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Santa Ynez River

WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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March 4, 2020

GENERAL MANAGER:

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General Counsel

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Engineer

Board of Directors
SANTA YNEZ RIVER
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
P.O. Box 719
Santa Ynez, California 93460

Re: Preliminary 42nd Annual Engineering Survey and Report on Water Supply Conditions of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Fiscal Year 2019-20

Dear Board Members:

Transmitted here is the Preliminary 42nd Annual Engineering Survey and Report on Water Supply Conditions of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (District) for Fiscal Year 2019-2020. It presents information on the revenues collected and groundwater production through February 12, 2020. When the Spring 2020 water-level data become available, this report will be finalized by Stetson Engineers to reflect the current hydrologic conditions.

The Board has established six groundwater charge zones for the District, which are described below:

- Zone A District portion of Santa Ynez River alluvial channel from San Lucas Bridge downstream to Lompoc Narrows.
- Zone B District portion of the Lompoc Plain, Lompoc Upland and the Lompoc Terrace groundwater basins.
- Zone C All other portions of the District not included in Zones A, B, D, E, and F.
- Zone D District portion of the Buellton Upland basin.
- Zone E District portion of the Santa Ynez Upland basin.
- Zone F District portion of the Santa Rita Upland basin.

For Fiscal Year 2019-20 the Board established the following groundwater charge rates, in dollars per acre-foot of production, for each zone:

GROUNDWATER CHARGE RATES FOR FY 19-20 (DOLLARS)			
ZONE	AGRICULTURE	OTHER	SPECIAL IRRIGATION
A	7.15	25.00	14.30
B	7.15	25.00	14.30
C	7.15	25.00	14.30
D	7.15	25.00	14.30
E	7.15	25.00	14.30
F	7.15	25.00	14.30

Revenues

Revenues collected by the District through February 12, 2020 on groundwater production during the following time frames are as follows:

Fiscal Year (FY) 2018-19	(July '18 through June '19)	\$550,167.80
First Half FY 2019-20	(July '19 – December '19)	\$203,697.67
Years Prior to FY 2018-19		\$1,847.96

Groundwater Production

Summarized below is the reported water production in acre feet within the District as of February 12, 2020 for FY 2018-19:

WATER PRODUCTION FOR FY 18-19 (ACRE-FEET)				
ZONE	AGRICULTURE	OTHER	SPECIAL IRRIGATION	TOTAL
A	10,877.56	2,107.51	639.47	13,624.54
B	15,942.98	5,837.71	671.29	22,451.98
C	36.16	1,153.02	11.90	1,201.08
D	1,850.73	590.80	27.00	2,468.53
E	2,749.60	1,476.16	7.34	4,233.10
F	2,021.15	140.33	0.00	2,161.48
TOTAL	33,478.18	11,305.53	1,357.00	46,140.71

The above total water production reported for FY 2018-19 as of February 12, 2020 is 91.27 percent of the total water production reported for FY 2017-18 as of February 14, 2019.

The reported water production in acre-feet within the District as of February 12, 2020 for the first half of FY 2019-20 is as follows:

WATER PRODUCTION FOR FIRST HALF OF FY 19-20 (ACRE-FEET)				
ZONE	AGRICULTURE	OTHER	SPECIAL IRRIGATION	TOTAL
A	4,099.85	975.60	412.86	5,488.31
B	7,025.93	1,103.63	267.08	8,396.64
C	1.69	457.59	7.18	466.46
D	1,556.02	268.92	11.00	1,835.94
E	1,191.03	642.31	2.12	1,835.46
F	1,026.96	63.33	0.00	1,090.29
TOTAL	14,901.48	3,511.38	700.24	19,113.10

The above total water production reported in acre feet for the first half of FY 2019-20 as of February 12, 2020 is 94.71 percent of the total water production reported for the first half of FY 2018-19 as of February 14, 2019.

Additional production that actually occurred prior to FY 2018-19 was reported during the current FY 2019-20. That late reported production, in acre-feet, is as follows:

PRIOR WATER PRODUCTION REPORTED IN FY 19-20 (ACRE-FEET)				
ZONE	AGRICULTURE	OTHER	SPECIAL IRRIGATION	TOTAL
A	189.86	17.25	0.00	207.11
B	0.00	2.37	0.00	2.37
C	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
D	0.00	7.24	0.00	7.24
E	35.00	4.04	0.00	39.04
F	0.00	1.60	0.00	1.60
TOTAL	224.86	32.50	0.00	257.36

The above late water production reported for years prior to FY 2018-19 as of February 12, 2020 is 9.80% percent of the total water production reported for years prior to FY 2017-18 as of February 14, 2019. The extensive follow-up and registration of numerous unregistered producers and collection from late producers associated with escrow closures resulted in the significant increase in late water production reported during the previous fiscal year.

Well Registration

As of February 12, 2020, there are 1,145 wells registered with the District. Of that number, 926 are active and 219 are inactive.

Major Producers

The major water producers, those reporting pumpage by ownership and/or lease during FY 18-19, as of February 12, 2020 are as follows:

Producer	2018-19 Production (Acre-Feet)
Zone A	
Acin Farms	1,687
Espinoza / Big E Produce (also in Zone B)	963
SYRWCD, ID #1 (also in Zone E)	794
City of Buellton (also in Zone D)	683
Jackson, Palmer (The Alisal)	554
Wygod, Martin (River Edge & Anvil Farms)	527
Sea Smoke, Rita's Crown & Southing Holdings	476
Rancho LaVina	470
City of Solvang (also in Zones C and E)	195
LTC Rancho Sanja Cota (was Gainey, also Zone E)	73
Campbell Ranches (also in Zones B, D and F)	46
Williams, Norman (also in Zone D)	44
Zone B	
City of Lompoc (Parks Dept. & Water Div.)	4,320
Santa Barbara Farms (Witt/Guerra)	4,172
Lompoc Farming	3,257
Espinoza / Big E Produce (also in Zone A)	2,393
Campbell Ranches (also in Zones A, D and F)	1,944
Vandenberg Village CSD	1,188
U.S. Penitentiary Farm	825
Hibbits (Ranch and Family Trust)	599
Mission Hills CSD	541
Wineman, Edward	307
Bodger & Sons Company	134

Producer	2018-19 Production (Acre-Feet)
Zone C	
Imerys (was Celite Corporation)	827
City of Solvang (also in Zone A and E)	194
Zone D	
Buell, James (incl. Marcelino, LLC)	546
Foley Estates Vineyards (also in Zone F)	371
City of Buellton (also in Zone A)	357
Williams, Norman (also in Zone A)	230
Campbell Ranches (also in Zones A, B and F)	17
Zone E	
SYRWCD, ID #1 (also in Zone A)	927
City of Solvang (also in Zones A and C)	26
Zone F	
Campbell Ranches (also in Zones A, B and D)	438
Foley Estates Vineyards (also in Zone D)	384
Oak Hills Ranch (was A & M Farms)	355

Findings and Determinations

The required and pertinent information necessary for the Board of Directors of the District to make the necessary determinations required by law will be prepared and included in the final 42nd Annual Report which will be prepared upon receipt of the Spring 2020 water-level data.

Sincerely,

SANTA YNEZ RIVER
WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT



William Buelow, PG #8189
Groundwater Program Manager

WB/sjs