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EXEMPT FROM FILING FEES
[GOV. CODE, § 6103]

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

CITY OF BARSTOW, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

v.

CITY OF ADELANTO, et al.,

Defendants.

And All Related Cross-Actions

Case No. CIV208568/JCCP 5265

**DECLARATION OF JAMES BLANKE
IN SUPPORT OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND
WILDLIFE'S OPPOSITION TO
WATERMASTER'S MOTION FOR
DETERMINATION OF HYDROLOGIC
BASE PERIOD FOR PRODUCTION
SAFE YIELD CALCULATIONS**

**[Concurrently filed with Opposition Brief
and Supporting Declaration of Aaron
Johnson]**

Date: October 20, 2025

Time: 8:30 a.m.

Dept.: 1

Judge: Hon. Craig C. Reimer, Retired

Action Filed: November 21, 1990

Judgment Entered: January 10, 1996

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1. I am presently employed by Woodard & Curran, Inc. (“Woodard & Curran”) as a Senior Technical Leader and have been employed by Woodard & Curran for 22 years. My current duties as a consulting hydrogeologist are to provide hydrogeologic assessments and recommendations to clients, which include local and state agencies in California.

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1 opinion on whether the recommendations for changes in hydrologic base period negatively
2 impact the water needs of the habitat and species protected under the Judgment.

3 7. In addition to the documents I reference herein, I also reviewed the following
4 documents to prepare my declaration:

5 a. Todd Engineers, with Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, July 2013 Final Report, titled
6 “Conceptual Hydrogeologic Model and Assessment of Water Supply and Demand for the
7 Centro and Baja Management Subareas Mojave River Groundwater Basin” and available at
8 <https://www.mojavewater.org/data-maps/regional-studies/>.

9 b. The January 2025 Mojave Water Agency contour map titled Alto Subarea
10 Western Portion Hydrographs 2025, available at: [https://www.mojavewater.org/wp-](https://www.mojavewater.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Alto-West-Hydrograph-2025.pdf)
11 [content/uploads/2025/05/Alto-West-Hydrograph-2025.pdf](https://www.mojavewater.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Alto-West-Hydrograph-2025.pdf).

12 c. The January 2025 Mojave Water Agency contour map titled Alto Subarea
13 Eastern Portion Hydrographs 2025, available at: [https://www.mojavewater.org/wp-](https://www.mojavewater.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Alto-East-Hydrograph-2025.pdf)
14 [content/uploads/2025/04/Alto-East-Hydrograph-2025.pdf](https://www.mojavewater.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/Alto-East-Hydrograph-2025.pdf).

15 d. The draft February 2024 California Department of Water Resources report on
16 Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water: An Introduction, available at:
17 [https://s3.amazonaws.com/og-production-open-data-cnra-](https://s3.amazonaws.com/og-production-open-data-cnra-892364687672/resources/218e3361-c142-400f-a97f-5dfa79cd4997/depletionsofisw_paper1_intro_draft.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAJJIENTAPKHZMIPXQ%2F20250925%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20250925T212157Z&X-Amz-Expires=86400&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=4941ed3f6c7e4f4d6e537c49f01e0506a0100bbac04936362ebf3291ff106255)
18 [892364687672/resources/218e3361-c142-400f-a97f-](https://s3.amazonaws.com/og-production-open-data-cnra-892364687672/resources/218e3361-c142-400f-a97f-5dfa79cd4997/depletionsofisw_paper1_intro_draft.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAJJIENTAPKHZMIPXQ%2F20250925%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20250925T212157Z&X-Amz-Expires=86400&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=4941ed3f6c7e4f4d6e537c49f01e0506a0100bbac04936362ebf3291ff106255)
19 [5dfa79cd4997/depletionsofisw_paper1_intro_draft.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-](https://s3.amazonaws.com/og-production-open-data-cnra-892364687672/resources/218e3361-c142-400f-a97f-5dfa79cd4997/depletionsofisw_paper1_intro_draft.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAJJIENTAPKHZMIPXQ%2F20250925%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20250925T212157Z&X-Amz-Expires=86400&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=4941ed3f6c7e4f4d6e537c49f01e0506a0100bbac04936362ebf3291ff106255)
20 [SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAJJIENTAPKHZMIPXQ%2F20250925%2Fus-east-](https://s3.amazonaws.com/og-production-open-data-cnra-892364687672/resources/218e3361-c142-400f-a97f-5dfa79cd4997/depletionsofisw_paper1_intro_draft.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAJJIENTAPKHZMIPXQ%2F20250925%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20250925T212157Z&X-Amz-Expires=86400&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=4941ed3f6c7e4f4d6e537c49f01e0506a0100bbac04936362ebf3291ff106255)
21 [1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20250925T212157Z&X-Amz-](https://s3.amazonaws.com/og-production-open-data-cnra-892364687672/resources/218e3361-c142-400f-a97f-5dfa79cd4997/depletionsofisw_paper1_intro_draft.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAJJIENTAPKHZMIPXQ%2F20250925%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20250925T212157Z&X-Amz-Expires=86400&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=4941ed3f6c7e4f4d6e537c49f01e0506a0100bbac04936362ebf3291ff106255)
22 [Expires=86400&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-](https://s3.amazonaws.com/og-production-open-data-cnra-892364687672/resources/218e3361-c142-400f-a97f-5dfa79cd4997/depletionsofisw_paper1_intro_draft.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAJJIENTAPKHZMIPXQ%2F20250925%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20250925T212157Z&X-Amz-Expires=86400&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=4941ed3f6c7e4f4d6e537c49f01e0506a0100bbac04936362ebf3291ff106255)
23 [Signature=4941ed3f6c7e4f4d6e537c49f01e0506a0100bbac04936362ebf3291ff106255](https://s3.amazonaws.com/og-production-open-data-cnra-892364687672/resources/218e3361-c142-400f-a97f-5dfa79cd4997/depletionsofisw_paper1_intro_draft.pdf?X-Amz-Algorithm=AWS4-HMAC-SHA256&X-Amz-Credential=AKIAJJIENTAPKHZMIPXQ%2F20250925%2Fus-east-1%2Fs3%2Faws4_request&X-Amz-Date=20250925T212157Z&X-Amz-Expires=86400&X-Amz-SignedHeaders=host&X-Amz-Signature=4941ed3f6c7e4f4d6e537c49f01e0506a0100bbac04936362ebf3291ff106255)

24 8. The information provided in the motion and supporting documentation is insufficient
25 to allow for a meaningful response or informed position. Specifically, the motion and supporting
26 documentation fail to provide adequate information regarding the following:

27 a. Insufficient information is provided on the goal of establishing a different base
28 period. In its October 20, 2025 motion, the Watermaster suggests that the current 1931-1990

1 base period does not “include recent cultural conditions’ (as required by DWR Bulletin No.
2 84).” The Watermaster further suggests that “the proposed twenty-year hydrologic base
3 period from 2001-2020 includes ‘recent cultural conditions.’” However, the Watermaster
4 does not conceptually or quantitatively explain how the establishment of a different base
5 period would serve to improve the estimates PSY or FPA. Absent a definition of the goal of
6 the change in base period, it is not possible to provide a meaningful response or informed
7 position on the change.

8 b. Neither Bulletin No. 84 (Bulletin) nor the base period criteria in the Bulletin
9 were developed to support modification of the base period as it relates to the Judgment.
10 Instead, the criteria for developing a base period in the Bulletin were developed to support
11 the investigation objective of “increasing the detail and extent of the knowledge pertaining
12 to the amounts of annual water supply, use, and disposal”. This narrow objective is
13 substantially different from the use of the criteria in the motion to justify modifying a
14 previously agreed-upon base period. The Judgment includes a detailed methodology for
15 development of the PSY using a base period, which has been implemented using the 1931-
16 1990 base period. Neither the Judgment nor the Bulletin contain criteria or procedures for
17 modification of the base period for the Judgment. Consideration of a proposed change in
18 base period should be accompanied by detailed analyses of how that change in base period
19 will impact the implementation of the Judgment, particularly the quantification of PSY.
20 Specifically, these studies should address the potential for negatively impacting the water
21 needs of the habitat and species protected under the Judgment. Such studies should include
22 measures to insure that the new base period (1) does not result in the increased ability to
23 produce groundwater in all or certain subareas due to the decline in health and water use of
24 riparian habitat, (2) does not result in the increased ability to produce groundwater in all or
25 certain subareas due to pumping-induced increased recharge of Mojave River flow, (3) does
26 not result in continued declines in groundwater levels supporting riparian habitat and
27 species protected by the Judgment, and (4) does not result in declines in Mojave River flows
28 at and downstream of The Forks, all conditions resulting from declining groundwater levels

1 associated with pumping.

2 c. The information presented in the 1967 Bulletin is not consistent with the current
3 state of science and hydrology. Notably, the Bulletin does not address depletions and does
4 not adequately recognize public trust resources such as native riparian vegetation.
5 Depletions are conditions where groundwater pumping results in reductions in flow or water
6 levels of interconnected surface water, where interconnected surface water is surface water
7 that is hydrologically connected at any point by a continuous saturated zone to the
8 underlying aquifer (DWR Depletion Paper #1). Addressing depletions may not be necessary
9 for the goals of the Bulletin, but they are critical for a proposed change in base period for
10 the Judgment. Increases in depletions in one Subarea would increase recharge and likely
11 increase PSY for that Subarea. Further, the increased recharge would reduce downstream
12 flows and reduce recharge and water availability in downstream subareas. Recharge has
13 increased in the Alto Subbasin between the 1931-1990 base period and the proposed 2001-
14 2020 base period, and Mojave River flow has decreased over time as a percent of flow at
15 The Forks, largely as a result of this change in recharge or depletion (Exhibit 1). Further,
16 additional impacts to the PSY could occur from how the Bulletin addresses water use of
17 riparian native vegetation. As quoted in the motion and supporting documentation, the
18 Bulletin states: “An example by which the amount of annual overdraft could be reduced and
19 the annual amount of safe yield could be increased significantly would be by economically
20 removing and controlling the amount of riparian native vegetation.” (DWR Bulletin No. 84
21 pp. 103-104.) Such statements suggesting removal of riparian native habitat to increase safe
22 yield is contrary to the Judgment, specifically Exhibit H. The approach to consideration of
23 a change in base period should be performed with methods consistent with the current state
24 of science and hydrology, appropriately addressing impacts of depletion and of riparian
25 water use and consistent with the Judgment.

26 d. Insufficient information is provided on the long-term average water supply. The
27 PSY analysis required by the Judgment is performed on a Subarea basis. However, the
28 Watermaster has only provided information on flow conditions at The Forks, a location

relevant primarily to inflow to the Alto Subarea. Additional information is needed to show 2001-2020 conditions relative to long-term water supplies at areas near the boundary of Alto with Centro (historically based on measurements at the Mojave River at Lower Narrows USGS gage 10261500) and at areas near the boundary of Centro and Baja (historically based on measurements at the Mojave River at Barstow USGS gage 10262500). As documented by Todd (2013), during more recent periods the Mojave River loses flow volume as it moves through the Alto and Centro Subareas at a higher rate than what was experienced in the 1931-1990 time period. In Table 3.4, Todd presents the percent of discharge at The Forks at downstream locations during the 1931-1990 base period: seventy-nine percent (79%) at Lower Narrows (that is, 79% of the flow measured at The Forks is measured at Lower Narrows), twenty-six percent (26%) at Barstow (that is, 26% of the flow measured at The Forks is measured at Barstow), and thirteen percent (13%) at Afton (that is, 13% of the flow measured at The Forks is measured at Afton). Using the same methodology as Todd, the percent of discharge at The Forks at downstream locations during the proposed 2001-2020 base period is thirty-eight percent (38%) at Lower Narrows, eleven percent (11%) at Barstow, and four percent (4%) at Afton. This shows a substantial reduction in water supply to the Centro and Alto Subareas compared to the 1931-1990 base period, due to lower flow at Lower Narrows and Barstow, respectively, primarily caused by depletions. Absent a comparison of 1931-1990 and 2001-2020 flows at Lower Narrows, Barstow, and Afton, in addition to The Forks, it is not possible to provide a meaningful response or informed position on how the 2001-2020 period relates to long-term average water supply.

e. Insufficient information is provided on how the proposed new base period would be incorporated into the PSY analysis. Potential use of the proposed 2001-2020 base period could introduce changes in the water balance that are not associated with cultural conditions or natural water supply, specifically associated with pumping-related water balance changes: decline in areal extent and health of riparian vegetation and depletions of the Mojave River.

1 i. As noted by Aaron Johnson, in his Declaration in Support of the
2 Department of Fish and Wildlife’s Response to Watermaster’s Motion for
3 Determination of Hydrologic Base Period for Production Safe Yield Calculations, the
4 areal extent and health of riparian vegetation has declined from the 1931-1990 time
5 period to the 2001-2020 time period, with a corresponding reduction in water use by
6 the riparian vegetation.

7 ii. Depletions of the Mojave River due to groundwater pumping have
8 increased from the 1931-1990 time period to the 2001-2020 time period. Depletions
9 are increased river recharge or decreased groundwater discharge to rivers due to
10 consumptive use of groundwater. DWR (2024) in “Depletions of Interconnected
11 Surface Water: An Introduction” concludes that “absent other changes in water use,
12 pumping from groundwater basins with ISW (interconnected surface water) will, over
13 time, reduce volumes of surface water bodies by an amount approximately equal to the
14 volume of pumped water. As a portion of the groundwater pumped in the Mojave
15 Basin is returned to the groundwater system, it would be expected that the long-term
16 depletion of streamflows in the Mojave River would equal the consumptive use of
17 groundwater.

18 Pumping volume in the Mojave Subbasin was relatively low in the 1930’s and
19 1940’s, increasing rapidly in the late 1940’s and 1950’s and slowly rising through the
20 1960’s, 1970’s, and 1980’s. The volume of pumping began to reduce in the 1990’s
21 and continues to reduce through today. These trends are further shown in Attachments
22 2 and 3 of my declaration. Attachment 2 to my declaration is an image of a line chart
23 that is Figure 3.6 from page 3-12 of the June 2013 report by Todd Engineers, titled
24 Conceptual Hydrogeologic Mode and Assessment of Water Supply and Demand for
25 the Centro and Baja Management Subareas Mojave River Groundwater Basin, that
26 shows a plot of the annual groundwater production by subarea and as a total from
27 1931 to 2010. Attachment 3 to my declaration is an image of a line chart that shows a
28 plot of the annual groundwater production by subarea and as a total from 2011 to

2024. Annual groundwater production data were accessed at annual reports developed by the Watermaster, based on values contained in Chapter 5, Free Production Allowance from the May 2013 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2011-2012, May 2014 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2012-2013, May 2015 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2013-2014, May 2016 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2014-2015, May 2017 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2015-2016, May 2018 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2016-2017, May 2019 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2017-2018, May 2020 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2018-2019, May 2021 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2019-2020, May 2022 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2020-2021, May 2023 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2021-2022, May 2024 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2022-2023, and the June 2025 Watermaster Annual Report for Water Year 2023-2024. The impact of depletions on the current and proposed base period depends on the quantity of pumping and also on the length of time between occurrence of pumping and when the impacts are seen in the river. DWR (2024) notes “(d)epletions occurring today are a function of pumping that occurred both very recently and, potentially, decades ago.” Depletions within a base period will be caused by pumping during the base period and pumping prior to the base period. Depletions caused by pumping in the latter portions of the base period will accrue partially within the base period and partially after the base period due to the time lag in the aquifer system. Thus, the 1931-1990 time period will see depletions resulting from the pumping of the 1930’s and 1940’s. It would also see impacts of earlier time periods, such as the 1920’s. Some impacts of the high pumping volumes at the end of the 1931-1990 base period, such as the 1980’s, may not be substantially seen in the river system until after the end of the 1931-1990 base period. This is in contrast to the proposed 2001-2020 base period. While this period shows declining groundwater production, the lag between pumping and river depletion means that depletions occurring during this period are more associated with pumping

1 in the earlier portion of the base period and in the years preceding the base period, a
2 time period of relatively high pumping.

3 The concept that pumping has resulted in increased net recharge (leakage less
4 baseflow) over time is documented by Todd (2013) in Table 3.4, which shows that the
5 average recharge from the Mojave River during the 1931-1990 base period is 13,633
6 AF from The Forks to Lower Narrows, 34,907 from Lower Narrows to Barstow, and
7 8,802 AF from Barstow to Afton. Using the same methodology as Todd, the average
8 recharge from the Mojave River during the proposed 2001-2020 base period is 36,835
9 AF from The Forks to Lower Narrows, 17,296 AF from Lower Narrows to Barstow,
10 and 4,703 AF from Barstow to Afton. This shows an increase in recharge of one
11 hundred seventy percent (170%) from The Forks to Lower Narrows, likely due to
12 groundwater production, with the ability to recharge this volume supported by
13 artificial recharge. Further, this shows a decrease in recharge of fifty percent (50%)
14 from Lower Narrows to Barstow, and a decrease in recharge of forty-seven percent
15 (47%) from Barstow to Afton, likely due to reduced availability of surface water flow
16 for recharge. While the overall recharge was similar in the 1931-1990 period (57,341
17 AF) and the 2001-2020 period (58,834 AF), there was a large shift in recharge with
18 much more recharge occurring between The Forks and Lower Narrows and much less
19 from the Lower Narrows to Barstow and to Afton.

20 iii. Issues would arise if pumping-related depletions and declines in riparian
21 habitat were combined with natural recharge processes under the water balance
22 approach defined in the Table C-1 in the Judgment and implemented in Annual
23 Reports as Table 5-1. If depletions are combined with natural recharge processes and
24 depletions existing in the 1931-1990 base period, the total value would be reflected as
25 an increased difference between surface water inflow and surface water outflow in
26 the Alto Subarea. The Alto Subarea would likely see an increase in PSY from this
27 scenario as the full volume of available surface water continues to enter, pumping-
28 induced depletions are able to capture more of that water, and a reduced volume of

1 water exits the subarea.

2 Thus, if additional depletions in the new proposed base period are not
3 distinguished from 1931-1990 depletions and natural recharge processes, pumping in
4 Alto resulting in lower groundwater levels and inducing more recharge from the
5 Mojave River would result in a higher PSY. This higher PSY would allow for more
6 pumping, starting a cycle of more depletions and future PSY increases. This would
7 negatively impact the water needs of the habitat and species protected under the
8 Judgment as less water would be available to the Baja Subarea due to capture
9 upstream. The additional pumping could also harm habitat and species protected
10 under the Judgment in Centro and Alto.

11 A similar issue would arise with the declining riparian habitat caused by
12 overproduction. If water newly available due to declining riparian habitat caused by
13 overproduction were combined with natural riparian use, the total value would be
14 reflected in a reduction in the Consumptive Use and Outflow term of
15 “Phreatophytes.” Such a reduction would result in an increase in the PSY, permitting
16 additional pumping and negatively impacting the water needs of the habitat and
17 species protected under the Judgment.

18 Watermaster should provide details on how the proposed base period would be
19 implemented in the PSY process, notably accounting for increases in depletions
20 between the proposed and existing base periods and for declines in riparian health, to
21 avoid negatively impacting the water needs of the habitat and species protected under
22 the Judgment.

23 Absent details on how the proposed base period would be implemented in the
24 PSY process to avoid negatively impacting the water needs of the habitat and species
25 protected under the Judgment, notably accounting for increases in depletions between
26 the proposed and existing base periods, it is not possible to provide a meaningful
27 response or informed position on the proposed 2001-2020 period.

28 9. Due to these informational deficiencies, I am unable to formulate an adequate

1 response supporting or opposing the motion at this time. Additional information, documentation,
2 or clarification is necessary to allow for proper consideration of the issues raised in the motion.

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5 I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing
6 is true and correct of my knowledge.

7 Executed this 1st day of October, 2025, in the City and County of Sacramento.

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JAMES BLANKE, Declarant

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LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

Att. 1: Curriculum Vitae of James Blanke

Att. 2: Todd Engineers with Kennedy/Jenks Consultants, July 2013, Figure 3.6, Historical Basin and Study Area Groundwater Production, 1930-2010, from the Final Report Conceptual Hydrogeologic Model and Assessment of Water Supply and Demand for the Centro and Baja Management Subareas Mojave River Groundwater Basin.

Att. 3: A bar graph plotting the historical flows and a running 20-year average at the USGS Barstow Gauge #10262500 between 1931 and 2023.

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ATTACHMENT 1



JAMES BLANKE, PE, PG, CHG, PMP

SENIOR TECHNICAL LEADER

Professional Profile

Jim is a registered professional engineer, professional geologist, and certified hydrogeologist with over 20 years of comprehensive groundwater management experience across California. His results-focused approach incorporates technical knowledge and the ability to relate complex situations to stakeholders and decision-makers to drive water supply solutions. His work includes authoring and providing technical guidance for multiple groundwater sustainability plans; developing technical guidance for groundwater substitution transfers, groundwater recharge projects, and groundwater banks; developing scientifically based pumping allocations to achieve sustainability; developing and implementing groundwater ordinances; developing and expanding monitoring networks; and supporting CEQA and permitting activities. His work incorporates groundwater modeling and advanced techniques to improve efficiency, accuracy, and ultimately gain wider public acceptance.

Jim has an in-depth understanding of Groundwater Sustainability Plan development. He has managed, served as technical lead or senior reviewer for nine GSPs (Cosumnes, Cuyama, Eastern San Joaquin, Merced, North American, North Yuba, San Pasqual, South American, South Yuba, and Sutter).

Related Experience

Butte County, CA - Northern Sacramento Valley Interbasin Groundwater Flow Evaluation. Technical Lead who led the technical work on a project to understand interbasin groundwater flows in the Northern Sacramento Valley (NSV) in the context of SGMA. Integrated hydrological models, their associated input data and results including water budget outputs and calibration status in the NSV Area were analyzed and compared. Specifically, the California Department of Water Resources' California Central Valley Simulation Model (C2VSim), the United States Geological Survey's Central Valley Hydrologic Model (CVHM) were analyzed and compared in detail.

Yuba Water Agency, CA - Yuba Groundwater Model (YGM). Principal-in-Charge responsible for the development and calibration of an integrated water resources model capable of simulating the historical flow of surface and groundwater in the valley floor of Yuba County. The model is using data from regional models where appropriate and drawing from work completed for prior groundwater and agricultural water management planning efforts. It is currently being used for development of water budgets for Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), assessment of stream aquifer interaction as a result of groundwater substitution transfers and informing Yuba Water for annual planning of groundwater substitution transfer program.

Education

- Masters, Geological and Environmental Sciences, Stanford University
- Bachelors, Geological and Environmental Sciences, Stanford University

Registrations

- Professional Engineer - CA, 86098
 - Professional Geologist - CA, 7397
 - Certified Hydrogeologist - CA, 803
 - Project Management Professional - PMI, 1605950
-

Yuba Water Agency – Groundwater Sustainability Plan. As Project Manager and lead author, Jim prepared the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the North Yuba and South Yuba Groundwater Subbasins. The GSP was unique in that it was completed 2 years ahead of the regulatory deadline. As such, it was the first GSP completed for the Sacramento Valley. Jim led work related to this first-in-the-valley status to develop approaches to GSP concepts that are specifically important in the Sacramento Valley, including groundwater dependent ecosystems, interconnected surface waters, and development of minimum thresholds for groundwater levels in an area with historically sustainable conditions, but with future threats to water supplies. The GSP was ultimately adopted by the three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, Yuba Water Agency, Cordua Irrigation District, and the City of Marysville. Jim continues to support the GSP during implementation.

Yuba Water Agency – Groundwater Substitution Transfer Program. As Project Manager, Jim provides technical and policy support for the groundwater substitution program run by Yuba Water Agency and its eight member units. Support includes development of a transparent, science-based process to recommend the annual volume of water to be pumped in a given year. This process is supported by the Yuba Groundwater Model which provides estimates of pumping volumes based on an iterative process to meet defined groundwater level thresholds in the following spring. Jim serves as lead hydrogeologist for the Yuba Groundwater Model. Further, Jim provides hydrologic support for the transfer program, including development of allocation agreements between the member units, data reporting, and coordination of responses to potential third-party impacts.

California Department of Water Resources, CA – Stream Depletion Guidance Documents. As technical advisor, Jim supported a team developing a series of three papers and a guidance document to provide direction to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies seeking to comply with the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act related to depletions of interconnected surface water. Jim led the development of the first paper, which provided an introduction to interconnected surface water and the depletions of interconnected surface water, developing graphics and text to develop a common understanding for GSAs and the public on the subject and how it relates to SGMA requirements. He provided technical advice for the subsequent two papers, which discussed modeling and analytical approaches and examples to develop the necessary information to comply with SGMA. In this role, he interfaced with DWR and consultant staff to build technically defensible, understandable, and implementable approaches for SGMA compliance.

Yuba Water Agency, CA – Lower Yuba River Accord Extension. Jim provided technical and policy guidance to Yuba Water Agency to support the extension of the Lower Yuba River Accord (Yuba Accord). The Yuba Accord is a settlement agreement that provides benefits for both fish and wildlife purposes, and water supply reliability for irrigation, hydropower generation and recreation. Having supported Yuba Water for many years in implementing groundwater substitution transfers under the Yuba Accord and having analyzed stream-aquifer interaction and stream depletions in the region, Jim worked with agency staff, agency consultants, and DWR staff to refine the language in the Yuba Accord to align with current needs and current technical understanding to support an extension of this successful agreement.

Sacramento Groundwater Authority, Regional Water Authority, Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency -CoSANA Model Development. Project manager for the development of CoSANA, an integrated water resources model of the Cosumnes, South American, and North American Subbasins. CoSANA was developed in support of SGMA applications, regional groundwater management, and groundwater banking applications. The project included coordination with the technical teams developing the GSPs for the three subbasins to allow the CoSANA Model to serve as a common platform across all three

subbasins. This common platform improves regional consistency and provides a standardized analysis platform for water management activities.

Merced Irrigation District, CA – Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan. As technical lead, Jim provided guidance for a small team at Woodard & Curran addressing water supply needs in a critically-over drafted groundwater subbasin in the Central Valley. The effort included identifying the level of overdraft in the subbasin in a way that could be accepted by the stakeholders and public and that could drive an allocation process to ultimately reduce groundwater use and increase groundwater recharge. After submission of the GSP, Jim has been responsible for managing and coordinating ongoing implementation of the GSP.

Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin Authority (GBA), CA - Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Plan. As technical lead, Jim provided guidance to address sustainability in a critically-over drafted groundwater subbasin in the Central Valley. The effort included supporting a complex and comprehensive stakeholder process, with 16 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies involved in the development of the GSP. Among other technical challenges, the plan addressed complex salinity issues in the region and incorporated supply-side projects to achieve sustainability while limiting impacts to the community.

City of Poway and City of San Diego, CA – Poway Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan. Project Manager for the SNMP for the Poway Valley Groundwater Basin (PVGB). The SNMP was led by the City of Poway in partnership with the City of San Diego in collaborative process with local and regional stakeholders to assist the agencies to comply with the Recycled Water Policy regarding the future use of recycled water while managing salt and nutrient from potential sources on a sustainable basis. The project included several challenges, including very limited data, high historical and existing salt concentrations, and limited existing and planned groundwater use. The effort included coordination of additional data collection and interfacing with the RWQCB to develop a SNMP that met the unique needs of the PVGB.

City of San Bruno, CA - South Westside Basin Shallow Groundwater Study. Project Manager leading the study of the shallow groundwater system San Mateo County's South Westside Basin to meet two main objectives: (1) improve the understanding of recharge, allowing for improved modeling of the basin and improved decision making with regards to land use decisions, basin operations, and recharge projects and (2) improve the understanding of the sources of nitrogen, to allow for management activities to reduce loading or remove nitrogen from the aquifer for non-potable use. The project includes the following six major technical areas: (1) defining lithology of the upper subsurface, (2) collecting, analyzing, and mapping groundwater elevation data, (3) assessing groundwater quality using existing and supplemental data collected as part of this study, (4) collecting, sampling, and analyzing stable isotope data, (5) performing age dating, and (6) estimating groundwater recharge and modeling groundwater transport. Together, these technical analyses provide an improved understanding of water table conditions, the shallow groundwater system, and the relationships between recharge and deep-water supply aquifer quantity and quality. With this information, San Bruno and other communities in the South Westside Basin will be better able to develop recharge projects, including low impact development techniques; guide future land use and water use decisions; more reliably model and analyze groundwater conditions; and address nitrate and other water quality concerns in the basin.

California Department of Water Resources, CA - Groundwater Basin Assessment and Groundwater Budget Framework. As Project Manager, led an effort working with DWR groundwater staff in developing draft frameworks for the development of groundwater basin assessment reports and

groundwater budgets, allowing for improved management of groundwater resources at the local level and assisting broader regional and statewide water planning efforts. Information developed included the goals and needs for groundwater basin assessments and groundwater budgets, a summary of DWR's role in existing statewide and regional water planning, a summary of recent implementations of groundwater basin assessments and groundwater budgets, and a step-by-step approach to developing groundwater basin assessment reports and groundwater budgets. In addition to managing the effort, Jim was the author of the first of three volumes developed for the draft frameworks.

The Nature Conservancy, CA - Cosumnes Area Reclaimed Water In-Lieu Recharge Assessment, Phase II. Project Manager and Lead Hydrogeologist for an effort focused on improving the health of the Cosumnes River and the associated riparian corridor through analysis of benefits and/or impacts of a potential recycled water banking program being promoted by the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Regional San): the South County Ag Project. The effort incorporates additional analysis important to The Nature Conservancy to ensure that the unique characteristics and needs of the Cosumnes River and Cosumnes Preserve are fully incorporated into the South County Ag Project. This includes analysis of different recharge and recovery scenarios to better understand project impacts and benefits as well as alternative project configurations that could increase benefits to the Cosumnes River and the Cosumnes River Preserve. As project manager and lead hydrogeologist, Jim coordinated with major stakeholders, led meetings, developed conceptual scenarios, directed modeling staff, and developed technical memoranda.

Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District, CA - Engineering Services for the Harvest Water Project. As Hydrogeologist, provided coordination and modeling assistance for the in-lieu recharge project, which has the potential to provide up to 50,000 acre-feet of recycled water per year to irrigate farmlands and improve habitat, and has several environmental benefits including reducing the overdraft of local groundwater supplies and improving riparian forest conditions along the lower Cosumnes River. With related ongoing efforts with Regional San, The Nature Conservancy, and Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority, Jim coordinated the stakeholders, along with Sacramento County Water Agency, to identify common needs and avoid redundant work. The coordination effort resulted in a more cohesive and cost-effective work product. Additional efforts included supporting the successful Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) grant application, petition for change process, establishment of a monitoring network, and addressing other groundwater needs.

Wood Rodgers, CA - E&J Gallo Winery Groundwater Impact Assessment. As Project Manager, led an effort as a subcontractor to Wood Rodgers to estimate the impact of different alternatives for new vineyard plantings on local and regional groundwater and surface water resources. Impacts were simulated using the Sacramento Area Integrated Water Resources Model (SaciWRM). Work included conceptualizing model scenarios; modifying land use, cropping, and groundwater extraction model inputs to develop the model scenarios; and displaying results as maps of changes in groundwater elevation, groundwater hydrographs, and streamflow hydrographs.

Sacramento Groundwater Authority, CA - Recharge Mapping. As Project Manager, led development of a map of areal recharge and an accounting of groundwater inflows for the SGA area. The effort utilized results from the Sacramento Area Integrated Water Resources Model (SaciWRM) which were presented in an integrated figure to display the overall sources of inflows with the areal recharge. Sources of recharge included precipitation, applied water, American River, Sacramento River, other surface water sources, and subsurface flows from neighboring subbasins. The information supported the update of SGA's Groundwater Management Plan to bring the plan into compliance with the Water Code requirements

resulting from the passage of AB359 (Huffman) and also positioned SGA with a resource that could assist in the development of a future Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Sacramento Groundwater Authority, CA - Basin Management Objective Threshold Development and Recharge Mapping. Project Manager/Project Hydrogeologist responsible for addressing two primary needs within the SCGA area: (1) developing water level thresholds that define the safe operating range for groundwater according to Basin Management Objective (BMO) and (2) improving the conceptual understanding of groundwater recharge. The BMO is being developed using historical data and integrated hydrologic model simulations to set a measurable “bandwidth” of groundwater levels based on the maximum and minimum simulated groundwater elevations shown through the Sacramento Area Integrated Water Resource Model Future Conditions Baseline, which is being updated as part of the project. The conceptual understanding of recharge is being improved through two processes. The first process merges available data from the SacIWRM to map the spatial distribution of recharge sources to the Central Basin. Additionally, a field study analyzing primarily stable isotopes, cations, and anions is being used to identify the portions of the Central Basin that are recharged from surface water courses, allowing for improved understanding of the importance of surface water recharge as compared to aerial recharge and recharge from the foothills to the east.

California Water Foundation, CA - Groundwater Management Plan Review. As Project Manager/Primary Author, led a study to independently evaluate groundwater management plans to develop a general assessment of the effectiveness of the plans in improving the condition of the groundwater basins throughout California. Conducted meetings with several water management agencies, including the State Water Resources Control Board and Department of Water Resources, to obtain input and collect information. He also developed a defined set of criteria, gained approval from outside experts, and led the review, assessment, and ranking of the plans based on the criteria. At the conclusion of the project, a final report which documented the findings and identified key successes and challenges associated with California groundwater management.

California Water Foundation, CA - Central Valley Groundwater Recharge Opportunities. As Project Hydrogeologist/Project Manager, Jim analyzed the potential regional opportunities and benefits of recharging groundwater through on-farm capture of excess winter flows. This would involve diverting excess flows onto large acreages of active agricultural land in excess of evapotranspiration to allow recharge of the aquifer system. Developed an assessment of lands suitable for recharge based on available spatial data. He further led the estimation of the availability of winter surface water supplies in excess of existing demands; assessment of the capacity of existing water delivery infrastructure to carry excess water to cropland; and consideration of crop compatibility with flooding active farmland and land suitability for recharge to the aquifer system. The results were developed using GIS and the C2VSim integrated hydrologic model and include estimates of the potential volume of water that could be recharged through on-farm capture of excess winter flows, as well as the fate of the water within the hydrologic system over time.

Merced Area Groundwater Pool Interests (MAGPI), CA - Merced Water Resources Model. As Project Hydrogeologist, provided support for the development of the model layering for a new county-wide integrated hydrologic model based on the Integrated Water Flow Model (IWFM). The work incorporated information from a USGS textural model together with a conceptual understanding of the basin and well characteristics to identify layers. The texture model was then used together with aquifer test results to identify initial aquifer characteristics before model calibration.

Merced County, CA - Groundwater Ordinance Support. Project Manager/Project Hydrogeologist responsible for assisting Merced County in the development and implementation of a groundwater ordinance to improve groundwater management in the county in response to continued drought, reduced surface water supplies, increased groundwater use, increased acreage of irrigated agriculture, and the onset of relatively rapid land subsidence. Provided technical analysis, process assistance, and managed CEQA assistance to support Merced County in the development and implementation of the groundwater ordinance. This support was provided under tight timelines to meet necessary milestones that would allow for stakeholder buy-in and implementation in a timely manner. The technical support included identification of areas with increasing intensity of agricultural use, high rates of land subsidence, and high declines in groundwater elevation. Also led the development of visual representations of these areas and attended meetings to convey issues and opportunities to stakeholders. To support the well permit and groundwater export permit process, Jim assisted in identifying information needs from the applicant and in developing the process of approval or denial of the applications, including coordinating with CEQA experts to develop recommendations for the CEQA process.

Eastern Municipal Water District, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, and the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians, CA - Canyon Operating Plan. As Project Engineer/Project Hydrogeologist/Primary Author, developed an operating plan that guides and supports responsible water management of the Canyon Basin to facilitate continued long-term beneficial use. The Canyon Operating Plan is related to a settlement agreement between the Soboba Tribe and the local municipal agencies and seeks to meet the Soboba Tribe's annual production allocation from the Canyon Basin, thus avoiding EMWD and LHMWD having to provide a supplemental water supply directly to the Soboba Tribe. The Canyon Operating Plan was generated to meet the following six goals: (1) guide and support responsible and sustainable water management, (2) facilitate beneficial use of the basin and avoid shortages, (3) document and analyze historical trends, (4) provide trigger points and potential responses to low water levels in the basin, (5) provide safe yield and storage curves, (6) create a forum for open exchange of data between participants. Jim was the primary author and led the coordination activities, including seven meetings between the project participants to cooperatively develop the document.

Santa Barbara County Water Agency, CA - Long Term Supplemental Water Supply Alternatives Report. As Project Hydrogeologist supported a county-wide study to identify long-term water supply alternatives, characterized by potential volume, cost, and feasibility including institutional, legal, and political implementation considerations. Analyzed existing reports to prioritize areas for further study for siting of subsurface desalination intakes and also assisted in the development of an approach to identify areas likely to be more suitable to artificial recharge activities.

The Nature Conservancy, CA - California Central Valley Surface Water and Groundwater Assessment. As Project Hydrogeologist assisted in conceptualization of modeling scenarios and review and interpretation of modeling results for an evaluation and assessment of the hydrology, interaction of surface water and groundwater, and impacts of historical and future development on the surface water and groundwater resources in the Central Valley. Woodard & Curran has been working with the TNC to use the C2VSim integrated hydrologic model to assess historical conditions and potential impacts of groundwater substitution transfers. The study results included impacts from and sustainability of groundwater substitution transfers, and have been presented at several key conferences, as well as to the DWR and SWRCB managers and other policy makers.

Cities of Paso Robles and Atascadero; Templeton, San Miguel and Heritage Ranch Community Services Districts; Camp Roberts; and San Luis Obispo County, CA - Paso Robles Salt and Nutrient

Management Plan. Hydrogeologist for development of assimilative capacity estimates for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP) for the cities of Paso Robles and Atascadero, Templeton, San Miguel and Heritage Ranch Community Services Districts (CSDs), Camp Roberts, and San Luis Obispo County. The results of these analyses were used to develop basin management strategies and a groundwater monitoring plan for the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin.

City of San Bruno, CA - Westside Basin Groundwater and Conjunctive Use Investigation. As Project Hydrogeologist provided technical and policy support to the City of San Bruno in consideration of participation in a proposed conjunctive use program with the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission. The City of San Bruno uses groundwater for approximately half of its water supply. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC) proposed the use of available space in the Westside Groundwater Basin of northern San Mateo County to store imported water for use in dry years. This regional conjunctive use project has significant implications on regional and local municipal water supplies. Woodard & Curran was the lead technical consultant representing City of San Bruno in negotiations. Woodard & Curran's services included technical analysis of impacts of the conjunctive use program, groundwater well investigations, groundwater modeling analyses, developing solutions to project-related constraints and issues, and supporting the City with modifications to the groundwater operations and well pumping plans.

Eastern Municipal Water District, CA - 2014/2015 Groundwater Model Update. As Project Hydrogeologist, updated EMWD's existing MODFLOW-based groundwater model to support groundwater management projects and analyses within the EMWD water service area. The model area consists of a 300 square-mile study area broken into over 70,000 model cells for evaluation and consideration. Jim developed the conceptual geology through analysis of boring logs, cross sections, and existing geologic reports. This effort provided the hydrogeologic basis for the definition of model layers and the development of calibration targets.

Sacramento Area Integrated Water Resources Model (SACIWRM), CA. Project Geologist/Project Manager responsible for a series of projects for multiple clients, assisted in refinements to the SacIWRM to reflect changed conditions or improved data. Also studied the impacts of proposed development projects on regional water resources. Specifically, this involved the refinement of rice water use to better model conditions in the Natomas area; adjustment of the thalweg elevation of the Sacramento River to reflect newly available data from flood control efforts; update assistance of land use data for the development of a model baseline, including incorporation of the latest data from Zone 40 and other areas; and analysis of the impact of development in northern Sacramento County and in the Sunrise-Douglas area, including impacts to the Cosumnes River, Vineyard wellfield, and nearby contaminated sites.

Western Municipal Water District and City of Riverside, CA - Riverside Basin and Arlington Basin Groundwater Model. As Project Geologist assisted in the conceptualization of geologic conditions of the Riverside-Arlington Basin and incorporated available geologic information into a three-dimensional model of subsurface conditions. Worked with modelers to incorporate this information into model layers for use in the groundwater model. He also worked within the framework of the adjudicated Riverside Basin to help define model output needs. Also led the development of groundwater management plans for the two basins concurrent with the groundwater model. The plans included details on the basins and water use within the basins, including details on the existing adjudication, to create robust groundwater management documents.

Sacramento Groundwater Authority, CA - Hydrologic Database Management System (HydroDMS).

As Project Geologist assisted with the collection and presentation of data in the HydroDMS, a comprehensive web-based, GIS-enabled data management system that provides a user-friendly interface for water agencies to manage and control their water resources and hydrologic data. Work included quality control efforts to check that data was being properly outputted from the system as well as checking usability of the system for meeting data management needs.

California Department of Water Resources, CA - Regional Coordination Program Management

Plan. Project Geologist responsible for working with DWR to develop a Program Management Plan (PMP) for its regional coordination program. This PMP was developed in response to the increased public attention on DWR and the need for providing a seamless customer interface, independent of traditional program and organizational boundaries that allows interested parties to establish contact with DWR, solicit information and guidance, and participate in programs without undue burden. Work included (1) developing a program charter with goals and objectives; (2) identifying specific tools and technology needs to achieve the goals of the Regional Coordination Program, and (3) developing a handbook as a reference for regional coordinators.

United States Bureau of Reclamation, CA - Arroyo Canal Fish Screen & Sack Dam Fish Passage

Improvements. Project EIS and Technical Support for the Arroyo Canal project is part of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program and is intended to allow fish passage under a variety of conditions through a screen or fish bypass. The project involved the completion of the NEPA and CEQA process including the development an EIS/EIR, permitting and other technical assistance, and related support for the project. Jim was Project Geologist and Subconsultant Coordinator responsible for coordinating with the project subconsultants, with Reclamation, and with the project owner and its consultant to keep the complex project moving forward in a timely manner.

Anza-Terwilliger Data Compilation, CA. As Project Manager led the compilation and display of relevant groundwater data in the Anza-Terwilliger area of Riverside County as part of a Capacity Building Grant through the Department of Water Resources' Local Groundwater Assistance program. The compilation and presentation of groundwater level, groundwater quality, and other spatial and temporal data supported a stakeholder process to prepare the Anza Terwilliger for more detailed planning and management of its groundwater resources.

Rancho California Water District (RCWD), CA - Temecula Valley Basin Salt and Nutrient

Management Plan (SNMP). As Lead Author/Project Hydrogeologist prepared the Temecula Valley Basin SNMP to increase recycled water, streamline water recycling project permitting, and provide direction to the Regional Boards regarding recycled water project permitting. Performed salt and nutrient loading calculations using an existing groundwater model and a vast amount of existing data and information collected by RCWD and other stakeholders. Using this approach has further expanded the use of RCWD's existing groundwater model for other uses and has provided a robust analysis of the basin in identifying existing loading and future projects of salt and nutrients in the basin as part of SNMP process. Provided analysis of irrigation practices, fertilization practices, delivered water quality, recycled water use, and septic system use. Services also included use and refinement of the existing groundwater model to provide a firm technical basis for management decisions. Jim authored the plan and worked with the client, regulators, and stakeholders to incorporate comments into the final product.

City of Santa Rosa, CA - Santa Rosa Plain Salt and Nutrient Management Plan. As Project Hydrogeologist performed the analysis associated with and developed the Santa Rosa Plain Salt and

Nutrient Management Plan. The work involved collection and analysis of existing data to develop an understanding of the current state of the basin, potential sources of salts and nutrients and how they might affect the basin, and creating a set of goals, objectives, and implementation measures for the basin to base future decisions and actions upon. Responsible for leading the interpretation and presentation of existing water quality, analyzing the potential impacts from salt and nutrient loading on the aquifer in an anti-degradation framework, revision of the existing groundwater monitoring plan to improve groundwater quality monitoring, and completion of the plan document. All work was done in a collaborative way so that the final plan reflected the input of the basin stakeholders.

Sonoma County Water Agency, CA - Sonoma Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan. As Project Hydrogeologist developed a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Sonoma Valley that incorporated a technical analysis to identify salt and nutrient sources within the sub-basin, analyzed salt and nitrogen loading, summarized relevant groundwater quality and monitoring data, and conducted an anti-degradation analysis. Assisted in the development of the anti-degradation analysis, bringing together work from throughout the project, including existing water quality, goals, loading, fate and transport, BMPs, basin objectives, and economics. All work was done through a stakeholder process established by the Basin Advisory Panel and Technical Advisory Panel.

South Sutter Water District, Castaic Lake Water Agency, Palmdale Water District, San Bernardino Mutual Water Agency, and City of Napa, CA - Garden Bar Water Supply Project Feasibility Analysis. Deputy Project Manager responsible for supporting ongoing efforts to determine the feasibility analysis for development of a new \$450 million water supply project in Northern California. If implemented, the project would develop up to 120,000 AFY of new water supplies. The work included evaluation of a new dam upstream of an existing dam to develop additional water supply and hydroelectric power generation capacity. Provided subcontractor management to assist in moving the project forward, including development of materials for future FERC applications and coordination with project partners.

City of San Bruno, CA - Well Siting. As Project Manager and Lead Geologist developed and implemented ranking criteria to assist in the siting of a replacement well for the City of San Bruno. The criteria included depth to bedrock, groundwater elevation, subsurface materials, distance to other wells, manganese concentrations, proximity to contaminated sites, and potential for seawater intrusion. A weighted total was developed and the sites were ranked. The ranking was used by the city to screen wells before moving forward with discussions with the Department of Public Health and the drilling of test wells.

Eastern Municipal Water District, CA - Local Groundwater Banking Feasibility Study. Project Hydrogeologist responsible for assisting in identification of potential recharge basins to augment and bank water supplies. This will accommodate banking of low cost supplies when available; increase local supply reliability during droughts and emergencies; create sustainable long-term local supplies; mitigate salt loading associated with recycled water use; and reduce groundwater pumping costs through reduction in well pumping lifts. The goal of the feasibility study was to identify water banking opportunities in the Upper Pressure and Canyon Subbasins and determine the facilities needed for conveyance, recharge, and extraction of banked water. The work includes development of a suite of recharge and extraction scenarios to form banking alternatives.

United States Bureau of Reclamation, CA - Semitropic Stored Water Recovery Unit, Phase 2. As Deputy Project Manager and Lead Geologist studied potential federal involvement in the Semitropic Stored Water Recovery Unit, an expansion of the existing water bank operated by Semitropic Water

Storage District in Kern County. The project included analysis of management measures and potential options for federal participation, an economic analysis, and an Environmental Assessment. Geologic work focused on projections of changes in water levels and land subsidence as a result of the project. The geologic analysis was used as part of the Environmental Assessment.

Upper Kings Basin ISI Project Participants, CA - Conjunctive Use Project Assessment. As Project Geologist prepared a pre-feasibility analysis of a potential recharge project site located in Consolidated Irrigation District in Fresno County. The analysis included conceptual design of the recharge basin and project operations, review of the available water supply for recharge, and analysis of the local hydrogeologic conditions to determine the site suitability. Analysis of the groundwater impacts included the height and extent of the potential groundwater mound beneath the recharge basin. The analysis was also calibrated to available recharge data at other nearby recharge basins.

Merced Area Groundwater Pool Interests (MAGPI) ISI Participants, CA - Conjunctive Use Project Assessment. Project Geologist responsible for developing a pre-feasibility analysis of potential recharge project sites in Merced County. The analysis included selection of potential sites that could provide benefits to the most stakeholders while still selecting a site with appropriate site conditions. The investigation centered on data collection of information on important clay layers, soil conditions, and aquifer parameters in Merced County.

City of San Bruno, CA - South Westside Basin Groundwater Management Plan. Project Manager/Lead Author for the development of a Groundwater Management Plan for the South Westside Basin, which covers northern San Mateo County. The plan covers several municipalities, a private water company, and large irrigators of golf courses and cemeteries. Development of the plan included stakeholder outreach, development of an advisory committee, public and advisory committee meetings, development of common understanding of basin conditions, development of Basin Management Objectives, and development of an implementation plan.

City of San Bruno, CA - Review of Westside Basin Model. Project Geologist for review of the Westside Basin Model. Supported a detailed modeling review of the MODFLOW groundwater flow model to ensure that groundwater conditions were accurately reflected in and around the City of San Bruno. Reviewed city data and hydrologic conditions for the local and regional area and provided input to the modeling team in the form of technical memoranda to improve the simulation.

City of San Bruno, CA - Seawater Intrusion Monitoring Wells. Project Manager for the planning, installation, and monitoring of seawater intrusion monitoring wells for the City of San Bruno. Prepared a grant proposal on behalf of San Bruno for a Department of Water Resources Local Groundwater Assistance Fund (AB303) grant. After the city received the grant, two well sites were selected and access was gained through negotiations with San Francisco International Airport (SFIA) and the City of Burlingame. Permits were obtained, contractors selected, and wells were installed. A three-well cluster was installed in Burlingame and a two-well cluster was installed at SFIA. Soil and bedrock conditions were logged during the drilling process. Groundwater samples were taken from the wells and analyzed for seawater intrusion indicators.

City of Riverside and Western Municipal Water District, CA - Riverside Basin and Arlington Basin Groundwater Management Plans. As Project Manager led the development of two Groundwater Management Plans for the Riverside Basin and Arlington Basin, in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The plans cover several municipalities and agricultural irrigators. Additionally, the Riverside Plan was

designed to work with the existing groundwater adjudication in the basin to provide broader groundwater management while adhering to the existing 1969 Western Judgment. Development of the plans was coordinated with the development of a numerical groundwater model, which was used to analyze the impacts of different management alternatives on the basin.

City of Rancho Cordova, CA - SunCreek Hydrologic Impacts Analysis. Served as Project Manager, as a subconsultant, supporting the development of an Environmental Impact Report, managed the modeling of the groundwater and surface water impacts of a proposed development in the Sunrise-Douglas area of Rancho Cordova. The modeling included extensive analysis of impacts to the groundwater system and surface water system, including potential impacts to regional contamination plumes (Mather Field, Aerojet, Boeing, and Kiefer Landfill) and to streamflow in the Cosumnes River. The Sacramento County Integrated Water Resources Model was used to model scenarios consisting of different development options at buildout and immediately prior to the anticipated delivery of surface water to the area. Development of the modeling scenarios included extensive updates to the model with respect to anticipated development in Zone 40 and associated water supplies from the Vineyard Wellfield.

California-American Water, CA - Monterey Regional Water Supply Project. Project Manager for the modeling of desalination of brackish groundwater and increases in recycled water for agriculture to meet growing water demands in the Salinas and Monterey Peninsula areas. The Salinas Valley Integrated Groundwater and Surface Water Model was used to model scenarios consisting of variations in well siting and recycled water quantities. Model output was analyzed to determine regional impacts to groundwater and surface water resources in the Salinas Valley. Additionally, model output was repackaged for use as input and time-series data in a separate MODFLOW model which provided detailed local impacts from the desalination wells. Coordinated the transfer of information to the MODFLOW model and reviewed the results for consistency. Results of the modeling effort were developed for incorporation into an EIR.

Confidential Client, CA - Site Assessment and Feasibility Study. Project Geologist responsible for the site assessment and feasibility study at a 190-acre former chemical facility on the margin of San Francisco Bay, with the ultimate goal of site closure via capping, wetlands construction, or development. Prepared sampling plans, including monitoring well design; coordinated procurement of subcontractors; provided contractor oversight and geologic field support for monitoring well installation, lithologic logging and interpretation, well development, and direct push soil sampling; performed groundwater sampling, sediment sampling, and surface water sampling; and studied effects of tides on groundwater levels and streamflow.

Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, CA - Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) Facility Investigations and Corrective Measures Studies for the Environmental Restoration Program. As Project Geologist worked at the client's facility with its staff to continue ongoing studies of groundwater contamination at the site. Responsibilities included lithologic logging and interpretation, drilling and monitoring well installation oversight, and preparation of quarterly monitoring reports. Site contaminants included CVOCs, petroleum hydrocarbons, and tritium.

Confidential Client, CA - RI/FS and RD/RA Project. As Project Geologist provided contractor oversight and geologic field support for monitoring well installation, lithologic logging and interpretation, well development, and direct push sampling for a CVOC DNAPL Impacted RCRA Site in Belmont, California. Also performed slug tests, groundwater sampling, and surface water sampling; coordinated waste disposal; and prepared a remedial investigation addendum report.

Hemet San Jacinto ISI Participants, CA – Basin Assessment Report and Integrated Water Management Plan. As Project Hydrogeologist aided in the development of principles of water management and governance for use and operation of the management area. Key responsibilities included collection of information on water management conditions and identification of suitable locations for conjunctive use in the area. The data collected included the operation of the groundwater sub-basins and existing and potential facilities and the historical and projected demands and water needs. Also helped in reconciling differences in data between different participating agencies. Further data collection centered on near-surface and hydrologic conditions at seven potential recharge basins and on operational details of two potential in-lieu projects. The data collection efforts were compiled into reports to support continuing water planning activities that aim to develop a long-term groundwater management plan, develop governance principles, and minimize overdraft. The information also supported ongoing modeling efforts to determine the efficacy of the potential conjunctive use projects.

Hemet/San Jacinto ISI Participants, CA - San Jacinto River Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plan. As Project Manager led the development of the water supply sections of an Integrated Regional Watershed Management Plan developed for the San Jacinto River area. Coordinated the IRWMP with the Water Management Plan being developed in a similar timeframe, ensuring the need for continued or increased usage of groundwater, imported water, recycled water, and desalted water were balanced with other needs in the watershed related to flood control, habitat, recreation, environmental justice, and others. Synergies were sought to identify multi-benefit projects.

Sacramento Groundwater Authority, CA - Well Protection Program. As Project Manager for the development of a GIS-based analysis of model results and well and parcel data. Model results were extracted from selected scenarios of the Sacramento County Integrated Groundwater and Surface Water Model. Modeled groundwater elevations during dry periods were compared, using GIS, to typical well depths throughout the SCGA area. The comparison was tied to parcel data, allowing estimation of the number of wells impacted by the selected modeled scenarios. This information was used by decision makers to estimate the potential financial impact as a result of implementing the scenarios.

City of San Bruno, CA - Well Performance Evaluation. Project Manager for the analysis of historical water quality and well performance conditions, along with new data from samples of semi-solid materials on the well casing. The project identified data gaps and made recommendations for filling those gaps; provided a preliminary discussion on the potential causes of well performance issues; and discussed next steps for developing a better understanding of the issue and for developing a plan to reduce well performance declines.

Monterey County Water Resources Agency, CA - Salinas Valley Water Project Biological Opinion Support. As Project Geologist modeled the differences in Salinas River streamflows under past, current, and proposed project conditions. Numerical modeling was performed using IGSM. Results were presented in reports and in presentations to NOAA Fisheries. An iterative modeling and discussion process with NOAA Fisheries and Monterey County Water Resources Agency resulted in adjustments to proposed project operations to meet water supply and fisheries needs.

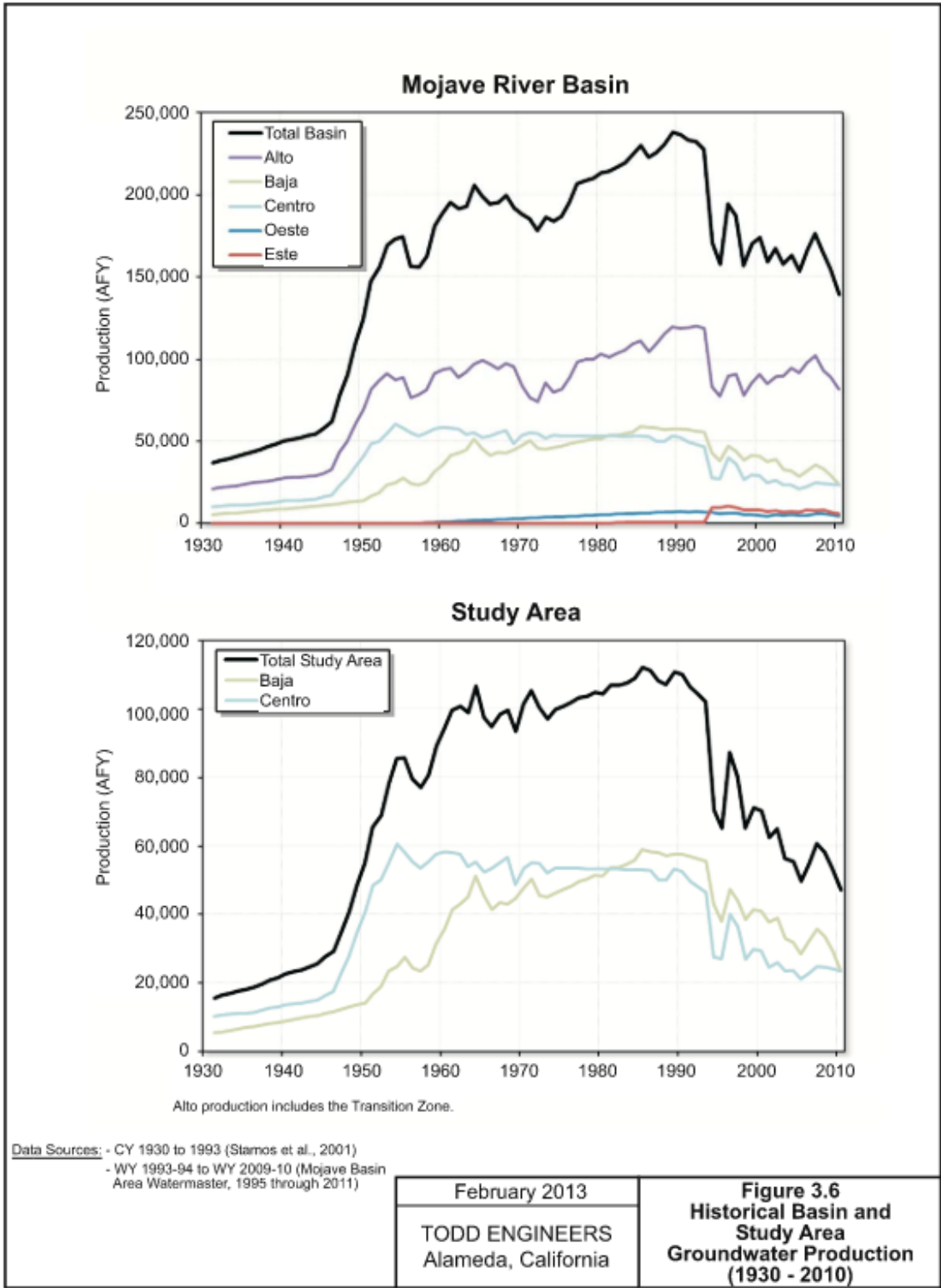
Private Client, Sutter County, CA - Expert Witness. Project Manager and expert witness for a study of groundwater levels and site conditions in a dispute regarding waterlogging of adjacent field and tree crops due to rice flooding. Designed and performed monitoring of groundwater and surface water, prepared exhibits, provided a deposition, and testified in trial as an expert witness.

Merced Irrigation District, CA - Merced IRWM Plan Development. Project Hydrogeologist responsible for working with the Merced Area Groundwater Pool Interests (MAGPI) group to develop the Merced Region's IRWM Plan. MAGPI is comprised of 15 municipal and agricultural water purveyors and special districts operating within the Merced Groundwater Basin in eastern Merced County. The core group includes Merced County, the City of Merced, and the Merced Irrigation District. Woodard & Curran assisted the Region in identifying a vision, goals and objectives for water resources management at the regional level and prepared the Region in meeting the requirements of the Department of Water Resources' IRWM funding program. The IRWM Plan will provide a roadmap for present and future regional planning activities while meeting the requirements of Proposition 84. As part of the Merced IRWM program, developed a Groundwater Recharge Feasibility Study. This study defined areas with high potential for recharge by evaluating physical characteristics (e.g., soil type, depth to water, hydrogeology) and anthropogenic (human-influenced) conditions. The information developed was designed to be used to identify potential locations for artificial recharge facilities or to define where additional management practices should be considered as part of the overall groundwater management and protection program.

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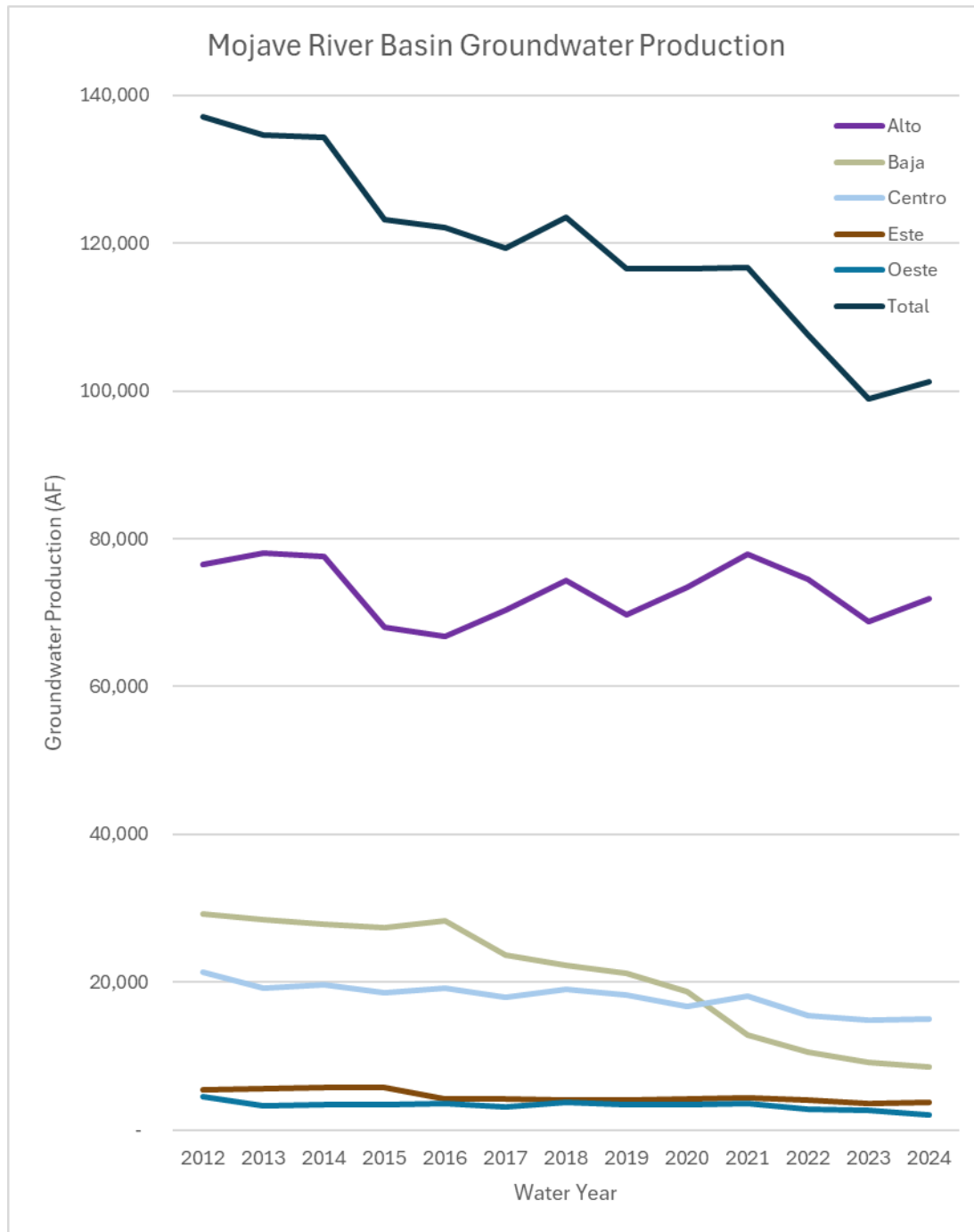
ATTACHMENT 2

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ATTACHMENT 3



**DECLARATION OF SERVICE BY E-MAIL AND OVERNIGHT
COURIER**

Case Name: **City of Barstow v. City of Adelanto, et al.**

Case No.: **CIV208568 (Lead)**

I declare: I am employed in the Office of the Attorney General, which is the office of a member of the California State Bar, at which member's direction this service is made. I am 18 years of age or older and not a party to this matter; my business address is: 300 South Spring Street, Suite 1702, Los Angeles, CA 90013-1230. I am familiar with the business practice at the Office of the Attorney General for collection and processing of correspondence for overnight mail with the **Federal Express** courier service. In accordance with that practice, correspondence placed in the internal mail collection system at the Office of the Attorney General is deposited with the overnight courier that same day in the ordinary course of business.

On October 8, 2025, I served the **DECLARATION OF JAMES BLANKE IN SUPPORT OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE'S OPPOSITION TO WATERMASTER'S MOTION FOR DETERMINATION OF HYDROLOGIC BASE PERIOD FOR PRODUCTION SAFE YIELD CALCULATIONS** by transmitting a true copy via electronic mail. In addition, I placed a true copy thereof enclosed in a sealed envelope, in the internal mail system of the Office of the Attorney General, for overnight delivery, addressed as follows:

William J. Brunick, Esq.
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Attorneys for Defendant/Cross-Complainant Mojave Water Agency

Jeffrey D. Ruesch
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13846 Conference Center Drive
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E-Mail: jruesch@mojavewater.org

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California and the United States of America, the foregoing is true and correct and that this declaration was executed on October 8, 2025, at Los Angeles, California.

Blanca Cabrera

Declarant



Signature

PROOF OF SERVICE

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA }
COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO}**

I am employed in the County of the San Bernardino, State of California. I am over the age of 18 and not a party to the within action; my business address is 13846 Conference Center Drive, Apple Valley, California 92307.

On October 8, 2025, the document(s) described below were served pursuant to the Mojave Basin Area Watermaster's Rules and Regulations paragraph 8.B.2 which provides for service by electronic mail upon election by the Party or paragraph 10.D, which provides that Watermaster shall mail a postcard describing each document being served, to each Party or its designee according to the official service list, a copy of which is attached hereto, and which shall be maintained by the Mojave Basin Area Watermaster pursuant to Paragraph 37 of the Judgment. Served documents will be posted to and maintained on the Mojave Water Agency's internet website for printing and/or download by Parties wishing to do so.

Document(s) filed with the court and served herein are described as follows:

DECLARATION OF JAMES BLANKE IN SUPPORT OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE'S OPPOSITION TO WATERMASTER'S MOTION FOR DETERMINATION OF HYDROLOGIC BASE PERIOD FOR PRODUCTION SAFE YIELD CALCULATIONS

 X (STATE) I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the above is true and correct.

Executed on October 8, 2025 at Apple Valley, California.



Jeffrey D. Ruesch

Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of October 08, 2025

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Gabrych Family Trust dated October 9, 2007
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Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of October 08, 2025

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Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of October 08, 2025

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Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of October 08, 2025

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Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of October 08, 2025

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Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of October 08, 2025

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Mojave Basin Area Watermaster Service List as of October 08, 2025

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