

## 2 INTRODUCTION

The *West San Jacinto Groundwater Management Area 2019 Annual Report* (Annual Report) was prepared by Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD) in accordance with the *West San Jacinto Groundwater Basin Groundwater Management Plan* (EMWD, 1995 [Management Plan]). The reporting period extends from January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019.

The Annual Report is presented in the following chapters:

- Chapter 1      **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** – provides a summary of the report along with analysis and presentation of long-term trends.
- Chapter 2      **INTRODUCTION** – provides an overview of the basis and purpose of the report, and a discussion on the Advisory Committee.
- Chapter 3      **MANAGEMENT PLAN RECOMMENDATIONS AND GOALS** – provides an update on the status of the goals and recommendations from the previous year and discusses the recommendations for the next calendar year.
- Chapter 4      **GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ZONE ACTIVITIES** – presents information on Groundwater Quality, Groundwater Level, and Groundwater Extraction Monitoring Programs; Recycled water use; Precipitation; the Inactive Well Capping/Sealing Program; County well permits; and additional activities, special issues, or programs affecting the entire Management Area and/or specific management zones.
- Chapter 5      **ESTIMATED BUDGET** – presents the annual budget for the next year based upon the current year's activities and annual budget.
- Chapter 6      **TABLES OF MONITORING PROGRAM SUMMARIES AND TRENDS** – presents tables of each monitoring program by groundwater management zone including the last five years of data (2015-2019).
- Chapter 7      **FIGURES AND MAPS** – presents oversized figures and maps of the Management Area, the Groundwater Management Zones, the Monitoring Programs, and other related data included in the Annual Report.
- Chapter 8      **APPENDICES** – presents the four Quarterly Reports and information for references cited in this, and previous, Annual Reports.

## 2.1 Management Plan Description and History

The West San Jacinto Groundwater Management Area (Management Area) is located in the western portion of Riverside County within the San Jacinto River Watershed and includes the cities of Moreno Valley, Menifee, and Perris, as well as the unincorporated areas of Lakeview, Nuevo, and Winchester, as presented in Chapter 7, Figure 7-1. The Management Area covers approximately 256-square miles (over 164,200 acres) and has been divided into six (6) groundwater management zones as shown in Chapter 7, Figure 7-2. The Management Area encompasses water bearing sediments (aquifer materials), as well as essentially non-water bearing areas such as the Lakeview Mountains, the Bernasconi Hills and Mount Russell Range around Lake Perris, the Double Butte area near Winchester, and areas in the extreme northern and western portions of EMWD. Water purveyors in the Management Area are shown in Chapter 7, Figure 7-3.

EMWD adopted the Management Plan in June 1995 in accordance with Assembly Bill 3030 (AB3030) enacted in 1992, which is now codified in the California Water Code Sections 10750 through 10755. The Management Plan is intended to protect the vested interests of existing groundwater producers while providing a planning framework for new water supply projects for the benefit of groundwater producers and the public. The Management Plan goals include:

- Establishment of a Groundwater Basin Manager
- Monitoring of Groundwater Production
- Monitoring of Groundwater Level and Quality
- Development of Well Construction Policies
- Development of a Well Abandonment and Destruction Program
- Monitoring of Well Construction, Abandonment, and Destruction
- Groundwater Quality Protection
- Exchange of Agricultural and Other Non-potable Groundwater Production to Municipal Use
- Maximize Yield Augmentation with Local Resources – Local Runoff and Reclaimed Water
- Maximize Conjunctive Use
- Groundwater Treatment

Stakeholders in the Management Area include the cities of Moreno Valley, Perris, and Menifee; water purveyors such as EMWD, the Nuevo Water Company, and City of Perris Water; and private groundwater producers. EMWD oversees the Groundwater Monitoring Program within the Management Area. A well owner's participation in the Groundwater Monitoring Program is voluntary and at no cost to the well owner. Groundwater quality samples are taken annually, groundwater levels are measured semi-annually, and groundwater extraction is read monthly. EMWD provides these data to the well owners in the form of an Annual Well Owner's Report.

## 2.2 Advisory Committee

In accordance with the Management Plan, an Advisory Committee was established. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to:

- 1) Study, review, and provide comments and recommendations on all Management Plan activities;
- 2) Assist in the development of rules and regulations for the Management Plan and for groundwater resources evaluation projects; and
- 3) Evaluate feasibility plans, demonstration projects, and implementation plans.

The Advisory Committee consists of representatives of the cities, water purveyors, and private groundwater producers within the Management Area. The members representing the cities or water purveyors are appointed by their respective agencies. Those members representing the private groundwater producers are elected by the private well owners. Members (and officers) serve two-year terms, which expire in August of odd-numbered years.

Following EMWD's purchase of the Moreno Valley Mutual Water Company (MVMWC), the seat on the Advisory Committee formerly held by the MVMWC representative remained vacant until 2005 when the Advisory Committee determined that this vacant seat should be filled by the McCanna Ranch Water Company representative. During 2008, the City of Perris purchased the McCanna Ranch Water Company, and as a result, the seat was once again vacant. In 2011, the Advisory Committee determined that this vacant seat should be filled by the newly formed City of Menifee, but the City of Menifee has declined to participate. The Advisory Committee members and officers as of the August 2015 election are as follows:

|          |                      |                                         |
|----------|----------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| Members: | Mrs. Essie Bootsma   | Private Producer, John Bootsma Dairy    |
|          | Ms. Cindy Robbins    | Nuevo Water Company                     |
|          | Mr. Michael Oosten   | Private Producer, Marvo Holsteins Dairy |
|          | Mrs. Rae Beimer      | City of Moreno Valley                   |
|          | Mr. Paul D. Jones II | Eastern Municipal Water District        |
|          | Mr. Stephen Ajobiewe | City of Perris                          |
|          | Mr. Bruce Scott      | Hemet-San Jacinto Liaison               |

At the March 2004 meeting, the Advisory Committee agreed to hold an annual meeting to review and approve the annual report and hold other meetings for specific purposes, to be either called by the Advisory Committee or requested by EMWD staff. At the November 23, 2010 meeting, the Committee agreed that status reports to the Advisory Committee will continue, but the frequency changed from monthly to quarterly.

In 2017, EMWD became the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the western portion of the San Jacinto Groundwater Basin. The area encompasses the cities of Moreno Valley, Perris and Menifee, and the surrounding unincorporated communities. The West San Jacinto Groundwater Sustainability Plan will replace the AB3030 groundwater management plan after the West San Jacinto GSP is adopted by the EMWD Board of Directors and is

submitted by the January 31, 2022 deadline to the Department of Water Resources. The West San Jacinto Advisory Committee was reconfigured to form the West San Jacinto GSA Stakeholder Group and quarterly meetings were initiated in July 2019 to discuss the development of the West San Jacinto GSP. Copies of the 2019 Quarterly Reports are included in Chapter 8, Section 8.1.

### **2.3 Purpose of the Annual Report**

This is the twenty-fifth (25<sup>th</sup>) Annual Report resulting from the Management Plan. This report documents activities and implementation of previously identified recommendations during the 2019 calendar year in the Management Area. The purpose of this report is to:

- 1) Compile, review, evaluate, and analyze the 2019 Groundwater Quality and Groundwater Level Monitoring Program data;
- 2) Summarize groundwater-related changes from previous years;
- 3) Review, analyze, and report the results of the 2019 Groundwater Extraction Monitoring Program;
- 4) Update the activities related to efforts in the various groundwater management zones;
- 5) Report on the status of efforts in response to recommendations presented in the 2018 Annual Report and identify the goals and recommendations for the next year;
- 6) Provide a technical document on the status of the groundwater management zones for future efforts.