

*Shane Chapman*  
*for Deven N. Upadhyay*  
*Interim General Manager*

*7/2/2024*

*Date*

**Attachment 1 – 2023 Request for Proposals for Future Supply Actions Funding Program**

**Attachment 2 – Review Panel Members and Affidavit**

**Attachment 3 – Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Ref# wrm12695391

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**Water Resource Management Group**

**2023 Request for Proposals for  
Future Supply Actions Funding Program**



**KEY DATES**

Request for Proposals (RFP) Issued.....December 1, 2023.  
Pre-bid webinar.....December 13, 2023 @ 02:00 P.M.  
Proposals due by.....February 5, 2024 @ 02:00 PM.

**NOTICE**

**An optional pre-bid webinar** will be held on **December 13, 2023**, from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m.  
All Member Agencies and proposal partners are encouraged to participate.

Metropolitan Contact: Jonathan Jordan  
E-mail Address: [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com)

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## **SECTION 1: INFORMATION FOR MEMBER AGENCIES**

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is designed to promote an objective process for distributing funds for technical studies or pilot tests under the Future Supply Actions (FSA) Funding Program. The FSA Funding Program goal is to enable effective future resource planning and potential development of recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater enhancement. This RFP contains information concerning the 2023 FSA Funding Program objectives, who can submit, funding, schedule, and review process. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) invites its Member Agencies to submit study proposals for the program described herein.

### **1.1 Objective**

Metropolitan has proposed a 2023 FSA Funding Program with objectives to help address regional funding needs for actions that:

- Augment water resiliency to reduce climate change driven water resource barriers.
- Advance the field of knowledge for the four resources (recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater).
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Represent a catalytic/critical path to water resource implementation.

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Plan (IRP) established a planning framework, including a core resources program, designed to ensure the region's reliability into the future. The 2010 IRP Update recognized that the future is uncertain and additional water resources may need to be developed under some conditions. To address this future uncertainty, the 2010 IRP established Foundational Actions, which are low-risk, preliminary actions that can be taken to ensure the region will be ready to implement new water supplies should the need arise.

In 2013, Metropolitan established the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to fund Member Agency studies focused on removing barriers to future local supply production. The 2015 IRP reaffirmed this forward-looking approach and updated the name to Future Supply Actions. Future Supply Actions represent one component of the overall 2015 IRP strategy. In 2018, Metropolitan released a second round of FSA funding for member agency studies. The 2020 IRP continued this progressive trend by adopting a scenario-based strategy to ensure regional reliability through 2045, referred to as the "Regional Needs Assessment." Given the successes of the 2013 and 2018 programs, the 2023 FSA reinforces Metropolitan's commitment to the 2020 IRP strategy in maintaining existing and developing new local supplies.

In 2022, Metropolitan's Board of Directors (Board) adopted a resolution calling for "Equitable reliability across the service area through a balanced combination of infrastructure, storage, demand management, and water supply programs." Metropolitan is collaborating with our Member Agencies on the regional Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W). CAMP4W will consider Member Agency projects that innovate and enhance regional water supply reliability. The FSA Funding Program has proven to be a capable vehicle for achieving the goals outlined in the resolution. To that end, Metropolitan encourages its member

agencies to propose innovative studies that benefit the region, innovate, reduce barriers, and create a climate change-resilient region.

## **1.2 Description**

The FSA Funding Program promotes technical studies and pilot tests that enable effective future resource planning and potential implementation for the following resources:

- Recycled water, including potable reuse
- Desalination
- Stormwater
- Groundwater enhancement

These actions are meant to identify and investigate opportunities to develop future water resources. Examples of studies under the FSA Funding Program may include, but are not limited to:

- Pilot and bench-scale studies
- Demonstration studies
- Tracer alternative studies
- System integration studies
- Innovative treatment processes
- New sensor technologies
- Advanced ocean intakes and outfall tests
- Brine disposal or harvesting research
- Novel approaches for AI and machine learning

Examples of Member Agency studies funded under the 2013 FAF and 2018 FSA programs are listed on the FSA Funding Program's website: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

The FSA Funding Program is designed to encourage short-term studies targeting barriers to future supply production and would not include:

- Design of full-scale projects
- Long-term studies requiring more than two years to complete
- Construction of full-scale projects
- Funding CEQA documentation for projects
- Existing studies or projects
- Acquisition of property

## **1.3 Who Can Submit?**

The RFP is open to Metropolitan Member Agencies (Member Agencies). Member Agencies may partner with other Member Agencies or other non-Member Agency entities. A single designated lead Member Agency must submit the proposal. The proposal must disclose the names of the partnering Member Agencies or other entities. Each Member Agency may be the

lead agency on a maximum of three proposals per funding round. If partnering on a proposal, the lead Member Agency submitting the proposal shall be responsible for any priority ranking of multiple proposals from that Member Agency.

#### **1.4     Funding**

Metropolitan expects to fund approximate 12 to 16 technical studies or pilot tests total during two separate rounds. This round of the FSA Funding Program will fund up to 8 technical studies or pilot tests, and up to \$3 million. The next FSA Funding Program round is expected to begin in two to three years. In total, up to \$6 million are available for the current and following funding rounds. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP will only be considered for the current funding round.

Member Agencies may submit proposal funding requests of up to \$500,000 per agency or up to \$500,000 for a single study. Each proposal requires a non-Metropolitan monetary match of at least 100 percent of the Metropolitan funded amount. Member Agencies can include in-kind services in their proposal; however, in-kind services do not count towards the required funding match. If partnering on a proposal, a breakdown of each Member Agency's funding request and the respective monetary match is required and will be used to track that agency's total funding request (see Section 2.2F). The Member Agency match funding may not be associated with other Metropolitan funding programs.

A significant FSA Funding Program principle is having the studies or tests benefit the Metropolitan's services area. Due to this core principle, studies or tests funded through this program must be publicly accessible to the extent allowed under applicable law.



### 1.5 Anticipated Schedule

Date	Milestone
12/01/2023	Release of RFP
12/13/2023	Non-mandatory pre-bid webinar at 02:00 p.m.
01/12/2024	Questions for clarification will close at 1:00 p.m.
02/05/2024	<b>RFP proposals due by 2:00 p.m.</b>
Q1 2024	Proposal awards (Contingent upon Board action)
Q1—Q2 2024	Agreements signed by recipients (Goal)
Q1 2025	Work Initiation Deadline
Q4 2026	Final Report Deadline

### 1.6 Non-mandatory Pre-Bid Webinar

- A pre-bid Webinar will be held from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m., Wednesday, **December 13, 2023**. Metropolitan will discuss the details of the FSA Funding Program RFP and answer questions. Written questions regarding this RFP may be submitted from the release of the RFP to one week following the pre-proposal webinar (see Questions for Clarification section).
- While participation is not mandatory, all interested parties and prospective applicants are encouraged to attend. Participants are invited to present relevant questions at the pre-proposal webinar.
- Directions on how to participate in the pre-proposal Webinar will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

### 1.7 Questions for Clarification

Questions for clarification regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing via e-mail to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 1:00 p.m., Friday, **January 12, 2024**. As appropriate, Metropolitan will respond to questions, provide information updates, and issue RFP addendums through the following link: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa). The responsibility solely lies with each interested party and prospective applicant to check and review the FSA Funding Program website for all updates.

### 1.8 General Proposal Information

1. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review this RFP in its entirety before the proposal preparation.
2. All proposals submitted become the property of Metropolitan. Metropolitan has no expressed or implied obligation to reimburse the responding party for any expenses incurred in preparing proposals in response to this request.
3. Applicants may modify or amend proposals only if Metropolitan receives the amendment before the deadline stated herein for receiving proposals.

4. A proposal that is conditional, incomplete, contains alterations of form, additions not called for, or other irregularities that may constitute a material change to the proposal may be considered non-responsive.
5. Additional copies of the RFP will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).
6. Submission of a proposal indicates acceptance by the party of the conditions contained in this request for proposals, unless clearly and specifically noted in the proposal submitted and confirmed in the contract between Metropolitan and the recipient(s).

#### **1.9 Rights Reserved to Metropolitan**

Metropolitan reserves the right to:

1. Reject any and all proposals, revise terms and conditions, or elect not to award full program funding.
2. Select the proposal(s) most advantageous to Metropolitan.
3. Verify all information submitted in the proposal.
4. Cancel this solicitation at any time without prior notice and furthermore, makes no representations that any contract will be awarded to any applicant responding to this RFP.
5. Negotiate the final contract with any applicant(s) as necessary to serve the best interests of Metropolitan.
6. Amend the RFP.
7. Amend the final contract to incorporate necessary attachments and exhibits or to reflect negotiations between Metropolitan and the successful recipient(s).

#### **1.10 Validity**

Proposals must be valid for a period of at least 12 months from the closing date and time of this RFP. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP only qualify for the current funding round. Once submitted, the proposal is the property of Metropolitan and may not be physically withdrawn after the submission date. However, the applicant may request for the submitted proposal not to be considered for funding prior to the funding award.

#### **1.11 Confidentiality**

1. Metropolitan is subject to the Public Records Act, California Government Code Section (Gov. Code) 7920.000 et. seq. All required submittal information is subject to disclosure to the general public. Unless specifically required by the solicitation, the applicant should not submit personal data such as driver's license information, social security numbers, etc. to avoid the possibility of inadvertent disclosure of this personal information. Please note that Metropolitan cannot consider proposals marked confidential in their entirety.

2. The applicant may provide supplemental information exempt from public disclosure under Gov. Code Section 7929.42 including “trade secrets” under Evidence Code Section 1060. Such supplemental information **shall not be material** to the required submittal information and Metropolitan shall be under no obligation to consider such supplemental information in its evaluation.
3. If submitting confidential or supplemental information, such information should be sectioned separately from the rest of the submittal and clearly marked "Confidential." Upon completion of its evaluation, Metropolitan will destroy any confidential information submitted, or return such information to the applicant if so requested.

#### **1.12 Evaluation and Selection Process**

1. Proposals will be evaluated by an independent review panel comprised of Metropolitan and non-Metropolitan professionals familiar with water resources in Southern California. The review panel will ensure compliance with the FSA Funding Program objectives and eligibility and will evaluate each proposal based on selection criteria as described further in this document. Metropolitan staff will review the panel suggestions and develop a list of recommended proposals and funding levels for Board approval.
2. During the evaluation process, Metropolitan may request clarification from the applicant as necessary. Applicant(s) should not misconstrue a clarification request as negotiations.
3. If similar proposals, or proposals that would provide similar results are submitted, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding. Also, if multiple proposals are submitted that are, or could be, collectively part of an overall study or pilot test, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding.
4. If applicable, Member Agencies with study work plans contingent on regulatory permitting must provide a list of required permits, expected award date, and the anticipated study timeline impacts if the permitting process is delayed. The ability to complete studies in the FSA Funding Program round timeframe is a scoring consideration. Metropolitan may request additional information on the permitting schedule.

#### **1.13 Agreement Process**

1. After proposals are selected for funding, Metropolitan will enter into agreements upon successful contract negotiations. Funding may be withdrawn if the recipient does not sign agreements within three months of final contract negotiations.
2. Metropolitan may negotiate proposal scope and funding changes if deemed beneficial.
3. Recipients must submit deliverables by task, including reports, invoices, interim study or test documents, and a final report documenting study or test results, other findings, and recommendations for future action. Recipients must provide any generated presentations or preliminary reports to Metropolitan during the life of the agreement.
4. The final report and symposium presentation will be worth 25 percent of the total funding and can be invoiced after the delivery of the final report and presentation.

Metropolitan will withhold the final funding until the final report and presentation are accepted by Metropolitan staff.

5. Performance provisions may be incorporated into the program agreements. These provisions would allow Metropolitan to adjust or withdraw financial commitments to the proposal based on performance.
6. The FSA invoice intervals will be flexibly negotiated on a case-by-case basis during the agreement process; options available to agencies in this FSA round include quarterly, semi-annual, or based on deliverables. Funds will be disbursed after verification of study status based on submitted progress reports, invoices, and appropriate documentation. The non-Metropolitan funding match must equal or exceed the Metropolitan funded amount per submitted progress payment.
7. Funding recipients are expected to provide an initial forecast of spending to Metropolitan after the study or test initiation. The recipient will need to provide a forecast as a part of the submitted progress reports.
8. Final reports must be completed and submitted by **December 28, 2026**, unless extended by Metropolitan. Final payment will be made within 60 days of acceptance of the final report and presentation.
9. Member Agencies and study/pilot test participants will also be encouraged to participate in the FSA symposium. The symposium will highlight the study results and allow participants to present the final presentation to other member agencies and regional stakeholders.
10. Attachment A is Metropolitan's Sample Agreement. Applicant is requested to carefully review and comment as necessary on any of the provisions set forth in the Sample Agreement. Metropolitan reserves the right to modify, add or delete any of the provisions of the Agreement before issuance.

#### **1.14 Negotiations**

Negotiations regarding agreement terms, conditions, work plan, schedule, and funding may or may not be conducted with the applicant. If Metropolitan engages the applicant in negotiations and satisfactory agreement provisions cannot be reached, then negotiations may be terminated.

#### **1.15 Selection Criteria**

The review panel will use the criteria provided below to evaluate and rank the proposals. In addition, the review panel will identify and weigh each proposal's significant strengths, weaknesses, and miscellaneous issues.

Recommendations will reflect the collective findings of the review panel. To be qualified for funding, proposals must satisfy each criterion category and subcategory listed as follows and in Section 2.2 of this document.

**Criteria and Weight:**

1. Reduces Barriers to Future Production: 30 percent
2. Regional Benefit/Applicability: 20 percent
3. Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology: 20 percent
4. Work Plan/Schedule: 15 percent
5. Costs: 15 percent

The selection criteria are described further in Section 2.2 of this document.

In addition to the selection criteria above, Metropolitan will award a bonus to studies that objectively demonstrate regional benefit across the Metropolitan service area. To incentivize Member Agency cooperation on regional studies, Metropolitan will grant a 5% bonus to the proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies. Partner Agencies must have at least \$10,000 vested in the study or test to qualify as a participating agency.

## SECTION 2: PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

The following format and content requirements shall be adhered to for proposals to be considered responsive. Applicants should use the numbering and lettering system outlined in these guidelines. Concise informative proposals within the page limitations are encouraged.

### 2.1 Proposal Submittal and PDF Format Guidelines

- Proposals will only be accepted in PDF format.
- The proposal must be formatted for white 8 1/2" x 11" size paper with black text in a 12-point font, and table/graphics with text no smaller than a 10-point font.
- Proposals shall be no more than 20 pages, including attachments.
- Materials presented in the Appendix will not be used in the proposal evaluation and should exclusively contain reference or supplementary content
- Proposals shall be clear, accurate, and comprehensive. Excessive or irrelevant materials will not be favorably received.
- The PDF should include the entire proposal (executive summary, support letters, attachments, etc.) in one file.
- Support letters: Proposals can include no more than five support letters of no longer than one page. Support letters will not count against the page limitations and will be considered to support regional benefit. Support letters should be addressed to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mw2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mw2o.com) by the proposal submittal deadline. Support letters received after the proposal submittal deadline will not be considered.
- **Proposals that do not conform to these formatting requirements and the following content requirements may be deemed non-responsive and rejected.**

### 2.2 Content Requirements

Proposals shall be organized and lettered in the order presented below:

- A. Executive Summary Letter
- B. Entities Participating in Proposal
- C. Key Individuals
- D. Proposal Description
- E. Criteria One – Reduces Barriers to Future Production
- F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability
- G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology
- H. Criteria Five – Work Plan / Schedule / Permitting
- I. Criteria Four – Costs
- J. Appendix A: Support Letters

**A. Executive Summary Letter**

This letter shall be a formal signed letter from the applicant Member Agency (and any partnering Member Agency(s)). The letter shall provide a brief description of the proposal and information regarding the organization and its ability to meet the objectives and requirements of this RFP.

The letter should be signed by an individual(s) authorized to bind the proposing Member Agency and shall identify all materials and enclosures being forwarded in response to this RFP. An unsigned Executive Summary Letter may be grounds for rejection. The letter must include the following language:

**“I am informed and believe that the information contained in this proposal is true and that the supporting data is accurate and complete.”**

Please include the following information in your letter:

<b>Name of Proposal</b>	
Water Resource Category (Recycled Water, Seawater Desalination, Stormwater, Groundwater)	
Member Agency Name(s) (As it appears on W-9 Tax form)	
Federal ID #	
Address	
City, State & Zip	
Main Telephone	
Contact Name	
Contact Telephone	
Contact E-mail Address	
Website Address (if applicable)	

**B. Entities Participating in Proposal**

- List other entities participating in proposal.
- Provide support letters from study participants (not considered as part of the 20-page limit for proposals) in Section I.

**C. Key Individuals**

- Proposal participants / cooperating agencies

- Identify key individuals including program manager and management team
  - Name, title
  - Title
  - Phone Number
  - Mailing address
  - Fax Number
  - E-mail Address
  - Relevant experience

**D. Proposal Description**

Provide a concise summary that includes an overall description of the proposal and conveys a clear understanding of the proposal's goals and objectives.

**E. Criteria One – Increases Water Supply Resiliency**

In this section, the applicant shall describe the following in narrative form all of which is applicable:

- Describe how the proposed actions increase future local supply potential.
- Describe how the proposed actions are critical to resource resiliency and planning for climate change-driven uncertainty.
- Describe how the proposed actions **removes barriers** to supply development including, but not limited to, technical, regulatory, permitting, and institutional barriers.
- Describe how the proposed actions increase regional climate resiliency or safeguards current local supplies.

**F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how the results of this proposal would apply to Metropolitan's member agencies, retail agencies, and regional stakeholders. The proposal should describe how the study results are transferable to other regional member agencies and stakeholders.
- If applicable, describe other co-benefits, such as water quality, energy, wastewater, infrastructure, environmental, etc.
- Metropolitan will award a 5% bonus to proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies.

**G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how these actions are unique and innovative. Describe the current state of technology. Identify similar completed or ongoing studies and how the proposed actions differ (include a literature search summary).



- Describe how these actions will advance the field of knowledge to develop future water resources. Include how the results of the proposed actions could be used in future research.
- Describe how the study or test results enable future actions that address regional barriers when compared to the status quo. Identify and describe the follow-up actions necessary for wide-scale implementation, such as submission of results to the State or Federal regulators required for regulatory acknowledgment or adoption. Include any future studies or steps to leverage results from the study or test.

#### **H. Criteria Four – Work Plan / Schedule**

Provide a detailed work plan describing each proposed task and deliverable, and how proposal success will be measured. Every task must have a specific deliverable and due date. Meeting dates and study milestones should be identified. Deliverables may include but are not limited to technical memoranda, summary reports, progress reports, draft technical reports, final technical reports, presentations, and related information. If partnering on a proposal with other entities, describe the role/involvement of each partner and their relationship to the proposal. Describe factors that may affect the feasibility of implementing the proposal. Also, describe the technical expertise of the proposal team.

Cite the proposed schedule, including the start date (no later than **January 01, 2025**), tasks, deliverables, reports, completion date (no later than **December 28, 2026**), and other key milestone dates. The schedule should be linked to the tasks and task deliverables. Identify components and tasks that could be broken out to allow funding to be provided for a particular activity or combination of activities. The description must clearly describe how funds would be used.

The following includes additional information and instructions for evaluation:

- Work plan and schedule must provide detail and completeness to measure the proposed implemented actions for success. Identify potential challenges, issues, and prerequisites related to proposal implementation and describe how they will be addressed.
- Describe how the proposed objectives can be achieved in the stated time period with the allotted personnel and budget.
- The proposal should include a table of required permits describing each permit, expected award date, and impact to the study workplan if delayed.

#### **I. Criteria Five – Costs**

Proposal must provide a cost breakdown of the work plan consistent with the schedule. This should be itemized in tabular form (see following tables). Each work plan task should include a breakdown of the applicant's monetary funding match, source of the funding match (e.g., name of the Member Agency, outside grant agency, etc.), and requested Metropolitan funds. Do not include in-kind services in the funding match. If partnering with other Member Agencies, provide separate cost tables and a proposal total cost table for each Member Agency. The

grand total non-Metropolitan funding match for each cost table must equal or exceed the requested Metropolitan funded amount. Also, provide a list summarizing all sources of the funding match, their respective monetary contribution, and the status of the funding match (e.g., funding budgeted and approved by the Member Agency's Board of Directors, grant received, applying for a grant, etc.). Include supporting information for the budget (such as labor categories, hourly rates, labor time estimates, materials and supplies, and subcontractor/consultant quotes) and the matching funds.

Cost Table Example – Study Total				
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)	Requested MWD Funding	Total
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines			
(b)	Proposed Task			
(c)	...			
Grand Total				

Cost Table Example – Lead Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

Cost Table Example – Partner Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

The following includes additional information and instruction for evaluation:

- Describe the cost-effectiveness of the proposed work plan budget.
- Describe the readiness to proceed with the matching funds, and how the matching funds will be committed by the Member Agency before the Member Agency signs the FSA Funding Program agreement.

### **2.3 Submittal Instructions**

Proposals for this RFP will be accepted in PDF format via e-mail.

#### **By e-mail:**

- **Proposal must be submitted electronically as an attachment to an e-mail at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 02:00 p.m. PST, on February 05, 2024**
- The e-mail date and time will act as a timestamp for the submittal. Notice of receipt will be sent upon successful receipt of the proposal.
- The PDF file size is limited to no more 20 MB.
- The e-mail subject line should contain the following: "Proposal for Future Supply Actions Funding Program".
- The e-mail's body should include the proposal's title, lead Member Agency name, the applicable resource (groundwater, recycling, seawater desalination or stormwater), and contact information.
- If submitting multiple proposals, please submit each proposal individually in a separate e-mail.
- Member Agencies are encouraged to submit proposals before the closing time and date.

Proposals received after the stated time and date will be considered late and automatically rejected by Metropolitan. Member agencies are **responsible for submitting the proposal correctly in form and content and within the stipulated deadline**. Late proposals will be deemed non-responsive and not considered during the evaluation process.

**Proposals will be received until 02:00 p.m., February 05, 2024.**

## **2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program**

### **Review Panel Members and Panel Affidavit**

**Heather Collins**

Assistant Group Manager, Treatment & Water Quality Group, Metropolitan Water District  
President-Elect, American Water Works Association

**Dr. Adrian Hightower**

Sustainability and Resilience Manager, Metropolitan Water District

**Dr. Malynda Cappelle**

Facility Manager, Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility, Bureau of Reclamation

**Dr. Roy Wolfe**

Wolfe Water Consulting, LLC.

**Dr. Robert Wilkinson**

Adjunct Professor, Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California,  
Santa Barbara

DocuSign Envelope ID: 55107BE7-2B6D-4340-8FC9-B3A7E84057CD

## Affidavit

### Affidavit for Review Panelists

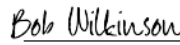
The undersigned members of the Review Panel for the Future Supply Actions Funding Program 2023 RFP objectively reviewed the proposals to ensure compliance with the FSA Program objectives and eligibility requirements and confirm the panel's collective findings.

DocuSigned by:



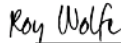
56A7B8C0837F45DC  
Malynnda Cappelle, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



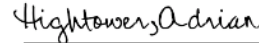
EB0C518FF09341  
Robert Wilkinson, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



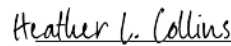
32E5F8C0837F45DC  
Roy Wolfe, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



30A5D77093944E  
Adrian Hightower, PhD  
Special Projects Manager

DocuSigned by:



EB3A7B8C0837F45DC  
Heather Collins, PE  
Assistant Group Manager

**2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program RFP  
Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
<b>Groundwater</b>			
Pilot Study of New Electrolytic Method for In-situ Generation of Ferric Arsenic Treatment	Western MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This pilot study will generate ferric chemicals onsite and offers the potential to lower treated water arsenic concentrations using the coagulation-filtration method.</li> <li>This technology offers potential operations and maintenance cost savings and avoids manganese addition that typically occurs for liquid ferric chemicals.</li> </ul>	\$207,500
PFAS and Groundwater Wells	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study seeks to demonstrate to the water supply industry that improved well construction and development processes can reduce or eliminate certain PFAS contamination in groundwater wells.</li> <li>Three Valleys MWD, Western MWD, and Jurupa Community Services District are also participating in the study.</li> </ul>	\$298,500
Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study	Long Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study will evaluate the impacts of using recycled water to augment groundwater resources in the Central and West Coast Basins.</li> <li>The outcomes of the Project will ultimately increase Long Beach's water supply reliability by reducing its reliance on imported water supplies and integrating new water resources into its supply portfolio.</li> </ul>	\$499,802
<b>Stormwater</b>			
Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study	SDCWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Pilot Study is intended to inform the Vista Irrigation District and the City of Escondido regarding the effectiveness of oxygenation in limiting harmful algal bloom formation and cyanotoxin production.</li> <li>Oxygenation systems have not been tested in a broad, shallow lake such as Lake Henshaw and have not been systematically quantified in lakes in general.</li> </ul>	\$500,000

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
Data-Driven Resource Optimization and Planning System (DROPS)	Foothill MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DROPS is a pioneering tool that integrates advanced data analytics with artificial intelligence to enhance water management capabilities.</li> <li>DROPS achieves previously unattained levels of accuracy in terms of identifying impervious areas by triangulating aerial imagery, topographical data, remote-sensing data, and environmental databases and supplementing those datasets with analysis and insights from AI integration.</li> </ul>	\$54,900

Recycled Water			
Chino Basin Advance Water Purification Demonstration Facility	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstration study for the design and construction of an approximately 100 gpm Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility for the Chino Basin Program.</li> <li>The demonstration study will advance innovative technologies and approaches related to advanced water treatment technologies, with findings applicable to advanced water treatment projects and the industry.</li> </ul>	\$401,500
Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot	LADWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The objective of the pilot is to demonstrate compliance with the recently approved DPR regulations and test advanced treatment technologies.</li> <li>The pilot will explore the feasibility of post-RO treatment strategies for chemical control.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
Seawater Desalination			
OceanWell: A Climate-Resilient, Eco-Friendly, Submerged Reverse Osmosis System	Las Virgenes MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot study of the OceanWell submerged reverse osmosis system in the Las Virgenes Reservoir.</li> <li>The study will serve as a stress test that will bring the technology from a TRL 4 to TRL 6.</li> <li>Calleguas MWD and Eastern MWD are contributing to this study.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 Studies</b>		<b>\$2,962,202</b>



## One Water & Stewardship Committee

Authorize entering into a not-to exceed \$499,802 funding agreement with the City of Long Beach under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study

Item 7-6

July 8, 2024



## Item 7-6 Introduction Slide

### Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to exceed \$499,802 funding agreement with the City of Long Beach under the FSA Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study

### Purpose

Reduce Barriers to future water resource production within the Metropolitan service area.

### Recommendations

Authorize staff to enter into a \$499,802 funding agreement with Long Beach Utilities under the FSA Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System and New Wells Site Study.

### Fiscal Impact

Metropolitan would invest \$499,802 in the proposed study under the FSA Program over a two-year period.

# Board Options: Item 7-6

(LBU – GW Augmentation, Collection System and New Wells Site Study– FSA Program)

## Option #1

- Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$499,802 funding agreement with the City of Long Beach Utilities under the FSA Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System and New Wells Site Study.

## Option #2

- Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$499,802 funding agreement with the City of Long Beach under the FSA Program for the Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System and New Wells Site Study.

# Staff Recommendation

Option #1





- **Board of Directors**  
***One Water and Stewardship Committee***

7/9/2024 Board Meeting

7-7

## Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into one of the agreements with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program) for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot.

In December 2023, Metropolitan issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) under the FSA Program. The FSA Program funds technical studies and pilot tests targeting barriers to future production of recycled water, stormwater, seawater desalination, and groundwater resources.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. A technical review panel evaluated the proposals and developed a collective rating. Based on the panel findings and compliance with program requirements, staff recommends funding all eight proposals.

Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require board approval. This letter concerns one of these proposals.

## Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

### Staff Recommendation: Option #1

#### Option #1

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power under the FSA Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot.

**Fiscal Impact:** The funding requested for the proposed study will be expended over a two-year period and is within the approved FSA Program budget of \$3 million for Fiscal Years 24/25 and 25/26. The total expenditures for the eight proposed studies under the FSA Program is \$2.96 million.

**Business Analysis:** By providing funding for member agency studies under the FSA Program, Metropolitan will remove barriers to future water resource production and increase regional water supply reliability.

#### Option #2

Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power under the FSA Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot.

**Fiscal Impact:** No impact. Metropolitan would miss leveraging \$500,000 of other funds for the study.

**Business Analysis:** Metropolitan would potentially delay an opportunity to remove a barrier to local resource development.

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### **Alternatives Considered**

Not applicable

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### **Applicable Policy**

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

By Minute Item 48449, dated October 12, 2010, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2010 Integrated Resources Plan Update, as set forth in the letter signed by the General Manager.

By Minute Item 49381, dated April 9, 2013, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved the proposal, Foundational Actions Funding Program and directed staff to issue a Request for Proposals.

By Minute Item 50358, dated January 12, 2016, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2015 Integrated Resources Plan Update.

By Minute Item 51168 dated April 10, 2018, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

By Minute Item 53409 dated October 10, 2023, the Board approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

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### **Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)**

Not applicable

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### **Summary of Outreach Completed**

Member Agency Manager's Meeting:

- August 2023 – Round 3 Authorization
- June 2024 – Round 3 Recommended Proposals

Webinars:

- August 2023 – Workshop for Round 3
- December 2023 – Request for Proposals – Pre-Bid

Member Agency:

- November 2023 – West Basin Caucus
- January 2024 – Foothill MWD

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### **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

#### **CEQA determination for Option #1:**

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action that a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15306.)

#### **CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required.

## Details and Background

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### Background: Future Supply Actions Funding Program

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Management Plan Update (2010 IRP Update) recognized the need to prepare for an uncertain future and that additional resources beyond the region's core supplies may be required. To address this uncertainty, the 2010 IRP Update established a Foundational Actions approach for removing barriers to new supply development. Foundational Actions are low-risk, preliminary steps that the region can take to accelerate the development of new water resources should the need arise. The 2010 IRP Update identified the following four local resources for Foundational Actions:

- Recycled water (including direct and indirect potable reuse)
- Seawater desalination
- Stormwater capture
- Groundwater enhancement

In 2013, the Board approved the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to advance technical studies and pilot tests to address critical resource development barriers. Under the FAF Program, Metropolitan provided \$2.97 million in co-funding for 13-member agency-sponsored technical studies. The goals of the program were to:

- Advance the field of knowledge for future water resource production.
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Remove barriers to water resource implementation.

The 13 studies funded under the FAF Program yielded tangible regional benefits for each of the local resources. These benefits included furthering the science of seawater desalination intake technologies, developing implementation pathways for stormwater capture, validating new technologies for groundwater treatment, and completing preliminary studies for direct potable reuse. The FAF Program concluded with a symposium where results from the studies were shared with over 230 participants from across Southern California.

The 2015 Integrated Water Resources Plan Update called for the region to continue the Foundational Actions approach and revised the program's name to the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program). In 2018, the Board approved a follow-up to the original FSA Program that included two components:

1. A \$975,000 funding agreement with WRF for seven potable and non-potable reuse studies.
2. A second round of member agency funding totaling \$3.5 million for 14 studies.

The 21 studies funded under the FSA Program produced valuable regional benefits for the targeted local resources. These benefits included progressing in the fields of artificial intelligence applications in recycled water projects, stormwater diversion and percolation analysis, desalination brine diffusion, and groundwater utilization analysis. The studies within the program have concluded with MWD and WRF-hosted webinars. Webinar recordings and final reports for each study are available on the FSA Program's website: <https://www.mwdh2o.com/planning-for-tomorrow/funding-opportunities/>.

### Third Round of the FSA Program

In October 2023, the Board authorized two additional rounds of funding for the FSA Program totaling \$6 million. In December 2023, Metropolitan released an RFP for the first of the two authorized funding rounds (**Attachment 1**). Member agencies could request up to \$500,000 for one or more proposals, which they must match dollar-for-dollar with other funds. Member agencies were encouraged to partner with other member agencies as well as other stakeholders. Staff held an informational webinar and answered member agency questions.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. These proposals covered all four resource types and ranged from a data-driven planning study to pilot tests of innovative new technologies.

A technical review panel of Metropolitan staff and external experts performed independent evaluations of each proposal. Once completed, the panel convened to compare findings and collectively rate the proposals.

**Attachment 2** contains a list of the panel members and their affiliations. The proposals were evaluated against the following criteria:

- How does the proposal increase the water supply resiliency of future production?
- Does the proposal address a catalytic/critical path to implementation for local supplies?
- Will the potential results from the study have regional applicability?
- Does the proposal have a well-defined and innovative work plan?

Based on the panel's findings, compliance with program requirements, and available funding, staff recommends funding all eight proposals. Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require board approval.

### **Funding Agreement**

The purpose of this letter is to seek board authorization to enter into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot. The objective of the pilot is to demonstrate compliance with the recently approved direct potable reuse (DPR) regulations and test advanced treatment technologies.

LADWP intends to conduct an initial pilot study, using water from the Los Angeles-Glendale Water Reclamation Plant, that will: (a) serve as a platform for testing specific DPR techniques and strategies; (b) allow LADWP to engage with the SWRCB Division of Drinking Water in the evaluation of treatment technologies; and (c) facilitate future implementation of DPR within the LADWP system. The initial pilot testing will utilize a 50-gallon-per-minute supply flow to generate data in support of future demonstration-scale and full-scale facilities and to evaluate four potential process trains for addressing pathogens and chemical contaminants in DPR, including four unique process additions for supplemental chemical reduction.



Staff requests board authorization to enter into an FSA Program funding agreement for a not-to-exceed amount of \$500,000 with the LADWP under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot.



*Brandon Goshi*  
*Interim Manager*  
*Water Resource Management*

7/1/2024*Date*

*for Deven N. Upadhyay*  
*Interim General Manager*

7/2/2024*Date*

**Attachment 1 – 2023 Request for Proposals for Future Supply Actions Funding Program**

**Attachment 2 – Review Panel Members and Affidavit**

**Attachment 3 – Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Ref# wrm12698711

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**Water Resource Management Group**

**2023 Request for Proposals for  
Future Supply Actions Funding Program**



**KEY DATES**

Request for Proposals (RFP) Issued.....December 1, 2023.  
Pre-bid webinar.....December 13, 2023 @ 02:00 P.M.  
Proposals due by.....February 5, 2024 @ 02:00 PM.

**NOTICE**

**An optional pre-bid webinar** will be held on **December 13, 2023**, from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m.  
All Member Agencies and proposal partners are encouraged to participate.

Metropolitan Contact: Jonathan Jordan  
E-mail Address: [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com)

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## **SECTION 1: INFORMATION FOR MEMBER AGENCIES**

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is designed to promote an objective process for distributing funds for technical studies or pilot tests under the Future Supply Actions (FSA) Funding Program. The FSA Funding Program goal is to enable effective future resource planning and potential development of recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater enhancement. This RFP contains information concerning the 2023 FSA Funding Program objectives, who can submit, funding, schedule, and review process. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) invites its Member Agencies to submit study proposals for the program described herein.

### **1.1 Objective**

Metropolitan has proposed a 2023 FSA Funding Program with objectives to help address regional funding needs for actions that:

- Augment water resiliency to reduce climate change driven water resource barriers.
- Advance the field of knowledge for the four resources (recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater).
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Represent a catalytic/critical path to water resource implementation.

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Plan (IRP) established a planning framework, including a core resources program, designed to ensure the region's reliability into the future. The 2010 IRP Update recognized that the future is uncertain and additional water resources may need to be developed under some conditions. To address this future uncertainty, the 2010 IRP established Foundational Actions, which are low-risk, preliminary actions that can be taken to ensure the region will be ready to implement new water supplies should the need arise.

In 2013, Metropolitan established the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to fund Member Agency studies focused on removing barriers to future local supply production. The 2015 IRP reaffirmed this forward-looking approach and updated the name to Future Supply Actions. Future Supply Actions represent one component of the overall 2015 IRP strategy. In 2018, Metropolitan released a second round of FSA funding for member agency studies. The 2020 IRP continued this progressive trend by adopting a scenario-based strategy to ensure regional reliability through 2045, referred to as the "Regional Needs Assessment." Given the successes of the 2013 and 2018 programs, the 2023 FSA reinforces Metropolitan's commitment to the 2020 IRP strategy in maintaining existing and developing new local supplies.

In 2022, Metropolitan's Board of Directors (Board) adopted a resolution calling for "Equitable reliability across the service area through a balanced combination of infrastructure, storage, demand management, and water supply programs." Metropolitan is collaborating with our Member Agencies on the regional Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W). CAMP4W will consider Member Agency projects that innovate and enhance regional water supply reliability. The FSA Funding Program has proven to be a capable vehicle for achieving the goals outlined in the resolution. To that end, Metropolitan encourages its member

agencies to propose innovative studies that benefit the region, innovate, reduce barriers, and create a climate change-resilient region.

## **1.2 Description**

The FSA Funding Program promotes technical studies and pilot tests that enable effective future resource planning and potential implementation for the following resources:

- Recycled water, including potable reuse
- Desalination
- Stormwater
- Groundwater enhancement

These actions are meant to identify and investigate opportunities to develop future water resources. Examples of studies under the FSA Funding Program may include, but are not limited to:

- Pilot and bench-scale studies
- Demonstration studies
- Tracer alternative studies
- System integration studies
- Innovative treatment processes
- New sensor technologies
- Advanced ocean intakes and outfall tests
- Brine disposal or harvesting research
- Novel approaches for AI and machine learning

Examples of Member Agency studies funded under the 2013 FAF and 2018 FSA programs are listed on the FSA Funding Program's website: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

The FSA Funding Program is designed to encourage short-term studies targeting barriers to future supply production and would not include:

- Design of full-scale projects
- Long-term studies requiring more than two years to complete
- Construction of full-scale projects
- Funding CEQA documentation for projects
- Existing studies or projects
- Acquisition of property

## **1.3 Who Can Submit?**

The RFP is open to Metropolitan Member Agencies (Member Agencies). Member Agencies may partner with other Member Agencies or other non-Member Agency entities. A single designated lead Member Agency must submit the proposal. The proposal must disclose the names of the partnering Member Agencies or other entities. Each Member Agency may be the

lead agency on a maximum of three proposals per funding round. If partnering on a proposal, the lead Member Agency submitting the proposal shall be responsible for any priority ranking of multiple proposals from that Member Agency.

#### **1.4     Funding**

Metropolitan expects to fund approximate 12 to 16 technical studies or pilot tests total during two separate rounds. This round of the FSA Funding Program will fund up to 8 technical studies or pilot tests, and up to \$3 million. The next FSA Funding Program round is expected to begin in two to three years. In total, up to \$6 million are available for the current and following funding rounds. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP will only be considered for the current funding round.

Member Agencies may submit proposal funding requests of up to \$500,000 per agency or up to \$500,000 for a single study. Each proposal requires a non-Metropolitan monetary match of at least 100 percent of the Metropolitan funded amount. Member Agencies can include in-kind services in their proposal; however, in-kind services do not count towards the required funding match. If partnering on a proposal, a breakdown of each Member Agency's funding request and the respective monetary match is required and will be used to track that agency's total funding request (see Section 2.2F). The Member Agency match funding may not be associated with other Metropolitan funding programs.

A significant FSA Funding Program principle is having the studies or tests benefit the Metropolitan's services area. Due to this core principle, studies or tests funded through this program must be publicly accessible to the extent allowed under applicable law.

### 1.5 Anticipated Schedule

Date	Milestone
12/01/2023	Release of RFP
12/13/2023	Non-mandatory pre-bid webinar at 02:00 p.m.
01/12/2024	Questions for clarification will close at 1:00 p.m.
02/05/2024	<b>RFP proposals due by 2:00 p.m.</b>
Q1 2024	Proposal awards (Contingent upon Board action)
Q1—Q2 2024	Agreements signed by recipients (Goal)
Q1 2025	Work Initiation Deadline
Q4 2026	Final Report Deadline

### 1.6 Non-mandatory Pre-Bid Webinar

- A pre-bid Webinar will be held from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m., Wednesday, **December 13, 2023**. Metropolitan will discuss the details of the FSA Funding Program RFP and answer questions. Written questions regarding this RFP may be submitted from the release of the RFP to one week following the pre-proposal webinar (see Questions for Clarification section).
- While participation is not mandatory, all interested parties and prospective applicants are encouraged to attend. Participants are invited to present relevant questions at the pre-proposal webinar.
- Directions on how to participate in the pre-proposal Webinar will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

### 1.7 Questions for Clarification

Questions for clarification regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing via e-mail to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 1:00 p.m., Friday, **January 12, 2024**. As appropriate, Metropolitan will respond to questions, provide information updates, and issue RFP addendums through the following link: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa). The responsibility solely lies with each interested party and prospective applicant to check and review the FSA Funding Program website for all updates.

### 1.8 General Proposal Information

1. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review this RFP in its entirety before the proposal preparation.
2. All proposals submitted become the property of Metropolitan. Metropolitan has no expressed or implied obligation to reimburse the responding party for any expenses incurred in preparing proposals in response to this request.
3. Applicants may modify or amend proposals only if Metropolitan receives the amendment before the deadline stated herein for receiving proposals.

4. A proposal that is conditional, incomplete, contains alterations of form, additions not called for, or other irregularities that may constitute a material change to the proposal may be considered non-responsive.
5. Additional copies of the RFP will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).
6. Submission of a proposal indicates acceptance by the party of the conditions contained in this request for proposals, unless clearly and specifically noted in the proposal submitted and confirmed in the contract between Metropolitan and the recipient(s).

#### **1.9 Rights Reserved to Metropolitan**

Metropolitan reserves the right to:

1. Reject any and all proposals, revise terms and conditions, or elect not to award full program funding.
2. Select the proposal(s) most advantageous to Metropolitan.
3. Verify all information submitted in the proposal.
4. Cancel this solicitation at any time without prior notice and furthermore, makes no representations that any contract will be awarded to any applicant responding to this RFP.
5. Negotiate the final contract with any applicant(s) as necessary to serve the best interests of Metropolitan.
6. Amend the RFP.
7. Amend the final contract to incorporate necessary attachments and exhibits or to reflect negotiations between Metropolitan and the successful recipient(s).

#### **1.10 Validity**

Proposals must be valid for a period of at least 12 months from the closing date and time of this RFP. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP only qualify for the current funding round. Once submitted, the proposal is the property of Metropolitan and may not be physically withdrawn after the submission date. However, the applicant may request for the submitted proposal not to be considered for funding prior to the funding award.

#### **1.11 Confidentiality**

1. Metropolitan is subject to the Public Records Act, California Government Code Section (Gov. Code) 7920.000 et. seq. All required submittal information is subject to disclosure to the general public. Unless specifically required by the solicitation, the applicant should not submit personal data such as driver's license information, social security numbers, etc. to avoid the possibility of inadvertent disclosure of this personal information. Please note that Metropolitan cannot consider proposals marked confidential in their entirety.



2. The applicant may provide supplemental information exempt from public disclosure under Gov. Code Section 7929.42 including “trade secrets” under Evidence Code Section 1060. Such supplemental information **shall not be material** to the required submittal information and Metropolitan shall be under no obligation to consider such supplemental information in its evaluation.
3. If submitting confidential or supplemental information, such information should be sectioned separately from the rest of the submittal and clearly marked "Confidential." Upon completion of its evaluation, Metropolitan will destroy any confidential information submitted, or return such information to the applicant if so requested.

#### **1.12 Evaluation and Selection Process**

1. Proposals will be evaluated by an independent review panel comprised of Metropolitan and non-Metropolitan professionals familiar with water resources in Southern California. The review panel will ensure compliance with the FSA Funding Program objectives and eligibility and will evaluate each proposal based on selection criteria as described further in this document. Metropolitan staff will review the panel suggestions and develop a list of recommended proposals and funding levels for Board approval.
2. During the evaluation process, Metropolitan may request clarification from the applicant as necessary. Applicant(s) should not misconstrue a clarification request as negotiations.
3. If similar proposals, or proposals that would provide similar results are submitted, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding. Also, if multiple proposals are submitted that are, or could be, collectively part of an overall study or pilot test, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding.
4. If applicable, Member Agencies with study work plans contingent on regulatory permitting must provide a list of required permits, expected award date, and the anticipated study timeline impacts if the permitting process is delayed. The ability to complete studies in the FSA Funding Program round timeframe is a scoring consideration. Metropolitan may request additional information on the permitting schedule.

#### **1.13 Agreement Process**

1. After proposals are selected for funding, Metropolitan will enter into agreements upon successful contract negotiations. Funding may be withdrawn if the recipient does not sign agreements within three months of final contract negotiations.
2. Metropolitan may negotiate proposal scope and funding changes if deemed beneficial.
3. Recipients must submit deliverables by task, including reports, invoices, interim study or test documents, and a final report documenting study or test results, other findings, and recommendations for future action. Recipients must provide any generated presentations or preliminary reports to Metropolitan during the life of the agreement.
4. The final report and symposium presentation will be worth 25 percent of the total funding and can be invoiced after the delivery of the final report and presentation.

Metropolitan will withhold the final funding until the final report and presentation are accepted by Metropolitan staff.

5. Performance provisions may be incorporated into the program agreements. These provisions would allow Metropolitan to adjust or withdraw financial commitments to the proposal based on performance.
6. The FSA invoice intervals will be flexibly negotiated on a case-by-case basis during the agreement process; options available to agencies in this FSA round include quarterly, semi-annual, or based on deliverables. Funds will be disbursed after verification of study status based on submitted progress reports, invoices, and appropriate documentation. The non-Metropolitan funding match must equal or exceed the Metropolitan funded amount per submitted progress payment.
7. Funding recipients are expected to provide an initial forecast of spending to Metropolitan after the study or test initiation. The recipient will need to provide a forecast as a part of the submitted progress reports.
8. Final reports must be completed and submitted by **December 28, 2026**, unless extended by Metropolitan. Final payment will be made within 60 days of acceptance of the final report and presentation.
9. Member Agencies and study/pilot test participants will also be encouraged to participate in the FSA symposium. The symposium will highlight the study results and allow participants to present the final presentation to other member agencies and regional stakeholders.
10. Attachment A is Metropolitan's Sample Agreement. Applicant is requested to carefully review and comment as necessary on any of the provisions set forth in the Sample Agreement. Metropolitan reserves the right to modify, add or delete any of the provisions of the Agreement before issuance.

#### **1.14 Negotiations**

Negotiations regarding agreement terms, conditions, work plan, schedule, and funding may or may not be conducted with the applicant. If Metropolitan engages the applicant in negotiations and satisfactory agreement provisions cannot be reached, then negotiations may be terminated.

#### **1.15 Selection Criteria**

The review panel will use the criteria provided below to evaluate and rank the proposals. In addition, the review panel will identify and weigh each proposal's significant strengths, weaknesses, and miscellaneous issues.

Recommendations will reflect the collective findings of the review panel. To be qualified for funding, proposals must satisfy each criterion category and subcategory listed as follows and in Section 2.2 of this document.

**Criteria and Weight:**

1. Reduces Barriers to Future Production: 30 percent
2. Regional Benefit/Applicability: 20 percent
3. Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology: 20 percent
4. Work Plan/Schedule: 15 percent
5. Costs: 15 percent

The selection criteria are described further in Section 2.2 of this document.

In addition to the selection criteria above, Metropolitan will award a bonus to studies that objectively demonstrate regional benefit across the Metropolitan service area. To incentivize Member Agency cooperation on regional studies, Metropolitan will grant a 5% bonus to the proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies. Partner Agencies must have at least \$10,000 vested in the study or test to qualify as a participating agency.

## SECTION 2: PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

The following format and content requirements shall be adhered to for proposals to be considered responsive. Applicants should use the numbering and lettering system outlined in these guidelines. Concise informative proposals within the page limitations are encouraged.

### 2.1 Proposal Submittal and PDF Format Guidelines

- Proposals will only be accepted in PDF format.
- The proposal must be formatted for white 8 1/2" x 11" size paper with black text in a 12-point font, and table/graphics with text no smaller than a 10-point font.
- Proposals shall be no more than 20 pages, including attachments.
- Materials presented in the Appendix will not be used in the proposal evaluation and should exclusively contain reference or supplementary content
- Proposals shall be clear, accurate, and comprehensive. Excessive or irrelevant materials will not be favorably received.
- The PDF should include the entire proposal (executive summary, support letters, attachments, etc.) in one file.
- Support letters: Proposals can include no more than five support letters of no longer than one page. Support letters will not count against the page limitations and will be considered to support regional benefit. Support letters should be addressed to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by the proposal submittal deadline. Support letters received after the proposal submittal deadline will not be considered.
- **Proposals that do not conform to these formatting requirements and the following content requirements may be deemed non-responsive and rejected.**

### 2.2 Content Requirements

Proposals shall be organized and lettered in the order presented below:

- A. Executive Summary Letter
- B. Entities Participating in Proposal
- C. Key Individuals
- D. Proposal Description
- E. Criteria One – Reduces Barriers to Future Production
- F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability
- G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology
- H. Criteria Five – Work Plan / Schedule / Permitting
- I. Criteria Four – Costs
- J. Appendix A: Support Letters

**A. Executive Summary Letter**

This letter shall be a formal signed letter from the applicant Member Agency (and any partnering Member Agency(s)). The letter shall provide a brief description of the proposal and information regarding the organization and its ability to meet the objectives and requirements of this RFP.

The letter should be signed by an individual(s) authorized to bind the proposing Member Agency and shall identify all materials and enclosures being forwarded in response to this RFP. An unsigned Executive Summary Letter may be grounds for rejection. The letter must include the following language:

**“I am informed and believe that the information contained in this proposal is true and that the supporting data is accurate and complete.”**

Please include the following information in your letter:

<b>Name of Proposal</b>	
Water Resource Category (Recycled Water, Seawater Desalination, Stormwater, Groundwater)	
Member Agency Name(s) (As it appears on W-9 Tax form)	
Federal ID #	
Address	
City, State & Zip	
Main Telephone	
Contact Name	
Contact Telephone	
Contact E-mail Address	
Website Address (if applicable)	

**B. Entities Participating in Proposal**

- List other entities participating in proposal.
- Provide support letters from study participants (not considered as part of the 20-page limit for proposals) in Section I.

**C. Key Individuals**

- Proposal participants / cooperating agencies

- Identify key individuals including program manager and management team
  - Name, title
  - Title
  - Phone Number
  - Mailing address
  - Fax Number
  - E-mail Address
  - Relevant experience

**D. Proposal Description**

Provide a concise summary that includes an overall description of the proposal and conveys a clear understanding of the proposal's goals and objectives.

**E. Criteria One – Increases Water Supply Resiliency**

In this section, the applicant shall describe the following in narrative form all of which is applicable:

- Describe how the proposed actions increase future local supply potential.
- Describe how the proposed actions are critical to resource resiliency and planning for climate change-driven uncertainty.
- Describe how the proposed actions **removes barriers** to supply development including, but not limited to, technical, regulatory, permitting, and institutional barriers.
- Describe how the proposed actions increase regional climate resiliency or safeguards current local supplies.

**F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how the results of this proposal would apply to Metropolitan's member agencies, retail agencies, and regional stakeholders. The proposal should describe how the study results are transferable to other regional member agencies and stakeholders.
- If applicable, describe other co-benefits, such as water quality, energy, wastewater, infrastructure, environmental, etc.
- Metropolitan will award a 5% bonus to proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies.

**G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how these actions are unique and innovative. Describe the current state of technology. Identify similar completed or ongoing studies and how the proposed actions differ (include a literature search summary).

- Describe how these actions will advance the field of knowledge to develop future water resources. Include how the results of the proposed actions could be used in future research.
- Describe how the study or test results enable future actions that address regional barriers when compared to the status quo. Identify and describe the follow-up actions necessary for wide-scale implementation, such as submission of results to the State or Federal regulators required for regulatory acknowledgment or adoption. Include any future studies or steps to leverage results from the study or test.

#### **H. Criteria Four – Work Plan / Schedule**

Provide a detailed work plan describing each proposed task and deliverable, and how proposal success will be measured. Every task must have a specific deliverable and due date. Meeting dates and study milestones should be identified. Deliverables may include but are not limited to technical memoranda, summary reports, progress reports, draft technical reports, final technical reports, presentations, and related information. If partnering on a proposal with other entities, describe the role/involvement of each partner and their relationship to the proposal. Describe factors that may affect the feasibility of implementing the proposal. Also, describe the technical expertise of the proposal team.

Cite the proposed schedule, including the start date (no later than **January 01, 2025**), tasks, deliverables, reports, completion date (no later than **December 28, 2026**), and other key milestone dates. The schedule should be linked to the tasks and task deliverables. Identify components and tasks that could be broken out to allow funding to be provided for a particular activity or combination of activities. The description must clearly describe how funds would be used.

The following includes additional information and instructions for evaluation:

- Work plan and schedule must provide detail and completeness to measure the proposed implemented actions for success. Identify potential challenges, issues, and prerequisites related to proposal implementation and describe how they will be addressed.
- Describe how the proposed objectives can be achieved in the stated time period with the allotted personnel and budget.
- The proposal should include a table of required permits describing each permit, expected award date, and impact to the study workplan if delayed.

#### **I. Criteria Five – Costs**

Proposal must provide a cost breakdown of the work plan consistent with the schedule. This should be itemized in tabular form (see following tables). Each work plan task should include a breakdown of the applicant's monetary funding match, source of the funding match (e.g., name of the Member Agency, outside grant agency, etc.), and requested Metropolitan funds. Do not include in-kind services in the funding match. If partnering with other Member Agencies, provide separate cost tables and a proposal total cost table for each Member Agency. The

grand total non-Metropolitan funding match for each cost table must equal or exceed the requested Metropolitan funded amount. Also, provide a list summarizing all sources of the funding match, their respective monetary contribution, and the status of the funding match (e.g., funding budgeted and approved by the Member Agency's Board of Directors, grant received, applying for a grant, etc.). Include supporting information for the budget (such as labor categories, hourly rates, labor time estimates, materials and supplies, and subcontractor/consultant quotes) and the matching funds.

Cost Table Example – Study Total				
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)	Requested MWD Funding	Total
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines			
(b)	Proposed Task			
(c)	...			
Grand Total				

Cost Table Example – Lead Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

Cost Table Example – Partner Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

The following includes additional information and instruction for evaluation:

- Describe the cost-effectiveness of the proposed work plan budget.
- Describe the readiness to proceed with the matching funds, and how the matching funds will be committed by the Member Agency before the Member Agency signs the FSA Funding Program agreement.



### **2.3 Submittal Instructions**

Proposals for this RFP will be accepted in PDF format via e-mail.

**By e-mail:**

- **Proposal must be submitted electronically as an attachment to an e-mail at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 02:00 p.m. PST, on February 05, 2024**
- The e-mail date and time will act as a timestamp for the submittal. Notice of receipt will be sent upon successful receipt of the proposal.
- The PDF file size is limited to no more 20 MB.
- The e-mail subject line should contain the following: "Proposal for Future Supply Actions Funding Program".
- The e-mail's body should include the proposal's title, lead Member Agency name, the applicable resource (groundwater, recycling, seawater desalination or stormwater), and contact information.
- If submitting multiple proposals, please submit each proposal individually in a separate e-mail.
- Member Agencies are encouraged to submit proposals before the closing time and date.

Proposals received after the stated time and date will be considered late and automatically rejected by Metropolitan. Member agencies are **responsible for submitting the proposal correctly in form and content and within the stipulated deadline**. Late proposals will be deemed non-responsive and not considered during the evaluation process.

**Proposals will be received until 02:00 p.m., February 05, 2024.**

## **2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program**

### **Review Panel Members and Panel Affidavit**

**Heather Collins**

Assistant Group Manager, Treatment & Water Quality Group, Metropolitan Water District  
President-Elect, American Water Works Association

**Dr. Adrian Hightower**

Sustainability and Resilience Manager, Metropolitan Water District

**Dr. Malynda Cappelle**

Facility Manager, Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility, Bureau of Reclamation

**Dr. Roy Wolfe**

Wolfe Water Consulting, LLC.

**Dr. Robert Wilkinson**

Adjunct Professor, Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California,  
Santa Barbara

DocuSign Envelope ID: 55107BE7-2B6D-4340-8FC9-B3A7E84057CD

## Affidavit

### Affidavit for Review Panelists

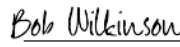
The undersigned members of the Review Panel for the Future Supply Actions Funding Program 2023 RFP objectively reviewed the proposals to ensure compliance with the FSA Program objectives and eligibility requirements and confirm the panel's collective findings.

DocuSigned by:



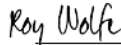
Malynnda Cappelle, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



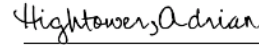
Robert Wilkinson, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



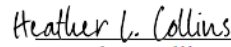
Roy Wolfe, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



Adrian Hightower, PhD  
Special Projects Manager

DocuSigned by:



Heather Collins, PE  
Assistant Group Manager

**2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program RFP  
Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
<b>Groundwater</b>			
Pilot Study of New Electrolytic Method for In-situ Generation of Ferric Arsenic Treatment	Western MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This pilot study will generate ferric chemicals onsite and offers the potential to lower treated water arsenic concentrations using the coagulation-filtration method.</li> <li>This technology offers potential operations and maintenance cost savings and avoids manganese addition that typically occurs for liquid ferric chemicals.</li> </ul>	\$207,500
PFAS and Groundwater Wells	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study seeks to demonstrate to the water supply industry that improved well construction and development processes can reduce or eliminate certain PFAS contamination in groundwater wells.</li> <li>Three Valleys MWD, Western MWD, and Jurupa Community Services District are also participating in the study.</li> </ul>	\$298,500
Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study	Long Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study will evaluate the impacts of using recycled water to augment groundwater resources in the Central and West Coast Basins.</li> <li>The outcomes of the Project will ultimately increase Long Beach's water supply reliability by reducing its reliance on imported water supplies and integrating new water resources into its supply portfolio.</li> </ul>	\$499,802
<b>Stormwater</b>			
Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study	SDCWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Pilot Study is intended to inform the Vista Irrigation District and the City of Escondido regarding the effectiveness of oxygenation in limiting harmful algal bloom formation and cyanotoxin production.</li> <li>Oxygenation systems have not been tested in a broad, shallow lake such as Lake Henshaw and have not been systematically quantified in lakes in general.</li> </ul>	\$500,000

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
Data-Driven Resource Optimization and Planning System (DROPS)	Foothill MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DROPS is a pioneering tool that integrates advanced data analytics with artificial intelligence to enhance water management capabilities.</li> <li>DROPS achieves previously unattained levels of accuracy in terms of identifying impervious areas by triangulating aerial imagery, topographical data, remote-sensing data, and environmental databases and supplementing those datasets with analysis and insights from AI integration.</li> </ul>	\$54,900

Recycled Water			
Chino Basin Advance Water Purification Demonstration Facility	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstration study for the design and construction of an approximately 100 gpm Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility for the Chino Basin Program.</li> <li>The demonstration study will advance innovative technologies and approaches related to advanced water treatment technologies, with findings applicable to advanced water treatment projects and the industry.</li> </ul>	\$401,500
Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot	LADWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The objective of the pilot is to demonstrate compliance with the recently approved DPR regulations and test advanced treatment technologies.</li> <li>The pilot will explore the feasibility of post-RO treatment strategies for chemical control.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
Seawater Desalination			
OceanWell: A Climate-Resilient, Eco-Friendly, Submerged Reverse Osmosis System	Las Virgenes MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot study of the OceanWell submerged reverse osmosis system in the Las Virgenes Reservoir.</li> <li>The study will serve as a stress test that will bring the technology from a TRL 4 to TRL 6.</li> <li>Calleguas MWD and Eastern MWD are contributing to this study.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 Studies</b>		<b>\$2,962,202</b>



## One Water & Stewardship Committee

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot

Item 7-7

July 8, 2024

# Item 7-7 Introduction Slide

## Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot

## Purpose

Reduce Barriers to future water resource production within the Metropolitan service area.

## Recommendations

Authorize staff to enter into a \$500,000 funding agreement with Los Angeles Water and Power under the FSA Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot.

## Fiscal Impact

Metropolitan would invest \$500,000 in the proposed study under the FSA Program over a two-year period.

# Board Options: Item 7-7

(LADWP – Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot – FSA Program)

## Option #1

- Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with the Los Angeles Department Water and Power under the FSA Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot.

## Option #2

- Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Los Angeles Department Water and Power under the FSA Program for the Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot.



# Staff Recommendation

Option #1





- **Board of Directors**  
***One Water and Stewardship Committee***

7/9/2024 Board Meeting

7-8

## Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the OceanWell Pilot Study; the General Manager has determined that the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

## Executive Summary

The purpose of this letter is to seek Board authorization to enter into one of the agreements with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the Future Supply Actions Program (FSA Program) for the OceanWell Pilot Study.

In December 2023, Metropolitan issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) under the FSA Program. The FSA Program funds technical studies and pilot tests targeting barriers to future production of recycled water, stormwater, seawater desalination, and groundwater resources.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. A technical review panel evaluated the proposals and developed a collective rating. Based on the panel findings and compliance with program requirements, staff recommends funding all eight proposals.

Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require Board approval. This letter concerns one of these proposals.

## Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

### Staff Recommendation: Option #1

#### Option #1

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the FSA Program for the OceanWell Pilot Study.

**Fiscal Impact:** The funding requested for the proposed study will be expended over a two-year period and is within the approved FSA Program budget of \$3 million for Fiscal Years 24/25 and 25/26. The total expenditures for the eight proposed studies under the FSA Program is \$2.96 million.

**Business Analysis:** By providing funding for member agency studies under the FSA Program, Metropolitan will remove barriers to future water resource production and increase regional water supply reliability.

#### Option #2

Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the FSA Program for the OceanWell Pilot Study.

**Fiscal Impact:** No impact. Metropolitan would miss leveraging \$500,000 of other funds for the study.

**Business Analysis:** Metropolitan would potentially delay an opportunity to remove a barrier to local resource development.

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**Alternatives Considered**

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Not applicable

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**Applicable Policy**

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Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

By Minute Item 48449, dated October 12, 2010, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2010 Integrated Resources Plan Update, as set forth in the letter signed by the General Manager.

By Minute Item 49381, dated April 9, 2013, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved the proposal. Foundational Actions Funding Program, and directed staff to issue a Request for Proposals.

By Minute Item 50358, dated January 12, 2016, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and the 2015 Integrated Resources Plan Update.

By Minute Item 51168, dated April 10, 2018, the Board adopted the CEQA determination and approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

By Minute Item 53409, dated October 10, 2023, the Board approved an approach to issue a Request for Proposals to fund member agency studies and research under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program.

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**Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)**

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Not applicable

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**Summary of Outreach Completed**

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Member Agency Manager's Meeting:

- August 2023 – Round 3 Authorization
- June 2024 – Round 3 Recommended Proposals

Webinars:

- August 2023 – Workshop for Round 3
- December 2023 – Request for Proposals – Pre-Bid

Member Agency:

- November 2023 – West Basin Caucus
- January 2024 – Foothill MWD

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**California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

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**CEQA determination for Option #1:**

The proposed action is exempt from CEQA because it consists of basic data collection, research, experimental management, and resource evaluation activities which do not result in a serious or major disturbance to an environmental resource. These may be strictly for information gathering purposes or as part of a study leading to an action that a public agency has not yet approved, adopted, or funded. (State CEQA Guidelines Section 15306.)

**CEQA determination for Option #2:**

None required

## Details and Background

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### Background: Future Supply Actions Funding Program

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Management Plan Update (2010 IRP Update) recognized the need to prepare for an uncertain future and that additional resources beyond the region's core supplies may be required. To address this uncertainty, the 2010 IRP Update established a Foundational Actions approach for removing barriers to new supply development. Foundational Actions are low-risk, preliminary steps that the region can take to accelerate the development of new water resources should the need arise. The 2010 IRP Update identified the following four local resources for Foundational Actions:

- Recycled water (including direct and indirect potable reuse)
- Seawater desalination
- Stormwater capture
- Groundwater enhancement

In 2013, the Board approved the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to advance technical studies and pilot tests to address critical resource development barriers. Under the FAF Program, Metropolitan provided \$2.97 million in co-funding for 13-member agency-sponsored technical studies. The goals of the program were to:

- Advance the field of knowledge for future water resource production.
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Remove barriers to water resource implementation.

The 13 studies funded under the FAF Program yielded tangible regional benefits for each of the local resources. These benefits included furthering the science of seawater desalination intake technologies, developing implementation pathways for stormwater capture, validating new technologies for groundwater treatment, and completing preliminary studies for direct potable reuse. The FAF Program concluded with a symposium where results from the studies were shared with over 230 participants from across Southern California.

The 2015 Integrated Water Resources Plan Update called for the region to continue the Foundational Actions approach and revised the program's name to the Future Supply Actions Funding Program (FSA Program). In 2018, the Board approved a follow-up to the original FSA Program that included two components:

1. A \$975,000 funding agreement with WRF for seven potable and non-potable reuse studies.
2. A second round of member agency funding totaling \$3.5 million for 14 studies.

The 21 studies funded under the FSA Program produced valuable regional benefits for the targeted local resources. These benefits included progressing in the fields of artificial intelligence applications in recycled water projects, stormwater diversion and percolation analysis, desalination brine diffusion, and groundwater utilization analysis. The studies within the program have concluded with MWD and WRF-hosted webinars. Webinar recordings and final reports for each study are available on the FSA Program's website:

<https://www.mwdh2o.com/planning-for-tomorrow/funding-opportunities/>.

### Third Round of the FSA Program

In October 2023, the Board authorized two additional rounds of funding for the FSA Program totaling \$6 million. In December 2023, Metropolitan released an RFP for the first of the two authorized funding rounds (**Attachment 1**). Member agencies could request up to \$500,000 for one or more proposals, which they must match dollar-for-dollar with other funds. Member agencies were encouraged to partner with other member agencies as well as other stakeholders. Staff held an informational webinar and answered member agency questions.

Metropolitan received eight proposals from seven lead member agencies with a total funding request of \$2.96 million. These proposals covered all four resource types and ranged from a data-driven planning study to pilot tests of innovative new technologies.

A technical review panel of Metropolitan staff and external experts performed independent evaluations of each proposal. Once completed, the panel convened to compare findings and collectively rate the proposals.

**Attachment 2** contains a list of the panel members and their affiliations. The proposals were evaluated against the following criteria:

- How does the proposal increase the water supply resiliency of future production?
- Does the proposal address a catalytic/critical path to implementation for local supplies?
- Will the potential results from the study have regional applicability?
- Does the proposal have a well-defined and innovative work plan?

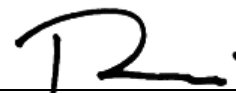
Based on the panel's findings, compliance with program requirements, and available funding, staff recommends funding all eight proposals. Staff will implement agreements for two proposals with funding requests under the General Manager's contracting authority of up to \$250,000. Six proposals with funding requests over \$250,000 require Board approval.

### **Funding Agreement**

The purpose of this letter is to seek Board authorization to enter into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District for the OceanWell Pilot Study. Calleguas Municipal Water District and Eastern Municipal Water District will be contributing to the study as partners to Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, who is the lead member agency. The title of the study is "OceanWell: A Climate-Resilient, Eco-Friendly, Submerged Reverse Osmosis System."

The study seeks to validate the OceanWell submerged reverse osmosis (SRO) technology by conducting a pilot test in the Las Virgenes Reservoir. The OceanWell SRO module will be suspended from a moored dock in the Las Vergenes Reservoir. The study will monitor and report on the system's performance and impacts over a series of three testing phases: (1) factory acceptance testing, (2) baseline testing in the reservoir, and (3) longevity testing of the best-in-class operations determined from the baseline tests. This study would further research and knowledge in submerged seawater desalination.

Staff requests Board authorization to enter into an FSA Program funding agreement for a not-to-exceed amount of \$500,000 with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District for the OceanWell Pilot Study.



Brandon Goshi  
Interim Manager,  
Water Resource Management

7/1/2024

Date



for Devan N. Upadhyay  
Interim General Manager

7/2/2024

Date

**Attachment 1 – 2023 Request for Proposals for Future Supply Actions Funding Program**

**Attachment 2 – Review Panel Members and Affidavit**

**Attachment 3 – Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Ref# wrm12695868

**THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA**  
**Water Resource Management Group**

**2023 Request for Proposals for  
Future Supply Actions Funding Program**



**KEY DATES**

Request for Proposals (RFP) Issued.....December 1, 2023.  
Pre-bid webinar.....December 13, 2023 @ 02:00 P.M.  
Proposals due by.....February 5, 2024 @ 02:00 PM.

**NOTICE**

**An optional pre-bid webinar** will be held on **December 13, 2023**, from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m.  
All Member Agencies and proposal partners are encouraged to participate.

Metropolitan Contact: Jonathan Jordan  
E-mail Address: [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com)



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## **SECTION 1: INFORMATION FOR MEMBER AGENCIES**

This Request for Proposals (RFP) is designed to promote an objective process for distributing funds for technical studies or pilot tests under the Future Supply Actions (FSA) Funding Program. The FSA Funding Program goal is to enable effective future resource planning and potential development of recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater enhancement. This RFP contains information concerning the 2023 FSA Funding Program objectives, who can submit, funding, schedule, and review process. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) invites its Member Agencies to submit study proposals for the program described herein.

### **1.1 Objective**

Metropolitan has proposed a 2023 FSA Funding Program with objectives to help address regional funding needs for actions that:

- Augment water resiliency to reduce climate change driven water resource barriers.
- Advance the field of knowledge for the four resources (recycled water, seawater desalination, stormwater, and groundwater).
- Provide results that are unique, yet transferable to other areas in the region.
- Represent a catalytic/critical path to water resource implementation.

Metropolitan's 2010 Integrated Water Resources Plan (IRP) established a planning framework, including a core resources program, designed to ensure the region's reliability into the future. The 2010 IRP Update recognized that the future is uncertain and additional water resources may need to be developed under some conditions. To address this future uncertainty, the 2010 IRP established Foundational Actions, which are low-risk, preliminary actions that can be taken to ensure the region will be ready to implement new water supplies should the need arise.

In 2013, Metropolitan established the Foundational Actions Funding Program (FAF Program) to fund Member Agency studies focused on removing barriers to future local supply production. The 2015 IRP reaffirmed this forward-looking approach and updated the name to Future Supply Actions. Future Supply Actions represent one component of the overall 2015 IRP strategy. In 2018, Metropolitan released a second round of FSA funding for member agency studies. The 2020 IRP continued this progressive trend by adopting a scenario-based strategy to ensure regional reliability through 2045, referred to as the "Regional Needs Assessment." Given the successes of the 2013 and 2018 programs, the 2023 FSA reinforces Metropolitan's commitment to the 2020 IRP strategy in maintaining existing and developing new local supplies.

In 2022, Metropolitan's Board of Directors (Board) adopted a resolution calling for "Equitable reliability across the service area through a balanced combination of infrastructure, storage, demand management, and water supply programs." Metropolitan is collaborating with our Member Agencies on the regional Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W). CAMP4W will consider Member Agency projects that innovate and enhance regional water supply reliability. The FSA Funding Program has proven to be a capable vehicle for achieving the goals outlined in the resolution. To that end, Metropolitan encourages its member

agencies to propose innovative studies that benefit the region, innovate, reduce barriers, and create a climate change-resilient region.

## **1.2 Description**

The FSA Funding Program promotes technical studies and pilot tests that enable effective future resource planning and potential implementation for the following resources:

- Recycled water, including potable reuse
- Desalination
- Stormwater
- Groundwater enhancement

These actions are meant to identify and investigate opportunities to develop future water resources. Examples of studies under the FSA Funding Program may include, but are not limited to:

- Pilot and bench-scale studies
- Demonstration studies
- Tracer alternative studies
- System integration studies
- Innovative treatment processes
- New sensor technologies
- Advanced ocean intakes and outfall tests
- Brine disposal or harvesting research
- Novel approaches for AI and machine learning

Examples of Member Agency studies funded under the 2013 FAF and 2018 FSA programs are listed on the FSA Funding Program's website: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

The FSA Funding Program is designed to encourage short-term studies targeting barriers to future supply production and would not include:

- Design of full-scale projects
- Long-term studies requiring more than two years to complete
- Construction of full-scale projects
- Funding CEQA documentation for projects
- Existing studies or projects
- Acquisition of property

## **1.3 Who Can Submit?**

The RFP is open to Metropolitan Member Agencies (Member Agencies). Member Agencies may partner with other Member Agencies or other non-Member Agency entities. A single designated lead Member Agency must submit the proposal. The proposal must disclose the names of the partnering Member Agencies or other entities. Each Member Agency may be the

lead agency on a maximum of three proposals per funding round. If partnering on a proposal, the lead Member Agency submitting the proposal shall be responsible for any priority ranking of multiple proposals from that Member Agency.

#### **1.4     Funding**

Metropolitan expects to fund approximate 12 to 16 technical studies or pilot tests total during two separate rounds. This round of the FSA Funding Program will fund up to 8 technical studies or pilot tests, and up to \$3 million. The next FSA Funding Program round is expected to begin in two to three years. In total, up to \$6 million are available for the current and following funding rounds. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP will only be considered for the current funding round.

Member Agencies may submit proposal funding requests of up to \$500,000 per agency or up to \$500,000 for a single study. Each proposal requires a non-Metropolitan monetary match of at least 100 percent of the Metropolitan funded amount. Member Agencies can include in-kind services in their proposal; however, in-kind services do not count towards the required funding match. If partnering on a proposal, a breakdown of each Member Agency's funding request and the respective monetary match is required and will be used to track that agency's total funding request (see Section 2.2F). The Member Agency match funding may not be associated with other Metropolitan funding programs.

A significant FSA Funding Program principle is having the studies or tests benefit the Metropolitan's services area. Due to this core principle, studies or tests funded through this program must be publicly accessible to the extent allowed under applicable law.

### 1.5 Anticipated Schedule

Date	Milestone
12/01/2023	Release of RFP
12/13/2023	Non-mandatory pre-bid webinar at 02:00 p.m.
01/12/2024	Questions for clarification will close at 1:00 p.m.
02/05/2024	<b>RFP proposals due by 2:00 p.m.</b>
Q1 2024	Proposal awards (Contingent upon Board action)
Q1—Q2 2024	Agreements signed by recipients (Goal)
Q1 2025	Work Initiation Deadline
Q4 2026	Final Report Deadline

### 1.6 Non-mandatory Pre-Bid Webinar

- A pre-bid Webinar will be held from 02:00 p.m. to 03:00 p.m., Wednesday, **December 13, 2023**. Metropolitan will discuss the details of the FSA Funding Program RFP and answer questions. Written questions regarding this RFP may be submitted from the release of the RFP to one week following the pre-proposal webinar (see Questions for Clarification section).
- While participation is not mandatory, all interested parties and prospective applicants are encouraged to attend. Participants are invited to present relevant questions at the pre-proposal webinar.
- Directions on how to participate in the pre-proposal Webinar will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).

### 1.7 Questions for Clarification

Questions for clarification regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing via e-mail to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 1:00 p.m., Friday, **January 12, 2024**. As appropriate, Metropolitan will respond to questions, provide information updates, and issue RFP addendums through the following link: [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa). The responsibility solely lies with each interested party and prospective applicant to check and review the FSA Funding Program website for all updates.

### 1.8 General Proposal Information

1. Applicants are encouraged to carefully review this RFP in its entirety before the proposal preparation.
2. All proposals submitted become the property of Metropolitan. Metropolitan has no expressed or implied obligation to reimburse the responding party for any expenses incurred in preparing proposals in response to this request.
3. Applicants may modify or amend proposals only if Metropolitan receives the amendment before the deadline stated herein for receiving proposals.

4. A proposal that is conditional, incomplete, contains alterations of form, additions not called for, or other irregularities that may constitute a material change to the proposal may be considered non-responsive.
5. Additional copies of the RFP will be posted on the FSA Funding Program's website at [www.mwdh2o.com/fsa](http://www.mwdh2o.com/fsa).
6. Submission of a proposal indicates acceptance by the party of the conditions contained in this request for proposals, unless clearly and specifically noted in the proposal submitted and confirmed in the contract between Metropolitan and the recipient(s).

#### **1.9 Rights Reserved to Metropolitan**

Metropolitan reserves the right to:

1. Reject any and all proposals, revise terms and conditions, or elect not to award full program funding.
2. Select the proposal(s) most advantageous to Metropolitan.
3. Verify all information submitted in the proposal.
4. Cancel this solicitation at any time without prior notice and furthermore, makes no representations that any contract will be awarded to any applicant responding to this RFP.
5. Negotiate the final contract with any applicant(s) as necessary to serve the best interests of Metropolitan.
6. Amend the RFP.
7. Amend the final contract to incorporate necessary attachments and exhibits or to reflect negotiations between Metropolitan and the successful recipient(s).

#### **1.10 Validity**

Proposals must be valid for a period of at least 12 months from the closing date and time of this RFP. Proposals submitted in response to this RFP only qualify for the current funding round. Once submitted, the proposal is the property of Metropolitan and may not be physically withdrawn after the submission date. However, the applicant may request for the submitted proposal not to be considered for funding prior to the funding award.

#### **1.11 Confidentiality**

1. Metropolitan is subject to the Public Records Act, California Government Code Section (Gov. Code) 7920.000 et. seq. All required submittal information is subject to disclosure to the general public. Unless specifically required by the solicitation, the applicant should not submit personal data such as driver's license information, social security numbers, etc. to avoid the possibility of inadvertent disclosure of this personal information. Please note that Metropolitan cannot consider proposals marked confidential in their entirety.

2. The applicant may provide supplemental information exempt from public disclosure under Gov. Code Section 7929.42 including “trade secrets” under Evidence Code Section 1060. Such supplemental information **shall not be material** to the required submittal information and Metropolitan shall be under no obligation to consider such supplemental information in its evaluation.
3. If submitting confidential or supplemental information, such information should be sectioned separately from the rest of the submittal and clearly marked "Confidential." Upon completion of its evaluation, Metropolitan will destroy any confidential information submitted, or return such information to the applicant if so requested.

#### **1.12 Evaluation and Selection Process**

1. Proposals will be evaluated by an independent review panel comprised of Metropolitan and non-Metropolitan professionals familiar with water resources in Southern California. The review panel will ensure compliance with the FSA Funding Program objectives and eligibility and will evaluate each proposal based on selection criteria as described further in this document. Metropolitan staff will review the panel suggestions and develop a list of recommended proposals and funding levels for Board approval.
2. During the evaluation process, Metropolitan may request clarification from the applicant as necessary. Applicant(s) should not misconstrue a clarification request as negotiations.
3. If similar proposals, or proposals that would provide similar results are submitted, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding. Also, if multiple proposals are submitted that are, or could be, collectively part of an overall study or pilot test, then only one eligible proposal may be selected for funding.
4. If applicable, Member Agencies with study work plans contingent on regulatory permitting must provide a list of required permits, expected award date, and the anticipated study timeline impacts if the permitting process is delayed. The ability to complete studies in the FSA Funding Program round timeframe is a scoring consideration. Metropolitan may request additional information on the permitting schedule.

#### **1.13 Agreement Process**

1. After proposals are selected for funding, Metropolitan will enter into agreements upon successful contract negotiations. Funding may be withdrawn if the recipient does not sign agreements within three months of final contract negotiations.
2. Metropolitan may negotiate proposal scope and funding changes if deemed beneficial.
3. Recipients must submit deliverables by task, including reports, invoices, interim study or test documents, and a final report documenting study or test results, other findings, and recommendations for future action. Recipients must provide any generated presentations or preliminary reports to Metropolitan during the life of the agreement.
4. The final report and symposium presentation will be worth 25 percent of the total funding and can be invoiced after the delivery of the final report and presentation.

Metropolitan will withhold the final funding until the final report and presentation are accepted by Metropolitan staff.

5. Performance provisions may be incorporated into the program agreements. These provisions would allow Metropolitan to adjust or withdraw financial commitments to the proposal based on performance.
6. The FSA invoice intervals will be flexibly negotiated on a case-by-case basis during the agreement process; options available to agencies in this FSA round include quarterly, semi-annual, or based on deliverables. Funds will be disbursed after verification of study status based on submitted progress reports, invoices, and appropriate documentation. The non-Metropolitan funding match must equal or exceed the Metropolitan funded amount per submitted progress payment.
7. Funding recipients are expected to provide an initial forecast of spending to Metropolitan after the study or test initiation. The recipient will need to provide a forecast as a part of the submitted progress reports.
8. Final reports must be completed and submitted by **December 28, 2026**, unless extended by Metropolitan. Final payment will be made within 60 days of acceptance of the final report and presentation.
9. Member Agencies and study/pilot test participants will also be encouraged to participate in the FSA symposium. The symposium will highlight the study results and allow participants to present the final presentation to other member agencies and regional stakeholders.
10. Attachment A is Metropolitan's Sample Agreement. Applicant is requested to carefully review and comment as necessary on any of the provisions set forth in the Sample Agreement. Metropolitan reserves the right to modify, add or delete any of the provisions of the Agreement before issuance.

#### **1.14 Negotiations**

Negotiations regarding agreement terms, conditions, work plan, schedule, and funding may or may not be conducted with the applicant. If Metropolitan engages the applicant in negotiations and satisfactory agreement provisions cannot be reached, then negotiations may be terminated.

#### **1.15 Selection Criteria**

The review panel will use the criteria provided below to evaluate and rank the proposals. In addition, the review panel will identify and weigh each proposal's significant strengths, weaknesses, and miscellaneous issues.

Recommendations will reflect the collective findings of the review panel. To be qualified for funding, proposals must satisfy each criterion category and subcategory listed as follows and in Section 2.2 of this document.

**Criteria and Weight:**

1. Reduces Barriers to Future Production: 30 percent
2. Regional Benefit/Applicability: 20 percent
3. Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology: 20 percent
4. Work Plan/Schedule: 15 percent
5. Costs: 15 percent

The selection criteria are described further in Section 2.2 of this document.

In addition to the selection criteria above, Metropolitan will award a bonus to studies that objectively demonstrate regional benefit across the Metropolitan service area. To incentivize Member Agency cooperation on regional studies, Metropolitan will grant a 5% bonus to the proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies. Partner Agencies must have at least \$10,000 vested in the study or test to qualify as a participating agency.



## SECTION 2: PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

The following format and content requirements shall be adhered to for proposals to be considered responsive. Applicants should use the numbering and lettering system outlined in these guidelines. Concise informative proposals within the page limitations are encouraged.

### 2.1 Proposal Submittal and PDF Format Guidelines

- Proposals will only be accepted in PDF format.
- The proposal must be formatted for white 8 1/2" x 11" size paper with black text in a 12-point font, and table/graphics with text no smaller than a 10-point font.
- Proposals shall be no more than 20 pages, including attachments.
- Materials presented in the Appendix will not be used in the proposal evaluation and should exclusively contain reference or supplementary content
- Proposals shall be clear, accurate, and comprehensive. Excessive or irrelevant materials will not be favorably received.
- The PDF should include the entire proposal (executive summary, support letters, attachments, etc.) in one file.
- Support letters: Proposals can include no more than five support letters of no longer than one page. Support letters will not count against the page limitations and will be considered to support regional benefit. Support letters should be addressed to Jonathan Jordan at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by the proposal submittal deadline. Support letters received after the proposal submittal deadline will not be considered.
- **Proposals that do not conform to these formatting requirements and the following content requirements may be deemed non-responsive and rejected.**

### 2.2 Content Requirements

Proposals shall be organized and lettered in the order presented below:

- A. Executive Summary Letter
- B. Entities Participating in Proposal
- C. Key Individuals
- D. Proposal Description
- E. Criteria One – Reduces Barriers to Future Production
- F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability
- G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology
- H. Criteria Five – Work Plan / Schedule / Permitting
- I. Criteria Four – Costs
- J. Appendix A: Support Letters

**A. Executive Summary Letter**

This letter shall be a formal signed letter from the applicant Member Agency (and any partnering Member Agency(s)). The letter shall provide a brief description of the proposal and information regarding the organization and its ability to meet the objectives and requirements of this RFP.

The letter should be signed by an individual(s) authorized to bind the proposing Member Agency and shall identify all materials and enclosures being forwarded in response to this RFP. An unsigned Executive Summary Letter may be grounds for rejection. The letter must include the following language:

**“I am informed and believe that the information contained in this proposal is true and that the supporting data is accurate and complete.”**

Please include the following information in your letter:

<b>Name of Proposal</b>	
Water Resource Category (Recycled Water, Seawater Desalination, Stormwater, Groundwater)	
Member Agency Name(s) (As it appears on W-9 Tax form)	
Federal ID #	
Address	
City, State & Zip	
Main Telephone	
Contact Name	
Contact Telephone	
Contact E-mail Address	
Website Address (if applicable)	

**B. Entities Participating in Proposal**

- List other entities participating in proposal.
- Provide support letters from study participants (not considered as part of the 20-page limit for proposals) in Section I.

**C. Key Individuals**

- Proposal participants / cooperating agencies

- Identify key individuals including program manager and management team
  - Name, title
  - Title
  - Phone Number
  - Mailing address
  - Fax Number
  - E-mail Address
  - Relevant experience

#### **D. Proposal Description**

Provide a concise summary that includes an overall description of the proposal and conveys a clear understanding of the proposal's goals and objectives.

#### **E. Criteria One – Increases Water Supply Resiliency**

In this section, the applicant shall describe the following in narrative form all of which is applicable:

- Describe how the proposed actions increase future local supply potential.
- Describe how the proposed actions are critical to resource resiliency and planning for climate change-driven uncertainty.
- Describe how the proposed actions **removes barriers** to supply development including, but not limited to, technical, regulatory, permitting, and institutional barriers.
- Describe how the proposed actions increase regional climate resiliency or safeguards current local supplies.

#### **F. Criteria Two – Regional Benefit / Applicability**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how the results of this proposal would apply to Metropolitan's member agencies, retail agencies, and regional stakeholders. The proposal should describe how the study results are transferable to other regional member agencies and stakeholders.
- If applicable, describe other co-benefits, such as water quality, energy, wastewater, infrastructure, environmental, etc.
- Metropolitan will award a 5% bonus to proposals with 3 or more participating Member agencies.

#### **G. Criteria Three – Innovative Process, Approach, or Technology**

In this section, the applicant shall describe in narrative form the following:

- Describe how these actions are unique and innovative. Describe the current state of technology. Identify similar completed or ongoing studies and how the proposed actions differ (include a literature search summary).

- Describe how these actions will advance the field of knowledge to develop future water resources. Include how the results of the proposed actions could be used in future research.
- Describe how the study or test results enable future actions that address regional barriers when compared to the status quo. Identify and describe the follow-up actions necessary for wide-scale implementation, such as submission of results to the State or Federal regulators required for regulatory acknowledgment or adoption. Include any future studies or steps to leverage results from the study or test.

#### **H. Criteria Four – Work Plan / Schedule**

Provide a detailed work plan describing each proposed task and deliverable, and how proposal success will be measured. Every task must have a specific deliverable and due date. Meeting dates and study milestones should be identified. Deliverables may include but are not limited to technical memoranda, summary reports, progress reports, draft technical reports, final technical reports, presentations, and related information. If partnering on a proposal with other entities, describe the role/involvement of each partner and their relationship to the proposal. Describe factors that may affect the feasibility of implementing the proposal. Also, describe the technical expertise of the proposal team.

Cite the proposed schedule, including the start date (no later than **January 01, 2025**), tasks, deliverables, reports, completion date (no later than **December 28, 2026**), and other key milestone dates. The schedule should be linked to the tasks and task deliverables. Identify components and tasks that could be broken out to allow funding to be provided for a particular activity or combination of activities. The description must clearly describe how funds would be used.

The following includes additional information and instructions for evaluation:

- Work plan and schedule must provide detail and completeness to measure the proposed implemented actions for success. Identify potential challenges, issues, and prerequisites related to proposal implementation and describe how they will be addressed.
- Describe how the proposed objectives can be achieved in the stated time period with the allotted personnel and budget.
- The proposal should include a table of required permits describing each permit, expected award date, and impact to the study workplan if delayed.

#### **I. Criteria Five – Costs**

Proposal must provide a cost breakdown of the work plan consistent with the schedule. This should be itemized in tabular form (see following tables). Each work plan task should include a breakdown of the applicant's monetary funding match, source of the funding match (e.g., name of the Member Agency, outside grant agency, etc.), and requested Metropolitan funds. Do not include in-kind services in the funding match. If partnering with other Member Agencies, provide separate cost tables and a proposal total cost table for each Member Agency. The

grand total non-Metropolitan funding match for each cost table must equal or exceed the requested Metropolitan funded amount. Also, provide a list summarizing all sources of the funding match, their respective monetary contribution, and the status of the funding match (e.g., funding budgeted and approved by the Member Agency's Board of Directors, grant received, applying for a grant, etc.). Include supporting information for the budget (such as labor categories, hourly rates, labor time estimates, materials and supplies, and subcontractor/consultant quotes) and the matching funds.

Cost Table Example – Study Total				
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)	Requested MWD Funding	Total
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines			
(b)	Proposed Task			
(c)	...			
Grand Total				

Cost Table Example – Lead Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

Cost Table Example – Partner Member Agency					
Cost Category		Non-Metropolitan Share (Funding Match)		Requested MWD Funding	Total
		Source	Amount		
(a)	List proposed tasks on separate lines				
(b)	Proposed Task				
(c)	...				
Grand Total		--			

The following includes additional information and instruction for evaluation:

- Describe the cost-effectiveness of the proposed work plan budget.
- Describe the readiness to proceed with the matching funds, and how the matching funds will be committed by the Member Agency before the Member Agency signs the FSA Funding Program agreement.

### **2.3 Submittal Instructions**

Proposals for this RFP will be accepted in PDF format via e-mail.

**By e-mail:**

- **Proposal must be submitted electronically as an attachment to an e-mail at [FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com](mailto:FSAfundingprogram@mwdh2o.com) by 02:00 p.m. PST, on February 05, 2024**
- The e-mail date and time will act as a timestamp for the submittal. Notice of receipt will be sent upon successful receipt of the proposal.
- The PDF file size is limited to no more 20 MB.
- The e-mail subject line should contain the following: "Proposal for Future Supply Actions Funding Program".
- The e-mail's body should include the proposal's title, lead Member Agency name, the applicable resource (groundwater, recycling, seawater desalination or stormwater), and contact information.
- If submitting multiple proposals, please submit each proposal individually in a separate e-mail.
- Member Agencies are encouraged to submit proposals before the closing time and date.

Proposals received after the stated time and date will be considered late and automatically rejected by Metropolitan. Member agencies are **responsible for submitting the proposal correctly in form and content and within the stipulated deadline**. Late proposals will be deemed non-responsive and not considered during the evaluation process.

**Proposals will be received until 02:00 p.m., February 05, 2024.**

## **2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program**

### **Review Panel Members and Panel Affidavit**

**Heather Collins**

Assistant Group Manager, Treatment & Water Quality Group, Metropolitan Water District  
President-Elect, American Water Works Association

**Dr. Adrian Hightower**

Sustainability and Resilience Manager, Metropolitan Water District

**Dr. Malynda Cappelle**

Facility Manager, Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility, Bureau of Reclamation

**Dr. Roy Wolfe**

Wolfe Water Consulting, LLC.

**Dr. Robert Wilkinson**

Adjunct Professor, Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California,  
Santa Barbara

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## Affidavit

### Affidavit for Review Panelists

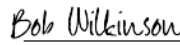
The undersigned members of the Review Panel for the Future Supply Actions Funding Program 2023 RFP objectively reviewed the proposals to ensure compliance with the FSA Program objectives and eligibility requirements and confirm the panel's collective findings.

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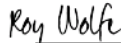
Malynnda Cappelle, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



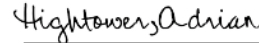
Robert Wilkinson, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



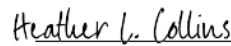
Roy Wolfe, PhD  
Consultant

DocuSigned by:



Adrian Hightower, PhD  
Special Projects Manager

DocuSigned by:



Heather Collins, PE  
Assistant Group Manager



**2023 Future Supply Actions Funding Program RFP  
Recommended Proposals and Proposal Descriptions**

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
<b>Groundwater</b>			
Pilot Study of New Electrolytic Method for In-situ Generation of Ferric Arsenic Treatment	Western MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This pilot study will generate ferric chemicals onsite and offers the potential to lower treated water arsenic concentrations using the coagulation-filtration method.</li> <li>This technology offers potential operations and maintenance cost savings and avoids manganese addition that typically occurs for liquid ferric chemicals.</li> </ul>	\$207,500
PFAS and Groundwater Wells	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study seeks to demonstrate to the water supply industry that improved well construction and development processes can reduce or eliminate certain PFAS contamination in groundwater wells.</li> <li>Three Valleys MWD, Western MWD, and Jurupa Community Services District are also participating in the study.</li> </ul>	\$298,500
Groundwater Augmentation, Groundwater Collection System, and New Wells Site Study	Long Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The study will evaluate the impacts of using recycled water to augment groundwater resources in the Central and West Coast Basins.</li> <li>The outcomes of the Project will ultimately increase Long Beach's water supply reliability by reducing its reliance on imported water supplies and integrating new water resources into its supply portfolio.</li> </ul>	\$499,802
<b>Stormwater</b>			
Lake Henshaw Oxygenation Pilot Study	SDCWA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Pilot Study is intended to inform the Vista Irrigation District and the City of Escondido regarding the effectiveness of oxygenation in limiting harmful algal bloom formation and cyanotoxin production.</li> <li>Oxygenation systems have not been tested in a broad, shallow lake such as Lake Henshaw and have not been systematically quantified in lakes in general.</li> </ul>	\$500,000

Proposal Name	Lead Agency	Description	Maximum Funding Level
Data-Driven Resource Optimization and Planning System (DROPS)	Foothill MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DROPS is a pioneering tool that integrates advanced data analytics with artificial intelligence to enhance water management capabilities.</li> <li>DROPS achieves previously unattained levels of accuracy in terms of identifying impervious areas by triangulating aerial imagery, topographical data, remote-sensing data, and environmental databases and supplementing those datasets with analysis and insights from AI integration.</li> </ul>	\$54,900

Recycled Water			
Chino Basin Advance Water Purification Demonstration Facility	IEUA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstration study for the design and construction of an approximately 100 gpm Advanced Water Purification Demonstration Facility for the Chino Basin Program.</li> <li>The demonstration study will advance innovative technologies and approaches related to advanced water treatment technologies, with findings applicable to advanced water treatment projects and the industry.</li> </ul>	\$401,500
Headworks Reservoir Complex Direct Potable Reuse Pilot	LADWP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The objective of the pilot is to demonstrate compliance with the recently approved DPR regulations and test advanced treatment technologies.</li> <li>The pilot will explore the feasibility of post-RO treatment strategies for chemical control.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
Seawater Desalination			
OceanWell: A Climate-Resilient, Eco-Friendly, Submerged Reverse Osmosis System	Las Virgenes MWD	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pilot study of the OceanWell submerged reverse osmosis system in the Las Virgenes Reservoir.</li> <li>The study will serve as a stress test that will bring the technology from a TRL 4 to TRL 6.</li> <li>Calleguas MWD and Eastern MWD are contributing to this study.</li> </ul>	\$500,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8 Studies</b>		<b>\$2,962,202</b>



## One Water & Stewardship Committee

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the OceanWell Pilot Study

Item 7-8

July 8, 2024

## Item 7-8 Introduction Slide

### Subject

Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the Future Supply Actions Funding Program for the OceanWell Pilot Study

### Purpose

Reduce Barriers to future water resource production within the Metropolitan service area.

### Recommendations

Authorize staff to enter into a \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the FSA Program for the OceanWell Pilot Study.

### Fiscal Impact

Metropolitan would invest \$500,000 in the proposed study under the FSA Program over a two-year period.

# Board Options: Item 7-8

## (LVMWD – OceanWell Pilot Study – FSA Program)

### Option #1

- Authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the FSA Program for the OceanWell Pilot Study.

### Option #2

- Do not authorize entering into a not-to-exceed \$500,000 funding agreement with Las Virgenes Municipal Water District under the FSA Program for the OceanWell Pilot Study.

# Staff Recommendation

Option #1







- **Board of Directors**  
***One Water and Stewardship Committee***

7/9/2024 Board Meeting

8-2

## Subject

By a two-thirds vote, authorize payments of up to \$4.18 million for participation in the State Water Contractors for fiscal year 2024/25 and up to \$4.30 million for fiscal year 2025/26; the General Manager has determined the proposed action is exempt or otherwise not subject to CEQA

## Executive Summary

This action requests authorization to continue funding and participation in the State Water Contractors (SWC). Participation in this organization allows Metropolitan to advocate for effective operations and management of the State Water Project (SWP), with an emphasis on the reliability of the SWP infrastructure, managing electrical power resources, and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Bay/Delta (Delta). Metropolitan's participation enhances the effectiveness of relationships with the other SWP contractors. The SWC provides a unified voice among the contractors to provide input to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on the management of the SWP. The SWC's main focus areas include responding to climate change, meeting renewable energy goals, advancing science for decision-making in the Delta, and collaborating with stakeholders to reach mutually beneficial solutions such as the Agreements to Support Healthy Rivers and Landscapes.

Staff is requesting authorization for the General Manager to make payments to SWC for up to \$4.18 million for fiscal year (FY) 2024/25 and up to \$4.30 million for FY 2025/26. The requested authorization amounts are within Metropolitan's approved budget for FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.

## Proposed Action(s)/Recommendation(s) and Options

### Staff Recommendation: Option #1

#### Option #1

By a two-thirds vote, authorize payments of up to \$4.18 million for participation in the State Water Contractors for FY 2024/25 and up to \$4.30 million for FY 2025/26.

**Fiscal Impact:** Expenditures for participation in SWC in FY 2024/25 would be up to \$4.18 million, funded within the FY 2024/25 budget. Expenditures for participation in SWC in FY 2025/26 would be up to \$4.30 million, funded within the FY 2025/26 budget.

**Business Analysis:** Metropolitan benefits from the SWC representing positions with DWR, legislators, regulatory, and third-party groups that advance its SWP strategic initiatives.

#### Option #2

Do not authorize the General Manager to make payments to the State Water Contractors for FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.

**Fiscal Impact:** Savings up to \$4.18 million for FY 2024/25 and \$4.30 million for FY 2025/26.

**Business Analysis:** Metropolitan would be less effective in advancing its SWP strategic initiatives if the membership is not approved. Metropolitan would need to develop alternative means to manage the risk of higher costs or greater operational restrictions on supply deliveries.



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## Alternatives Considered

Staff reviewed alternatives to continued participation in the SWC. If the SWC was not funded, most of the activities currently conducted by the SWC would need to be provided by one or more of the individual contractors. As a result, the coordination with the other contractors on policy, science, regulatory comments, and advocacy would grow more complex, with potential duplication happening across the various contractors, including Metropolitan. With participation in the SWC, Metropolitan's Delta science initiatives are magnified, and the SWC recognizes Metropolitan's contributions by providing discounted charges. Over the last five years, Metropolitan's annual contributions to the SWC averaged \$3.36 million, and leveraged \$5.1 million annually from the other SWC members. For these reasons, in part, staff strongly recommends continued participation in the SWC.

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## Applicable Policy

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Section 11104: Delegation of Responsibilities

Metropolitan Water District Administrative Code Sections 11102 and 11103: Payment of Dues and Participation in Projects or Programs Serving District Purposes.

Metropolitan Water District Act Section 126: Dissemination of Information (requires a two-thirds vote)

By Minute Item No. 45348, the Board, at its May 13, 2003, meeting, authorized entering into an agreement with the State Water Project Joint Powers Authority.

By Minute Item No. 47735, the Board, at its December 9, 2008, meeting, authorized the General Manager to execute the Delta Habitat Conservation and Conveyance Program Memorandum of Agreement and three related funding and management agreements.

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## Related Board Action(s)/Future Action(s)

Unanticipated increases in the SWC annual budget have occurred in the past and could happen in the future due to unforeseen circumstances or expenditures. If the SWC budget for FY 2025/26 increases above that which is authorized in this action, staff will return to the Board for additional authorization of the adjusted amount of funds for FY 2025/26.

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## California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

### CEQA determination for Option #1:

The proposed action is not defined as a project under CEQA because it involves organizational, maintenance, or administrative activities; personnel-related actions; and/or general policy and procedure making that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. (Public Resources Code Section 21065; State CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(2) and (5)).

### CEQA determination for Option #2:

None required

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## Details and Background

### Background

#### State Water Contractors

The SWC is a nonprofit association of 27 public agencies from northern, central, and southern California with contracts providing participation rights in the SWP. Collectively, there are 27 million Californians (which is one in 12 Americans) and 750,000 acres of productive farmland in the SWC members' service areas. The SWC's role and activities provide input into DWR's policy and decision-making process. The SWC effectively represents the interests of Metropolitan and the other contractors in discussions with DWR and through interactions with other state, federal, and local entities.

The SWC is governed by a board of directors, which represents eight classes of SWP contractors. The board members are generally composed of managers from the agencies. The table below summarizes the board members and their respective class designation representatives:

<b>Class</b>	<b>Representative</b>	<b>Contractors</b>
1	Chris Lee	<b>Solano County Water Agency (WA)</b> , Yuba City, Napa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (FCWCD)
2	Laura Hidas	<b>Alameda County Water District</b> , Alameda Zone 7 WA, Santa Clara Valley Water District (WD)
3	Jacob Westra	County of Kings, Dudley Ridge WD, <b>Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District</b> , Empire West Side Irrigation District (ID), Oak Flat WD
4	Craig Wallace	<b>Kern County Water Agency (KCWA)</b>
5	Ray Stokes	<b>Central Coast Water Authority</b> , San Luis Obispo FCWCD
6	Nina Hawk	<b>Metropolitan Water District of Southern California</b>
7	Matthew Stone	<b>Santa Clarita Valley Water District</b> , Casitas Municipal Water District
8	Peter Thompson, Jr. Robert Cheng	<b>Antelope Valley East Kern WA, Coachella Valley Water District</b> , Crestline-Lake Arrowhead WA, Palmdale WD, Littlerock Creek ID, San Bernardino Valley MWD, San Gabriel Valley MWD, San Geronio Pass WA

The overall SWC dues are made up from five funds: Dues Fund, Bay-Delta Fund, Delta Conveyance Project Fund, Energy Fund and Municipal Water Quality Investigation. The table below illustrates the basis for allocating each share of the SWC dues:

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Basis of Allocation</b>
Dues Fund	Maximum Table A and Prior Year Water Delivery
Bay-Delta Fund	Maximum Table A with Adjustments for Metropolitan and KCWA Efforts
Delta Conveyance Project Fund	Presumed Participation in Project
Energy Fund	Power Use with Maximum Table A and Prior Year Energy Use
Municipal Water Quality Investigation	Table A of Participating Contractors

The SWC's staff of nine employees coordinates across the SWC to ensure consistent policy positions, effective messaging, and coordinated advocacy. This coordination first seeks unanimity whenever possible and then amplifies the individual agency voices before DWR, the Newsom administration, the State Legislature, and the many regulatory agencies who hold responsibilities in the Delta.

The SWC's work efforts and associated revenue collections include five areas:

1. **Dues Fund** – Funds SWC activities supporting DWR cost management, infrastructure repair and replacement, water supply reliability, and water quality. This fund also includes general operating expenses.
2. **Energy Fund** – Funds SWC activities to help DWR develop and implement energy strategies to meet state mandates while obtaining cost-effective energy for the SWP.
3. **Bay-Delta Fund** – Supports SWC participation in Delta fish monitoring, environmental reviews, coordination with the Central Valley Project, protection of existing operations, advancing science, and planning for a changed climate now and in the future. Because some Metropolitan staff efforts closely align with and support the SWC, over the last five years Metropolitan has received an average discount of 48 percent (approximately \$506,000 excluding SWC legal fees).
4. **Delta Conveyance Project Fund** – Supports SWC involvement in the Delta Conveyance Project planning activities, such as assisting with permits, environmental documentation, and policy and technical support to determine project benefits.
5. **Municipal Water Quality Investigations (MWQI)** – Provides SWP contractors with water quality information related to drinking water regulations through specialized scientific studies, research, and investigations.

The united voice of the SWC provides value in achieving favorable outcomes. Notable accomplishments of direct value to Metropolitan include:

- (1) Coordination with the SWP Chief Financial Manager to resolve outstanding financial disputes such as Water System Revenue Bond Surcharge, Rate Management Credits, East Branch Enlargement and Cost/Debt Analysis,
- (2) Efforts to explore with the legislature and the state administration ways to reduce the impacts of Senate Bill 1020, which affirmed the commitment of DWR to secure 100 percent renewable or zero-carbon resources on a modestly extended schedule to save the SWP billions of dollars in energy costs,
- (3) Engagement with DWR on the Safety of Dams and Sisk Dam cost share negotiations that led to approximately \$500 million in savings for all SWP contractors,
- (4) Completion of the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Tolling and Waiver Agreement.

Further accomplishments are provided in **Attachment 1**, and **Attachment 2** describes SWC objectives for FY 2024/25.

#### **Summary of Payment Distribution**

The table below summarizes the current and requested up to payments for participation in the SWC:

	<b>FY 2023/24 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2024/25 MWD Budget</b>	<b>FY 2025/26 MWD Budget</b>
Dues Fund	\$2,068,300	\$1,652,700	\$1,702,200
Energy Fund	\$ 289,200	\$ 280,000	\$ 288,400
Bay-Delta Fund	\$1,086,400	\$1,057,100	\$1,088,800
Delta Conveyance Project Fund	\$ 454,200	\$ 930,400	\$ 958,300
MWQI	\$ 258,300	\$ 260,000	\$ 260,000
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$4,156,400</b>	<b>\$4,180,200</b>	<b>\$4,297,700</b>

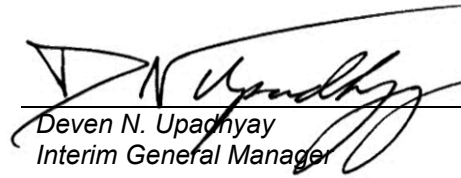
Metropolitan's requested payments to the SWC for FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 are consistent with the approved budget, which assumes an approximate 3 percent escalation from FY 2024/25 to FY 2025/26.

The MWQI Specific Project Committee is preparing its calendar year 2025 activities and budget for approval in December 2024. In December 2025, MWQI will approve its calendar year 2026 activities and budget. Once approved, Metropolitan will pay its share of costs. Staff requests authorization to pay up to \$260,000 for each FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26 to fund the Committee. These amounts are consistent with the budget.



Blandon J. Goshi  
Interim Manager  
Water Resource Management

6/26/2024

*Date*

Deven N. Upadhyay  
Interim General Manager

6/27/2024

*Date*

**Attachment 1 – FY 2023/24 High Priority Accomplishments of the State Water Contractors**

**Attachment 2 – FY 2024/25 High Priority Objectives of the State Water Contractors**

Ref# wrm12694795

**FY 2023/24 High Priority Accomplishments of the State Water Project Contractors**

Objective	Accomplishments
<b>Water Supply</b>	
Delta Conveyance Technical/Policy Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participated in Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) technical and policy discussions with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and conveyed contractors' perspectives.</li> <li>Supported and facilitated State Water Contractors (SWC) discussions to advance the DCP Contract Amendment.</li> </ul>
Delta Conveyance Permitting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinated with DWR daily on the environmental planning efforts for operations criteria, modeling, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), California Endangered Species Act (CESA), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Sections 404 and 408 permits, Delta Plan, and the Community Benefits Program and Cost - Benefit Analysis.</li> </ul>
Water Operations Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided water operations dashboard updates focused on State Water Project (SWP) water supply operations.</li> <li>Worked with DWR on the Incidental Take Permit (ITP) amendments and long-term operations consultation.</li> </ul>
Update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborated with Agreements to Support Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (HRL), formerly known as Voluntary Agreements, parties to develop the program's components, including governance, science plan, and other agreements.</li> </ul>
Water Supply and Operations Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participated in real-time operations tracking workgroups, such as the Delta Monitoring Workgroup, that provides feedback on real-time operational decisions/recommendations.</li> <li>Participated in various planning workgroups, such as Delta Coordination Group, that are responsible for implementing the summer-fall habitat action under the 2019 Biological Opinions (BiOps) /and 2020 Incidental Take Permit (ITP), which has water supply implications.</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	
Infrastructure Reliability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reviewed SWP's Strategic Asset Management Plan and Transformer Asset Management Plan. Engaged with DWR management to share member agencies' perspectives regarding asset management plans.</li> <li>Monitored and distributed information on the SWP's service factors/performance and participated in weekly updates on SWP operations, outages, and incidents that could affect the daily and/or long-term deliveries throughout the year. Tracked Devil's Den Pumping Plant fire and the Oroville River Valve Outlet System (RVOS) outages.</li> <li>Tracked the implementation of the California Aqueduct Subsidence Program and Fire System Modernization Program to ensure infrastructure reliability.</li> </ul>

Objective	Accomplishments
Capacity Retention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged with DWR staff, management, and executives to emphasize the importance of maintaining capacity and various ways of achieving reliability economically as the SWP Adaptation Report is developed.</li> <li>Extensively coordinated with DWR and contractors on California Aqueduct subsidence. Represented contractors' interest in strategic plan formation in coordination meetings with DWR, United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), San Luis &amp; Delta-Mendota Water Authority, and Friant Water Authority.</li> <li>Pursued non-SWP funding opportunities for evaluating and alleviating impacts resulting from subsidence.</li> <li>Led the SWP Storage Expansion Workgroup. Communicated with DWR management/executives to emphasize the contractors' interest in opportunities to increase SWP capacity.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued the elevated focus on dam safety with quarterly updates at the Operations, Maintenance, and Engineering (OME) Committee meetings, which serves as a forum for DWR, SWC staff, and member agencies to obtain more in-depth updates on DWR's expanding dam safety program and specific details on the recently elevated inspections/evaluation, engineering assessments, and modernizations of all SWP dams.</li> <li>Tracked development/execution of the SWP Fire Modernization/Life Safety Improvement Program physical/cyber security projects.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure Affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged with DWR regarding Sisk Dam Safety Project cost-share negotiations with the United States Bureau of Reclamation, which led to an agreement that follows Safety of Dams funding structure.</li> <li>Coordinated and participated in the review of the Castaic High Tower Valve Activation Feasibility Study, Hyatt Intake Gate Business Case Evaluation, and the South Bay Aqueduct Landslide Value Engineering workshops.</li> </ul>
<b>Business Processes</b>	
Budgets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued in the SWC-DWR Affordability Workgroup to work on advancing the Process of Affordability concepts and enhancing budget information provided during DWR's annual Financial Management Conferences. DWR held the 2024 Financial Management Conference to review the B132-24 budget and cost projections for the 2025 Statement of Charges, including providing contractors with the annual calendar year 2024 and 2025 SWP Budget Report.</li> </ul>
Financial Projections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provided financial modeling to assist contractors in decision-making and planning. This included updating the SWC SWP Forecasting Model, the SWC 10-year Energy Forecasting Model, and the SWC Energy Pumping Plant Rate Forecasting Model.</li> </ul>
Financial Resources, Revenue Requirements, and Investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged with member agencies to work on approaches for Determining Amounts Available ("revenues") for Rate Management Credits under Article 51(c) (e), including the reconstruction of the sources and uses of SWP surplus revenues.</li> <li>Continued with member agencies to work on the analysis and potential impacts of the excess revenues generated under Article 50 of the Water System Revenue Bond (WSRB) Surcharge Amendment.</li> </ul>

Objective	Accomplishments
Business Process Control Activities and Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued to work with DWR's Protest Resolution staff with the goal of providing closure on protest items, which includes either resolution or determining the necessity of filing a claim against DWR. To date, 408 of the 656 identified items have been resolved and removed from the protest item list. In total, 14 items were resolved in FY 2024. The tenth Amendment to the Tolling and Waiver Agreement was executed to extend the tolling period to December 31, 2025.</li> </ul>
<b>Energy</b>	
Senate Bill No. 49 (Energy: Appliance Standards and SWP Assessment) Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued to explore ways with legislature and administration to reduce impacts of Senate Bill No. 1020 (Laird, Statutes of 2022). Secured funding for the restoration of pumpback operations at the Orville Complex.</li> <li>Researched the potential for behind-the-meter solar generation at pumping plants along the Valley String. Potential benefits include reduced exposure to volatile energy prices, reduced transmission access charge costs, and meeting clean energy goals.</li> </ul>
Energy Legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensured DWR's responsibilities as a central procurement entity for energy generation do not interfere with State Water Project operations or costs.</li> </ul>
<b>Science</b>	
Endangered Species Act (ESA), California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and Water Quality Control Plan (WQCP) Environmental Compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued to coordinate with DWR on implementation of the Incidental Take Permit, including participation in various subgroups, discussion of adaptive management opportunities, and resolution of operational and other issues as they arose.</li> <li>Worked with DWR to hold the Environmental Coordination Committee meetings quarterly.</li> <li>Worked with DWR to hold the DWR-SWC Environmental Science Work Group meetings quarterly.</li> </ul>
<b>Outreach</b>	
Position Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developed an informational and educational whiteboard video to explain the HRL, illustrating their benefits and components and reinforcing why they are the best proposal for updating the Bay-Delta Plan. The video is in partnership with the Northern California Water Association (NCWA) and coming on the heels of the Water Board's release of its Draft Staff Report and ahead of public workshops.</li> </ul>
<b>SWC Management</b>	
Accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintained internal financial records and provided regular reports to the SWC Board of Directors.</li> </ul>
Contract Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issued contracts to research institutes, consultants, and other entities; executed cost-sharing agreements with funding partners.</li> </ul>

### FY 2024/25 High Priority Objectives of the State Water Project Contractors

Objective	Description
<b>Water Supply</b>	
Delta Conveyance Technical/Policy Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide technical and policy support to State Water Contractors (SWC) members that are Delta Conveyance Project (DCP) participants, including assistance to complete the DCP contract amendment, secure necessary funding, and coordinating among participants. Support the development of necessary permits and environmental documentation related to the Delta Conveyance Project.</li> </ul>
Update to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participate in the Agreements to Support Healthy Rivers and Landscapes (HRL), formerly known as Voluntary Agreements, development and discussions, and in related activities, including engagement on California Environmental Quality Act process, coordination with other HRL parties, and engagement with State Water Board staff and Board members.</li> </ul>
Water Supply and Operations Improvements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop and track future outlook for State Water Project (SWP) water supply risks and opportunities taking into consideration various ongoing efforts related to regulatory (e.g., Endangered Species Act, California Endangered Species Act, Water Quality Control Plan), infrastructure (e.g., San Luis Expansion, DCP, Sites), operational (e.g., Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations, groundwater recharge, Coordinated Operations Agreement) and the changing hydrologic conditions. Identify potential strategies to minimize the risks to SWP water supply.</li> </ul>
<b>Infrastructure</b>	
Infrastructure Reliability	<p>Work with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in the effort to maintain and improve reliability of the aging SWP Infrastructure with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continuing work to develop/document/implement an asset management plan and capital improvement program.</li> <li>Developing a tracking/communication process for members to better understand the roll-out and addition of future SWP-funded positions and the resulting benefits.</li> <li>Assessing maintenance management systems to better identify vulnerabilities, the required risk mitigation strategies and management policy and objectives. Advocate for appropriate priorities and affordability.</li> </ul>
Capacity Reliability	<p>Work with DWR to ensure SWP delivery capacity and storage capabilities meet current and future demands with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Subsidence in the San Joaquin Valley, machine outages, power outages, regulatory requirements, weeds/debris, and water quality.</li> <li>Advocating for projects, repairs, procedures, and studies to ensure that capacity is restored or preserved to ensure long-term operational capacity.</li> <li>Working with the SWC Storage Expansion Workgroup to develop a white paper that summarizes the need, opportunity, and risks of potential expansion of the SWP storage capacity.</li> </ul>



Infrastructure Safety	<p>Work with DWR and member agencies to plan and ensure SWP infrastructure safety by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Tracking SWP seismic vulnerability studies and begin planning/preparing for realistic response and recovery.</li> <li>Tracking SWP dam safety - expanded focus and regulatory requirements on dam safety, including the Oroville Dam Comprehensive Needs Assessment, to ensure timely remediation.</li> <li>Fire modernization project for all SWP plants.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure Affordability	<p>Work with DWR and member agencies on measures to improve SWP infrastructure affordability with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Supporting and assisting in the development of a capital investment plan that relies on asset management data to ensure affordability and certainty in the SWP budgeting process.</li> <li>Seeking opportunities and working with members to obtain outside State and Federal funding for repairs and modification for co-owned (State Water Project – Central Valley Project) facilities, damages sustained beyond normal SWP operations, and for climate change resiliency.</li> <li>Tracking implementation of SWP initiatives, quarterly budget reviews, Business Case Evaluations, Value Engineering Studies, and asset management informed processes.</li> </ul>
<b>Business Processes</b>	
Budgets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote DWR’s development, management, and analysis of a SWP budget to minimize annual variances and to ensure reasonable revenue requirements and to facilitate contractors’ short-term planning and budgeting efforts.</li> </ul>
Financial Projections	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote the development of a SWP long-term forecast and the analysis of historical data to predict future SWP cost trends and outcomes to ensure long-term affordability and to facilitate contractors’ long-term planning efforts.</li> </ul>
Financial Resources, Revenue Requirements, and Investments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote business processes that optimize the development of economical revenue requirements (Statement of Charges) and optional funding sources to ensure sustainable affordability into the future.</li> </ul>
<b>Energy</b>	
Senate Bill No. 49 (Energy: Appliance Standards and SWP Assessment) Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collaborate with DWR to brief stakeholders on the report’s content and advocate for appropriate funding sources for identified tracks.</li> </ul>
Energy Roadmap	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with DWR to continue implementing and updating the Energy Roadmap to reflect recent budgetary and legislative changes, specifically incorporate strategies to meet the 2035 clean energy requirements that maintains reliable water delivery and a cost-effective power portfolio.</li> </ul>

Science	
Endangered Species Act, California Endangered Species Act, and Water Quality Control Plan Environmental Compliance	<p>Collaborate with DWR to improve the Environmental Science Workgroup to facilitate planning and implementation of required habitat, mitigation, and monitoring, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with DWR to hold Environmental Coordination Committee meetings at least quarterly and develop requested information relative to costs and efficacy of required monitoring and other actions.</li> <li>• Engage the DWR-SWC Environmental Science Work Group and hold meetings at least quarterly.</li> <li>• Work towards defining requirement offramps for science elements and seek permit amendments.</li> <li>• Ensure costs are split equitably with the United States Bureau of Reclamation.</li> <li>• Participate in adaptive management actions informing project operations.</li> </ul>
Outreach	
Position Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proactively drive SWC messaging and legislative positions to the media (i.e., key reporters, editorial boards), key stakeholders, legislators, and regulatory agencies to elevate the organization's position on priority issues.</li> </ul>
SWC Management	
Accounting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oversee all financial and accounting operations. Establish financial policies, procedures, controls, and reporting systems to ensure the accuracy and integrity of financial data.</li> </ul>
Treasury	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure SWC retains adequate liquidity to meet the needs of its primary business operations and respond to organizational threats as needed.</li> </ul>



## One Water and Stewardship Committee

Authorize payments of up to \$4.18 million for FY 24/25 and \$4.30 million for FY 25/26 to State Water Contractors

Item# 8-2

July 8, 2024

## Item # 8-2

### Authorize two payments for participation in the State Water Contractors

#### Subject

By a two-thirds vote, authorize payments of up to \$4.18 million for participation in the State Water Contractors for fiscal year 2024/25 and up to \$4.30 million for fiscal year 2025/26

#### Purpose

This action requests authorization to continue funding and participation in the State Water Contractors.

#### Recommendation and Fiscal Impact

Authorize payments of up to \$4.18 million for participation in the State Water Contractors for FY 2024/25 and up to \$4.30 million for FY 2025/26

#### Budgeted

Background Information

# State Water Contractors



## Established 1982



- 27 Members
  - 22 Urban contractors
  - 4 Agriculture contractors
  - 1 Urban and agricultural contractor
- 9 Board members

Background Information

# State Water Contractors



## Nonprofit Association

- Focus on policy, advocacy, and legal issues
  - Pursue reliable and cost-effective management of the State Water Project (SWP)
- Unified voice on SWP issues
- Provide legal support



Background Information

# State Water Contractors



## Major Accomplishments in FY 2023/24



Photo Credit: DWR



Photo Credit: DWR

- Coordination with DWR SWP Financial Manager
- Meeting renewable energy goals
- Infrastructure and affordability
- 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment to Tolling and Waiver Agreement

Background Information

# State Water Contractors



## Major Objectives in FY 2024/25



Photo Credit: DWR



Photo Credit: DWR



Photo Credit: DWR

- Science and research engagement
- Infrastructure reliability and safety
- Cost affordability
- SWP storage



# Metropolitan's Budget for State Water Contractors

\$4.18M for FY 2024/25 and \$4.30M for FY 2025/26



	FY 2024/25	FY 2025/26
Dues Fund	\$1.65M	\$1.70M
Bay-Delta Fund	\$1.06M*	\$1.09M*
Delta Conveyance Project Fund	\$0.93M	\$0.96M
Energy Fund	\$0.28M	\$0.29M
Municipal Water Quality Investigation	\$0.26M	\$0.26M

\* Considers a 48 percent or approximately \$506,000 discount (excluding legal fees), which is based on a 5-year average.

# Summary

- Important association providing effective representation in dealings with DWR, state legislature, courts, and regulators
- Requested payments authorization amounts are consistent with approved budget
  - FY 2024/25 – \$4.18 million
  - FY 2025/26 – \$4.30 million
- Board approval by two-thirds vote required

## Board Options

### Option #1:

By a two-thirds vote, authorize payments of up to \$4.18 million for participation in the State Water Contractors for FY 2024/25 and up to \$4.30 million for FY 2025/26.

### Option #2:

Do not authorize the General Manager to make payments to the State Water Contractors for FY 2024/25 and FY 2025/26.

# Board Options

## Staff Recommendation

### Option #1







One Water and Stewardship Committee

# Update on the State Water Project

Item 6a

July 8, 2024

# State Water Project

July 8, 2024



John Yarbrough, SWP Deputy Director



# Agenda

- Overview
- System Reliability
- Financial Reliability
- Contractor Engagement



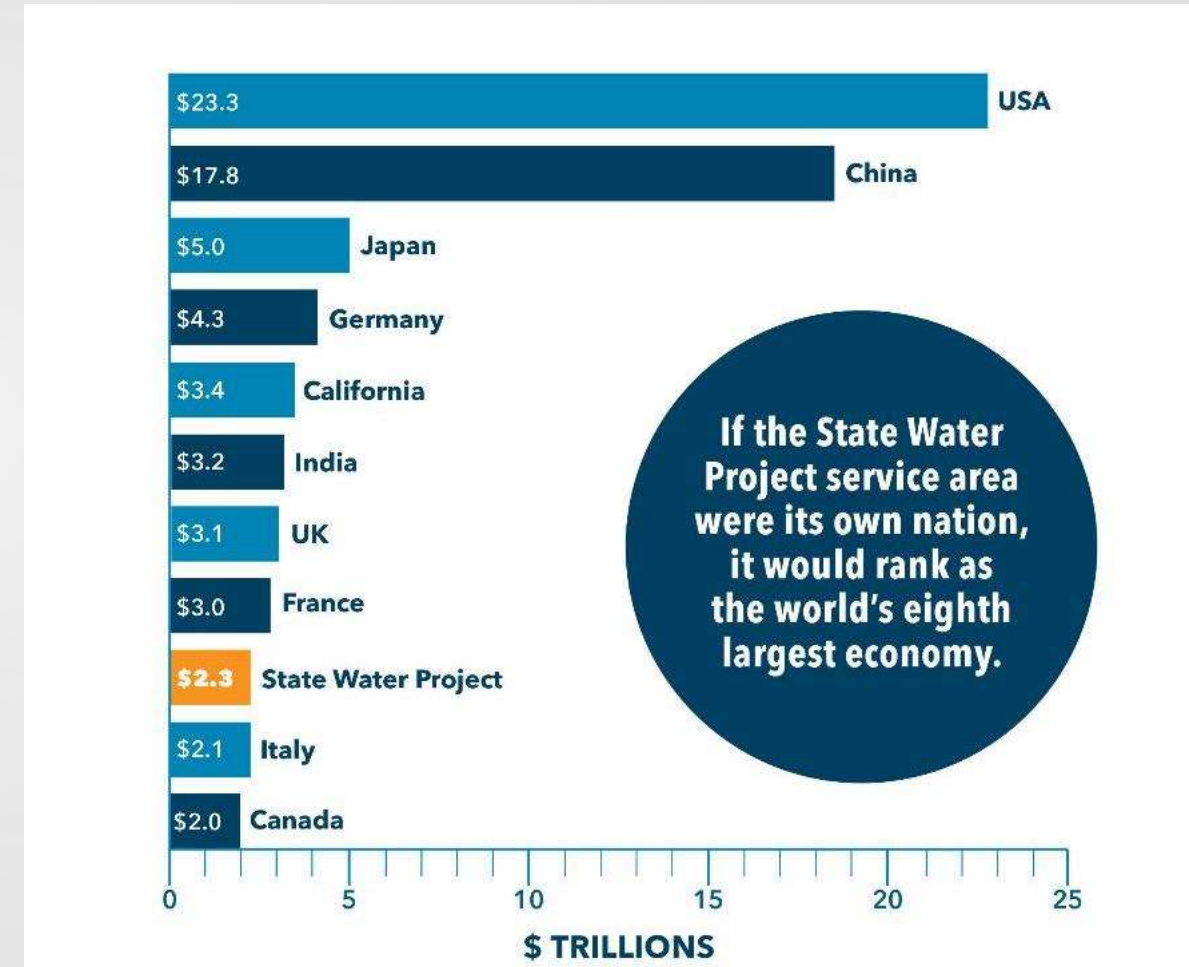
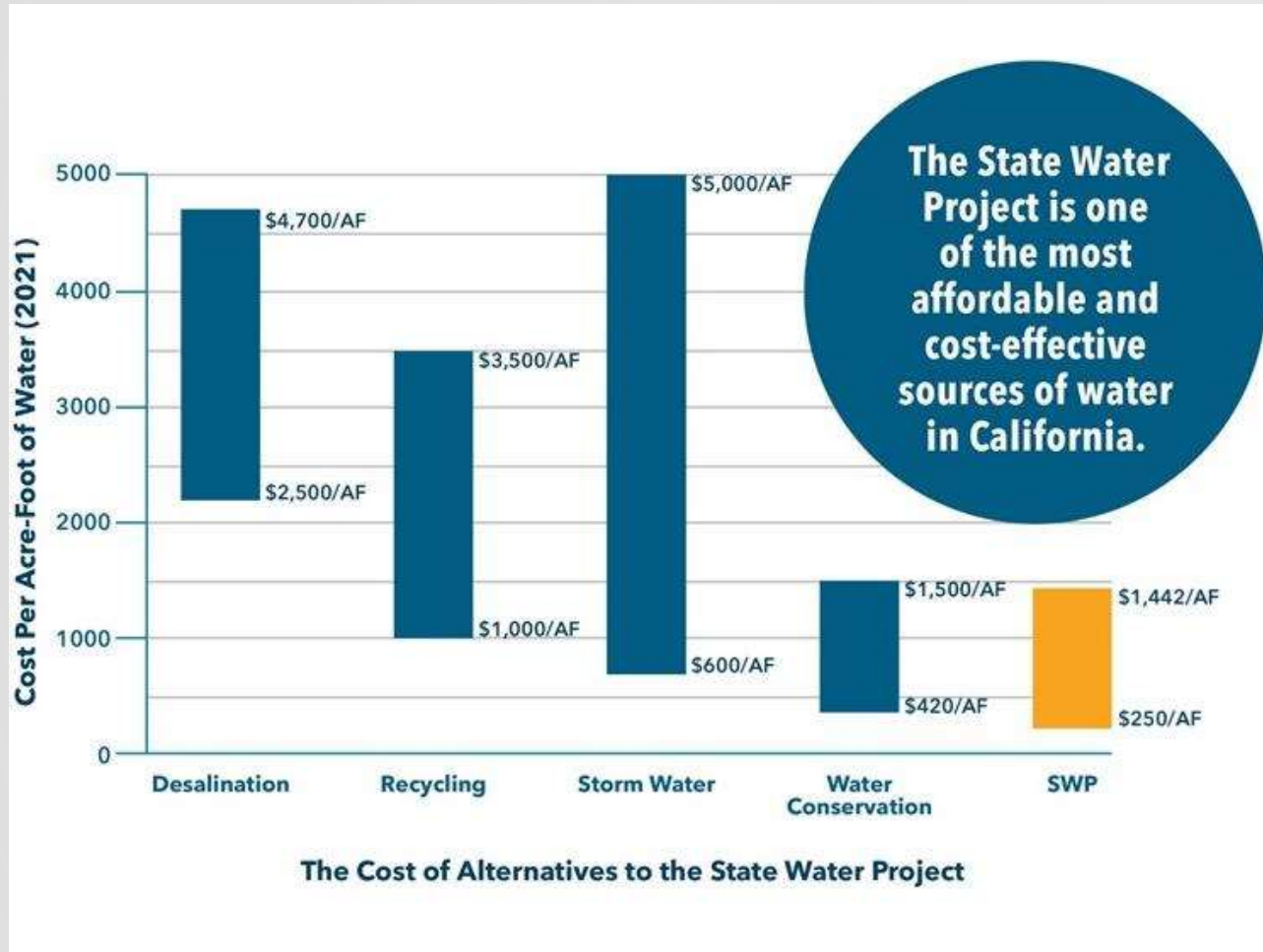


# SWP Overview

- Primary Backbone of CA's water system
- Over 700 miles
- 5.8 MAF of water storage
- Supplies water to more than 27 million Californians
- Multi-benefit Project:
  - Flood protection
  - Generates clean electric hydropower
  - Recreational opportunities
  - Environmental benefits
  - Drives the State's economy:
    - ❖ The 5<sup>th</sup> largest in the world
    - ❖ \$400 billion annually
    - ❖ Provides 8.7 million full-time jobs

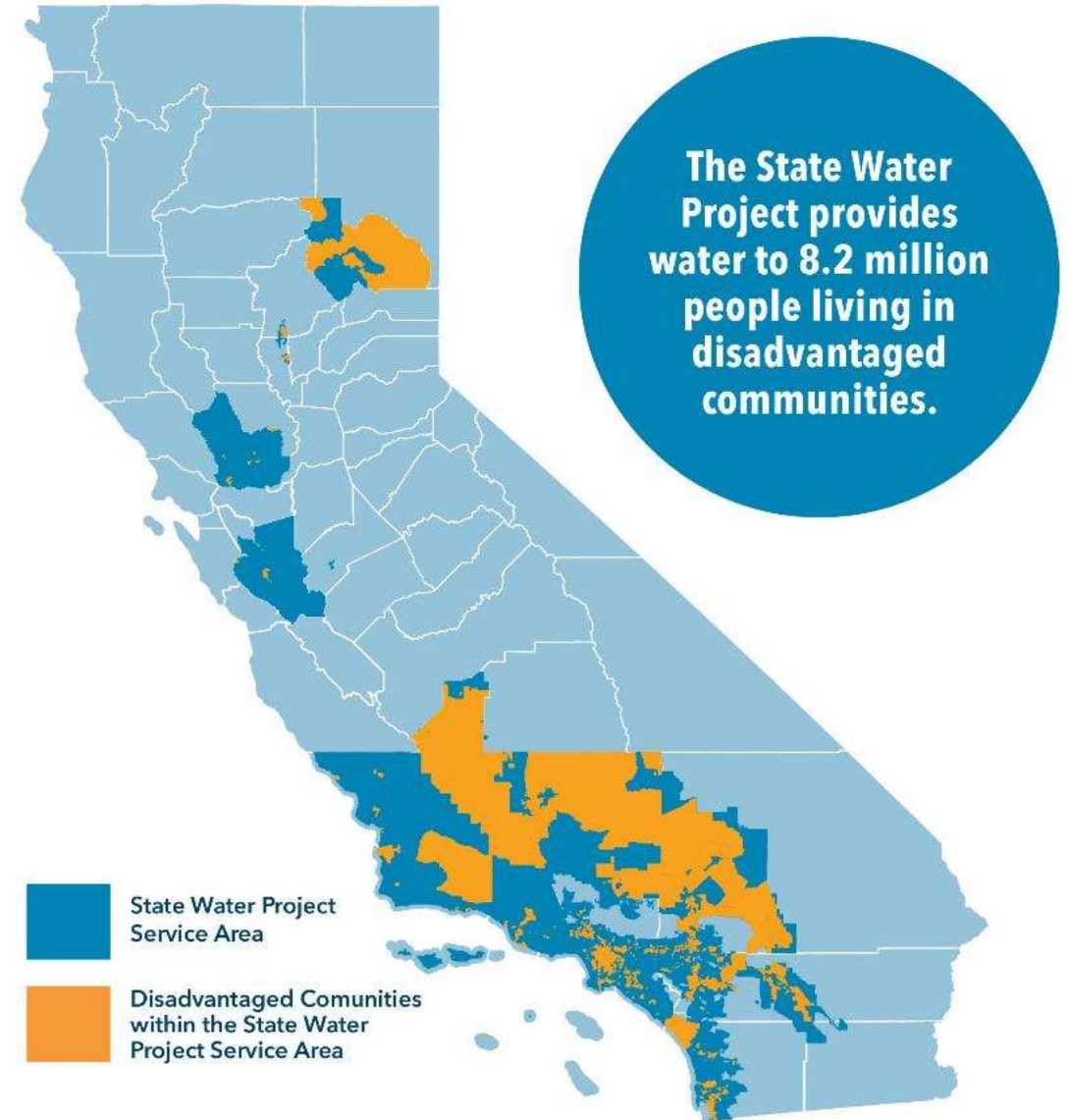


# Economy of the State Water Project



# SWP Supports Environmental Justice

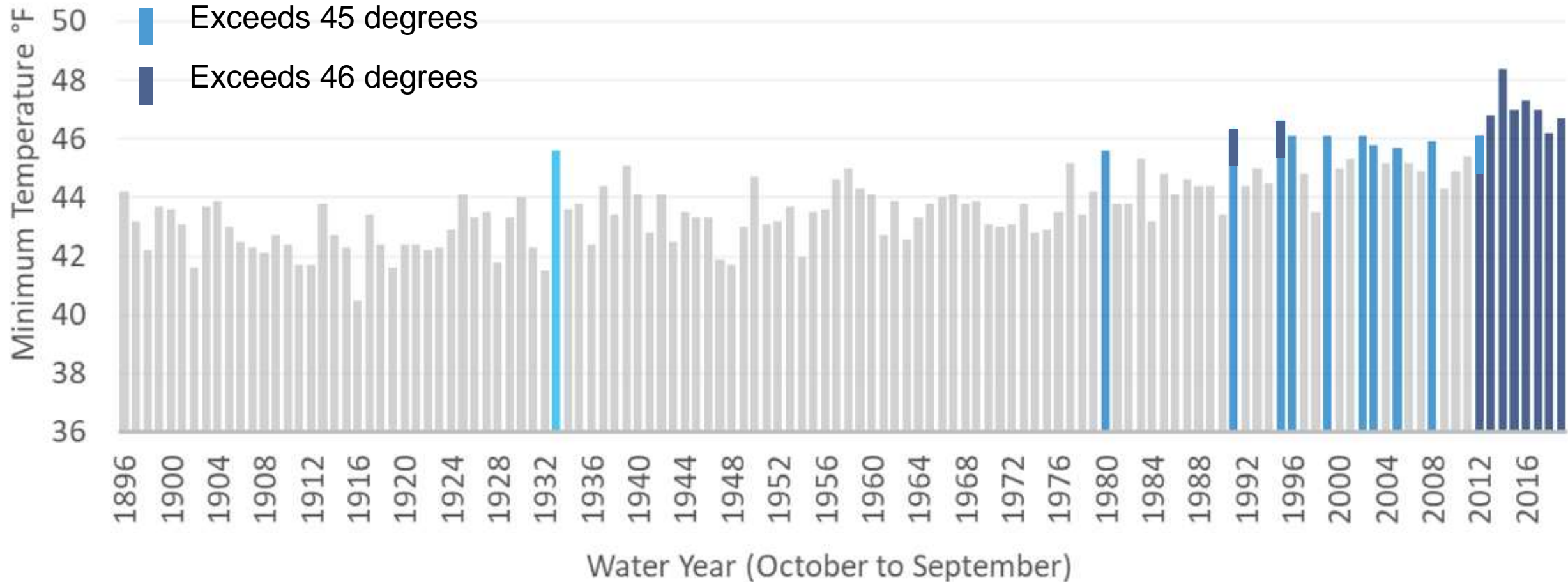
- Provides clean affordable water to 8.2 million people living in disadvantaged communities – 1/3 of SWP's service area & mostly in SoCal
- SWP water is lower in TDS than Colorado River Water and supports recycling and groundwater replenishment
- SWP water is affordable:
  - 4 X less than desalination
  - 3 X less than stormwater capture
  - 2.5 X less than recycled water





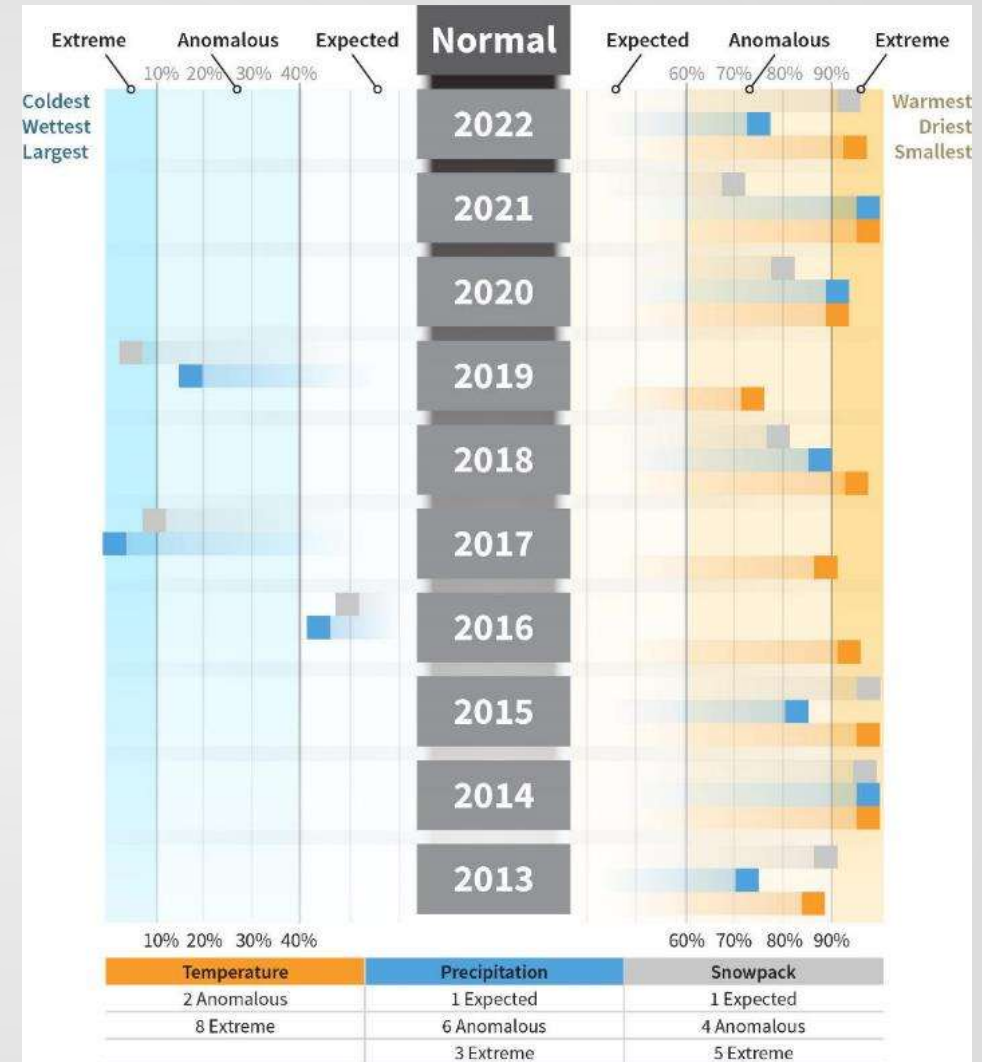
# Climate Change Is Here

## Statewide Average Minimum Temperatures Are Rising

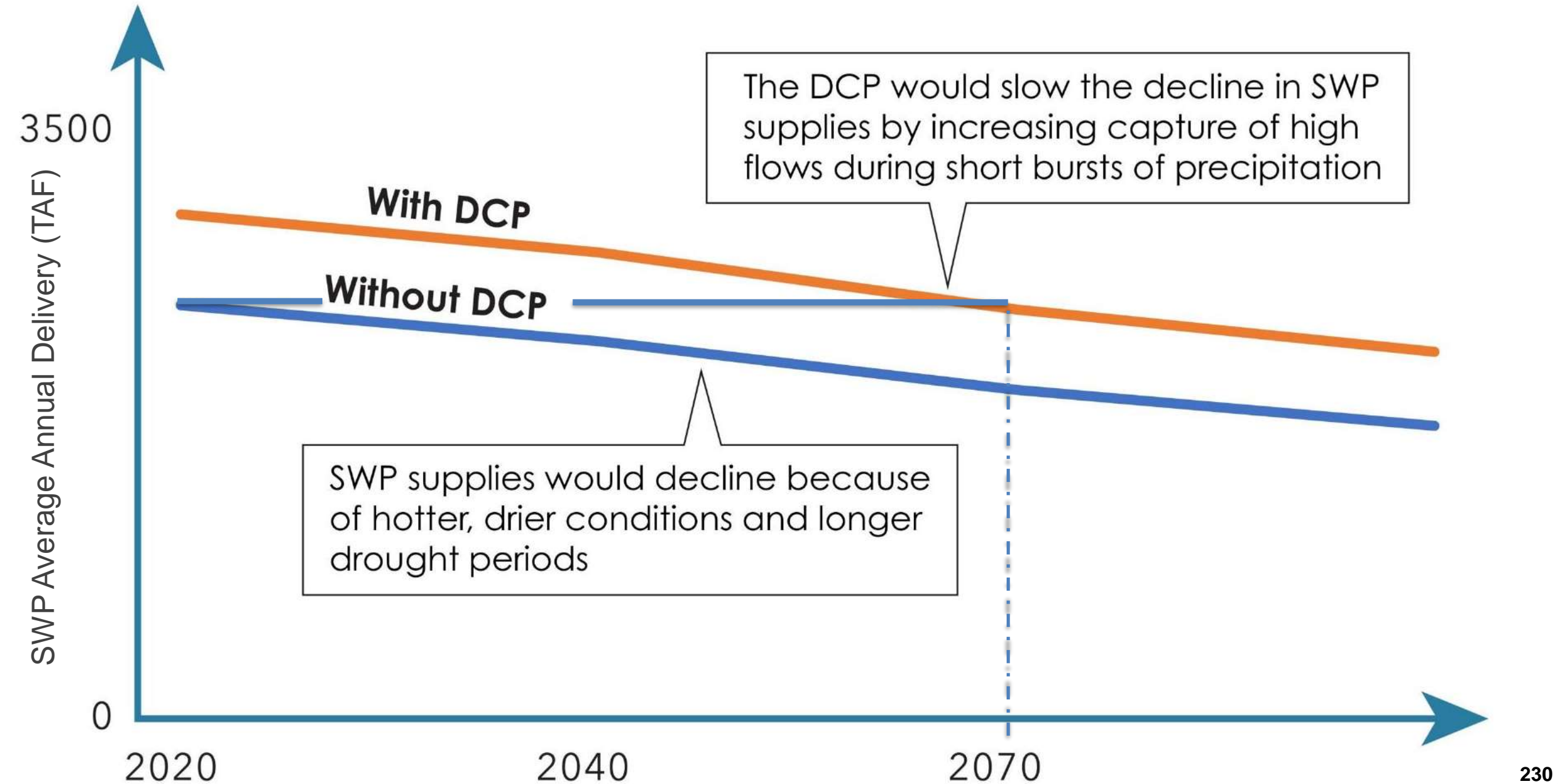


# Climate Variability Is A Reality

- WY2023 adding to extremes narrative
  - Dry to Wet shift
  - Multiple Extremes
  - New Records
- New climate regimes present new opportunities and new challenges



# Delta Conveyance Project Is Part of SWP's Climate Adaptation Strategy



# Operational Reliability

- Delta Permits
- Healthy River & Landscapes
- Delivery Capability Report
- Climate Action Plan Phase 3
- Oroville Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations
- Renewable Resource Procurement Plan





# System Reliability

- Asset Management
- Maintenance Management
- Dam Safety Program Enhancement
- Major Projects
  - Delta Conveyance
  - California Aqueduct Subsidence
  - Hyatt River Valves
  - Castaic, Pyramid, Perris Modernization
  - Delta Restoration Projects
  - South Bay Reliability
  - Oroville CNA Projects
  - Sisk Dam Seismic Retrofit
  - Gianelli Pumping-Generating Plant
  - Fire & Life Safety Modernization





# Financial Reliability

- SWP Budget Planning
  - Annual Cost Planning
  - Long-term Financial Plan
  - Annual SWP Budget Report
  - Contract Extension Implementation
- Improvements
  - Financial Management Enhancements Program (FMEP)
  - Debt Issuance Management System (DIMS)
- Additional Funding Sources
  - Grants (FEMA, Proposition)
  - Federal Funding
  - Partners

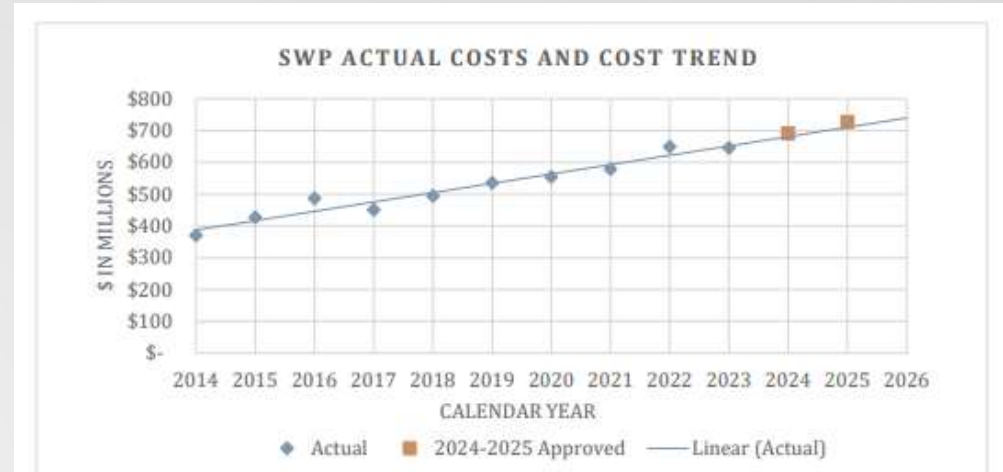


Figure 4. SWP Actual Cost (2014 to 2023) and Cost Projections (2024 to 2026)

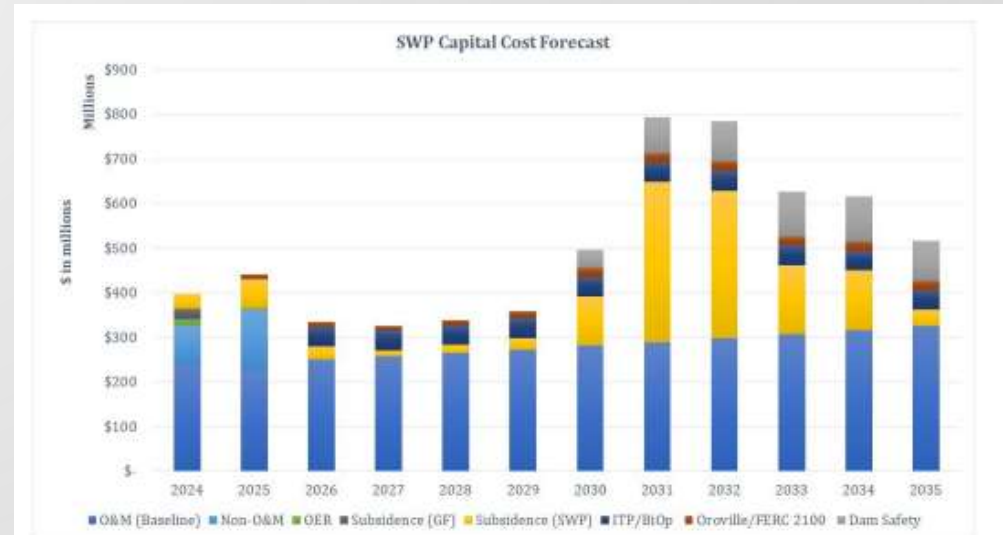
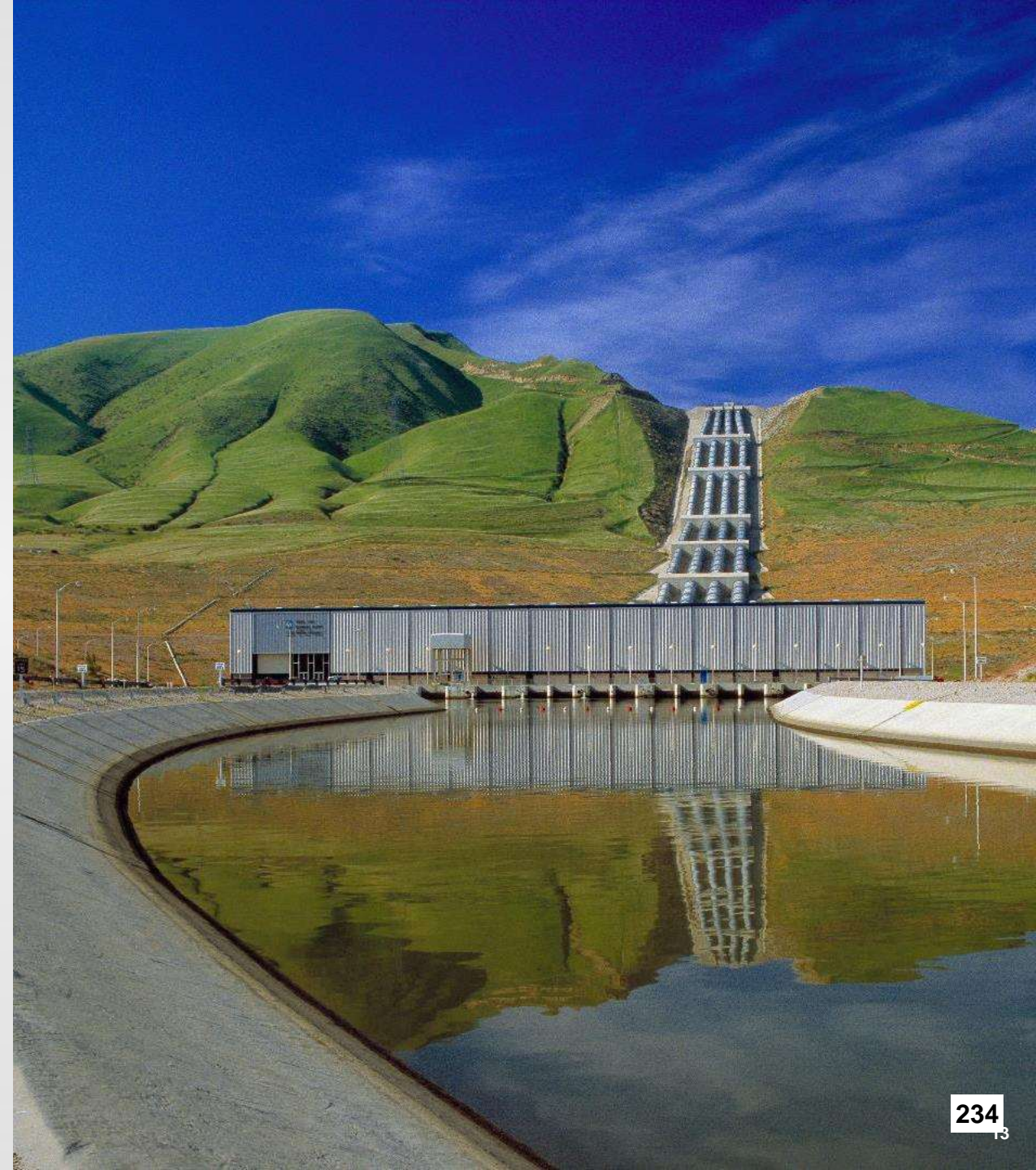


Figure 14. State Water Project Capital Forecasts (2023 - 2035)



# Contractor Engagement

- Prioritize Contractor Engagement
- SWC Engagement





An aerial photograph of a large dam and reservoir. The dam is a long, grey concrete structure spanning a valley. Behind it is a large, calm reservoir. In the foreground, a winding river flows through a dry, hilly landscape with sparse green shrubs and brown soil. The river is bordered by concrete walls. In the background, there are large, forested mountains under a clear blue sky. The word "Discussion" is overlaid in large white text in the center of the image.

# Discussion







One Water and Stewardship Committee

# Delta Levee Real-Time Monitoring

One Water and Stewardship Committee

Item 6b

July 8, 2024

## Item 6b

# Delta Levee Real-Time Monitoring

### Subject

Delta Levee Real-Time Monitoring

### Purpose

Monitor Delta levees more efficiently in  
real time

### Next Steps

Delta Levee Real-Time Monitoring

# Delta Levee Real-Time Monitoring

## Presentation Summary

- Metropolitan's Delta Islands Overview
- Levee Monitoring Pilot Project
- Real-Time Communications
- Bouldin Island (west levee) Movement
- Levee Risk Reduction & Improvement Strategy
- Next Steps

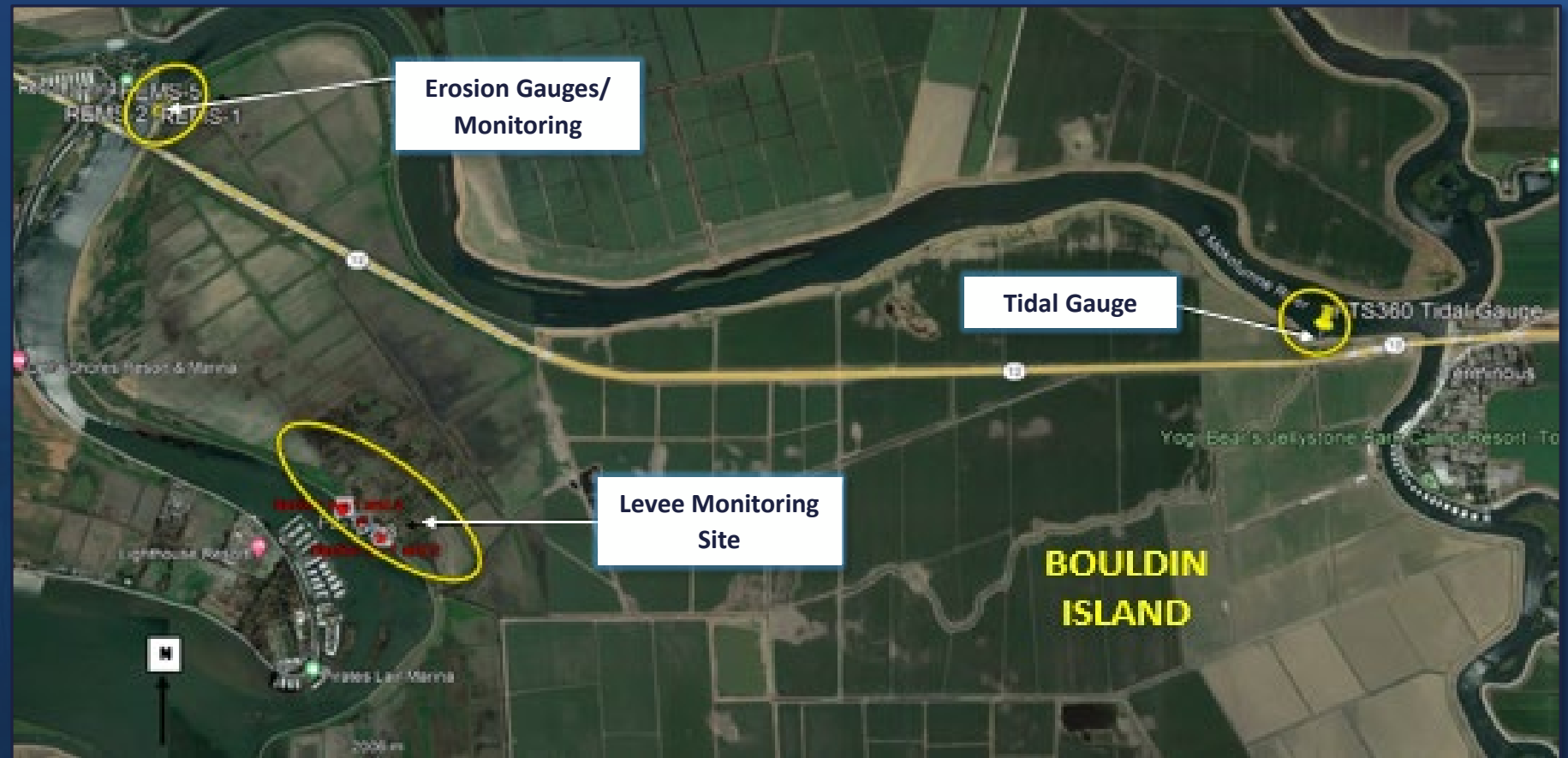


# Metropolitan's Delta Islands





# Levee Monitoring Pilot Project (Bouldin Island)

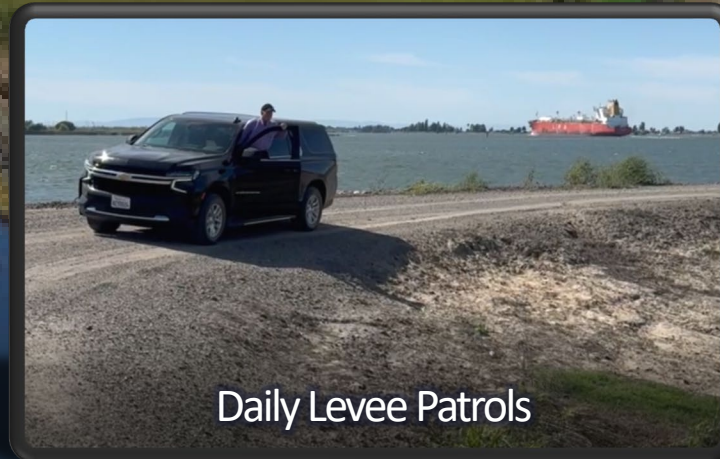


- Incorporate new technologies/innovative instrumentation
- Reduce monitoring costs & failure risks
- Provide for quicker emergency responses

# Delta Levee Monitoring

## ● Low-tech Monitoring

- Reclamation District daily levee patrols
- California Department of Fish & Wildlife
- Camera detection stations
- Use of detection dogs





# Levee Monitoring Pilot Project

## Technologies Assessed

### Traditional Methods

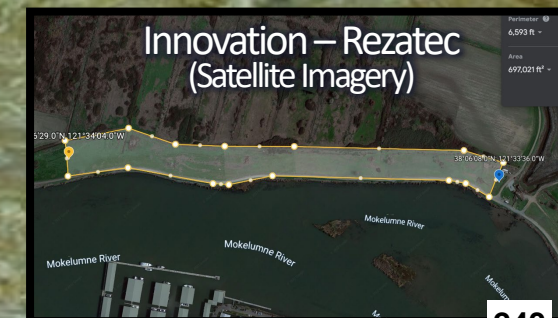
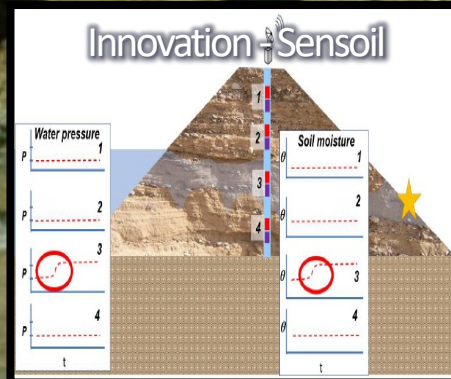
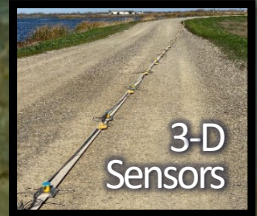
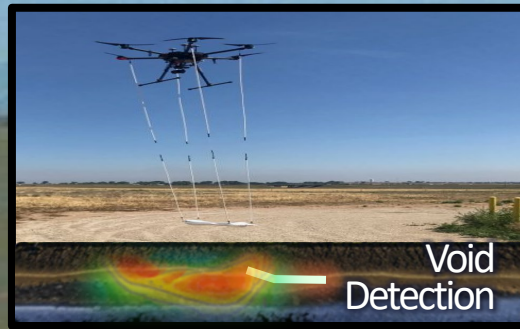
- Shape Array Inclinometers
- Vibrating Wire Piezometers
- Horizontal Time-Domain
- Soil Moisture/Velocity Sensors
- Reflectometer Cable

### Advanced Technologies

- LiDAR Drone Magnetometers
- Drone Thermal/Photo Sensors
- Terrestrial Scanning (mobile)

### Innovative Methods

- Innovation (Sensoil/Rezatec)



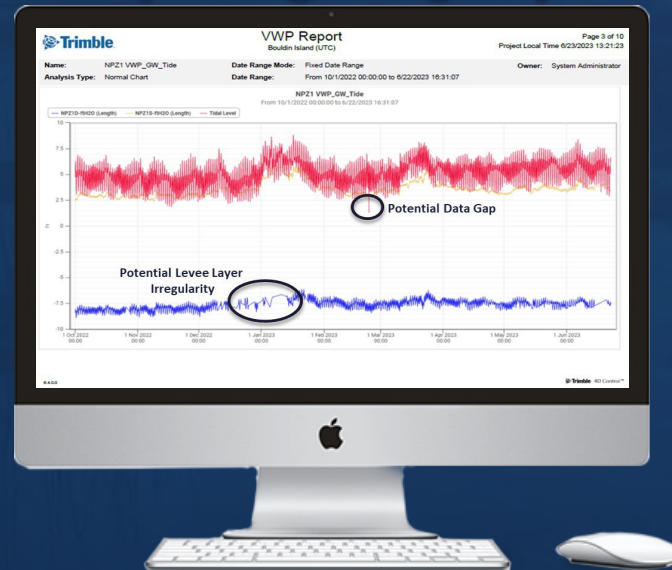


# Real-Time Communications



Communications  
(Site Telemetry)

## Computer-Engineering Analytics



Communications  
(Real Time)

Communications  
(Real-Time Alerts)



# Bouldin Island (West Levee) Pilot Project

## Real-Time Monitoring

### Initial Levee Movement ...



### ... Response

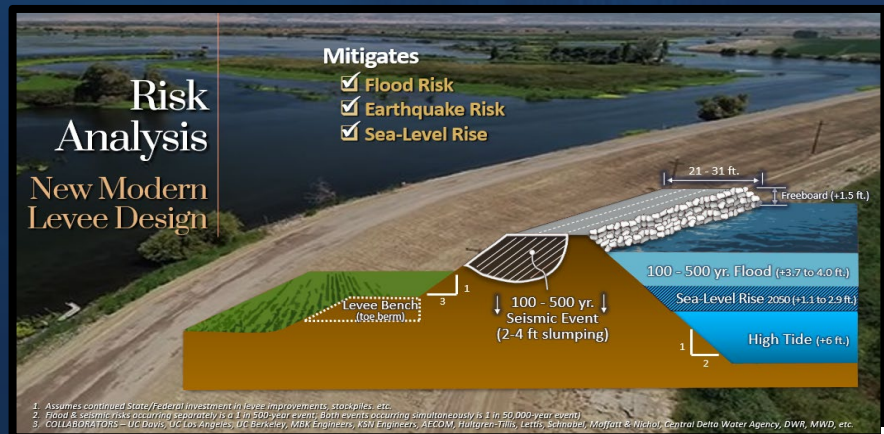




# Levee Risk Reduction & Improvement Strategy

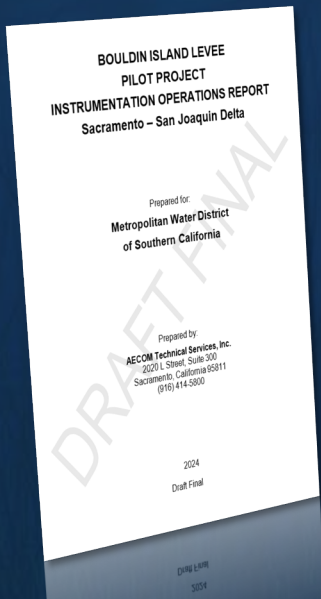
## Five-Part Approach

- 1) Regional Flood Fighting Materials
- 2) On-Island Rock Stockpiles
- 3) Levee Enhancements
- 4) Real-Time Levee Monitoring
- 5) New Modernization Levee Std.





# Levee Monitoring Pilot Project



## Next Steps

- Data real -time/alert development (on -going)
- Draft Bouldin Island Pilot Report (Summer 2024)
- Delta Advisory Coalition Feedback (Fall 2024)
- Outreach - Ongoing (Summer/Fall 2024)
- Final Bouldin Island Pilot Report (Winter 2024)

<sup>1</sup> *Bouldin Island Levee Pilot Project – Instrumentation Operations Report*







One Water and Stewardship Committee

# Salmonid Recovery Project

Item 6c

July 8, 2024

## Subject

Science Update: Salmon Reorienting to Recovery Project

## Purpose

Update on project status

# Item # 6c Science Update / Salmon Reorienting to Recovery Project

ESA listed  
species limit  
water supply  
reliability

# Metropolitans' Interest

- GM Business Plan FY 25, Outcome 3.2.6 and 5.2.2

Revised Bay-Delta Policy Objectives		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote a Sustainable Bay-Delta Within Metropolitan's One Water Approach</li><li>• Support Statewide and Regional Actions that Further the Coequal Goals Established in the Delta Reform Act</li><li>• Address the Risks Associated with Climate Change</li></ul>		
Revised Bay-Delta Policy Framework		
Science and Watershed Management	Water Supply Reliability and Resilience	Partnerships and Cost-Effective Investments
Protect and restore aquatic species and habitats based on best available science	Protect water supply reliability and quality while reducing reliance consistent with the Delta Reform Act	Maintain and pursue cost-effective financial investments
Partner in watershed-wide approaches to develop comprehensive solutions	Invest in actions that provide seismic and climate resiliency	Foster broad and inclusive engagement of Delta interests and beneficiaries
Advance responsible stewardship of Metropolitan's Delta islands	Seek flexible operations, water management actions, and infrastructure solutions	Promote innovative and multi-benefit initiatives



# Goal: identify preferred, broadly supported scenarios that recover salmonids

## Reorienting to Recovery



- Salmon populations declining
- Opportunities for coordinated efforts
- Engaging state and federal resource agencies, non-governmental organizations, Tribal Nations, & water, agricultural, and fishery industries

# Diverse planning team

Organization	Staff Name
Trout Unlimited	Rene Henery, Natalie Stauffer-Olsen
CA Indian Environmental Alliance	Michelle Rivera, Sherri Norris
Compass Resource Management	Brian Crawford, Michael Harstone
Essex Partnership	Bruce DiGennaro
FlowWest	Erin Cain, Mark Tompkins, Liz Stebbins
Kearns & West	Marlys Jeane, Rafael Silberblatt
Qeda Consulting	Noble Hendrix
Metropolitan Water District	Alison Collins
NMFS Southwest Fisheries Science Center	Ann Marie Osterback
State Water Contractors	Darcy Austin
Formally The Bay Institute	Gary Bobker

# Project Overview

## PHASE 1

### Define Salmonid Recovery<sup>1</sup> (Q2 – Q4 2021)

Engage scientists to define salmonid biological objectives and thresholds of recovery

## PHASE 2

### Engagement<sup>2</sup> (Q1-Q3 2022)

Engaging interested parties to define other ecological, social, and economic interests

## PHASE 3

### Decision Support<sup>2,3</sup> (Q4 2022 – Q4 2024)

Adapting salmonid life-cycle models to assess the performance of different suites of actions

Identify a Suite of Actions to achieve salmonid recovery

## Goal

<sup>1</sup>Funded by State Water Contractors \$400,000, Metropolitan \$48,990, Valley Water \$34,800, The Essex Partnership \$35,000, Kearns & West \$6,158, NOAA \$41,490

<sup>2,3</sup> Funded by Delta Science Program grant award \$1.5 million, Metropolitan \$194,610, Valley Water \$34,800, State Water Contractors \$20,300, The Essex Partnership \$192,000, Kearns & West \$9,750, NOAA \$86,751



# Engaging with >110 agencies to collect feedback

## Science Advisory Team



Bruce Herbold Consulting  
Hanson Environmental  
Douglas Engineering

## Forum >110 agencies

## Working Group



27 scientists  
15 organizations  
6 meetings  
12 objectives



Bruce Herbold Consulting  
Hanson Environmental

# Phase 1 (2021): Salmonid experts defined recovery

- Objectives: abundance, productivity, spatial structure, diversity
- Performance measures
- Quantitative targets

Example Objective	Example Performance Measure
Abundance	# of fish spawning

3 part workshop  
65 individuals  
47 organizations  
>550 value  
statements  
24 objectives

## Phase 2 (2022): Forum participants defined other values and identify planned projects

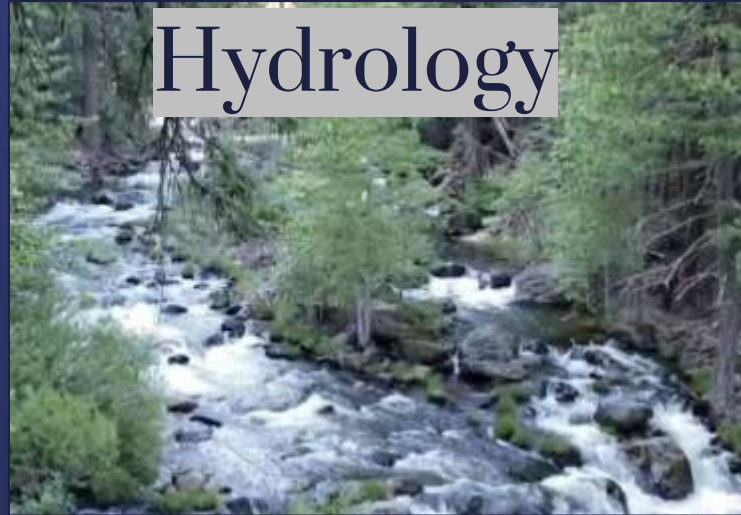
5 Major Value Categories	Example Objectives	Performance Measure
Habitat & ecological processes	Ecosystem health	Marine derived nutrients
Access to land & water	Managed wetlands	Deliveries to refuges
Harvest	Ocean harvest	Harvestable adults
M&I, agriculture, and refuge	Water supply	Water delivery
Regulatory, public health & infrastructure	Flood risk	Difference in flow



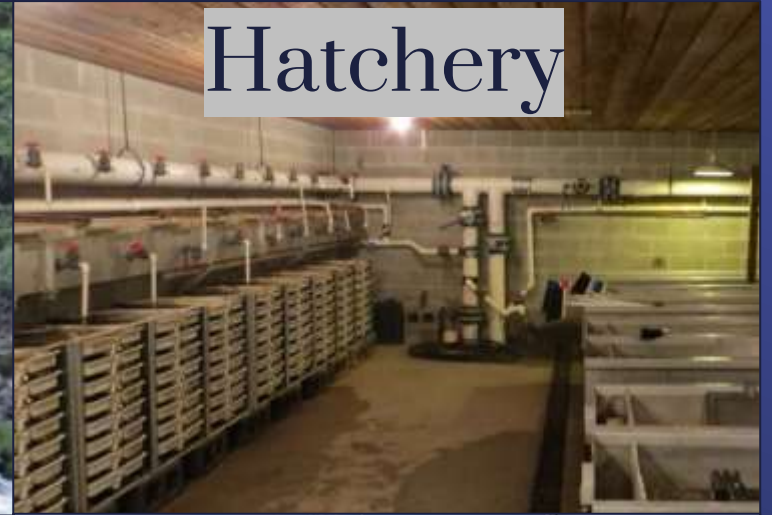
## Phase 3 (2023-now): Working Group developing preferred recovery scenarios

Scenarios  
combination of  
actions from 4H's

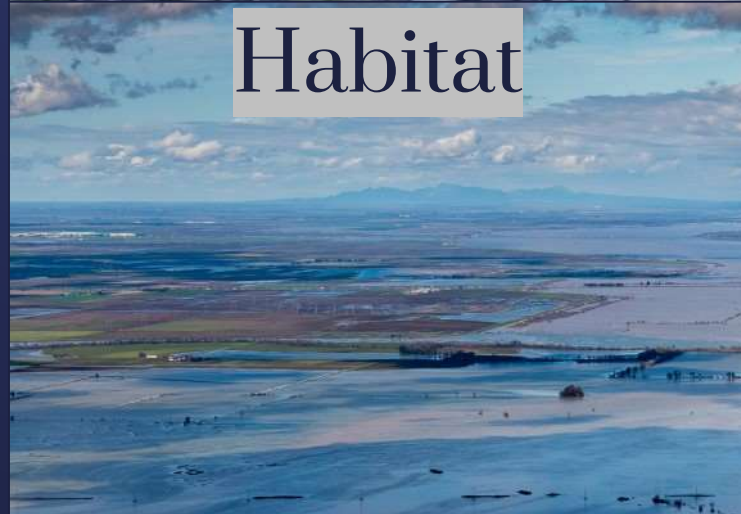
Decision support  
model predicts  
consequences on  
objectives



Hydrology



Hatchery

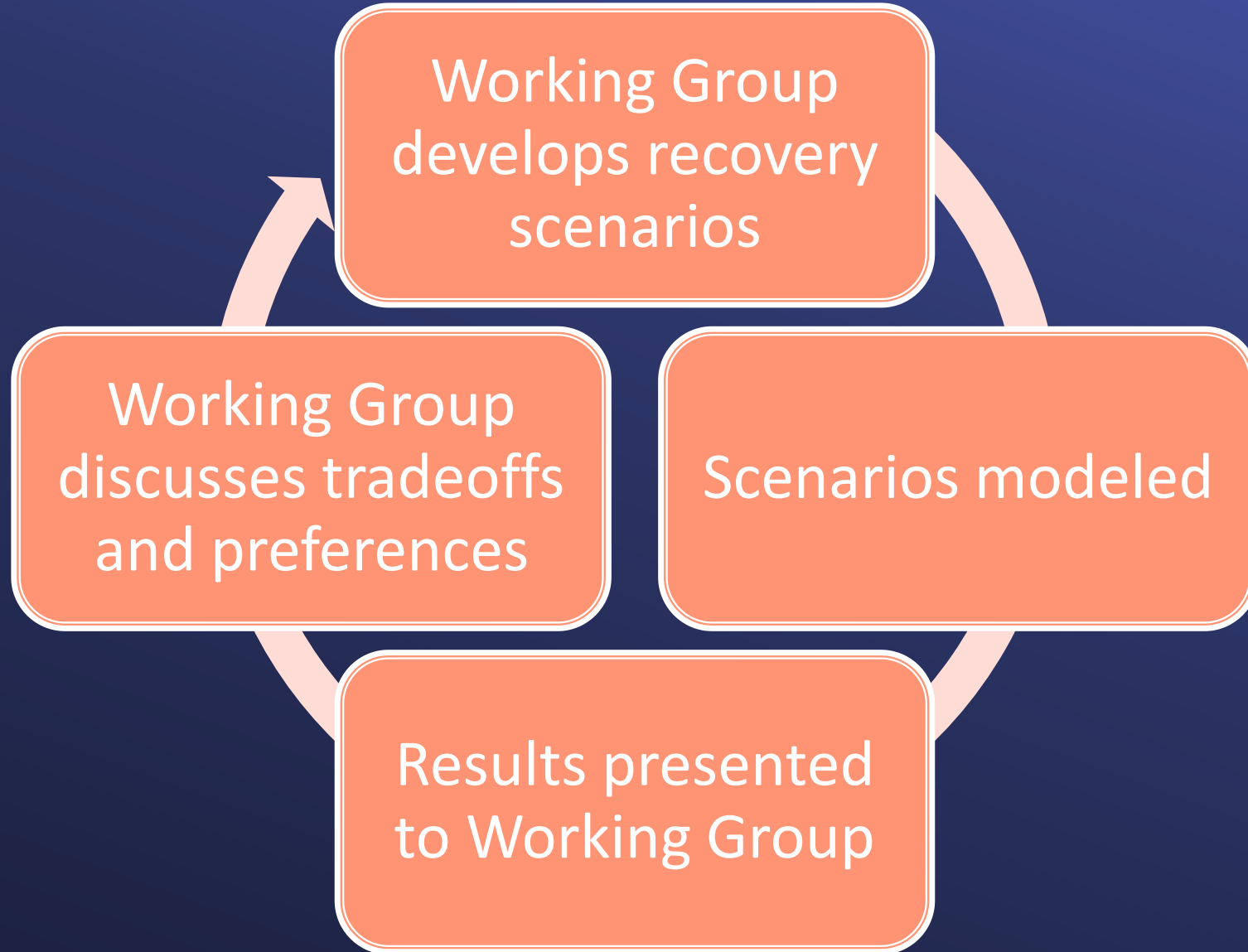


Habitat



Harvest

# Scenario development is an iterative process



# Modeled outcomes predict scenario performance, tradeoffs discussed, scenarios refined

Legend

More preferred

Less preferred

Example Objectives	Preferred direction	Scenario 1	Scenario 2
Adult abundance	Higher	↑	↓
Ecosystem health	Higher	↑	↓
Managed wetlands	Higher	↓	↑
Ocean harvest	Higher	↓	↑
Water supply	Higher	↓	↑
Flood risk	Lower	↓	↑

# Support for a suite of actions to recover salmonids

## Next Steps

- June finalize scenarios
- July-Aug modeling final scenarios
- Fall workshop 2024
- November final report
- Applying for implementation funding







# One Water and Stewardship Committee

## Update on Palo Verde Valley Lands and Regenerative Farming Study

Item 6 d  
July 8, 2024

# Presenters

Dr. Cynthia Daley

Dr. Tim LaSalle

Center for Regenerative Agriculture  
and Resilient Systems

California State University, Chico

# Why are we here?

To explore how regenerative agriculture can address:

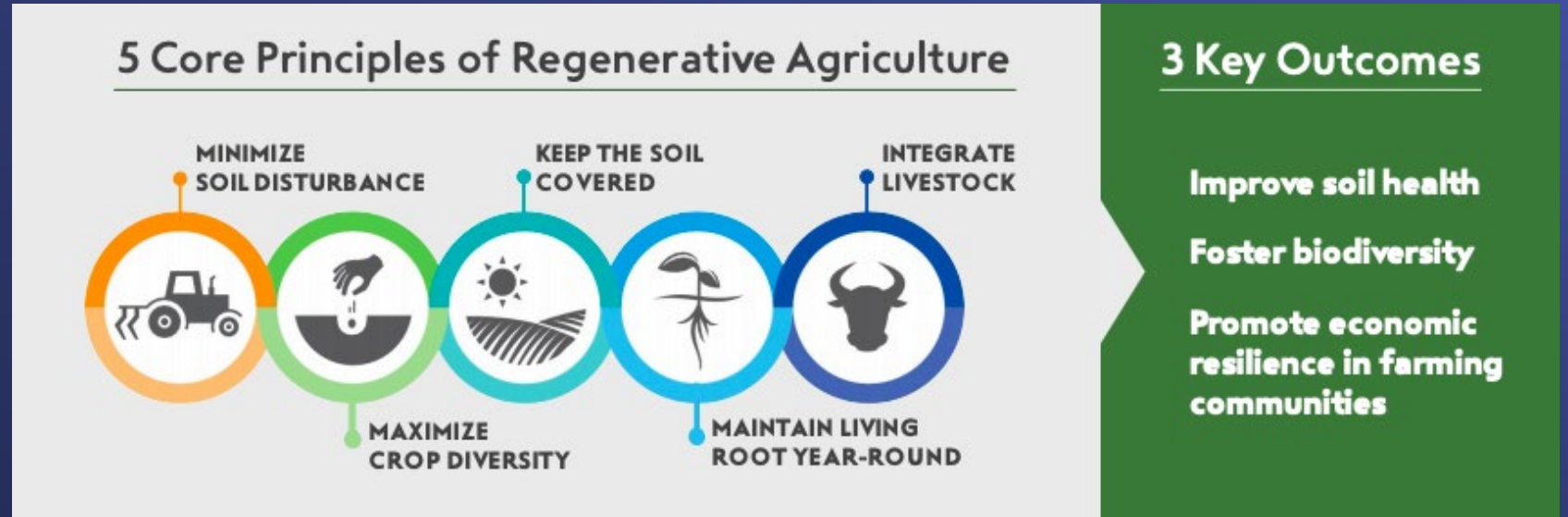
- Water
- Climate
- Economic wellbeing of the community

## Regenerative Agriculture

A process of regenerating living ecosystems by restoring carbon, water, and nutrient cycles which enhance soil health, water, air quality, biodiversity, resilience, and economic outcomes.

The regeneration of land is the foundation of revitalizing communities, health, and prosperity.

## Foundational principles



*“As to methods there may be a million and then some, but principles are few. The man who grasps principles can successfully select his own methods. The man who tries methods, ignoring principles, is sure to have trouble.”*

—Harrington Emerson



# Regenerative Farming Practices



**Cover Cropping and Biomass**



**Adaptive Grazing and  
Regenerative Ranching**



**Hedgerows and Pollinator  
Habitat**



**Reduced Tillage**



**Crop Rotation**



**Soil Inoculants, Compost and  
Manures**

Practices vary with the cropping systems and context –  
but should be implemented with the 6 principles in mind



Degenerative\*



Bare Soil

\*In general, especially on large land surfaces, this practice leads to degeneration of soil health.

Regenerative\*



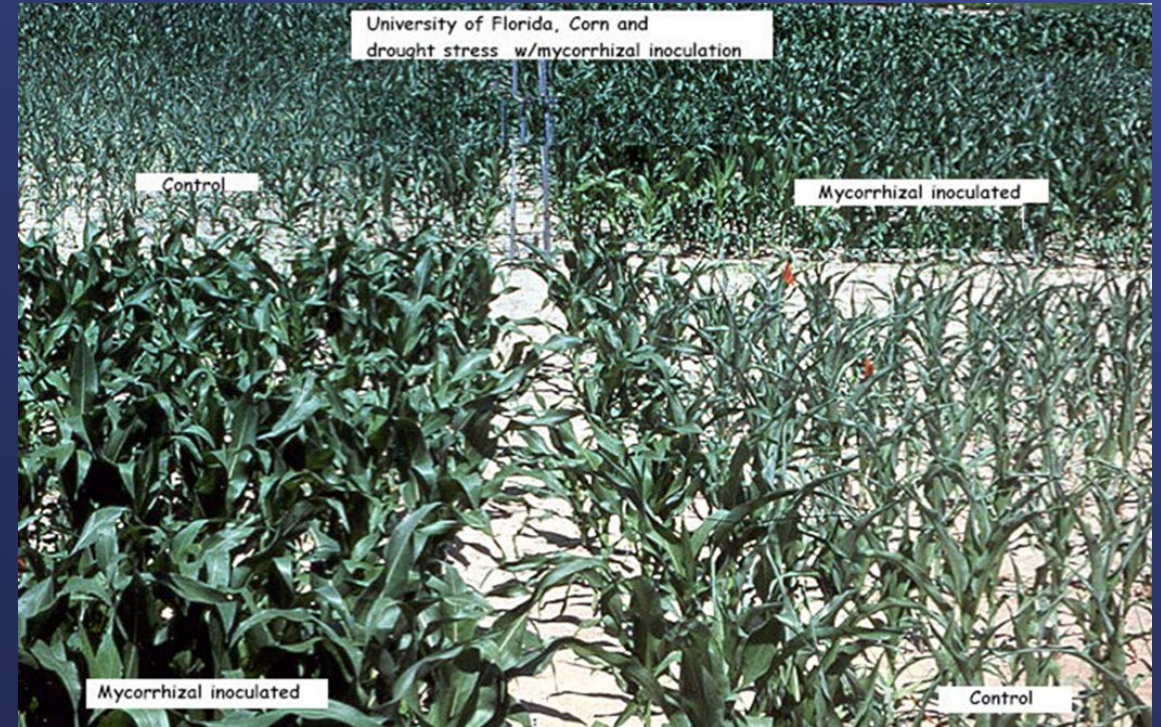
Cover Crops

\*In concert with other regenerative practices can help rebuild healthy soil.

KISS  
THE  
GROUND



# Fungal networks support plant vigor and bring water to plant roots





Chico 1:

## Palo Verde Valley Regenerative Farming Study

July 8, 2024

*A cover crop of peas, vetches, and daikons  
on the Chico State-MWD study site*



# Goals for the Palo Verde Valley Regenerative Farming Study

Study the benefits of managing idled farmland using regenerative practices.

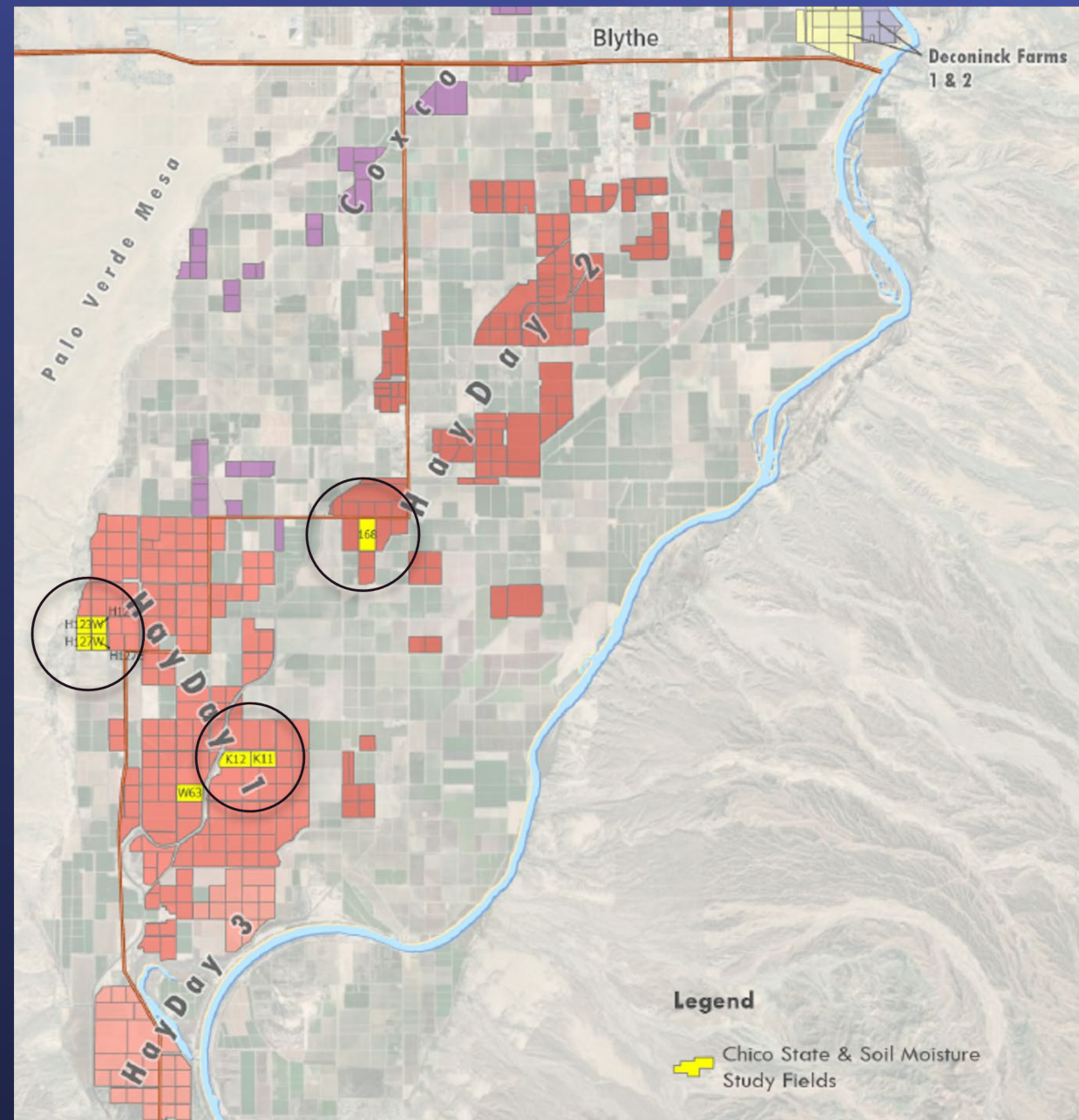
Contrast regenerative vs. traditional practices using the following metrics:

- Soil fertility
- Soil carbon
- Water holding capacity, infiltration capacity and water use efficiency
- Economic return to grower



# Study location

MWD farmlands leased to  
Hayday Farms





# Project Overview

## Traditional fallow treatment

Full tillage

6 equipment passes per year



## Regenerative treatment

Multispecies cover crops

Minimum soil disturbance

Living roots & soil cover





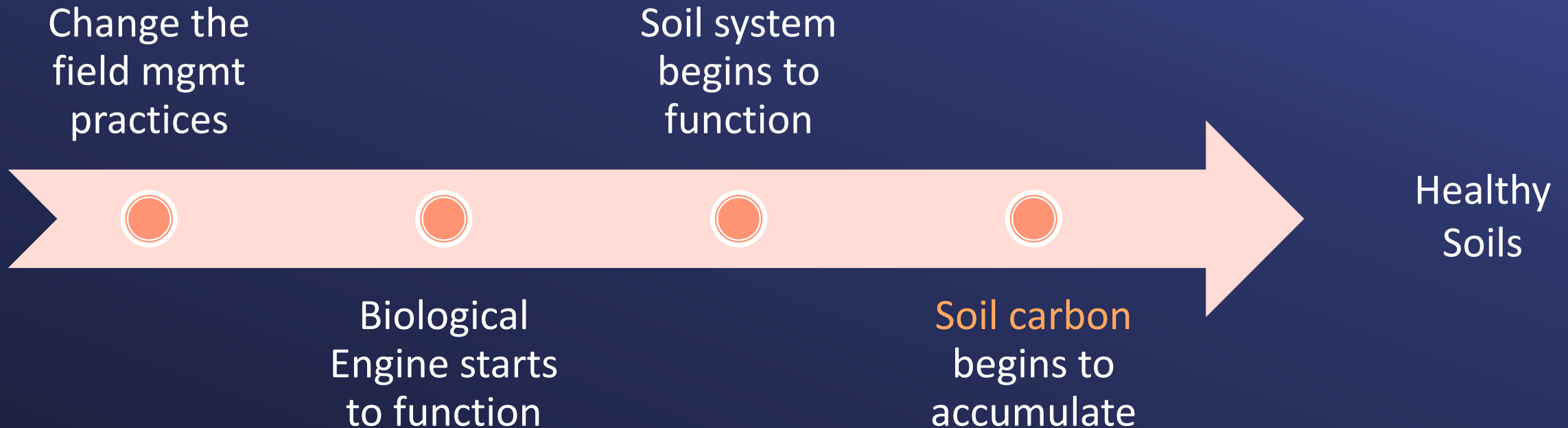
# Project Overview

## Data Collection

- Soil Carbon
- Soil biological community
- Fungal : Bacterial ratio
- Nutrient flow
- Evapotranspiration
- Water infiltration
- Water holding capacity
- Modified water use efficiency
- Soil temperature
- Soil moisture
- Weed pressure  
(on subsequent cash crop)
- Economic return  
(on subsequent cash crop)

# How to regenerate soils

## A road map

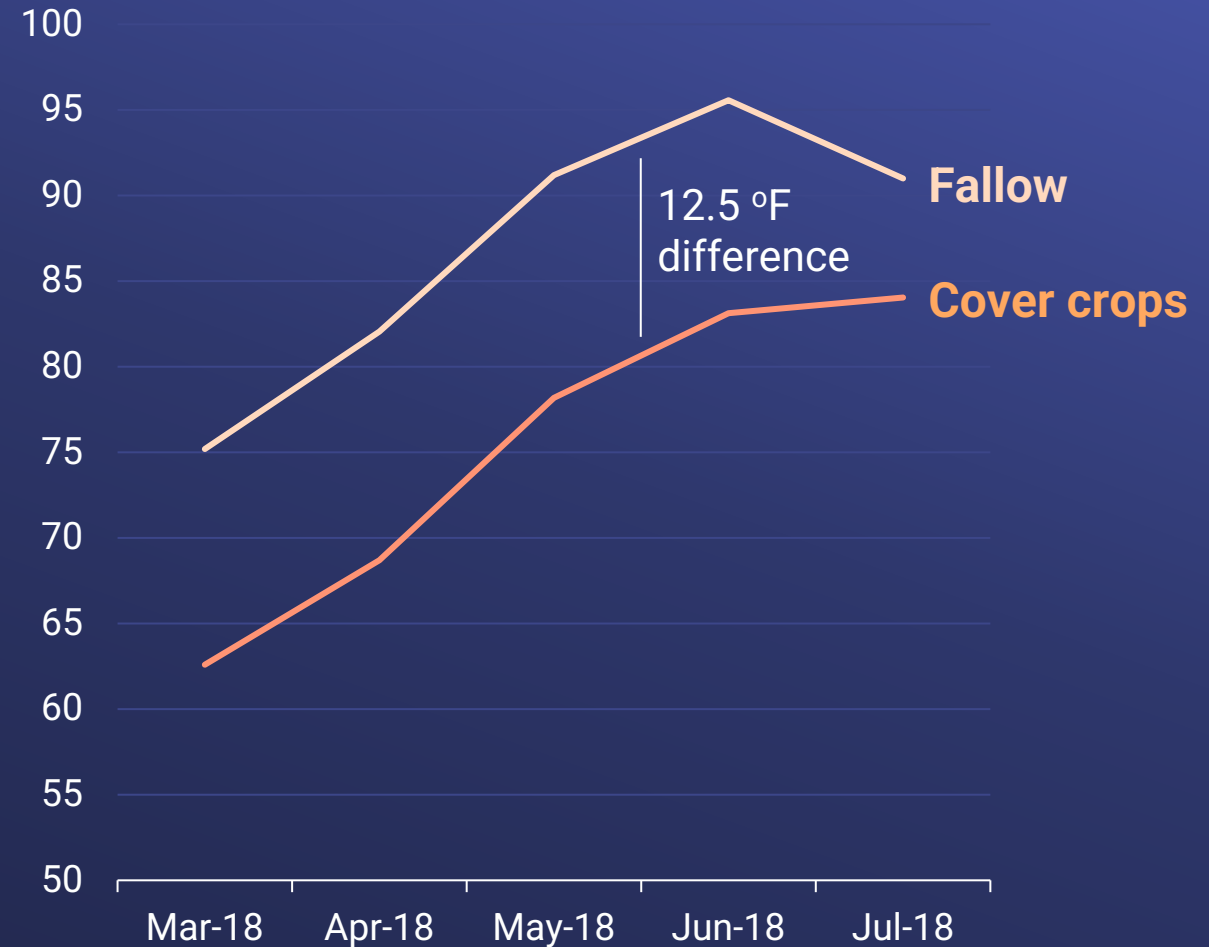


# Soil temperature

Cover crops shade the soil,  
reducing soil temperatures

Cooler soil supports  
microbial life

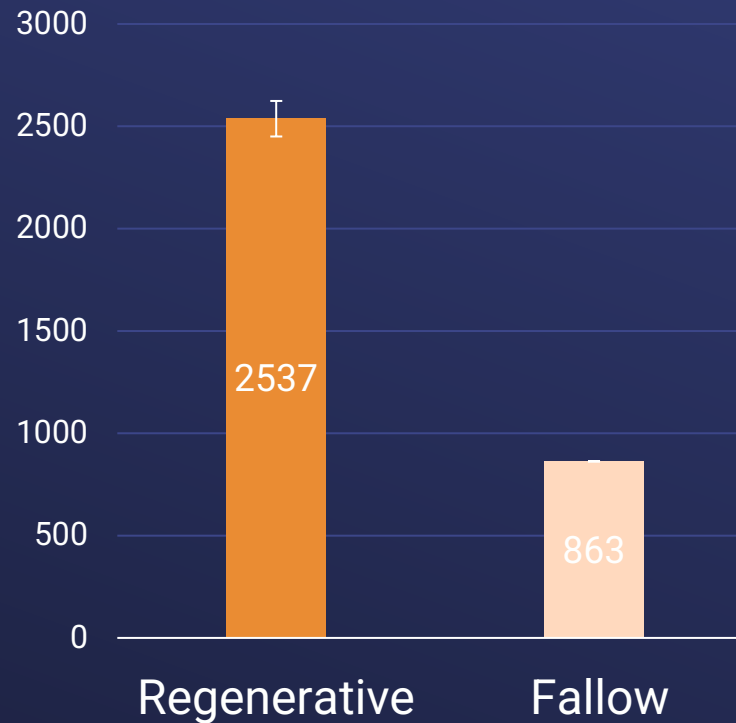
Soil Temperature (F) at 0-4" depth



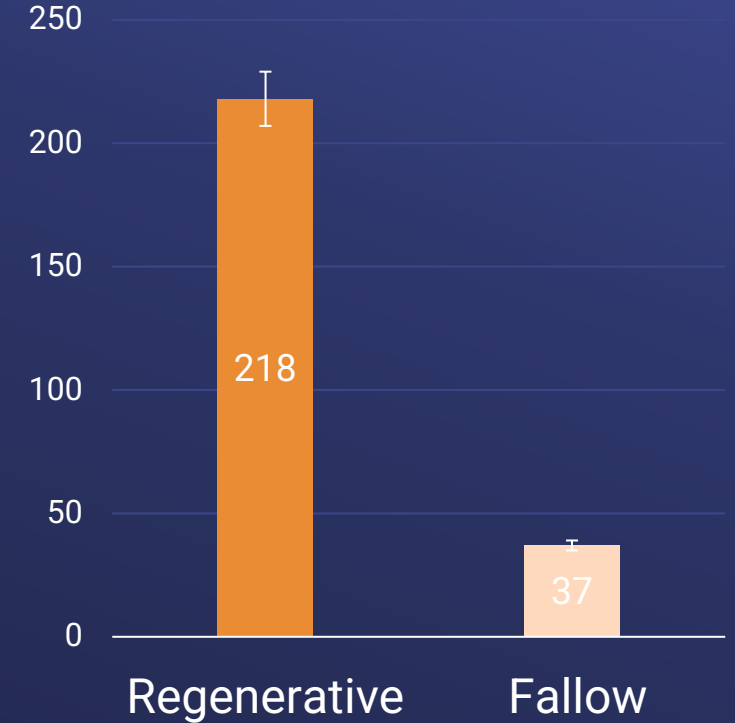
## Microbial diversity

Regenerative practices add life back into soil, enhancing the bacterial & fungal species that drive soil carbon

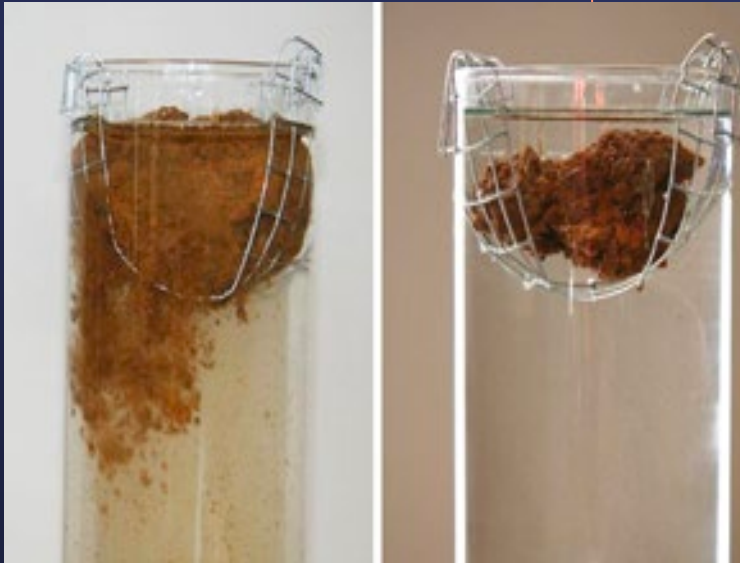
Total Living Microbes  
ng/g



Total Fungi  
g/g

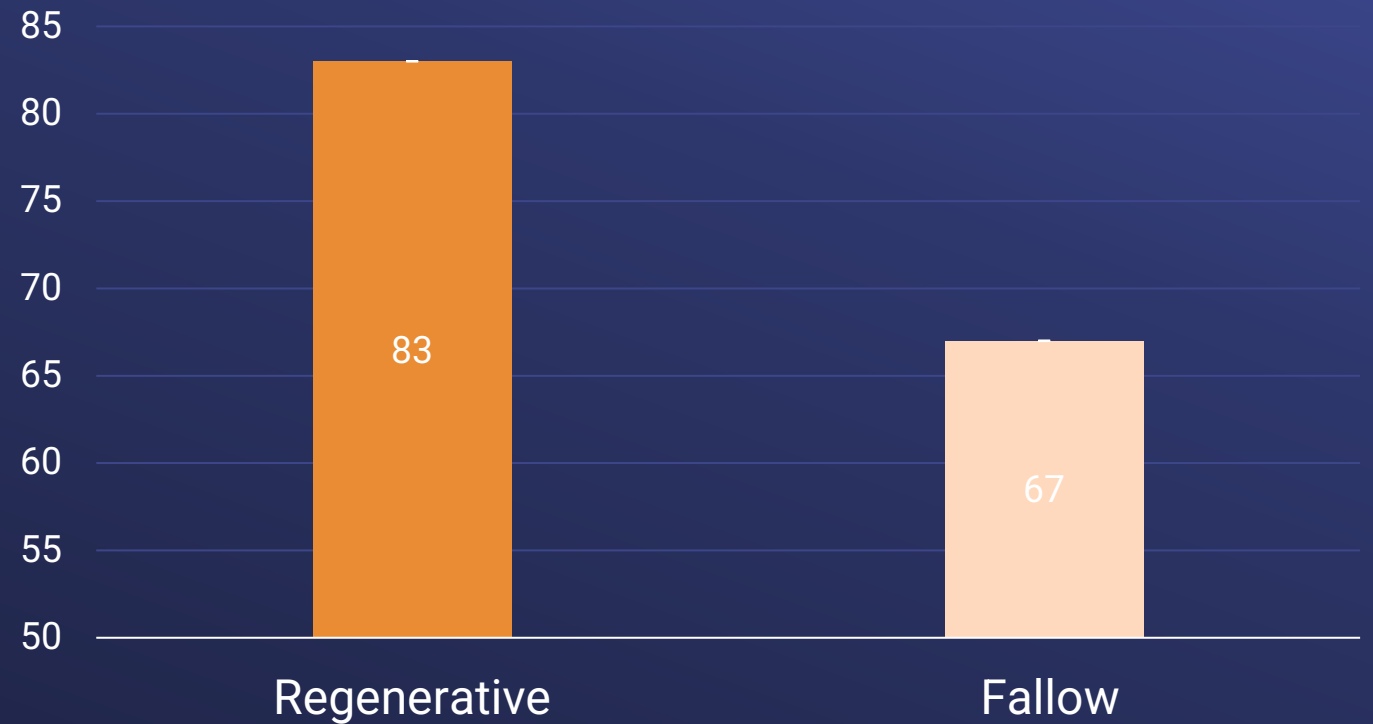


## Soil Health Metrics



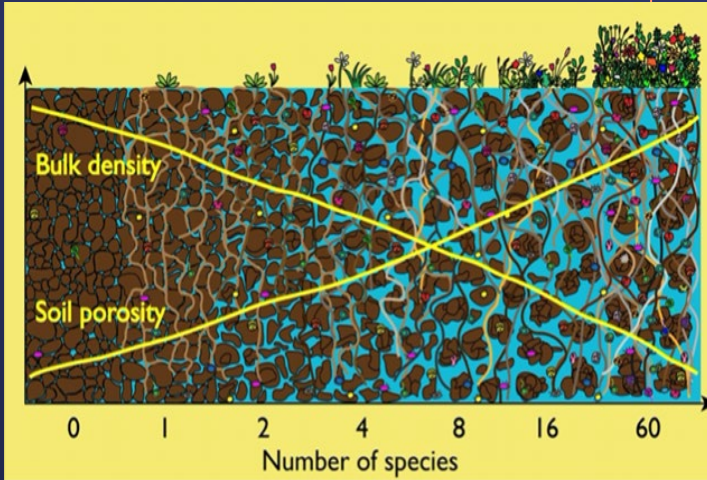
Regenerative practices reduce the erodibility of the soil

% Stable Aggregates

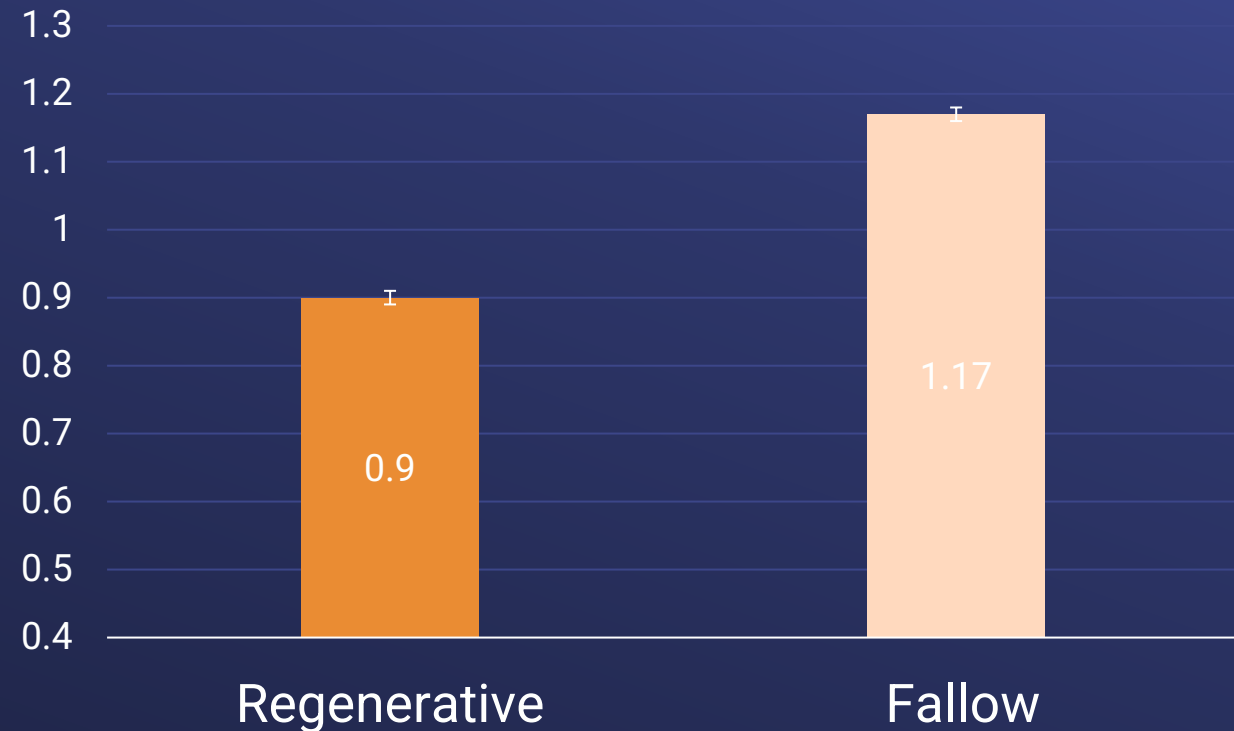


## Soil Health Metrics

Regenerative practices reduce **soil bulk density**, improving soil porosity and water infiltration rates



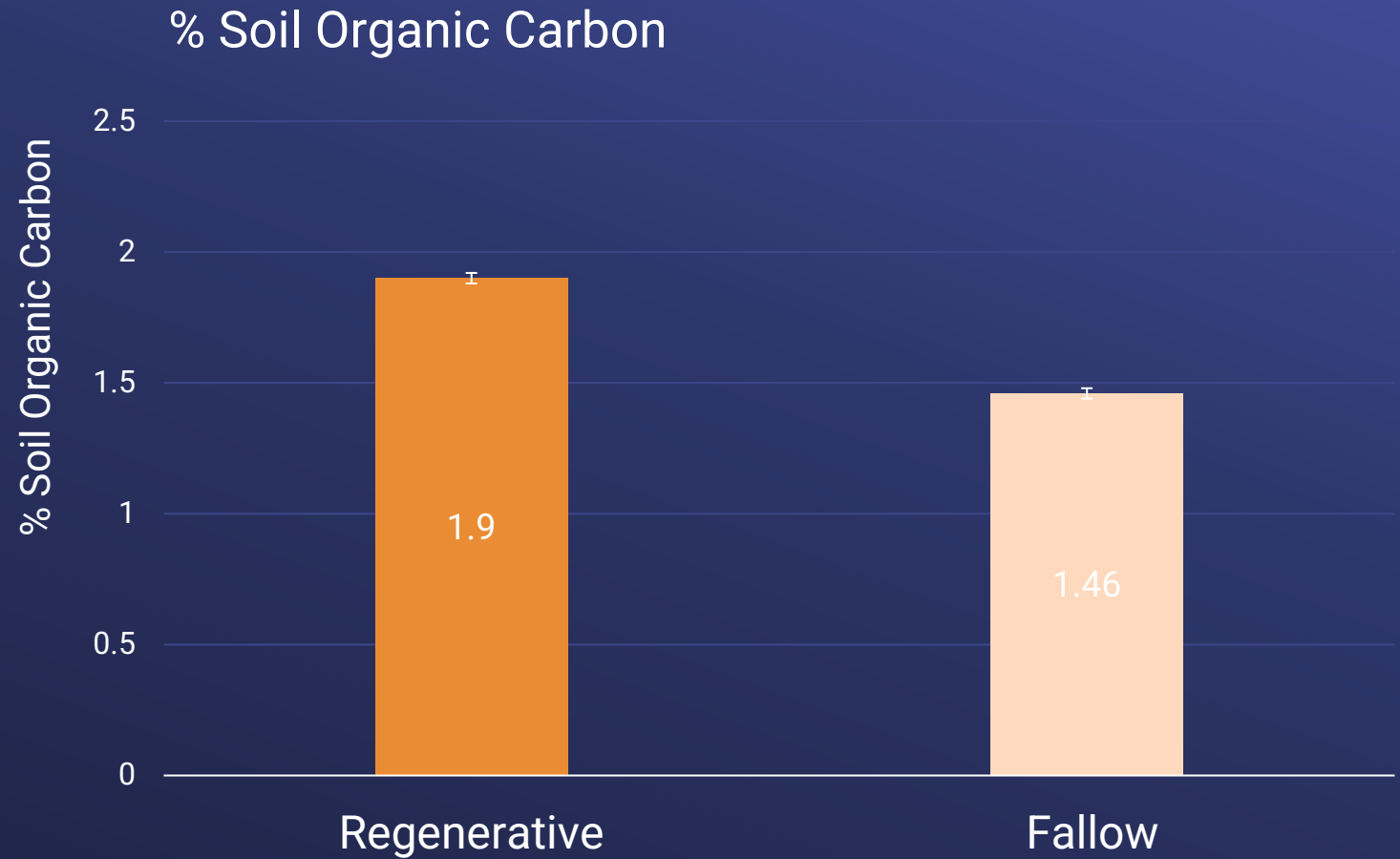
Bulk Density (g/cm<sup>3</sup>)





## Soil carbon

End result = increase in soil carbon



## Soil Carbon Accrual

At the end of the 4 years:

Regenerative field	<b>22.2</b> tons Carbon / hectare
Control field	<b>13.1</b> tons Carbon / hectare

Regenerative practices accumulated **9 tons**  
more carbon over the course of the study  
= **2.3 tons C per year**

## Water Holding Capacity

At the end of the 4 years:

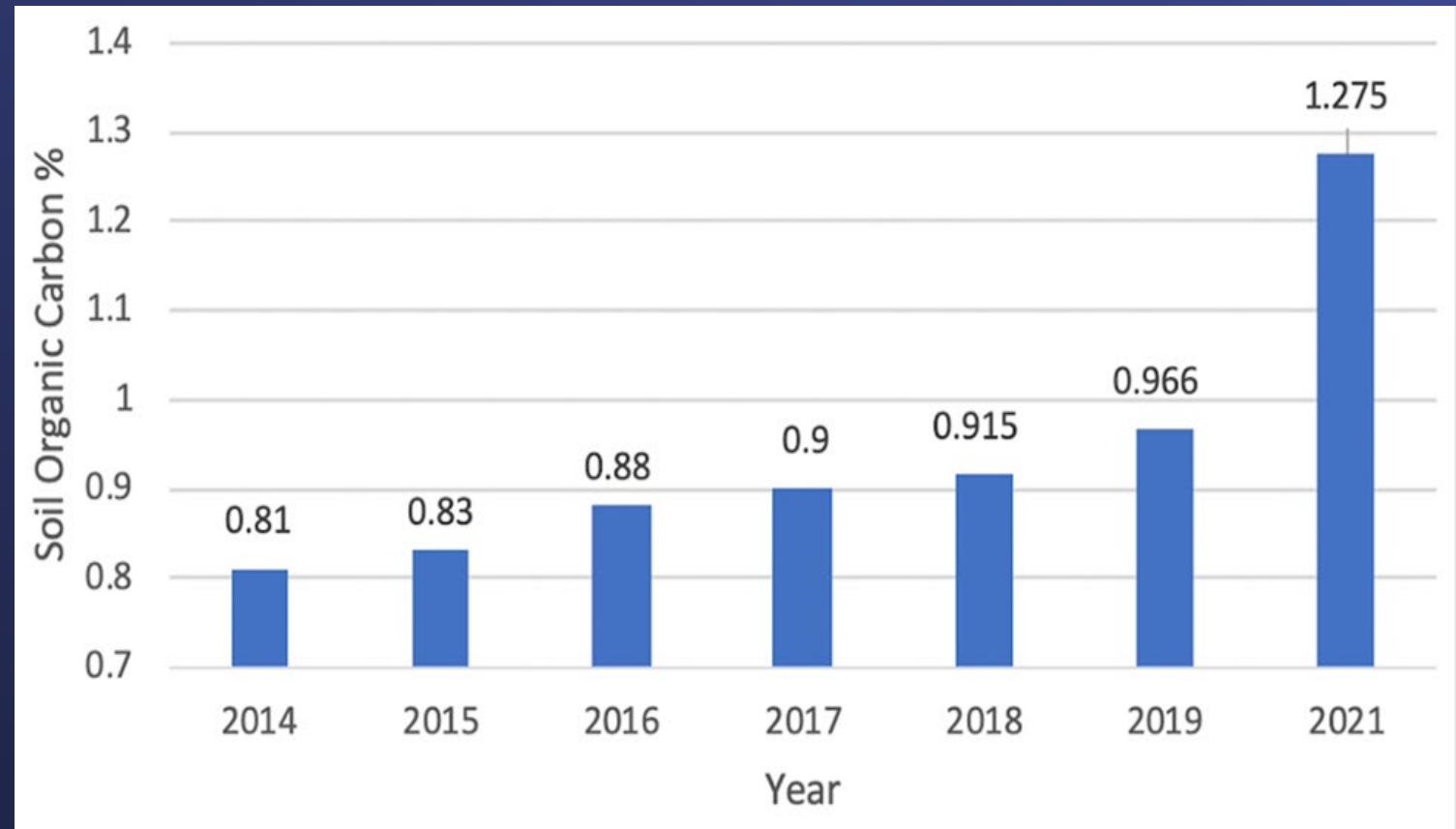
Regenerative field Soil Organic Matter	3.33%
Control field	2.88%

Every 1% SOM holds 21,668 gal of water / acre

Regenerative field holds ~10,000 more gal/acre

## Change in % Soil Organic Carbon (2 years)

Stacking regenerative practices accumulates more soil carbon



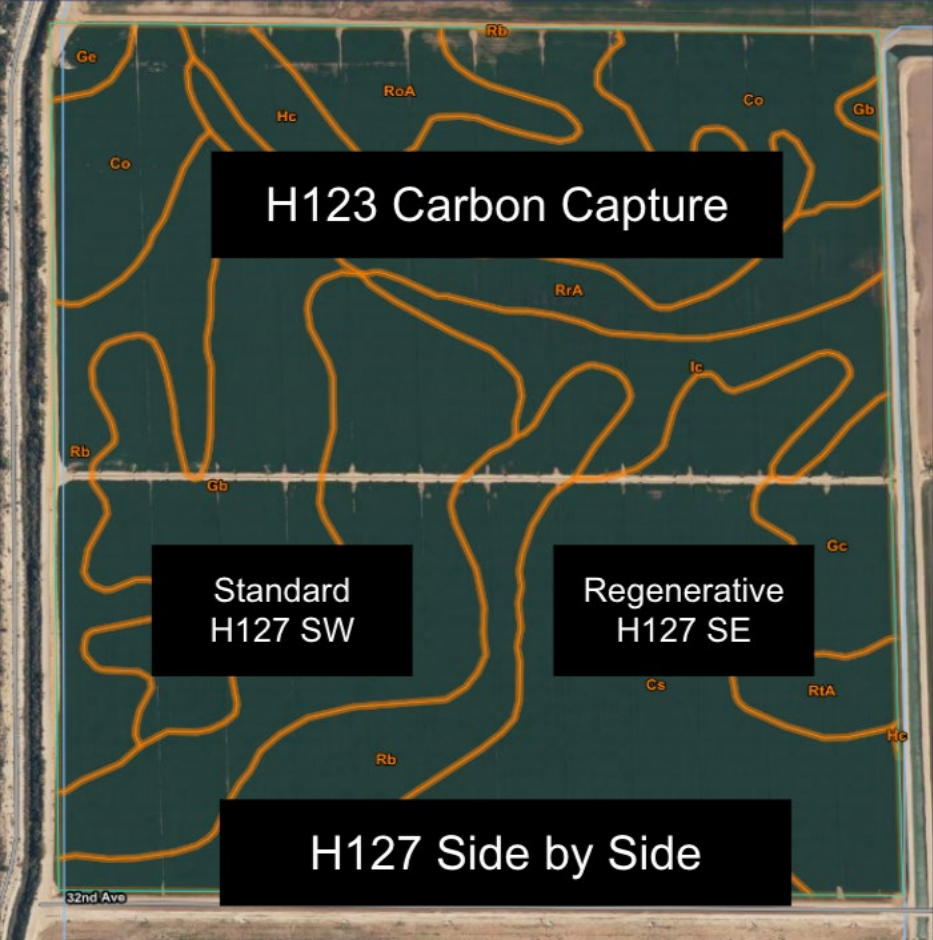
# Summary

- Soil is a living, breathing organism
- Management practices matter
- Regenerative management shifts the soil microbiome to more fungal species
- Fungal species drive soil health and carbon sequestration
- As carbon accumulates, we see improvements in water holding capacity, water infiltration, and water use efficiency

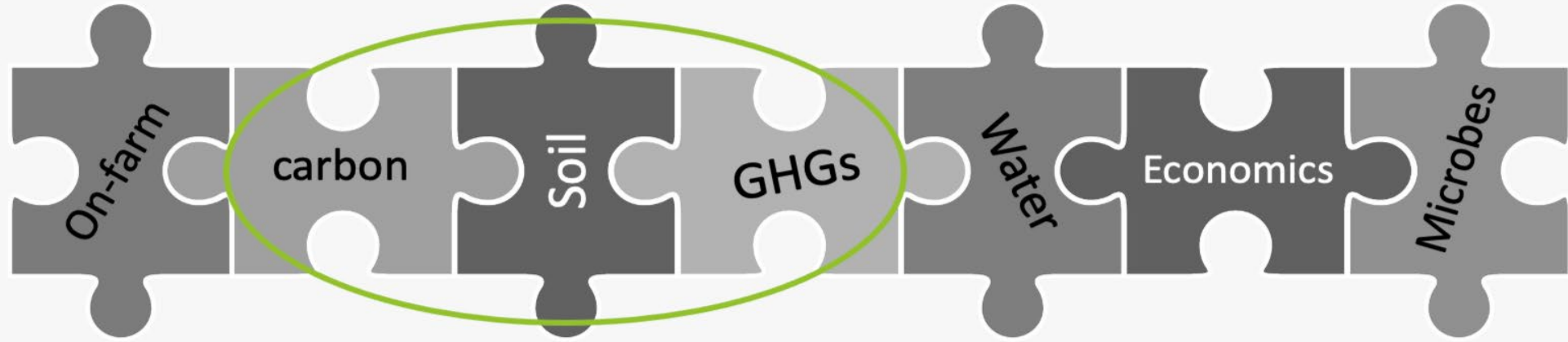
# Chico 2:

## Soil Carbon Accrual Project

Measuring soil carbon accrual in **real-time**  
using sensors







Your  
Postdoc  
face here!!



Objective 1: Soil Carbon Accrual Project



Lava Beds Nat'l Monument



Modoc Nation (cultural resource management)

Josiassen Farm



Chico  
(wheat/  
bean/alfalfa)

Richvale (rice)



Fresno  
(corn/  
cotton/bean)

Hayday Farm

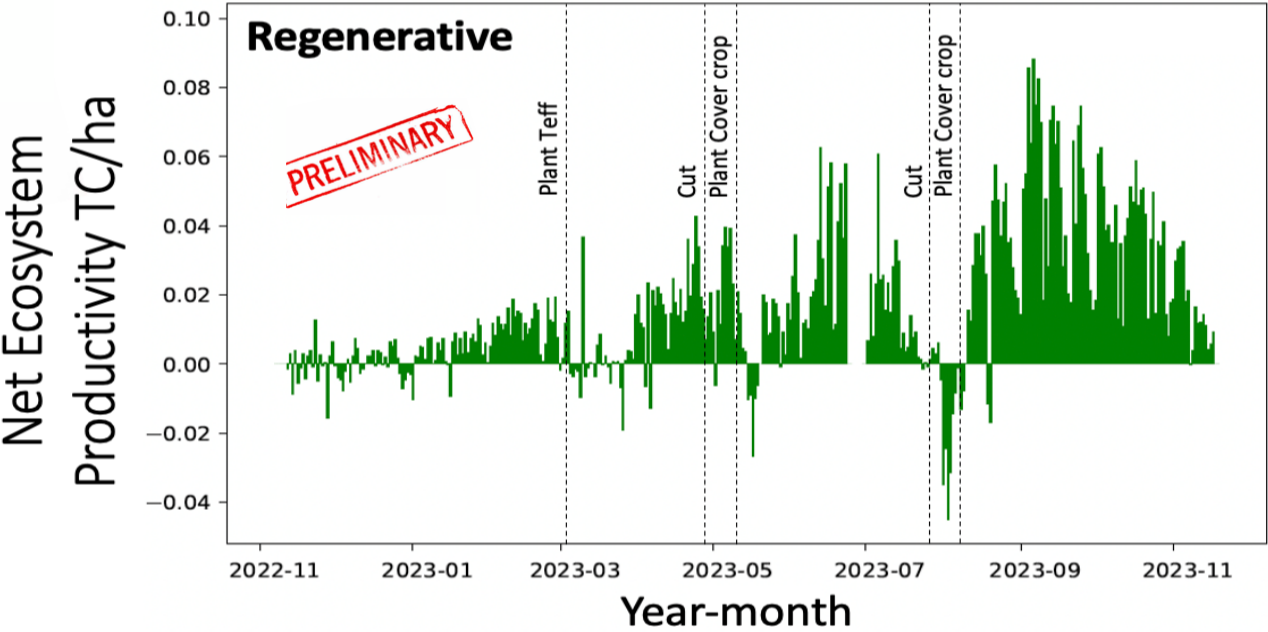


Palo Verde  
(alfalfa/teff/wheat)



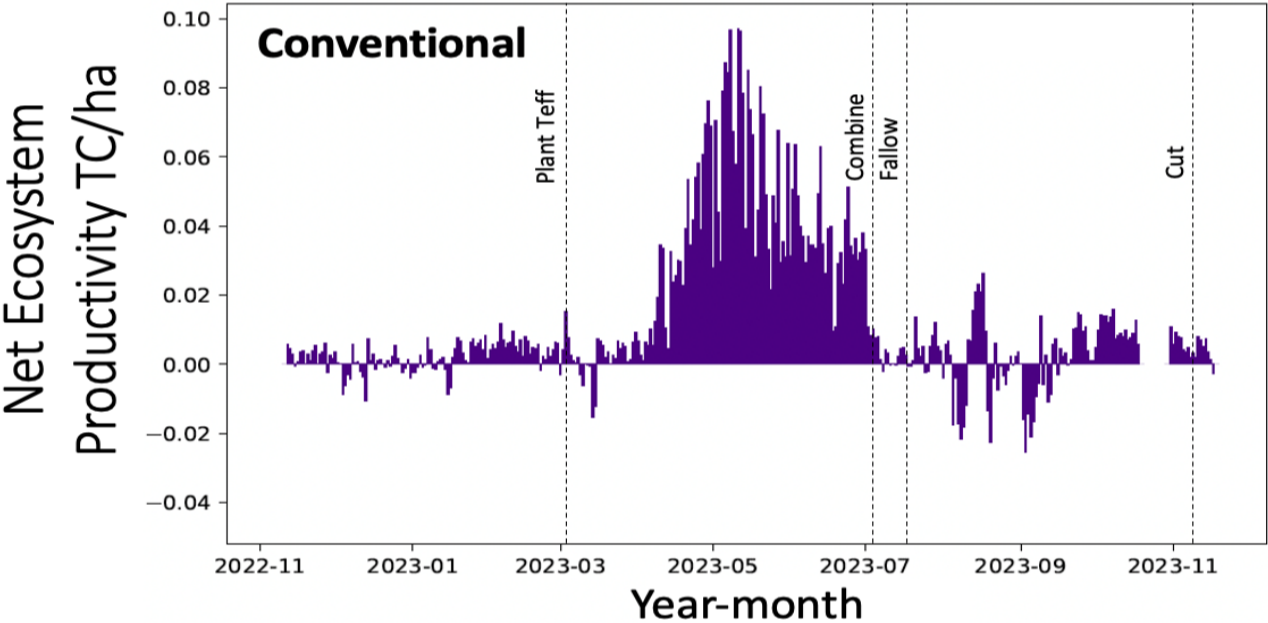
Paired tower study sites  
and farming partners

Sensor data from the flux towers show carbon being stored in soils as crops grow



Carbon being stored in soils

Carbon released from soils

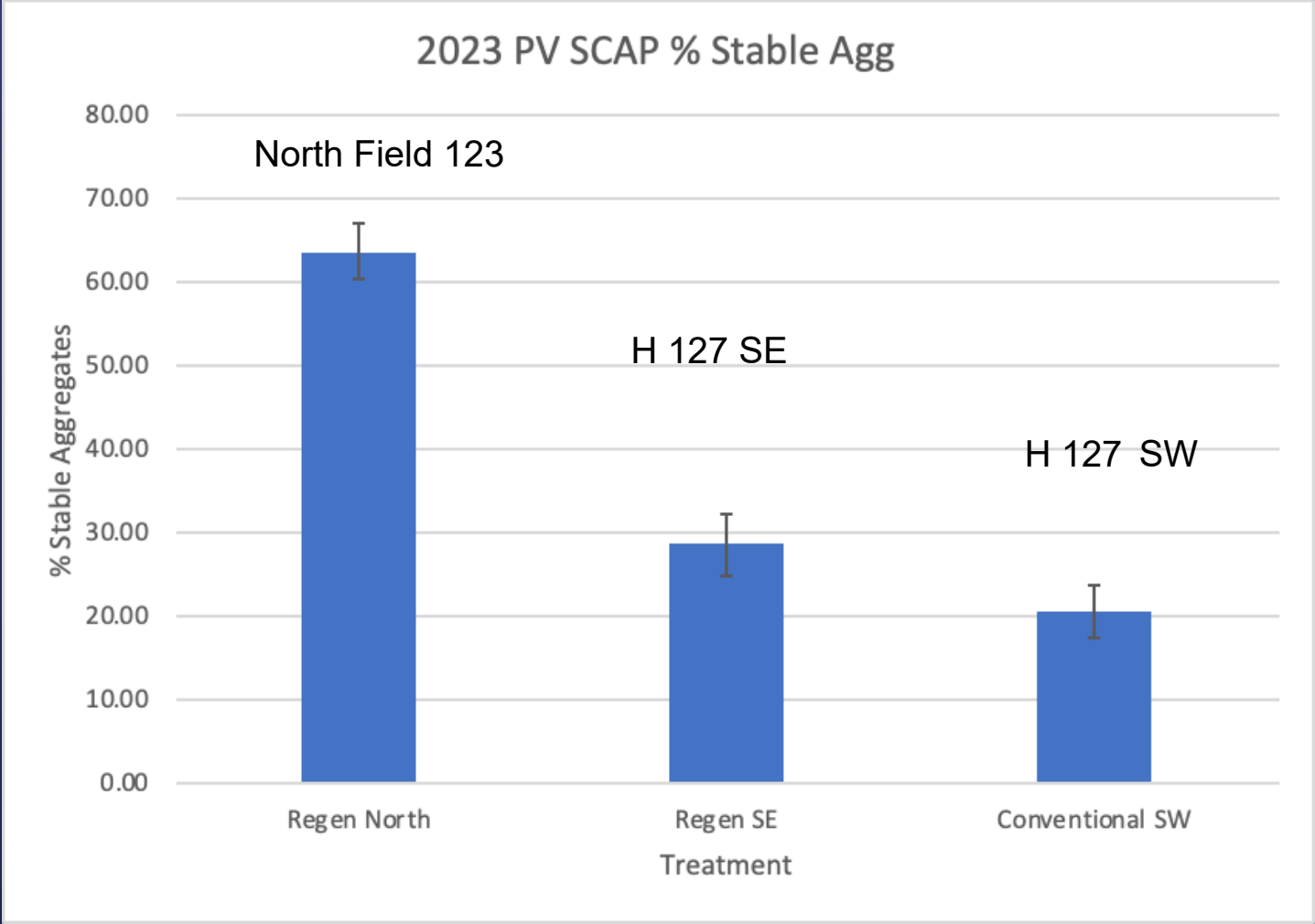


# Microbiology data on Chico 2 site - Year 1

	Regenerative	Standard
Total Fungi, PLFA ng/g	<b>70.64</b> ± 14.27	<b>41.28</b> ± 6.4
Total Fungi, % of Total Biomass	<b>4.77</b> ± 1.25	<b>2.05</b> ± 0.28
Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi, ng/g	<b>35.83</b> ± 8.12	<b>17.76</b> ± 3.14
Arbuscular Mycorrhizal, % of Total Biomass	<b>2.61</b> ± 0.86	<b>0.88</b> ± 0.16
Saprophytic Fungi ng/g	<b>34.81</b> ± 7.93	<b>23.52</b> ± 3.47
Saprophytic Fungi, % of Total Biomass	<b>2.15</b> ± 0.48	<b>1.17</b> ± 0.15



# % Stable Aggregates



# Implications

Every 1% increase in SOM:

20,000 gallons/acre increase in water holding capacity  
and 36 tons of CO<sub>2</sub> drawdown per acre





# Progress toward initial goals

## 1. Water

- Struggle with accurate irrigation flow measurement

## 2. Climate

- Potentially significant impact on climate
- If all farms in PV used regenerative practices:  
1/4 million tons Carbon out of the atmosphere

## 3. Economic wellbeing of the community

- Successfully restoring degraded soils to ensure economic viability

## Collaborators

Thank you to the following supporters:

- MWD Board of Directors
- Dale Tyson & Staff – Hay Day Farms
- Lauren Steely – Sr. Resource Specialist MWD
- David Bradshaw – Agricultural Liaison MWD
- Randy Record – Past Director MWD



California State  
University Chico









One Water and Stewardship Committee

# Conservation Update

Item 6e  
July 8, 2024

# Item 6e Conservation Update

## Subject

### Conservation Update

Monthly update on conservation expenditures and activity from July 1, 2022 – May 31, 2024



# Current Conservation Program Expenditures FYs 2022/23 & 2023/24<sup>(1)</sup>

	Paid <sup>(2)</sup>	Committed <sup>(3)</sup>
Regional Devices	\$14.2 M	\$3.1 M
Member Agency Administered	\$11.4 M	\$4.0 M
Turf Replacement	\$46.6 M	\$18.2 M
Advertising	\$9.4 M	\$1.1 M
Other	\$4.6 M	\$1.6 M
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$86.2 M</b>	<b>\$28.0 M</b>

(1) The Conservation Program biennial expenditure authorization is \$86M.

(2) Paid as of 7/1/2022 - 5/31/2024. Financial reporting on cash basis.

(3) Committed dollars as of June 10, 2024.

# Current Conservation Program Activity FYs 2022/23 & 2023/24<sup>(1)</sup>



## Turf Replacement Rebates:

May: 971,595 ft<sup>2</sup> replaced

**FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 21,676,609 ft<sup>2</sup> replaced**



## Toilets:

May: 2,044 units rebated

**FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 44,425 units rebated**



## Smart Controllers:

May: 576 units rebated

**FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 19,639 units rebated**

**Lifetime Water Savings to be achieved by all rebates in May 2024: 6,775 AF**

FY2022/23-FY2023/24: 131,559 AF lifetime water savings





## Bay-Delta Resources

- **Bay-Delta Management Report**

### Summary

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This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for June 2024.

### Purpose

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Informational

### Detailed Report

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#### Long-Term Delta Actions

##### Delta Conveyance Related Joint Powers Authorities

At the June 21 Delta Conveyance Design and Construction Authority (DCA) Board of Directors meeting, the DCA Board adopted a final budget for Fiscal Year 2024/25. The \$43 million dollar budget includes \$1.85 million in unallocated reserves and planned work in the coming year will focus on (1) providing support to California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in permit application processes (2) continued development of the Delta Conveyance Project delivery plan, including analyses of construction innovations, and (3) continued execution of the geotechnical program to better understand underground conditions.

#### Near-Term Delta Actions

##### Regulatory and Science Update

Staff published “Sub-Lethal Responses of Delta Smelt to Contaminants Under Different Flow Conditions” in the San Francisco Estuary and Watershed Science Journal. The study covered a three-year period and evaluated the effects of contaminants on Delta smelt. Results of the study suggest that there may be conflicting effects for wetter years creating low salinity habitat, while also being more toxic to Delta smelt.

##### Delta Islands

Staff continues to make progress on the Multi-Benefit Landscape Restoration Projects on Webb Tract. In June, the second conceptual design workshop was completed. Thirty percent of the design is expected to be reached in August. Invitations were sent for the first public meeting for the projects to be held at Big Break Regional Park on July 10, 2024. Additionally, staff released a Request for Proposals to convert and cultivate rice on approximately 1,350 acres of land on Webb Tract. Staff partnered with Environmental Planning, the Delta Stewardship Council, and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for early consultation on the use of the Cutting the Green Tape Initiative’s Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects to streamline the California Environmental Quality Act process.

Staff hosted the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, DWR and UC Davis on Bouldin Island to explore the potential of utilizing pond culture on Bouldin Island in the raising of Delta smelt. Scientists at that culture facility are evaluating alternative culturing tools for expanding their production and meeting permit requirements for the long-term operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project.

## Board Report Bay-Delta Management Report

Two levee improvement projects reinitiated construction in June. Ninety-five percent of the cost of both levee improvement projects are funded by DWR's Delta Levees Special Flood Control Projects Program.



## Colorado River Resources

### • Colorado River Management Report

#### Summary

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This report provides a summary of activities related to management of Metropolitan's Colorado River resources for June 2024.

#### Purpose

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Informational

#### Detailed Report

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##### Salinity Forum Meetings

Metropolitan staff chaired meetings of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (Forum) and Forum Technical Work Group in Durango, Colorado. Key meeting topics included (1) a report on progress toward passage of the Colorado River Salinity Control Fix Act (see item below); (2) a report that ongoing two-thirds-capacity operation of the Paradox Valley Unit (PVU), a deep injection well used to dispose of salt in the Paradox Valley, has begun to yield local earthquakes near magnitude 2.5, the level at which humans can feel them, suggesting new urgency to find a long-term alternative to the PVU; (3) preparations for the 2026 "Triennial Review," in which the Forum communicates to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency an assessment of the sufficiency of existing water quality criteria for salinity on the Lower Colorado River; and (4) updates from key federal agencies involved in the Colorado River Salinity Control Program (Program), including the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

##### H.R.7872 - Colorado River Salinity Control Fix Act

Congress is considering a bill that would reduce the state cost-share for Salinity Control projects in the Colorado River Basin. This bill would be a first step toward correcting a long-standing funding deficit that has constrained congressional appropriations for the Program. In California, Metropolitan generates most of the state cost-share funding for the Program by way of an assessment on power sales from Hoover Dam. After a public hearing, the House Committee on Natural Resources ordered the bill out by unanimous consent. An identical bill has been referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry as part of the 2024 Farm Bill package.

##### H.R. 7776 – Help Hoover Dam Act

The annual costs of operating and maintaining Hoover Dam and Powerplant are paid by revenues generated from the sale of hydropower generated at the facilities. The powerplant is operated by the Bureau of Reclamation and the power is sold through the Western Area Power Administration. A dispute between these agencies resulted in power rates covering the cost of federal employee benefits that were being paid through other appropriations. The funds paid by Hoover power contractors to cover these costs have been accumulating in a Treasury account with no authorization that they be expended. This bill provides that express authorization, and specifically allows the use of the funds to be spent on operations, maintenance, and cleanup actions at the dam. The spending authorization provides two benefits to Metropolitan: first, as the largest contractor for Hoover power, Metropolitan will benefit from these funds offsetting operating costs; and second, the use of the funds for cleanup



## Board Report Colorado River Management Report

actions on a potentially hazardous disposal site at the dam will protect the quality of Metropolitan's Colorado River water supply. On June 12, the bill was reported out of the House Natural Resources Committee by unanimous consent. A companion bill, SB 4016, is pending in the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

### **Upper Colorado River Division States Letter to Reclamation Commissioner**

The Governors' representatives of Colorado, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming sent a letter (June 11 letter) to Commissioner Touton regarding assumptions that the Reclamation would make in the No Action Alternative for the Post-2026 Operational Guidelines Environmental Impact Statement (Post 2026 EIS). The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies to analyze a no action alternative in their environmental analyses of any new proposed agency actions. Reclamation has indicated that its intent in the Post-2026 EIS is to have the No Action Alternative truly reflect no action, meaning that the current agreements and actions like Treaty Minute 323 and the 2019 Drought Contingency Plan would not be included in the No Action Alternative. The Upper and Lower Division Colorado River Basin States have different views on what should and should not be included in the No Action Alternative assumptions. In the June 11 letter, the Upper Division States took issue with Reclamation's assumptions regarding fixed annual releases of 8.23 million acre-feet of water from Lake Powell. The June 11 letter states that Reclamation's No Action Alternative fails to consider the Upper Basin storage requirements identified in section 602(a) of the Colorado River Basin Project in making release determinations from Lake Powell. Representatives of the Lower Division States are evaluating responses to the June 11 letter.



## Sustainability, Resilience and Innovation

### • Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office Group Monthly Activities

#### Summary

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Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office June 2024 Monthly Activities

#### Purpose

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To report on Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Activities in June 2024

#### Detailed Report

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##### SRI Core Activities

This month, the SRI Office led the Climate Adaptation Master Plan for Water (CAMP4W) Task Force Meeting focused on integrating climate change considerations into Metropolitan's planning process. The Task Force discussion focused on how we ensure that climate threats and resilience are built into operations and planning moving forward. The Chief SRI Officer presented on CAMP4W at the West Basin Caucus Meeting, at the Innovation Hub at ACE24, and at the Southern California Water Committee's Webinar on Decarbonizing Water Utilities. In the Finance and Asset Management Committee, the Board approved entering into an option agreement for a long-term lease with AES Corporation to develop a solar and battery storage project on Metropolitan's fee-owned Palo Verde Mesa property.

##### Sustainability and Resilience

##### Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Transition

- ZEV Info Table at Lake Mathews Safety Fair: SRI, WSO Fleet, and Safety, Regulatory, and Training staff attended the Lake Mathews Safety Fair on June 6 to provide information to employees and answer questions on the ZEV transition. Employees were able to test drive a Ford Lightning pick-up truck, and a Ford E-Cargo van and discuss electric Volvo equipment with the manufacturer. ZEV information sessions for field staff will be scheduled for the fall.



- **ZEV Executive Task Force**—The Task Force met on June 6 to continue planning Metropolitan's transition from fossil-fueled vehicles and equipment to zero emission technology. WSO presented the

Board Report Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office Group Monthly Activities

proposed 5-year vehicle replacement strategy for light, medium, and heavy duty; this information will be presented to the August Board with a second presentation to follow in September. Additionally, staff updated the Task Force on current vehicle charger installation, the overall infrastructure buildout strategy, and plans to provide off-site charging for Fleet Vehicles.

- **Sustainable Procurement**—SRI and Administrative Services continued the development of a Sustainable Procurement Handbook, which will be attached to both the new Sustainable Procurement Operating Policy, G-06, and the updated Procurement of Goods and Services Operating Policy, G-05. Sustainable procurement training sessions for employees will be conducted in the fall.
- **Environmental Justice and Water Affordability**—This month SRI staff joined a panel focused on water affordability at the retail-level for the June meeting of the Riverside County Water Task Force Speaker Series. Fellow panelists included Prof. Greg Pierce Director, UCLA Human Right to Water Lab, and the UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation as well as Angela Ebner, Policy Advisor, and Senator Alex Padilla. Staff shared efforts through Metropolitan’s CAMP4W process and board discussions from the Equity, Inclusion, and Affordability Committee on statewide low-income rate assistance programs (LIRA) and federal legislation for a Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP). The Riverside County Water Task Force is a collaborative effort between Eastern Municipal Water District, Western Municipal Water District, the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, and the Western Riverside Council of Governments. The Task Force holds quarterly Speaker Series events where we invite experts to discuss prominent topics in the water industry. The event was attended by members and staff from the California Legislature, the local government community, staff and board members from regional water agencies, and members of the public.

Centralized Grants Management Office

During Fiscal Year (FY) 2023/2024, Metropolitan’s Inaugural Centralized Grant Management Office worked on updating the Grants Processes and Procedure Manual, developing training and tools to assist staff in applying for and managing grants. FY 2023/2024 was a record-breaking year for Metropolitan, with the number of grant applications submitted and the dollar amounts awarded. The table below provides a final summary.

Total Applied in FY 2023/2024	\$213,425,080
Total Awarded	\$125,340,000
Not Awarded	\$3,500,000
Pending Notice	\$84,585,080

Innovation, Pilots, and Emerging Technologies

SRI continues its engagement with the Singapore Public Utilities Board (PUB) on water reuse, climate mitigation, and emerging energy efficiencies. The team hosted an on-line exchange with team members from Metropolitan, PUB, and LA County Sanitation Districts, and the General Manager presented at the World Water Summit in Singapore with PUB on Climate Action and Mitigation to continue the exchange of information and technology.

Environmental Planning Section

Core Business: Environmental Planning Section

EPS staff continued to prepare California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) documents for capital projects, including releasing the Initial Study and Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the West Valley Feeder No. 1 Stage 3 Improvements Project for a 30-day public review on June 13. The Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Garvey Reservoir Rehabilitation Project was released for a 45-day public review on June 12, and EPS staff supported a presentation to the City of Monterey Park City Council regarding the project on June 18. Staff also continued to prepare the draft Program EIR for Pure Water Southern California. Activities included preparing the groundwater quality technical memo and air quality/greenhouse gas/energy technical report, conducting biological surveys for backbone pipeline modifications, conducting tribal cultural resource

## Board Report Sustainability, Resilience, and Innovation Office Group Monthly Activities

consultation, evaluating Reach 2 geotechnical work, participating in the Reach 1 draft preliminary design report and preliminary drawings review workshop, and participating in the Reaches 1 and 2 value engineering exit briefing. Staff also continued preparing the architectural historical evaluation for the Weymouth Administration and Control Building Seismic Upgrades project, in compliance with the Program EIR Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program for cultural resource requirements. Staff conducted construction monitoring for capital projects, including PCCP Second Lower Feeder Reach 3B Rehabilitation, Perris Valley Pipeline Interstate 215, Lake Mathews Valve Storage Building, La Verne Shops Upgrades, Weymouth Basins 5 to 8 Rehabilitation, and Weymouth Asphalt Rehabilitation projects, as well as the Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA) Structural Protection Program. EPS continued to support Bay Delta Resources staff and the Webb Tract Wetland Restoration Project by continuing to prepare environmental documentation in compliance with CEQA, including participation in a design workshop on June 4 and a pre-consultation meeting with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife in support of the CEQA Statutory Exemption for Restoration Projects on June 11.

Critical Water System Operations activities were supported by EPS staff, including providing CEQA and regulatory clearances, conducting pre-construction and nesting bird surveys, and construction monitoring support for operations and maintenance activities throughout the service area. EPS staff, in conjunction with WSO, completed the preparation of the first Annual Report for CRA borrow sites in compliance with the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act (SMARA) and submitted the report to the California Department of Conservation Division of Mine Reclamation. Staff continued to actively participate in coordination and planning meetings for the upcoming Foothill Feeder shutdown.



**Double-Crested Cormorant Nest at DVL Attenuator Replacement Site**



**Forster's Tern Nest at DVL Attenuator Replacement Site**

EPS staff provided subject matter expert reviews of several legislative bills, including AB 1581 (Kalra): The Restoration Management Permit Act; AB 2060 (Soria): Lake and streambed alteration agreements: exemptions; and AB 3238 (Garcia): Electrical infrastructure projects: endangered species: natural community conservation plans. Staff also completed environmental clearances for one real estate agreement, and staff reviewed and analyzed CEQA notices for ten external projects to determine the potential impacts on Metropolitan and protect Metropolitan's right-of-way and facilities. Comment letters were prepared and submitted for those projects that had the potential to affect Metropolitan, including a proposed rulemaking by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for new regulations on suspension and revocation of Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreements. EPS staff participated in the monthly meeting of the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance (CCEEB) Natural Resources Task Force (NRTF).

EPS continued oversight of reserve management activities to protect valuable natural resources and meet Metropolitan's mitigation obligations. Comprehensive security patrols were conducted throughout both reserves to prevent trespassing, vandalism, poaching, and theft and to protect the reserves' natural and cultural resources, facilities, and equipment. Activities at the Lake Mathews Multiple Species Reserve included collecting baseline vegetation data using point-line-intercept transects and aerial imagery within areas prepared for burning operations. Activities at the Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve included coordinating with researchers conducting coastal California gnatcatcher and grasshopper sparrow surveys, maintaining invasive brown-headed cowbird traps for the 2024 season with 60 birds captured thus far, and removing non-native plants within the Reserve and weeds along the roads for fire and habitat management. In addition, the Alamos Schoolhouse interpretive center has been open on Saturdays, and a nature event was hosted that had approximately 150 visitors. Coordination with CalFire and site preparation was conducted for both reserves in support of the June 2024 prescribed burns. Annual work plans and operating budgets were approved by the Reserve Management Committees for both reserves for FY24/25 reserve management activities.





**Riverside County Habitat Conservation Agency Staff Conducting Vegetation Monitoring**



**Prescribed Burn at Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve**





**Rattlesnake at Southwestern Riverside County Multi-Species Reserve**

### **Land Management**

An entry permit was issued to Eagle Mountain Elementary School for the use of the swimming pool at the Hinds Pumping Plant Village. The school hosted an end-of-year event on June 4, 2024.



THE METROPOLITAN WATER DISTRICT  
OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

# Board Report

## • Water Resource Management June 2024 Activities

### Summary

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The Water Resource Management Group June 2024 Monthly Activities

### Purpose

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Informational

### Detailed Report

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#### Ensure Reliable State Water Project

Staff developed a presentation in coordination with the State Water Contractors and Richardson & Company, Metropolitan's State Water Project (SWP) Statement of Charges auditors, to educate the SWP contractors on Metropolitan's claim related to Project Order 36. Project Order 36 determines how Hyatt-Thermalito Power Complex costs are recovered by the California Department of Water Resources. Topics included a review, background, related accounting concepts, errors, impact, and next steps and solution path for the claim. The resolution of this item will be financially beneficial for Metropolitan and our ratepayers.

*(Strategic Priority 3—Goal 3.1—Outcome 3.1.3)*

#### Ensure Access to Sufficient Water Supplies to Operate a Full Colorado River Aqueduct in Times of Drought.

Staff chaired a two-day meeting of the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum (Forum) Technical Work Group and attended a two-day meeting of the Forum in Durango, CO. Topics discussed included (1) progress toward federal legislation to reduce the state cost-share requirement from 30 percent to roughly 15 percent for salinity control funding from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), which would reduce the existing Salinity Control Program (Program) funding deficit; (2) a report that ongoing operation of the Paradox Valley Unit (PVU) at 2/3-capacity has begun to yield earthquakes near M2.5 (the level at which humans can feel them) in the Paradox Valley, suggesting new urgency in finding a long-term alternative to the PVU; (3) preparations for the 2026 "Triennial Review," in which the Forum communicates to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency an assessment of the sufficiency of existing water quality criteria for salinity on the Lower Colorado River; and (4) updates from key federal agencies involved in the Program, including United States Bureau of Reclamation, NRCS, the Bureau of Land Management, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

*(Strategic Priority 3—Goal 3.2—Outcome 3.1.1)*

#### Implement Regional Conservation Program

Staff presented on Metropolitan's non-functional turf replacement efforts at the American Water Works Association ACE24 conference in Anaheim, CA.

*(Strategic Priority 3—Goal 3.2—Outcome 3.2.8)*

Date of Report: 7/9/2024

## Board Report Water Resource Management June 2024 Activities

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

On June 13, staff from Water Resources Management, Water System Operations, and Engineering Services Groups met with representatives from the World Bank Group at Metropolitan's Robert B. Diemer Water Treatment Plant. Staff presented on Metropolitan's sources of supplies, water treatment processes, and how Metropolitan plans for and adapts to drought and abundant conditions.

On June 17, Metropolitan's WRM and Bay Delta Initiatives staff attended a peer-to-peer workshop with two water authorities from the Netherlands—Waterschap Hollandse Delta (regional) and Rijkswaterstaat (national). These two agencies are responsible for water management and constructing and maintaining levees and flood protection infrastructure. At this online workshop, Metropolitan staff exchanged information with their peers from the Netherlands on issues related to levee safety, policy considerations, monitoring methods, safety standards, and innovative levee construction techniques. Additional collaboration between these three agencies is planned in the coming months with a potential visit from a Dutch delegation to Sacramento in September.