

**UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY**

**NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency (“Agency”) Board of Directors (“Board”) will hold a **Regular Board Meeting at 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, May 14, 2026 at the Ventura River Water District Meeting Room, 409 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, CA 93023.**

**ON-LINE / TELECONFERENCE ACCESS FOR REMOTE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:**

**DIAL-IN: 1-669-900-6833**

**JOIN BY COMPUTER, TABLET OR SMARTPHONE:**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81007384197?pwd=YQTEbbJH6cpmbrij4vbMrpcV2mndJEK.1>**

**Meeting ID: 810 0738 4197      Passcode: 757383**

*Disclaimer Concerning On-line / Teleconference Meeting Access*

*Audio / teleconference meeting access is not required by law but is provided as a convenience for UVRGA stakeholders and the public. However, due to circumstances beyond our control, users may experience significant difficulties hearing or seeing the meeting when attending remotely. UVRGA does not guarantee the audio or video quality of the on-line / teleconference system, and its use is at your own risk.*

**UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS**  
**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

**May 14, 2026**

**1. MEETING CALL TO ORDER**

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**3. ROLL CALL**

**4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**5. PUBLIC COMMENT FOR ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA**

The Board will receive public comments on items not appearing on the agenda and within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Agency. The Board will not enter into a detailed discussion or take any action on any items presented during public comments. Such items may only be referred to the Executive Director or other staff for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda for discussion. Persons wishing to speak on specific agenda items should do so at the time specified for those items. In accordance with Government Code §54954.3(b)(1), public comment will be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker.

**REGULAR SESSION AGENGA**

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on

separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments.

- a. **Approve Minutes of April 9, 2026 Regular Board Meeting**
- b. **Approve Financial Report for April 2026**
- c. **Approve Fiscal Year 2025-2026 3rd Quarter Budget Report**

## **7. DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Directors may provide oral reports on items not appearing on the agenda.

## **8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

The Board will receive an update from the Executive Director concerning Agency matters and correspondence. The Board may provide feedback to staff.

## **9. AGENCY COUNSEL'S REPORT**

The Board will receive a verbal update from Agency Counsel concerning Agency matters. The Board may provide feedback to Agency Counsel.

## **10. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

### **a. Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Annual Budget and Multi-Year Budget Projection**

The Board will consider approving the fiscal year 2026/2027 budget and multi-year budget projection and consider scheduling a public hearing to adopt groundwater extraction fees for fiscal year 2026/2027.

## **11. GSP IMPLEMENTATION ITEMS**

### **a. Interconnected Surface Water Depletion Modeling Update**

The Board will receive an update on the technical assessment of the relationship between timing and location of groundwater pumping and depletions of interconnected surface water. The Board may provide feedback to staff.

## **12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

This is an opportunity for the Directors to request items for future agendas.

## **CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

1. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (§ 54956.9) Name of Case: SANTA BARBARA CHANNELKEEPER v. STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD, et al.

## **REGULAR SESSION AGENDA (CONTINUED)**

## **13. ADJOURNMENT**

The next Regular Board meeting is Thursday, June 11, 2026.

*The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, the Agency's services, programs, or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, or if you require agenda materials in an alternative format, please contact the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency Executive Director at (805) 212-0484. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Agency to make appropriate arrangements.*

**UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING APRIL 9, 2026**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Board of Directors of Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency was held at the Ventura River Water District, 409 Old Baldwin Road, Ojai, California.

Chair Tribo called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chair Tribo led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. ROLL CALL**

Executive Director Bondy called roll.

Directors Present:

Jenny Tribo, Chair  
Bruce Kuebler, Vice Chair  
James Kentosh, Secretary  
Emily Ayala, Director  
Peter Kaiser, Director  
Jeff Palmer, Director  
Vivon Sedgwick, Director

Alternate Directors Present: Mike Flood

Director Absent: None

Staff Present:

Bryan Bondy, Executive Director  
Keith Lemieux, Agency Counsel

**4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Chair Tribo asked for any proposed changes to the agenda. No changes were requested.

Director Kuebler moved agenda approval. Seconded by Director Kaiser.

Vote:        E. Ayala -Y                P. Kaiser - Y                J. Kentosh - Y                B. Kuebler – Y  
                  J. Palmer-Y                V. Sedgwick – Y                J. Tribo - Y

Directors Absent: None

**5. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT APPEARING ON THE AGENDA**

Chair Tribo asked for public comments on items not appearing on the agenda. No comments were offered.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a) Approve Minutes of March 12, 2026 Regular Board Meeting
- b) Approve Financial Report for March 2026
- c) Fiscal Year Report 2025-2026 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Investment Report

Chair Tribo asked if any Director wanted to pull any items off the consent calendar for discussion. No requests were made.

Director Kuebler moved approval of the consent calendar items. Seconded by Director Kaiser.

Vote:        E. Ayala -Y                P. Kaiser - Y                J. Kentosh - Y                B. Kuebler – Y  
                  J. Palmer-Y                V. Sedgwick – Y                J. Tribo - Y

Directors Absent: None

**7. DIRECTOR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Tribo called for Director announcements. No announcements were made.

**8. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Executive Director Bondy reviewed the written staff report with the Board concerning updates on Agency activities since the last meeting.

Director Kuebler said he ran into someone working for the City of Ventura who was monitoring biological conditions on the Ventura River and asked if the data was provided to UVRGA. Director Tribo said that the City has been performing some monitoring associated with an emergency repair project and, other than that, the City is not performing any biological monitoring. Directors Kaiser and Palmer encouraged data sharing to reduce Agency costs.

Director Sedgwick asked about next steps for the GSP Periodic Evaluation. Executive Director Bondy said the draft report will be released in July or August concurrent with a workshop.

No public comments.

**9. AGENCY COUNSEL'S REPORT**

Agency Counsel Lemieux provide brief summary of the recent appellate court ruling in the Las Posas Valley Basin adjudication.

## 10. Administrative Items

### a. Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Annual Budget and Multi-Year Budget Projection

Executive Director Bondy explained that he is presenting the draft budget a month early because more time was requested during last year's budgeting process to discuss options for smoothing extraction fees. The draft budget for next year and multi-year budget projection will be reviewed followed by a presentation on extraction fee variability and smoothing options.

Executive Director Bondy reviewed the draft budget for fiscal year (FY) 2026/2027 and budget projections for FY 2027/2028 through FY 2030/2031, including a summary of the Agency's budget approach and assumptions. He noted that expenses are largely controlled by professional services, particularly for field monitoring, and referred to the professional services breakdown provided in the staff report.

Following the current Board policy, FY 2026/2027 extraction fees would be based on 4,396 acre-feet (AF) of groundwater extractions, which includes the three-year average extractions of 4,178 AF for the Member Agencies. He referred to the groundwater extractions history table provided in the staff report. Based on the expenses and groundwater extractions, the groundwater extraction fee for FY 2026/2027 would be \$168/AF, which is, coincidentally, identical to the current year extraction fee. Executive Director Bondy explained that extraction fees for the projected years would be range from \$128/AF to \$204/AF if extractions remained constant. Executive Director Bondy described an alternate budget with a flat extraction fee over the next five years of \$166/AF. The alternate budget has the same expenses and groundwater extraction assumptions but averages the revenue needs over the five year period instead of balancing the budget each year.

The board asked questions about the draft budget.

Executive Director Bondy walked through a presentation on extraction fee variability and smoothing options, including explanation of the reasons for extraction fee variability, review of historical extraction fee variability, an analysis of future potential groundwater extractions and fees, and options for reducing extraction fee variability. Key takeaways from the presentation include:

1. Variability in groundwater extractions cannot be predicted but can be analyzed to understand the range of potential outcomes.
2. The City of Ventura's extractions are the chief source of variability, owing to implementation of the Interim Order Protocols. This variability can be analyzed statistically using the City's 50-year operations spreadsheet model.
3. The draft budget and multiyear projection are based on relatively high groundwater extraction rates. It is more likely than not that groundwater extractions will decrease during the projection period, which would result in higher extraction fees than shown in the multi-year budget projection.
4. Extraction fee variability and upside risk of increasing fees caused by decreasing extractions can be reduced by using a longer averaging period for Member Agency extractions and assuming lower extractions in future years.

## Item 6(a)

5. Approaches are available that would essentially eliminate the impact of variable groundwater extractions on extraction fees, including (a) switching the fee basis to well capacity or (b) switching the Member Agencies to fixed annual contributions.

The presentation slides are attached to these meeting minutes.

The Board asked questions and discussed the information presented.

The Board discussed the impact of Matilija Dam removal on groundwater extractions and concluded that the dam removal timing is beyond the budget planning horizon.

Questions were asked concerning how the City of Ventura passes through the extraction fees to its ratepayers. Director Tribo explained that the City charges a blended cost for water throughout its service area.

Directors Kaiser and Palmer emphasized reducing Agency costs. It was pointed out that field monitoring costs are the single largest budget item and that there may be opportunities to use data collected by others. Executive Director Bondy cited cost saving measures, such as switching to biennial audits, and explained that the Agency is already coordinating with others on data collection but will reach out again to see if new opportunities exist.

Directors Ayala and Tribo expressed concerns about using well capacity as the basis for charging fees.

The Board consensus was to bring back the budget and multi-year projection at its next meeting using the current budgeting approach (i.e., Attachment A-1 of the staff report).

### **11. GSP IMPLEMENTATION ITEMS**

No items this meeting.

### **12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Director Kentosh requested that the forthcoming physical solutions be included in the next agenda. Executive Director Bondy requested more specificity for the request. After a brief discussion it was agreed that specific portions of the physical solution should be identified for discussion.

Director Kaiser departed at 2:38 p.m. Alternate Director Flood replaced Director Kaiser.

### **CLOSED SESSION AGENDA**

No items this meeting.

### **REGULAR SESSION AGENDA (CONTINUED)**

### **13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

The next scheduled Board meeting is Thursday, May 14, 2026.

Item 6(a)

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

E. Ayala \_ P. Kaiser \_ J. Kentosh\_ B. Kuebler\_ J. Palmer\_ V.Sedgwick\_ J. Tribo\_

**Upper Ventura River  
GROUNDWATER AGENCY**  
SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT

**EXTRACTION FEES  
DISCUSSION**

**APRIL 9, 2026**

CASITAS Municipal Water District

We Serve Water

MENDOCINO OAKS WATER DISTRICT  
VENTURA COUNTY SINCE 1949

VENTURA WATER

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## BACKGROUND & PURPOSE

- Existing budgeting and fee policies result in extraction fee variability
- During last year’s budgeting process, a director expressed concerns about variability in projected extraction fees
- The director requested that this year’s budgeting process be started early to evaluate rate smoothing options

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## WHY ARE EXTRACTION FEES VARIABLE?

- Annual expenses are variable
  - GSP development, then 5-year GSP evaluation cycle
- Groundwater extractions are variable
- Budgeting and fee policy:
  - Pay-as-we-go approach with limited reserves to spread costs over time

Extraction fee variability was a conscious decision by the Board as an alternative to building reserves for fee smoothing

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## HOW VARIABLE HAVE EXTRACTION FEES BEEN?

Fiscal Year	Extraction Fee (\$/AF)	Budgeted Extractions (AF)	Comment
19/20	\$77.89	4,356	+Fees set for three years with cap at \$79.16/AF. +Reserve target - \$122,000
20/21	\$79.16	4,356	+Reserve target decreased to \$74,000 because fees were too low and Agency was "locked-in" for three years.
21/22	\$79.16	4,356	+Reserve target increased to \$225,000.
22/23	\$148.00	4,034	+Jump in extraction fees due to: (1) lower extractions, (2) higher GSP preparation and implementation costs, (3) increase reserve target, and (4) first three years of fees were too low. +Reserve target reduced to \$100,000. +3-year average for member agencies implemented.
23/24	\$140.00	3,357	
24/25	\$166.00	3,449	
25/26	\$168.00	4,035	+Reserve target increased to \$300,000.
26/27	TBD	TBD	Per current policy would be: \$168/AF at 4,396 AF

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## EXPENSE VARIABILITY

- If future extractions were known ahead of time, it would be a simple exercise to smooth the rates over a 5-year projection period.

For example, if extractions were to remain 4,396 AFY:

Fee Type	FY 26/27	FY 27/28	FY 28/29	FY 29/30	FY 30/31
Variable	\$168/AF	\$128/AF	\$162/AF	\$204/AF	\$172/AF
Smooth	\$166/AF	\$166/AF	\$166/AF	\$166/AF	\$166/AF

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## EXTRACTION VARIABILITY

- However, future extractions are not known and are impossible to predict.
- Analysis of future extraction rates was performed to investigate range of possible extraction fee outcomes.

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## EXTRACTION SCENARIOS

- Member agency projected extractions provided for GSP periodic evaluation
- City of Ventura extraction variability is the primary driver
  - Controlled by weather and implementation of Interim Order Protocols
- Used City’s 50-year spreadsheet model to evaluate range of potential City extractions and then combined results with other Member Agency estimates

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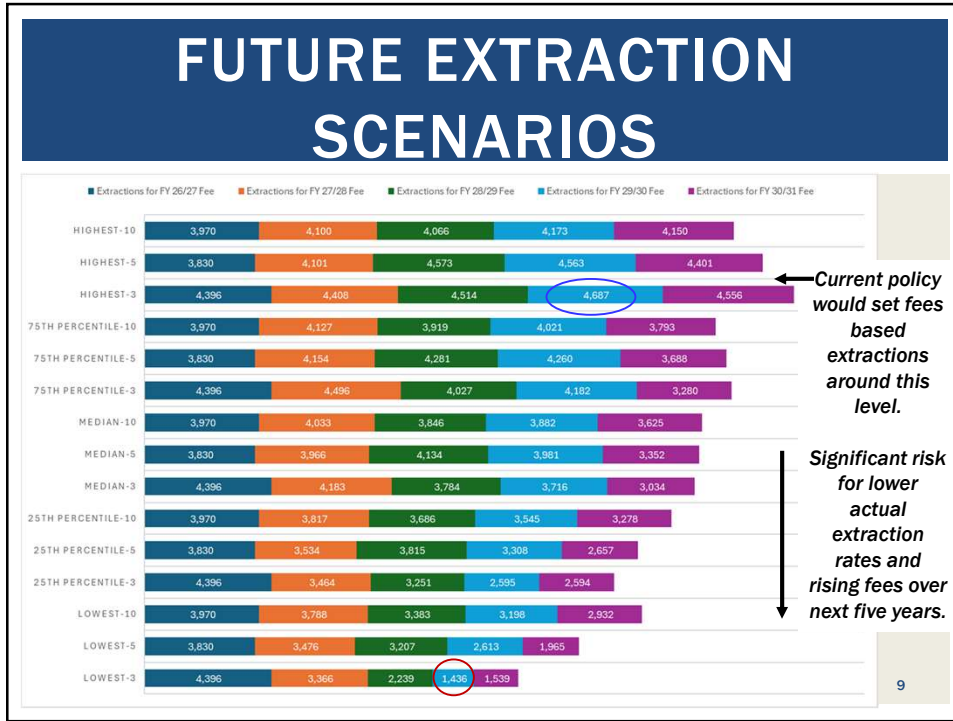
## FUTURE EXTRACTION SCENARIOS

Extractions	Averaging Method	Extractions for FY 26/27 Fee	Extractions for FY 27/28 Fee	Extractions for FY 28/29 Fee	Extractions for FY 29/30 Fee	Extractions for FY 30/31 Fee	Sum
Lowest	3-year moving	4,396	3,366	2,239	1,436	1,539	12,976
Lowest	5-year moving	3,830	3,476	3,207	2,613	1,965	15,092
Lowest	10-year moving	3,970	3,788	3,383	3,198	2,932	17,270
25th Percentile	3-year moving	4,396	3,464	3,251	2,595	2,594	16,299
25th Percentile	5-year moving	3,830	3,534	3,815	3,308	2,657	17,144
25th Percentile	10-year moving	3,970	3,817	3,686	3,545	3,278	18,296
Median	3-year moving	4,396	4,183	3,784	3,716	3,034	19,113
Median	5-year moving	3,830	3,966	4,134	3,981	3,352	19,264
Median	10-year moving	3,970	4,033	3,846	3,882	3,625	19,356
75th Percentile	3-year moving	4,396	4,496	4,027	4,182	3,280	20,381
75th Percentile	5-year moving	3,830	4,154	4,281	4,260	3,688	20,213
75th Percentile	10-year moving	3,970	4,127	3,919	4,021	3,793	19,830
Highest	3-year moving	4,396	4,408	4,514	4,687	4,556	22,561
Highest	5-year moving	3,830	4,101	4,573	4,563	4,401	21,468
Highest	10-year moving	3,970	4,100	4,066	4,173	4,150	20,458

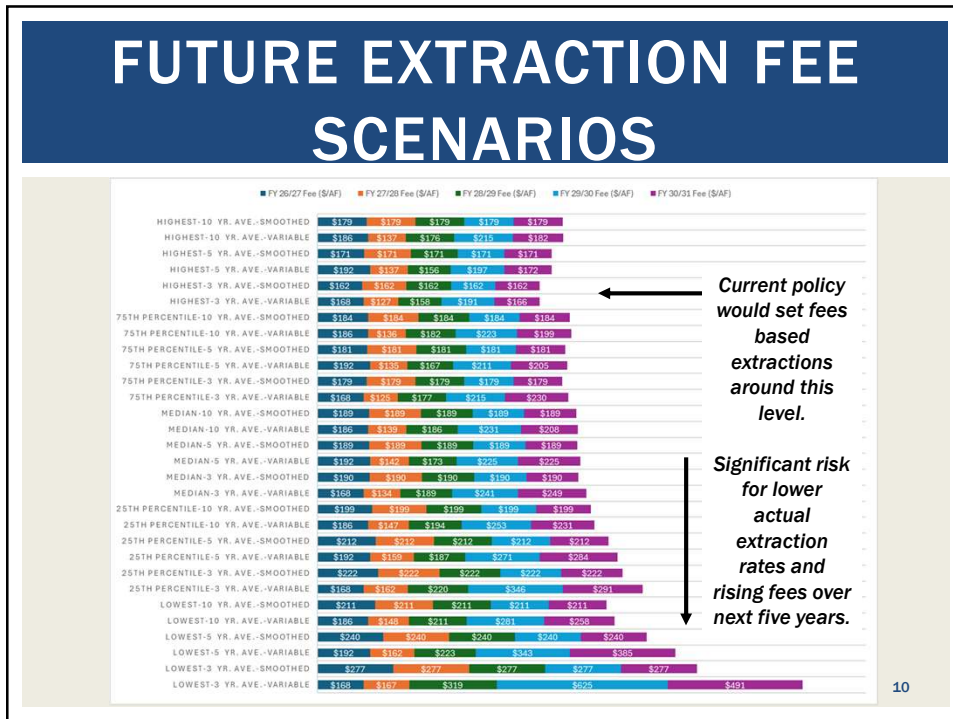
Extractions for fees could range from 1,436 AFY to 4,687 AFY (326% from low to high)

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# OPTIONS

1. Modify current budgeting policy:
  - a. Switch to longer averaging period  
*and*
  - a. Assume lower future extractions
  
2. Options that eliminate weather and operational variability
  - a. Change fee basis to well capacity  
*or*
  - a. Switch Member Agencies to fixed contributions

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## QUESTIONS?



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**UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY Item No. 6(b)**

**DATE:** May 7, 2026  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Carrie Troup C.P.A., Treasurer  
**SUBJECT:** Approve Financial Report for April 2026

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**March 2026 UVRGA Balance** \$ 88,082.40

**April 2026 Activity**

**Revenues/ Credits:**

Funds Transfer from Ventura County	\$ 200,000.00
<b>Total Revenues/Credits</b>	<b>\$ 200,000.00</b>

**Checks, Electronic payments, Transfers:**

2719	Carrie Troup, CPA	March Services	\$ 3,603.26
2720	Aleshire & Wynder, LLP	February Services	\$ 1,128.60
2721	Aleshire & Wynder, LLP	February Services	\$ 2,633.60
2722	Rincon Consultants, Inc.	March Services	\$ 9,581.06
2723	Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc.	March Services	\$ 15,091.20
2724	Intera Incorporated	March Services	\$ 11,864.00
2725	Intera Incorporated	March Services	\$ 6,353.00
2726	Intera Incorporated	March Services	\$ 553.00
2727	Hansen Well-Do Service, Inc	Inv 10689	\$ 1,800.00
EFT	Bank of Sierra	Wire Fee	\$ 15.00
EFT	Go Daddy	Domain	\$ 239.88
EFT	FedEx	Shipping	\$ 36.11
EFT	FedEx	Shipping	\$ 28.48
<b>Total Expenditures Paid &amp; To Be Paid</b>			<b>\$ 52,927.19</b>

**April 2026 UVRGA Total Funds Ending Balance<sup>1</sup>**

Ventura County Treasury Investment Pool (VCTIP)	\$ 684,288.14
Bank of Sierra	\$ 235,155.21
<b>Total Cash Balance</b>	<b>\$ 919,443.35</b>

Notes:

The financial report omits substantially all disclosures required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; no assurance is provided on them.

VCTIP balance reflects most recent Fair Market Value adjustment released by the County of Ventura

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_ Second: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Kuebler \_\_\_ J. Palmer \_\_\_ J. Kentosh \_\_\_ P. Kaiser \_\_\_ J. Tribo \_\_\_ V. Sedgwick \_\_\_ E. Ayala \_\_\_

**Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency  
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual  
July 2025 through March 2026**

	<b>Jul '25 - Mar 26</b>	<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$ Over Budget</b>	<b>% of Budget</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>					
<b>Income</b>					
Interest/Penalties	52.77				
43000 · Groundwater Extraction Fee	664,087.12	508,446.00	155,641.12	130.61%	Member Agencies are billed upfront for entire year.
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>664,139.89</b>	<b>508,446.00</b>	<b>155,693.89</b>	<b>130.62%</b>	
<b>Expense</b>					
<b>55000 · Administrative Exp</b>					
55011 · Computer Maintenance	1,367.28	0.00	1,367.28	N/A	Annual email charges, s/b booked to 58015
55015 · Postage & Shipping	452.98	562.50	-109.52	80.53%	
55020 · Office Supplies & Software	729.93	750.00	-20.07	97.32%	
55025 · Minor Equipment	0.00	375.00	-375.00	0.0%	
55030 · Bank Service Charges	42.50	75.00	-32.50	56.67%	
55035 · Advertising and Promotion	0.00	1,125.00	-1,125.00	0.0%	
55055 · Insurance Expense-SDRMA	4,975.27	3,691.50	1,283.77	134.78%	Insurance is paid once per year.
55060 · Memberships-CSDA	1,374.50	1,622.25	-247.75	84.73%	CSDA dues are paid once per year.
55070 · Memberships- VRWC & Small	2,500.00	3,867.00	-1,367.00	64.65%	Small GSA budget is for 6 months only.
<b>Total 55000 · Administrative Exp</b>	<b>11,442.46</b>	<b>12,068.25</b>	<b>-625.79</b>	<b>94.82%</b>	
<b>58000 · Professional Fees</b>					
58005 · Executive Dir. /GSP Mgr.	25,402.42	37,500.00	-12,097.58	67.74%	
58010 · Legal Fees	29,982.42	37,500.00	-7,517.58	79.95%	
58015 · Website	539.99	2,250.00	-1,710.01	24.0%	
58020 · Accounting	16,568.02	18,750.00	-2,181.98	88.36%	
58040 · Audit Expense	632.68	12,375.00	-11,742.32	5.11%	Audit was cancelled; switched to biennial.
58050 · Other Professional Services	310,759.54	441,337.50	-130,577.96	70.41%	GSP Evaluation and monitoring costs will be higher in Q4.
<b>Total 58000 · Professional Fees</b>	<b>383,885.07</b>	<b>549,712.50</b>	<b>-165,827.43</b>	<b>69.83%</b>	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>395,327.53</b>	<b>561,780.75</b>	<b>-166,453.22</b>	<b>70.37%</b>	
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>268,812.36</b>	<b>-53,334.75</b>	<b>322,147.11</b>	<b>-504.01%</b>	
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>					
Unrealized Gain/Loss Invstmnt	6,136.08	0.00	6,136.08	N/A	
Contingency - Non Capital Exp	0.00	56,178.00	-56,178.00	0.0%	
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>6,136.08</b>	<b>-56,178.00</b>	<b>62,314.08</b>	<b>-10.92%</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>274,948.44</b>	<b>-109,512.75</b>	<b>384,461.19</b>	<b>-251.07%</b>	

**UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY Item No. 8**

**DATE:** May 14, 2026

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Executive Director's Report

**SUMMARY**

The following are updates on Agency matters since the last Board meeting:

1. Administrative: No reportable activity.
2. Financial:
  - a. Groundwater Extraction Fees: All accounts are current.
  - b. Funds Transfer: A \$200,000 transfer from the Agency's investment account to its checking account was completed.
  - c. Grants: The Executive Director attended an on-line workshop concerning the upcoming Proposition 4 Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program. \$320M is allocated for SGMA implementation, with \$3.5M specifically reserved for small GSA grants. Because UVRGA is considered a small GSA, it is reasonable to anticipate that a grant of approximately \$100-200K will be received. UVRGA may also be eligible to apply for a general SGMA implementation grant, but that process looks like it will be very competitive. Timing for applications is late 2026, with awards expected in 2027. DWR is considering accelerating this schedule for the small GSA grants.
3. GSP Implementation:
  - a. GSP Periodic Evaluation: Work on the periodic evaluation is ongoing.
  - b. Well Registration and Flowmeter Compliance:
    - i. Two wells remain unregistered and continue to accrue civil penalties at \$100/day. As of April 30 2026, each well owner has accrued \$46,400 in civil penalties.
  - c. Monitoring Networks:
    - i. Wet season habitat and redd site surveys and drone imagery were completed on March 27, 2026. Observed changes habitat structure resulting from the winter high flows were documented. One possible

lamprey redd site was observed in Foster Park. No redds of any kind were observed in the Confluence area.

ii. No other field activities were performed due to elevated streamflow conditions.

d. Monitoring Coordination: Per the Board discussion during its April meeting, the Executive Director reached out to various agencies to check-in again about field monitoring coordination opportunities. The Executive Director also reviewed this issue with Rincon Consultant's. The outreach and review efforts did not reveal any significant opportunities to eliminate current monitoring tasks performed by UVRGA. Through the review process, the Executive Director and Rincon Consultants were reminded that the current biological monitoring tasks are not really monitoring per se; rather the work is better described as studies to determine need and/or appropriateness of sustainable management criteria for the GSP. Once those questions are addressed, UVRGA's biological data needs are expected decrease and become more amendable to being satisfied with data from others' monitoring programs.

4. Outreach and Coordination:

- a. Ventura River Watershed Council (VRWC) / Ventura River Watershed Resilience Program (VRWRP): No activity.
- b. Small GSA Coalition: The coalition met on May 7 to continue coordinating lobbying efforts.
- c. Adjudication: The Executive Director spent approximately two hours reviewing adjudication-related items during April.

5. Correspondence: None.

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

Receive an update from the Executive Director concerning Agency matters and correspondence. Provide feedback to staff.

**BACKGROUND**

Not applicable

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

Not applicable

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

P. Kaiser \_ B. Kuebler\_ E. Ayala\_ V. Sedgwick\_ J. Tribo \_ J. Kentosh\_ J. Palmer\_

**UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY Item No. 10(a)**

**DATE:** May 14, 2026

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget and Multi-Year Budget Projection

**SUMMARY**

The Board reviewed the draft Fiscal Year (FY) 2026/2027 budget and multi-year projection during its March 12, 2026 meeting. During that meeting the Board reviewed a presentation on extraction fee variability and smoothing options, including explanation of the reasons for extraction fee variability, historical extraction fee variability, an analysis of future potential groundwater extractions and fees, and options for reducing extraction fee variability. Following discussion, the decided to move forward with the budget using the current approach to calculating groundwater extraction fees for the 2026/2027 budget and multi-year projection. The resulting FY 2026/2027 budget and multi-year projection is provided in Attachment A.

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

Approve the fiscal year 2026/2027 budget and multi-year budget projection and schedule a public hearing to adopt groundwater extraction fees for fiscal year 2026/2027.

**BACKGROUND**

The multi-year budget projection was most recently adopted on May 8, 2025.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

Please see summary.

**ATTACHMENTS**

- A. Draft Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget and Multi-Year Budget Projection

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

P. Kaiser \_ B. Kuebler \_ E. Ayala \_ V. Sedgwick \_ J. Tribo \_ J. Kentosh \_ J. Palmer \_

**Item 10(a), Attachment A**  
**DRAFT Fiscal Year 26/27 Budget and Multi-year Projection**

-----FOR ADOPTION MAY 14, 2026----- --PROJECTED (WILL BE RE-EVALUATED ANNUALLY)--

	FY 25-26 Budget	FY 25-26 Actuals Through February	March-June Projection	FY 25-26 YE Projection	FY 26/27 DRAFT Budget	FY 27/28 Projected	FY 28/29 Projected	FY 29/30 Projected	FY 30/31 Projected	Comments
<i>Estimated Groundwater Extractions (AF)</i>	4,035	N/A	N/A	N/A	4,396	4,396	4,396	4,396	4,396	<i>FY 27/28 - 30/31 are assumed to be the same as FY 26/27.</i>
<i>Estimated Extraction Fee (\$/AF)</i>	\$ 168	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$ 168	\$ 128	\$ 162	\$ 204	\$ 172	<i>Extraction fee rates selected to achieve \$300K operating reserve target.</i>

**Ordinary Income/Expense**

<b>Income</b>										
Interest/Penalties	0	53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
43000 · Groundwater Extraction Fee	677,928	664,087	0	664,087	736,654	561,624	714,144	897,234	755,896	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>677,928</b>	<b>664,140</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>664,140</b>	<b>736,654</b>	<b>561,624</b>	<b>714,144</b>	<b>897,234</b>	<b>755,896</b>	
<b>Expense</b>										
<b>55000 · Administrative Exp</b>										
55011 · Computer Maintenance	0	1,367	0	1,367	1,500	1,600	1,700	1,800	1,900	
55015 · Postage & Shipping	750	411	339	750	750	800	800	800	800	
55020 · Office Supplies & Software	1,000	609	512	1,121	1,250	1,300	1,400	1,500	1,600	
55025 · Minor Equipment	500	0	500	500	500	500	500	500	500	
55030 · Bank Service Charges	100	28	73	100	100	100	100	100	100	
55035 · Advertising and Promotion	1,500	0	1,500	1,500	1,500	1,600	1,700	1,800	1,900	
55055 · Insurance Expense-SDRMA	4,922	4,975	0	4,975	5,500	5,800	6,100	6,400	6,700	
55060 · Memberships-CSDA	2,163	2,773	0	2,773	3,000	3,200	3,400	3,600	3,800	
55070 · Memberships- Small GSA	5,156	2,500	0	2,500	6,000	6,300	6,600	6,900	7,200	<i>FY 25-26 cost was for 6 months only</i>
<b>Total 55000 · Administrative Exp</b>	<b>16,091</b>	<b>12,663</b>	<b>2,924</b>	<b>15,586</b>	<b>20,100</b>	<b>21,200</b>	<b>22,300</b>	<b>23,400</b>	<b>24,500</b>	
<b>58000 · Professional Fees</b>										
58005 · Executive Director /GSP Manager	50,000	22,571	27,400	49,971	55,000	57,800	60,700	63,700	66,900	
58010 · Legal Fees	50,000	29,982	29,100	59,082	65,000	68,300	71,700	75,300	79,100	
58015 · Website	3,000	540	2,460	3,000	3,300	3,500	3,700	3,900	4,100	
58020 · Accounting	25,000	14,985	11,900	26,885	29,600	31,100	32,700	34,300	36,000	
58040 · Audit Expense	16,500	633	0	633	21,500	0	24,000	0	26,000	
58050 · Other Professional Services	588,450	237,013	299,142	536,155	488,830	342,400	447,720	628,310	636,170	<i>Please see Attachment C for details.</i>
<b>Total 58000 · Professional Fees</b>	<b>732,950</b>	<b>305,724</b>	<b>370,002</b>	<b>675,726</b>	<b>663,230</b>	<b>503,100</b>	<b>640,520</b>	<b>805,510</b>	<b>848,270</b>	
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>749,041</b>	<b>318,387</b>	<b>372,926</b>	<b>691,312</b>	<b>683,330</b>	<b>524,300</b>	<b>662,820</b>	<b>828,910</b>	<b>872,770</b>	
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>-71,113</b>	<b>345,753</b>	<b>-372,926</b>	<b>-27,173</b>	<b>53,324</b>	<b>37,324</b>	<b>51,324</b>	<b>68,324</b>	<b>-116,874</b>	
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>										
<b>Other Income</b>										
Unrealized Gain/Loss Invstmnt	0	6,136	14,100	20,236	14,676	14,676	14,676	14,676	14,676	
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6,136</b>	<b>14,100</b>	<b>20,236</b>	<b>14,676</b>	<b>14,676</b>	<b>14,676</b>	<b>14,676</b>	<b>14,676</b>	
<b>Other Expense</b>										
Contingency - Non Capital Exp	74,904	0	0	0	68,000	52,000	66,000	83,000	87,000	
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>74,904</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>68,000</b>	<b>52,000</b>	<b>66,000</b>	<b>83,000</b>	<b>87,000</b>	
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<b>-74,904</b>	<b>6,136</b>	<b>14,100</b>	<b>20,236</b>	<b>-53,324</b>	<b>-37,324</b>	<b>-51,324</b>	<b>-68,324</b>	<b>-72,324</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-146,017</b>	<b>351,889</b>	<b>-358,826</b>	<b>-6,936</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-189,198</b>	

<b>Cashflow Projections</b>							<b>Comments</b>
Beginning Cash	838,043	489,198	489,198	489,198	489,198	489,198	<i>Beginning cash for FY 25-26 YE Projection does not included Jan-Feb interest and unpaid extraction fees</i>
Income	24,081	751,330	576,300	728,820	911,910	770,572	
Expenses	372,926	751,330	576,300	728,820	911,910	959,770	
Ending Cash	489,198	489,198	489,198	489,198	489,198	300,000	
Reserve	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	300,000	
Unreserved	189,198	189,198	189,198	189,198	189,198	0	

## UPPER VENTURA RIVER GROUNDWATER AGENCY Item No. 11(a)

**DATE:** May 14, 2026

**TO:** Board of Directors

**FROM:** Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Interconnected Surface Water Depletion Modeling Update

### SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to present preliminary results of the numerical modeling assessment of the relationship between timing and location of groundwater pumping and indirect depletion of interconnected surface water (ISW). A more comprehensive presentation of results will be made available in a forthcoming technical memorandum.

#### Review of Modeling Scope of Work

The modeling scope of work includes three primary tasks:

1. Update GSP ISW Depletion Estimates: This work was reported to the Board in March 2026.
2. Modeling to Assess the Relationship Between Timing and Location of Groundwater Pumping and Indirect Depletion of ISW:

The approach for this task was reviewed by the Board in February and March 2026. The approach consists of detailed modeling analysis of two depletion event(s).

Six well groups were identified for the analysis: (1) Meiners Oaks Water District (MOWD) wells, (2) Ventura River Water District (VRWD) wells, (3) MOWD and VRWD wells, (4) all other non-de minimis wells screened within the river alluvium, (5) all other non-de minimis wells screened outside of the river alluvium, and (6) all non-City, non-de minimis wells.

The model was run multiple times for each group of wells for each selected depletion event. Each model run cumulatively eliminated one month of pumping from the well group starting with the last month of the depletion event and going backward in time until no change in depletion quantity is observed. A second suite of model runs were performed in which pumping was eliminated one month at a time non-cumulatively.

3. Uncertainty Analysis: Estimate the uncertainty of the model depletion estimates.

#### Preliminary Results, Conclusions, and Next Steps

A presentation will be provided that summarizes the preliminary results.

The key finding of this modeling exercise is that pumping curtailment is not particularly effective at increasing flow at Foster Park. The benefits of pumping curtailment are modest when flows are moderate (<~50% of curtailed pumping arrives as streamflow at Foster Park) and very low during critical periods (<~10% of curtailed pumping arrives as streamflow at Foster Park). Importantly, pumping curtailment does not prevent flow from dropping to critically low levels during very dry

periods; it can only shorten the duration of critically low flows. Lastly, the significant lag times, which can be more than a year, create obvious implementation challenges.

Detailed findings are as follows:

1. Model uncertainty is as follows:
  - a. Streamflow prediction at flows <10 cubic feet per second (cfs) = +/-0.4 cfs. Most of this is due to poor quality streamflow data at the Foster Park Gauge. Hopefully, this will improve going forward.
  - b. ISW depletion prediction at flows <10 cfs = +/-0.8 cfs.
  - c. Results of analysis should be viewed in the context of the reported uncertainty.
2. Only two minimum threshold exceedance events are predicted to occur over the 50 year simulation period (see March 2026 staff report for details).
3. Implementation of Foster Park Protocols and curtailing non-City pumping shortens the duration of minimum threshold exceedances but does not prevent them from occurring.
4. The lag time between shutting off alluvial wells and streamflow increase at Foster Park ranges from almost instantaneous during periods of connected Ventura River flow to over a year during dry periods. Median lag times are greatest for wells located in the north part of the basin (e.g., MOWD) (132 to 150 days) and shortest for wells located near Foster Park (29 to 39) days. Median lag times for wells located in between (i.e., VRWD) are intermediate (70 – 82 days).
5. Lag times are shorter when groundwater levels (and interconnected surface water flow) are higher and vice versa. Very short lag times occur when river flow is continuous across the basin as the pumping effects of wells located upstream of Foster Park are transmitted directly to Foster Park via the continuous river flow. Once river flow becomes discontinuous, depletion effects are transmitted through the aquifer, which significantly increases lag times. Lag times increase as the water table drops because the aquifer's saturated thickness and, hence, the rate of down valley groundwater flow diminishes.
6. The median percentage of shutoff alluvial pumping that arrives as streamflow at Foster Park ranges from 43 to 52%, with higher percentages occurring during periods of higher groundwater levels (and interconnected surface water flow) and vice versa.
7. The median percentage of shutoff alluvial pumping that arrives as streamflow at Foster Park *during critical periods (i.e., minimum threshold exceedances)* ranges from 3 to 10%. These values are considerably lower because a significant proportion of the streamflow increase arrives at Foster Park outside of the critical period.
8. The percentage of shutoff pumping that arrives as streamflow at Foster Park increases when groundwater levels (and interconnected surface water flow) are higher and vice versa. This is because there is greater saturated thickness of aquifer to transmit groundwater flow to downstream areas. As the water table drops, the aquifer's ability to transmit groundwater flow downstream to areas where it rises into the riverbed diminishes.
9. As expected, wells located outside of the river alluvium have substantially longer lag times and result in less streamflow increase when shutoff compared to alluvial wells.

The next step for this work is to prepare a technical memorandum that documents the modeling and results. The information produced by this effort will be discussed in the GSP periodic evaluation and will inform future planning discussions concerning actions to address indirect depletion interconnected surface water.

**RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

Receive an update on the technical assessment of the relationship between timing and location of groundwater pumping and depletions of interconnected surface water. Provide feedback to staff, if desired.

**BACKGROUND**

The GSP includes a management action called “Actions to Address Indirect Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water (ISW),” which consists of a sequence of actions that are designed to lead to implementation of a project or management action that addresses significant and unreasonable indirect depletions of ISW. In general, the path includes (1) addressing the groundwater level data gaps that impact quantification of indirect depletions of ISW, (2) updating to the numerical flow model to provide better quantify indirect depletion, and (3) using the updated model to prepare updated estimates of indirect depletions (4) developing appropriately sized projects or management actions to address indirect depletions. Action No. 4 would include additional modeling to explore the relationship between the quantity and timing of groundwater extractions and indirect depletions to inform potential management approaches.

Actions Nos. 1 and 2 have been completed and Action No. 3 (updating indirect depletion estimates) is in progress. Action No. 4 (developing projects or management actions) will begin with additional modeling to develop a quantitative understanding of the relationships between the quantity, timing, and location of groundwater pumping and indirect depletion of interconnected surface water.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

Intra is already authorized to perform this work.

**ATTACHMENTS**

None

Action: \_\_\_\_\_

Motion: \_\_\_\_\_

P. Kaiser\_ B. Kuebler\_ J.Palmer\_ E. Ayala\_ V. Sedgwick\_ J. Tribo\_ J. Kentosh\_