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KIND – HUMBLE, COURAGEOUS, PUT OTHERS FIRST

STRONG – RELIABLE, PERSEVERE, SEE IT THROUGH

CONNECT – JOYFUL, CAUSE OTHERS TO FEEL LIKE THEY BELONG



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

4843 S. Church Street
Pico Rivera, California, 90660

5:30 PM Wednesday, January 21, 2026

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 January 07, 2026, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

7. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS.

A. Consider Board Approval of IRS Increase of Standard Mileage Rate for Business use in 2026 from 70 cents per mile to 72.5 cents – *Recommended Action: that Board Discussion and Approve*

B. Consider Board Approval of the District’s Membership into the California Special Districts Association – *Recommended Action: that Board Discussion and Approve*

8. REPORTS.

A. General Manager.

B. Legal Counsel.

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Water Level Report – December 2025

B. State Reservoir Conditions – January 13, 2026

- C. Field Operations Monthly Activity Report – December 2025
- D. Monthly Ground Water Well Production Report – December 2025

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.
- B. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
[Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]: *City of Pico Rivera v. Pico Water District*, Los Angeles County Superior Court Case No. 24NWCP00165.
- C. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION
[Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(1)]: *Manuel Hernandez v. Pico Water District*
- D. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – INITIATION LITIGATION
[Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4)]: *One Case*

13. CLOSED SESSION REPORT.

14. ADJOURNMENT.

AGENDA POSTED ON: January 15, 2026

Next regularly scheduled meeting: February 04, 2026

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 CALENDAR ITEMS

PICO WATER DISTRICT

**MINUTES
of
BOARD MEETING
01/07/2026**

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 January 07, 2026 Regular Board Meeting Minutes.



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, January 7, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

The District's Director of Operations, Matt Tryon, proceeded with the roll call of the attending Board members. Present from the beginning of the meeting were Director David Angelo, Director Victor Caballero, Vice President Pete Ramirez, President Raymond Rodriguez, and Mr. Jim Ciampa, Legal Counsel for the District was present. The General Manager, Joe Basulto, participated via Zoom and Director David Gonzales arrived at 5:58 p.m.

President Raymond Rodriguez led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and Director Victor Caballero gave the invocation.

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

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the adoption of the Agenda. Director David Angelo made the motion to adopt the Agenda as presented and Director Victor Caballero seconded the motion. The Director of Operations announced the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4-0.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Approval of Consent Calendar, consisting of: (a) approval of the December 17, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Minutes, (b) approval of accounts now due and payable, and receive and file bills approved by General Manager November 2025, and (c) approval of November 2025 Financial Statement. The Office Manager, Tomas Rivera, provided a brief presentation of the November Financial Statement and highlighted key financial information. Director David Angelo made the motion to approve the Consent Calendar as described above and President Raymond Rodriguez seconded the motion. The Director of Operations announced the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4-0.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/Discussion Items. Action Item 7A. Consider Board Approval Attendance of the ACWA 2026 Spring and Fall Conference & Expo. The Director of Operations briefly presented the item for Board consideration. Pursuant to Resolution No. 214-R, Section 1-E, Board Members are limited to attending a total of two conferences per calendar year. In reviewing the conferences scheduled for 2026, staff proposed that the Board of Directors and Pico Water District's Management Team be approved to attend the AWWA 2026 Fall Conference & Expo, to be held May 5-7, 2026 in

Sacramento, California, and the ACWA 2026 Fall Conference & Expo, to be held December 1–3, 2026 in Anaheim, California. Staff noted that approval of the proposed conferences would allow for proper planning and preparation of travel accommodations. Vice President Pete Ramirez asked how many meetings a Director may attend and receive compensation in a particular day. Mr. Ciampa responded that compensation is limited to one meeting per day. Vice President Pete Ramirez made the motion to approve attendance at the ACWA Spring and Fall Conferences and Director Victor Caballero seconded the motion. The Director of Operations announced the motion passed by roll-call vote, 4-0.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Action/Discussion Items. Action Item 7B. Discussion of Pico Water District's 100th year Anniversary Celebration Itinerary. General Manager Basulto, provided a brief overview of the proposed plans for Pico Water District's 100th Year Anniversary Celebration and presented a draft itinerary for the Board's review. Mr. Basulto went into detail regarding the proposed itinerary, noting that the event is scheduled for June 26, 2026 at the WRD Albert Robles Center with an anticipated capacity of approximately 150 guests. The proposed program would include a formal presentation and ceremony, followed by a luncheon and a staff photograph. The item was presented for Board discussion and direction, and discussion ensued among all Directors.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, General Manager's Report. The Director of Operations reviewed the December quote: *"We all get the exact same 365 days. The only difference is what we do with them."* — Hillary Depiano. The Director of Operations reported on a meeting held with staff on Monday, January 5 to discuss the upcoming January schedule for billing and field operations. Mr. Tryon also reported on residential and commercial account disconnections, noting there were six service turn-offs due to nonpayment. In addition, he provided an update on Well # 4A, stating that work will resume next week, beginning with a video inspection followed by installation of a test pump.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Legal Counsel Report. Legal Counsel, Mr. Ciampa, reported that the Legislature returned to session on Monday, January 5 and that the next six weeks are expected to be busy with the introduction of new bills and the amendment of two-years that remain from the prior legislative year. He noted the Public Water Agencies Group has drafted legislation to create a new type of utility worker identification card, which would allow access in wildfire-affected areas once it is safe. Bob Reeb, the lobbyist representing Pico Water District, Bellflower-Somerset Mutual Water Company, Walnut Valley Water District and Rowland Water District, is shepherding the legislation through the process. Pico Water District will be listed as the sponsor, although the bill number is currently unknown. Mr. Ciampa explained that the IDs are intended to prevent issues like those experienced during last year's Eaton Fire, when utility workers were denied access to shut-off water meters, resulting in additional damage.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Informational Items. None at this time.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Director's Request for Future Items. None at this time.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Board Member Comments. Vice President Pete Ramirez asked a question regarding the language of SB707. Legal Counsel, Mr. Ciampa, explained that the most significant changes relate to “eligible legislative bodies,” which apply to larger districts with more than 200 employees. He noted other changes, including updates to remote meeting rules for board members, the elimination of the emergency circumstance provision, and the consolidation of “just cause” rules, which now cover matters previously under emergency circumstances as well as military leave. Mr. Ciampa also noted a new requirement that all board members must be provided a copy of the Brown Act, and staff will ensure copies are distributed. Additionally, he referenced SB827, which establishes a new fiscal and financial management training requirement for board members, to be completed by January 1, 2028. Mr. Ciampa stated that the impact of SB707 is not expected to be significant for Pico Water District.

President Raymond Rodriguez proceeded to the next item on the Agenda, Closed Session. There was no closed session.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the Board meeting adjourned at 6:13 p.m. The next Regular Meeting will be held on January 21, 2026 at 5:30 p.m.

Raymond Rodriguez, President

Attest:

Joe D. Basulto, Secretary
(Seal)

ACTION / DISCUSSION ITEMS

7. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS.

- A. Consider Board Approval of IRS Increase of Standard Mileage Rate for Business use in 2026 from 70 cents per mile to 72.5 cents**
- B. Consider Board Approval of the District's Membership into the California Special Districts Association**

PICO WATER DISTRICT

ACTION / DISCUSSION

ITEM - 7A

**Consider Board Approval of
IRS Increase of Standard
Mileage Rate for Business use in
2026 from 70 cents per mile to
72.5 cents**

STAFF REPORT

To: Honorable Board of Directors
From: Joe D. Basulto, General Manager
Meeting Date: January 21, 2026
Subject: 7A - Consider Board Approval of IRS Increase of Standard Mileage Rate for Business use in 2026 from 70 cents per mile to 72.5 cents

Recommendation

Discussion & Approve

Fiscal Impact

TBD

Background

Per Resolution No. 214-R Section 2-B, Mileage Reimbursement shall be at the current maximum allowable per mile rate established from time to time by the Internal Revenue Service.

Additional Info Attached.



IRS sets 2026 business standard mileage rate at 72.5 cents per mile, up 2.5 cents

IR-2025-128, Dec. 29, 2025

WASHINGTON — The Internal Revenue Service today announced that the optional standard mileage rate for business use of automobiles will increase by 2.5 cents in 2026, while the mileage rate for vehicles used for medical purposes will decrease by half a cent, reflecting updated cost data and annual inflation adjustments.

Optional standard mileage rates are used to calculate the deductible costs of operating vehicles for business, charitable, and medical purposes. Additionally, the optional standard mileage rate may be used to calculate the deductible costs of operating vehicles for moving purposes for certain active-duty members of the Armed Forces, and now, under the One, Big, Beautiful Bill, certain members of the intelligence community.

Beginning Jan. 1, 2026, the standard mileage rates for the use of a car, van, pickup or panel truck will be:

- 72.5 cents per mile [driven for business use](#), up 2.5 cents from 2025.
- 20.5 cents per mile driven for medical purposes, down a half cent from 2025.
- 20.5 cents per mile driven for moving purposes for certain active-duty members of the Armed Forces (and now certain members of the intelligence community), reduced by a half cent from last year.
- 14 cents per mile driven in service of charitable organizations, equal to the rate in 2025.

The rates apply to fully-electric and hybrid automobiles, as well as gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles.

While the mileage rate for charitable use is set by statute, the mileage rate for business use is based on an annual study of the fixed and variable costs of operating an automobile. The rate for medical and moving purposes, meanwhile, is based on only the variable costs from the annual study.

Under the law, taxpayers cannot claim a miscellaneous itemized deduction for unreimbursed employee travel expenses, except for certain educator expenses. However, deductions for expenses that are deductible in determining adjusted gross income remain allowable, such as for certain members of a reserve component of the Armed Forces, certain state and local government officials, certain performing artists, and eligible educators. Alternatively, eligible educators may claim an itemized deduction for certain unreimbursed employee travel

expenses. In addition, only taxpayers who are members of the military on active duty or certain members of the intelligence community may claim a deduction for moving expenses incurred while relocating under orders to a permanent change of station.

Use of the standard mileage rates is optional. Taxpayers may instead choose to calculate the actual costs of using their vehicle.

Taxpayers using the standard mileage rate for a vehicle they own and use for business must choose to use the rate in the first year the automobile is available for business use. Then, in later years, they can choose to use the standard mileage rate or actual expenses.

For a leased vehicle, taxpayers using the standard mileage rate must employ that method for the entire lease period, including renewals.

[Notice-2026-10](#) [PDF](#) contains the optional 2026 standard mileage rates, as well as the maximum automobile cost used to calculate mileage reimbursement allowances under a fixed-and variable rate plan. The notice also provides the maximum fair market value of employer-provided automobiles first made available to employees for personal use in 2026 for which employers may calculate mileage allowances using a cents-per-mile valuation rule or the fleet-average-valuation rule.

⚠ *News items may not be updated after their release. Please verify the date before relying on the language.*

PICO WATER DISTRICT

ACTION / DISCUSSION

ITEM - 7B

**Consider Board Approval of the
District's Membership into the
California Special Districts
Association**

STAFF REPORT

To: Honorable Board of Directors

From: Joe D. Basulto, General Manager

Meeting Date: January 21, 2026

Subject: 7B – Consider Board Approval of the District Membership into the California Special Districts Association;

Recommendation

Discussion & Approve

Fiscal Impact

Estimated (\$9,665)

Summary:

Staff recommends that the Board approve the District's membership in the California Special Districts Association (CSDA). CSDA is a statewide organization representing independent special districts and provides advocacy, education, professional development, and operational resources that support effective governance and compliance. Membership will provide direct benefits to the District:

- **Legislative Advocacy:** Representation of special district interests before the California Legislature, state agencies, and regulatory bodies. Timely legislative updates and analysis of bills that may impact the District's operations, finances, and governance.
- **Governance and Professional Development:** Training programs for Board members, including ethics, Brown Act, Public Records Act, and governance best practices. Professional development opportunities for staff through workshops, webinars, and conferences.
- **Resources and Technical Assistance:** Access to policy manuals, sample resolutions, employment resources, and operational best practices tailored to special districts. Guidance on compliance with state laws and regulations affecting special districts.
- **Networking and Collaboration:** Opportunities to collaborate with peer agencies facing similar operational and governance challenges. Participation in regional chapter meetings and statewide events.

The annual cost of membership is modest relative to the value of services received and can be accommodated within the current budget. Overall, CSDA membership would strengthen the District's

ability to remain informed, compliant, and effective while providing valuable support to both the Board and staff.

Background

The California Special Districts Association (CSDA) is a nonprofit membership association that represents nearly all of California's independent special districts. CSDA's mission is to support special districts through advocacy, education, and collaboration, while protecting local control and promoting good governance.

Special districts operate within a complex regulatory and legislative environment. CSDA serves as a unified voice for special districts at the State Capitol and before regulatory agencies, ensuring that the unique needs and perspectives of special districts are considered in policymaking.

The District is currently not a member of CSDA. Staff has evaluated the benefits of membership and believes that joining CSDA would enhance the District's operational effectiveness and governance capacity.

Fiscal Impact

The annual CSDA membership cost is approximately \$9,665.00, based on the District's Operating Revenue set at Category 30 for Operating Revenue between 5million and 7.5Million. This cost can be funded within the existing FY 2026 operating budget and will be included in future annual budget considerations if membership is maintained.

Recommendation

Staff believes that membership in the California Special Districts Association will provide significant value to the District by enhancing advocacy efforts, improving governance and compliance, and supporting professional development. For these reasons, staff recommend that the Board approve the District's membership in CSDA.

INFORMATION ITEMS

9. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- A. Water Level Report – December 2025
- B. State Reservoir Conditions – January 13, 2026
- C. Field Operations Monthly Activity Report – December 2025
- D. Monthly Ground Water Well Production Report – December 2025

PICO WATER DISTRICT

WATER LEVEL REPORT

December 2025

WATER LEVELS REPORT

Water Levels for December 2025

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.

Readings Reported

Central Basin 1601T	N/A	N/A
Carson Well	N/A	N/A

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.

December 2025

	Static	Pumping	Flow Rate	Drawdown	Well Depth	Pump Depth Top of Bowls
Well #4A	48'	N/A	N/A	N/A	420'	150'
Well #5A	79'	98'	1085gpm	20'	900'	242'
Well #8	65'	75'	572gpm	10'	474'	243'
Well #10	49'	57'	336gpm	8'	605'	182'
Well #11	77'	83'	792gpm	6'	1020'	312'

December 2024

	Static	Pumping	Flow Rate	Drawdown
Well #4A	42'	N/A	N/A	N/A
Well #5A	79'	90'	768gpm	11'
Well #8	63'	69'	452gpm	6'
Well #10	39'	50'	516gpm	11'
Well #11	74'	87'	1877gpm	13'

PICO WATER DISTRICT

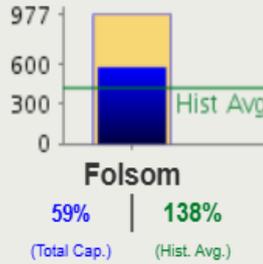
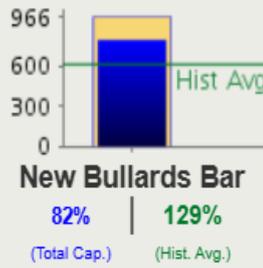
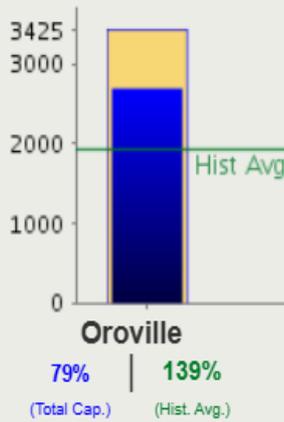
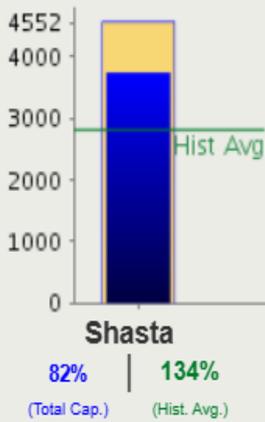
STATE RESERVOIR

January 13, 2026

CURRENT CONDITIONS: MAJOR WATER SUPPLY RESERVOIRS:13-JAN-2026

Data as of Midnight: 13-Jan-2026

Change Date: 13-Jan-2026



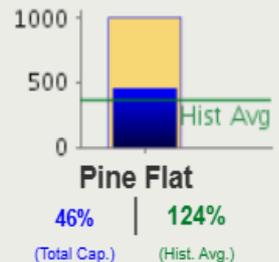
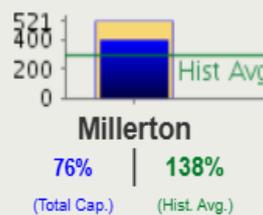
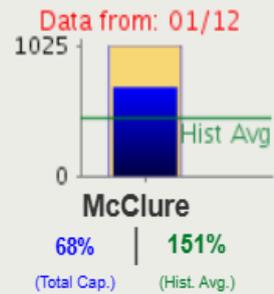
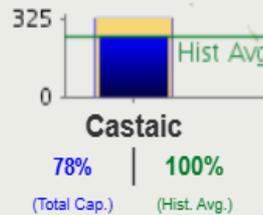
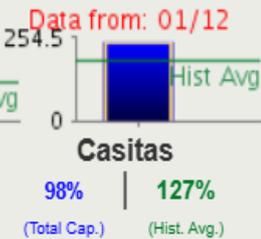
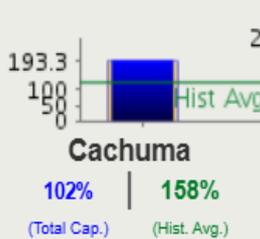
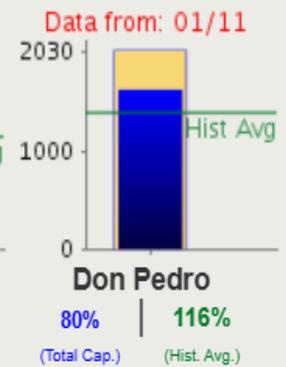
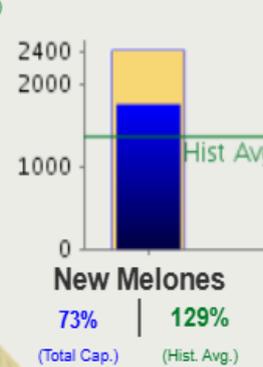
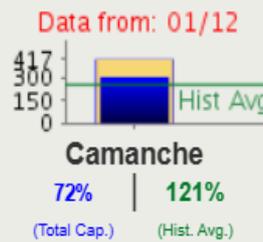
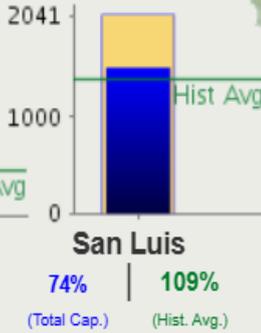
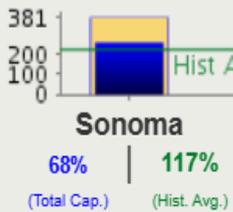
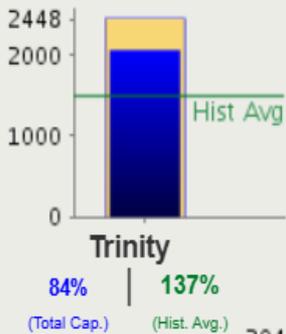
LEGEND

- Blue Bar:** Storage level for date
- Gold Bar:** Total reservoir capacity
- Green Line:** Historic level for date.

Capacity (TAF) | Historical Avg Mark

% of Capacity | % Hist. Avg.

(Click res. 3 char. code for details)



[Click to download printable version of current data.](#)

Report Generated: 14-Jan-2026 8:59 AM

The CSI link has been disabled to zoom in, for the lack of historical data.

PICO WATER DISTRICT

**OPERATIONS MONTHLY
ACTIVITY REPORT**

December 2025

Annual Activity Report

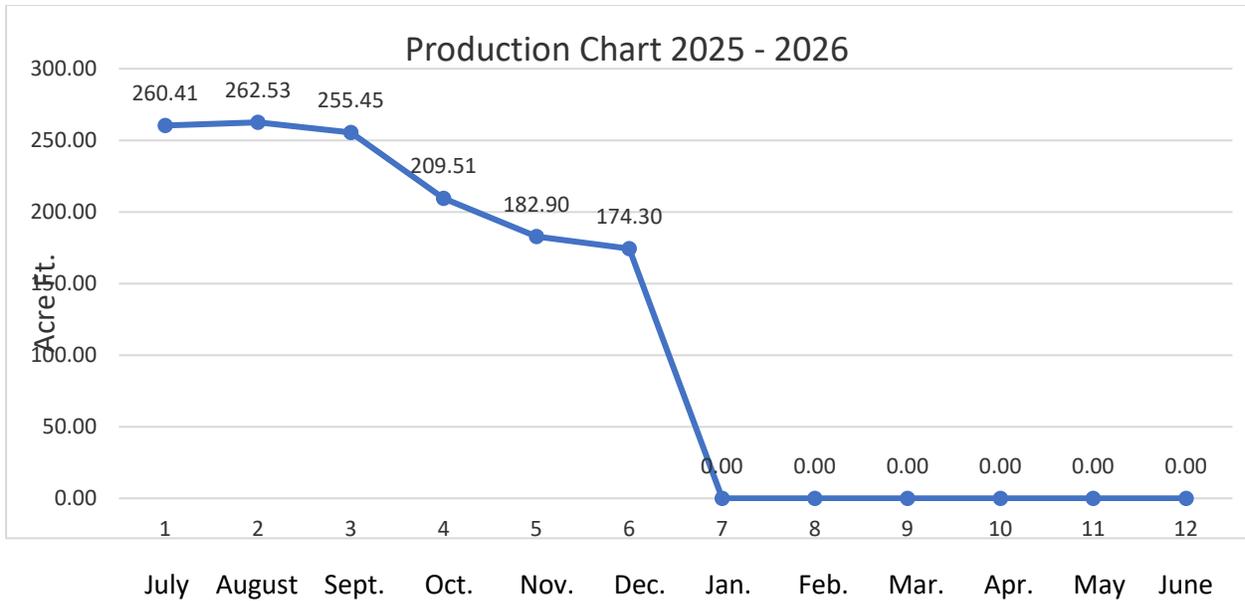
2025		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
1	Mainline leaks	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	11
2	Service line leaks	1	2	4	5	2	4	3	2	6	6	3	2	40
3	Meter leaks	5	4	2	2	5	2	7	6	3	2	1	1	40
4	Number of Valves exercised	2	1	16	31	26	1	14	1	2	0	49	20	163
5	Well issues	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	4
6	Hit Fire Hydrants	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	5
7	Accidents	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Installation / Replacement of new meters	75	96	83	64	41	12	68	57	36	7	28	1	568
9	Installation / Replacement of new service laterals	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
10	Installation / Replacement of new valves	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
11	Hydrant Repair & Replace	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	5
12	Installation of new mains	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
13	New potable services	0	3	0	19	0	0	0	0	1	0	13	0	36
14	New recycled water services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Dig Alerts Responded To	143	233	292	336	212	213	226	204	208	162	139	162	2530

PICO WATER DISTRICT

**GROUND WATER
PRODUCTION REPORT**

December 2025

Pico Water District Monthly Production Report



2025 Production Month of **December: 174.30 Acre. Ft.**

19.54Acre. Ft. Below the 3 year Average of 193.84

Total Production for FY 2025 to 2026: **1343.10 Acre Ft.**

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

Lease of Pumping Rights: **None to Report**

Total currently Leftover: **2280.90Acre. Ft.**

AGENDA END