



LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Met with the new State Representatives, Senator Marie Alvarado-Gil and Chief of Staff for Assemblyman Joe Patterson. Our representatives are interested in visiting and touring the District.

Actionable Item

No current calls to action

Upcoming Actions:

The RWA Executive Committee on December 21 authorized the RWA to sponsor legislation to encourage improved groundwater storage. The goal is to elevate groundwater recharge as a priority pathway to fulfilling California's water supply reliability, environmental and equity goals. In doing so, the ultimate goal is to secure state funding for recharge projects

Bills/Propositions to Watch

Recommended Advocacy: Support (RWA)

ACA 2 (Alanis R- Modesto) would require 3% of the state General fund to be appropriated to address wildfire and water supply.

AB 62 (Mathis R- Visalia) would establish a statewide goal to achieve 4 million acre-feet of above and below ground storage as laid out in the Administration's August 2022 Water Supply Strategy



January 3, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: 2023-24 Wildfire and Forest Resilience State Budget Allocations

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the California Forest Watershed Alliance (CAFWA), we are writing to offer our recommendations for 2023-24 State Budget allocations to the wildfire and forest resilience sector. CAFWA applauds your leadership over the last several years, particularly for championing a new \$1.3 billion investment over two years in extremely vital programs to improve the health of California's forests and watersheds while preventing future wildfires. We acknowledge the economic challenges ahead for the state and the difficulty of balancing fiscal responsibility with maintaining crucial programs such as forest resilience. However, it is urgent that the state maintain its investments in wildfire and forest resilience programs.

CAFWA is a unique coalition of diverse interests including organizations that represent water, environmental, local government, timber, and agricultural interests all dedicated to finding solutions to California's every-growing forest health and wildfire problem. The members of CAFWA are the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), California Farm Bureau Federation, California Forestry Association (Calforests), The Nature Conservancy, and Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC). Since its founding in 2014, CAFWA members have been working together to seek new ways to promote proactive, science-based, and ecologically sound forest management practices that will reduce the risk of destructive megafires. Our goal is to protect our forests, our natural resources, and our local economies and communities by accelerating the pace and scale of forest restoration.

The year 2022 was a relatively mild year for high-severity wildfires compared to previous years, particularly considering the acres burned versus 2020 and 2021. However, California's forest and wildlands are still far from the optimum healthy, resilient condition needed to prevent catastrophic fires, effectively sequester carbon, and provide the necessary quality and quantity of



The California Forest Watershed Alliance (CAFWA) is an urban-rural coalition representing water interests, local governments, the conservation community, agriculture, and the forestry sector, created to promote the restoration and improvement of California's forested watersheds. For more information, visit www.caforestsandwatersheds.org.

water for the state's residents. The California Air Resources Board has set a goal of 2.3 million acres treated annually in its recently adopted "2022 Scoping Plan for Achieving Carbon Neutrality" to achieve the necessary greenhouse gas emissions reduction and carbon sequestration from the natural and working lands sector, a goal that will be impossible to achieve without significant, long-term investments in forest and wildland management.

As you consider your initial January 2023 State Budget proposal, the members of CAFWA urge you to consider the following:

Protecting Existing Forest Resilience Allocations

California has set records as it relates to the largest, most destructive fires on a near-annual basis for the last several years. These wildfire events produce some of the worst national air quality, impacting the health and quality of life of all Californians, while costing the state billions annually to support suppression efforts. While 2022 has given us some respite, it is unwise to assume future wildfire seasons will be as mild given the condition of California's forests and wildlands. As such, it is imperative that the state protect existing allocations to forest resilience programs, even with projected downturns in revenues.

CAFWA strongly supports full allocation of the \$600 million appropriated to 2023-24 forest resilience and wildfire mitigation programs in the 2022-23 State Budget Package. We also strongly support protecting the \$200 million annual investment from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF). These funds are crucial to maintaining the gains California has achieved in forest and watershed resilience programs, as well as continuing to safeguard the state's forested communities from the impacts of wildfires. These programs are vital to the quality and quantity of the entire state's water supply and reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from wildfire smoke statewide.

Long-Term Funding Mechanisms

While the members of CAFWA appreciate the annual allocations of funding to forest resilience programs, our forests and watersheds are critical state infrastructure worthy of long-term, annual investment. Forested watersheds provide the state's water supply, wildlife habitat, and with proper investment, have the potential to significantly contribute to California's GHG emissions reduction goals through carbon sequestration and reduced wildfire incidents. Our forests impact every California resident, whether it be through their drinking water, the air they breathe or their ability to recreate safely in a forested environment. CAFWA believes the state should seek a mechanism to support these programs annually and would be pleased to engage in an effort to develop a sustained, long-term funding solution to ensure that California's forests are managed and maintained to the most resilient benefit for all Californians.

Comprehensive Workforce Training

California must commit to addressing workforce shortages in forest health and resilience, including prescribed fire, fire suppression, and professional and vocational-based forest workers. Funding and training an adequate workforce helps ensure that projects will be successfully completed on the ground and that future funds allocated to forest resilience programs will be fully utilized. Furthermore, many forested communities have necessarily built their economic structures around the forests, largely through the recreation and tourism industry. Building a strong, vital

forest resilience workforce in these communities will not only help safeguard residents from the impacts of wildfire, but will also support the economic vitality of many communities that will benefit from the creation of jobs and opportunity in this sector.

Investment in Infrastructure

While there are several pressures contributing to the wildfire issues in forested environments, the consistent and ever-expanding accumulation of woody material represents a key hazard that will require a greater and more diversified investment than the state has previously approved. While the increase in the pace and scale of prescribed fire is vital to wildfire resilience, mechanical removal of small diameter and dead or dying trees from the landscape is also an important treatment method and is often required as a pretreatment prior to the reintroduction of fire into forested landscapes. California is also currently experiencing an uptick in tree mortality commensurate with the 2015 bark beetle epidemic due to the last several years of drought conditions, making it even more imperative that the state invest in a panoply of options to utilize woody byproducts from the management of the state's forested lands.


California has not committed enough funding or support to infrastructure that would help utilize woody byproducts from forest management projects, which has resulted in increased piling and burning, or materials simply being left on the landscape to deteriorate. Neither option is optimal for reducing GHG emissions or promoting carbon sequestration, and leaving excessive materials on the landscape can actually pose an additional fire hazard. Biomass, cross-laminated timber, and even simply sequestering carbon by utilizing wood for building materials can not only help mitigate wildfire risk on the landscape, but can also provide beneficial end uses for the byproducts and encourage carbon sequestration. CAFWA strongly encourages a clear commitment to investments in infrastructure to utilize woody byproducts from forest management projects for their highest and best use.

The members of CAFWA appreciate your consideration of our recommendations and are happy to discuss further as the 2023-24 State Budget takes shape.

Sincerely,


Staci Heaton, Senior Policy Advocate
Rural County Representatives of California


Jay Ziegler, Director
External Affairs and Policy
The Nature Conservancy


Matt Dias, President
California Forestry Association


Julia Bishop Hall, Senior Legislative Advocate
Association of California Water Agencies


Peter Ansel, Governmental Affairs Advocate
California Farm Bureau Federation

**REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 11, 2023.
AGENDA ITEM NO. 6C**



AGENDA SECTION: INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

SUBJECT: GENERAL MANAGERS REPORT

PREPARED BY: Nicholas Schneider, General Manager

BACKGROUND

General Manager's Report

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Week of December 11-17

- Held Board Meeting on December 13, 2022.
- Met with TerraVerde regarding fleet electrification. State law requires a portion of our fleet to be converted to electric vehicles and this was an exploratory meeting.
- Toured our infrastructure with the new grant writing firm Zanjero Inc. Greg Young and Robert Heather attended and GDPUD staff discussed goals and upcoming projects.
- Met with Comcast in regard to potentially upgrading our phone system and reducing our phone billing.
- Began discussing the FY 23-24 budget with District Managers.

Week of December 18-24

- Met with Forest Resource Collaborative to discuss the potential of applying for a CalFIRE Wildfire Mitigation Grant. Staff determined a mix of equipment purchases and land clearing would be advantageous for the District. The grant deadline is March 15, 2023.
 - o Looking to purchase a new excavator, masticating head, skid steer, with mulching head, and a drone to inspect the canals.
- Finished up all of the Board Meeting items from the previous week and worked to set the agenda for the future Board Reorganization meeting.
- Met with grant writers and district engineers to coordinate the needs for the CalOES HMGP grant to help recover in the up-country area affected by the fire.

Week of December 25-31

- Discussed with staff the ADU policies of the District and a Mobile home hardship that will be discussed at a later board meeting.
- Prepared documents for Litigation regarding Mosquito Fire.
- Worked to develop costs associated with various grants
- Began working on the FY 23-24 Budget for the District.

Week of January 1-7

- Legislative Session opened January 4th
- Met to discuss options for the Kelsey Community Association
- Discussed with staff the ongoing WDR survey that is occurring for the Auburn Lake Trails community.
- Attended the County of El Dorado Climate Vulnerability Assessment — Stakeholder Workshop. This is the beginning phase of assessing climate impacts throughout the county.
- Finalized all documentation for the Board Meeting.

GOOD NEWS UPDATES

- The District started to receive payments for the surplus equipment being sold
- Stumpy Meadows Reservoir reached Full Capacity on January 1st.
- It appears our transfer obligation has been met and the District no longer owes water from the 2020 water transfer to Westlands Water.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Continuing with the Fire Response and monitoring any movement of debris from the area. The rains and flooding have impacted our ditches so ensuring the District is prepared and doing all we can is our top priority.
- Currently working with a grant writer who is helping with the drought grant, CalFIRE grant, and potential FEMA/CalOES funding grants.
- Will be kicking off the Salary survey for the District on January 18th.
- Will be attending the ACWA State Legislative Committee meeting on January 20th.
- Will be presenting along with Office/Finance Manager Jessica Buckle at the Divide Rotary Club on January 25th.
- Will be attending the ACWA Headwaters Working group on January 27th.
- Will be attending the ACWA Federal Advocacy Committee meeting on January 31st
- Will attend the MCRWA meeting on February 3rd.
- I am hoping for a prosperous New Year for all the Staff, Board and Customers of the Georgetown Divide PUD!!

GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

Operations Report for December 2022

Presented to the GDPUD Board of Directors
by Operations Manager: Adam Brown

Informational Item
January 10, 2023



Note: Full Pool – 21,206 acre feet | January 1, 2023 – 21,206 acre feet

Treatment Operations

Walton Lake Treatment Plant

16.863 / 543,967 average gpd

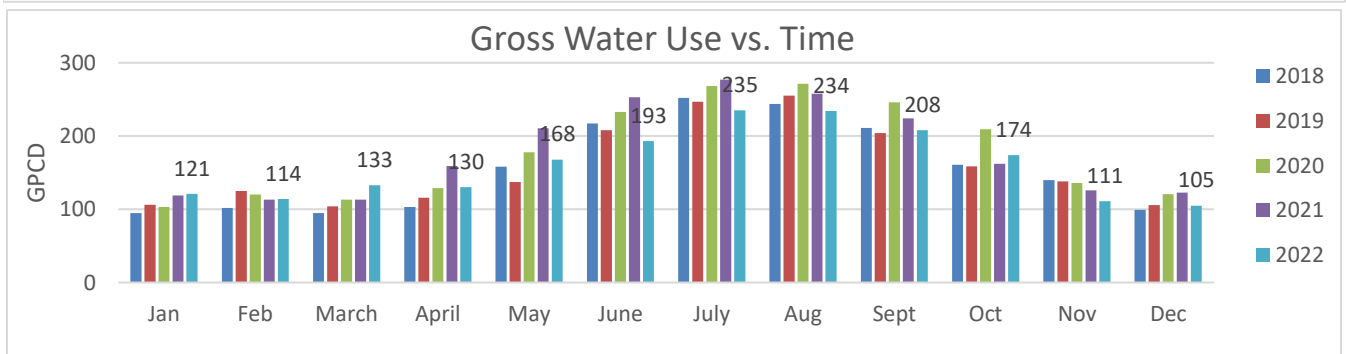
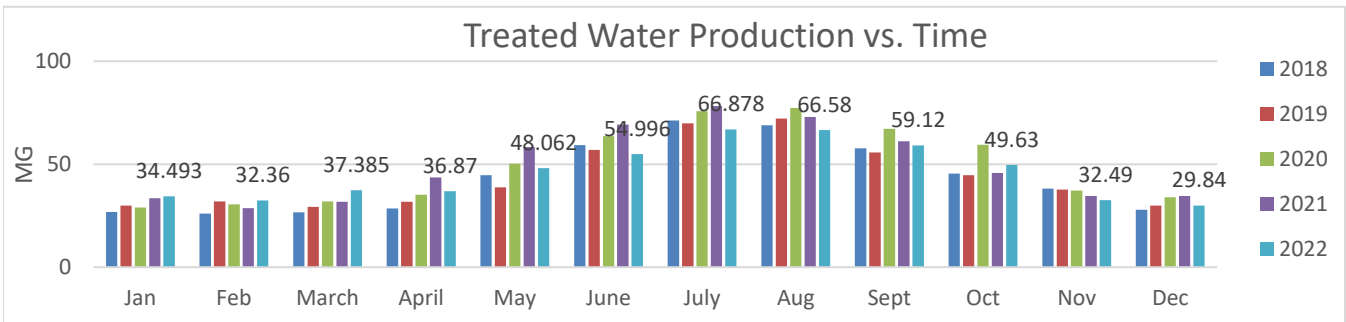
- ✓ No operational shutdowns

Sweetwater Treatment Plant

12.981 / 418,741 average gpd

Water Quality Monitoring:

- ✓ All finished water was in compliance with drinking water standards.
- ✓ Collected routine bacteria distribution and quarterly disinfection by products samples.
- ✓ Distribution monitoring samples were absent of bacteriological contamination indicating adequate disinfection.
- ✓ Complete residential lead and copper sampling.



Notes:

GPCD – Gallons per Capita per Day

MG – millions gallons per day



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January 10, 2023

Summary of Field Work Activities

Distribution Crews

- Repaired Breaks: 4
- Repair/Replace Meter: 9
- Installed New Service: 0
- After Hours Callouts: 24
- Valves Exercised: 4
- Underground Service Alert Response: --
- Service Calls:
 - 108 General Calls
 - 23 Occupant Changes
- Pump Station Operation
- Meter Reading
- Account Lock Offs
- USA Support

Canal/Maintenance Crew

- After Hours Callouts: 11
- Greenwood Lake Clearing
- Meter Reading
- Storm Response



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Upper Canal - Mosquito Fire Impact / Storm Impacts



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Treated Water Line Repair



Sweetwater Treatment Plant and Greenwood Lake Vegetation Work



GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

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Informational Item
January 10, 2023

Capital Improvement Program

Auburn Lake Trail Paving Project

- Weather permitting

Asset Management/Work Order Software

- Trainings/Test Phase – Implementation Scheduled for January

Water Main Replacement

- Acquiring Supplies

Conditions Assessment/Water Reliability Study

- Completed Pump Station Evaluation

Automated Meter Project

- 3,688/3781 meters installed
- Recycling Meters
- GIS Completion

Annual Canal Lining

- Weather Permitting

AMI Meter Infrastructure

- In progress

Safety Walkways

- Project on hold – Weather/Access Permitting

Pump Station Retrofit/Generator

- No progress

Pressure Regulating Valves at STP

- To be present at January 10 Board Meeting



GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

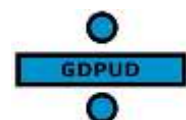
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Informational Item
January 10, 2023

Monthly Water Demand Assessment

Month	2021		2022		Percent Change	
	Gross Water Use	Residential	Gross Water Use	Residential	Gross Water Use	Residential
January	119	107	121	72	3	-32.5
February	113	98	114	80	1	-18.5
March	112	119	133	109	16	-8.3
April	159	123	130	113	-18	-8.3
May	211	186	168	133	-19	-28.2
June	253	192	193	161	-24	-13.6
July	276	233	235	193	-15	-17.2
August	257	215	234	192	-9	-10.5
September	222	155	207	172	-7	10
October	161	150	174	141	8	-6
November	126	83	111	86	-12	4
December	122	60	105	83	-14	28
Average Reduction June through December					-10	-1



GEORGETOWN DIVIDE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT

Auburn Lake Trails Wastewater Management Zone Report for December 2022

6E Presented to the GDPUD Board of Directors by: Alexis Elliott

January 10, 2022

Zone activities are completed in accordance with California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Valley Region, *Waste Discharge Requirements for Georgetown Divide Public Utility District Auburn Lake Trails On-Site Wastewater Disposal Zone Order No. R5-2002-0031*.

- **Community Disposal System (CDS) Lots - 137**
- **Individual Wastewater Disposal System Lots - 900**

Field Activities

- ✓ Routine Inspections: 26
- ✓ Property Transfer Processing: 1 Initial
8e Follow Up
5a Follow Up
- ✓ New Inspection 0
 - Plan Review 0
- ✓ Weekly CDS Operational 7
 - New Wastewater System 0
 - New CDS Tank 0
 - New Pump Tank 0

Reporting

The monthly *Sanitary Sewer Overflow (SSO) – No Spill Certification* was submitted electronically to California Regional Water Quality Control Board on California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) on December 1, 2022.

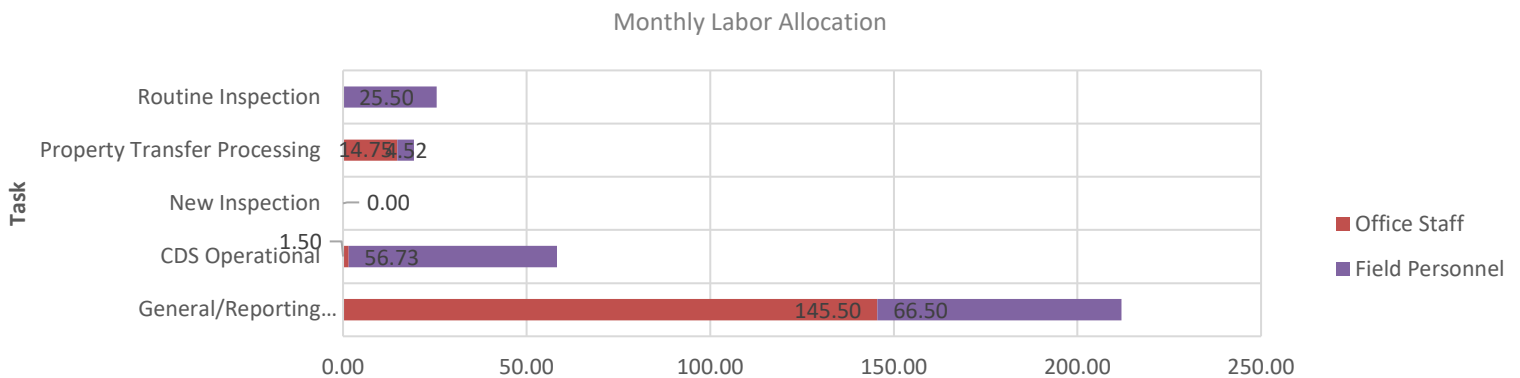
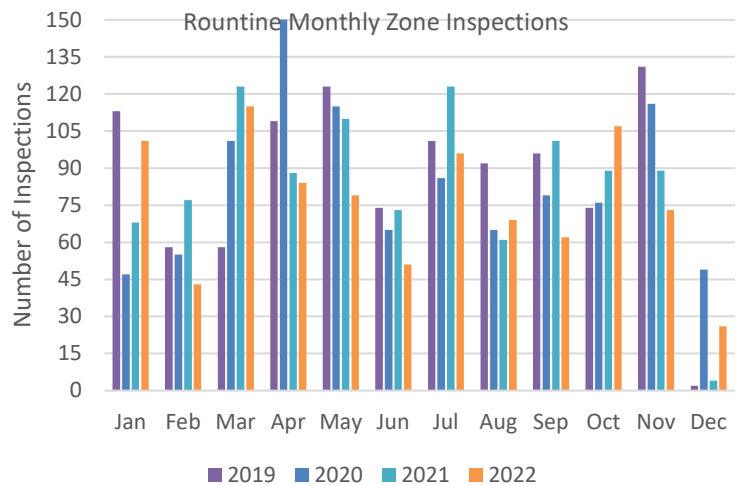
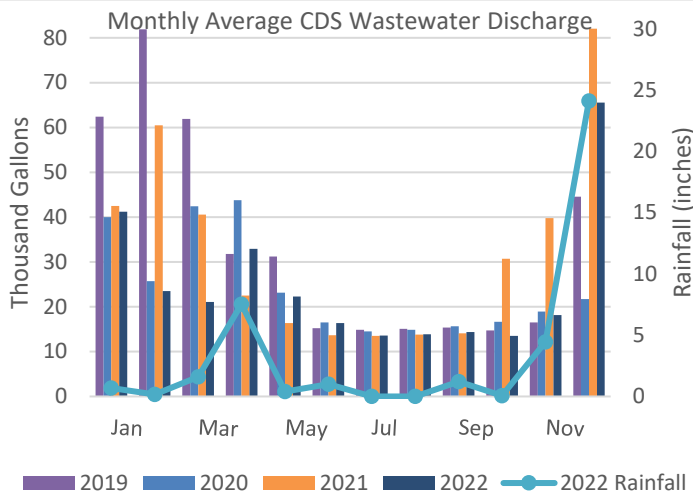
Notes: Manhole Inspections. Cartegraph training. Lead and Copper samples. Break at CDS, repairs made. See back of Monthly Tracking Sheet. 2 spills at station 16 lift station.

CDS – Wastewater Discharge

2,032,200gallons / 65,555 gallon/day average

Rainfall

24.12



Georgetown Divide Public Utility District

6425 Main Street P.O. Box 4240, Georgetown, CA 95634 • (530) 333-4356 • www.gd-pud.org

Nicholas Schneider, General Manager