



3 Management Plan Activities

This chapter provides an overview of the Hemet-San Jacinto Watermaster activities during 2018 including the efforts of Technical Advisory Committee (TAC); summary of agreements, resolutions, and Task Orders executed by the Watermaster; role of the *Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians Water Settlement Agreement* and the *Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians Water Settlement Act*; the Integrated Recharge and Recovery Program (IRRP), and Canyon Operating Plan activities.

3.1 Hemet-San Jacinto Watermaster Activities

The Watermaster has a Board comprised of elected officials representing the Cities of Hemet and San Jacinto, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, Eastern Municipal Water District, and a representative selected by the private groundwater producers as defined by the Stipulated Judgment and Complaint (Judgment), Case Number RIC 1207274, entered with the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Riverside adopting the Management Plan and creating the Watermaster in April 2013. The Watermaster Board oversees the implementation of the Judgment and is the decision-making body for the Management Plan. The Watermaster Board is currently supported by its General Counsel (Lagerlof, Senecal, Gosney, & Kruse, LLP), and by its Advisor (Behrooz Mortazavi, Principal at Water Resources Engineers Inc.). The General Counsel provides legal advisory services at the direction of the Watermaster Board, and the Advisor provides necessary services at the direction of the Watermaster Board, to assist in the implementation of the Management Plan.

Meeting minutes from the Watermaster meetings held during 2018 are included in Chapter 10, Section 10.1 of this Annual Report.

3.2 Technical Advisory Committee Activities

The TAC was established by the Watermaster to compile, share, interpret, evaluate, and reach agreement on data; to define problems; to address the Watermaster's technical issues; and to make recommendations to the Watermaster Board and Watermaster Advisor on all matters requiring four votes for Watermaster action. TAC members also function as a way to keep the City Councils, Water District Boards of Directors, and participating private groundwater producers fully informed about the implementation of the Judgment.

Meeting notes from the TAC meetings held during 2018 are included in Chapter 10, Section 10.2 of this Annual Report.

3.3 Agreements, Resolutions, and Task Orders Initiated in 2018

During 2018, the Watermaster executed agreements, resolutions, and task orders. These are described in the following sections below:

3.3.a Agreements Initiated in 2018

During 2018, the Watermaster executed the Conservation and Storage Agreement with EMWD.

A copy of this Agreement is included in Chapter 10, Section 10.3 of this Annual Report.

3.3.b Resolutions Initiated in 2018

During 2018, the Watermaster adopted the following resolution:

- Resolution No. 9.4 – Administrative Assessment for 2019;

A copy of the Resolution is included in Chapter 10, Section 10.4 of this Annual Report.

3.3.c Task Orders Initiated in 2018

During 2018, the Watermaster executed the following Task Order with EMWD:

- Task Order No. 11 – 2018 Water Resources Monitoring Program Support.

A copy of the Task Order is included in Chapter 10, Section 10.5 of this Annual Report.

3.3.d Independent Auditor's Report

An independent financial audit was performed by Clifton Larson Allen for the year ending on December 31, 2018.

A copy of the financial audit is included in Chapter 10, Section 10.6 of this Annual Report.

3.3.e Policies Revised and/or Initiated in 2018

During 2018, Hemet-San Jacinto Watermaster Rules and Regulations was revised.

A copy of the revised Rules and Regulations is included in Chapter 10, Section 10.7 of this Annual Report.

3.4 Soboba Settlement Agreement and Act

On June 7, 2006, after eleven years of negotiations, the Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians (Soboba Tribe), Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), Eastern Municipal Water District (EMWD), Lake Hemet Municipal Water District (LHMWD), and United States (Department of Interior, Department of Justice, Bureau of Indian Affairs) signed the Water Settlement Agreement (Soboba Settlement Agreement).

On March 1, 2007, Congresswoman Mary Bono (CA-45) introduced H.R. 1276 and H.R. 4841, *The Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians Settlement Act of 2007 (Soboba Settlement Act)*, which was co-sponsored by Congressmen Jerry Lewis (R, CA-41), Joe Baca (D, CA-43), and Dale Kildee (D, MI-5). In 2008, Congress passed the Bill and the President signed the Public Law 110-297 (P.L. 110-297) bringing an end to decades of conflict between the Soboba Tribe, the U.S. Government, MWD, EMWD, and LHMWD.

The Soboba Settlement Agreement terminated litigation against MWD, which was filed by the Soboba Tribe in April 2000 (*Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians v. The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California*). That lawsuit sought damages and injunctive relief for the continuing

drainage of water from the Soboba Reservation into MWD's nearby San Jacinto Tunnel which was constructed in the 1930s.

The Soboba Settlement Agreement required active management of the groundwater basins which became the basis for the Judgment, implementation of the physical solution to address groundwater overdraft, and formation of the Watermaster. The Soboba Settlement Agreement facilitated an agreement between EMWD and MWD for an average delivery of 7,500 acre-feet of water by MWD for 50 years. EMWD, LHMWD, and the cities of Hemet and San Jacinto, are recharging the San Jacinto Upper Pressure and San Jacinto Canyon groundwater management zones with this water. The Watermaster keeps track of this activity as part of the Carry-over accounts within the Management Area. On February 27, 2017, the Watermaster Board approved the revision of the Carry-over accounts to include the Soboba Golf Course productions in the unused Soboba Imported Water calculations.

3.5 Soboba Settlement Recharge

The "Physical Solution" as defined in the Stipulated Judgment and Complaint (Judgment), Case Number RIC 1207274, entered with the Superior Court of the State of California for the County of Riverside, identifies groundwater recharge as the preferred method of accomplishing Soboba Settlement Agreement requirements.

The Soboba Settlement Agreement facilitated an agreement between Eastern Municipal Water District and Metropolitan Water District of Southern California for an average delivery of 7,500 acre-feet of water by MWD for 50 years. EMWD, Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, and the Cities of Hemet and San Jacinto, are recharging the San Jacinto Upper Pressure and San Jacinto Canyon groundwater management zones with this water. The Watermaster keeps track of this activity as part of the Carry-over accounts within the Management Area.

Imported water became available for recharge as of January 1, 2018. A total of 4,783 AF of untreated State Project Water (SPW) was recharged at the IRRP and Grant Avenue Ponds. Total historical imported water recharge is displayed in Chapter 9, Figure 9-12.

3.5.a Integrated Recharge and Recovery Program

In April 2006, a contract between EMWD and the California Department of Water Resources was executed for a Groundwater Storage Construction Grant under the Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Act (Proposition 13). This \$5 million grant assisted in funding the Hemet/San Jacinto Integrated Recharge and Recovery Program (IRRP), and the difference was jointly funded by EMWD, LHMWD, and the Cities of Hemet and San Jacinto. Total costs for this project was approximately \$24.5 million.

The IRRP is defined as the system that receives untreated SPW from Lake Silverwood and Lake Perris through the existing EMWD Warren Road Pump Station (EM-14) and consists of 35 acres of basins or ponds for recharging SPW; three extraction wells; four monitoring wells; modification to two existing pump stations; and pipelines within, and adjacent to, the San Jacinto River. Recharge activities were initiated in June 2012.

During 2018, recharge water became available from MWD as of January 1, 2018 and a total of 3,584 AF of SPW was recharged at the IRRP Ponds.

3.5.b Grant Avenue Ponds

The Grant Avenue Ponds consist of 52 acres of basins or ponds; an additional pump station; and pipelines within, and adjacent to, the San Jacinto River that are part of the system used for recharging SPW.

During 2018, recharge water became available from MWD as of January 1, 2018 and a total of 1,199 AF of SPW was recharged at the Grant Avenue Ponds.

3.6 Canyon Operating Plan

The Canyon Operating Plan (Canyon Plan) was created by a collaborative effort between Eastern Municipal Water District, the Lake Hemet Municipal Water District, and the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians as part of the 2008 Soboba Settlement Agreement (2008 Agreement) that recognizes an annual groundwater production right of at least 3,000 acre-feet (AF) in the Canyon Sub-Basin to the Soboba Tribe, as well as the 2009 Memorandum of Understanding (2009 MOU) executed by the Canyon Plan Participants in 2009 (Appendix A of the Canyon Operating Plan) [Appendix 10.7]. Should groundwater conditions in the Canyon Sub-Basin decline to a point where the pumping from the Soboba Tribe’s wells in the Canyon Sub-Basin is insufficient to meet their demands, EMWD and LHMWD are obligated to supply the Soboba Tribe with supplemental water up to their annual production right in the Canyon Sub-Basin (at least 3,000 AF). The goal of the Plan, therefore, is to provide for the management of the Canyon Sub-Basin in such a manner as to minimize water shortages. This goal is achieved through annual monitoring of the Canyon Sub-Basin and evaluation of the encountered conditions against various pre-set trigger points (based on storage curves) that may prompt restrictions on net pumping by EMWD and LHMWD.

The 2018 Key well monitoring as prescribed in the Canyon Plan was completed on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 by the individual entities and the information was compiled by EMWD. The data were then distributed to the Participants and the data and subsequent analysis were documented in the Canyon Plan report. Participants collected static measurements of the groundwater level in their respective Key Wells during the first week of April 2018 as shown in Table 3-1 below. The change in groundwater elevation from April 2017 to April 2018 is shown in Table 3-2 below.

Table 3-1: April 2018 Key Well Groundwater Elevations and Estimated Planning Storage

Well Name	Reference Point (ft/MSL)	Depth to Water (ft from RP)	Groundwater Elevation (ft / MSL)	Estimated Planning Storage (AF)
Soboba DW-03	1,681.94	168.00	1,513.94	210,824
Cienega 06	1,667.70	152.40	1,515.30	212,307
LHMWD 16	1,744.00	171.30	1,572.70	208,621
Weighted Average Planning Storage (AF)				210,644

Table 3-2: Change in Key Well Groundwater Elevations from April 2017 to April 2018

Well Name	April 2017 Groundwater Elevation (ft/MSL)	April 2018 Groundwater Elevation (ft/MSL)	Change in Groundwater Elevation (ft)
Soboba DW-03	1,438.94	1,513.94	+ 75.00
Cienega 06	1,497.70	1,515.30	+ 17.60
LHMWD 16	1,541.80	1,572.70	+ 30.90

The Canyon Plan uses pre-set trigger points that prompt restrictions on net groundwater pumping by EMWD and LHMWD based on the results of annual monitoring by the three entities. The result of the April 2018 monitoring indicates that the Canyon Sub-Basin is in the “Responsive” stage (as defined by the Canyon Plan), which limits total 2018 production by EMWD and LHMWD to 4,101 AF. Additional monitoring occurred during Fall of 2018 and the previously projected Fall 2018 groundwater storage was similar to the calculated groundwater storage that was based on the data collected during the Fall 2018 sampling event.