



Notice and Agenda of a Regular Meeting Wednesday, May 27, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

This meeting is available via teleconference
To join the Zoom meeting, use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88208695795?pwd=bn94K2RpaStSOUNsU3Z5NVhnT0JxUT09>

Meeting ID: 882 0869 5795 • Passcode: 697560

One tap mobile: +16699009128,,88208695795#,,,,*697560#

Dial in:

1 (669) 900-9128 US (San Jose) • Meeting ID: 882 0869 5795

View presentation material at <http://www.passwateralliance.com/>

Participating agencies:

City of Banning	High Valleys Water District
City of Beaumont	Mission Springs Water District
Banning Heights Mutual Water Company	Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	Riverside County - EDA / RCFCD
Cabazon Water District	San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
City of Calimesa	South Mesa Water Company
	Yucaipa Valley Water District

1. Call to Order - Roll Call
2. Public Comments

- 3. Consent Calendar
 - Approval of Alliance Meeting Minutes of March 25, 2026
- 4. Annual Business Meeting per the SGPRWA Best Practices
 - A. Selection of Officers for 2026-2027 Term

Officers	Current	Selected 2026-2027
Chairperson	Daniel Slawson	
Vice Chairperson	Stan Houghton	
Secretary		
Treasurer		

- B. Review current Memorandum of Understanding
 - 1. 2014 signed MOU
 - 2. 2018 revised MOU (never signed)
- C. Review Best Practices
- D. Review Budget / Financials

5. Comments and Updates by the Elected Official or Agency Representative

	Agency	Representative	Representative
A	City of Banning	Leroy Miller	Richard Royce
B	City of Beaumont	David Fenn	Jessica Voigt
C	Banning Heights Mutual Water Company		
D	Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	Daniel Slawson	Lona Williams
E	Cabazon Water District	Diana Morris	Taffy Brock
F	City of Calimesa	Wynonna Duvall	John Manley
G	High Valleys Water District	Sam Hughes	Stan Houghton
H	Mission Springs Water District	Amber Duff	
I	Morongo Band of Mission Indians	John Covington	
J	Riverside County EDA / Flood Control	Jason Uhley	Julianna Adams
K	South Mesa Water Company		
L	Yucaipa Valley Water District	Joyce McIntire	
M	San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Lance Eckhart	

6. Update from Beaumont Basin Watermaster

7. Suggested Presentations and Topics for Future Meetings
 - a. Discussion Regarding Funding for the Regional Cabazon/Banning Backbone Project
 - b. PFAS
 - c. Lead and Copper Rule
 - d. Preparation of 2025-2026 Urban Water Management Plans

8. Future Meeting Dates

Meeting time is 4th Wednesday of odd months at 5 p.m.

 - July 22, 2026
 - September 23, 2026
 - *Committee is dark in November*

9. Adjournment

**MEETING MINUTES OF THE
San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance
March 25, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.**

Meeting Attendees

Agency – MOU Members	Representative	
City of Banning	Shah Nawaz Art Vela	Present
City of Beaumont	David Fenn Thaxton Van Belle	Present
Banning Heights Mutual Water Company		
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	Daniel Slawson Dan Jagers	Present
Cabazon Water District	Taffy Brock Knala Keith	Present
City of Calimesa	Edgar Garcia	Absent
High Valleys Water District	Stan Houghton	Present
Mission Springs Water District	Amber Duff	Present
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	Anthony Mendoza John Covington	Present
Riverside County EDA / Flood Control	Julianna Adams	Present
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	Lance Eckhart	Present
South Mesa Water Company		
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Joyce McIntire	Absent
Other Agencies	Representative	
Desert Water Agency	Steve Grasha	
Beaumont Basin Watermaster	Dan Jagers	Present

Members of the Public in Attendance: None

1. Call to Order - Roll Call

Chairman Daniel Slawson called to order the regular meeting of the San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance at 5:03 p.m. Roll call was conducted of the attendees and is reflected in the list of meeting participants above.

2. Public Comments: None.

3. Consent Calendar

- A. Approval of Alliance Meeting Minutes from January 28, 2026
The Consent Calendar was approved by the following vote:

MOVED: Slawson	SECONDED: None
CONSENT CALENDAR APPROVED	VOTE 10-0
City of Banning	YES
City of Beaumont	YES
Banning Heights Mutual Water Company	Absent
Beaumont Basin Watermaster	YES
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District	YES
Cabazon Water District	YES
City of Calimesa	Absent
High Valleys Water District	YES
Mission Springs Water District	YES
Morongo Band of Mission Indians	YES
Riverside County EDA / Flood Control	YES
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency	YES
South Mesa Water Company	Absent
Yucaipa Valley Water District	Absent

5. Comments and Updates by the Elected Official or Agency Representative

- A. **San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency:** Lance Eckhart reported:
- Jennifer Ustation has been employed as the new Chief Financial Officer to replace the retiring Tom Todd
 - Highlighted partnerships for construction of seven heli-hydrants in the region
 - Also working on the Countyline Recharge facility and pipeline, and on a connection to the East Branch Extension
 - Transferred 3,000 acre-feet from Napa to round out the water portfolio at \$225 per acre-foot
 - Moving forward with water banking via partnership with Antelope Valley-East Kern (AVEK) in the Lancaster-Palmdale area
 - Sites Reservoir obtained Sacramento River water rights from the State Water Board making it a viable project
 - It is a State Water Project 30% allocation year. Although there was rain, snowpack was needed.
 - Current regional water supply is at approximately 13,000 acre-feet against demands of 15,000–16,000 acre-feet, with additional purchases anticipated and confidence that remaining needs can be met as the year progresses.
 - Availability of approximately 10,000 acre-feet of stored “wet water” across multiple locations (Antelope Valley/East Kern, San Bernardino Basin, and local storage accounts), providing drought resiliency and supply flexibility.

- Despite a low allocation year (approximately 30%), the region is largely meeting replenishment needs due to prior planning, water transfers, and storage strategies developed over recent years.
- Regional water reliability has significantly improved over the past decade, supported by increased storage levels, expanded partnerships, and future supply projects such as Sites Reservoir, positioning the region well for long-term water security

B. City of Beaumont – Thaxton Van Belle reported:

- The City is actively recruiting for a Finance Director and anticipates announcing a new City Manager at the April 7 City Council meeting.
- Coordination continues on recycled water planning with the SGPWA and Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District.
- Habitat and stream monitoring efforts are ongoing, including site identification and data collection, with potential coordination requests to neighboring agencies for well data and real-time monitoring opportunities.
- Announced the return of Beaumont Nights events at the end of April and noted that the Cherry Festival will be held at a new location with support from regional partners.

Mr. Jagers advised about wells drilled near the Amazon building within the San Timoteo watershed when the Olivewood or Fairway Canon development was graded.

C. City of Banning – Art Vela reported:

- Announced the hiring of a new City Manager, Elizabeth Gibbs, noting her recent transition from the City of Beaumont and strong familiarity with regional partners and local issues.
- The transition has allowed Vela to refocus on Public Works operations, while the City continues to advance multiple capital projects, including well sites, booster stations, and upcoming bids for basin and wastewater treatment plant improvements.
- Described chromium-6 compliance as a challenging “no-win” situation, emphasizing the need for agencies to act proactively rather than delay action.
- Noted the City is entering a new rate study process, with anticipated difficult policy decisions regarding whether to incorporate significant chromium-6 treatment costs, which could substantially increase rates and require tradeoffs with other capital projects.

D. Banning Heights – Absent

E. Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District – Daniel Slawson and Dan Jagers highlighted:

- Easement approved for the heli-hydrant site at Brookside / Beaumont Avenue
- Infrastructure projects beginning on America Street and 11th Street
- Agreed to provide water for the Cherry Festival
- Completing re-drilling of wells 1A and 2A and design of a booster station

- Urban Water Management Plan underway
- New testing for PFAS after previous non-detects
- In the final stages of preparing for implementation of recycled water opportunities with the City of Beaumont

F. Cabazon Water District – Taffy Brock reported:

- The new General Manager is continuing to acclimate to the role, and overall operations are progressing well.

G. City of Calimesa – Absent

H. High Valleys Water District – Stan Houghton:

- Reported seasonal maintenance activities underway, including road repairs, vegetation management, and general system upkeep in preparation for spring.
- Noted near completion of LAFCO-related processes associated with providing service to Silent Valley, with the District now successfully supplying water and maintaining operations for the facility.
- Confirmed heli-hydrants are fully operational, supporting regional fire response capabilities.
- Identified minor brownout issues, but indicated site conditions have improved with regrowth of natural vegetation on previously disturbed areas, stabilizing conditions.

I. Mission Springs Water District – Amber Duff reported:

- Reported four wells currently under repair and remediation, with two anticipated to require chromium-6 treatment and two potentially returning to service without treatment; goal is to bring all wells back online before June.
- Noted wells have remained offline since initial chromium testing to prevent delivery of contaminated water, creating operational challenges in maintaining system supply.
- Described ongoing efforts to implement chromium-6 treatment solutions, including development of a potential pilot program in coordination with the State.
- Reported participation in federal advocacy efforts in Washington, D.C., seeking funding support for water infrastructure and treatment needs, while expressing optimism regarding proposed treatment strategies.

J. Morongo Band of Mission Indians – Anthony Mendoza and John Covington reported:

- Wrapping up major water capital improvement projects, to be resolved in Spring 2026.
- Working with the San Gorgonio Pass Groundwater Sustainability Agency on the five year update to the plan and with the Indio Subbasin GSA on their five year update
- Well rehabilitation projects in Cabazon and at the Tukwet Golf Course
- Many other building projects within the boundaries of the Reservation which require staff time are swamping the water staff.

- Mr. Mendoza will become the Water Department Manager effective the first week of April; while Covington focuses on his administrative position

K. Riverside County EDA / Flood Control District – No report.

L. South Mesa Water Company – Absent

M. Yucaipa Valley Water District – Absent.

N. Beaumont Basin Watermaster – Art Vela and Dan Jagers reported:

- At the February 4, 2026 meeting, the BBWM Committee heard an informative presentation by YVWD on the Calimesa Crystal Vault project
- The next BBWM meeting will be April 1; Mr. Vela will be absent

Discussion – Chromium VI regulation

Shaw Nawaz initiated discussion regarding ongoing efforts to address Chromium VI (CrVI) regulatory requirements, including well development, treatment strategies, regulatory uncertainty, and public communication challenges. He asked how agencies are balancing investment in new wells versus treatment, given uncertainty about whether the State may again revise or rescind the maximum contaminant level (MCL).

Jagers explained that BCVWD has been pursuing a long-term strategy of developing new wells to avoid treatment where possible, thereby reducing the risk of stranded treatment assets if regulations change. He noted that two wells are replacement wells and two are growth-related, all moving forward regardless of regulatory uncertainty. He added that the District is also evaluating operational strategies such as modifying well depth, reducing pumping rates, and isolating contaminated zones to reduce CrVI levels without treatment. Jagers emphasized that multiple approaches are being tested simultaneously, including blending, well rehabilitation, and use of non-potable systems for higher-chromium water.

Art Vela confirmed that well depth and location can significantly influence chromium levels, noting that some success has been observed with shallower well completions reducing chromium concentrations, though results vary geographically. He described the situation as a “damned if you do, damned if you don’t” scenario, where agencies must balance whether to invest in costly treatment now or risk future regulatory changes. He also noted that upcoming rate studies will likely need to consider substantial capital costs associated with compliance.

Amber Duff stated that MSWD is proceeding with treatment implementation regardless of potential regulatory changes, citing the importance of maintaining public trust and credibility. She noted that the District recently completed a successful Proposition 218 rate adjustment with strong community support based on the commitment to address CrVI. Reversing course due to regulatory changes would create confusion and erode confidence among ratepayers. She further emphasized the challenge agencies face in explaining shifting regulatory standards to the public while maintaining confidence in water quality. Discussion also addressed legal and regulatory uncertainty, including an ongoing lawsuit challenging the State’s economic analysis supporting the current MCL. Jagers noted that agencies have questioned whether the State adequately evaluated treatment costs, and that the case could influence future regulatory direction.

Participants discussed the regulatory environment and legal challenges, including ongoing litigation questioning whether the State adequately evaluated the economic impacts of the current MCL. Mr. Jagers noted that several agencies believe the cost analysis supporting the standard may be flawed, and that the outcome of the case could influence future regulatory direction. Despite this uncertainty, agencies are continuing to move forward with compliance planning due to statutory requirements and timelines.

Significant concern was expressed regarding State regulatory processes, particularly delays in reviewing and approving compliance plans. It was noted that agencies submitted plans months ago but have received little or no feedback, creating difficulty in justifying large capital expenditures to governing boards without regulatory confirmation. Participants clarified that agencies with submitted compliance plans are generally considered in “exceedance” rather than “violation” status, provided they are making progress toward compliance, though required public notifications still apply.

The discussion also highlighted operational and financial challenges associated with treatment technologies. Participants noted that CrVI treatment systems—such as ion exchange or reduction/filtration—can involve high capital costs, significant ongoing operational expenses, and complex disposal requirements for hazardous byproducts. Concerns were raised about long-term disposal options and the potential for vendor or disposal pathway instability, which could create additional risks for agencies investing in these systems. Mr. Jagers noted that, in some cases, developing alternative supplies or surface water treatment facilities may be more cost-effective and operationally sustainable than chromium-specific treatment.

Public communication emerged as a major issue, with agencies reporting increased customer concern and scrutiny following required notification mailings. Participants noted that regulatory language in public notices can be alarming, even when delivered water quality remains below the MCL due to system blending. Examples were given of customers requesting in-home treatment systems or initiating formal information requests, placing additional administrative burdens on agencies.

Participants emphasized that the issue remains complex and evolving, requiring careful coordination between technical feasibility, financial capacity, regulatory compliance, and public communication.

Discussion – Senate Bill 1001 (Emergency Responder Identification)

Amber Duff alerted the group to Senate Bill 1001, which proposes creation of a statewide identification program intended to allow water agency personnel and other essential workers to access restricted areas during emergencies. She noted that while the concept appears beneficial, the bill raises concerns regarding unclear program administration, unknown costs, and potential administrative burden on agencies required to register all employees, particularly given workforce turnover.

Ms. Duff emphasized that agencies already possess identification credentials under existing government code provisions, which have generally been effective in granting access during emergencies, citing recent experiences where most personnel were able to pass through checkpoints without issue. She indicated the bill originated from a specific incident in another region and may not reflect broader statewide needs. She also noted that, despite concerns from some regions, the proposal is advancing with support from organizations such as ACWA.

Jagers and others acknowledged the intent of improving emergency access but expressed skepticism, characterizing the proposal as potentially creating additional bureaucracy and costs

without clear added benefit, given that existing systems have functioned adequately during past emergency events.

6. Suggested Presentations and Topics for Future Meetings

- a. Funding for the Regional Cabazon/Banning Backbone Project
- b. PFAS
- c. Lead and Copper Rule
- d. Preparation of 2025-2026 Urban Water Management Plans
- e. Update on Chromium 6 court case (Fresno Superior court)
- f. History and current status of Chromium VI issue (Lance Eckhart offered)

7. Future Meeting Dates

Meeting time is 4th Wednesday of odd months at 5 p.m.

- May 27, 2026 (Annual Business Meeting)
- July 22, 2026
- September 23, 2026
- *Committee is dark in November*

8. Adjournment. Chairman Daniel Slawson adjourned the meeting at 6:12 p.m.

Item 4a 2014 Executed MOU

Memorandum of Understanding San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance A Coordination of Regional Water Providers and Local Government

1. Background

The San Gorgonio Pass Area local governments and water districts understand that regular coordination, collaboration, and communication will result in improved management of water resources at local and regional levels. On May 2013, County Supervisor Marion Ashley appointed, with the approval of the entire County Board of Supervisors, a Pass Water Policy Panel. The Panel is comprised of representatives in the San Gorgonio Pass Area. The Panel, known as the San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance (SGPRWA) is to identify challenges in water supply and water quality for the region, to develop mutually beneficial solutions that include coordination plans and infrastructure development that ultimately delivers clean, reliable, and affordable water supplies for the citizens of the San Gorgonio Pass area for the foreseeable future.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish the mutual understandings of San Gorgonio Regional Water Alliance (SGRWA) with respect to certain voluntary joint efforts toward regional coordination, collaboration, and communication of water resource projects and programs.

3. Goals

The Goals of the SGRWA are:

3.1 To improve coordination, collaboration, and communication among local government water purveyors in the San Gorgonio regional area, to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness in delivering water supplies. Services are local control.

3.2 To develop and promote common water strategies that will, when implemented, fulfil the water demands of the regional area for the foreseeable future.

4. Definitions

4.1 **San Gorgonio Regional Water Alliance.** Participating county, local governments, and water purveyors in the San Gorgonio Regional area.

4.2 **Signatories.** The parties signing this MOU (Signatories) constitute the current participants.

5. Mutual Understandings

5.1 **Participation.** Participation is strictly voluntary and may be terminated at any time without recourse. San Gorgonio local governments and water purveyors will be invited to be Signatories.

5.2 Activities. Efforts pursued under this agreement will remain consistent with and will not exceed the current authority for any individual participating local government and water purveyor. Efforts will include information dissemination and sharing between local governments, water purveyors, public outreach, and education and other activities as mutually agreed upon from time to time among the Signatories.

5.2.1 It is anticipated that the Signatories will meet at least monthly with subcommittee meetings happening in between full Alliance meetings.

5.3 Funding. Individual Signatories are not required to commit funding to any other Signatory of the Alliance. Recognizing this is a voluntary, non-binding agreement, Signatories agree to commit such resources as are required to implement actions agreed upon per Section 5.4 herein within their individual service areas, subject to approval and direction of the governing bodies of each Signatory.

5.4 Decision Making. Consensus will be sought when the need for decisions arises. Decisions lacking consensus may be implemented by such individual Signatories that choose to do so, but said decisions may not be considered activities of the Alliance.

5.5 Non-Binding Nature. This document and participation under this MOU are non-binding, and in no way suggest that a local municipal government or water purveyor may not continue its own activities as each government and purveyor is expected to continue its own policies and procedures, and undertake efforts to secure project funding from any source. A local government or purveyor may withdraw from participation at any time.

5.6 Termination. Signatories may terminate their involvement at any time with no recourse.

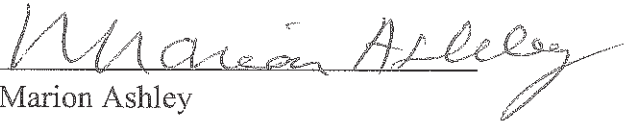
6. Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding

We, the undersigned representatives of our respective governing bodies, acknowledge the above as our understanding of how the San Gorgonio Regional Water Alliance Coordination, Collaboration, and Communication MOU will be implemented.

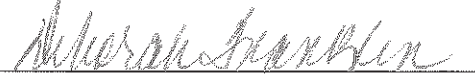
This MOU will be revisited annually.

[SIGNATURES ON NEXT PAGE]

Dated this 26th day of March, 2014



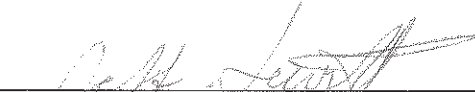
Marion Ashley
County of Riverside
Supervisor, Fifth District



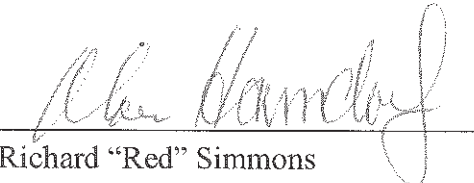
Deborah Franklin
City of Banning
Mayor



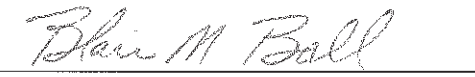
David Castaldo
City of Beaumont
Councilmember



Jeff Hewitt
City of Calimesa
Mayor Pro Tem



Richard "Red" Simmons
Banning Heights Mutual Water Co.
President



Blair Ball
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water Dist.
Director, Division 5



Kerri Mariner
Cabazon Water District
Director



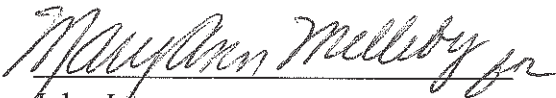
Ernest Wright
High Valleys Water district
President



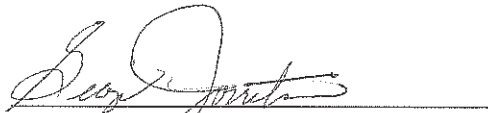
Russ Martin
Mission Springs Water District
Chairman



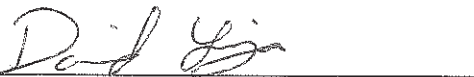
Robert Martin Tom Linton
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Tribal Council Member



John Jeter
San Geronio Pass Water Agency
President



George Jorritsma
South Mesa Mutual Water Company
President



David Leja
Yucaipa Valley Water District
Director

Memorandum of Understanding

San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance

A Coordination of Regional Water Providers

1. Background

The San Gorgonio Pass Area local governments and water districts understand that regular coordination, collaboration, and communication can result in improved management of water resources at local and regional levels. Water is a limited resource, and in May 2013, County Supervisor Marion Ashley appointed, with the approval of the entire County Board of Supervisors, a Pass Water Policy Panel. The Panel is made up of representatives in the San Gorgonio Pass Area. The Panel, known as the San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance (“SGPRWA”) is to identify challenges in water supply and water quality for the region, to develop mutually beneficial solutions that include coordinating plans and infrastructure development that ultimately delivers clean, reliable, and affordable water supplies for the citizens of the San Gorgonio Pass area for the foreseeable future.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is to establish the mutual understandings of SGPRWA with respect to certain voluntary joint efforts towards regional coordination, collaboration, and communication of water resource programs.

3. Goals

The goals of the SGPRWA are:

- 3.1 To improve coordination, collaboration, and communication among local government water agencies in the San Gorgonio regional area, to achieve greater efficiency and effectiveness in delivering water supplies. Services are local control.
- 3.2 To develop and promote common water strategies that will, when implemented, fulfill the water demands of the regional area for the foreseeable future.

4. Definitions

- 4.1 San Gorgonio Pass Regional Water Alliance. Participating county, local governments, and water agencies in the San Gorgonio Regional area.
- 4.2 Signatories. The parties signing this MOU (Signatories) constitute the current participants.

5. Mutual Understandings

5.1 Alliance Agreements. Principal idea of non-binding collaborative is so that we do not overstate supplies in area. The collaborative is to share resources and opportunities that can benefit our area that we might not qualify for individually. Agreements of the Alliance members:

- 1) Water supply is a regional need

- 2) Affordable quality water is a regional need
- 3) We, the Alliance, are interested in obtaining affordable quality water supply for our individual districts
- 4) Regional collaboration allows for an opportunity for us to obtain #3 above

As we agree on these four points, we also agree to explore opportunity of an integrated water management plan for the area.

5.2 Participation. Participation is strictly voluntary and may be terminated at any time without recourse. San Gorgonio local governments and water agencies will be invited to become Signatories.

5.2.1 All members have one vote; no one member has more authorization than anyone else.

5.2.2 Officers are elected at the annual meeting. The elected positions include: chairperson, vice chairperson, secretary, and treasurer. The duties include: chairperson presides at meetings, sets the agenda, and communicates with outside parties as needed. The vice-chairperson fills in upon the absence of the chairperson. The secretary confirms the audio tape is working. The treasurer maintains communications with the county regarding the status of the Alliance's account. All officers are subject to performing other duties as voted upon by the majority of the Alliance members.

5.3 Activities. Efforts pursued under this agreement will remain consistent with and will not exceed the current authority for any individual participating local government and water agency. Efforts will include information dissemination and sharing between local governments, water agencies, public outreach, and education and other activities as mutually agreed upon from time to time among the Signatories.

5.3.1 It is anticipated that the Signatories will meet at least monthly with subcommittee meeting happening in between full Alliance meetings.

5.4 Funding. Individual Signatories are not required to commit funding to any other Signatory of the Alliance. Recognizing this is a voluntary, non-binding agreement, Signatories agree to commit such resources as are required to implement actions agreed upon per Section 5.4 herein within their individual service areas, subject to approval and direction of the governing bodies of each Signatory.

5.5 Decision Making. Consensus will be sought when the need for decisions arises. Decisions lacking consensus may be implemented by such individual Signatories that choose to do so, but said decisions may not be considered activities of the Alliance.

5.6 Non-binding Nature. This document and participation under this MOU are non-binding, and in no way suggest that a local municipal government or water agency may not continue its own activities as each government and water agency is expected to continue its own policies and procedures , and undertake efforts to secure project funding from any source . A local government or water agency may withdraw from participation at any time.

5.7 Termination. Signatories may terminate their involvement at any time with no recourse.

6. Signatories to the Memorandum of Understanding

We, the undersigned representatives of our respective governing bodies, acknowledge the above as our understanding of how the SGPRWA Coordination, Collaboration, and Communication MOU will be implemented.

This MOU will be revisited annually.

Signatures on the following page

Marion Ashley
County of Riverside
Supervisor, Fifth District

Deborah Franklin
City of Banning
Mayor

Lloyd White
City of Beaumont
Councilmember

Jeff Hewitt
City of Calimesa
Mayor Pro Tem

Alan Hamdorf
Banning Heights Mutual Water Co.
President

Ken Ross
Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water Dist.
Director, Division 5

Kerri Mariner
Cabazon Water District
Director

Ernest Wright
High Valleys Water district
President

Russ Martin
Mission Springs Water District
Chairman

Robert Martin
Morongo Band of Mission Indians
Tribal Council Member

Mary Ann Melleby
San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency
Director

George Jorritsma
South Mesa Mutual Water Company
President

Tom Shalhoub
Yucaipa Valley Water District
Director

5/21/2026: The minutes of this era indicate that the Committee members reached consensus on the revisions, but felt it too burdensome to take the MOU back to the individual Boards or Councils for formal adoption

Best Practices for the San Gorgonio Regional Pass Water Alliance

Meeting Ground Rules:

Meetings – Meetings will be held monthly at the Banning City Hall unless the Alliance majority agrees to any changes. Meeting times are 5pm to 6:30pm. Meeting agendas will be posted 72 hours before meetings. All materials distributed to the Task Force members will be posted on the website. Action minutes will be recorded. All meetings will be audibly recorded. The May meeting will be considered the annual business meeting. During this meeting the Alliance will conduct elections and review the memorandum of understanding, budget, and best practices. Any additions, changes, or corrections will be presented during this meeting. Ratification of changes will take place during the June meeting and will be subject to the approval of the governing boards of the signatory entities. Only substantial changes will require the signatures of the participating members.

Transparency – Meeting notices, agendas, and minutes will be posted on the Alliance website - www.passwateralliance.com. All Task Force meetings are open to the public. All regular meetings of the Alliance in public agency facilities and at times that are generally deemed convenient for maximum public attendance and participation.

Quorum – A majority of the Alliance member agencies shall constitute a quorum with a minimum of 7 members present to vote on any Alliance action item.

Voting – One vote per participating member that is a signatory to the MOU.

Alliance members conduct - Alliance members will conduct themselves with courtesy toward each other, avoiding interruptions and showing respect by listening. Alliance members will not participate in side bar conversations while someone else has the floor. Humor is welcome, but should not be at someone's expense.

All ideas and points have value - Alliance members may hear something with which you do not agree. Please remember that the purpose of the Alliance is to share ideas. All ideas have value in this setting. You are not required to defend or promote your perspective, but you are asked to share it. If you believe another approach is better, offer it as a constructive alternative. Be cautious of ascribing motives to others.

Be comfortable – Alliance members are welcome to refreshments and/or personal breaks. If other needs arise, please complete them without interrupting the meeting if possible.

Electronic courtesy – Most Alliance members have demanding responsibilities outside of this meeting. We ask for everyone's full attention during the meeting. Please turn cell phones, and/or any other communication device to silent or vibrate.

Honor Time – In order to meet ambitious Alliance goals, please follow the time guidelines agreed upon by the Alliance. Comments should be limited to agenda topics. The exception will be if the consensus of the Alliance is to have an item added to the agenda. Alliance members' comments

should be focused, stating the point succinctly within 3 minutes; do not hog the floor. This time does not apply to agendaized formal presentations or reports.

Amendments – Any substantive changes to the Alliance MOU are to be ratified by the governing Boards of the respective member agencies of the San Geronio Pass Regional Water Alliance.

Public participation – Public comments are permitted at the beginning of each meeting. They are also permitted during the course of the meeting after the members have been heard and as time permits. Public comments are limited to 3 minutes. The public is held to the same afore noted standards as the members of the Alliance.

**Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
San Gorgonio Water Task Force
Account Balance as of April 30, 2026**

<u>GL Code</u>	<u>GL Title</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Debit</u>	<u>Credit</u>
101100	Cash	Balance Forward from EDA Admin Sub-Funds to Flood	13,362.02	
		Ending Balance as of April 30, 2026	<u>13,362.02</u>	<u></u>

State Water Project Allocation Increases Heading into Summer Months

Published: May 15, 2026

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – Today, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced an increase to the State Water Project (SWP) allocation for 2026. The allocation is now 45 percent of requested supplies, up from the previous allocation of 30 percent announced on January 29. The allocation establishes how much water the State plans to deliver to the 29 public water agencies served by the SWP, which provides water to 27 million Californians and 750,000 acres of farmland.

In the spring, SWP allocations are based on current hydrological conditions, existing reservoir storage, and remaining snowpack. While California saw record heat in March and early snowmelt, consistent rainstorms in April provided critical runoff through the system that allowed DWR to capture more water and meet environmental regulations without using stored water. Currently, the SWP's largest reservoir, Lake Oroville, is at 99 percent of capacity. Statewide, reservoirs are 117 percent of average for this time of year.

The challenge remains that California's snowpack, the state's frozen reservoir, is essentially gone. As of today, the statewide snowpack is just 12 percent of average. The snowpack peaked in mid-February and has since melted off.

"California's reservoirs are full, but most snowpack melted off weeks ago. We must use this stored water carefully because there's no backfill until next season," said DWR Director Karla Nemeth.

Learn more about how snowmelt impacts State Water Project allocations: <https://youtu.be/vXdP6s8Kq0E>.

The SWP utilized real-time operational flexibility to benefit water users and the environment despite the fact that so much of this year's precipitation came as rain instead of snow. Water managers at Lake Oroville coordinated closely with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to capture as much water as possible while still providing flood protection to downstream communities. These flexible operations, coupled with the improved runoff in the system resulted in an additional 400,000 acre-feet of storage in Lake Oroville. This puts the SWP in a better position to provide water supply to contractors this year while maintaining robust carryover storage to meet water supply and environmental needs should next year be dry.

Each year, DWR provides an initial SWP allocation in December based on available water storage, projected water supply and water demands. Allocations are updated monthly as snowpack, rainfall and runoff data is analyzed, with a final allocation typically determined near the end of the season in May or June. This season, the initial allocation was 10 percent on December 1, updated to 30 percent on January 29, and increased to 45 percent today.

Historical data on SWP allocations is available at <https://water.ca.gov/programs/state-water-project/management/swp-water-contractors>.

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