

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WATER REPLENISHMENT DISTRICT OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA  
4040 PARAMOUNT BOULEVARD, LAKEWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90712  
5:30 P.M., MONDAY, AUGUST 22, 2016**

**AGENDA**

EACH ITEM ON THE AGENDA, NO MATTER HOW DESCRIBED, SHALL BE DEEMED TO INCLUDE ANY APPROPRIATE MOTION, WHETHER TO ADOPT A MINUTE MOTION, RESOLUTION, PAYMENT OF ANY BILL, APPROVAL OF ANY MATTER OR ACTION, OR ANY OTHER ACTION. ITEMS LISTED AS "FOR INFORMATION" MAY ALSO BE THE SUBJECT OF ANY "ACTION" TAKEN BY THE BOARD OR A COMMITTEE AT THE SAME MEETING.

- 1. DETERMINATION OF A QUORUM**
- 2. PUBLIC COMMENT**  
Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.3.
- 3. OPERATIONS UPDATE**  
*Staff Recommendation:* For information.
- 4. UPDATE ON GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT ACT**  
*Staff Recommendation:* For discussion.
- 5. GROUNDWATER BASIN UPDATE**  
*Staff Recommendation:* For information.
- 6. DIRECTORS REPORTS, INQUIRIES, AND FOLLOW-UP OF DIRECTIONS TO STAFF**
- 7. CLOSED SESSION**
  - A. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation, pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 (b), One Case**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**  
The Water Resources Committee will adjourn to its next regular meeting currently scheduled for September 19, 2016 at 5:00 P.M.

Agenda posted by Chief Financial Officer Scott Ota on August 19, 2016.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), if special assistance is needed to participate in the Board meeting, please contact Chief Financial Officer Scott Ota at (562) 921-5521 for assistance to enable the District to make reasonable accommodations.

All public records relating to an agenda item on this agenda are available for public inspection at the time the record is distributed to all, or a majority of all, members of the Board. Such records shall be available at the District office located at 4040 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, California 90712.

Agendas and minutes are available at the District's website, [www.wrd.org](http://www.wrd.org).

**EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES** – If you challenge a District action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the Deputy Secretary at, or prior to, the public hearing. Any written correspondence delivered to the Chief Financial Officer before the District's final action on a matter will become a part of the administrative record.



## **MEMORANDUM**

### **ITEM NO. 3**

**DATE: AUGUST 22, 2016**

**TO: WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: OPERATIONS UPDATE**

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### **SUMMARY**

The intent of the Operations Update staff report/agenda item is to inform and update members of the Water Resources Committee on a regular and reoccurring basis about operational matters, technical issues, engineering plans, and various multi-agency strategies in regards to all of the District's current and planned operational facilities. This report includes current updates on the Los Angeles Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant, the Turnout Structures, the Leo J. Vander Lans Facility, and the Goldsworthy Desalter.

### **Terminal Island Water Reclamation Plant (TIWRP)**

The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) TIWRP expansion is currently on schedule to be completed in December 2016. The surge tank installation was completed in July. While the plant was shut down briefly to enable the tie in to the new tank, it has returned to its regular operational status. The County has had a portion of the barrier turned off so they can locate and repair a leak as well as complete some routine well rehabilitation work. The draft Title 22 Engineering Report for the project was submitted in May 2016 to the RWQCB along with a draft performance testing schedule. WRD, the City of Los Angeles (DWP and BOS), and the County met with the LARWQCB to hear what the Board's findings were regarding the District remaining on the new barrier project NPDES Permit. The Board has found that the District does not meet the definition of a discharger and thus can be removed from the permit. As previously reported, the City is in discussions with the RWQCB regarding discharges while the system performance testing is being implemented. We have been informed that a resolution has been reached which will allow continued RW deliveries to the barrier during performance testing. Upcoming TIWRP expansion schedule:

- December 2016 – complete construction
- February 2017 (1 month shutdown) – software migration plus other work (ceiling installation).
- March/April 2017 – compliance testing

Other components being worked on by the LADWP as part of the TIWRP expansion include Machado Lake Pipeline Project, Navy Tank Site (storage reservoir), Additional Recycled Water Customers, and Residual Chlorine Levels (County's Requirements).

## **Turnout Structures**

A final notice of completion is being prepared by staff for both CIP Committee and Board review, and approval, respectively.

## **Robert W. Goldsworthy Desalter Update**

The Desalter was offline in July to facilitate various expansion related construction activities. Staff is working with the District's on-call engineering consultant to develop a scope of work to perform an MTBE treatability study that is required by the Division of Drinking Water (DDW).

## **Leo J. Vander Lans Facility (LVL) Update**

LVL Operations. Regular LVL operations were affected by both water leak repairs and SCADA control communication interruptions between the UV treatment system and the plant's main control computer. The majority of the SCADA problems had been resolved before the facility resumed normal operations on August 8<sup>th</sup>. The performance of the facility is being closely monitored for any potential remaining SCADA problems. The Barrier injection quantity in July was approximately 595 AF, including 114 AF of recycled water and 481 AF of imported water.

Conduct an Engineering Study to Optimize Barrier/LVL Operations. A meeting was held on July 21, 2016 with LBWD staff to discuss the hydraulic modelling of Long Beach's recycled water system in association with LVL operations. A field tour of LACSD's Long Beach Water Reclamation Plant (LBWRP) was held on August 1, 2016. Staff discussed with LACSD the District's plan to maximize recovery of LBWRP's reclaimed water (i.e., the source water for LVL) that is still being discharged to the river.

## **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

For information.



## **MEMORANDUM**

### **ITEM NO. 4**

**DATE: AUGUST 22, 2016**

**TO: WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

**FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY MANAGEMENT ACT**

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This staff report is being provided as a status update on the Groundwater Sustainability Management Act (the Act or SGMA).

The Act was signed into law on September 16, 2014. It recognizes groundwater as an integral part of the state's water supply and provides a framework for managing groundwater in a sustainable way throughout the State of California. The attached memorandum provides additional details and was submitted to the groundwater producers within the Central Basin and West Coast Basin (CBWCB) on October 27, 2015.

Adjudicated basins including the Central Basin and the West Coast Basin are mostly exempt from SGMA requirements. However, there are two small areas outside of the Central Basin adjudicated boundary that are still within the geologic basin boundary as described by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). These areas are referred to as "fringe areas" and must be addressed per SGMA. A working group was formed to conduct a groundwater sustainability analysis of these "fringe areas" with various interested stakeholders including representatives of the City of Beverly Hills, City of Culver City, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LACDPW), City of Los Angeles Department Water and Power (LADWP), Golden State Water Company (GSWC), and Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD). The stakeholder group is in the process of preparing a SGMA-allowed alternative analysis for the entire Central Basin, including the "fringe areas" and will be submitted to the state no later than the deadline of January 1, 2017. The Alternative Analysis will demonstrate how the entire Central Basin meets the groundwater sustainability requirements and that simple monitoring and future reporting will be all that is required.

Public participation is a requirement of SGMA. As such, each stakeholder representative is in the process of discussing the alternative analysis contents with their respective organizations in anticipation of the submittal deadlines imposed by DWR. Staff will provide an update to the committee on the development of the alternative analysis at the upcoming Committee meeting.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

None.

### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

For discussion.

Attachment: Memorandum



## **MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:           OCTOBER 27, 2015**

**TO:             GROUNDWATER PRODUCERS IN CENTRAL AND WEST COAST BASINS**

**FROM:          ROBB WHITAKER**

**SUBJECT:       THE 2014 SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT**

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I have been receiving a few questions about the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, and if/how it affects the Central and West Coast Basins. In general, no actions are necessary since the two basins are adjudicated and therefore exempt from the Act. The only actions that are required are for WRD and Watermaster to submit evidence of adjudication, and then to submit our annual reports that we already prepare.

Other than that, the only other issues that may need to be addressed are to evaluate those areas that are technically outside of the adjudicated boundaries of the Central and West Coast Basins, but still within the geologic boundaries as defined by DWR. Those external areas, known as “fringe areas”, may need to be addressed through discussions with DWR and could include minor boundary adjustments and/or routine groundwater monitoring incorporated into our annual reports. We are working with DWR and others to address these fringe areas and will keep you informed of any activities that occur related to those areas.

So there is no action required on your part related to the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act for the Central and West Coast Basins. If you would like more information on the Act, I asked my staff to prepare the following more detailed summary:

### **What is the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA)?**

The SGMA was signed into law on September 16, 2014. It recognizes groundwater as an integral part of the state’s water supply and provides a framework for managing groundwater in a sustainable way throughout the State of California. The SGMA specifically:

- Requires all high- and medium-priority basins in the State (as defined by the Department of Water Resources [DWR]) to have sustainable groundwater basins. Some basins are already sustainable (like the Central and West Coast Basins) whereas others are not sustainable (such as some in California’s Central Valley). The designations were based on population, well density, irrigated acreage, and groundwater reliance (usage and amount of total supply), and were not based on any negative aspects or conditions of the basins. The State ratings were used to classify each basin as very low (<5.75), low (5.75 to 13.42), medium (13.42 to 21.08), and high

(>21.08). Central Basin was classified as a high priority basin due to large population and groundwater use, with a score of 24.8. West Coast Basin was classified as medium priority basin with a score of 20.8.

- Establishes a definition of sustainable groundwater management.
- Establishes a framework for local agencies to develop plans and implement strategies to sustainably manage groundwater resources.
- Sets a 20-year timeline for implementation.
- Exempts adjudicated basins (including Central Basin and West Coast Basin) from most of the requirements defined in the SGMA.

### **Key definitions described in the SGMA.**

1. “Sustainable Yield” is the maximum quantity of water that can be withdrawn annually from a groundwater supply without causing an undesirable result.
2. “Sustainable Groundwater Management” is the management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results.
3. “Undesirable Result” means any of the following:
  - a. Chronic lowering of groundwater levels, but excluding reductions in groundwater levels during a drought if they are offset by increases in groundwater levels during other periods;
  - b. Significant and unreasonable reductions in groundwater storage;
  - c. Significant and unreasonable seawater intrusion;
  - d. Significant and unreasonable degradation of water quality;
  - e. Significant and unreasonable land subsidence; and
  - f. Surface water depletions that have significant and unreasonable adverse impacts on beneficial uses.

The law stipulates that a local agency response to implementing the act is not a “one size fits all” and those basins that are high-to medium-priority and not critically overdrafted must achieve sustainability by 2042, versus those that are critically overdrafted and must achieve sustainability earlier by 2040.

### **Who will be responsible for implementing the SGMA?**

Unless exempt, the Act requires the formation of a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). Any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin may form a GSA. Any areas not covered by a local agency will automatically default to the county (in our case Los Angeles County), unless they opt out. If no entity forms a GSA or does not meet minimum requirements, the State Water Resources Control Board has the authority to step in as a backstop and take control. In some basins, there may be multiple GSA’s formed. If so, it will require close coordination and may require a memorandum of agreement across basin

boundaries. GSA's must be formed by June 30, 2017. A GSA is not required for the adjudicated Central Basin and West Coast Basin since they are exempt from the Act.

### **What will be the responsibility of the GSA?**

The GSA will be the primary agency responsible for achieving groundwater sustainability by developing / implementing a (to be determined) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). GSA's will have numerous tools and authorities to manage groundwater and implement the objectives of the GSP. These include the authority to conduct investigations, determine the sustainable yield of the groundwater basin, measure and limit extraction, impose fees for groundwater management, and enforce the terms of a GSP. The DWR is still developing how it is going to evaluate GSPs (deadline is June 1, 2016). For the adjudicated Central Basin and West Coast Basins, GSPs are not required. Only the annual reports from WRD and Watermaster are needed for submittal to the State for SGMA compliance.

### **How will this act affect the Los Angeles Basin?**

Adjudicated basins (such as Central Basin and West Coast Basin) are listed in the bill as not having to form GSAs or develop GSPs [Section 10720.8 (a)]. In this case, SGMA requires the submittal of annual reports, similar to the ones already prepared as part to the adjudications, to the DWR. Therefore, the Watermaster Reports and WRD's annual Engineering Survey and Report will suffice as SGMA compliance.

However, there are some areas of the Central Basin and West Coast Basin where the geologic boundaries defined by DWR in their Bulletin 118 do not line up exactly with the adjudicated boundaries established by the courts, and these "fringe areas" may need to be rectified. DWR is currently drafting regulations to provide additional boundary realignment guidance, which is anticipated to be available soon. WRD will be working with the DWR and other local entities as needed to determine if the boundaries should be modified or if monitoring of the fringe areas will be required. As of now, 90 days will be allowed by DWR for the boundary realignment process and will commence January 1, 2016.

### **Where to find out more information about SGMA?**

Please contact Mr. Ted Johnson or Mr. Brian Partington of my staff at (562) 921-5521 for more information on SGMA. There are also many resources available on the internet discussing SGMA. The best source of information we have found is available through the DWR on their website at <http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/>.



**MEMORANDUM**

**ITEM NO. 5**

**DATE: AUGUST 22, 2016**  
**TO: WATER RESOURCES COMMITTEE**  
**FROM: ROBB WHITAKER, GENERAL MANAGER**  
**SUBJECT: GROUNDWATER BASIN UPDATE**

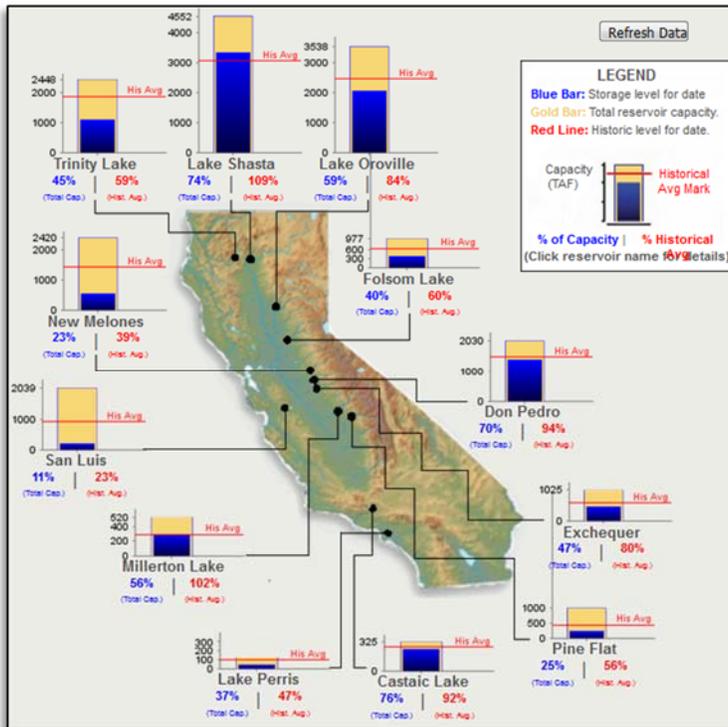
**SUMMARY**

Staff monitors groundwater conditions in its service area throughout the year. A summary of the latest information is presented below.

Precipitation

The WRD precipitation index reports that as of August 15, 2016, there had been 6.76 inches of rainfall since the start of the Water Year on October 1, 2015. Normal for this time of year is 15.32 inches, so the District is 44% of normal. Approximately 59% of the State continues to be under severe to exceptional drought conditions as reported by the U.S. Drought Monitor (as of August 9, 2016).

Reservoirs (as of August 14, 2016)



CA DWR Reservoirs (SWP)  
Storage in Million Acre Feet

Reservoir	Storage	Capacity	% Full
Trinity Lake	1.11	2.45	45%
Lake Shasta	3.35	4.55	74%
Lake Oroville	2.08	3.54	59%
Folsom Lake	0.39	0.98	40%
New Melones	0.56	2.40	23%
Don Pedro	1.41	2.03	70%
Exchequer	0.48	1.02	58%
San Luis	0.22	2.04	11%
Millerton Lake	0.29	0.52	56%
Pine Flat	0.25	1.00	25%
Castaic Lake	0.25	0.33	76%
Lake Perris	0.05	0.13	37%
Silverwood	0.07	0.08	88%

MWD Reservoirs (CRA)  
Storage in Million Acre Feet

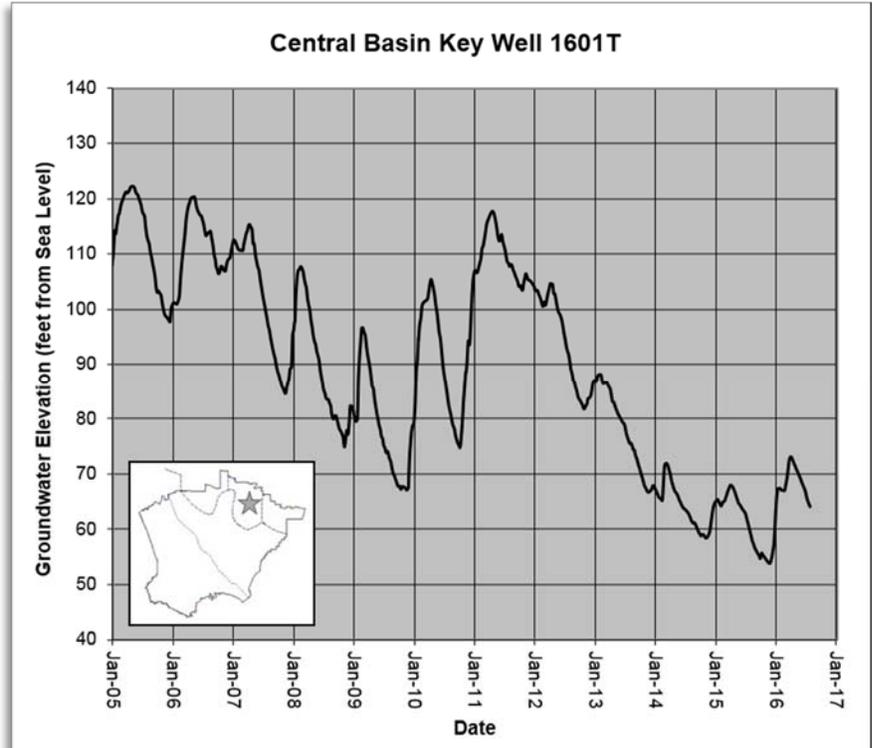
Reservoir	Storage	Capacity	% Full
Powell	13.48	24.30	55%
Mead	9.47	26.12	36%
DVL	0.48	0.81	60%

Blue - Increase in storage since the last report.

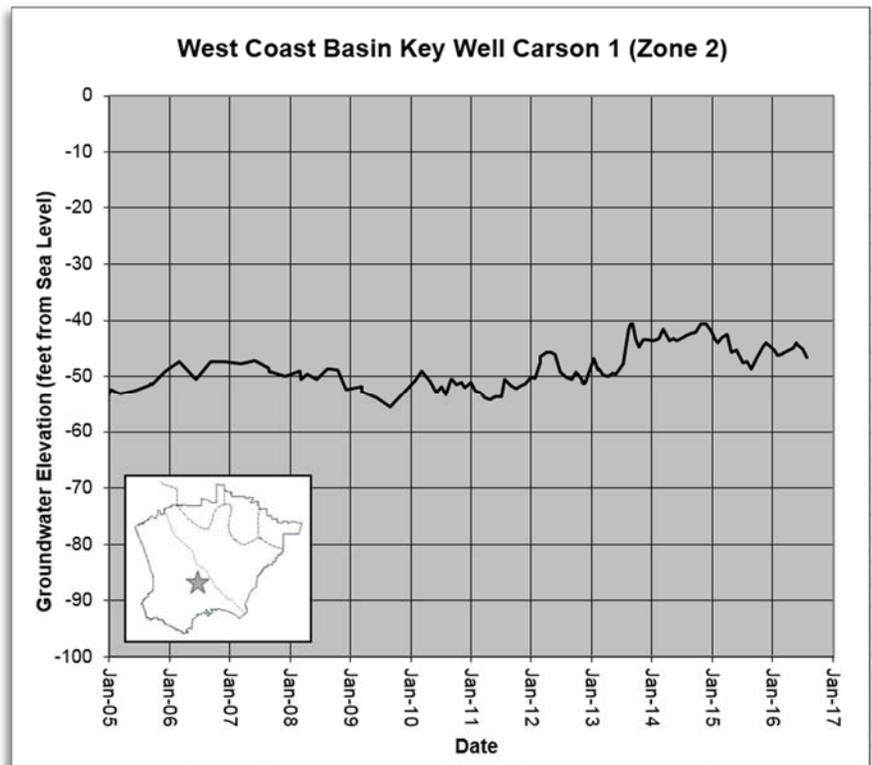
## Groundwater Levels

Groundwater levels in key monitoring wells are shown in the hydrographs below.

Central Basin Key Well 1601T is between the two spreading grounds and rises rapidly with rainfall and replenishment but falls sharply during dry spells and lack of replenishment. Groundwater levels in the well decreased 4.3 feet since the last report.

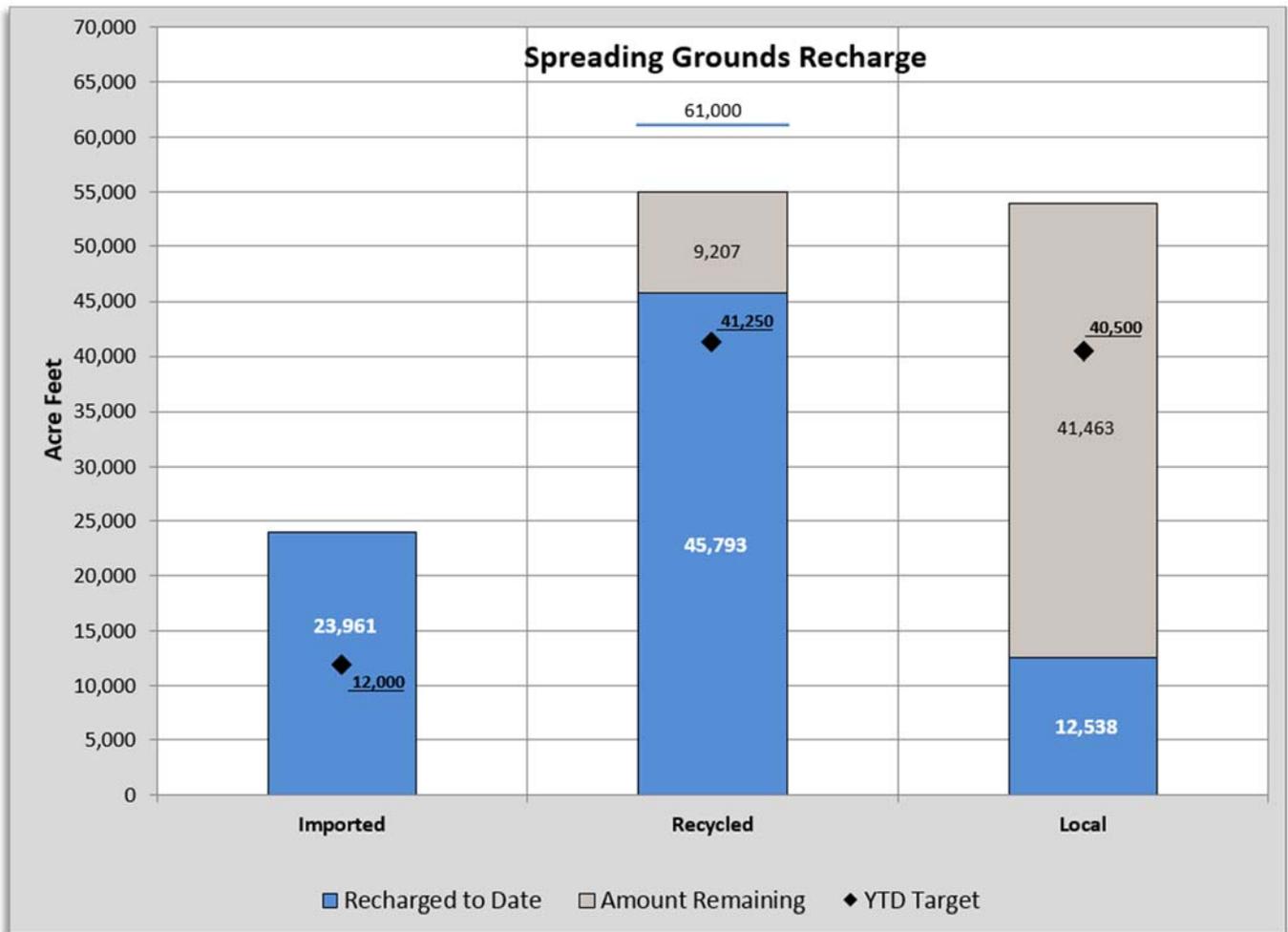


West Coast Basin Key Well Carson #1 is in the confined aquifers and does not respond readily to rainfall but instead to changes in pumping patterns and barrier recharge. Water levels decreased 2.2 feet since the last report.



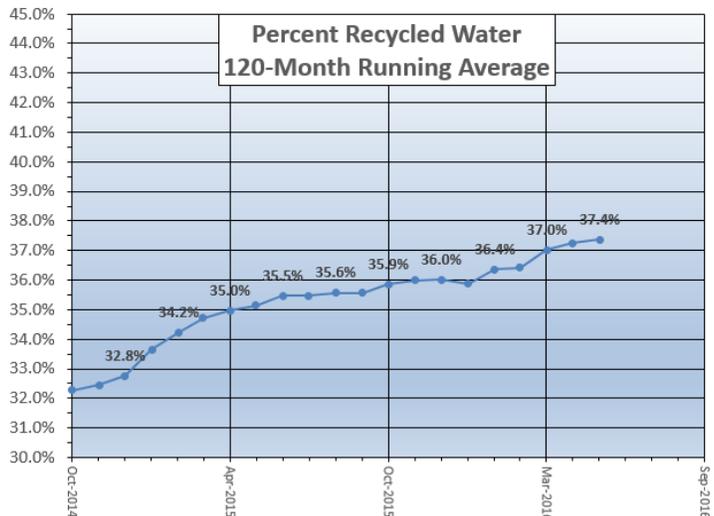
Montebello Forebay Spreading Grounds (October 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

The following Chart shows the preliminary spreading grounds replenishment water to date:



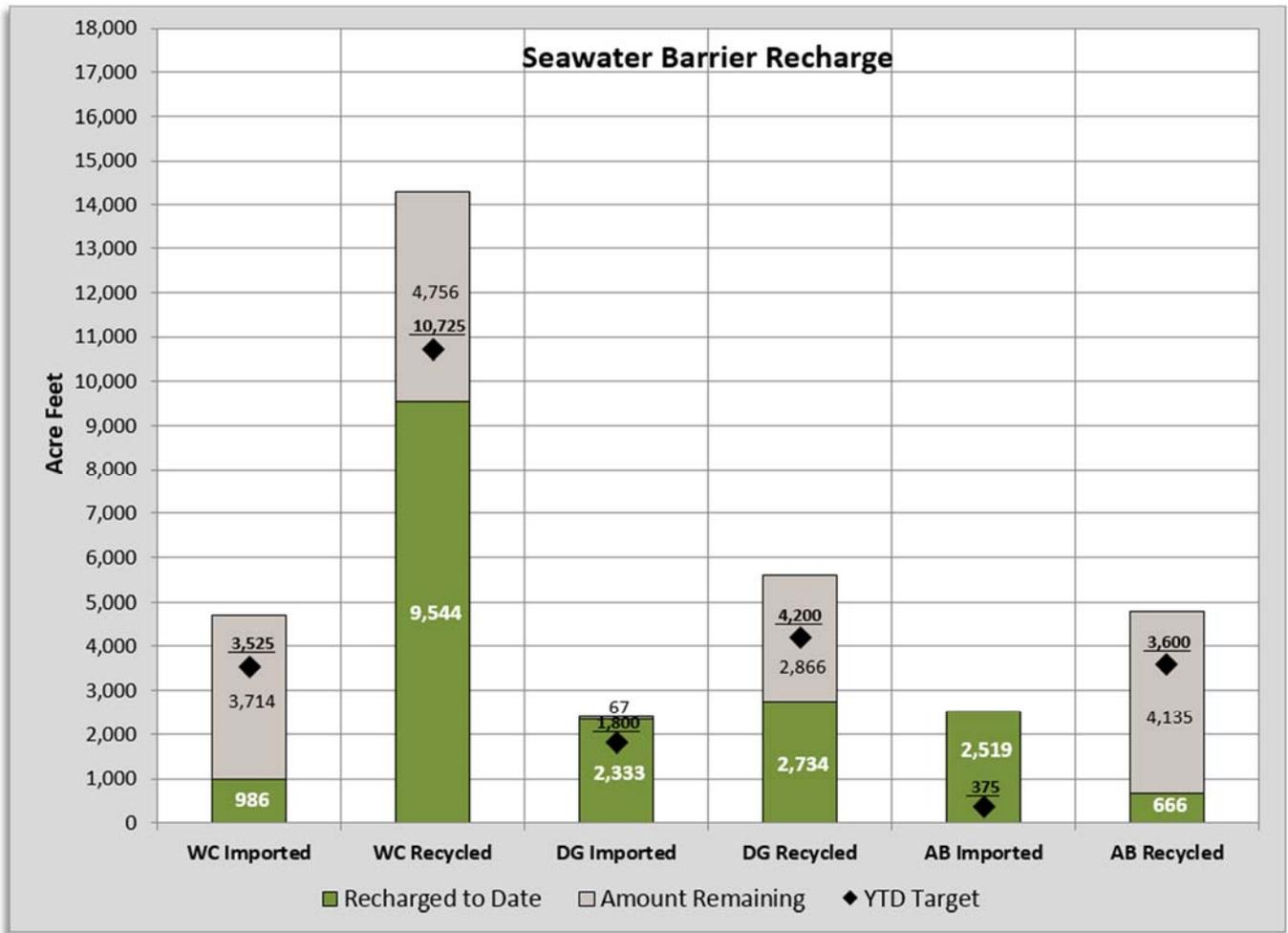
The District has imported a total of 23,961 acre-feet of import water this water year and no other orders are pending until next water year (starting October 1<sup>st</sup>).

Preliminary numbers for the first nine months of the water year show that 45,793 acre-feet of recycled water has been recharged, which is above the YTD target amount of 41,250 acre-feet. The 120-month running average of recycled water contribution in the Montebello Forebay is 37.4% and the regulatory maximum is 45%.



Local water (stormwater plus dry weather urban runoff) is captured by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (DPW) at the spreading grounds for recharge. The low amounts this year due to a dry winter have been offset by the combined purchases and deliveries of imported and recycled water by WRD. Local water amounts are determined as the sum of the total waters conserved at the spreading grounds less the imported and recycled water deliveries. Local water received through the end of May is 12,538 acre-feet based on this analysis.

Seawater Barrier Well Injection and Replenishment (October 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016):  
 The following Chart shows the barrier water injection to date:



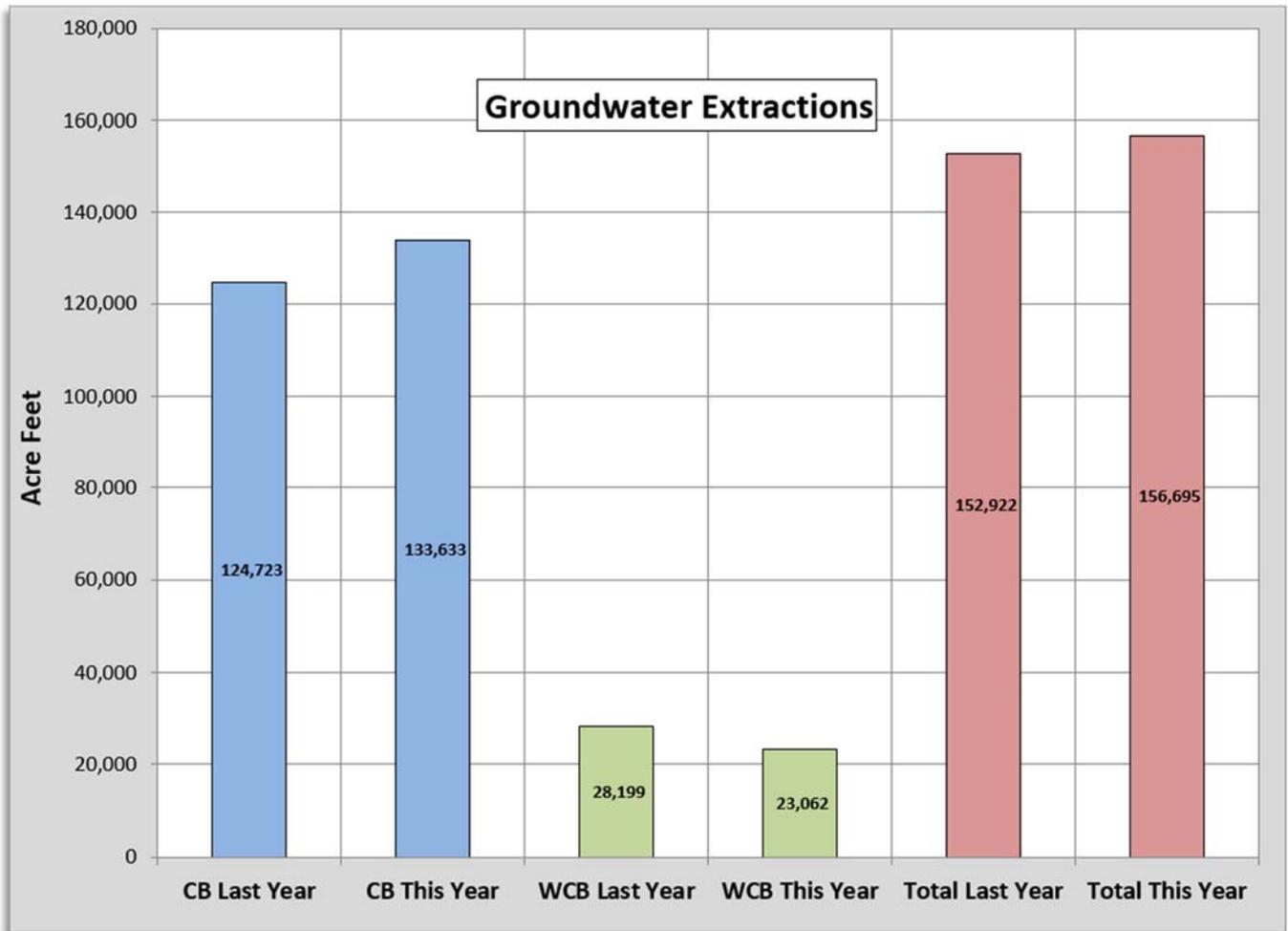
Preliminary numbers for the first nine months of the water year show that the West Coast Barrier used 986 acre-feet of imported water and 9,544 acre-feet of recycled water, or 91% recycled water. The Dominguez Gap Barrier used 2,333 acre-feet of imported water and 2,734 acre-feet of recycled water, or 54% recycled water. The Alamitos Barrier on the WRD side used an estimated 2,519 acre-feet of imported water and 666 acre-feet of recycled water, or 21% recycled water.

In-Lieu Replenishment Water

No In-Lieu replenishment water has been delivered to date in the current water year.

Pumping (October 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016)

Preliminary numbers for groundwater production in the District through June 2016 indicate that 156,695 acre-feet were pumped compared to 152,922 acre-feet the year previous, or an increase of 3,773 acre-feet (2.5%). In the Central Basin, pumping was 8,910 acre-feet higher than the previous water year (7.1%) and the West Coast Basin was down 5,137 acre-feet from the previous water year (-18.2%). The Chart below shows the 2015/16 Water Year pumping versus the 2014/15 Water Year.



**FISCAL IMPACT**

For information.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

For information.