



County of Santa Cruz
Water Advisory Commission
701 Ocean Street, Room 312 ❖ Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 454-2022 ❖ Fax (831) 454-3128
<https://www.scceh.org/>

AGENDA

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION

Wednesday August 3, 2022, 4pm

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Please see information on meeting access and procedures on the page 4 of the Packet.

A. OPENING

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. AB 361 Compliance, authorizing teleconference meeting

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: June 1, 2022

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Opportunity for the public to comment on items under the purview of the Water Advisory Commission but not on today's agenda.

D. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

E. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Urgent Drinking Water Grant Program
Water Resources staffing update

F. NEW BUSINESS

None

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS and UPDATES

1. LAFCO Countywide Service and Sphere Review
Update from Joe Serrano on the report. Full report available on the LAFCO meeting agenda, page 38:
<https://santacruzlafco.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/07/Aug-2022-Entire-Agenda-Packet.pdf>
2. Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency's Request for County Support Regarding the "Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects" Struve Slough Water Right Application
Consider recommending the Board of Supervisors adopt a Resolution of Support. Item postponed at the June WAC meeting.
Attachment: Staff Memo
Attachment: Proposed Resolution

Attachment: Notice of Water Right Application A033151 and Request for Release from Priority of Application A018334

3. County planned response to Governor's Executive Order N-7-22 regarding non-de minimis, non-domestic well permits.
Update on County approach
Attachment: N-7-22 Compliance document
4. SB 552 Compliance Subcommittee Update
Receive an update on the SB 552 Drought Response Working Group. Review the draft table of recommendations that will be discussed at the August 16th Working Group meeting and consider if any related activities may be of interest to WAC. Materials from past and upcoming meetings can be found at: <https://scceh.com/NewHome/Programs/WaterResources/SenateBill552Compliance.aspx>
Attachment: Draft Table of Recommendations
5. Grand Jury report on drought response/water supply collaboration
Update on the responses to the Grand Jury report discussed in June.
6. Groundwater Sustainability Agencies Update
Oral reports outlining updates from the three GSAs in the County.

H. CORRESPONDENCE

I. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER:

[DOC-2022-557 : Public hearing to consider resolution confirming proposed Fiscal Year 2022-23 assessment/service charge reports for County Service Area 12, Wastewater Management, as outlined in the memorandum of the Director of Health Services](#)

[DOC-2022-531 : Approve agreement with Storesund Construction, Inc. in the amount of \\$252,422 for Shallow Monitoring Wells Mid-County Groundwater Basin, and take related actions, as recommended by the Director of Health Services](#) *Approved By Consent Vote [Unanimous]* 

[DOC-2022-533 : Approve agreement with the Regional Water Management Foundation in the amount of \\$1,519,094 for three years of administrative and planning services for Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, and take related actions, as recommended by the Director of Health Services](#)

J. ITEMS OF INTEREST

- US Seasonal Drought Outlook:
https://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov/products/expert_assessment/sdo_summary.php
- June 7, 2022, [State orders sweeping ban on pumping Delta river water - CalMatters](#)
- May 23, 2022; [Sacramento Valley struggles to survive record water cuts - CalMatters](#)
- August 8, 2021, [Opinion: Big Battle Looms Over California Water Rights as Drought Worsens - Times of San Diego](#)
- October 29, 2012, <https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2012/10/29/feds-make-pajaro-river-watershed-a-priority-in-steelhead-plan/>

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. County response to Hexavalent Chromium
2. Drought response standing item

L. ADJOURNMENT

PLEASE CONTACT SIERRA RYAN (831) 345-5202, IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THIS MEETING

Commissioner and Public Participation Information and Guidelines

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health, the California Governor's Office, and Santa Cruz County Health Officer, in order to minimize the spread of the COVID-19 virus, this meeting will be held virtually. You will NOT be able to attend the meeting in person.

The public may conference into the meeting by clicking the link below or calling in (audio only) using the Conference ID:

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Or join by entering a meeting ID

Meeting ID: 233 721 823 396

Passcode: 6cjTU9

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 831-454-2222,,523209886#](tel:+18314542222523209886) Phone Conference ID: 523 209 886#

- Once in the meeting, please mute your microphone when you are not speaking.
- If disruptive sound is coming from your device/phone line, the moderator will mute your device and you will have to unmute yourself to participate.
- If you are dialing in by phone, press *9 to raise your hand and *6 to unmute yourself.

Commissioners are expected to join with a video camera. Public attendees may choose to have their cameras on or off.

Please join the meeting a few minutes BEFORE 4:00 pm so that we can start at 4:00 pm. Staff will open the video conference at 3:50 pm. Feel free to chat and say hello before 4:00 pm.

Meeting Roles and Rules:

- All meeting attendees should keep their microphones on mute unless they are speaking.
- Brian Lockwood, Chair, will lead the meeting. Chair Lockwood will announce each agenda item, identify who will be leading an item and introduce discussion and public comment periods.
- Sierra Ryan, staff, will assist with roll call, note taking, and tracking who wants to speak. Please allow time for staff to make notes about any decisions. Sierra will monitor her email during the meeting.
- There will be a public comment period for each item and the Chair will invite the public to participate at the appropriate time.
- During a discussion, if 2 or more people speak at the same time, please defer to the person who speaks first. In any moment where we have some confusion due to multiple people wanting to speak, please pause and let the Chair take the lead. The Chair will call on someone to speak. Also please "raise your hand" to speak by clicking on the hand symbol in the upper right.
- If you are having any trouble joining you can send a message to Sierra (email sierra.ryan@santacruzcounty.us or text 831-345-5202.) There will be a public comment period for each item. You can also contact Sierra on technical issues.



County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency

Water Advisory Commission

701 Ocean Street, Room 312 ❖ Santa Cruz, CA 95060

(831) 454-3133

<https://www.scceh.org/>

**SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION'S
FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 AUTHORIZING TELECONFERENCE
MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF
EMERGENCY AND HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING**

WHEREAS, The Water Advisory Commission is a legislative body under the Brown Act as defined under Cal. Gov. Code section 54952(b) and Santa Cruz County Code Section 2.38.110; and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 ("AB 361"), urgency legislation effective immediately, that amended Government Code section 54953 to permit legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules provided that they comply with specific requirements set forth in the statute; and,

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(1)(A), a legislative body may meet under the modified teleconferencing rules during a proclaimed state of emergency, and where local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, and which remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2021, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel strongly recommended that legislative bodies in Santa Cruz County continue to engage in physical/social distancing by meeting via teleconference as allowed by AB 361 and confirmed that she will regularly review and reconsider this recommendation and notify the public when it is no longer recommended; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Cal. Gov. Code section 54953(e)(3), within 30 days of the date the legislative body first holding a teleconferenced meeting under the modified rules, and every 30 days thereafter, a legislative body can continue to hold such teleconference meetings provided it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determined either that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on December 1, 2021, the Water Advisory Commission held its initial teleconference meeting under AB 361 and subsequently met on February 2, April 6, June 1, 2022 via teleconference; and

WHEREAS, this the Water Advisory Commission has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency and finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of members of the public to participate safely in person and further finds that the Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, and due to the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the Water Advisory commission deems it necessary to utilize the modified teleconferencing rules set forth in AB 361;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Water Advisory Commission makings the following findings by a majority vote:

Section 1. The foregoing recitals are true and correct, and adopted as findings of the Water Advisory Commission.

Section 2. Effective immediately, and for the next 30 days, the Water Advisory Commission will meet via teleconference as authorized under AB 361 and Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

Section 3. No later than thirty (30) days from making today’s findings, or at the next scheduled meeting, the Commission will reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and, if necessary, adopt subsequent findings to continue holding teleconference meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3).

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Water Advisory Commission in Santa Cruz, State of California, this 3 day of August , 2022 , by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Chair, Water Advisory Commission

ATTEST:

Department Staff

Approved as to Form:

Office of the County Counsel



Meeting Minutes

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY WATER ADVISORY COMMISSION
Wednesday June 1, 2022, 4pm

A. OPENING

1. Call to Order 4:02

2. Roll Call

In attendance:

Commissioners Cheap (arrived 4:10), Largay, Lego, Pereyra (arrived 4:22), Wilson, Vice-Chair Berry, Chair Lockwood

Guests: Becky Steinbruner, Erin McCarthy, Nathan Salazar, Joe Serrano, Stephen Dobler

Staff: Sierra Ryan

3. AB 361 Compliance, authorizing teleconference meeting

Suggestion for August to add the additional months that we met remotely.

Motion by Lego, second by Berry. Unanimous with Cheap and Pereyra absent

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: April 6, 2022

Motion by Berry, second by Lego. Unanimous with Cheap and Pereyra absent.

C. PUBLIC COMMUNICATIONS

Comment by Becky Steinbruner

Comment by Joe Serrano – Water Service review Analysis – LAFCO is beginning their 5-year review looking for opportunities to improve and bring the best level service to the customers. The report will be presented in August. Agenized for August meeting.

D. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Berry – FWAC is currently active on invasive species issues, particularly invasive plants. CoE met on May 25th and they are focused on Climate Change Planning. Had the Salmonid Restoration Federation meeting. City did comment on the County's Sustainability EIR. City got an exemption from new Executive Order water conservation.

AB2451 and AB2313 are both in senate for their readings.

Largay – Gratitude on behalf of SLVWD for ongoing engagement by County WR staff and BOS staff on working on fire recovery and Santa Margarita issues.

Lockwood – In the spring and fall the Association of California Water Agencies hold their conferences, there are some scary situations elsewhere in the State and a lot of emphasis on water conservation.

E. STAFF REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Introduce Erin McCarthy

Lab support – hoping to get support

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Presentation by Tim Carson on the Regional Water Management Foundation
2. County planned response to Governor's Executive Order N-7-22 regarding non-de minimis, non-domestic well permits.
Receive information and provide guidance on the County's proposed approach to compliance.
Discussion points:
 - Add the well depth
 - Change information regarding whether it will be screened at the same aquifer as the existing well
 - If a well permit applicant gets denied or feels held up and decides to sue the County or GSA – what does that look like?
 - Commissioner Largay points out that this puts extensive burden on the applicant, and that the GSAs have good models. Commissioner Lockwood points out that the GSAs still have to pay consultants to do any modeling.
 - Review Steps 2 and 3 and make sure it's clear whether these sites are within the GSAs. Require metering on the GSA wells.
 - The extra report would need to be stamped
 - Stephen Dobler – will it impact adjoining wells? Maybe if it's a replacement well we do not need to require the adjacent well analysis.
3. Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency's Request for County Support Regarding the "Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects" Struve Slough Water Right Application
Commissioner Lockwood gave a brief background, the WAC will table until August.
4. Grand Jury report on drought response/water supply collaboration
Several Commissioners expressed displeasure at the report and the added burden it will create to respond. Staff will bring back at the next meeting with an update.

G. UNFINISHED BUSINESS and UPDATES

1. SB 552 Compliance Subcommittee Update
Staff and the Working Group members provided a status update.
2. Groundwater Sustainability Agencies Update
Brief updates from the GSAs

H. CORRESPONDENCE

- I. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS ACTION ON ITEMS AFFECTING WATER:**
No discussion

J. ITEMS OF INTEREST

No discussion

K. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

1. LAFCO presentation on water service update
2. County response to Hexavalent Chromium
3. Drought response standing item

L. ADJOURNMENT (6:02)



County of Santa Cruz

Water Advisory Commission

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<https://www.scceh.org/>

Subject: August 3, 2022 Water Advisory Commission Agenda G.2

Title:

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency's Request for County Support Regarding the "Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects" Struve Slough Water Right Application

Recommended Action:

The Santa Cruz County Water Advisory Commission recommend the Board of Supervisors adopt a resolution supporting Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency's Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects, supporting water right application A033151, and request for release from priority of State-Filed Application A018334.

Executive Summary

With Water Advisory Commission direction, the Health Services Agency (HSA) would request that the Board adopt a resolution supporting Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency's water right application A033151 and request for release from priority of an obsolete State-Filed Application A018334 in order to implement the Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects.

Discussion

In 1957, the first water supply master plan for Santa Cruz County was completed and adopted by the Board of Supervisors acting as the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz County Flood Control District. This plan recommended the establishment of a water distribution system extending from the north coast to the Pajaro Valley which would be supplied by a series of large surface water reservoirs throughout the county. The plan also recommended that the County and State secure water rights necessary for the future construction of those reservoirs. On September 8, 1958, the Board adopted Resolution 591-58 requesting the State to reserve water rights on the affected streams until such time as the projects could be constructed (attached). The State subsequently filed those water rights, including State-Filed Application A018334 to divert up to 21,000 acre-feet per year from the Pajaro River for the proposed Watsonville Dam.

In 1984, the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) was formed by the state legislature to provide integrated management of the ground and surface water resources within the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Subbasin. PV Water adopted a Basin Management Plan in 1994, which was subsequently updated in 2002 and 2014. In 2015, PV Water formally elected to become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Basin. The County has supported PV Water's efforts to develop additional water sources and improve water management to eliminate the current overdraft and halt seawater intrusion, while still maintaining agriculture in the Valley. County staff actively participated in the *2014 Basin Management Plan Update (BMP)*, and more recently, the *BMP: Groundwater Sustainability Update 2022 (GSU22)*.

The Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects (Project) is a key component of the BMP/GSU22 and will provide PV Water the ability to divert an average of 2,060¹ (maximum of 4,000) acre-feet of water per year from the Watsonville Slough System for the purpose of reducing groundwater overdraft and seawater intrusion within the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Basin through managed aquifer recharge and recovery. Recovered water supply would be delivered to farmers along the coast through PV Water’s existing network of irrigation supply pipelines called the “Coastal Distribution System,” which has a service area that runs from approximately Monterey Bay Academy in Santa Cruz south to Moss Landing.

The project is described in more detail on the PV Water website: <https://www.pvwater.org/wss-marr> . PV Water completed environmental review and certified the final Supplemental Environmental Impact Report for the Project on January 20, 2021. PV Water has applied to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for the necessary water rights for the project, Application A033151.

Analysis

Under California water law, an older water right has a priority over a newer water right and if there is inadequate water to meet both water rights, the junior water right holder must suspend its use of water so that the senior water right holder may utilize their full right. The 1958 State-Filed Application A018334 would have a priority over the newer PV Water right for Struve Slough. To prevent any future conflict PV Water is also requesting that the State Water Board release from priority the State-Filed Application A018334. Given that the Board of Supervisors requested this water right in 1958, the Water Board looks to the County to indicate whether the County supports that action.

There are no plans to implement the surface water reservoirs that were the basis for the County’s original water rights request in 1958. The future water supply needs for the Pajaro Valley are being addressed by PV Water through its BMP, which was developed through detailed assessment of options and extensive review process, including County involvement. The Project has been deemed to be a feasible and cost-effective project to help address the needs of the Pajaro Valley. HSA staff believe it is appropriate and beneficial to release from priority the State-Filed Application A018334 in favor of the Project.

If the Board of Supervisors adopts the attached resolution, staff will transmit it to the State Water Board for its consideration, and send a copy to PV Water for its records.



By: _____

Sierra Ryan
County Water Resources Manager

¹ Supplemental Environmental Impact Report, Section S.4.3
https://www.pvwater.org/images/projects/Sloughs/WSS-MARR-Draft-SEIR_with-Appendices-web.pdf

BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. _____

On the motion of Supervisor _____

Duly seconded by Supervisor _____

The following resolution is adopted

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE PAJARO VALLEY WATER AGENCY'S
WATSONVILLE SLOUGH SYSTEM MANAGED AQUIFER RECHARGE & RECOVERY PROJECTS AND
SUPPORTING WATER RIGHT APPLICATION A033151 AND REQUEST FOR RELEASE FROM PRIORITY OF
STATE-FILED APPLICATION A018334**

WHEREAS, the County of Santa Cruz is committed to sustainably managing the county's surface water and groundwater resources; and

WHEREAS, the County's Board of Supervisors also serves as the governing board of several county entities, including the Santa Cruz Flood Control and Water Conservation District; and

WHEREAS, on September 8, 1958, Santa Cruz County Flood Control and Water Conservation District requested that the California Department of Water Resources file water right application A018334 to divert up to 21,000 acre-feet per year for storage at the then-proposed Watsonville Dam; and

WHEREAS, the County and District has no current plans to construct Watsonville Dam or use the water reserved by water right application A018334; and

WHEREAS, the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water) was formed in 1984 to provide integrated management of the ground and surface water resources within the Pajaro Valley Groundwater Subbasin 3-002.01 (Pajaro Basin); and

WHEREAS, the Pajaro Basin is within Santa Cruz, Monterey, and San Benito Counties, and the aquifers provide a crucial supply of groundwater to the City of Watsonville, private parcels, the agricultural industry, and endangered species; and

WHEREAS, in 1994, to address long-term groundwater overdraft in the Pajaro Basin, PV Water developed and adopted a long-term Basin Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, PV Water adopted an updated Basin Management Plan that proposed PV Water undertake the Watsonville Slough System Managed Aquifer Recharge & Recovery Projects to develop Struve Slough as a water storage and supply source to address long-term groundwater overdraft and seawater intrusion by providing an additional source of agricultural irrigation water in the Pajaro Valley; and

WHEREAS, as part of the project, PV Water has filed water right application A033151 with the State Water Resources Control Board to divert up to 4,000 acre-feet per year from Struve Slough, tributary to the Pajaro River, and a request for release from priority of state-filed application A018334; and

WHEREAS, as part of the State Water Resources Control Board's consideration of PV Water's request for release from priority of state-filed application A018334, the Board must determine whether granting PV Water's request would deprive Santa Cruz County of water necessary for the County's development or otherwise conflict with the general or coordinated plan to develop, utilize, or conserve the County's water resources; and

WHEREAS, because the County and the County Flood Control and Water Conservation District were the expected beneficiaries of state-filed application A018334, PV Water has requested the County's support for water right application A033151 and request for release from priority of state-filed application A018334.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz hereby expresses its support for PV Water's water right application A033151 and request for release from priority of state-filed application A018334, and further determines that a release of priority in favor of PV Water's water right application would not deprive Santa Cruz County of water necessary for the County's development and would not conflict with the general or coordinated plan to develop, utilize, or conserve the County's water resources.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa Cruz, State of California, this _____ day of _____, 2020, by the following vote:

AYES: SUPERVISORS
NOES: SUPERVISORS
ABSENT: SUPERVISORS

Chairperson of the Board

ATTEST: _____
Clerk of the Board

Approved as to form:

Office of County Counsel

Distribution: Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
Health Services Agency-Environmental Health

State Water Resources Control Board

Notice of Water Right Application A033151 and Request for Release from Priority of Application A018334

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency has filed an application to appropriate water by permit and has also filed a request for release from the priority of state-filed Application A018334 (filed on September 24, 1958) with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Water Rights. The project associated with the application is located in Santa Cruz and Monterey Counties and would divert water from the Pajaro River stream system.

Summary of Water Right Application A033151

Date of Filing: The application was filed with the State Water Board on September 4, 2020.

Source of Water: The source of water is Struve Slough, which is tributary to Watsonville Slough thence Pajaro River thence Pacific Ocean.

Amount: The maximum amount of water requested for diversion is 4,000 acre-feet per year, which would be diverted at a rate not to exceed 30 cubic-feet per second.

Season of Diversion: The season for diversion of water is from January 1 to December 31.

Point of Diversion: Water will be diverted from two points:

- The first point is located at North 1,788,870 feet and East 6,184,920 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 3, North American Datum 1983, within the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ quarter of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ quarter of Section 7, Township 12 South, Range 2 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.
- The second point is located at North 1,788,820 feet and East 6,184,900 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 3, North American Datum 1983, within the NW $\frac{1}{4}$ quarter of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ quarter of Section 7, Township 12 South, Range 2 East, Mount Diablo Base and Meridian.

Purpose of Use: The purpose of use for water is irrigation.

Place of Use: The place of use for water is 7,800 acres as shown on the map filed with the State Water Board

Summary of State Filed Application A018334

Priority Date: September 24, 1958

Source of Water: Pajaro River tributary to the Pacific Ocean

Amount: 200 cubic feet per second by direct diversion and 21,000 acre-feet by storage

Season of Diversion: September 1 of each year to June 30 of the succeeding year

Point of Diversion: Within SE $\frac{1}{4}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 7, T12S, R3E, MDB&M

Purpose of Use: Municipal, Domestic, Irrigation, Recreational, Industrial

Place of Use: T12S, R1&2E and T13S, R2E, MDB&M

Water Rights Records Database

Documentation related to this application and request for release is available by accessing the State Water Board's electronic Water Rights Information Management System (eWRIMS) database:

- Go to <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ewrims/>
- Select "eWRIMS Database System" to open the eWRIMS Database
- Select "Accept" to accept the Public Records Act notice
- Select "Water Rights Records Search"
- Enter the application number in the "Application ID" field, then select "Search"
- Select the application number on the left side of the results to open the record
 - Select "View Document" to see the application and related documentation, including the request for release of priority
 - Select "View Map" to see the application map
 - Select the "Map It" button to open the record in the eWRIMS GIS viewer

Procedure for Filing Protests

Pursuant to Water Code section 1330, any interested person may file a protest against the approval of the subject application. Protests must be received by the Division of Water Rights by **4:30 p.m.** on **December 6, 2021**, with copy provided to the applicant. The State Water Board may, for good cause shown, allow additional time to file a protest. For more information regarding protests, please refer to the following web page:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/applications/docs/p_rotests.pdf

Contact Information

Please direct all requests and inquiries regarding this notice to Nick Kehrlein at (916) 322-8469 or Nicholas.Kehrlein@waterboards.ca.gov. Written correspondence should be addressed to:

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights, Attn: Nick Kehrlein,
P.O. Box 2000, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

All written correspondence directed to the applicant should be addressed to:

Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
c/o Bartkiewicz, Kronick and Shanahan
Attn Andrew Ramos
1011 22nd Street
Sacramento, CA 95816

Date of Notice: The date that this public notice was issued is October 7, 2021.



County of Santa Cruz

Health Services Agency - Environmental Health

701 Ocean Street, Room 312, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 454-2022 TDD/TTY - Call 711 <http://www.scceh.org>
EnvironmentalHealth@santacruzcounty.us



New Procedures Implementing Requirements Under Executive Order N-7-22

On March 28, 2022, Governor Gavin Newsom signed Executive Order N-7-22 (Executive Order) in response to extreme and expanding drought conditions which, effective immediately, prohibits Santa Cruz County Environmental Health (EH) from issuing a permit for a new non-de minimis groundwater well pursuant to Chapter 7 of the Santa Cruz County Code unless certain requirements are met or the permit falls within the limited exception to the requirements. [A complete copy of the Executive Order is available here](#) (see Paragraph 9a and b).

Applicability

These requirements do not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two (2) acre-feet per year (2AFY) of groundwater for individual domestic users or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 116275.

Well Application Process

- 1) Well application must start by submission to Santa Cruz County EH (<https://www.scceh.org/NewHome/Programs/LandUse/WaterWells.aspx>)
 - Submissions can be made electronically or hard copy to the department
 - Fees are due at the time of submission
 - Application is reviewed by staff for accuracy, completeness, and regulatory compliance

- 2) If the application is for a well subject to Executive Order Paragraph 9b, the applicant must additionally provide:
 - A report signed and stamped by **a California licensed Professional Geologist with a Certified Hydrogeologist specialty certification** that determines and concludes extraction of groundwater from the well "is not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells". (See paragraph 9b of the Executive Order).
Neighboring parcel wells can be found at <https://scceh.com/NewHome/EnvironmentalHealthDocuments.aspx>

- 3) If the application is for a well subject to Executive Order Paragraph 9b and within the Santa Margarita, Santa Cruz Mid-County, or Pajaro Valley Basins (Paragraph 9a; go to Groundwater Basin layer under Biotic and Water Resources at <https://gis.santacruzcounty.us/gisweb/> to verify):
 - Applicant must complete the top section of the Executive Order N-7-22 GSA Compliance Form
 - Staff will review for completeness and then route the complete application as well as the Executive Order N-7-22 GSA Compliance Form to the appropriate GSA for review
 - The GSA must sign the form to indicate that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan
 - GSA Compliance Form will be reviewed; if well is deemed consistent with GSP and adheres to all other regulatory requirements, well application is processed and well permit issued by EH within the 10-day period allowed by the Santa Cruz County Well Ordinance



County of Santa Cruz

Health Services Agency - Environmental Health

701 Ocean Street, Room 312, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
(831) 454-2022 TDD/TTY - Call 711 <http://www.scceh.org>
EnvironmentalHealth@santacruzcounty.us



Executive Order N-7-22 GSA Compliance Form

Section 1 (to be filled out by applicant)

<u>Property Address:</u>	<u>APN:</u>
<u>Property Owner Name:</u>	<u>Applicant Name and Title:</u>
<u>Screening Depth of Current Well</u>	<u>Screening Depth of Proposed Well:</u>
<u>GPS Coordinates of Proposed Well (decimal degrees):</u>	
<u>Estimated Water Use of Proposed Well in Acre-Feet per Year:</u>	
<u>How Was Water Use Determined?</u>	

Which represents the impact of the well permit?:

- This is a new well that represents a new use of groundwater from the Basin
- This is a replacement well that will not change the total water used from the Basin
- This is a replacement well that is intended to provide higher yield
- This is for a well alteration that will increase water pumped from the Basin
- This is a new well which replaces a municipal supply and will not change the total water used from the Basin

Prepared by: _____
Name Date

Title Signature

	Recommendation we heard from Drought Response Working Group	Staff Time-Frame Recommendation	Working Group Final Recommendation	Resource Intensity	Working Group Vote
	Text of recommendation	Short, Medium, Long-term, Ongoing, or Table	Can change language and/or timeframe	1=low; 2=medium; 3=high	# of Yeses/# of Nos
General Drought Response					
1	Continue to work in collaboration with the State and/or elected officials when appropriate	Ongoing		1	
2	Take advantage of existing resources provided by the State to leverage local efforts	Ongoing		1	
3	Create a private well list email serve	Table		2	
4	Work with regional water partners to hold another Connecting the Drops event	Short		2	
5	Website drought portal: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of resources at the top Once it's completed we can send out a mailer directing people to the website. Direct to it from other County pages. Recommend it is housed in the SCCEH website so we can update it. Language accessible. 	Short-term		2	
6	Pay community leaders to help with outreach, when funding is available.	Ongoing		2	
7	Consider becoming a member of RCRC (they make information about new legislation available to rural communities)	Table – already participate in similar groups		1	
8	Review Groundwater emergency ordinance	Table – Outside scope		2	
9	For each section of the Plan, in the outreach discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Define goal, identify multiple outreach strategies, identify and leverage experts and community groups and relationships to effectively reach all potentially affected communities. 	Short-term (for Plan)		1	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leverage existing resources and events such as Board of Supervisors, agricultural groups, Connect the Drops, DWR and CERT rural community lists Look to RCAC, SHE, CWC and LCJA as experts in outreach to disadvantaged communities 				
10	<p>Maps to include in Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Water Quality and Water Quantity (baselayer of DACS, wells, water systems) Water management (large water suppliers and GSAs; baselayer includes wells and small water systems). More maps in appendices. 	Short-term (for Plan)		1	
Private Wells					
11	Create a GIS layer of parcels served by wells. Use this to make a mailing list.	Short (if possible, have parcels served by wells done for Plan)		1	
12	Finalize Mitigation Strategy Table	Short-term		1	
13	Get water hauler under contract	Short-term		1	
14	Refer people to the dry well reporting tool created by the State rather than creating a County-specific reporting tool	Short-term		1	
15	Mailers to private well-served properties offering services	Medium-term (may be done to target priority areas first)		2	
16	<p>Host outreach event/workshops that includes information on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resources available/ training, Grant applications. Partner with RCAC, RCD, others. Possibly have County staff leave the room for some of the event. 	Medium-term		2	
17	Incentivize voluntary metering. There are benefits to metering but some will resist due to concerns about being taxed, loss of privacy, and costs.	Medium-term	MORE DIRECTION REQUESTED		
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incentivize how? Should meters be required on new and replacement wells? 		

18	<p>Improve well database GIS layer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actively add new wells, Go back through historic well logs Include information from well completion reports (depth of seal and screening), e-logs where available. 	Long-term		3	
Small Water Systems					
19	Provide guidance and tools for completing reserve analyses	Short-term		1	
20	Outreach event or Forum that includes information on resources available, training, grant applications. Partner with RCAC, RCD, others. Multiple locations.	Medium-term		2	
21	Perform an analysis of the gap in reserve funds for small & medium systems County-wide	Medium-term	MORE DIRECTION REQUIRED How do we make them report to us?		
22	Fee collection – provide information/support for the development of County Service Areas as a mechanism to help build financial reserves	Medium Term		2	
23	Require systems to complete reserve analyses, including timeline to demonstrate steps are being taken	Long-term	MORE DIRECTION REQUIRED		
24	Require systems to build a reserve over time	Long-term	MORE DIRECTION REQUIRED		
25	Provide grant-writing and/or grant administration support for State Small Water Systems	Medium-Term		2-3	
26	<p>When funding is available:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cover costs of metering, POU treatments (especially for disadvantaged communities), Provide tools and assistance with leak detection, Provide assistance with water audits. 	Ongoing		2	
27	<p>Develop tools to support decision-making about consolidations, and to support consolidation process itself when that is the preferred option, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reviewing options available Consolidation cost-benefit analysis tool 	Long-term		3	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use meaningful phrasing of “consolidation”; it can be an opportunity in some cases 				
28	Coordinate with State for financial support for consolidation. DAC’s will have issue with the high cost of consolidating.	Long-term		2-3	
Emergency Response					
29	Consider seeking funding and agreements to purchase a water hauling truck (\$350,000)	Long-term	MORE DIRECTION NEEDED	3	

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