



**LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE
AGENDA
Regular Meeting
January 25, 2023 – 10:00 a.m.**

SPECIAL NOTICE OF TELECONFERENCE ACCESSIBILITY

Pursuant to the provisions of Government Code Section 54953(e), as amended by Assembly Bill 361, any Committee Member and any member of the public who desires to participate in the open session items of this meeting may do so by accessing the Zoom link below without otherwise complying with the Brown Act's teleconference requirements.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://lagerlof.zoom.us/j/83635171770?pwd=SUZCMGHSczhqRFo5a1A4c3VCeE9aQT09>

Passcode: 431112

or One tap mobile:

US: +16694449171,,83635171770#,,,,*431112#

or by Telephone:

US: +1 669 444 9171

Webinar ID: 836 3517 1770; Passcode: 431112

Any member of the public wishing to make any comments to the Committee may do so by accessing the above-referenced link where they may select the option to join via webcam or teleconference. Members of the public may also submit written comments to the Clerk by 4:00 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting for the Clerk to read into the record (subject to three-minute limitation). The meeting Chair will acknowledge such individual(s) at the appropriate time in the meeting prior to making their comment. Members of the public will be disconnected from the meeting prior to any Closed Session, if applicable.

NOTE: To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this Committee meeting, please contact the Authority's Clerk at rperea@lagerlof.com by 4:00 p.m. on January 24, 2023 to inform the Authority of your needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible. Each item on the Agenda shall be deemed to include any appropriate motion, resolution, or ordinance, to take action on any item. Materials related to items on this Agenda are available for public review at: www.losvaquerosjpa.com/board-meetings.

CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Angela Ramirez Holmes – Chair, Zone 7 Water Agency

Ernesto Avila – Contra Costa Water District

Ricardo Ortega – Grassland Water District

PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Any member of the public wishing to address the Communications and Outreach Committee regarding items not on the Agenda should do so at this time. The Committee welcomes your comments and requests that speakers present their remarks within established time limits and on issues that directly affect the Authority or are within the jurisdiction of the Authority.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (may include action to recommend forwarding items to Board of Directors for adoption or approval)

- 1.1 October 26, 2022 Communications and Outreach Committee Meeting Summary**
- 1.2 Communications and Outreach Committee Draft Goals and Priorities**
- 1.3 State Legislative Outreach and Advocacy Planning**
- 1.4 Federal Outreach and Advocacy Planning**
- 1.5 Authority Reception at ACWA Spring Conference**

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

**ITEM 1.1: **OCTOBER 26, 2022 COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH
COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY****

RESPONSIBLE/LEAD STAFF MEMBER:

Taryn Ravazzini, Executive Director

DISCUSSION:

Attached for the Committee's information is the summary prepared for the October 26, 2022 Communications and Outreach Committee meeting.

ALTERNATIVES:

Any suggested revisions to the attached summary will be considered.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Not applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Not applicable

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS:

Summary from October 26, 2022 Communications and Outreach Committee meeting



SUMMARY OF REGULAR MEETING OF COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE

October 26, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

Present at the meeting were Chair Angela Ramirez Holmes, and Committee Members Ernesto Avila and Ricardo Ortega. Staff and two others attended the meeting.

1.1 August 24, 2022 Communications and Outreach Committee Meeting Summary.

The summary from the August 24, 2022 Communications and Outreach Committee Meeting was presented and accepted without change.

1.2 Recap of Washington, D.C. Advocacy Trip. Executive Director Taryn Ravazzini reviewed the outcome of the meetings conducted during the recent trip to Washington, D.C. She reported overall good outcomes. The Authority received confirmation of an \$82 million appropriation from the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law and received the invitation from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to apply for the WIFIA loan. Chair Ramirez Holmes acknowledged the bicameral and bipartisan support for the Project. A letter requesting the Bureau of Reclamation to expedite issuance of the Record of Decision concerning the Project is in progress, with both California senators and fifteen members of Congress having signed that letter of support. That letter is expected to be completed in the next few days and will be provided to the Board once it is final.

1.3 State Legislative Outreach Planning. Executive Director Ravazzini noted that outreach to the State Legislature and applicable state agencies in the coming legislative year will be an important component to achieving the Authority's priorities. She presented the following objectives:

- Introduce the JPA – a unique collaboration
- Share accomplishments
- Timeline – breaking ground target
- Prop 1 – WSIP Inflation Gap/Boost
- Potential Letter of Support

Discussion followed as to whether the hiring of a lobbyist by the Authority would be beneficial, and it was discussed that it would be prudent to convene a meeting among the Members' respective

lobbyists to obtain their input on how to best approach the Authority's state advocacy needs. Committee member Ortega requested a delegation list with respect to the state senators and assembly members for the Authority's service area.

Committee member Avila asked when the beginning of the outreach might occur. After discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee that after the beginning of 2023 would be a good time.

1.4 Future Board Meeting Attendance Alternatives. General Counsel James Ciampa reviewed the current Brown Act requirements with respect to virtual meetings and how those requirements will change based on the withdrawal of the COVID-19 emergency declaration on February 28, 2023. The Committee discussed how to best handle meeting attendance once AB 361 is no longer available for remote meetings in the manner they have been conducted since the Authority's inception. Various Board meeting alternatives were included in that discussion:

- Return to Full In-Person Meetings
- Conduct Hybrid Meetings
- Continue with Fully Virtual Meetings

Chair Ramirez Holmes voiced her preference to return to in-person meetings at one centralized location and stated that she has confirmed that Zone 7 Water Agency is able to host the meetings and has virtual meeting capabilities if those are necessary for some directors under particular circumstances. Committee members Avila and Ortega concurred in returning to in-person meetings and were agreeable to Zone 7 Water Agency hosting those meetings. The Committee discussed how the Authority's committee meetings could be conducted and concluded those meetings could continue via Zoom, with the agendas posted with the necessary information to comply with the Brown Act and with the various teleconference locations being accessible to the public.

1.5 Development of Communications and Outreach Plan. In accordance with the Communications and Outreach Committee Charter, the Committee scope of work and responsibilities include:

- Collaborate with Authority staff in developing the annual Communications and Outreach Plan

Executive Director Ravazzini initiated discussion among Committee members and Authority staff on this topic. Staff provided an overview of the existing Stakeholder and Public Outreach Plan that Contra Costa Water District developed early in the planning phase for the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project. The presentation included review of the following:

- Communications Goals
- Public Involvement Plan and Activities
- Interested Public
- Outcome to date
- Environmental Support for LVE

It was the consensus of the Committee for members to bring back a schedule of goals and priorities/objectives for review at the next Committee meeting. Committee member Avila stated that he would like the public to have as much information as possible.

1.6 Possible Membership in Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA).

Executive Director Ravazzini solicited the Committee's input regarding whether the Authority should pursue joining the Association of California Water Agencies. She stated that she is reaching out to ACWA's Joint Powers Insurance Authority for possible insurance and membership in ACWA would be required to obtain that insurance. Ms. Ravazzini reviewed the ACWA membership benefits and requested input from members of the Committee as to whether she should pursue membership. Discussion followed as what the advantages would be because all Authority members are currently ACWA members. Committee member Avila will assist the Executive Director in obtaining responsive information from ACWA.

General Counsel Ciampa noted that the date for the December Committee meeting is December 28, 2022, which may present a problem for attendance given the end of the year holidays. After discussion, it was the consensus that the next Communications and Outreach Committee meeting will be held on January 25, 2023, at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

James D. Ciampa

James D. Ciampa
Interim General Counsel

ITEM 1.2: COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE DRAFT GOALS AND PRIORITIES

RESPONSIBLE/LEAD STAFF MEMBER:

Taryn Ravazzini, Executive Director

DISCUSSION:

Among the Committee’s responsibilities, as set forth in the Committee Charter, is to work with Authority staff to develop an annual Communications and Outreach Plan. The Committee scope of work and responsibilities include:

- Collaborate with Authority staff in developing the annual Communications and Outreach Plan

This item will provide the Committee with the opportunity to discuss development of the Committee’s goals and priorities, which will inform the Communications and Outreach Plan that will be developed as the JPA brings on more resources. At the Committee’s last meeting in October, the Committee acknowledged the need at the next Committee meeting to review and discuss the Committee’s goals and priorities. To support the discussion, staff have drafted a straw document identifying some goals and priorities for consideration.

ALTERNATIVES:

For discussion purposes

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Not applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Not applicable

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS:

Discussion Draft 2023 Communication Goals and Priorities

Los Vaqueros JPA Draft 2023 Communications Goals and Priorities

Key Audiences

- Partner Communications (Government Affairs)
 - JPA Member Boards and Executive Staff
 - State and Federal Agencies
 - State and Federal Elected Officials
 - JPA Member Ratepayers (through JPA members)
- External Communications (Public Affairs)
 - Local and Regional Media Outlets
 - Communities Affected by Construction
 - Environmental and Business Groups
 - General Public

Goals:

1. Establish awareness of new JPA and innovative aspects of the project.
2. Maintain positive relations and project awareness with JPA member boards and executives and federal and state partners.
3. Provide audience-targeted updates at key milestones.

Priorities

1. Ensure JPA member agencies and partners are informed, supported, and engaged.
2. Continue state and federal coordination to maintain support and secure funding.
3. Leverage key milestones for external communications.
4. Brief media outlets and editorial boards.
5. Establish social media presence.

Near-term Milestones

Leverage milestones as they occur to promote the project and report progress.

1. Final CWC Funding Award.
2. Federal Funding/WIIN Act Allocations.
3. WIFIA Loan Milestones.
4. Final Agreements (local, state, and federal).
5. Water Right Modifications.
6. Initial Groundbreaking (PP1).

Primary Activities

Activities for implementation to support all of the above.

1. Develop strategic communications plan to reflect JPA priorities.
2. Develop additional communications content (website, videos, interviews, stories, virtual tour).
3. Conduct briefings, site visits, and special events.
4. Update and maintain (or establish) all relevant information portals, especially social media platforms.

ITEM 1.3: STATE LEGISLATIVE OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY PLANNING

RESPONSIBLE/LEAD STAFF MEMBER:

Taryn Ravazzini, Executive Director

DISCUSSION:

The Committee has previously discussed the desire to proceed with increasing the Authority’s outreach with the state, both with legislators and regulatory agencies. With the success of the Authority’s first trip to Washington, DC, in Fall 2022 for federal outreach, staff has been working on a tentative plan to conduct a group visit to Sacramento on March 22, 2023. There are many milestones anticipated in 2023, with the overall target to reach the California Water Commission’s Final Funding Award under the Water Storage Investment Program, currently anticipated for the Fall of 2023. Similar to the focus of the federal trip, the main objectives for consideration include introducing the Authority to State Administration officials and legislators representing the Authority’s service area and strengthening support for ongoing and future state funding.

This agenda item is to allow Committee members to have a general discussion regarding the early planning phases of this outreach event and to provide staff with any feedback on activity objectives and key messaging.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is presented for the Board’s discussion and any reasonable alternatives will be up for discussion.

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Costs will depend on the alternatives selected. Total costs would likely range be in the \$2,000 to \$3,000 range.

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Not applicable

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS:

Delegation List, including Authority Member Legislative Advocates/Lobbyists

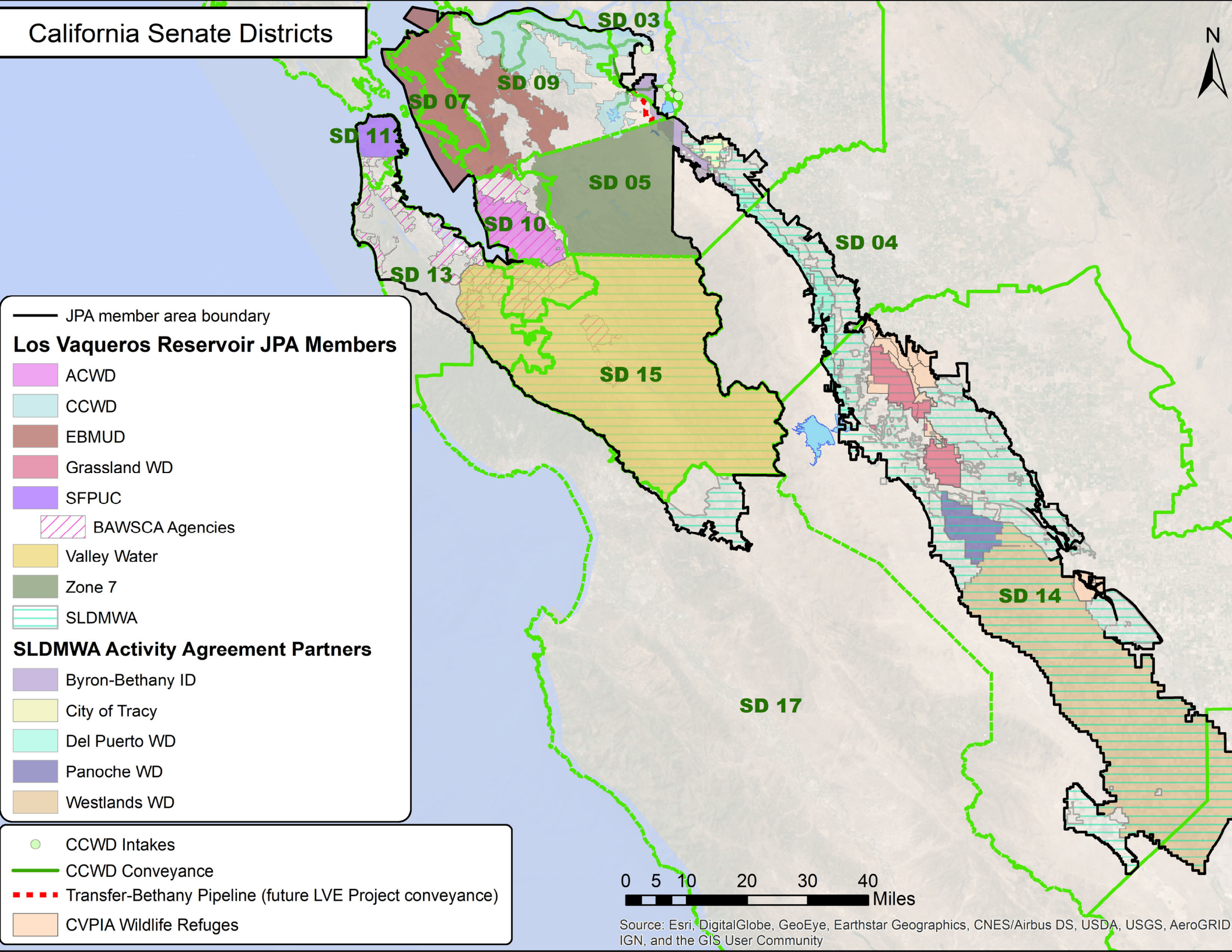
Maps of Authority Service Area with overlay of Senate and Assembly Districts

Fact Sheets used for Federal Outreach Trip: LVR JPA Overview Fact Sheet and LVR JPA Project Fact Sheet

LVE JPA Sacramento legislative visits

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Senators</u>	<u>Assemblymembers</u>	<u>Lobbyist</u>	<u>Lobbyist Contact</u>
Alameda County Water District	10	20, 24	JGC Government Relations (Jonathan Clay / Erin Gilbert)	
Contra Costa Water District	3, 9	11, 15	Public Policy Advocates (Julee Malinowski-Ball)	
East Bay Municipal Utility District	7, 9	14, 18, 20	Kathy Viatella (in-house)	
Grassland Water District	14	27	Smith Policy Group (Mark Smith)	
SF Public Utilities Commission	1	17, 19	Edelstein Gilbert Robson Smith ()	
SLDMWA	4, 5, 14, 17	9, 13, 22, 27	California Strategies (Kristin Olsen)	
Valley Water	10, 13, 15	23, 24, 25, 26, 28, 29	Lighthouse Public Affairs ()	
Zone 7	5, 10	16, 20, 24	Gualco Group (Jack Gualco)	
Assemblymembers				
<u>District</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Email</u>	
AD 09	Heath Flora	Amanda Budhram	amanda.budhram@asm.ca.gov	
AD 11	Lori Wilson	Tisha Simpson	tisha.simpson@asm.ca.gov	
AD 14	Buffy Wicks	Bailey Walda	bailey.walda@asm.ca.gov	
AD 15	Timothy Grayson	Nina Boyd	nina.boyd@asm.ca.gov	
AD 16	Rebecca Bauer-Kahan	Sonja Oehler	sonja.oehler@asm.ca.gov	
AD 17	Matt Haney	Send request via portal on AD 17 page		
AD 18	Mia Bonta	Monica Zarate Sepulveda	monica.sepulveda@asm.ca.gov	
AD 19	Phil Ting	Michele Gundros	michele.gundros@asm.ca.gov	
AD 20	Liz Ortega	Monica Hayes	monica.hayes@asm.ca.gov	
AD 21	Diane Papan	Stacey Brown	stacey.brown@asm.ca.gov	
AD 22	Juan Alanis	Lauren Smith	lauren.smith@asm.ca.gov	
AD 23	Marc Berman	Indelize Zendejas	bermanscheduler@asm.ca.gov	
AD 24	Alex Lee	Allison Lim (Chief of Staff)	allison.lim@asm.ca.gov	
AD 25	Ash Kalra	Maria Parra	maria.parra@asm.ca.gov	
AD 26	Evan Low	Marcella Bertolino	marcella.bertolino@asm.ca.gov	
AD 27	Esmeralda Soria	Joana Enriquez	https://scheduling.assembly.ca.gov/a27	
AD 28	Gail Pellerin			
AD 29	Robert Rivas	Jane Perry	jane.perry@asm.ca.gov	
Senators				
<u>District</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Email</u>	
SD 03	Bill Dodd	Ana Vazquez	ana.vazquez@sen.ca.gov	
SD 04	Marie Alvarado-Gil	Elena Green	elena.green@sen.ca.gov	
SD 05	Susan Eggman	Susan Mitchell	sara.muratalla@sen.ca.gov	
SD 07	Steven Glazer	Ivona Smith	ivona.smith@sen.ca.gov	
SD 09	Nancy Skinner	Tabitha Romero	tabitha.romero@sen.ca.gov	
SD 10	Aisha Wahab			
SD 11	Scott Wiener	Anna Esparza	anna.esparza@sen.ca.gov	
SD 13	Josh Becker	Lysa Markey	lysa.markey@sen.ca.gov	
SD 14	Anna Caballero	Maryanne Aeilts	maryanne.aeilts@sen.ca.gov	
SD 15	Dave Cortese	Natasha Waxman	natasha.waxman@sen.ca.gov	
SD 17	John Laird	Jenn Short	jennifer.short@sen.ca.gov	

California Senate Districts



— JPA member area boundary

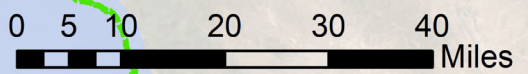
Los Vaqueros Reservoir JPA Members

- ACWD
- CCWD
- EBMUD
- Grassland WD
- SFPUC
- BAWSCA Agencies
- Valley Water
- Zone 7
- SLDMWA

SLDMWA Activity Agreement Partners

- Byron-Bethany ID
- City of Tracy
- Del Puerto WD
- Panoche WD
- Westlands WD

- CCWD Intakes
- CCWD Conveyance
- - - Transfer-Bethany Pipeline (future LVE Project conveyance)
- CVPIA Wildlife Refuges



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

California Assembly Districts



— JPA member area boundary

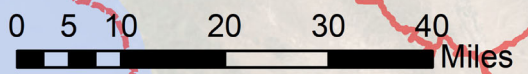
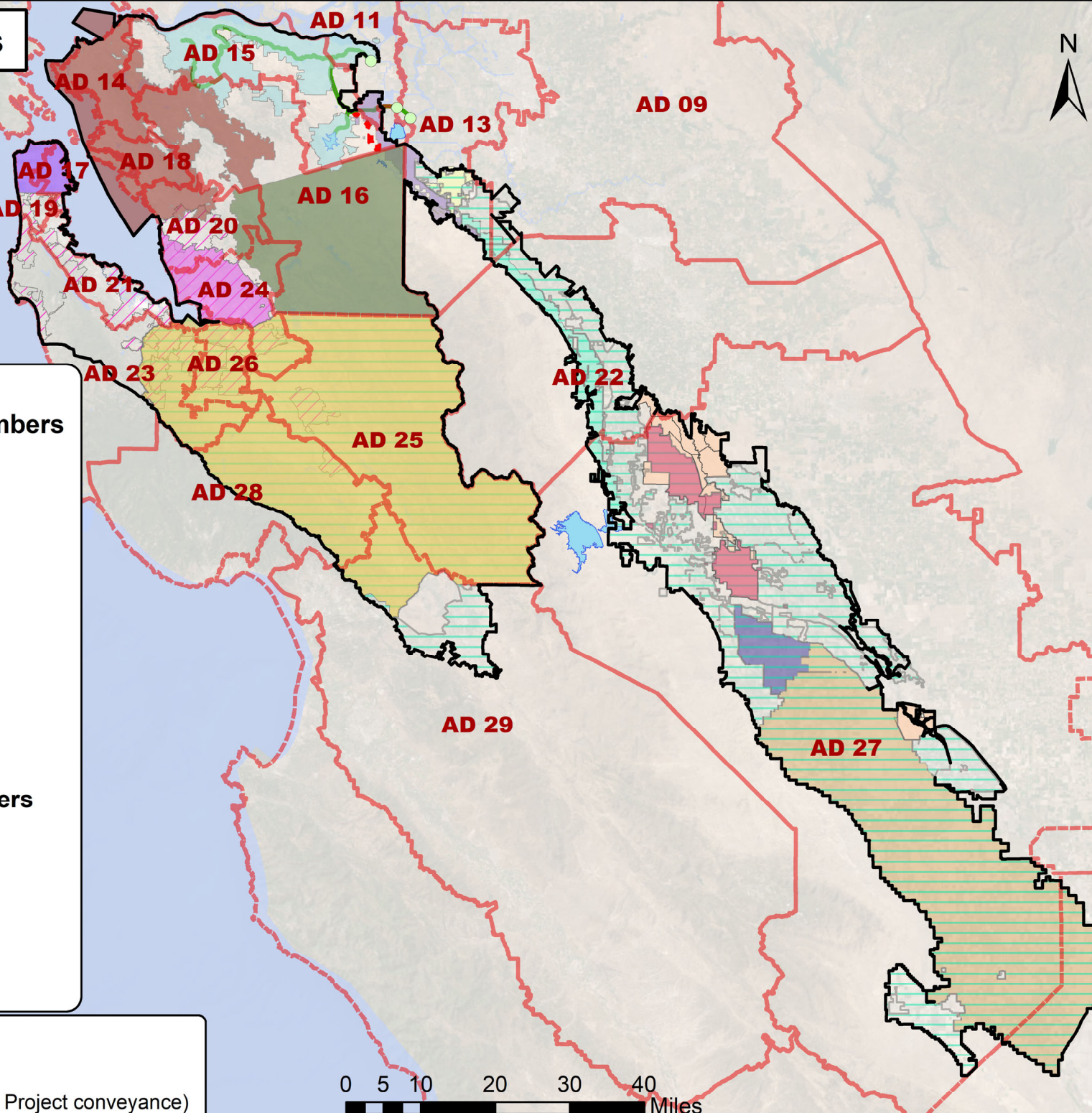
Los Vaqueros Reservoir JPA Members

- ACWD
- CCWD
- EBMUD
- Grassland WD
- SFPUC
- BAWSCA Agencies
- Valley Water
- Zone 7
- SLDMWA

SLDMWA Activity Agreement Partners

- Byron-Bethany ID
- City of Tracy
- Del Puerto WD
- Panoche WD
- Westlands WD

- CCWD Intakes
- CCWD Conveyance
- Transfer-Bethany Pipeline (future LVE Project conveyance)
- CVPIA Wildlife Refuges



Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

LEARN MORE AT WWW.LOSVAQUEROSJPA.COM

LOS
VAQUEROS
RESERVOIR
EXPANSION
PROJECT



The joint exercise of powers agreement executed in October 2021 established a new public agency to provide for governance and administration of the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project (Project).

The primary objectives of the Joint Powers Authority (JPA) are to:

- 1** Provide governance of the Project by the Members
- 2** Ensure sufficient stable funding for the Project and related administrative and support activities
- 3** Ensure costs are reasonable and cost allocations are equitable and transparent

ABOUT THE LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR JPA

The JPA will:

- Endure throughout Project design, construction, operation, maintenance, repair, and replacement of water-related facilities
- Enter into contracts and agreements to further the Project
- Issue bonds and enter into loan agreements for the Local Agency Partner Cost-Share of the Project
- Deliver services to the JPA Members and receive payment from the JPA Members, creating a financial infrastructure for the Project

LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR JPA MEMBERS

The following agencies are represented on the JPA.

- Alameda County Water District
- Contra Costa Water District, to include:
 - City of Brentwood*
- East Bay Municipal Utility District
- Grassland Water District
- Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water)
- San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, to include:
 - Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency*

- San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority**, consisting of:
 - Byron-Bethany Irrigation District
 - City of Tracy
 - Del Puerto Water District
 - Panoche Water District
 - Westlands Water District
- Zone 7 Water Agency (Alameda County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, Zone 7)
- Department of Water Resources (ex officio, non-voting pursuant to Water Code Section 79759(b))

*The City of Brentwood and the Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency are not signatory parties to the JPA. Rather, these parties contract for project benefits through their wholesale providers.

**The number and list of San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority-member agencies participating through San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority may change.

JPA BOARD MEMBERS

BOARD MEMBER	ALTERNATE	AGENCY
Paul Sethy, Treasurer	Jonathan Wunderlich	Alameda County Water District
Ernesto A. Avila	Antonio Martinez	Contra Costa Water District
John Coleman	Lesa McIntosh	East Bay Municipal Utility District
Ellen Wehr, Secretary	Ricardo Ortega	Grassland Water District
Dennis Herrera	Steve Ritchie	San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Anthea G. Hansen, Vice Chair	Jose Gutierrez	San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
Gary Kremen	Linda J. LeZotte	Santa Clara Valley Water District
Angela Ramirez Holmes, Chair	Sandy Figuers	Zone 7 Water Agency

JPA BOARD MEETINGS

JPA Board Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month beginning at 9:30 a.m. The JPA Board Meetings are open to the public in compliance with the Brown Act. The JPA also formed three Board Committees: Communications and Outreach, Finance, and Operations and Engineering.

View the JPA website for agendas and information about Board Meetings and Board Committee Meetings.

JPA CONTACTS

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Taryn Ravazzini

Los Vaqueros Reservoir JPA
1331 Concord Ave.
Concord, CA 94520

travazzini@losvaquerosjpa.com
415-350-5283

GENERAL COUNSEL

James Ciampa

Lagerlof, LLP
155 North Lake Ave., 11th FL
Pasadena, CA 91101

jciampa@lagerlof.com
626-793-9400

BOARD CLERK

Rosemarie Perea

Los Vaqueros Reservoir JPA
1331 Concord Ave.
Concord, CA 94520

rperea@losvaquerosjpa.com
626-683-7234

GENERAL CONTACT INFORMATION

www.losvaquerosjpa.com | info@losvaquerosjpa.com

Learn more about the project at www.ccwater.com/lvstudies.

LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY

LOS VAQUEROS RESERVOIR EXPANSION PROJECT



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Develop water supplies for environmental water management
- Increase municipal and industrial water supply reliability
- Improve the quality of water deliveries

PURPOSE

WATER FOR WETLANDS



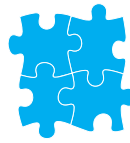
Reliable water supply for South of Delta wildlife refuges

WATER FOR COMMUNITIES



Reliable water supply for 11 million Californians

REGIONAL INTEGRATION



High potential for regional water system integration

WATER QUALITY



Protection of delivered water quality

RECREATION

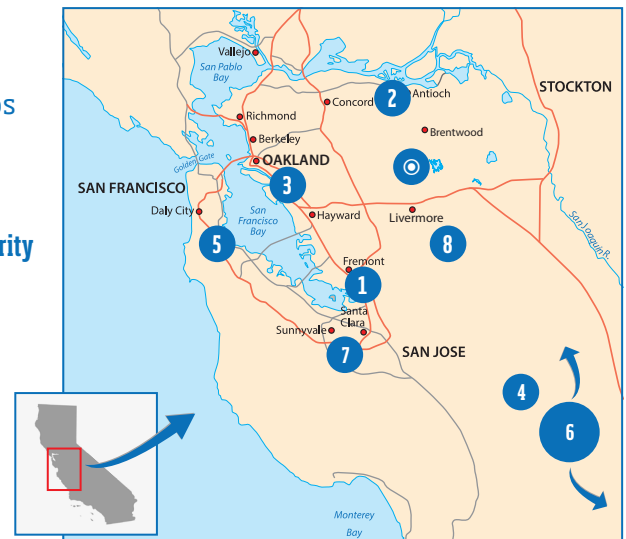


Recreation facility enhancement

JPA MEMBERS

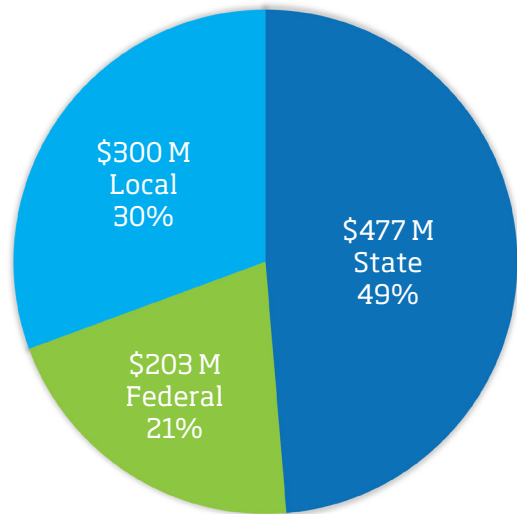
These agencies are members of the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Joint Powers Authority and seek to diversify their water supply portfolios against drought, emergencies, climate change and regulatory challenges.

- Los Vaqueros Reservoir
- 1 Alameda County Water District
- 2 Contra Costa Water District
 - City of Brentwood
- 3 East Bay Municipal Utility District
- 4 Grassland Water District
- 5 San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
 - Bay Area Water Supply & Conservation Agency
- 6 San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
 - Byron Bethany Irrigation District
 - City of Tracy
 - Del Puerto Water District
 - Panoche Water District
 - Westlands Water District
- 7 Santa Clara Valley Water District
- 8 Zone 7 Water Agency



PROJECT FUNDING

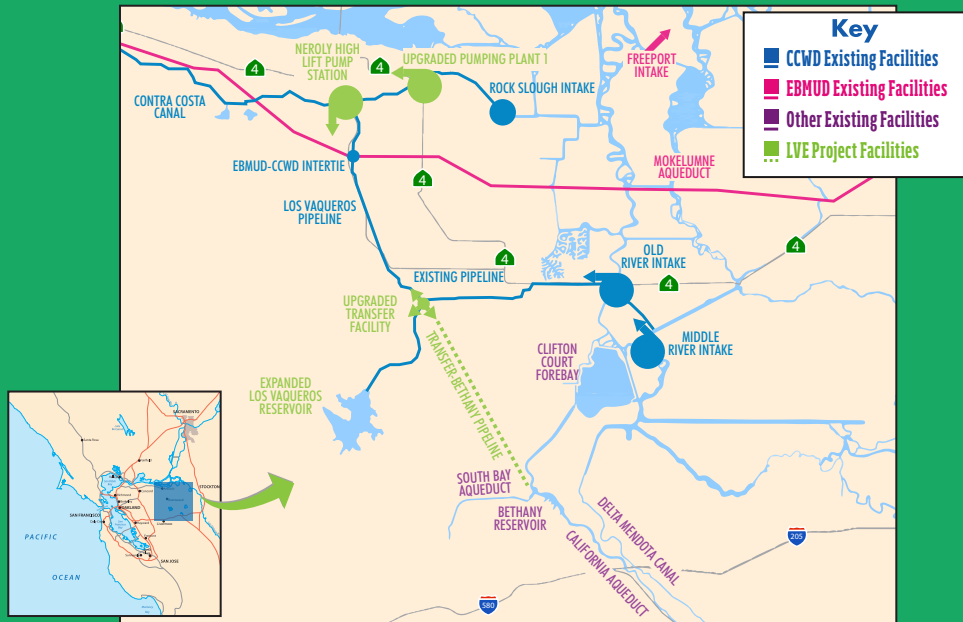
- Total development and construction cost ~\$980 M* (2022 Dollars)
- State funding from California Water Commission
 - Total project development and construction costs escalated through the end of construction ~\$1.25 B
 - Supports public benefits, maximizing wildlife refuge benefits
- Local funding from partner agencies
 - JPA is seeking a WIFIA Loan
 - Supports regional reliability
- Federal funding from WIIN Act and Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding has been authorized
 - Supports wildlife refuges



*The source of the cost estimate is the WIFIA Loan Letter of Interest submitted to US EPA in September 2022.

HOW IT WORKS

- 1 Water is pumped into the system from one of four existing Delta Intakes.
- 2 Once in the system, water is sent to an upgraded Transfer Facility pump station.
- 3 From CCWD's Transfer Facility, water can be delivered directly to local agency partners and wildlife refuges or pumped into an expanded Los Vaqueros Reservoir for later delivery.



NEXT STEPS

The JPA is currently working with state and federal agencies, including wildlife refuge managers, to advance the project to construction.



ITEM 1.4: FEDERAL OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY PLANNING

RESPONSIBLE/LEAD STAFF MEMBER:

Taryn Ravazzini, Executive Director

DISCUSSION:

The Authority, furthering the efforts spearheaded over the years by CCWD, has been successful in obtaining \$100 million in federal funding in 2022. That funding consists of \$82 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding and the recently announced \$18 million in WIIN Act funding.

As the Authority continues to work towards key milestones coming due in 2023 with a target of breaking ground, it is important to continue federal advocacy efforts and strengthen strategic communications with its federal partners. This item allows for the Committee to discuss next steps to be taken with respect to those efforts, including the potential for planning another trip to Washington, D.C. in the coming months, among other possibilities.

ALTERNATIVES:

None

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Costs for a federal outreach trip will be dependent on actions to be undertaken but would likely be in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range.

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Not applicable

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS:

Bureau of Reclamation Response Letter to Congressional Letter of Support for LVE



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Washington, DC 20240



INREPLYREFERTO:

The Honorable Mark DeSaulnier
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative DeSaulnier:

Thank you for your letter of November 1, 2022, regarding Phase 2 of the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project (Phase 2 Project). The Department of the Interior appreciates and shares your support for this important water expansion project in California's Bay Area. The Secretary has requested I respond on her behalf.

Since the 2020 determination of feasibility for the Phase 2 Project, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) has been working with the Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) and the Los Vaqueros Reservoir Joint Powers Authority (LV JPA) to update the operating criteria, refine anticipated federal benefits (wildlife refuges and operational flexibility), and to assess the overall anticipated federal investment level for the Phase 2 Project. The resolution of these items is necessary to determine Reclamation's level of involvement in the Phase 2 Project and Reclamation's Endangered Species Act (ESA) obligations related to the water-operations for the Delta water diversion necessary for the Phase 2 Project.

On April 9, 2021, Reclamation initiated formal consultation under Section 7 of the ESA with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) for the construction components of the Phase 2 Project. Since that time, Reclamation, CCWD, and the LV JPA have been working with the Service to incorporate refinements to the Phase 2 Project and to supplement the information required to complete the consultation. On July 26, 2022, Reclamation transmitted a revised biological assessment to the Service. Reclamation is currently working with the LV JPA to develop additional information requested by the Service in September 2022 to prepare a biological opinion for the construction of the Phase 2 Project. Reclamation transmitted the additional information to the Service in mid-December. The Service is placing high priority on this project and is reviewing the information to complete its analysis of the project.

Reclamation is committed to continued coordination with the LV JPA and advancement of the Phase 2 Project. Should you have questions or require further information, please contact California-Great Basin Regional Director Ernest Conant at 916-978-5000 or econant@usbr.gov.

Sincerely,

 MARIACAMILLE
TOUTON
Date: 2023.01.04
17:11:55 -05'00'

Camille Calimlim Touton
Commissioner

Identical Letter Sent to:

The Honorable Alex Padilla
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jim Costa
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Doug LaMalfa
Western Caucus Chairman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Valadao
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jared Huffman
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Garamendi
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Josh Harder
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Doris Matsui
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Thompson
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Eris Swalwell
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Barbara Lee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ro Khanna
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Zoe Lofgren
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

ITEM 1.5: AUTHORITY RECEPTION AT ACWA SPRING CONFERENCE

RESPONSIBLE/LEAD STAFF MEMBER:

Taryn Ravazzini, Executive Director

DISCUSSION:

The Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) will hold its Spring Conference in Monterey, California, on May 9-11, 2023. Authority members have expressed an interest in hosting a reception at this major water industry event. This item is to allow Committee members to discuss the options for such an event and, if so determined, to direct staff to initiate planning.

ALTERNATIVES:

None

FISCAL ANALYSIS:

Costs will be dependent on actions to be undertaken but would likely be in the \$2,000 to \$5,000 range.

ENVIRONMENTAL REQUIREMENTS:

Not applicable

EXHIBITS/ATTACHMENTS:

None