

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

|  |   |   |                      |
|--|---|---|----------------------|
| (1) DEPARTMENT<br>Administrative Office  | (2) MEETING DATE<br>3/11/2014               | (3) CONTACT/PHONE<br>Lisa Howe<br>781-5011  |                      |
| (4) SUBJECT<br>Presentation on current drought conditions and related management actions and submittal of a resolution proclaiming the existence of a local emergency due to drought conditions in San Luis Obispo County; exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15269, subd (c). All Districts.  |   |   |                      |
| (5) RECOMMENDED ACTION<br>It is recommended that the Board:<br>1) Receive presentation and update on current drought conditions and related management actions;<br>2) Adopt a resolution proclaiming a local emergency due to drought conditions in San Luis Obispo County;<br>3) Direct the Office of Emergency Services to return within or no later than every 30 days to confirm the ongoing need for the local emergency; and<br>4) Provide additional staff direction as deemed appropriate. |   |   |                      |
| (6) FUNDING SOURCE(S)<br>N/A   | (7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT<br>\$0.00 | (8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT<br>\$0.00   | (9) BUDGETED?<br>Yes |
| (10) AGENDA PLACEMENT<br>{ } Consent { } Presentation { } Hearing (Time Est. ___) { x } Board Business (Time Est. <u>90 min.</u> )   |   |   |                      |
| (11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS<br>{ x } Resolutions { } Contracts { } Ordinances { } N/A  |   |   |                      |
| (12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR)<br>N/A   |   | (13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED?<br>BAR ID Number:<br>{ } 4/5 Vote Required { x } N/A |                      |
| (14) LOCATION MAP<br>N/A   | (15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT?<br>N/A      | (16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY<br>{ x } N/A Date: _____                                     |                      |
| (17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW<br>Guy Savage  |   |   |                      |
| (18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S)<br>All Districts -   |   |   |                      |

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Administrative Office / Dan Buckshi  
781-5011

DATE: 3/11/2014

SUBJECT: Presentation on current drought conditions and related management actions and submittal of a resolution proclaiming the existence of a local emergency due to drought conditions in San Luis Obispo County; exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to CEQA Guidelines section 15269, subd (c). All Districts.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board:

- 1) Receive the presentation on current drought conditions and related management actions;
- 2) Adopt a resolution proclaiming a local emergency due to drought conditions in San Luis Obispo County;
- 3) Direct the Office of Emergency Services to return within or no later than every 30 days to confirm the ongoing need for the local emergency; and
- 4) Provide additional staff direction as deemed appropriate.

## **DISCUSSION**

### **SUMMARY**

California is facing a water shortfall in the driest year in recorded state history. The lack of rain has caused record low rivers and reservoirs, a snowpack measuring 20 percent of normal levels, and extremely low rainfall totals throughout California. On January 15, 2014, the Secretary of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Declared 27 Counties in California, including San Luis Obispo, to be designated as primary natural disaster areas due to drought conditions (see Attachment 1). Subsequently, on January 17, 2014, Governor Edmond G. Brown Jr. proclaimed a State of Emergency calling for voluntary statewide 20% reduction in water consumption (see Attachment 2). The California Department of Water Resources announced that State Water Project deliveries are estimated to be cutback to 0% of its contracted amount for the first time ever.

San Luis Obispo County has experienced below normal levels of precipitation for the previous three rainy seasons. As of the writing of this document, rainfall amounts in the County this season have made it the driest year on record. As of February 20, 2014, all areas of the County are experiencing an "Exceptional Drought" (D4) as reported by the U.S. Drought Monitor. The U.S. Drought Monitor measures intensity levels on a five-scale rating from D0 to D4. Significant impacts associated with drought conditions include a loss in agricultural production, drinking water shortages, decline in water quality, threat to wildlife, and fire danger, among others.

The County Administrative Officer assembled a County Drought Task Force to coordinate drought monitoring, impact assessments, responses to emergency health and human safety, and public communication and outreach. The Task Force consists of representatives from County Office of Emergency Services, County Public Works, County Fire, County Agricultural Commissioner, County Planning and Building, Farm Advisor, County Health Agency, and County Counsel. The Drought Task Force prepared this report in order to update the Board and the public on five key areas as they pertain

to the drought: 1) USDA Secretarial Disaster Designation 2) The County's role as a water purveyor 3) Countywide facilities water usage reduction plan 4) Public communication and outreach efforts and 5) The recommendation to the Board to proclaim a local drought emergency.

The Drought Task Force will continue to meet in order to monitor drought conditions, reduction efforts and county preparedness.

## **1) USDA SECRETARIAL DISASTER DESIGNATION**

On January 15, 2014, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) issued a Drought Disaster Designation for 27 counties in California. Of these 27 counties, 19 were designated as primary disaster areas and 8 counties were designated as contiguous. San Luis Obispo County is considered a primary disaster area. As of February 14, 2014, the number of primary and contiguous counties changed to 54 and 3 respectively. This designation will remain in place for a period of eight months, ending on September 15, 2014.

When a disaster designation is made by USDA, financial assistance is made available for qualifying agricultural producers. The type of assistance provided, as well as the eligibility for assistance, is dependent on the type of disaster event and the type of agricultural operation requiring relief. The USDA Farm Services Agency administers these programs and provides support to affected agricultural producers.

Along with the existing assistance programs offered through the Farm Services Agency, the USDA recently approved \$20 million in funding through the Natural Resources Conservation Service's Environmental Quality Incentives Program (or EQIP). These funds are intended to help ranchers bolster water conservation measures to mitigate the current drought conditions in California. Individuals interested in applying for this program must do so by March 3, 2014. In addition, the USDA California Farm Service Agency State Executive Director has announced Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) availability for multiple counties in California. ECP provides emergency funding and technical assistance to farmers and ranchers to rehabilitate farmland damaged by natural disasters and for implementing emergency water conservation measures in periods of severe drought. The program's initial focus will be to provide assistance to livestock producers with emergency water needs. Interested producers can sign up until March 27, 2014.

Upon his visit to Fresno County on February 14, 2014 to meet with farmers and ranchers, President Obama pledged \$183 million from existing federal funds for drought relief programs in California. The President also announced that he would submit with his budget to Congress an allocation of \$1 billion in new funding for a "climate resiliency" program to help communities invest in research, development, and new infrastructure to prepare for climate disasters. In addition, President Obama and USDA Secretary Vilsack propose to reduce the time it has historically taken for farmers and ranchers to receive assistance from 8 months to 60 days. Information related to these assistance programs can be obtained by contacting the local Farm Services Agency office or by visiting their website:

USDA, Farm Services Agency  
65 S Main Street  
Templeton, CA  
(805) 434-0398  
[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

The San Luis Obispo County Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures provides support in the form of outreach and the dissemination of information to agriculturalists regarding disaster declarations, and refers individuals to the Farm Services Agency for possible assistance. Additionally, the Department of Agriculture/Weights and Measures, along with UC Cooperative Extension, may help to assess crop loss in the event that information is required by the Farm Services Agency. UC Cooperative Extension provides information resources to agriculture and residential clientele on drought strategies.

## **2) THE COUNTY'S ROLE AS A WATER PURVEYOR**

The Department of Public Works (DPW) is responsible for several water resources projects and programs including retail water and wholesale supplies and systems. Tables 1-4 included in Attachment 3 provide a summary of DPW water system operations. In addition, DPW manages regional collaboration on water supply and other water resource issues including the Integrated Regional Water Management efforts. The following provides a discussion of each water system operations and recommended drought measures.

## Community Retail Systems

Table 1 of Attachment 3 provides a summary of the community retail systems operated by DPW. Each County Service Areas (CSA) has its own rules and regulations, budget, general ledger, and is treated as an autonomous unit. As a result, the revenues and expenses for each CSA are accounted for separate from the others, and separate from other DPW operations. Staff time and associated costs are charged on a “real-time” basis. The cost of conservation programs that are unique to each system are charged to that system while other costs are shared when they benefit all of the systems, such as participation in the Partners for Water Conservation. The following is a list of the 4 community water systems operated by the County.

CSA 10A Cayucos  
CSA 12 Avila

CSA 16 Shandon  
CSA 23 Santa Margarita

The community that has historically been at the greatest risk during droughts is Santa Margarita. Mandatory conservation efforts were imposed in prior years, including enforcement actions for violations. Development of additional wells has occurred to help ensure that basic health and safety needs can be met in a drought. Nevertheless, the CSA 23 Drought Response Procedure (DPW Procedural Memorandum 0-7; 2004) established a criteria-based monitoring program, which is the basis for the current “Alert” status. In accordance with the Drought Response Procedure, voluntary conservation measures are being developed and a mandatory conservation program in 2014 should be considered.

In addition, CSA 23 (Santa Margarita), CSA 10A (South Cayucos), and CSA 16 (Shandon) have provisions in their ordinances that establish drought-related rates and charges that customers are obliged to pay for violations during emergencies and for excessive water use during emergencies. In order for these financial provisions to go into effect, mandatory conservation programs must also be established to identify water use restrictions and maximum allowable usage. The CSA 12 (Avila Valley) system does not have similar financial provisions and is unique because it is contractually based. Each customer has a contract with CSA 12 for an allocation of water from Lopez Lake. Of its 20 customers, 9 are residential, 9 are commercial/non-residential, and 2 (Avila CSD and Port San Luis) are special districts. Pursuant to the contracts, each customer already has a quota, and while a small number of customers have exceeded their contract quota, the system overall is well under its Lopez allocation. In summary, the following are the drought measures for the community retail systems:

- Notify all customers of conservation needs by:
  - Distributing conservation information in customers water bills
  - Supporting broader public outreach in coordination with “Partners for Water Conservation”
  - Updating website information and links
- Monitor well levels for systems that are utilizing groundwater.
- Consider recommendations for mandatory conservation programs.
- For CSA 12, develop recommendations to establish financial charges for excessive water use during emergencies (i.e. water use in excess of established quotas).
- Initiate preliminary efforts to develop an intertie between Atascadero Mutual Water Company and CSA 23 (Santa Margarita) in case emergency delivery of Nacimiento Water becomes necessary for Santa Margarita (and Garden Farms).

## Regional Wholesale Systems

Each regional wholesale system is an operation of the San Luis Obispo County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and managed by DPW in accordance with contracts with participating agencies that receive the water supply benefits. Each has its own budget, general ledger, and is treated as an autonomous unit. As a result, and similar to the community retail systems, the revenues and expenses for each wholesale operation are accounted for separate from the others, and separate from other DPW operations. Staff time and associated costs are charged on a “real-time” basis.

## State Water

The State Water supply is catastrophically “at-risk.” Although 2014 deliveries have been reduced to zero (0%) of contract allocations by the California State Department of Water Resources, local agencies are still receiving State Water deliveries from water in storage, which is referred to as “carry-over” water. On January 1, 2014, the quantity of carry-over water totaled 7,332 acre feet. In comparison, the annual allocation for participating agencies is 4,830 acre feet. As a result, the total amount of carry-over water at the beginning of 2014 represents approximately 150% of a single year’s deliveries for local agencies within San Luis Obispo County. Exhibit “A” illustrates how the carry-over water is allocated

among the 11 local agencies. Since the continuation of the drought into 2015 must be anticipated, the following strategies should be considered:

- Deliver 100% of the carry-over water into the County in 2014 since a complete shut-down of the State Water Project in 2015 should be anticipated.
  - Assume that carry-over water remaining after 2014 would not be available for delivery.
  - Understand that delivering 2,502 acre feet (7,332-4,830) of the additional carry-over water in 2014 must obtain the approval of the Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) since it would require utilizing their treatment plant and pipeline conveyance capacity.
  - In exchange for the use of CCWA capacity, consider an arrangement that would provide CCWA up to 500 acre feet of the 2,502 in lieu of financial payments to CCWA for use of treatment plant and conveyance capacity charges (variable costs would still be incurred).
- Accelerate deliveries in 2014 in case State Water is shut-down before the end of 2014.
- Coordinate with local agencies.

#### Nacimiento Water Project

Although Nacimiento reservoir has dropped to 21% of its capacity, the greatest risk in 2014 is a reduction in downstream deliveries by Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) for its groundwater recharge and diversion programs, which primarily benefits its agricultural sector. Nacimiento Lake has a total capacity of 377,900 acre feet, and as of 2/24/2014, the actual quantity in storage is 79,360 acre feet. The annual allocation for use in San Luis Obispo County is 17,500 acre feet, with 1,750 acre feet reserved for uses around Lake Nacimiento and 15,700 acre feet deliverable by the Nacimiento (pipeline) Project. Of that, 9,655 acre feet have been contracted for delivery to local agencies and 6,095 is available as "Reserve Water," which may be purchased on a short term basis (not to exceed 5 years) or on a permanent basis subject to approval by your Board, and in certain circumstances, by existing participating agencies. Detailed discussions have been ongoing since fall of 2012 on the acquisition of the reserve water by existing participating agencies while also considering how it might be made available for use to help offset declining groundwater levels in the Paso Robles basin.

The watershed for Nacimiento Lake and the contract with MCWRA also provide some level of comfort despite the ongoing concerns of a continuing drought. The "run-off" productivity of the watershed, combined with the "minimum pool" contract provisions with MCWRA provide a 100% degree of "supply" reliability that local deliveries can be met in 2014 and a high degree of "supply" reliability in 2015 and subsequent years. The following points are covered to illustrate this judgment:

- (1) MCWRA downstream releases cannot result in reaching minimum pool prior to September 30<sup>th</sup> (the end of the project's water year), inclusive of considering how much is drawn for use in San Luis Obispo County.
- (2) The quantity of water in the lake once minimum pool is reached is 22,300 acre feet (subject to adjustment when San Luis Obispo County deliveries are reduced).
- (3) Minimum pool water is available only for use in San Luis Obispo County, which helps to ensure our subsequent year's supply.
- (4) Run-off into the reservoir after September 30<sup>th</sup> of any year further enhances the reliability of supply for subsequent year use in San Luis County.
- (5) Minimum estimated run-off into Nacimiento Lake was approximately 15,000 acre feet in 1976.
- (6) No recorded historic two years in a row have resulted in run-off less than necessary to establish minimum pool and assure the supply reliability for use in San Luis Obispo County.

With the overall reliability of the Nacimiento Supply considered to be high for rights within San Luis Obispo County, water quality concerns are a factor since low lake levels can result in higher than normal water temperatures and the growth of organic matter such as algae. In addition, despite the historical reliability, shifting weather patterns can cause the reliability of any water supply to change. Consequently, delivering as much of the supply for use in San Luis Obispo County prior to September 30<sup>th</sup> is currently a strategy being pursued by all of the participating agencies.

#### Lopez Lake

Lopez provides treated potable water to its participating agencies as well as downstream releases for agricultural, groundwater recharge, and environmental needs. The reservoirs total capacity is 49,388 acre feet, and is currently 56% full with an estimated 27,607 acre feet in storage. Of the existing capacity, 25,857 acre feet is available and 1750 acre feet is the remaining amount below the intake inlet level and unavailable for use.

With annual deliveries of 4,530 acre feet established by contract with its participating agencies, and a downstream release allocation of 4,200 acre feet, Lopez currently has about 4 years of water in storage under current drought conditions, which will decrease without inflow due to evaporation and seepage losses. The downstream releases are covered in the Interim Downstream Release Schedule, or IDRS, which was approved by your Board in 2007. The IDRS was developed as interim measures while a Habitat Conservation Plan is being developed for the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) as part of an effort to help with the recovery of Steelhead Trout. In summary, the IDRS provides for reduced downstream deliveries when lake levels, rainfall and inflow decline due to drought. Reduced downstream deliveries can also impact agricultural operations. As a result, the following measures will be part of upcoming work effort for DPW:

- Coordinate with NMFS on reduced downstream deliveries in 2014.
- Coordinate with agricultural operations.
- Coordinate with Lopez participating agencies and the Zone 3 Advisory Committee.
- Consider the use of State Water carry-over water to preserve water behind Lopez Reservoir.

#### Santa Margarita Lake

The City of San Luis Obispo is the sole beneficiary of water stored in Santa Margarita Lake. Storage can only occur while the Salinas River is flowing between Salinas Dam and the confluence with Nacimiento River. The City coordinates its use of the supply with its other supplies to provide the greatest degree of reliability for the City's overall sources of supply. As such, PWD does not manage deliveries but instead establishes deliveries to the City based on requests from the City.

#### **County Operations Center**

The County Operations Center provides critical public safety and other governmental needs. The water system is almost wholly reliant on State Water supplies, which are delivered via the California Men's Colony (CMC) pursuant to contractual arrangements. While 2014 State Water deliveries are currently occurring from carry-over water, the supply is at a level of catastrophic risk.

On February 21<sup>st</sup>, DPW staff met with staff of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and staff of Assemblyman Achadjian to review the steps needed to deliver Nacimiento water to CMC, County Operations Center, and other institutions who receive water via the CMC system. CDCR staff will be attending a follow up meeting and tour of the CMC facilities in the second week of March. Delivering Nacimiento "Reserve Water" to the CMC facilities can also help ensure health and safety needs for the City of Morro Bay. Coordination with CMC, CDCR, the Army Corp of Engineers, the City of San Luis Obispo, the Nacimiento Commission, and participating agencies has been initiated.

#### **Integrated Regional Water Management**

In order to help coordinate with the needs of other local agencies, DPW staff has been identifying risks and working with other agencies to help ensure coordination with the County Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the State Office of Emergency Services. The coordination through OES is separately addressed in the Task Force efforts by OES staff. Table 4 included in Attachment 3 has been prepared by DPW to provide an overview of our efforts in comparison to the 20 measures established in the Governor's drought declaration.

### **3) COUNTYWIDE FACILITIES WATER USAGE REDUCTION PLAN**

The County, more specifically General Services Agency (GSA), is taking several actions to reduce water usage in County owned facilities, at County Parks and Golf Courses, at the Airport, in new construction and lease agreements, and with fleet vehicles. The department has prepared a plan identifying the steps to reduce County usage of water by 20% (see Attachment 4). Some of the current and planned reduction efforts include:

- GSA Facility Services staff have made it a standard practice to replace older fixtures with low-flow devices. By retrofitting faucets, showerheads, and toilets with water saving devices, on-going reductions will be realized.
- County Parks and Golf have implemented several projects to achieve water savings in all districts: reduction of turf where practical, installation of efficient irrigation systems, use of drought tolerant and lower water demand vegetation, frequent inspection of irrigation lines and sprinkler heads for proper operation, and adding mulch to plant beds to preserve moisture.
- As part of efforts to maintain proper chlorination levels within the water distribution system at the Airport, water is periodically flushed from hydrants. Water tanker trucks will be allowed to fill from the Airport's hydrants and use the water on construction sites for dust control.

- Current construction standards for new facilities require low-flow fixtures, incorporating drought tolerant vegetation in landscape design, water metering for individual facilities, and installation of water saving drip line irrigation systems. Future agreements for County leased spaces will implement a new standard similar to construction standards for any improvements.
- County Fleet vehicles will be washed at local commercial car wash centers, which recycle water, instead of being washed at County facilities.
- Within the next four months, General Services will conduct a water audit to develop a baseline for water usage, identify high water usage facilities, and explore a wide-range of water conservation measures. The water conservation measures will help target areas for reduction, such as suspected water line leaks, and identify projects, which will generate water savings, and assist in prioritizing long-term capital projects.

#### 4) PUBLIC COMMUNICATION AND OUTREACH EFFORTS

In an effort to raise awareness about water supply issues and communicate the call for a 20% voluntary reduction in water usage, the County is currently examining multiple channels of communication for water conservation outreach efforts. Research shows that the public is willing to conserve but do not always know what to do. The County has developed tips on how to reduce water usage and has been included in Attachment 7. The drought task force is currently working to develop a communications plan in order to remind residents county wide of the importance of water supply.

The following channels of communication are in use by the County:

- **Local Collaboration**
  - **Partners in Water Conservation (PIWC)**  
Presently San Luis Obispo County works collaboratively with a network of water purveyors and cities comprising the Partners in Water Conservation (PIWC). While each purveyor plays a distinct role in communicating and providing water conservation information to their ratepayers, together these agencies work together for broad public outreach.
- **Website Marketing**
  - **Save Our Water** ([www.saveourwater.org](http://www.saveourwater.org))  
Governor Brown has called on all Californians to voluntarily reduce water usage by 20% and pointed to saveourh2o.org as the public's go-to resource for water conservation information. Following the Governor's lead the county is directing residents to saveourh2o.org and has placed the link on the County's homepage.
  - **SLO Water Wise Landscaping** ([www.slowaterwiselandscaping.com](http://www.slowaterwiselandscaping.com))  
The County, in coordination with water purveyors and cities comprising the Partners in Water Conservation (PIWC), continues to sponsor a website tool for water conservation in the home of commercial landscape.
  - **San Luis Obispo County Water Resources** ([www.slocountywater.org](http://www.slocountywater.org))  
The San Luis Obispo Water Resources website provides water conservation resources and links, including a link and information regarding Water Wise Landscaping.
  - **University of California Cooperative Extension** ([http://cesanluisobispo.ucanr.edu/Drought\\_Information/](http://cesanluisobispo.ucanr.edu/Drought_Information/))  
The UCCE Farm Advisor website provides drought resources for local rangeland, vegetable and strawberry, and orchard and vineyards on tools and drought strategies as well as information for home gardens and landscapes.
- **Newsletters**
  - **Inserts in Water Bills**  
Public Works is currently developing water conservation informational inserts to distribute in customers water bills. A recent study conducted by UCSB for the County of Santa Barbara indicated that the best return on investment for public outreach regarding water conservation was news inserts in water bills.
- **Social Media**
- **Media**
- **Presentations**

#### 5) PROCLAMATION OF LOCAL EMERGENCY

The Drought Task Force is recommending that the Board Proclaim a Local Emergency due to current drought conditions, as outlined in the attached resolution. The immediate and long-term impacts of the drought pose a threat to the health and welfare of our residents and a negative impact on the economy of San Luis Obispo County.

A local emergency may be proclaimed when there is a condition of extreme peril or potential peril to the safety of persons and property, and the condition is beyond the capability of the local forces to control effectively. Having a local emergency proclamation in place will allow the county to respond more promptly to immediate needs, such as the ability to make immediate purchases or fund other immediate needs in order to obtain vital supplies, equipment, and other resources that are lacking and needed for the protection of life and property. Because all public employees in California are disaster service workers, the proclamation would also require as necessary, the emergency services of any county officer, employee, or resources from any County department. A proclamation of local emergency could also more easily demonstrate the need for state or federal drought related assistance, including funding, should any become available.

Per California Government Code 8630 and San Luis Obispo County Code section 2.80.070, once proclaimed the Board of Supervisors shall review the need for continuing the local emergency at least once every 30 days

### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

At the onset of the Governor's declaration and under the direction of the County Administrative Officer, a Drought Task Force was formed. The Drought Task Force is comprised of multiple County Departments, including: County Office of Emergency Services, County Public Works, County Fire, County Agricultural Commissioner, County Planning and Building, Farm Advisor, County Health Agency, and County Counsel. All member departments provided input to this report.

County OES continues to be in in regular contact with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to receive and provide situation status information.

Public Works continues to coordinate with water purveyors and cities, comprising the Partners in Water Conservation (PIWC). Recently the PIWC met with water purveyors of Santa Barbara County to share water contingency planning models.

Public Health is coordinating with relevant state agencies, including through the State California Department of Public Health and Emergency Medical Services Authority Health Coordination Center.

Approving the resolution proclaiming a Local Emergency due to drought conditions falls in line with the Governor's Declaration and the USDA's Declaration.

County Counsel has approved the resolution as to form and legal effect.

### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

There is no cost associated with proclaiming a local emergency. The long-term financial impact on the local economy, including the demand on County and other legal agency services, cannot be forecast at this time.

### **RESULTS**

The presentation will provide an update on local drought conditions and current management actions. The Proclamation of Existence of a Local Emergency will allow for DPW and other agencies to take immediate action needed by allowing temporary reduction of certain regulatory and purchasing requirements. This would also allow County staff to assist in drought related work and task outside their normal scope of employment in the capacity that all County staff are Disaster Service Workers.

Note that any policy related issues would be subject to Board approval.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

Attachment 1: USDA Declaration

Attachment 2: Proclamation of a State of Emergency

Attachment 3: Summary of Department Of Public Works Water Systems Operations

Attachment 4: County facilities & operations

Attachment 5: US Drought Monitor Map

Attachment 6: Emergency Programs Administered by the Farm Services Agency

Attachment 7: Tips for Conserving Water

Attachment 8: LAFCO-Water Status Report

Attachment 9: Resolution-Proclamation of Local Emergency