SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

Scotts Valley Water District

2025 Urban Water Management Plan

Final

Shobe Engineering
Resilient and Efficient Solutions

June 16, 2026

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Prepared by

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Acknowledgements

This document was prepared in collaboration with Shobe Engineering LLP, Scotts Valley Water District (SVWD or District), and Montgomery & Associates, the hydrogeologic consultant for the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (SMGA).

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Table of Contents

APPENDICES

List of Figures

List of Tables

ACRONYMS & ABBREVIATIONS

AF	Acre-Feet
AFY	Acre-Feet per Year
AMI	Advanced Metering Infrastructure
AWWA	American Water Works Association
CII	Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional
DRA	Drought Risk Assessment
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
ELWL	Economic Level of Water Loss
GPCD	Gallons per Capita per Day
GPM	Gallons per Minute
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
MG	Million Gallons
MGD	Million Gallons per Day
RHNA	Regional Housing Needs Allocation
SB 555	Senate Bill 555 (Water Loss Audits and Standards)
SB X7-7	Senate Bill X7-7 (20x2020 Water Conservation Plan)
SMGB	Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin
SMGWA	Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency
SVWD	Scotts Valley Water District
SWRCB	California State Water Resources Control Board
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
UWUO	Urban Water Use Objective
WSCP	Water Shortage Contingency Plan

CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background and Purpose

The Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) is a long-term planning document required by the California Urban Water Management Planning Act (California Water Code Division 6, Part 2.6, Sections § 10610–10657). Urban water suppliers serving more than 3,000 customers or delivering more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually must prepare and adopt an UWMP every five years and submit it to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

The UWMP evaluates current and projected water supplies and demands over a 20-year planning horizon and demonstrates the reliability of water service under normal, single-dry, and multiple dry year conditions. The UWMP also documents water shortage contingency planning, demand management measures, and other elements required by the Water Code.

This 2025 UWMP has been prepared for the Scotts Valley Water District (District or SVWD) in accordance with the DWR 2025 UWMP Guidebook and applicable provisions of the California Water Code. Following adoption by the District, the UWMP will be submitted to DWR for review. DWR reviews UWMPs for completeness and compliance with statutory requirements but does not approve or certify the plans.

1.2 Regulatory Context for 2025 UWMP

State water management regulations have evolved over recent UWMP cycles to place increasing emphasis on water use efficiency, system performance, and long-term sustainability.

Earlier planning efforts included implementation of the Water Conservation Act of 2009 (SB X7-7), which established a target to reduce urban per capita water use by 20 percent by 2020. Subsequent regulatory updates introduced annual water loss audits through Senate Bill 555, requiring urban water suppliers to quantify and report distribution system losses.

More recent legislation, including Senate Bill 606 and Assembly Bill 1668 (“Making Conservation a California Way of Life”), established Urban Water Use Objectives (UWUO) and water loss performance standards administered by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB).

While compliance with UWUO and water loss standards is regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and not DWR, the 2025 UWMP incorporates related information to support long-term supply and demand planning. This includes reporting on water loss audit results and progress toward meeting the 2028 water loss performance standards established by the State.

The UWMP serves as both a regulatory requirement and a planning tool to support informed decision-making and communication with customers, governing officials, and regulatory agencies.

1.3 2025 UWMP Organization

The 2025 UWMP is organized into the chapters summarized below (Table 1-1). In the previous UWMP cycle (2020 UWMP), the District prepared as a joint document with its neighboring water supplier, San Lorenzo Valley Water District (SLVWD). The 2025 UWMP has been prepared independently by the Scotts Valley Water District to improve clarity and usability.

For reference, the table below serves as a crosswalk between the 2025 UWMP chapter organization and the corresponding sections of the prior 2020 UWMP.

Table 1-1: Cross-Reference Table for 2025 UWMP and 2020 UWMP Chapters

2025 UWMP Chapters	Title	Description	2020 UWMP Chapter Reference
Chapter 1	**Introduction and Lay Description**	Provides background on the UWMP requirements and an overview of the Chapters	Ch. 1
Chapter 2	**Plan Preparation and Adoption**	Provides an overview of the preparation process including coordination and outreach, public review, and adoption	Ch. 2
Chapter 3	**Service Area Description**	Describes the water system service area, population demographics, climate, and land uses. Establishes the population projections through 2050	Ch. 3
Chapter 4	**Water Use Characterization**	Describes and quantifies current and projected water use through 2050 within the service area by customer category, for potable and raw water, and accounting for water use reductions.	Ch. 4
Chapter 5	**SBX7-7 Baseline, 2020 Target, and 2025 Reporting**	Provides Water Conservation Act of 2009 (SBX7-7) reporting requirements and describes the nexus to other state water efficiency standards	Ch. 6
Chapter 6	**Water Supply Characterization**	Describes Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin, quantifies current and project groundwater supply, and supports the Drought Risk Assessment	Ch. 8, Ch. 9
Chapter 7	**Water Service Reliability & Drought Risk Assessment**	Describes the water supply during normal, single dry, and multiple dry water years through 2050 and includes a Drought Risk Assessment for the next five years	Ch. 11
Chapter 8	**Water Shortage Contingency Plan**	Presents an overview of the revised and adopted Water Shortage Contingency Plan (full version is in Appendix D)	Ch. 13
Chapter 9	**Demand Management Measures**	Describes efforts to promote efficiency water use, reduce water demand, and minimize water waste.	Ch. 14

1.4 UWMP Relationship to Other Planning Efforts

The UWMP is coordinated with the District's broader water resources planning efforts, including water supply planning, capital improvement planning, and drought response planning.

The District's Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) has been prepared as a standalone document and is included in this UWMP as **Appendix D**. The WSCP establishes a framework for managing water shortages through staged response actions and is designed to be updated as needed to reflect changing conditions and operational considerations.

The UWMP also reflects coordination with regional groundwater management efforts under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The District is located within the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin (SMGB) and participates in regional planning efforts through the Santa Margarita Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) adopted in 2022 establishes basin management objectives, monitoring programs, and sustainability criteria that inform long-term water supply planning.

Information from the GSP, including groundwater conditions and basin management considerations, has been incorporated into this UWMP as appropriate to support evaluation of water supply reliability and drought response planning.

1.5 Grant and Loan Eligibility

Preparation and adoption of an UWMP is required for eligibility for certain State funding programs administered by DWR and the SWRCB. Maintaining an up-to-date UWMP allows the District to pursue funding opportunities for water supply, infrastructure, and resiliency projects.

CHAPTER 2 PLAN PREPARATION AND ADOPTION

2.1 Basis for Preparing an UWMP

This UWMP was prepared by the Scotts Valley Water District (District or SVWD) in accordance with the California Urban Water Management Planning Act and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) 2025 UWMP Guidebook (final was released in January 2026). The UWMP must be adopted by the District and submitted to DWR by July 1, 2026 after undergoing public review.

Table 2-1 identifies the District's public water system information as reported to DWR.

Table 2-1: Public Water Systems (DWR 2-1R)

Public Water System Number	Public Water System Name	Number of Municipal Connections 2025	Volume of Water Supplied 2025 (AF)
CA4410013	Scotts Valley Water District	4,029	1,198

The UWMP was developed using available data on water production, consumption, service connections, and population, along with local and regional planning assumptions regarding future growth and water use. The District coordinated internally and with technical consultants to evaluate water demand, water supply availability, and system reliability over the planning horizon.

The UWMP reflects current system conditions and incorporates updated information since the 2020 UWMP, including refinements to population and demand projections, updated water use data, and coordination with groundwater and supply planning efforts.

2.2 Supplier and Plan Information

This is an individual UWMP for the District. The District is not part of a regional UWMP nor a regional alliance (**Table 2-2**). The District is a retail supplier that relies primarily on groundwater. No water is purchased from a wholesale supplier. The units of measure within this UWMP are in acre-feet (AF) unless otherwise noted. Water measurements are reported on a calendar year basis (**Table 2-3**).

Table 2-2: Plan Identification (DWR 2-2)

Select One or Both	Type of Plan	Name of Regional Alliance or RUWMP
☑	**Individual UWMP**	
	☐ Water Supplier is also a member of a SB X7-7 Regional Alliance	
☐	**Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP)**	

Table 2-3: Supplier Identification (DWR 2-3)

Type of Supplier (select one or both)	
☐	Supplier is a wholesale supplier
☑	Supplier is a retail supplier
Fiscal or Calendar Year (select one)	
☑	UWMP Tables are in calendar years
☐	UWMP Tables are in fiscal years
If using fiscal years provide month and date that the fiscal year begins (mm/dd)	
Units of measure used in UWMP	
Unit	AF

2.3 Coordination and Outreach

Preparation of the UWMP included coordination with local agencies and stakeholders involved in water supply, land use planning, and regional resource management.

Consistent with Water Code §10631, the District provided notification to cities and counties within which it provides water service, as well as other public agencies that may be affected by or have an interest in the UWMP. The notifications were provided at least 60 days in advance of the public hearing to review and adopt the UWMP. These agencies were invited to participate in the UWMP planning process and provide input as appropriate. A full list of recipients names, agencies and departments is included in notification and outreach materials (**Appendix B**).

The District also coordinated, as applicable, with regional planning efforts, including groundwater management activities and related technical studies informing water supply reliability and long-term planning.

Table 2-4: Agency Coordination (DWR 10-1R)

City / Special District / Agency Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
City of Scotts Valley	Yes	Yes
City of Santa Cruz	Yes	Yes
Big Basin Water Company	Yes	Yes
County Board of Supervisors	Yes	Yes
Mt. Hermon Association	Yes	Yes
Santa Cruz LAFCO	Yes	Yes
San Lorenzo Valley Water District	Yes	Yes
Scotts Valley Fire District	Yes	Yes
Soquel Creek Water District	Yes	Yes
County Name	**60 Day Notice**	**Notice of Public Hearing**
Santa Cruz County	Yes	Yes

2.4 UWMP Adoption, Submittal, and Implementation

2.4.1 Notice of UWMP Adoption

The District is committed to maintaining an open and transparent planning process. The UWMP has been developed with opportunities for public review and input in accordance with the California Water Code.

A draft UWMP will be made available for public review for at least 14 days prior to the public hearing. Notice of the public hearing will be published in a local newspaper in accordance with statutory requirements, including at least two notices not less than five days apart. The notice will include the time and location of the hearing and information on how to access the draft UWMP.

Members of the public will have the opportunity to provide written and oral comments prior to and during the public hearing.

2.4.2 Water Shortage Contingency Plan Adoption

The District has prepared an updated Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) in accordance with Water Code §10632. The WSCP is included in this UWMP as an appendix and has been prepared as a standalone document specific to the Scotts Valley Water District.

The WSCP will be adopted by the District's Board of Directors in a separate public hearing process prior to the UWMP adoption. Once adopted, the WSCP will serve as the District's operational plan for responding to water shortages and may be updated independently of the UWMP, consistent with applicable Water Code requirements.

2.4.3 Public Hearing and Adoption

The District's Board of Directors will hold a public hearing to review the draft UWMP. After the public hearing, the board may consider adoption of the 2025 UWMP. The board will adopt the UWMP by resolution. Copies of the adopted UWMP and WSCP will be made available to the public and provided to agencies identified in the notification process.

2.4.4 Submittal of the UWMP and WSCP

Following adoption, the UWMP and WSCP will be submitted to the DWR within 30 days through WUE Data Portal, consistent with Water Code §10644. Copies will also be made available on the District website.

2.4.5 Amending the UWMP and WSCP

Amendments to the UWMP and WSCP will be on an as-needed basis, either on the 5-year regulatory cycle or sooner if significant changes occur. Amendments will follow the notice and adoption procedures required in the water code.

CHAPTER 3 SERVICE AREA DESCRIPTION

3.1 General Description

3.1.1 Water Service Area

The District provides potable and recycled water service to the City of Scotts Valley and surrounding areas in Santa Cruz County. The District is located within the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin and serves a primarily residential community with supporting commercial and institutional uses.

The District's potable water service area generally overlaps with the City of Scotts Valley, with approximately 68 percent of the service area located within City limits. The remaining portions extend into unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County.

The District operates both potable and recycled water systems. Recycled water is produced by the City of Scotts Valley at the Water Reclamation Facility and delivered by the District to customers for non-potable uses. In addition to serving customers within its potable service area, the District provides recycled water service to the Spring Lakes Mobile Home Park, which is located within the City of Scotts Valley but outside the District's potable service area boundary, within the San Lorenzo Valley Water District service area.

The service area boundary is shown on **Figure 3-1**.

3.1.2 Jurisdictional Boundary Changes

The District's jurisdictional framework includes its service area boundary, Sphere of Influence (SOI), and coordination with adjacent agencies. The potable water service area defines the geographic area in which the District provides retail water service.

The District's service area largely coincides with the City of Scotts Valley boundary, with approximately 68 percent overlap. Areas outside the City limits but within the District are located in unincorporated Santa Cruz County.

The District's Sphere of Influence is established by the Santa Cruz Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) and was most recently updated on April 5, 2023, with minor adjustments.

3.1.3 Potable Water System

The District's potable water system is supplied primarily by local groundwater sources within the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin. Groundwater is extracted from a series of municipal production wells and conveyed to treatment facilities prior to distribution to customers.

The infrastructure includes five active groundwater wells, three water treatment plants, eight storage tanks operated in eleven pressure zones within a distribution network throughout the service area. The supply infrastructure is designed to meet both average day demands and peak demands, including fire flow requirements.

The District is currently completing the City of Santa Cruz – Scotts Valley Intertie Project. The project will connect the two agencies' treated water systems and provide the District with access to surface water

supplies. Once operational, the intertie will support conjunctive use management of the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin and improve regional supply reliability.

The District maintains an emergency intertie with the San Lorenzo Valley Water District, which allows for the transfer of water during emergency conditions; however, this connection is not used for routine supply or planned exchanges.

A general overview of the potable water system is shown on **Figure 3-2**.

3.1.4 Recycled Water System

The District operates a recycled water system that provides a supplemental, non-potable water supply for irrigation and other approved uses. Recycled water is produced by the City of Scotts Valley at the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF), where wastewater is treated to Title 22 tertiary standards suitable for unrestricted non-potable use.

Under an existing agreement, the City provides recycled water to the District, which is responsible for the storage, conveyance, and retail distribution of recycled water to customers. The recycled water system includes dedicated pipelines and infrastructure separate from the potable system.

Recycled water is primarily used for landscape irrigation, including commercial, public, and common area landscaping. The system serves a substantial portion of commercial and landscape irrigation demands within the service area and represents approximately 10 percent of total water use.

A general overview of the recycled water system is shown on **Figure 3-3**.

3.2 Service Area Climate

The District is located in the Santa Cruz Mountains and experiences a Mediterranean climate characterized by cool, wet winters and warm, dry summers. Most precipitation occurs between November and April, with limited rainfall during the summer months.

Average annual precipitation in the Scotts Valley area is approximately 25 to 30 inches, with typical monthly rainfall during the wet season ranging from approximately 3 to 4 inches. Temperatures are generally moderate due to coastal influences, with average conditions ranging from approximately 45°F to 75°F and occasional extremes outside this range (Table 3-1).

Precipitation varies from year to year, influencing local hydrologic conditions. The District relies on groundwater from the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin, which is recharged in part by seasonal rainfall.

Table 3-1: Average Climate

Climate Condition	Value Range
Average Temperatures	45°F – 75°F
Extreme Temperatures	32°F – 90°F
Annual Average Precipitation	25-30 inches
Monthly Average Precipitation (Wet Season)	3-4 inches

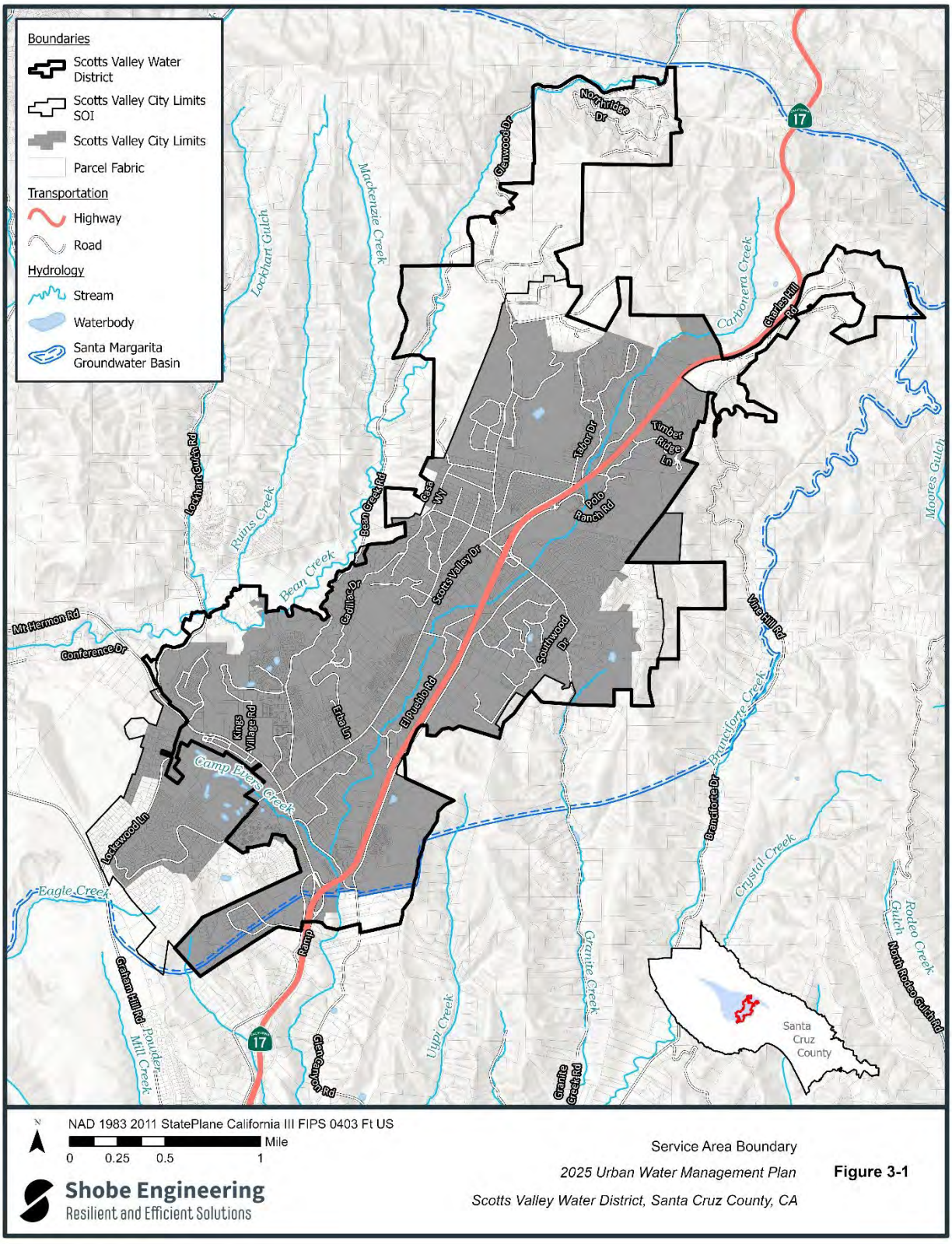

Figure 3-1: Service Area Boundary

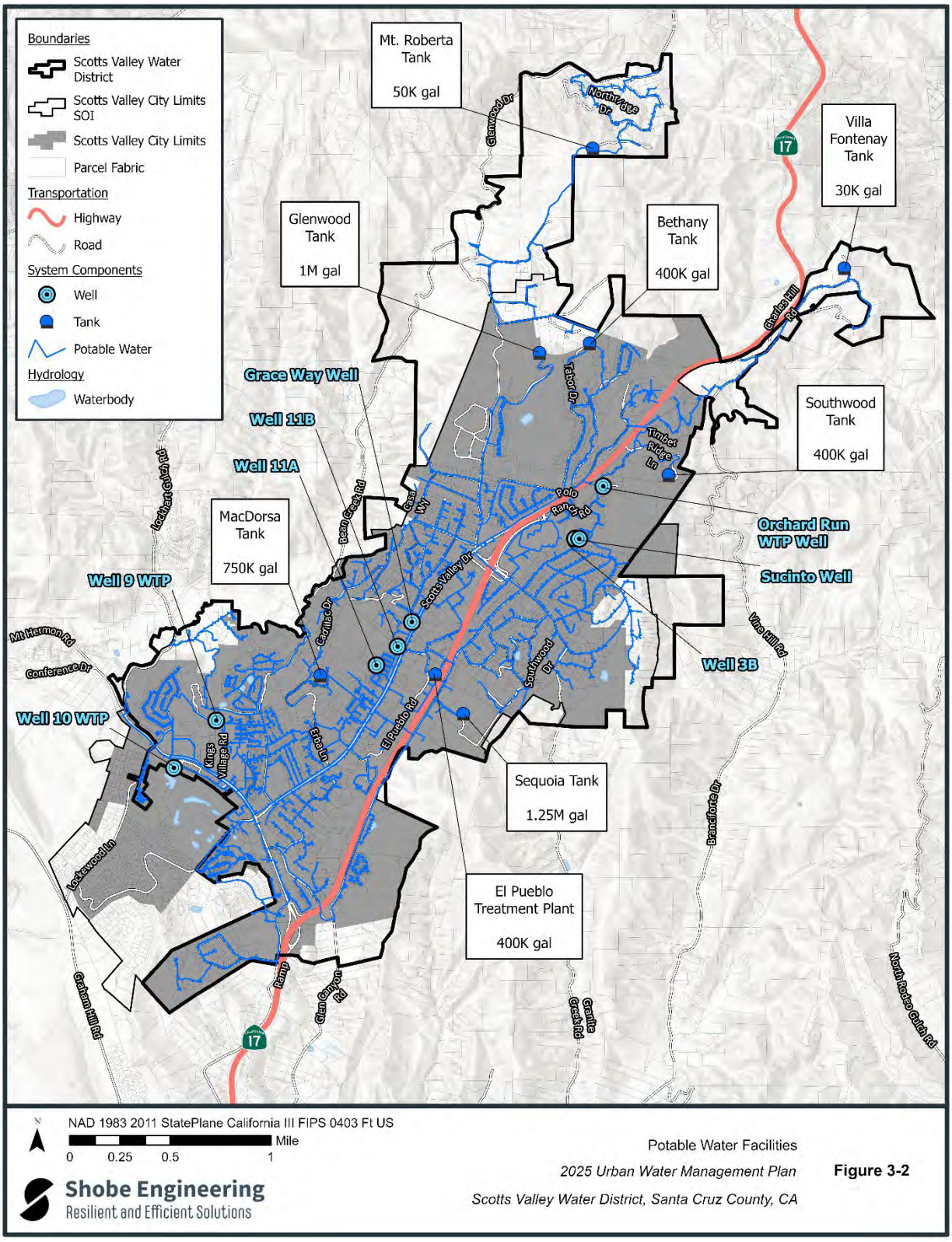

Figure 3-2: Potable water Facilities

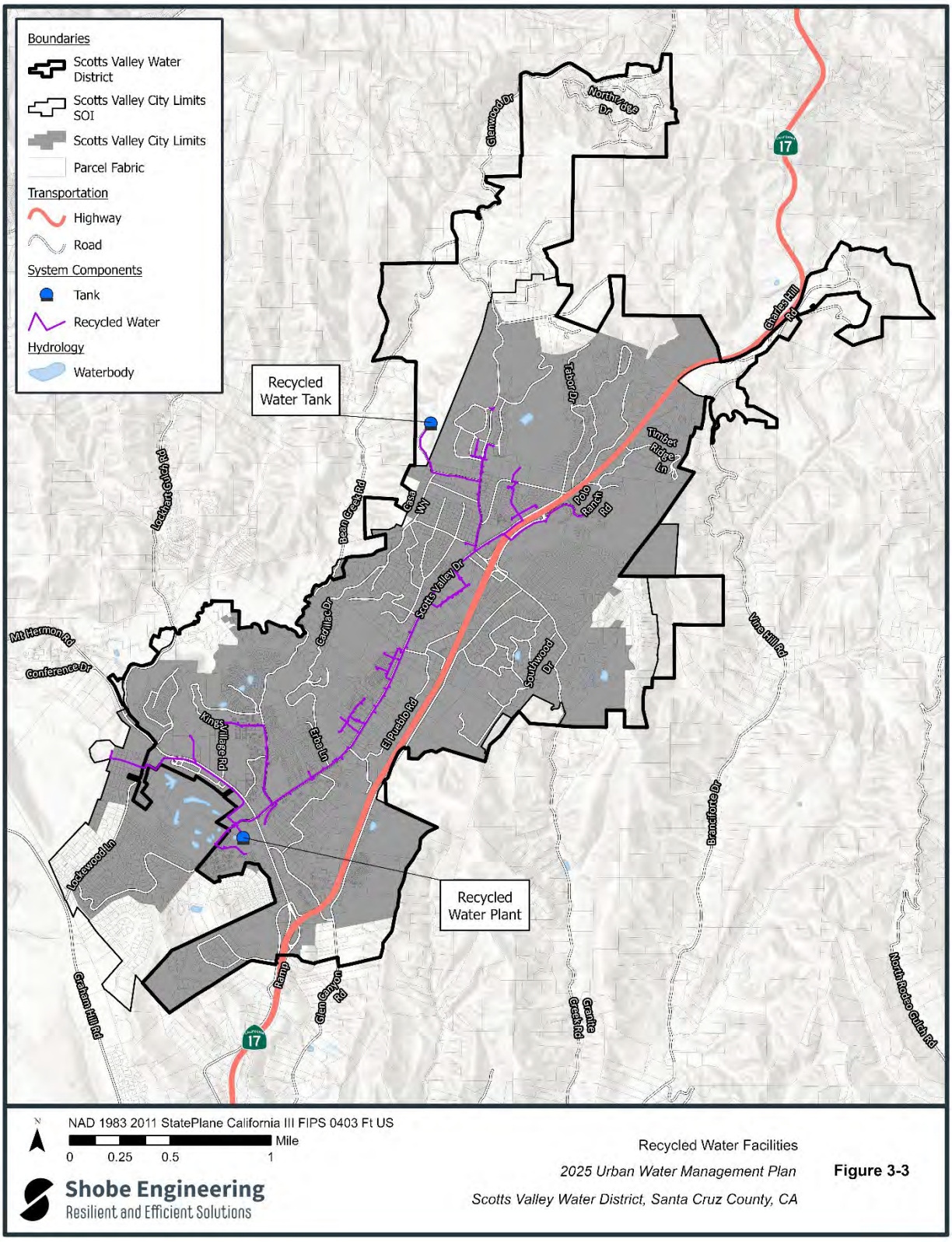

Figure 3-3: Recycled Water Facilities

3.3 Service Area Population and Demographics

3.3.1 Current Population and Service Connections

Population within the District's service area is informed by the City of Scotts Valley General Plan and the number of potable water service connections.

As of 2025, the District serves approximately 3,440 single-family residential connections and 116 multi-family residential connections. Multi-family residential service is primarily provided through master-metered connections, which correspond to approximately 531 multi-family dwelling units. The total number of residential dwelling units within the District is estimated at approximately 3,971 units.

The current population within the District service area is estimated by applying a 2.6 persons-per-household factor from the City of Scotts Valley General Plan (2023), which is derived from U.S. Census data. Appling this to the total number of households results in an estimated current population of approximately 9,924.

3.3.2 Planned Development and Growth Assumptions

Future population growth within the District service area is informed primarily by the City of Scotts Valley General Plan (2023) and Housing Element. The General Plan projects approximately 1,199 additional housing units by 2045, corresponding to an increase of approximately 3,000 residents within the City.

Based on available planning information, approximately 1,000 units are expected to occur within the District's service area, with approximately 200 units identified outside the service area. This establishes growth basis through 2045, beyond which growth is assumed at a rate consistent with historical trends.

Planned development includes a mix of housing types, with emphasis anticipated on higher-density residential, as reflected in the City's Housing Element and identified candidate housing sites.

Table 3-2 provides estimated population from 2025 through 2050.

Table 3-2: Current and Projected Population (DWR 3-1R)

Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
	9,924	10,676	11,419	12,162	12,905	13,548

3.3.3 Other Social, Economic, and Demographic Factors

The District's service area is primarily residential, with a stable customer base and limited industrial or large commercial demand. While future development is expected to include a greater proportion of higher-density residential uses, demographic conditions are not anticipated to significantly alter overall water use patterns beyond those reflected in projected population growth and land use.

3.4 Land Uses within the Service Area

3.4.1 Land Use within the Service Area

Land use within the District's service area is predominantly residential, reflecting the character of the City of Scotts Valley. Residential areas consist primarily of single-family development, with multi-family housing located in more concentrated areas of the City. Commercial and institutional uses are generally limited and are distributed along major corridors and within defined commercial areas.

Open space and undeveloped lands are also present within and surrounding the service area, consistent with the City's setting within the Santa Cruz Mountains. These areas contribute to the overall land use pattern but represent a smaller portion of water demand.

Land use within the service area is shown on **Figure 3-4**.

3.4.2 Land Use within the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin

The District is located within the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin, which includes a mix of residential, commercial, and open space land uses. Within the basin, development is concentrated within the City of Scotts Valley and surrounding communities, while significant areas remain undeveloped or in open space.

Land use within the basin influences groundwater recharge and overall basin conditions. However, detailed groundwater management and basin conditions are addressed through the Santa Margarita Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Land use within the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin is shown on **Figure 3-5**.

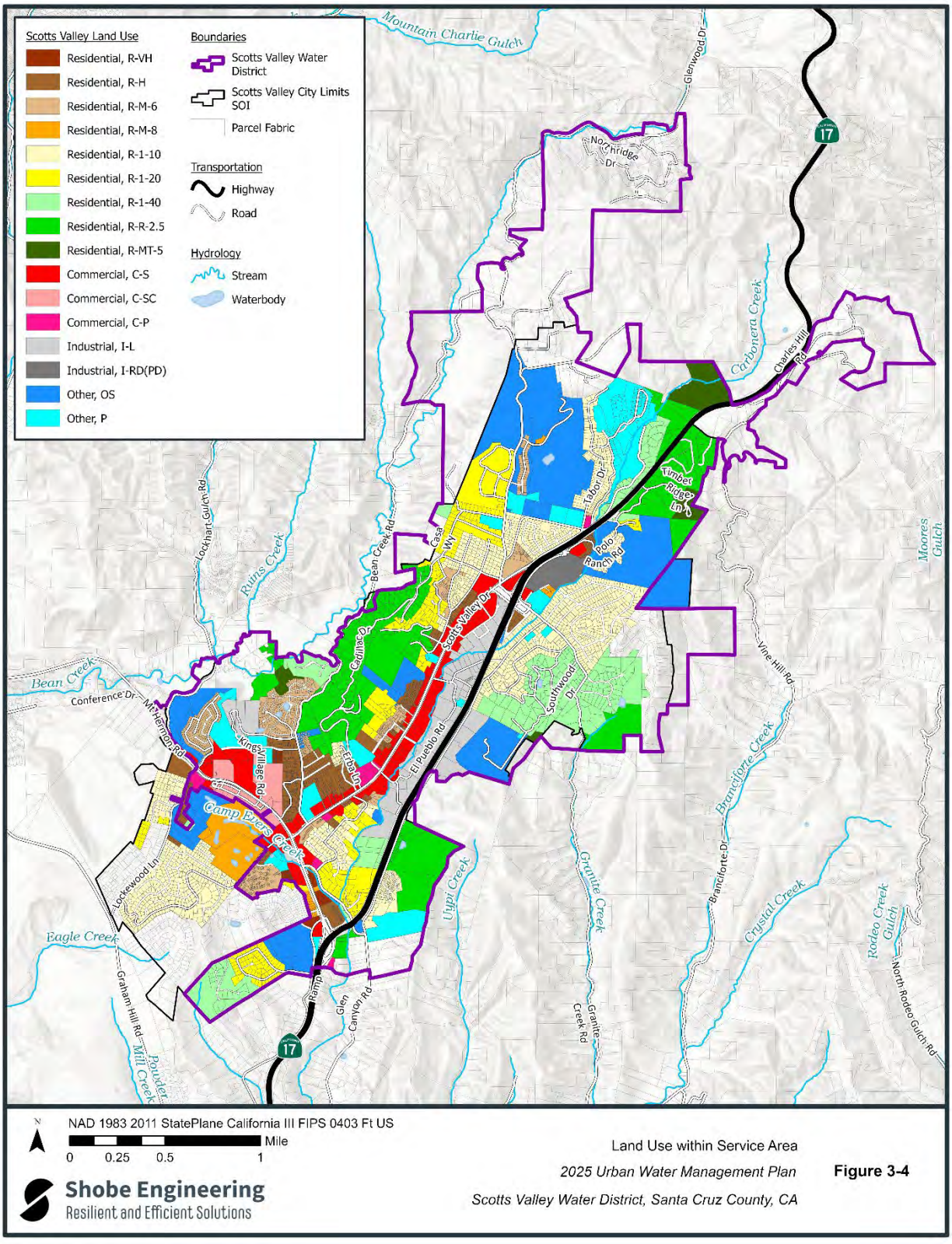

Figure 3-4: Land Use within Service Area

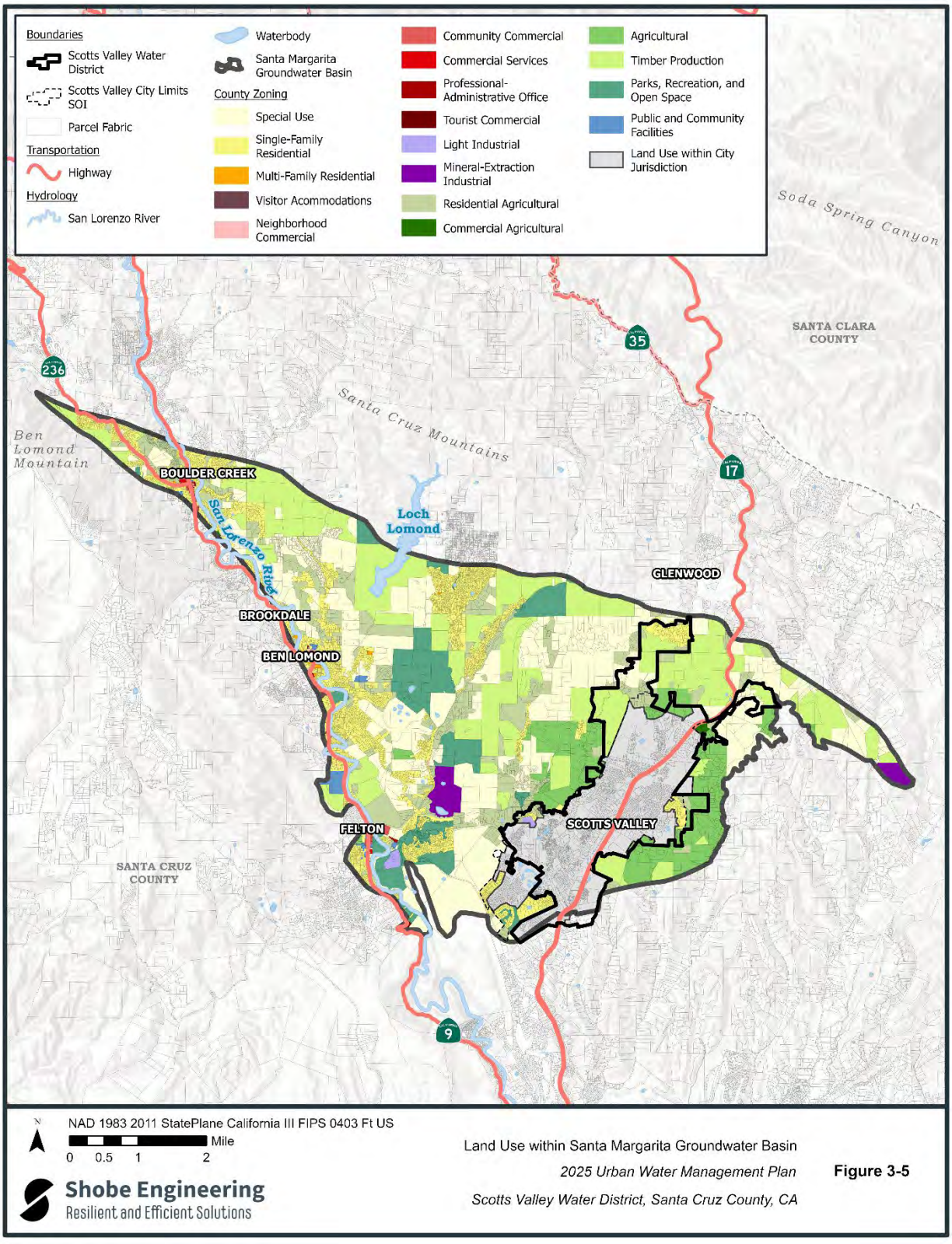

Figure 3-5: Land Use within Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin

CHAPTER 4 WATER USE CHARACTERIZATION

4.1 Non-Potable Versus Potable Water Use

The District supplies water to customers through two distinct systems: a potable water system and a recycled (non-potable) water system. Potable water is supplied from groundwater sources and is used for all indoor uses and a portion of outdoor uses. Recycled water is produced by the City of Scotts Valley at the Water Reclamation Facility and is distributed by the District for approved non-potable uses, primarily landscape irrigation.

Potable and recycled water demands are tracked and reported separately, as the two supplies are not interchangeable for all uses and are subject to different regulatory and operational considerations. Recycled water use offsets potable water demand where available and is considered as part of the District's overall water use characterization.

Total potable and non-potable water use are presented in subsequent sections of this chapter.

4.2 Historical Water Use Trend

The District maintains records of potable and recycled water production to evaluate historical demand trends. Figures 4-1 and 4-2 present historical potable and recycled water production, respectively, along with corresponding service connections. These historical trends provide the basis for evaluating current water use characteristics and developing future demand projections.

4.2.1 Historical Potable Water Trends

Overall, the District has experienced a declining trend in water use over time, with some variability reflecting broader economic and hydrologic conditions. Notable fluctuations occurred during the 2008 economic recession and the 2013–2015 drought period.

Since 2017, potable water production has steadily declined from approximately 1,195 acre-feet per year (AFY) to 1,046 AFY in 2025, representing an average reduction of approximately 16 AFY per year (approximately 1.5 percent annually). Over the same period, the number of potable water service connections has increased, primarily within the single-family residential category.

4.2.2 Historical Recycled Water Trends

Recycled water production has remained relatively stable, with a slight decline from approximately 178 AFY in 2017 to approximately 152 AFY in 2025. During this period, the number of recycled water service connections has increased, reflecting gradual expansion of recycled water use within the service area.

Changes in customer classification have also occurred over time. In prior years, recycled water use included a separate customer category for the Spring Lakes Mobile Home Park under a special rate structure. Beginning in October 2024, this category was consolidated into the broader landscape irrigation category. This change in classification may contribute to minor variations in reported recycled water use trends over time.

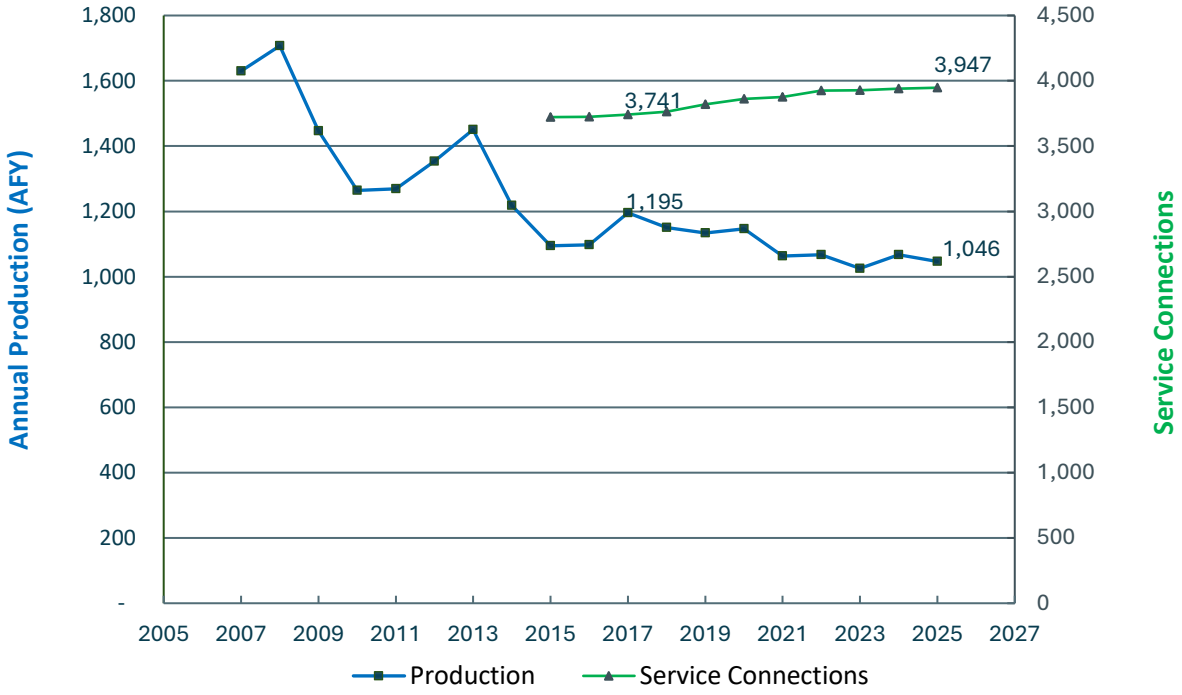

Figure 4-1: Historical Potable Production and Service Connections

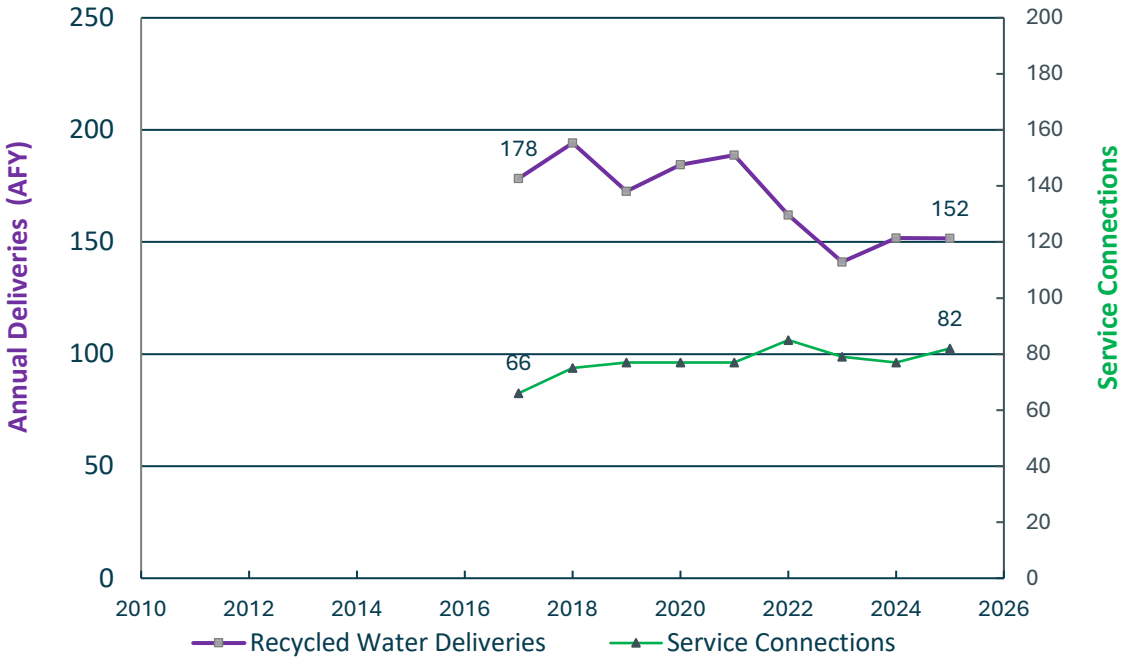

Figure 4-2: Historical Recycled Deliveries and Service Connections

4.3 Current Water Use by Sector

Current water use within the District is characterized by customer category and water type, including both potable and recycled water. **Table 4-1** presents total water use by sector for 2025, including single-family residential, multi-family residential, commercial, institutional, landscape irrigation, and other uses. The proportional distribution of water use by customer category has remained relatively stable over time.

Residential water use represents the largest component of total potable demand, with single-family residential use accounting for approximately 54 percent of potable water use. Multi-family residential demand is comparatively smaller, representing approximately 5 percent of potable use and reflecting higher-density housing served through master-metered connections.

Commercial, institutional, and industrial (CII) uses represent approximately 24 percent of potable demand. Potable landscape irrigation accounts for approximately 6 percent of potable use. Distribution system losses have remained relatively consistent, typically ranging from approximately 8 to 10 percent of potable production. Other potable uses, including bulk water and fire flow, represent a minor component of overall demand.

Recycled water use is primarily associated with landscape irrigation, including commercial, public, and common area landscaping. Recycled water offsets potable demand for outdoor uses where available and is accounted for separately from potable water use. In 2025, recycled water represents approximately 12 percent of total water use within the District.

Table 4-1 summarizes total potable and non-potable water use by sector in acre-feet per year (AFY), consistent with DWR reporting requirements (Table 4-1R).

Table 4-1: 2025 Actual Total Water Use for Potable and Non-Potable (AFY) (DWR 4-1R)

Use Type	Additional Description	Level of Treatment	2025 Volume (AF)
Single Family		Potable	568
Multi-Family		Potable	59
Other (optional)	CII	Potable	252
Landscape		Potable	65
Distribution System Water Loss		Potable	98
Other (optional)	Bulk Stations	Potable	5
Landscape	Recycled System: Landscape	Non-Potable	116
Institutional/Governmental	Recycled System: City Exempt	Non-Potable	35
Other (optional)	Recycled System: Bulk Stations	Non-Potable	1
		Subtotal Potable	1,047
		Subtotal Non-Potable	152
		Total	1,199

4.4 Projected Water Use

Projected water use within the District service area is based on anticipated population growth, historical water use trends, and expected improvements in water use efficiency. Water demand projections are developed separately for existing development and future development to reflect differences in water use characteristics.

Analysis of historical seasonal water use indicates that single-family residential demand averages approximately 59 gallons per capita per day (GPCD), consisting of approximately 49 GPCD of indoor use and 10 GPCD of outdoor use. Consistent with State indoor water use standards, indoor residential demand is projected to decrease to approximately 42 GPCD by 2030. For existing development, this represents a reduction of approximately 7 GPCD, resulting in a total projected demand of approximately 52 GPCD when combined with outdoor use.

For future development, residential water use is projected at a lower level to reflect current building standards, higher-density housing, and the availability of recycled water for outdoor irrigation. New residential development is assumed to achieve indoor water use consistent with State standards, with outdoor irrigation demand substantially offset by recycled water where available. Based on these assumptions, new development is projected at approximately 42 GPCD.

Non-residential demand, including commercial, institutional, and industrial (CII) uses, is projected based on historical usage patterns with an assumed 10 percent improvement in water use efficiency over the planning horizon. Water loss is also projected to improve modestly, with an assumed 2 percent reduction relative to current conditions.

When combined, these assumptions result in a gradual decline in overall water use, with an aggregate residential demand of approximately 49 GPCD by 2050.

Projected water demands by sector are summarized in **Table 4-2** (DWR Table 4-2R). Assumptions used in the development of water use projections are identified in **Table 4-3** (DWR Table 4-3R).

Table 4-2: Projected Water Demands by Sector (AFY) (DWR 4-2R)

Use Type	Additional Description	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
Single Family		589	610	632	653	671
Multi-Family		59	59	59	59	59
Other (optional)	CII	263	274	285	296	305
Landscape		65	65	65	65	65
Distribution System Water Loss		95	93	90	88	86
Other (optional)	Bulk Stations	5	5	6	6	6
Landscape	Recycled: Landscape	124	132	141	149	156
Institutional/Governmental	Recycled: City Exempt	35	35	35	35	35
Other (optional)	Recycled: Bulk Stations	1	1	1	1	1
	Subtotal Potable	1,076	1,106	1,137	1,167	1,192
	Subtotal Non-Potable	160	168	177	185	192
	Total	1,236	1,275	1,313	1,352	1,384

Table 4-3: Inclusion in Water use Projections (DWR 4-3R)

Are Future Water Savings Included in Projections? (Refer to Appendix K of UWMP Guidebook)	Yes
If "Yes" to above: State the section or page number, in the cell to the right, where citations of the codes, ordinances, or otherwise are utilized in demand projections are found.	Section 4.4
Are Lower Income Residential Demands Included In Projections? (Refer to Appendix K of UWMP Guidebook)	Yes

4.5 Water Loss & Efficiency

The District conducts annual water loss audits in accordance with American Water Works Association (AWWA) standards and reports results to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). These audits quantify real and apparent water losses and provide the basis for evaluating system performance and compliance with State requirements.

Pursuant to Senate Bill 555 (SB 555), the SWRCB has established water loss performance standards for urban water suppliers, with compliance required beginning in 2028. The District's real water loss standard has been set at 15.6 gallons per service connection per day (gpscd) based on the baseline period of 2017 through 2020.

The established standard reflects the Economic Level of Water Loss (ELWL), which represents the level of leakage at which the cost of additional loss reduction would exceed the value of the water saved. Based on this determination, the District's baseline water loss is consistent with the State-established standard, indicating that the system is operating at an efficient level with respect to real water losses.

Recent water loss audit results indicate continued compliance with the established standard. The District reported a real water loss of approximately 14 gpscd in 2024. Over the past several years, real water loss has generally ranged between approximately 12 and 17 gpscd, remaining at or below the established performance standard.

Water loss audit reporting and progress toward the 2028 performance standard are summarized in **Table 4-4** and **Table 4-5**, respectively.

Table 4-4: Water Loss Audit Reporting (DWR 4-5R)

Public Water System ID # Reported in Table 2-1 R	Reporting Period	Submitted to DWR Water Loss Audit Program (yes/no)
Report submittal status for all five years for each Public Water System as available.		
CA4410013	2020	Yes (WUE Data Portal Link)
	2021	Yes (WUE Data Portal Link)
	2022	Yes (WUE Data Portal Link)
	2023	Yes (WUE Data Portal Link)
	2024	Yes (WUE Data Portal Link)

Table 4-5: Progress Towards 2028 Water Loss Standard (DWR 4-6R)

Public Water System ID	Did SWRCB Calculate a Water Loss Standard for this System?	Real Water Loss				
		SWRCB 2028 Real Water Loss Standard	Units	Most Recent Audit # of Connections	Most Recent Audit Volume of Total Real Losses (AF)	Real Water Loss per Unit
CA4410013	Yes	15.6	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	4,550	71.1	14.0
		Apparent Water Loss				
		SWRCB 2028 Apparent Water Loss Standard	Units	Most Recent Audit # of Connections	Most Recent Audit Volume of Total Apparent Losses (AF)	Real Water Loss per Unit
		3.8	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	4,550	13.9	2.7

Water loss is one component of the State's broader urban water use efficiency framework, which also includes indoor, outdoor, and commercial water use objectives. While compliance with Urban Water Use Objectives (UWUO) is regulated separately by the SWRCB and is not a required element of the UWMP, the District's water loss performance contributes to its overall efficiency compliance status. The District's UWUO compliance and related regulatory requirements are discussed further in Chapter 5.

4.6 Lower Income Households

California Water Code Section §10631.1 requires that water demand projections include projected water use for lower-income households, defined as households earning less than 80 percent of the area median income.

Based on the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates, approximately 5 percent of the population within the Scotts Valley area is below the federal poverty level. This estimate is consistent with the City of Scotts Valley Housing Element (2023), which identifies a poverty rate of approximately 5.5 percent as of 2020.

For purposes of this UWMP, the District assumes that water use associated with lower-income households is proportionally represented within the overall residential demand. Accordingly, approximately 5 percent of total residential water use is attributed to lower-income households (approximately 31 AFY).

Water demand associated with lower-income households is included within the residential demand projections presented in Table 4-2. No separate demand factor is applied, as residential water use assumptions are applied consistently across all income levels.

4.7 Climate Change Considerations

Climate change has the potential to influence both water supply and demand within the District's service area through changes in temperature, precipitation patterns, and hydrologic conditions.

The District relies on groundwater from the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin, and therefore long-term water supply reliability is closely tied to basin conditions. Climate-related impacts such as changes in precipitation timing, reduced recharge, and increased variability in hydrologic conditions are addressed through the Santa Margarita Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Potential demand-related impacts of climate change include increased outdoor water use during warmer and drier conditions. However, the District's demand projections incorporate ongoing improvements in water use efficiency, changes in development patterns, and the use of recycled water for irrigation where available.

Overall, climate change considerations for water supply reliability and groundwater conditions are addressed in coordination with the GSP and are further discussed in Chapter 6 and Chapter 7 of this UWMP.

CHAPTER 5 SBX7-7 BASELINE, 2020 TARGET, AND 2025 REPORTING

5.1 Background

The Water Conservation Act of 2009 (Senate Bill X7-7) required urban water suppliers to reduce per capita water use by 20 percent by the year 2020. Compliance with SB X7-7 was required to be demonstrated in the 2020 Urban Water Management Plan.

5.2 SBX7-7 Forms and Tables

The District established an individual per capita water use target of 154 gallons per capita per day (GPCD) for 2020. Actual water use in 2020 was 96 GPCD, demonstrating that the District successfully achieved its SB X7-7 target (Table 5-1).

Table 5-1: SBX7-7 2020 Target Progress (DWR 5-1R)

Was Supplier part of a merger or consolidation since 2020?	Regional Alliance Target or Individual Target?	2020 Target GPCD	Actual 2020 GPCD	Did Supplier Achieve Targeted Reduction for 2020?
No	Individual Target	154	96	Yes

5.3 Nexus to SWRCB Urban Water Use Objectives

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) has adopted the "Making Conservation a California Way of Life" regulation, which establishes Urban Water Use Objectives (UWUO) for urban retail water suppliers. These objectives define water use efficiency targets based on indoor residential use, outdoor residential use, commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) irrigation, and water loss.

Urban water suppliers are required to annually calculate and report their water use relative to these objectives. Formal compliance will begin in 2028, based on reporting for the 2025–2027 fiscal year.

The Scotts Valley Water District (District) has completed its required UWUO reporting and is currently meeting its calculated objective. For fiscal year 2024–2025, the District's reported water use was approximately 268 million gallons (823 acre-feet) compared to a calculated objective of approximately 408 million gallons (1,253 acre-feet), indicating that current water use is well below the allowable objective.

The District submitted its report on time, with no data quality flags, variances, or temporary provisions. Future projections by the State Water Board indicate the District is expected to remain below its objective as standards become more stringent.

While UWUO compliance is regulated separately from the UWMP, the District's demand projections and efficiency assumptions are consistent with the State's framework, including reductions in indoor water use and improvements in system efficiency.

CHAPTER 6 WATER SUPPLY CHARACTERIZATION

6.1 Overview

The Scotts Valley Water District (District) relies on a diversified water supply portfolio consisting primarily of groundwater, supplemented by recycled water and, in the near term, a new interconnection with the City of Santa Cruz. This chapter describes the sources of water available to the District, including their characteristics, historical use, and projected availability over the planning horizon.

Groundwater from the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin (SMGB) serves as the District's primary potable water supply. Recycled water, produced by the City of Scotts Valley and distributed by the District, provides a reliable non-potable supply that offsets potable demand for irrigation and other approved uses. In addition, the District is completing the City of Santa Cruz–Scotts Valley Intertie Project, which will provide access to treated surface water supplies and support conjunctive use management of the groundwater basin.

6.2 Groundwater Supply

6.2.1 Basin Overview and Management

The District relies on groundwater from the SMGB as its primary source of potable water supply, which is managed in coordination with the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (SMGWA). The SMGB covers approximately 34 square miles (21,760 acres) in the Santa Cruz Mountains and generally forms a triangular area extending from Scotts Valley to the east, Boulder Creek to the northwest, and Felton to the southwest. The basin setting and jurisdictional boundaries are shown in **Figure 6-1** and **Figure 6-2**, respectively.

The basin is bounded by regional geologic features, including the Ben Lomond Fault to the west and the Zayante Fault to the north, and is adjacent to the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin to the southeast and the West Santa Cruz Terrace Basin to the south. The basin includes the City of Scotts Valley and surrounding communities such as Boulder Creek, Ben Lomond, Felton, and Mount Hermon.

Groundwater within the SMGB is used by multiple purveyors, including the District, the San Lorenzo Valley Water District, and the Mount Hermon Association, as well as small water systems and private well owners.

Under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the SMGB is designated as a medium-priority basin. The SMGWA has prepared and adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in 2022, which establishes a framework for achieving long-term groundwater sustainability through monitoring, management actions, and implementation of projects.

The GSP establishes a planning horizon to achieve basin sustainability by 2042, with interim milestones to track progress. The District's groundwater supply planning and management are consistent with the GSP and are informed by the basin conditions, water budgets, and sustainable yield estimates developed through that process.

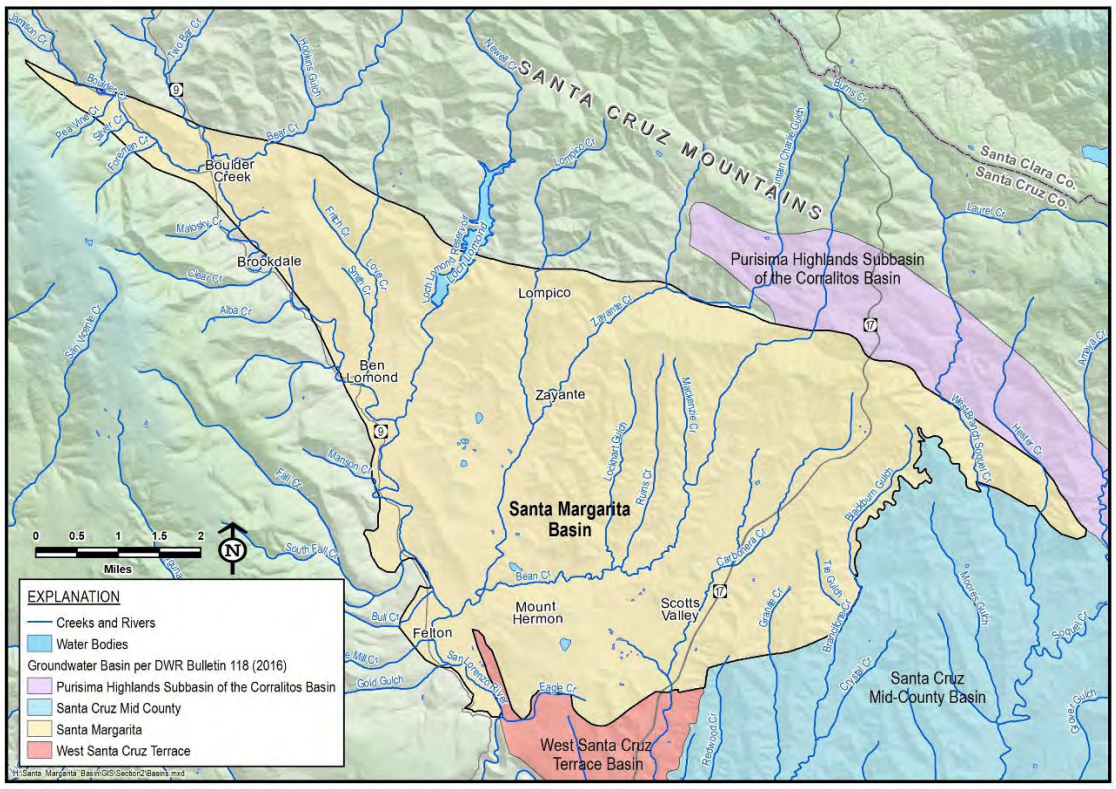

Figure 6-1: Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin and Adjacent Basins (GSP, 2022)

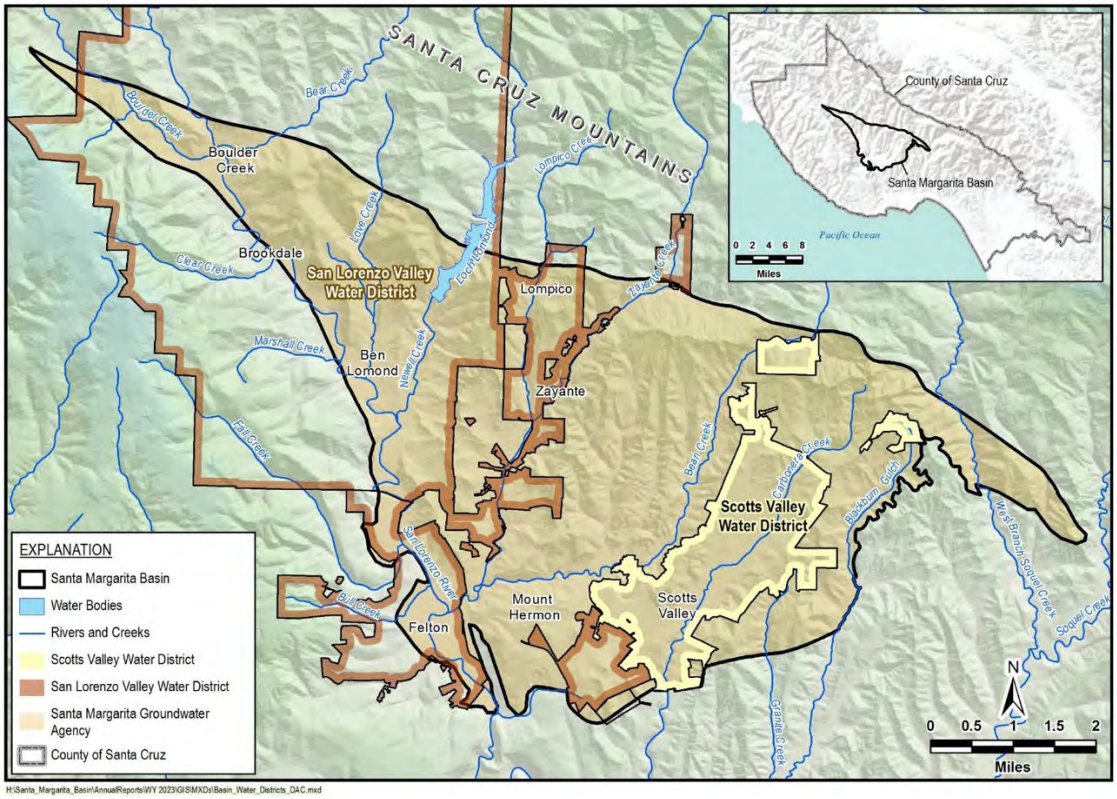

Figure 6-2: Jurisdictional Areas within SMGB (SMGB Annual Report, 2025)

6.2.2 Basin Hydrogeologic Setting

The Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin is a geologically complex system consisting of sedimentary formations underlain by granitic bedrock. Groundwater occurs primarily within sandstone units that function as the principal aquifers supplying municipal, domestic, and small system demands within the basin (SMGWA, 2021).

The primary aquifers within the basin include the Santa Margarita Sandstone, Lompico Sandstone, Butano Formation, and Monterey Formation. These formations vary in depth, hydraulic properties, and recharge characteristics, resulting in differences in groundwater availability and response to hydrologic conditions.

Groundwater recharge within the basin is derived primarily from precipitation, which infiltrates through soils and streambeds to replenish the shallow aquifer systems. Recharge patterns are influenced by seasonal rainfall, with the majority of recharge occurring during winter months. As a result, groundwater conditions within the basin are sensitive to variability in precipitation and extended droughts.

Historically, groundwater levels in portions of the basin declined due to increased pumping and drought conditions. However, reductions in groundwater extraction and implementation of water use efficiency programs have contributed to the stabilization of groundwater levels in recent years. Long-term groundwater conditions and trends are evaluated and managed through the SMGWA GSP.

6.2.3 Aquifers Used Within Service Area

A high-level overview of the aquifers in the SMGB is provided below. More detail can be found in the GSP.

The **Lompico Sandstone** serves as the principal aquifer for the District and provides the majority of groundwater production. Recharge to the Lompico aquifer occurs primarily through percolation from the overlying Santa Margarita Sandstone in areas where the formations are in contact. Due to its relatively limited direct recharge area and confined position beneath other formations, the Lompico aquifer generally responds more slowly to precipitation and recharge events compared to shallower units.

The **Butano Sandstone** is a deeper aquifer that is used in conjunction with the Lompico Sandstone. Wells completed in both formations provide additional production capacity and operational flexibility under varying hydrologic and demand conditions.

The **Santa Margarita Sandstone**, which overlies portions of the basin, plays an important role in groundwater recharge. This formation is typically located at higher elevations and responds relatively rapidly to precipitation, providing recharge to underlying aquifers but also draining more quickly during dry periods.

The **Monterey Formation** is present in portions of the basin and is used primarily by private wells. This formation generally provides limited groundwater supply for municipal use but is considered to be hydraulically connected to the Lompico Sandstone in some areas (SMGWA, 2021).

6.2.4 Water Supply Wells

The District operates six active groundwater production wells that supply potable water to customers within the service area. These wells extract groundwater from the Lompico Sandstone and, in some cases, also the Butano Formation (Table 6-1)

Recent infrastructure improvements include the addition of the Sucinto Well and Grace Way Well, constructed in 2024 and 2025, respectively. Both wells are completed across the Lompico and Butano aquifers. The Orchard Well, constructed in 2017, is also completed in both aquifers. The other active wells (Well 10A, Well 11A, and Well 11B) are completed in the shallower Lompico aquifer and continue to provide reliable production for the system. The total combined production capacity of the District's wells is estimated to be approximately 2,200 gallons per minute (gpm).

Table 6-1: Water Supply Wells

Well Name	Status	Aquifer	Year Drilled	Capacity (gpm)	Total Depth (ft)
Grace Way Well	In-progress	Lompico, Butano	2025	650	960
Sucinto Well	Active	Lompico, Butano	2024	300	1,400
Orchard Well	Active	Lompico, Butano	2017	450	1,460
Well #10A	Active	Lompico	2007	320	450
Well #11A	Active	Lompico	1997	100	518
Well #11B	Active	Lompico	1999	385	537

The District also operates a network of groundwater monitoring wells used to support basin management activities. These monitoring wells are part of the SMGWA monitoring program and are used to track groundwater levels and inform annual groundwater assessments under the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). The locations of production and monitoring wells are shown in **Figure 6-3**.

6.2.5 Historic Groundwater Pumping

Historical groundwater pumping by the District is summarized in Table 6-2, which presents total groundwater extracted from District production wells based on available records.

The reported values reflect total groundwater extracted, which may differ slightly from potable water production totals presented in earlier chapters. This difference is due to operational flushing from well start-up, maintenance, and filter backwashing cycles, during which water discharged to waste.

The pumping data presented in Table 6-2 were compiled from the District's daily operational records and are reported on a calendar year basis. Groundwater extraction data reported by SMGWA reports are typically presented on a water year basis. As a result, minor differences may exist between the values reported in this UWMP and those presented in GSP reporting; however, the datasets are generally consistent and reflect similar overall trends.

Table 6-2: Groundwater Volume Pumped (DWR 6-1R)

☐	Check the box if the Supplier does not pump groundwater. Proceed to the next table.						
☐	Check the box if all or part of the groundwater described below is desalinated.						
Groundwater Type	Water Type	Location or Basin Name	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2024 (AF)	2025 (AF)
Alluvial Basin	Potable	Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin	1,094	1,119	1,057	1,098	1,104
		Total	1,094	1,119	1,057	1,098	1,104

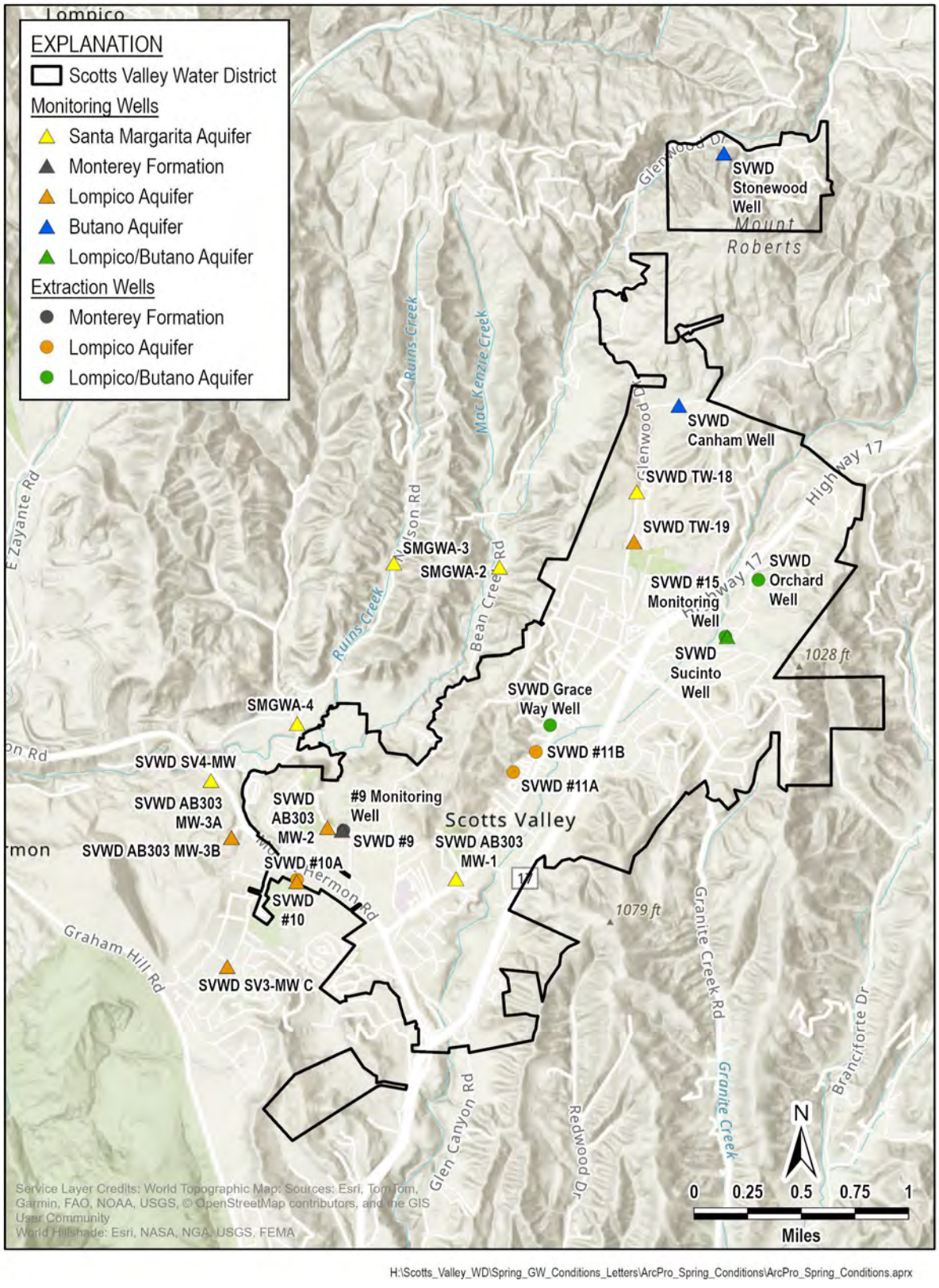

Figure 6-3: Locations of SVWD Extraction and Monitoring Wells (SMGB Annual Report, 2025)

6.2.6 Available Groundwater Supplies

Available groundwater supply for the District is based on the baseline pumping levels established in the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). These baseline pumping levels represent the long-term average annual extraction that can be sustained while achieving groundwater sustainability under SGMA.

For the District, the GSP identifies a baseline pumping level of approximately 1,300 AFY, as summarized in **Table 6-3**. The District manages groundwater production with the objective of maintaining pumping at or below this level and has generally operated within this range.

The GSP tracks production by aquifer. For the District's wells screened in both the Lompico and Butano aquifers, the GSP assumes that approximately 40 percent of production from those wells is derived from the Lompico aquifer and 60 percent from the Butano aquifer. This allocation is used for GSP accounting and planning purposes and is not based on direct measurement of production from each aquifer interval.

Overall, groundwater supply availability is influenced by basin conditions, recharge variability, and long-term management actions identified in the GSP. Continued coordination with the SMGWA will ensure that groundwater use remains consistent with sustainable management objectives.

Table 6-3: Baseline Pumping Levels (AFY) (GSP)

Santa Margarita Aquifer	Lompico Aquifer	Butano Aquifer	Total
0	950	350	1,300

6.3 Purchased or Imported Water

The District does not currently rely on purchased or imported water as a regular source of supply. Historically, the District has operated as a groundwater-dependent system, with limited interconnections to neighboring agencies used only for emergency purposes.

The District maintains an emergency intertie with the San Lorenzo Valley Water District; however, this connection is not used for routine supply and is reserved for emergency conditions.

The District is currently completing the City of Santa Cruz–Scotts Valley Intertie Project, which will provide the ability to receive treated surface water from the City of Santa Cruz. While this connection represents a future source of supplemental supply, it is not currently considered an established source of purchased or imported water for purposes of this UWMP.

6.4 Surface Water

The District does not currently utilize surface water as a direct source of supply. All potable water demands are met through groundwater production, supplemented by recycled water for non-potable uses.

The District is currently completing the City of Santa Cruz–Scotts Valley Intertie Project, which will provide access to treated surface water supplies from the City of Santa Cruz. Once operational, this connection will allow the District to incorporate surface water into its supply portfolio.

The intertie is intended to support conjunctive use management of the SMGB by allowing the District to reduce groundwater pumping during certain periods and supplement supply during drought or other constrained conditions. The project also enhances regional supply reliability and provides additional operational flexibility.

At the time of this UWMP, the intertie is nearing completion and is expected to become operational in the near term. The role of this supply in future water supply planning is discussed further in Section 6.9.

6.5 Stormwater

The District does not utilize stormwater as a direct source of water supply. Stormwater management within the service area is primarily addressed through local land use planning and development requirements, including low impact development (LID) practices.

Stormwater infiltration contributes to groundwater recharge within the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin and supports long-term water supply sustainability. The District and other developments within the Scotts Valley area incorporate LID features designed to capture and infiltrate stormwater runoff.

According to the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency Annual Report, managed aquifer recharge through LID facilities has been implemented at District-managed sites since 2018. In Water Year 2025, approximately 24 AF of recharge was achieved through these practices. The volume of recharge varies with precipitation and is generally correlated with annual rainfall.

6.6 Wastewater and Recycled Water

6.6.1 Recycled Water Partnerships

The District provides recycled water service in partnership with the City of Scotts Valley, which owns and operates the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF). Wastewater collected within the City is treated to Title 22 tertiary standards, making it suitable for unrestricted non-potable reuse.

Under an existing agreement, the City supplies recycled water to the District and the District pays for a portion of operation and maintenance for the WRF. The District is responsible for the storage, conveyance, and retail distribution of recycled water to customers within the service area as well as to customers in the neighboring San Lorenzo Valley Water District service area. This partnership allows the District to offset potable water demand while utilizing locally produced water resources.

6.6.2 Wastewater Collection, Treatment and Disposal

Wastewater generated within the District's service area is collected and conveyed to the City of Scotts Valley Water Reclamation Facility for treatment. The WRF treats wastewater to tertiary standards in accordance with State regulations.

Following treatment, recycled water is made available for beneficial reuse within the District's recycled water system. Excess treated water that is not reused is discharged in accordance with applicable regulatory permits.

Wastewater collection and treatment volumes for 2025 are summarized in **Table 6-4** and **Table 6-5**, consistent with DWR reporting requirements.

Table 6-4: Wastewater Collected Within Service Area in 2025 (DWR 6-2R)

Wastewater Collection			Recipient of Collected Wastewater	
Name of Wastewater Collection Agency	Wastewater Volume Metered	Volume of Wastewater Collected from UWMP Service Area 2025 (AF)	Name of Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Place ID Number	Is WWTP Located Within UWMP Area?
City of Scotts Valley	Metered	796	Scotts Valley WWTP, Place ID 256011	Yes

1. The total wastewater collected was 938 AF and 142 AF is estimated to come from outside the SVWD service area in San Lorenzo Valley Water District.
2. A reduction of approximately 10 to 15 percent was applied to the influent volumes to account for internal recirculation flow from the tertiary effluent.

Table 6-5: Wastewater Treatment and Outcomes within Service Area in 2025 (DWR 6-3R)

Wastewater Treatment Plant Name and Place ID Number	Does This Plant Treat Wastewater Generated Outside the UWMP Service Area?	2025 Volume of Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area (AF)	Total 2025 Volume of Water Treated (AF)	2025 Outcomes of Treated Wastewater				
				Water Recycled Within UWMP Service Area (AF)	Water Recycled Outside of UWMP Service Area (AF)	Effluent Discharge that is not a Permitted Recycled Water Use (AF)	Required Discharge for Instream Flow (AF)	Delivered to Another Entity for Additional Treatment (AF)
Scotts Valley WWTP, Place ID 256011	Yes	796	845	129 (Tertiary)	23 (Tertiary)	429 (Secondary Disinfected -23)	-	208 (Secondary Disinfected -23)
Total		796	845	129	23	429	-	208

1. A portion of secondary effluent is discharged to the ocean following disinfection in accordance with regulatory requirements. A portion of secondary effluent is conveyed to Pasatiempo Golf Course, where it is further treated to tertiary standards prior to reuse.
2. Tertiary treated wastewater is supplied to the District for recycled water use and is accounted for separately in recycled water tables.

Table 6-6: Recycled Water Direct Beneficial Uses Within Service Area (DWR 6-4R)

Use Type	Water Type	Additional Information (as needed)	2025 (AF)	2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)	2050 (AF)	Potential Recycled Water Use	
									Volume	Page # Ref
Landscape irrigation (excludes golf courses)	Non-Potable	Current and new customers	152	160	168	177	185	192		
Total			152	160	168	177	185	192		0

6.6.3 Recycled Water Use

Recycled water is used within the District primarily for landscape irrigation, including commercial, public, and common area landscaping. The recycled water system offsets potable demand for outdoor uses where available and represents an important component of the District's overall water supply portfolio.

Recycled water use accounts for approximately 10 to 12 percent of total water use within the District. In addition to customers within the District's potable service area, recycled water is also provided to the Spring Lakes Mobile Home Park, which is located within the San Lorenzo Valley Water District service area.

Recycled water deliveries and direct beneficial uses within the service area are summarized in **Table 6-6**.

6.6.4 Actions to Optimize Future Recycled Water Use

The District continues to evaluate opportunities to optimize recycled water use within the service area. Expansion of recycled water infrastructure is generally limited to new development, where installation of recycled water pipelines can be incorporated into project design.

Due to the cost and logistical constraints of retrofitting existing developed areas, expansion of recycled water service to established neighborhoods is limited. However, continued coordination with the City and incorporation of recycled water in new development projects will support incremental increases in recycled water use over time.

A comparison of projected recycled water use from the 2020 UWMP and actual 2025 recycled water use is provided in **Table 6-7**, consistent with DWR reporting requirements.

Table 6-7: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual (DWR 6-5R)

Use Type	2020 Projection for 2025	2025 Actual Use
	(AF)	(AF)
Landscape irrigation (excluding golf courses)	184	152

6.7 Desalinated Water Opportunities

The District does not currently utilize desalinated water as a source of supply and has not identified desalination as a feasible or cost-effective option within the service area.

Given the District's inland location and reliance on groundwater resources, opportunities for seawater desalination are not applicable. Brackish groundwater desalination has also not been identified as a viable supply option based on current water quality conditions and available supply alternatives.

The District will continue to evaluate potential water supply opportunities as part of its long-term planning efforts; however, desalination is not currently considered a component of the District's water supply portfolio.

6.8 Water Exchanges and Transfers

The District does not currently participate in formal water exchanges or transfer agreements as part of its water supply portfolio.

The District maintains an emergency intertie with the San Lorenzo Valley Water District, which allows for the transfer of water during emergency conditions; however, this connection is not used for routine supply or planned exchanges.

The District is also developing additional interconnections through the Regional Intertie Project that will provide opportunities for future coordination or water transfers and exchanges.

6.9 Future Water Projects

The District is currently completing the City of Santa Cruz–Scotts Valley Intertie Project, a regional infrastructure project that will connect the District's system to the City of Santa Cruz treated water system. Once operational, the intertie will provide the ability to receive treated surface water supplies and support conjunctive use management of the SMGB. The project is expected to enhance supply reliability, particularly during dry periods, and provide additional operational flexibility.

At the time of preparation of this UWMP, the quantity of water supply available through the intertie has not been finalized and remains subject to ongoing coordination between the partnering agencies. As a result, a specific supply volume is not included in **Table 6-8**.

Table 6-8: Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs (DWR 6-7R)

☐	Check the box if there are no expected future water supply projects or programs that provide a quantifiable increase to the agency's water supply. Proceed to the next table.						
	Check the box if some or all of the supplier's future water supply projects or programs are not compatible with this table and are described in a narrative format.						
Page 6-7	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP						
Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description	Water Type	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier
	Drop Down List	If Yes, Supplier Name					(AF)
Regional Intertie Project	Yes	City of Santa Cruz		Potable	2027	Average Year	Preliminarily up to 1 MGD

In addition to the intertie project, the District continues to coordinate with the SMGWA on implementation of projects and management actions identified in the GSP. These efforts include basin monitoring, groundwater management strategies, and potential future recharge or aquifer storage and recovery wells (ASR).

6.10 Climate Change Effects

Climate change has the potential to affect water supply availability within the SMGB through changes in precipitation patterns, temperature, and hydrologic conditions. Projected impacts for the region include increased variability in annual precipitation and more frequent and prolonged drought conditions.

Groundwater recharge within the basin is closely tied to precipitation, particularly during the winter months. As a result, changes in the timing, intensity, and duration of rainfall events may influence recharge rates and groundwater levels. The basin's hydrogeologic characteristics, including the relatively slower recharge response of the Lompico aquifer, may further affect how quickly groundwater conditions recover following dry periods.

These potential impacts are addressed through the SMGWA GSP, which incorporates climate variability into its basin management framework. The GSP includes monitoring, adaptive management strategies, and projects intended to maintain groundwater sustainability under changing hydrologic conditions.

Climate change may also influence water demand through increased temperatures and extended dry periods, which can increase outdoor water use. The District's demand projections incorporate ongoing improvements in water use efficiency and the use of recycled water to offset irrigation demands.

6.11 Summary of Water Supplies

Table 6-9: 2025 Actual Water Supplies (DWR 6-8R)

Water Supply	Additional Description (as needed)	2025	
Drop down list		Water Type	Actual Volume (AF)
Groundwater (not desalinated)		Potable	1,047
Recycled Water	City WRF	Non-Potable	152

Table 6-10: Projected Water Supplies (DWR 6-9R)

Water Supply	Water Type	Projected Water Supply (Report to the Extent Practicable)				
		2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)	2050 (AF)
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Potable	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
Surface Water (not desalinated)	Potable	TDB	TDB	TDB	TDB	TDB
Recycled Water	Non-Potable	160	168	177	185	192
	Subtotal Potable	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300	1,300
	Subtotal Non-Potable	160	168	177	185	192
	Total	1,460	1,468	1,477	1,485	1,492

CHAPTER 7 WATER SERVICE RELIABILITY AND DROUGHT RISK ASSESSMENT

7.1 Water Service Reliability Assessment

The water service reliability assessment evaluates the District's ability to meet projected water demands over the next 25 years under varying hydrologic conditions, including normal, single dry year, and multiple dry year scenarios.

As described in Chapter 6, the District relies primarily on groundwater supplies from the SMGB. Available supply is based on planning-level estimates presented in the GSP, which indicate that groundwater resources are sufficient to meet projected demands under managed basin conditions. Future supplies associated with the regional intertie project are not included in this assessment, as those volumes have not yet been determined.

7.1.1 Constraints on Water Sources

The primary constraint on the District's water supply is climatic variability, particularly precipitation, which drives groundwater recharge within the SMGB.

The District monitors precipitation and groundwater conditions to assess water supply reliability. Due to basin hydrogeologic characteristics, including the relatively slower recharge response of the Lompico aquifer, groundwater levels may respond gradually to changes in precipitation.

Water supply reliability is supported through active groundwater management under the GSP, which establishes baseline pumping levels and sustainability criteria for the basin. During periods of reduced precipitation or declining groundwater conditions, the District may implement demand management actions in accordance with the WSCP (Chapter 8) to preserve groundwater in storage and maintain long-term supply reliability.

7.1.2 Water Year Type Characterization

The water service reliability assessment evaluates water supply availability under three water year types defined by DWR: normal (average) year, single dry year, and multiple dry years.

- **Normal year** represents hydrologic conditions that approximate long-term average precipitation.
- **Single dry-year** represents conditions corresponding to below-average precipitation in a given year.
- **Multiple dry-years** represent a sequence of consecutive dry years that reflect extended drought conditions.

Water year type characterization in the region is based on the City of Santa Cruz water year classification, which uses total annual runoff in the San Lorenzo River measured at the USGS Big Trees gage, consistent with the GSP. The representative data used for this analysis are summarized in **Table 7-1**.

Consistent with the GSP, sustainable yield is represented by baseline pumping levels, which amount to approximately 1,300 AFY for the District. For purposes of this reliability assessment, this supply is assumed to be available under all water year types.

The District monitors precipitation from its El Pueblo Yard weather station and reviews climate and groundwater conditions with SMGWA in conjunction with the WSCP annual assessments (Chapter 8).

Table 7-1: Basis for Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment) (DWR 7-1R)

Year Type	Base Year	Available Supply if Year Type Repeats	
		Volume Available (AF)	% of Average Supply
Average Year	2002	1,300	100%
Single-Dry Year	2014	1,300	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	1987	1,300	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	1988	1,300	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	1989	1,300	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	1990	1,300	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	1991	1,300	100%

7.1.3 Water Service Reliability

Results of the water supply and demand analysis for normal, single dry, and multiple dry year conditions are presented in **Table 7-2, Table 7-3, and Table 7-4**, respectively. These supply and demand totals consider the combined potable and non-potable totals including the recycled water system.

The District is projected to meet all water demands throughout the planning horizon under all water year scenarios. Available water supply, based on the GSP baseline pumping level of approximately 1,300 AFY, exceeds projected demands in all years evaluated.

Table 7-2: Normal Year Supply and Use Comparison (Potable and Non-Potable) (DWR 7-2R)

	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
	(AF)	(AF)	(AF)	(AF)	(AF)
Supply totals (autofill from Submittal Table 6-9 R)	1,460	1,468	1,477	1,485	1,492
Use totals (autofill from Submittal Table 4-2 R)	1,236	1,275	1,313	1,352	1,384
Surplus / (shortfall)	224	193	164	133	108

Table 7-3: Single Dry Year Supply and Use Comparison (Potable and Non-Potable) (DWR 7-3R)

	2030	2035	2040	2045	2050
	(AF)	(AF)	(AF)	(AF)	(AF)
Supply totals	1,460	1,468	1,477	1,485	1,492
Use totals	1,236	1,275	1,313	1,352	1,384
Surplus/(shortfall)	224	193	164	133	108

Table 7-4: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Use Comparison (Potable and Non-Potable) (DWR 7-4R)

Consecutive Dry Year Types		2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)	2050 (AF)
First year	Supply totals	1,460	1,468	1,477	1,485	1,492
	Use totals	1,236	1,275	1,313	1,352	1,384
	Surplus/(shortfall)	224	193	164	133	108
Second year	Supply totals	1,460	1,468	1,477	1,485	1,492
	Use totals	1,236	1,275	1,313	1,352	1,384
	Surplus/(shortfall)	224	193	164	133	108
Third year	Supply totals	1,460	1,468	1,477	1,485	1,492
	Use totals	1,236	1,275	1,313	1,352	1,384
	Surplus/(shortfall)	224	193	164	133	108
Fourth year	Supply totals	1,460	1,468	1,477	1,485	1,492
	Use totals	1,236	1,275	1,313	1,352	1,384
	Surplus/(shortfall)	224	193	164	133	108
Fifth year	Supply totals	1,460	1,468	1,477	1,485	1,492
	Use totals	1,236	1,275	1,313	1,352	1,384
	Surplus/(shortfall)	224	193	164	133	108

7.1.4 Descriptions of Management Tools and Options

The District relies on groundwater from the SMGB as its primary source of supply and implements a combination of supply management and demand management strategies to maintain long-term water supply reliability.

Water supply reliability is supported through active groundwater management under the GSP, which establishes sustainable pumping levels and basin management criteria. The District manages groundwater production to remain consistent with these objectives and works with regional partners to support basin-wide sustainability.

The District also promotes water use efficiency and recycled water use to reduce potable demand and improve overall system resilience. In addition, the District evaluates opportunities for regional projects, including the City of Santa Cruz–SVWD Intertie Project, to enhance supply reliability and operational flexibility.

During periods of reduced precipitation or declining groundwater conditions, the District implements demand management actions in accordance with the WSCP (Chapter 8) to preserve groundwater in storage and maintain reliable service.

The District is committed to providing a safe and reliable water supply to meet both current and future demands.

7.2 Drought Risk Assessment (DRA)

The Drought Risk Assessment (DRA) evaluates the District's ability to meet water demands during a five-year drought scenario, consistent with DWR requirements. The assessment considers projected water demands and available water supplies under extended dry conditions.

7.2.1 DRA Data, Methods, and Basis for Water Shortage Conditions

The DRA uses projected water demand and available groundwater supply as described in Chapters 4 and 6. The five-year drought scenario reflects extended dry conditions consistent with multiple dry year hydrologic conditions described in Section 7.1.

For the District, drought conditions are primarily associated with reduced groundwater recharge due to below-average precipitation, rather than immediate reductions in available supply. As a result, the assessment evaluates drought risk based on the relationship between demand and available supply under sustained dry conditions.

Water shortage conditions are informed by ongoing monitoring of precipitation and groundwater conditions and are managed through implementation of the WSCP (Chapter 8), which establishes trigger-based demand management actions to preserve groundwater in storage.

7.2.2 DRA Water Source Reliability

The District relies on groundwater from the SMGB, which has demonstrated resilience to historical drought conditions under current management practices. Groundwater conditions are actively managed in accordance with the GSP, which establishes sustainable pumping levels and basin management criteria.

For purposes of the DRA, groundwater supply is assumed to remain constant at approximately 1,300 AFY, consistent with baseline pumping levels established in the GSP. This reflects a planning-level assumption that groundwater extraction is managed within sustainable limits and is not reduced in response to short-term hydrologic variability, including extended drought conditions.

While groundwater recharge may be reduced during prolonged dry periods, basin storage and active management allow the District to maintain reliable supply over the duration of the five-year drought scenario.

7.2.3 DRA Total Water Supply and Use Comparison

The five-year drought risk assessment compares projected water demand with available groundwater supply over a continuous five-year dry period. Results of the DRA are summarized in **Table 7-6**.

Based on current projections, the District is able to meet water demands throughout the five-year drought period without a supply shortfall. Available supply exceeds projected demand in each year of the analysis.

The District's ability to meet demands during extended drought conditions is supported by groundwater basin storage, implementation of water use efficiency and recycled water programs, and demand management actions implemented through the WSCP.

Table 7-5: Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment (Potable and Non-Potable) (DWR 7-5R)

2026		Total
Total Water Use	(AF)	1,206
Total Supplies	(AF)	1,454
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action		247
2027		**Total**
Total Water Use	(AF)	1,214
Total Supplies	(AF)	1,455
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action		241
2028		**Total**
Total Water Use	(AF)	1,221
Total Supplies	(AF)	1,457
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action		236
2029		**Total**
Total Water Use	(AF)	1,229
Total Supplies	(AF)	1,458
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action		230
2030		**Total**
Total Water Use	(AF)	1,236
Total Supplies	(AF)	1,460
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action		224

CHAPTER 8 WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN

8.1 Revised WSCP Overview

The District has prepared and adopted a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) in accordance with Water Code Section §10632. The WSCP was initially adopted in 2021 as part of the 2020 UWMP and established a framework for managing water shortages through defined shortage levels, response actions, and annual water supply and demand assessments.

As part of the 2025 UWMP update, the District reviewed prior WSCP implementation, including annual water shortage assessments submitted to DWR and operational experience during recent drought conditions. Based on this review, the WSCP was updated to better reflect current operations, align with regional planning efforts under the SMGWA GSP, and improve clarity and usability.

The updated WSCP includes the following refinements:

- **Updated Annual Water Shortage Assessment Procedures**
  Procedures for evaluating water supply conditions were refined to incorporate ongoing monitoring of precipitation and groundwater conditions. The assessment framework aligns with current operational practices and supports timely identification of potential shortage conditions.
- **Alignment with GSP and Groundwater Management Practices**
  The WSCP was updated to reflect the District's reliance on groundwater from the SMGB and the role of the GSP in establishing sustainable pumping levels and long-term basin management. The WSCP emphasizes proactive demand management to maintain groundwater in storage during extended dry periods.
- **Refined Shortage Level Descriptions**
  The six standard water shortage levels were retained, with updated descriptions to improve clarity and consistency. The revised structure provides clearer distinctions between moderate and severe shortage conditions.
- **Clarified Response Actions**
  Demand reduction measures and response actions were updated and organized to improve usability and implementation. These include restrictions on non-essential water uses and expanded guidance for managing water use during more severe shortage conditions.

The updated WSCP was adopted in 2026 and is included in this UWMP as **Appendix D**.

The WSCP establishes a structured approach for responding to water shortages through staged demand reduction measures, operational actions, and communication protocols. Because the District relies on groundwater supplies that are managed for long-term sustainability under the GSP, water shortages are addressed proactively through demand management to preserve groundwater storage and maintain reliable service.

CHAPTER 9 DEMAND MANAGEMENT MEASURES

9.1 Existing Demand Management Measures for Retail

The District implements a range of demand management measures to promote efficient water use, reduce water waste, and support long-term water supply reliability. These measures are implemented through an integrated approach that includes conservation pricing, metering, water waste prevention, public outreach, and incentive-based programs.

The District's water use efficiency efforts are guided by the **Think Twice Water Use Efficiency Program**, which integrates education, rebates, regulatory measures, and enforcement to encourage efficient water use and support long-term groundwater sustainability.

The District has achieved significant reductions in per capita water use over the past decade, supported by these ongoing programs, expansion of recycled water use, and implementation of advanced metering infrastructure.

9.1.1 Water Waste Prevention Ordinance

The District maintains a water waste prevention ordinance (P500-15-1 Water Waste Policy) that prohibits inefficient or wasteful water use practices. The ordinance includes provisions addressing issues such as irrigation runoff, leaks, and other non-essential uses of potable water.

The District actively enforces the ordinance through investigation, customer notification, and corrective actions, with enforcement supported by the District's Water Waste Policy.

9.1.2 Metering

All potable and recycled water use within the District is metered, and customers are billed based on volumetric use.

The District has implemented a system-wide Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), which allows customers to monitor water use, receive leak alerts, and better manage consumption through the WaterSmart customer engagement platform. This system improves customer awareness and supports early detection of leaks and abnormal usage.

9.1.3 Conservation Pricing

The District utilizes a conservation-oriented rate structure designed to encourage efficient water use. Residential customers are served under an increasing block rate structure, while other customer classes are billed based on volumetric use. The District established a new five-year rate schedule effective 2022 and periodically reviews rates through a rate study. This rate schedule is designed to maintain balanced revenue sources that are sufficient for meeting operating and capital needs while providing for adequate reserves.

During extended droughts or extreme water shortages the District enacts add-on drought rates that are established in the WSCP (Appendix D).

9.1.4 Public Education and Outreach

The District conducts public education and outreach activities to promote water use efficiency and inform customers about water supply conditions and conservation practices.

Outreach efforts are implemented primarily through the District's website, WaterSmart platform, newsletters, billing inserts, and digital communications, providing customers with water use information, conservation guidance, and program updates. These efforts are coordinated as part of the District's Think Twice Program.

9.1.5 Programs to Assess and Manage Distribution System Real Loss

The District conducts regular water loss audits in accordance with AWWA methodologies and State requirements and submits annual reports to DWR.

Water loss is actively monitored and managed through leak detection, system maintenance, meter replacement, and infrastructure improvements. These efforts support compliance with SB 555 and ongoing reduction of real losses within the distribution system.

9.1.6 Water Conservation Program Coordination and Staffing Support

Water conservation activities are implemented through District staff and coordinated across functional areas, including operations, customer service, and administration.

Program responsibilities include administration of rebate programs, customer engagement, data analysis, and support for water use efficiency initiatives. The District also coordinates with regional partners on water conservation efforts.

9.1.7 Other Demand Management Measures

9.1.7.1. Rebate Programs

The District administers a comprehensive rebate program to encourage installation of water-efficient fixtures, appliances, and landscape improvements (lawn replacement). The rebate program application is available on the District's website (Scotts Valley Water District - Rebates).

Rebates are available for a range of indoor and outdoor water use efficiency measures, including landscape conversion, irrigation improvements, plumbing fixture upgrades, and water monitoring devices. Program funding levels and rebate categories are reviewed periodically to maximize water savings and program effectiveness.

The District also offers free devices including:

- hose nozzles
- toilet leak detection dye
- high efficiency shower heads
- shower timers
- kitchen faucet aerators
- bathroom faucet aerators
- pan scrapers

9.1.7.2. Additional Water Conservation Efforts

Additional conservation efforts are implemented through the District's Think Twice Program and include:

- Promotion of efficient irrigation practices and watering schedules
- Customer water use monitoring and leak detection support through WaterSmart
- Implementation of water use restrictions during drought conditions
- Coordination with customers to address high water use

These efforts focus on reducing water waste and improving long-term water use efficiency.

9.1.7.3. Recycled Water

The District promotes the use of recycled water for landscape irrigation and other non-potable uses. Recycled water use reduces potable demand and is a key component of the District's water use efficiency strategy. The District prioritizes recycled water service for large landscape irrigation demands and incorporates recycled water use into planning for new development where feasible.

9.2 Reporting Implementation

The District tracks and reports water use efficiency program implementation through internal monitoring and periodic reporting to the Board and State agencies, including required submissions to DWR.

9.3 Implementation Efforts to Achieve Water Use Targets

The District is currently meeting its Urban Water Use Objectives and Water Loss Standards under the SWRCB regulations. The District will continue implementing demand management measures, including conservation pricing, water waste prevention, public outreach, rebate programs, and recycled water use, to support compliance with State water use efficiency requirements and continued reductions in water demand.

These efforts, in combination with ongoing groundwater management under the GSP and demand management through the WSCP, support the District's long-term water supply reliability

CHAPTER 10 REFERENCES

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APPENDIX A

DWR Checklist for the 2025 UWMP

Retail (x = required)	Wholesale (x = required)	Order	2025 Guidebook Location	Water Code Section	Summary as Applies to UWMP	Subject	Relevant Submittal Table	2025 UWMP Location
x	x	1	Chapter 1	10615	A plan shall describe and evaluate sources of supply, reasonable and practical efficient uses, reclamation and demand management activities.	Introduction and overview	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	1	Chapter 1	10630.5	Each plan shall include a simple description of the Supplier's plan including water availability, future requirements, a strategy for meeting needs, and other pertinent information. Additionally, a Supplier may also choose to include a simple description at the beginning of each chapter.	Plan preparation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	2.1	Section 2.1	10620(b)	Every person that becomes a Supplier shall adopt UWMP within one year after it has become a Supplier.	Plan preparation	n/a	N/A
x	n/a	2.5	Section 2.5	10644	Supplier shall report the Public Water Systems number, volume of delivered water, and number of connections that are included in this UWMP.	Plan preparation	2-1	Chapter 2
x	x	2.5	Section 2.5	10644	Supplier shall report if this UWMP is an individual UWMP and whether the Supplier belongs to a regional UWMP or regional alliance.	Plan preparation	2-2	Chapter 2
x	x	2.5	Section 2.5	10644	Supplier shall report whether the data is in fiscal or calendar years and the units of measure used for reporting water volumes.	Plan preparation	2-3	Chapter 2
x	x	2.4	Section 2.4	10642	Provide supporting documentation that the Supplier has encouraged active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the service area prior to and during the preparation of the plan and contingency plan.	Plan preparation	n/a	Chapter 2
x	x	2.4	Section 2.4.2	10620(d)(3)	Coordinate the preparation of its plan with other appropriate agencies in the area, including other Suppliers that share a common source, water management agencies, and relevant public agencies, to the extent practicable.	Plan preparation	n/a	Chapter 2
x	n/a	2.4	Section 2.4.1	10631(h)	Retail Suppliers will include documentation that they have provided their Wholesale Supplier(s)—if any—with water use projections from that source.	Plan preparation	2-4 R	N/A
n/a	x	2.4	Section 2.4.1	10631(h)	Wholesale Suppliers will provide their Suppliers with identification and quantification of the existing and planned sources of water available from the Wholesale Supplier to the Supplier during various water year types.	Plan preparation	2-4 W	N/A
x	x	3	Chapter 3.0	10631(a)	Describe the Supplier service area.	System description	n/a	Chapter 3
x	x	3.3	Section 3.3	10631(a)	Describe the climate of the Supplier's service area.	System description	n/a	Chapter 3
x	x	3.4	Section 3.4.1	10631(a)	Provide the current and projected service area populations for 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045 and optionally 2050.	System description	3-1	Chapter 3
x	x	3.4	Section 3.4.2	10631(a)	Describe other social, economic, and demographic factors affecting the Supplier's water management planning.	System description	n/a	Chapter 3
x	x	3.5	Section 3.5	10631(a)	Describe the land uses within the service area… include the current and projected land uses within the existing or anticipated service area affecting the Supplier's water management planning. Describe the land uses within the service area.	System description and baselines	n/a	Chapter 3
x	Optional	4.2	Sections 4.2.3 and 4.2.4	10631(d)(1)	Quantify past, current, and projected water use, identifying the uses among water use sectors.	System water use	4-1 and 4-2	Chapter 4
x	Optional	4.3	Section 4.3.1	10631(d)(3)(A)	Report the distribution system water loss for each of the five years preceding the plan update.	System water use	4-5	Chapter 4
x	n/a	4.3	Section 4.3.2	10631(d)(3)(C)	Retail Suppliers shall provide data to show the distribution loss standards were met.	System water use	4-6	Chapter 4
x	n/a	4.2	Section 4.2.5.4	10631.1(a)	Include projected water use needed for lower income housing projected in the service area of the Supplier.	System water use	4-3	Chapter 4
x	n/a	4.2	Section 4.2.5.3	10631(d)(4)(A)	In projected water use, include estimates of water savings from adopted codes, plans, and other policies or laws.	System water use	4-3	N/A
x	n/a	4.2	Section 4.2.5.3	10631(d)(4)(B)	Provide citations of codes, standards, ordinances, or plans used to make water use projections.	System water use	4-3	Chapter 4
x	n/a	4.2	Section 4.2.5.3	10631(d)(4)(B)(ii)	To the extent that a Supplier reports the information described in subparagraph (A), an urban water Supplier shall… Indicate the extent that the water use projections consider savings from codes, standards, ordinances, or transportation and land use plans. Water use projections that do not account for these water savings shall be noted of that fact.	System water use	4-3	N/A
x	x	4.2	Section 4.2.5.6	10635(b)	Demands under climate change considerations must be included as part of the drought risk assessment.	System water use	n/a	Chapter 4
n/a	x	5.1	Section 5.1	10608.36	Wholesale Suppliers shall include an assessment of present and proposed future measures, programs, and policies to help their Retail Suppliers achieve targeted water use reductions.	Baselines and targets	n/a	Chapter 5
x	n/a	5.2	Section 5.2	10608.4	Retail Suppliers shall report on their compliance in meeting their water use targets. Reporting requirements will vary depending on whether the Supplier: - Was considered an urban retail water supplier in 2020, - Met its 2020 target in 2020, or - Was part of a merger or consolidation since 2020. Chapter 5 Subsections 5.2.1, 5.2.2, and 5.2.3 address each of these situations.	Baselines and targets	5-1	Chapter 5
x	x	6.1	Section 6.1	10631(b)(2)	When multiple sources of water supply are identified, describe the management of each supply in relationship to other identified supplies.	System supplies	n/a	N/A
x	x	6.1	Sections 6.1 and 6.2	10631(b)(1)	Provide a discussion of anticipated supply availability under a normal, single dry year, and a drought lasting five years, as well as more frequent and severe periods of drought, including changes in supply due to climate change.	System supplies	n/a	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(C)	Indicate whether groundwater is an existing or planned source of water available to the Supplier. If groundwater is identified as an existing or planned source of water… (include) a detailed description and analysis of the location, amount and sufficiency of groundwater pumped by the Supplier for the past five years.	Water supplies and recycled water	6-1	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(A)	Indicate whether a groundwater sustainability plan or groundwater management plan has been adopted by the Supplier or if there is any other specific authorization for groundwater management. Include a copy of the plan or authorization.	System supplies	n/a	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(B)	Describe the groundwater basin.	System supplies	n/a	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(B)	Indicate if the basin has been adjudicated and include a copy of the court order or decree and a description of the amount of water the Supplier has the legal right to pump.	System supplies	n/a	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(B)	For unadjudicated basins… (include) information as to whether DWR has identified the basin as a high- or medium-priority basin in the most current official departmental bulletin…	Water supplies and recycled water	n/a	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(B)	For unadjudicated basins… describe efforts by the Supplier to coordinate with sustainability or groundwater agencies to achieve sustainable groundwater conditions.	Water supplies and recycled water	n/a	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.2.	10631(b)(4)(C)	If groundwater is identified as an existing or planned source of water… (include) a detailed description and analysis of the location, amount and sufficiency of groundwater pumped by the Supplier for the past five years.	System supplies	n/a	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(D)	Provide a detailed description and analysis of the amount and location of groundwater that is projected to be pumped.	System supplies	6-9	Chapter 6
x	x	6.1	Section 6.1	10631(b)	Identify and quantify the existing and planned sources of water available for 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045 and optionally 2050.	System supplies	6-8 and 6-9	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.7	10631(c)	Describe the opportunities for exchanges or transfers of water on a short-term or long-term basis.	System supplies	n/a	Chapter 6
x	n/a	6.2	Section 6.2.5	10633(a)	Describe the wastewater collection and treatment systems in the Supplier's service area with quantified amount of collection and treatment and the disposal methods.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-2	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.5	10633(b)	Describe the quantity of treated wastewater that meets recycled water standards, is being discharged, and is otherwise available for use in a recycled water project.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-3	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.5	10633(c)	Describe the recycled water currently being used in the Supplier's service area.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-4	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.5	10633(d)	Describe and quantify the potential uses of recycled water and provide a determination of the technical and economic feasibility of those uses.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-4	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.5	10633(e)	Describe the projected use of recycled water within the Supplier's service area at the end of 5, 10, 15, and 20 years, and describe the actual use of recycled water in comparison to uses previously projected.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-4 and 6-5	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.5	10633(f)	Describe the actions that may be taken to encourage the use of recycled water and the projected results of these actions in terms of acre-feet of recycled water used per year.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-6	Chapter 6

x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.5	10633(g)	Provide a plan for optimizing the use of recycled water in the Supplier's service area.	System supplies (recycled water)	n/a	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.6	10631(g)	Describe desalinated water project opportunities for long-term supply.	System supplies	6-7	Chapter 6
x	x	6.2	Section 6.2.10	10631(f)	Describe the expected future water supply projects and programs that may be undertaken by the water Supplier to address water supply reliability in average, single-dry, and for a period of drought lasting five consecutive water years.	System supplies	6-7	Chapter 6
x	x	6.3	Section 6.3 and Appendix O	10631.2(a)	The UWMP must include energy information, as stated in the code, that a Supplier can readily obtain.	System suppliers, energy intensity	O-1A, O-1B, O-1C, and O-2	N/A
x		7.1	Section 7.1	10634	Provide information on the quality of existing sources of water available to the Supplier and the manner in which water quality affects water management strategies and supply reliability.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	Chapter 7
x	x	7.2	Section 7.2	10635(a)	Service Reliability Assessment: Assess the water supply reliability during normal, dry, and a drought lasting five consecutive water years by comparing the total water supply sources available to the Supplier with the total projected water use over the next 20 years.	Water supply reliability assessment	7-2, 7-3, and 7-4	Chapter 7
x	x	7.2	Section 7.2.3	10620(f)	Describe water management tools and options to maximize resources and minimize the need to import water from other regions.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	Chapter 7
x	x	7.3	Section 7.3	10635(b)	Provide a drought risk assessment as part of information considered in developing the demand management measures and water supply projects.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	Chapter 7
x	x	7.3	Section 7.3	10635(b)(1)	Include a description of the data, methodology, and basis for one or more supply shortage conditions that are necessary to conduct a drought risk assessment for a drought period that lasts five consecutive years.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	Chapter 7
x	x	7.3	Section 7.3	10635(b)(2)	Include a determination of the reliability of each source of supply under a variety of water shortage conditions.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	Chapter 7
x	x	7.3	Section 7.3	10635(b)(3)	Include a comparison of the total water supply sources available to the Supplier with the total projected water use for the drought period.	Water supply reliability assessment	7-5	Chapter 7
x	x	7.3	Section 7.3	10635(b)(4)	Include considerations of the historical drought hydrology, plausible changes on projected supplies and demands under climate change conditions, anticipated regulatory changes, and other locally applicable criteria.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	Chapter 7
x	x	8	Chapter 8	10632(a)	Provide a water shortage contingency plan (WSCP) with specified elements below.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Chapter 8
x	x	8	Chapter 8	10632(a)(1)	Provide an analysis of water supply reliability (from Guidebook Chapter 7) in the WSCP.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Chapter 8
x	x	8.2	Section 8.2	10632(a)(2)(A)	Provide the written decision-making process and other methods that the Supplier will use each year to determine its water reliability.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.2	Section 8.2	10632(a)(2)(B)	Provide data and methodology to evaluate the Supplier's water reliability for the current year and one dry year pursuant to factors in the code.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.3	Section 8.3	10632(a)(3)(A)	Define six standard water shortage levels of 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50% shortage, and greater than 50% shortage. These levels shall be based on supply conditions, including percent reductions in supply, changes in groundwater levels, changes in surface elevation, or other conditions. The shortage levels shall also apply to a catastrophic interruption of supply.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.3	Section 8.3	10632(a)(3)(B)	Suppliers with an existing WSCP that uses different water shortage levels must cross reference their categories with the six standard categories.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-1	Appendix D
x	x	8.4	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(A)	Suppliers with WSCPs that align with the defined shortage levels must specify locally appropriate supply augmentation actions.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-2	Appendix D
x	x	8.4	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(B)	Specify locally appropriate demand reduction actions to adequately respond to shortages.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-3	Appendix D
x	x	8.4	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(C)	Specify locally appropriate operational changes.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-2	Appendix D
x	x	8.4	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(D)	Specify additional mandatory prohibitions against specific water use practices that are in addition to State-mandated prohibitions are appropriate to local conditions.	Water shortage contingency planning	Table 8-3	Appendix D
x	x	8.4	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(E)	Estimate the extent to which the gap between supplies and demand will be reduced by implementation of the action.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-2 and 8-3	Appendix D
x	x	8.4	Section 8.4.6	10632.5	The UWMP shall include a seismic risk assessment and mitigation plan.	Water shortage contingency plan	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.5	Section 8.5	10632(a)(5)(A)	Suppliers must describe that they will inform customers, the public and others regarding any current or predicted water shortages.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.5	Section 8.5	10632(a)(5)(B), 10632(a)(5)(C)	Suppliers must describe that they will inform customers, the public and others regarding any shortage response actions triggered or anticipated to be triggered and other relevant communications.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	n/a	8.6	Section 8.6	10632(a)(6)	Retail Supplier must describe how it will ensure compliance with and enforce provisions of the WSCP.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.7	Section 8.7	10632(a)(7)(A)	Describe the legal authority that empowers the Supplier to enforce shortage response actions.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.7	Section 8.7	10632(a)(7)(B)	Provide a statement that the Supplier will declare a water shortage emergency per Water Code Chapter 3, *Water Shortage Emergencies* .	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.7	Section 8.7	10632(a)(7)(C)	Provide a statement that the Supplier will coordinate with any city or county within which it provides water for the possible proclamation of a local emergency.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.8	Section 8.8	10632(a)(8)(A)	Describe the potential revenue reductions and expense increases associated with activated shortage response actions.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.8	Section 8.8	10632(a)(8)(B)	Provide a description of mitigation actions needed to address revenue reductions and expense increases associated with activated shortage response actions.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	n/a	8.8	Section 8.8	10632(a)(8)(C)	Retail Suppliers must describe the cost of compliance with Water Code Chapter 3.3, *Excessive Residential Water Use During Drought* .	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	n/a	8.9	Section 8.9	10632(a)(9)	Retail Suppliers must describe the monitoring and reporting requirements and procedures that ensure appropriate data are collected, tracked, and analyzed for purposes of monitoring customer compliance.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.10	Section 8.10	10632(a)(10)	Describe reevaluation and improvement procedures for monitoring and evaluation the WSCP to ensure risk tolerance is adequate and appropriate water shortage mitigation strategies are implemented.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	n/a	8.11	Section 8.11	10632(b)	Analyze and define water features that are artificially supplied with water, including ponds, lakes, waterfalls, and fountains, separately from swimming pools and spas.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	x	8.12	Section 8.12	10632(c)	Make available the WSCP to customers and any city or county where it provides water within 30 days after adoption of the plan.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	Appendix D
x	n/a	9.1	Sections 9.1	10631(e)(1)	Retail Suppliers shall provide a description of the nature and extent of each demand management measure implemented over the past five years. The description will address specific measures listed in code.	Demand management measures	n/a	Chapter 9
n/a	x	9.2	Sections 9.2	10631(e)(2)	Wholesale Suppliers shall describe specific demand management measures listed in code, their distribution system asset management program, and Supplier assistance program.	Demand management measures	n/a	Chapter 9
x	n/a	10	Chapter 10	10608.26(a)	Retail Suppliers shall conduct a public hearing to discuss adoption, implementation, and economic impact of water use targets (recommended to discuss compliance).	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	10.2	Section 10.2.1	10621(b)	Notify, at least 60 days prior to the public hearing, any city or county within which the Supplier provides water that the Supplier will be reviewing the UWMP and considering amendments or changes to the plan.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	10-1	Chapter 1
x	x	10.4	Section 10.4	10621(f)	Each urban water Supplier shall update and submit its 2025 plan to DWR by July 1, 202 6.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	10.2	Sections 10.2.2, 10.3, and 10.5	10642	Provide supporting documentation that the Supplier made the UWMP and WSCP available for public inspection, published notice of the public hearing, and held a public hearing about the UWMP and WSCP.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	10.2	Section 10.2.2	10642	The Supplier is to provide the time and place of the hearing to any city or county within which the Supplier provides water.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	10-1	Chapter 1
x	x	10.3	Section 10.3.2	10642	Provide supporting documentation that the UWMP and WSCP has been adopted as prepared or modified.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	10.4	Section 10.4	10644(a)	Provide supporting documentation that the Supplier has submitted their UWMP to the California State Library.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1

x	x	10.4	Section 10.4	10644(a)(1)	Provide supporting documentation that the Supplier has submitted their UWMP to any city or county within which the Supplier provides water no later than 30 days after adoption.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	10.4	Sections 10.4.1 and 10.4.2	10644(a)(2)	The UWMP, or amendments to the UWMP, submitted to DWR shall be submitted electronically.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	10.7	Section 10.7.2	10644(b)	If revised, submit a copy of the WSCP to DWR within 30 days of adoption.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	10.5	Section 10.5	10645(a)	Provide supporting documentation that, not later than 30 days after filing a copy of its UWMP with DWR, the Supplier has or will make the plan available for public review during normal business hours.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	10.5	Section 10.5	10645(b)	Provide supporting documentation that, not later than 30 days after filing a copy of its WSCP with DWR, the Supplier has or will make the plan available for public review during normal business hours.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1
x	x	10.6	Section 10.6	10621(c)	If Supplier is regulated by the Public Utilities Commission, include its plan and contingency plan as part of its general rate case filings.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	Chapter 1

APPENDIX B

Notification and Outreach Materials

1) Notice of Plan Preparation (60-Day agency letters)
2) Notice of Public Hearing for WSCP (newspaper notices)
3) Notice of Public Hearing for UWMP (newspaper notices)

SCOTTS VALLEY
WATER DISTRICT

February 3, 2026

Delivered Via Email

Subject: **Scotts Valley Water District Intent to Update and Adopt the SVWD 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and Water Shortage Contingency Plan**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Scotts Valley Water District (District) is in the process of preparing its 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) in accordance with Urban Water Management Planning Act (Water Code §10610 et seq.).

The District intends to update the WSCP and will hold a public hearing to review and adopt the revised WSCP prior to the release of the Draft UWMP. Consistent with the District's adopted WSCP procedures, this letter serves as agency notification at least 60 days in advance of the public hearings for both the WSCP and UWMP. The District anticipates holding:

- A public hearing to review and adopt the updated WSCP in April or May 2026, and
- A public hearing to review and adopt the 2025 UWMP in May or June 2026.

Draft versions of the WSCP and UWMP will be made available for public review at least 14 days prior to their respective hearings. The District will issue public notices specifying the date, time and location of each public hearing, along with a link to the draft plans.

If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact:

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Scotts Valley Water District
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DMcNair@svwd.org

Justin Shobe
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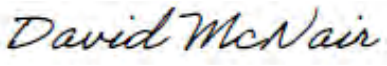
(707) 499-3855
justin@shobeengineering.com

Sincerely,



David McNair,
General Manager
Scotts Valley Water District

SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

SVWD - 2025 UWMP and WSCP Notification List

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APPENDIX C

Resolutions for Adoption

1.) WSCP Adoption Resolution
2.) UWMP Adoption Resolution

RESOLUTION No. 01-26

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING THE 2025 WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN
FOR SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

WHEREAS:

1. The California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act), Water Code section 10610 et seq. requires every urban water supplier to prepare a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) and electronically submit their 2025 WSCP to the California Department of Water Resources by July 1, 2026;

2. The Act requires periodic review and update of the WSCP as needed;

3. Scotts Valley Water District meets the Act's definition of an urban retail water supplier required to submit a WSCP;

4. The Scotts Valley Water District Board of Directors has reviewed the 2025 WSCP, determined that the 2025 WSCP is consistent with the Act and the California Department of Water Resources 2025 UWMP Guidebook, and is an accurate representation of required water shortage contingency planning;

5. On February 2, 2026, the Scotts Valley Water District issued a notice of preparation of the Draft 2025 WSCP for review and comment;

6. On May 1, 2026, the Scotts Valley Water District issued a notice of public hearing and availability of the Draft 2025 WSCP for review and comment;

7. On May 14, 2026, the Board of Directors of the Scotts Valley Water District conducted a public hearing pursuant to California water Code sections 10642 and 10608.26 to consider and receive input on the Draft 2020 WSCP.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Scotts Valley Water District Board of Directors hereby adopts the 2025 WSCP for Scotts Valley Water District and authorizes it to be filed with the California Department of Water Resources.

Resolution No. 01-26

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of May 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: Perri, Reber, Stiles.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Ekwall, Leishman.

DocuSigned by:
Ruth L Stiles
80A644B5E1C1401...

Ruth Stiles, President
Board of Directors

Attest: DocuSigned by:
David McNair
455E6F70FDE740B...

David McNair, General Manager

RESOLUTION No. 03-26

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING THE 2025 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
FOR SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

WHEREAS:

1. The California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act), Water Code section 10610 et seq. requires every urban water supplier to prepare an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) and electronically submit their 2025 UWMP to the California Department of Water Resources by June 30, 2026;

2. The Act requires periodic review and update of the UWMP every five years;

3. Scotts Valley Water District meets the Act's definition of an urban retail water supplier required to submit an UWMP;

4. The Scotts Valley Water District Board of Directors has reviewed the 2025 UWMP, determined that the 2025 UWMP is consistent with the Act and the California Department of Water Resources 2025 UWMP Guidebook, and is an accurate representation of the water system, current and projected water uses, sources of water supply reliability, water shortage contingency planning and demand management measures;

5. On February 3, 2026 the Scotts Valley Water District issued a notice of preparation of the Draft 2025 UWMP for review and comment;

6. On May 28, 2026, the Scotts Valley Water District issued a notice of public hearing and availability of the Draft 2020 UWMP for review and comment;

7. On June 11, 2026, the Board of Directors of the Scotts Valley Water District conducted a public hearing pursuant to California water Code sections 10642 and 10608.26 to consider and receive input on the Draft 2025 UWMP.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Scotts Valley Water District Board of Directors hereby adopts the 2025 UWMP for the Scotts Valley Water District and authorizes it to be filed with the California Department of Water Resources.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 11th day of June 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: Ekwall, Leishman, Perri, Reber, Stiles.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: None.

DocuSigned by:
Ruth L Stiles
80A644B5E1C1401...

Ruth Stiles, President
Board of Directors

Attest: DocuSigned by:
David McNair
455E6F70FDE740B...

David McNair, General Manager

APPENDIX D

Water Shortage Contingency Plan (2026)

Water Shortage Contingency Plan

SCOTTS VALLEY
WATER DISTRICT

April 27, 2026

Prepared by

Shobe Engineering
Resilient and Efficient Solutions

Table of Contents

List of Tables

APPENDICES

SECTION 1 INTRODUCTION

The Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) outlines procedures and protocols that will be implemented by Scotts Valley Water District (District) in the event of foreseeable or unforeseeable water supply shortages. A water shortage occurs when the water supply is reduced to a level that cannot support demand at any given time due to a range of conditions including extended drought, production capacity limitations, catastrophic supply interruptions, or other unforeseen shortages. The WSCP is intended to protect the integrity of water supply for domestic, public health, essential care, welfare and safety.

This is the first update to the WSCP since it was adopted in 2021. This WSCP is compliant with the California Water Code (CWC) and incorporated guidance from the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) UWMP Guidebook (California Department of Water Resources, 2025).

The WSCP includes the following sections:

Water Supply Reliability Analysis	Summarizes the water supply reliability analysis and identifies any key issues that may trigger a shortage condition.
Annual Assessment Procedures	Establishes annual procedures for assessing foreseeable water supply shortage.
Standard Shortage Levels	Establishes water shortage levels to clearly identify and prepare for shortages.
Shortage Response Actions	Describes the response actions that may be implemented or considered for each stage to reduce gaps between supply and demand.
Communication Protocols	Describes communication protocols to ensure customers, the public, and local government agencies are informed of shortage conditions and requirements.
Compliance and Enforcement	Defines compliance and enforcement actions available to administer demand reductions.
Legal Authority	Lists the legal documents that grant the authority to declare a water shortage and implement and enforce response actions.
Financial Consequences of WSCP	Describes the anticipated financial impact of water shortage stages and identifies mitigation strategies to offset financial burdens.
Monitoring and Reporting	Summarizes the monitoring and reporting techniques to evaluate the effectiveness of shortage response actions and overall WSCP implementation.
WSCP Refinement Procedures	Describes factors that may trigger updates to the WSCP and outlines how to complete an update.
Special Water Features Distinctions	Defines considerations and definitions for water use for decorative features versus pools and spas.
Plan Adoption, Submittal, and Availability	Describes the process for the WSCP adoption, submittal, and availability after each revision.

SECTION 2 WATER SUPPLY RELIABILITY ANALYSIS

This section provides a summary of the water supply reliability analysis as presented in the 2020 and 2025 Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs) in accordance with CWC Section 10635.

The District relies primarily on groundwater from the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin (SMGB). Groundwater is a shared resource that is overseen by the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (SMGWA) and has adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in 2022.

The reliability analysis considered the following year-types: normal year, single-dry year, and five-consecutive-year drought. Pumping in the groundwater basin is currently within the sustainable yield and groundwater conditions are monitored annually. The drought risk assessment considers the District's current water supply facilities and the basin management information from the GSP. The District expects to meet projected annual demands under modeled water year types; however, water shortages may still occur due to groundwater conditions, operational constraints, or regulatory requirements.

While the District has adequate groundwater supply to meet its annual and monthly customer demands, the District's water production facilities (wells, filters, storage tanks) are sized to meet peak demand, such as maximum daily, and peak hour, and fire flow. Water supply reliability considers both the groundwater supply to meet total demand and the infrastructure capacity to meet peak instantaneous demands. A water supply shortage level could be triggered from groundwater supply indicators from the GSP, or on operational factors to maintain an adequate operating buffer. Conditions such as catastrophic events, prolonged drought, or unforeseen impacts to groundwater and supply infrastructure, could require the activation of the WSCP.

SECTION 3 ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND ASSESSMENT

In accordance with CWC Section 10632 (a)(2), this section provides the procedures to conduct an annual water supply and demand assessment (Annual Assessment). The Annual Assessment will be performed in April of each year to determine if water shortages are anticipated as defined in this WSCP. The Annual Assessment must be submitted to DWR by July 1 of each year.

3.1 Key Data Inputs

The WSCP addresses several types of water supply shortages that could potentially impact the District and its customers:

- Long-term supply shortages due to prolonged drought, contamination, destruction of critical water supply facilities, etc.
- Short-term water supply shortages due to natural or man-made catastrophic emergencies or production capacity limitations.
- Supply shortages due to compliance with Sustainable Management Criteria for the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin (SMGB) as defined in the SMGB Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and summarized in this WSCP.

Key data inputs and their sources for the Annual Assessments are summarized in **Table 1** and described in detail in Section 3.2 – Evaluation Criteria.

Evaluation criteria that can be used to determine and declare severity of supply shortages may include any, or combinations, of the following:

- **Rainfall.** Reflects reduction to supply due to decreased groundwater recharge and surface water flows.
- **SMGB Sustainable Management Criteria.** Reflects status of groundwater conditions such as groundwater levels, groundwater quality, depletion of interconnected surface water, or reduction of groundwater in storage.
- **Production Capacity.** Reflects limited production and distribution capacity due to a variety of factors potentially including, but not limited to man-made or natural catastrophic events
- **State Mandates.** Reflects State orders and mandatory compliance with water use efficiency Standards.

Supply shortages affect all users of the SMGB and surrounding region, not just the District's customers. A water shortage emergency may be declared when it is demonstrated that regional water supply conditions or local capacity impacts threaten the ability to provide water for public health, safety, and welfare of the community. Furthermore, compliance with State mandates for water use efficiency can be declared during drought or in preparation for future droughts, such as in response to the Governor's drought declarations in the 2012-2016 drought with a subsequent Executive Order B-37-16 and related legislation for Making Conservation a California Way of Life.

Short-term and long-term supply shortages may be caused by constrained production capacity or natural or man-made catastrophic emergencies and include, but are not limited to, the following events: power outages, winter storms, wildfires, earthquakes, structural failures, contamination, and malevolent acts. These types of emergencies may limit the District's immediate ability to provide adequate water service to meet the requirements for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection. Impacts of such emergencies vary in duration; thus, shortage response actions and prohibitions may differ for short-term and long-term shortages.

Table 1: Key Data Inputs for the Annual Assessment

Key Data Input	Source
Rainfall	Monthly rainfall data from a weather station at District's El Pueblo Yard.
Groundwater Conditions	Exceed groundwater levels or extraction minimum thresholds defined by the 2022 GSP and any subsequent GSP amendment.
Production Shortfall	District's production data and input from the Operations Manager.
Anticipated Demands	Prior usage trends, changes in population, estimated water reductions from current shortage stages (if any), and input from Operations Manager and Finance Managers.

3.2 Evaluation Criteria

Staff use the key data inputs, evaluation criteria, and Annual Assessment procedures to evaluate supply reliability at the time of the Annual Assessment and into the upcoming summer and fall. Various trigger conditions, which summarize specific evaluation criteria for each shortage stage that can be used to determine a water shortage stage are described in the following sections. Triggers are based on current conditions, and the District evaluates these triggers and may modify as needed.

3.2.1 Rainfall

The SMGB aquifers and surface water sources are vulnerable to drought due to the reliance on rainfall for recharge and flows. Rainfall varies based on the hydrologic conditions of a given year. During the Annual Assessment, rainfall totals can be compared to the rainfall trigger levels identified in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Rainfall Trigger Levels

Stage[1]	Rainfall Trigger[2]
1	Cumulative rainfall over 2 years < 80% of average and/or Single year rainfall < 75% of average
2	Cumulative rainfall over 2 years < 70% of average and/or Single year rainfall < 60% of average
3	Cumulative rainfall over 3 years < 50% of average and/or Single year rainfall < 50% of average
4	Same or worse than Stage 3
5	Same or worse than Stage 3

1. The District may adjust stages up or down based on annual review and other WSCP evaluation criteria.
2. Single year rainfall < 50% of average corresponds to a water shortage of 50%.

3.2.2 Groundwater Conditions

The adopted SMGB GSP has the goal of avoiding undesirable groundwater conditions in the SMGB and achieving groundwater sustainability by January 2042. Reducing groundwater demand by implementing recycled water and water use efficiency programs has stabilized historic long-term declines in groundwater levels in the Scotts Valley area. To prevent continued chronic lowering of groundwater levels, the GSP identifies groundwater level Minimum Thresholds and associated exceedance levels that cause Undesirable Results. Measurable Objectives reflecting SMGWA's goals for groundwater level improvements are also included in the suite of sustainable management criteria.

It is important to note that the SMGWA has until January 2042 to reach its sustainability goal. Therefore, groundwater conditions that exceed the criteria of Undesirable Results are not formally considered Undesirable Results by DWR until after January 2042. It is expected that sustainable management criteria will be revised over the 20-year implementation period of the GSP as monitoring and further studies improve understanding of the SMGB. The criteria to determine water shortage stages will rely on groundwater level Minimum Threshold and Undesirable Results as defined in the 2022 GSP.

Groundwater conditions, as described below, may be considered in conjunction with other criteria to determine water shortage stages.

Minimum Thresholds and Undesirable Results from GSP

- Minimum Thresholds for Representative Monitoring Points (RMPs) are the average of the five lowest groundwater elevations historically measured at the RMPs.
- Santa Margarita aquifer groundwater levels are influenced by rainfall that directly recharges it. Although levels in drought years may fall below RMP Minimum Thresholds, the highly permeable aquifer rebounds levels quickly in above-average rainfall years. There are no SVWD extraction wells in the Santa Margarita aquifer and therefore the Santa Margarita RMPs identified within SVWD's boundaries in the GSP are not evaluated as groundwater conditions triggers.
- The deeper confined aquifers (Lompico and Butano) are more susceptible to prolonged low groundwater levels because of their limited surface exposure to recharge. This characteristic

makes them sensitive to increased pumping in dry years and warrants limiting their pumping to approximately the sustainable yield for that aquifer. Since groundwater levels in the Lompico aquifer are lowered, it is the target of recharge projects to improve groundwater levels and to increase water supply reliability by using the aquifer for water storage. When recharge projects of around 700 AFY are implemented in the Scotts Valley area, groundwater modeling has indicated that Lompico aquifer groundwater levels will increase at least 20 feet above 2022 levels.

- Based on the characteristics described above, the GSP defines Undesirable Results occurring when groundwater levels fall below Minimum Thresholds in two or more consecutive non-drought years. If the lowered levels are caused by emergency operational issues or extended drought those levels are not considered Undesirable Results.

Groundwater Level Trends

- Groundwater level trends will be compiled and considered with the SMGWA hydrogeologist to determine if conditions trigger water shortage conditions based on the following:
    - Hydrographs of groundwater levels to determine trends for both extraction and monitoring wells, and
    - Comparison of groundwater levels against Minimum Thresholds for RMPs.

Five-Year District Pumping Average

- Drought and possible other water shortage conditions impact the purveyors that rely on the SMGB. Reduced recharge in times of extended droughts presents a concern for supply reliability. Since groundwater is shared by all pumpers in the SMGB, pumping within the sustainable yield is the collective responsibility of all SMGB pumpers. The GSP does not apportion the sustainable yield by purveyor as this is more like an adjudication of groundwater use, which is not the intent of the GSP. For purposes of the WSCP, the assessment of groundwater conditions includes comparing average pumping by aquifer over the last five-years to the projected long-term average annual pumping (Baseline Pumping) under groundwater model simulated baseline conditions shown in **Table 3**.

Table 3: District Baseline Pumping (AFY)

Santa Margarita Aquifer	Lompico Aquifer	Butano Aquifer	Total
0	950	350	**1,300**

1. Baseline Pumping is based on groundwater model simulations developed for the SMGB GSP.

Groundwater Condition Triggers

During the Annual Assessment, the District may consider any of, or combinations of, the groundwater triggers identified in **Table 4**. Groundwater triggers are intended to inform WSCP decisions and do not supersede the SMGWA's formal GSP compliance determinations.

Table 4: SMGB Groundwater Condition Triggers

Stage	Groundwater Condition Trigger
1	• Only rainfall trigger applies
2	• One (1) RMP in any of the Monterey, Lompico & Butano aquifers are within 10 feet of Minimum Threshold • Last 5-year District pumping average exceeds District Baseline Pumping by 10% for either aquifer
3	• One (1) RMP in any of the Monterey, Lompico & Butano aquifers have Minimum Threshold exceedance • Overall groundwater level trend over 5 years is declining in 25% of RMPs • Last 5-year District pumping average exceeds District Baseline Pumping by 20% for either aquifer
4	• Three (3) RMP in any of the Monterey, Lompico & Butano aquifers have Minimum Threshold exceedances • Overall groundwater level trend over 5 years is declining in 50% of RMPs • Last 5-year District pumping average exceeds District Baseline Pumping by 30% for either aquifer.
5	• Five (5) RMP in any of the Monterey, Lompico & Butano aquifers have Minimum Threshold exceedances • Overall groundwater level trend over 5 years is declining in 75% of RMPs • Last 5-year District pumping average exceeds District Baseline Pumping by 40% for either aquifer.

1. The District may adjust stages up or down based on annual review and other WSCP evaluation criteria.

3.2.3 Production Capacity (Infrastructure Considerations)

Infrastructure capabilities and overall production are analyzed to determine if a possible outage or deficiency may occur or continue in the coming year due to a variety of factors potentially including, but not limited to, man-made or natural catastrophic events. Man-made events may include routine maintenance or replacements of major water supply facilities (wells, filters, storage tanks). Natural events such as seismic, hurricanes, landslides, wildfires, etc., may also cause outages of major water supply facilities. If the District determines there are limitations to production capacity, a shortage stage declaration and subsequent demand reductions may be required. Triggers may include:

- Loss of key well or treatment facility
- Storage deficit (tank offline)
- Inability to meet peak daily flows or fire flow
- Planned outages (tank replacement, critical supply upgrades, etc.)

3.2.4 State Mandates

The District has historically been required by the State to reduce demand regardless of supply reliability. Compliance with State mandates for water use efficiency can be declared during drought or in preparation for future droughts. Such mandates occurred in response to the Governor's drought declarations in the 2012-2016 drought with a subsequent Executive Order B-37-16 and related legislation for Making Conservation a California Way of Life. The District may consider State mandates and mandatory compliance with water use efficiency standards in determining water shortage stages.

3.3 Annual Assessment Procedures

District staff will perform the Annual Assessment in April of each year following these procedures.

- **The team conducting the Annual Assessment consists of staff performing the following roles:**
    - District staff: gathers key inputs and historical data, analyzes potential supply and demand gaps; provides insight on demand trends and future production capacity.
    - District hydrogeologist consultant(s): provides groundwater condition information.
    - District Board/Committee: Staff presents information and any anticipated water shortages to the District's Board and/or committee and receives their feedback.
- **Each spring, evaluate rainfall for the first part of the water year plus the four prior water years**
    - Determine if there is a rainfall trigger per Table 2.
- **Obtain and review the SMGB Annual Report from the previous water year and consult with District's hydrogeologist(s) to determine if annual conditions trigger water shortage conditions:**
    - Hydrographs of groundwater levels to determine trends for both extraction and monitoring wells,
    - Compare groundwater levels against Minimum Thresholds for RMPs, and
    - Total well pumping data aggregated by aquifer and District.
- **Determine the type of water shortage and corresponding stage.**
- **Develop a recommendation to present to the District Board.**
- **District's Board makes a final determination on which water shortage stage to declare and implement.**
- **Develop and implement appropriate communication protocols and response actions.**
- **Submit Annual Assessment to DWR by July 1**

SECTION 4 STANDARD WATER SHORTAGE LEVELS

The District utilizes five water shortage stages to identify and respond to water shortages. The District encourages water use efficiency efforts year-round, regardless of a shortage stage. The shortage levels for the District WSCP stages are provided in **Table 5.**

Table 5: District Water Shortage Contingency Plan Levels

Stage	Shortage Level	Description
1	0-10%	Mild Water Shortage
2	10%-20%	Moderate Water Shortage
3	20%-30%	Severe Water Shortage
4	30%-50%	Critical Water Shortage
5	Greater than 50%	Catastrophic Water Shortage

The CWC outlines six standard water shortage levels that correspond to a gap in supply compared to normal year availability. The six standard water shortage levels correspond to progressively increasing estimated shortage conditions (up to 10-, 20-, 30-, 40-, 50-percent, and greater than 50-percent shortage compared to the normal reliability condition) and align with the shortage response actions that a water supplier would implement to meet the severity of the impending shortages.

The CWC allows suppliers with an existing water shortage contingency plan that uses different water shortage levels to comply with the six standard levels by developing and including a cross-reference relating its existing shortage categories to the six standard water shortage levels. The District uses a five-shortage stage approach for this WSCP. A cross reference to the six standard stages is shown in **Table 6**.

Table 6: Cross-Reference for Standard vs Supplier Shortage Levels (DWR 8-1)

DWR Standard Shortage Levels	Percent Shortage Range	Supplier Shortage Levels	Percent Shortage Range
1	Up to 10%	1	0-10%
2	Up to 20%	2	10%-20%
3	Up to 30%	3	20%-30%
4	Up to 40%	4	30%-50%
5	Up to 50%	4	30%-50%
6	>50%	5	>50%

SECTION 5 SHORTAGE RESPONSE ACTION

CWC Section 10632(a)(4) requires water suppliers to implement water shortage response actions that align with the water shortage levels and to estimate the water reductions from the action. Actions include demand reduction, supply augmentation, operational changes, and mandatory prohibitions. Actions are selected based on the declared shortage level, current operating conditions, and the state of infrastructure. The actions presented below are intended as a menu of options and are not required to be implemented at each stage. Actions are scalable based on the stages (e.g., actions identified in Stages 1 or 2 may be implemented in Stages 3 or 4 at increasing implementation, etc.).

5.1 Demand Reduction

The optional demand reduction actions and their estimated water savings potential are shown in **Table 7** and **Table 8**. Actions may include, but are not limited to conservation and rebate programs, public information campaigns, leak detection and repair, and prohibitions on potable water use for certain applications (except for health and safety reasons). Although it is difficult to estimate the volume of savings for each action, the District expects to meet its required demand reductions at each shortage stage through a combination of response actions, outreach and communication efforts. The estimated water savings potential summarized in **Table 7** is based on published industry references. **Table 8** includes various possible actions and estimated savings to be submitted in the standard DWR tables as part of the UWMP.

Demand reduction percentages are applied relative to normal-year demand conditions. While variable projected demands will be considered in the Annual Assessment, **Table 7** conservatively assesses the District's ability to reduce demand (as a percentage) of the normal year's production.

Table 7: Estimated Savings by Shortage Stage

Stage	Required Savings[1]	Estimated Savings from Quantifiable Actions[2]	Estimated Savings from Unquantifiable Actions[3]
1	10%	5%	5%
2	20%	5%	15%
3	30%	15%	15%
4 & up	50%	15%	35%

1. Required savings may be met through a combination of quantifiable and unquantifiable actions. The District will only implement measures to the extent necessary to mitigate a water shortage, although estimates may indicate greater savings is obtainable. It is anticipated that some of the required savings will be met through quantifiable shortage response actions and the remaining amount savings will be met through other actions, including communication and outreach efforts.
2. Quantifiable savings are estimated based on various published sources and are provided as a guide. The degree of implementation of actions can vary in each stage and can result in a wide range of savings. For a list of all specific shortage response actions and their potential savings, refer to Table 8.
3. The remaining savings not achieved by quantifiable actions are anticipated to be achieved through unquantifiable communication and outreach efforts.

Table 8: Demand Reduction Actions (DWR 8-3)

Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions	Estimated Savings (%)	Additional Explanation	Penalty or Charge
All	Other water feature or swimming pool restriction		All decorative water features must re-circulate water, or users must secure a waiver from the supplier	(1)
All	Other		Washing or hosing down vehicles is prohibited except by use of a hand-held container, hose with an automatic shut off device, or at a commercial car wash	(1)
All	Other - Prohibit use of potable water for washing hard surfaces		Washing hard or paved surfaces is prohibited except to alleviate safety or sanitary hazards using a hand-held container, hose with an automatic shut off device, or a low-volume high pressure cleaning machine that recycles used water	(1)
All	Landscape - Restrict or prohibit runoff from landscape irrigation		Watering vegetated areas in a manner that causes excessive water flow or runoff onto an adjoining sidewalk, driveway, street, alley, gutter, or ditch is prohibited	(1)
All	Landscape - Other landscape restriction or prohibition		Irrigating ornamental turf on public street medians is prohibited	(1)
All	Landscape - Other landscape restriction or prohibition		No landscape watering shall occur within 48 hours after measurable precipitation	(1)
All	Expand Public Information Campaign		Increase public awareness of existing District rebate programs such as for turf replacement and plumbing fixtures	(1)
1	Other - Require automatic shut of hoses	0.1	Use a shutoff nozzle on hoses	(1)
1	CII - Lodging establishment must offer opt out of linen service		Lodging establishments must offer opt out of linen service	(1)
1	CII - Other CII restriction or prohibition		Display by restaurants and hotels of water conservation signs	(1)
1	Other - Prohibit use of potable water for construction and dust control		If recycled water is available, require recycled water use for construction water use and dust control. If recycled water is not available, consult with water supplier on ways to reduce water use and/or use bulk water	(1)
1	Other - Customers must repair leaks, breaks, and malfunctions in a timely manner	3	Fix leaks or faulty sprinklers promptly/within the amount of time determined by the water supplier	(1)
1	Increase Water Waste Patrols		Increase water waste education, investigation, and enforcement	(1)

Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions	Estimated Savings (%)	Additional Explanation	Penalty or Charge
2	CII - Restaurants may only serve water upon request	0.1	Restaurants may only serve water upon request	(1)
2	Pools and Spas - Require covers for pools and spas	0.1	Require covers for pools and spas	(1)
2	Landscape - Limit landscape irrigation to specific times	0.5	Watering or irrigation with a device that is not continuously attended to is limited to fifteen (15) minutes per day per valve. Low flow drip type systems, water efficient stream rotor systems, and sensor/weather-controlled systems are exempt	(1)
2	Landscape - Limit landscape irrigation to specific days	1	Irrigation for turf watering using potable water shall be limited to a specified number of days per week determined by the supplier depending on the shortage severity. Plant containers, trees, shrubs, and vegetable gardens may be watered additional days using only drip irrigation or hand watering as determined by the supplier depending on the shortage severity	(1)
2	Implement or Modify Drought Rate Structure or Surcharge		Drought Rates and Surcharges may be utilized by supplier	Yes
3	Other water feature or swimming pool restriction	0.1	Existing pools shall not be emptied and refilled using potable water unless required for public health and safety purposes	(1)
3	Landscape - Other landscape restriction or prohibition	4	With the exception of landscapes watered with non-potable water, limit the installation of new landscaping to drought tolerant trees, shrubs, and groundcover. Prohibit installation of new turf or hydroseed. Customers may apply for a waiver to irrigate during an establishment period for the installation of new turf or hydroseed	(1)
3	CII - Commercial kitchens required to use pre-rinse spray valves	5	Food preparation establishments must use water efficient kitchen spray valves	(1)
4	Other		The supplier may set or adjust water allocations in all categories to meet the available water supply	(1)

1. Refer to District Water Waste Policy P500-15-1 for penalties and charges associated water prohibitions.

5.2 Supply Augmentation

Presently, the District relies exclusively only on groundwater as its source of potable water supply. The District plans to address water shortages through extensive communication and outreach efforts and demand reduction actions (**Table 8**). There are no measurable supply augmentation actions at this time. The District will be implementing conjunctive use of surface water through partnership with other local water agencies and the Regional Intertie Project with the City of Santa Cruz. The timing and availability of this supply will depend on project completion and operational agreements.

5.3 Emergency Response Plan

The District utilizes the City of Scotts Valley Emergency Operation Plan, which is compliant with the State's policies on Emergency Response and Planning, the Standardized Emergency Management System Operational Area response, National Incident Management System, and defines the primary and support roles of City personnel and departments in post incident damage assessment and After-Action reporting requirements. These processes address the District's response to extraordinary emergency situations associated with natural disasters, human-caused emergencies, technological, and catastrophic events, which cause widespread damage, loss, or destruction. The plan provides operational concepts relating to the various emergency situations, identifies components of the Emergency Management Organization, and describes the overall responsibilities of the organization for protecting life and property, and assuring the overall well-being of the population. The plan also identifies the sources of outside support that might be provided. The plan details the District's response, personnel, and assistance, which will be provided during a disaster and emergency.

5.4 Seismic Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan

Disasters, such as earthquakes, can and will occur without notice. The District resides near potentially active faults. Seismic risks and mitigation plans are published in Local Hazard Mitigation Plans (LHMP). The County of Santa Cruz LHMP (County LHMP) was last updated in 2025 and includes section dedicated to the Scotts Valley Water District (Section 5). The County LHMP identifies seismic risks and mitigation actions, such as storage tank hardening, that the District could implement to alleviate seismic risks and increase reliability. Actions include upgrades of water infrastructure, emergency and critical structures and continued preparedness coordination with other local agencies (County of Santa Cruz, 2025).

In addition, the District maintains a Risk and Resiliency Assessment (RRA) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP) that are updated in accordance with America's Water Infrastructure Act and J-100 standards. The RRA and ERP analyze all critical facilities for a seismic event and address mitigation strategies.

5.5 Shortage Response Action Effectiveness

Under normal water supply conditions, water production data is recorded daily. From this information, month to month and year to year statistics are calculated. This data allows the District to determine the effectiveness of the implemented actions. If reduction goals are not being met, the District can make the necessary decisions for corrective action to be taken. Since the District maintains daily production records, more frequent reporting could be provided to assess effectiveness during drought or other water shortage. In addition, the District has implemented Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI), which provides additional data and opportunities to effectively monitor and coordinate with customers in near real-time.

During water shortage conditions, savings are measured in comparison to what is considered to be normal year demand (i.e., current customer base with approximately average rainfall), or in reference to a specific base year as may be dictated by Statewide requirements. It is assumed that a given required shortage addressed in each level can be met by quantifiable measures and the remainder of shortage can be addressed by unquantifiable measures. It is expected that response actions effectiveness is also a result of successful communication and outreach efforts.

SECTION 6 COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

In accordance with CWC Section 10632(a)(5), this sections describes the communication protocols and procedures to inform customers, the public, and state and local officials of any current or predicted water shortages. When a shortage level is enacted or changed, a notice is published in the local newspaper and on the District website. Based on the severity of the shortage condition, the District may also advertise on the local radio, publish special publications, or send mail notifications to its customers. In the case of an emergency, the District coordinates with the City of Scotts Valley and County of Santa Cruz for the possible proclamation of a local emergency. The District also assigns a Public Information Officer who is responsible for monitoring and controlling the release of information about the event and serves as a point of contact for news media and other appropriate agencies and organizations. This WSCP relies on existing communication plans to provide guidance for efficient communication of declaration of a shortage level, inform restrictions, and provide updates during a water shortage emergency. The District prioritizes effective communication, especially in times of a water shortage emergency. The District routinely communicates to customers about details on when a stage is announced. Communication actions include bill inserts, electronic blasts, newsletters, website and social media postings, customer portal notifications, and other additional methods. The District continues to provide reminders about shortage levels and encourage water use efficiency at all times.

SECTION 7 COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

This section is in accordance with CWC Section 10632(a)(6) and describes the compliance and enforcement provisions.

The District has established a Water Waste Policy P500-15-1 (Policy) which outlines the following consequences for violations:

- Initial Notification: Verbal or written explanation of the violation will be communicated to the customer, along with required remediation, and the requirement to respond by the next business day.
- Second Notification: If no response has been received by the next business day, SVWD shall issue a Second Notification in writing.
- Final Notification: If a) no response to the Second Notification has been received, b) satisfactory arrangements have not been made for correction or c) timely verification of correction has not occurred, the customer's potable water service may be disconnected and/or a fine of $100 (or other amount set by State regulations) may be charged for each calendar day in which the violation occurs. All fines must be paid prior to re-connection of service.

The District's Policy provides the power to perform all acts necessary to ensure water resources are put to beneficial use and that waste or unreasonable use of water is prevented.

SECTION 8 LEGAL AUTHORITIES

The District's Board has the legal authority to declare a water shortage stage, associated curtailment target, and set emergency water rates. As noted above, Water Waste Policy P500-15-1, Think Twice Program establishes the rules and regulations for efficient water use and minimizing water waste. In addition, the WSCP was developed and updated in conjunction with the District's UWMP. Resolutions adopting the WSCP, and resolutions enacting selected components of the WSCP, further provide the District with the authority to implement water efficiency efforts.

SECTION 9 FINANCIAL CONSEQUENCES OF WSCP

Significantly reduced demands in response to water shortage conditions often trigger revenue shortfalls. To mitigate the financial impact, the District may implement add-on drought rates during a Stage 2 or Stage 3 water shortage, as provided in **Table 9**.

Table 9: Add-On Monthly Drought Rates

Residential Tiered Rates (per 100 gal)	Stage 2	Stage 3 and Higher
0 to 3,000	$0.00	$0.00
3,001 to 6,000	$0.57	$0.92
6,001 to 7,000	$0.57	$0.92
Over 7,000	$0.57	$0.92

https://www.svwd.org/Rates

The District could also use reserves to minimize the need for additional rate increases while also implementing expense reduction measures in an attempt to match the revenue gap. A full analysis of the water rates based on the financial conditions at the time water reduction would occur and would be presented to the District's Boards for approval.

SECTION 10 MONITORING AND REPORTING

In accordance with CWC Section 10632(a)(9), this section describes the reporting requirements and monitoring procedures to implement the WSCP and track and evaluate the response actions effectiveness.

The District intends to monitor supply and project demand on an annual basis in April of each year and, if triggers identified in this WSCP are met, then the District will consider activation of the WSCP. Monitoring demands is essential to ensure the WSCP response actions are adequately meeting reductions and decreasing the supply/demand gap. This helps to analyze the effectiveness of the WSCP or identify the need to activate additional response actions.

The water savings from implementation of the WSCP are determined based on monthly consumption data which will be compared to the consumption data from prior months, the same period of the prior year, and/ or the allocation. First, the cumulative consumption for the various sectors (e.g., residential, commercial, etc.) will be evaluated to reach the target demand reduction level. Then if needed, individual accounts will be monitored. Weather and other possible influences may be accounted for in the evaluation.

SECTION 11 WSCP REFINEMENT PROCEDURES

The WSCP is best prepared and implemented as an adaptive management plan. The District uses results obtained from the monitoring and reporting program to evaluate any needs for revisions. The WSCP is used to provide guidance to the Board, staff, and the public by identifying response actions to allow for efficient management of any water shortage with predictability and accountability.

To maintain a useful and efficient standard of practice in water shortage conditions, the requirements, criteria, and response actions need to be continually evaluated and improved upon to ensure that its shortage risk tolerance is adequate, and the shortage response actions are effective and up to date based on lessons learned from implementing the WSCP. Potential changes to the WSCP that would warrant an update include, but are not limited to, any changes to shortage level triggers, changes to the shortage level structure, and/or changes to the response actions. Any prospective changes to the WSCP would need to be presented at a public hearing, staff would obtain any comments and adopt the updated WSCP. The steps to formally amend the WSCP are discussed below.

Potential refinements will be documented and integrated in the next WSCP update. If new response actions are identified by staff or public, these could be advertised as voluntary actions until these are formally adopted as mandatory.

SECTION 12 SPECIALIZED WATER FEATURE DISTRINCTION

The CWC Section 10623 (b) requires that suppliers analyze and define water features that are artificially supplied with water, including ponds, lakes, waterfalls, and fountains, separately from swimming pools and spas, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 115921 of the Health and Safety Code. Non-pool or non-spa water features may use or be able to use recycled water, whereas pools and spas must use potable water for health and safety considerations, so limitations to pools and spas may require different considerations compared to non-pool or non-spa water features.

SECTION 13 PLAN ADOPTION, SUBMITTAL, AND AVAILABILITY

Future revisions to the WSCP will follow these revised adoption procedures, which adhere to the requirements of the CWC Section 10642:

Step 1: Prepare an internal administrative draft WSCP reviewed by District staff.

Step 2: Publish the draft WSCP for public review at least 14 days in advance of a public hearing meeting.

Step 3: Publish two notices of the public hearing in a local newspaper at least once a week for two consecutive weeks, with at least 5 days between publications. The notices include:

- Time and place of hearing
- Location of the draft WSCP

Step 3: Hold a public hearing before adopting the WSCP to allow public input.

Step 4: The Board may formally adopt the WSCP if no substantive changes are required. The adoption resolution will be included as an Appendix.

Step 5: Within 30 days of adoption, the WSCP will be posted on the District's website and submitted to DWR via the WUE Data Portal.

Appendix A

Board Resolution for Adoption of the WSCP

(to be included after Board adoption)

RESOLUTION No. 01-26

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING THE 2025 WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN
FOR SCOTTS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

WHEREAS:

1. The California Urban Water Management Planning Act (Act), Water Code section 10610 et seq. requires every urban water supplier to prepare a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) and electronically submit their 2025 WSCP to the California Department of Water Resources by July 1, 2026;

2. The Act requires periodic review and update of the WSCP as needed;

3. Scotts Valley Water District meets the Act's definition of an urban retail water supplier required to submit a WSCP;

4. The Scotts Valley Water District Board of Directors has reviewed the 2025 WSCP, determined that the 2025 WSCP is consistent with the Act and the California Department of Water Resources 2025 UWMP Guidebook, and is an accurate representation of required water shortage contingency planning;

5. On February 2, 2026, the Scotts Valley Water District issued a notice of preparation of the Draft 2025 WSCP for review and comment;

6. On May 1, 2026, the Scotts Valley Water District issued a notice of public hearing and availability of the Draft 2025 WSCP for review and comment;

7. On May 14, 2026, the Board of Directors of the Scotts Valley Water District conducted a public hearing pursuant to California water Code sections 10642 and 10608.26 to consider and receive input on the Draft 2020 WSCP.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

The Scotts Valley Water District Board of Directors hereby adopts the 2025 WSCP for Scotts Valley Water District and authorizes it to be filed with the California Department of Water Resources.

Resolution No. 01-26

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 14th day of May 2026, by the following vote:

AYES: Perri, Reber, Stiles.

NOES: None.

ABSENT: Ekwall, Leishman.

DocuSigned by:
Ruth L Stiles
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Ruth Stiles, President
Board of Directors

Attest: DocuSigned by:
David McNair
455E6F70FDE740B...

David McNair, General Manager