



**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
PICO WATER DISTRICT**

4843 S. Church Street  
Pico Rivera, California, 90660

**5:30 PM Wednesday, May 17, 2023**

**AGENDA**

Any member of the public may attend this meeting in person or by accessing the Zoom link below. Any member of the public wishing to make any comments to the Board may do so through that Zoom link. The meeting Chair will acknowledge such individual(s) at the appropriate time in the meeting prior to making his or her comment. Members of the public wishing to make a comment are asked to state their name for the record and will be provided three (3) minutes to comment, the Board secretary will alert those commenting when they only have 30 seconds remaining. All members of the public will be disconnected from the Zoom link immediately before the Board of Directors adjourns into Closed Session.

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/9521779948?pwd=dGNxcXh3YitEc2NlVVdrUzVvNm4rZz09>

Join by Telephone: +1 669 900 6833

Meeting ID: 952 177 9948 Passcode: **421745**

- 1. ROLL CALL.**
- 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE.**
- 3. INVOCATION.**

**4. TIME RESERVED FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS.**

*Members of the public shall be allowed three minutes to address the Board on any matter on the agenda and/or within the jurisdiction of the District, which is not on the Agenda. All comments should be addressed to the presiding officer of the meeting. Additional public comments shall be allowed when a listed agenda item is being considered, but such comments made at that time must be confined to the subject that is being discussed at the time such comments are made. Members of the public are asked to state their name for the record. Due to all Board Meetings being run as Zoom Meetings all participants will be placed on mute at the start of the meeting and when the meeting is open for public comment the participant will be asked to raise their hand through the button on the video conference screen if participating by video conference or by pressing \*9 on their phone if participating by teleconference.*

**5. ADOPTION OF AGENDA.**

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR.**

(All matters on the Consent Calendar are to be approved on one motion, unless a Board Member requests a separate action on a specific item).

- A. Consider approval of May 03, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.
- B. Consider approval of Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts San Jose Creek Water Reclamation Plant, Puente Hills Landfill, & Material Recovery Tour

**7. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

- A. Discussion with Board of Directors regarding Water Replenishment District (WRD) 2023 – 24 Replenishment Assessment Rate – No Action Needed at this time – *Discussion Item Only*
- B. Discussion with Board of Directors regarding Well #5A Discharge Line – No Action Needed at this time – *Discussion Item Only*

**8. REPORTS.**

- A. General Manager.
- B. Legal Counsel.

**9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- A. Water Level Report & Reservoir Conditions
- B. Monthly Activity Report.
- C. Ground Water Production Report

**10. DIRECTOR'S REQUEST OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS.**

**11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS.**

- A. Report on Meetings Attended/Comments.

**12. CLOSED SESSION.**

- A. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION  
[Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]: *Pico Water District v. City of Pico Rivera*, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 22NWCV00967.

**13. CLOSED SESSION REPORT.**

**14. ADJOURNMENT.**

**AGENDA POSTED ON:** May 12, 2023

**Next regularly scheduled meeting:** June 07, 2023

***NOTE: To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in any Board meeting, please contact the District office at (562) 692-3756 at least 48 hours prior to a Board meeting to inform the District of your needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.***

***Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public review at the District office, located at 4843 S. Church Street, Pico Rivera, California.***

# **CONSENT ITEMS**

**6. APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR.**

(All matters on the Consent Calendar are to be approved on one motion, unless a Board Member requests a separate action on a specific item).

- A. Consider approval of May 03, 2023 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.
- B. Consider approval of Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts San Jose Creek Water Reclamation Plant, Puente Hills Landfill, & Material Recovery Tour



MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
OF THE PICO WATER DISTRICT

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pico Water District was held in the District's Boardroom located at 4843 South Church Street, Pico Rivera, California, on Wednesday, May 03, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.

The District's General Manager, Mr. Joe Basulto proceeded with the roll call of the attending Board members. Present from the beginning of the meeting was, Director David Angelo, Director Victor Caballero, Vice President Raymond Rodriguez, President Pete Ramirez and Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District, Director David Gonzales was absent.

Director David Angelo led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Director Victor Caballero, gave the invocation. The Board observed a moment of silence in honor of the victims in the Cleveland, Texas shooting.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Public Comments. There were none.

President Ramirez proceeded to the adoption of the Agenda. Vice President Raymond Rodriguez made the motion to adopt and President Ramirez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, approval of Consent Calendar. Director Victor Caballero made the motion to approve and Director David Angelo seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, consider Board approval of Opening a California Class Account and Invest 50% of funds held in LAIF in the California Class account. Motion made by Director Victor Caballero and Vice President Raymond Rodriguez seconded the motion. The General Manager announced that the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4 – 0.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Discussion with Board of Directors regarding Well #5A Discharge Line. Discussion was held no action taken.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager's Report. The General Manager reported that staff has been conducting business as usual – May 2, 2023 staff turned off 12 residential accounts and all were paid by end of day to have water service restored. RC Foster finished work at Well #11 installing above ground piping, the painters were called in next and should finish later next week (weather permitting). and R.C. Foster began work at Well #8 potholing to verify and check depths.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel reported that next meeting he will discuss the legislative report, also the Air Resource Board adopted the Advance Clean Fleet Regulations, legal counsel would be going through statement to fully understand. Updated Board on PFAS mitigation, that they started 5 bell weather cases. City lawsuit has propounded discovery of our claims, No closed session tonight

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Informational Items. The General Manager advised the Board that the WRD 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Ground Water Festival is a approved event for the Directors.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Future Agenda Items. There were none.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Board Member Comments. President Ramirez stated he attended the Central Basin Board Meeting, and was listen to the WRD Board of Directors meeting.

President Ramirez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Closed Session. No closed session was held.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. Next Meeting to be held on May 17, 2023 at 5:30pm

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Elpidio Ramirez, President

Attest:

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Joe D. Basulto, Secretary  
(Seal)





# WHAT HAPPENS TO YOUR TRASH AND SEWAGE?

Join our free tour  
and find out!

Saturday, June 10  
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Tour begins at our main office:

1955 Workman Mill Rd.  
Whittier CA, 90601



Use the QR code to register, or visit  
<https://forms.gle/iJXBsUm7oJrDCwuw7>

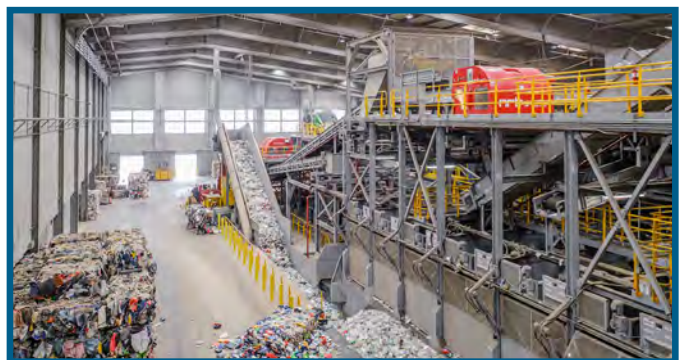
Adults and children over the  
age of 10 are welcome.



San Jose Creek Water Reclamation Plant



Puente Hills Landfill



Puente Hills Materials Recovery Facility



LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
SANITATION DISTRICTS

*A Century of Service*

 SanDistricts

 SanDistricts

 SanitationDistrictsLACounty

 [lacsds.org/tours](http://lacsds.org/tours)

For more information or to RSVP, contact Julie Patino at 562-908-4288 ext. 2300 or [juliepatino@lacsds.org](mailto:juliepatino@lacsds.org)

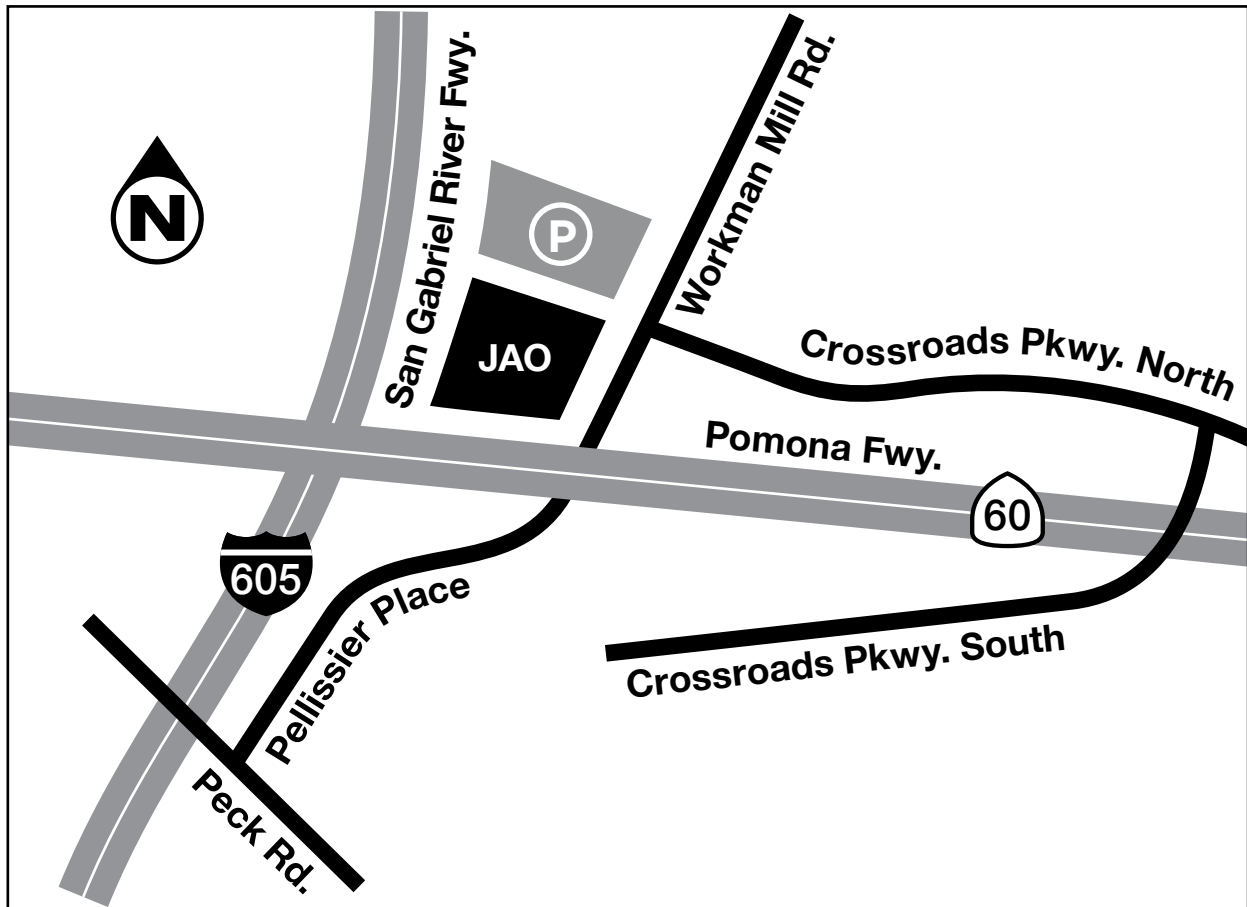
**It All  
Begins  
Here**

**Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County**

Joint Administration Office (JAO)

1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601

(562) 908-4288 ext. 2300



Tour begins at **9:00 A.M.**  
**Saturday, June 10, 2022**

Please park and meet your tour guide at the Sanitation Districts' Joint Administration Office (JAO) marked on the map above.



# **ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**7. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS.**

- A. Discussion with Board of Directors regarding Water Replenishment District (WRD) 2023 – 24 Replenishment Assessment Rate – No Action Needed at this time – *Discussion Item Only*
- B. Discussion with Board of Directors regarding Well #5A Discharge Line – No Action Needed at this time – *Discussion Item Only*

## ***STAFF REPORT***

**To:** Honorable Board of Directors  
**From:** Joe D. Basulto, General Manager  
**Meeting Date:** May 17, 2023  
**Subject:** Discussion Item A – Water Replenishment District (WRD) 2023 – 24  
Replenishment Assessment Rate

**Recommendation:**

Discuss

**Fiscal Impact:**

No Impact at this time

**Background:**

I would like to discuss for clarification – please see attached documents



DIRECTORS  
JOHN D. S. ALLEN, PRESIDENT  
VERA ROBLES DEWITT, VICE PRESIDENT  
SERGIO CALDERON, SECRETARY  
ROB KATHERMAN, TREASURER  
JOY LANGFORD, DIRECTOR

STEPHAN TUCKER, MBA, PE, PMP, GENERAL MANAGER

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April 25, 2023

**Re: WRD 2023-24 Replenishment Assessment Rate**

Dear Colleague,

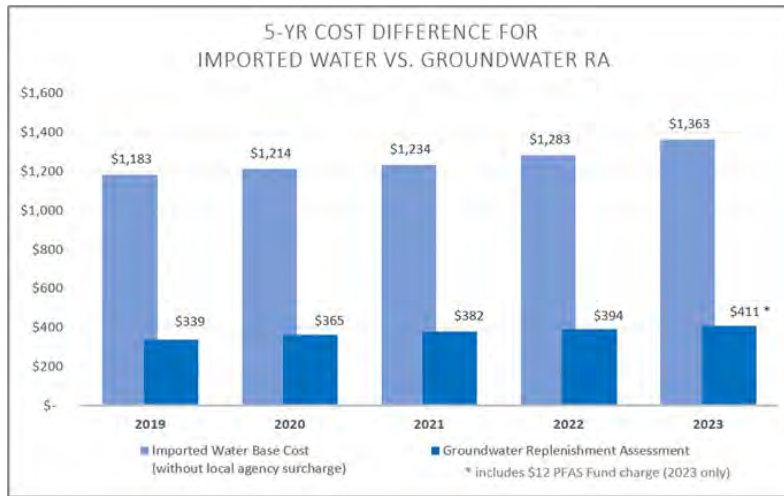
As you may know, the Water Replenishment District (District) is currently in its annual process of setting our Replenishment Assessment (RA) for the upcoming year. As we have for several decades, we worked with our valued Budget Advisory Committee (BAC) and Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to develop an RA that would allow the district to continue its operations while providing the best value for stakeholders in our service area. Due to factors such as inflation and lower than expected groundwater pumping, the District is seeking a modest increase to its RA to ensure fiscal responsibility. This letter serves to provide information and answer any questions you may have.

**Replenishment Assessment (RA) Rate Process**

To begin our RA setting process the Board of Directors approved an 8.7% **upper** limit based on very conservative pumping estimates. That action allowed the board, in consultation with our budget advisory committee, to set the rate anywhere from 0% to 8.7%. This upper limit was **not** the final rate increase recommendation.

The District is required to set an upper *limit* every year based on actual data, projected pumping averages and revenues. One of the main factors affecting the RA is how much water is pumped from the aquifer. Unfortunately, we have seen a reduction in pumping numbers over the past years due to factors including the drought, increased conservation, and regulatory issues like PFAS. Reduced pumping means there is pressure to increase the RA. The good news is that due to WRD's successful planning efforts including the Water Independence Now Program and projects that have allowed pumpers to maximize their groundwater rights; we have been able to maintain steady and modest budget increases. Still, Groundwater users in the WRD service area benefit from some of the lowest water rates in the state.

During this year's RA setting process, WRD has hosted **four** Budget Advisory Committee meetings and held a public hearing to review the budget in an attempt to reach consensus in the pumping community on the replenishment assessment. Through this process, the District has presented an analysis of pumping projections and established the need for a modest increase. After working with the Budget Advisory Committee and our pumpers, it was announced on April 18th that the WRD Finance Audit Committee recommended a 3.1% increase on the RA, which would equate to a \$12 increase per acre foot (325,851 gallons) of water. This equals an increase of .004 *cents* per gallon or \$4.30 per average household over a year. This proposed RA utilizes \$3.3 million in rate stabilization reserve funds to offset and mitigate the need for any additional increase. The resulting \$423 replenishment assessment is much lower than the current rate of imported water which can be as high as \$1,400 per acre-foot.



The 3.1% proposed increase is also significantly less than the current rate of inflation that has affected everything from food to gas prices impacting all of us, including the operating costs of the District.

### WRD Reserve Funds

WRD has managed our finances responsibly, leading to a healthy reserve account. It is important to note that this is largely due to our aggressive pursuit of state and federal grants. These grants allow the district to develop capital programs benefitting all stakeholders in the service area by funding projects to clean up the basin, buy water, and keep the assessment affordable. Furthermore, a vast amount of the funds currently held in our reserves are earmarked for upcoming projects to address contamination and keep our basins healthy. Several of these projects are currently being planned or are under construction. A healthy reserve account affords the district the ability to borrow at significantly lower rates thus making our projects fiscally responsible and viable.

TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED TO WRD SINCE 2017				
WRD PROJECT NAME	Grants Received	Grants Awarded/Pending	Subtotal	TOTAL GRANTS
Albert Robles Center (ARC) / Groundwater Reliability Improvement Program (GRIP)	\$ 30,475,693	\$ 15,478,307	\$ 45,954,000	\$ 64,366,982
LVL Injection Well	\$ 3,000,000		\$ 3,000,000	
Regional Brackish Water Reclamation Program	\$ 700,000	\$ 4,929,000	\$ 5,629,000	
Groundwater Quality Protection & Remediation	\$ 7,275,675		\$ 7,275,675	
Goldsworthy Desalter	\$ 450,000	\$ 2,058,307	\$ 2,508,307	

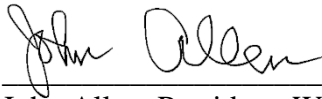
### Summary

We strongly believe no increase in the WRD RA would be fiscally irresponsible and could end up costing pumpers much more in the future. If WRD adopted a 0% increase it would have a

negative effect on our credit rating leading to increased borrowing rates for future projects and programs. A fiscally responsible 3.1% increase would ensure that the district is able to meet its obligations and ensure seamless operations while securing water resources for years to come.

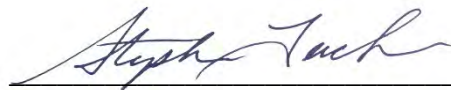
The next meeting of the WRD Board of Directors is taking place on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2023 at 10am at our Headquarters in Lakewood. The Board of Directors is planning to set the rate at that meeting. Our Board Meetings are also available via zoom with all meeting materials easily accessible via our website at [www.wrd.org](http://www.wrd.org) under the Board of Directors Tab. We invite you to participate in the process. If we can be of any assistance prior to then, please feel free to contact Stephan Tucker, WRD's General Manager at [Stucker@wrd.org](mailto:Stucker@wrd.org) or (562) 275-4222. We look forward to hearing from you.

Respectfully,



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John Allen, President, WRD Board of Directors



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Stephan Tucker, General Manager, WRD





## ***STAFF REPORT***

**To:** Honorable Board of Directors  
**From:** Joe D. Basulto, General Manager  
**Meeting Date:** May 17, 2023  
**Subject:** Discussion Item B – Well #5A Discharge Line

### **Recommendation:**

Discuss

### **Fiscal Impact:**

No Impact at this time

### **Background:**

As of today 05/11/2023 we have not heard back from the property owners of 9049 & 9055 Washington Bl. I have received confirmation that they received our letter. I have called them and left a message.

In discussion for the alternative location at 9050 Carron Apartments, below is a summary of their offer:

The Lender of the Apartments would have final say, as the terms of their Loan Agreement will require that they have 30 days' notice of the proposed grant of easement with a copy of the document we propose to record. The lender will review the document and approve the grant of easement or not; there is no certainty that it will approve. Either way, we will have to pay all costs incurred by the lender in reviewing the request, including its attorneys' fees.

Their attorney / counsel has advised them that the firm will require a \$5,000 advance retainer and we will require an additional \$5000 to be deposited with the firm to pay lender costs. Any amounts not charged by the attorney or lender will be returned to us, but we must agree to pay any excess if final fees are greater than this amount.

They are willing to proceed with our request for an easement, provided, however, that there is no cost or expense to Carron Drive Apartments, L.P. and that we understand that the process will be administered by our counsel and that lender approval is not certain.

Additionally, they will require that the slurry coat be on both sides of the concrete drain since work will take place on both sides and to make sure that the area is consistent in look and wear. We will require a warranty from the asphalt contractor of their work. And they request that we address how and where the affected residents will be given substitute parking arrangements during the work, and that there be some proffer of compensation to their residents to thank them for their cooperation and in recognition of any inconvenience.

Would like to Discuss how to proceed and other options.

# **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS.**

- A. Water Level Report & Reservoir Conditions
- B. Monthly Activity Report.
- C. Ground Water Production Report

## WATER LEVELS REPORT

### Water Levels for April 2023

Listed below are the water levels for the two key monitoring wells used by the Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD), and the District's active wells.

WRD is charged with monitoring the water levels in both the Central Basin and West Coast Basin, and with making sure both basins are replenished annually. As a means of monitoring the levels in both basins WRD measures the depth of water in two specific wells, 1601T located in between the San Gabriel River and the Rio Hondo spreading grounds, and the second Carson #1 located in the City of Carson. WRD compares the levels of these two wells month to month, and year to year as a means of gaging the reliability of both basins (levels listed are in feet below surface). As this report is specific to the Central Basin, we are only showing the Central Basin Monitoring Well results below.

	<u>April 2023</u>	<u>April 2022</u>
Central Basin 1601T	91.42	78.30
Carson Well	64.40	30.49

Listed below are the static and pumping levels (in feet below surface) for the District's five active wells, and pump settings (depth), also, is the recorded Draw-down.

#### April 2023

	<b>Static</b>	<b>Pumping</b>	<b>Flow Rate</b>	<b>Drawdown</b>	<b>Well Depth</b>	<b>Pump Depth Top of Bowls</b>
Well #4A	46'	N/A	N/A	N/A	420'	150'
Well #5A	72'	85'	944gpm	13'	917'	242'
Well #8	56'	75'	958gpm	13'	445'	243'
Well #10	42'	61'	759gpm	19'	500'	182'
Well #11	82'	83'	838gpm	1'	1150'	312'

#### April 2022

	<b>Static</b>	<b>Pumping</b>	<b>Flow Rate</b>	<b>Drawdown</b>
Well #4A	108'	N/A	N/A	N/A
Well #5A	111'	124'	860gpm	13'
Well #8	108'	115'	580gpm	7'
Well #10	83'	107'	760gpm	24'
Well #11	89'	83'	1090gpm	6'



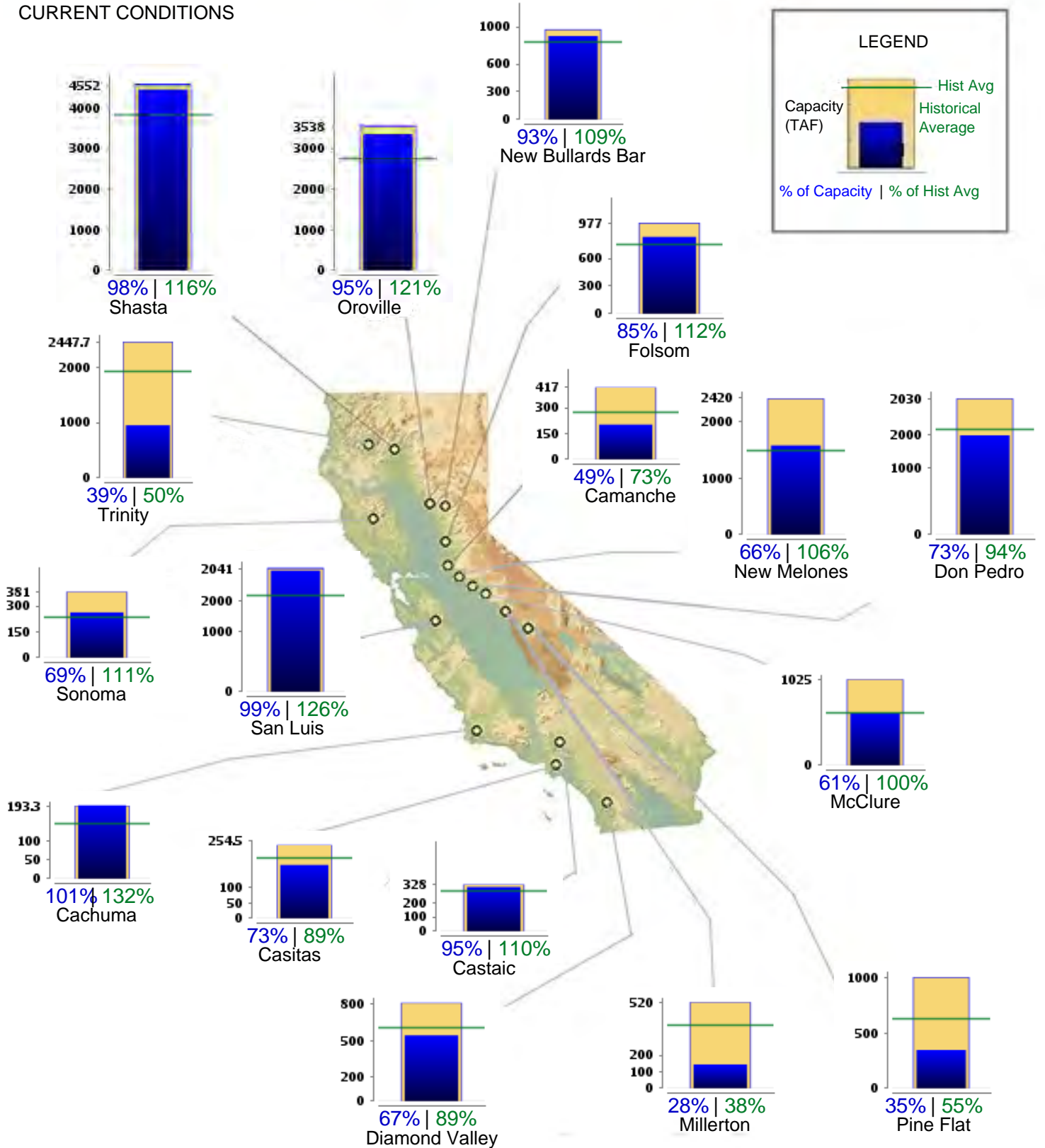


# CURRENT RESERVOIR CONDITIONS

## CALIFORNIA MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS

Midnight - May 10, 2023

### CURRENT CONDITIONS



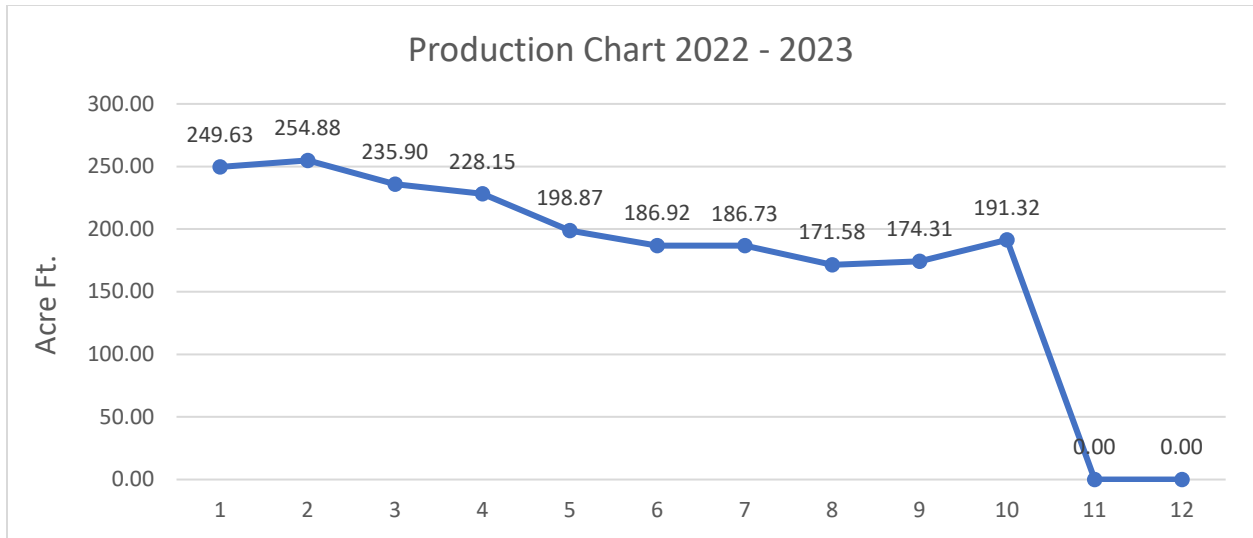








# Pico Water District Monthly Production Report



2023 Production Month of April: **191.32 Acre. Ft.**

Under 18.43 Acre. Ft. from 3 year Average.

Total Production for FY 2022 to 2023: **2078.26 Acre. Ft.**

Production Allowed: **3624.00 Acre. Ft.**

Lease of Pumping Rights: **120 Acre Ft.**

Total currently Leftover: **1425.74**