

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF  
VISTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

April 10, 2024

A meeting of the Public Affairs Committee of Vista Irrigation District was held on Wednesday, April 10, 2024, at the offices of the District, 1391 Engineer Street, Vista, California.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Sanchez called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Committee members present: Sanchez and Kuchinsky

Staff present: Shallako Goodrick, Director of Administration

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**4. PUBLIC COMMENT TIME**

No public comments were presented on items not appearing on the agenda.

**5. SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST**

See staff report attached hereto.

After discussion and careful consideration of the eight eligible scholarship applications submitted to the District, the Committee recommended to award \$2,000 scholarships in honor of George S. Henry, Vista Irrigation District's first Board President, to Elizabeth Fellars and Juan Paz from Rancho Buena Vista High School and Ilona Medina from Vista High School.

**6. 2022 ANNUAL REPORT**

See staff report attached hereto.

The Committee reviewed and discussed information contained in the draft 2023 Annual Report, and suggested changes, which will be incorporated into the final draft report that will be presented to the Board at a future meeting.

**7. COMMENTS BY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Director Kuchinsky asked about preparations for Lake Appreciation Month in July. Chair Sanchez asked if staff could prepare a resolution for consideration by the Board. Director of Administration Shallako Goodrick stated that staff would prepare a resolution and press release regarding Lake Appreciation Month and would send letters to the District's state and federal legislative representatives requesting proclamations recognizing Lake Appreciation Month.

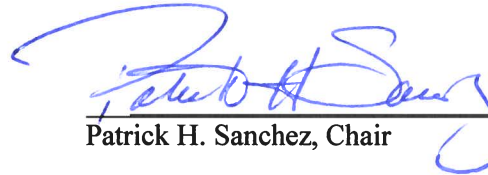
Chair Sanchez requested an update on the communications plan. Ms. Goodrick informed the Committee that staff is working on a draft plan and hope to have it ready for review in June or July 2024.

**8. COMMENTS BY GENERAL MANAGER**

None were presented.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**


There being no further business to come before the Committee, at 11:32 a.m. Chair Sanchez adjourned the meeting.



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Patrick H. Sanchez, Chair

ATTEST:



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Ramae Ogilvie, Secretary  
Board of Directors  
VISTA IRRIGATION DISTRICT



**PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
STAFF REPORT**

**Agenda Item: 5**

**Meeting Date: April 10, 2024**  
**Prepared By: Brent Reyes**  
**Reviewed By: Shallako Goodrick**  
**Approved By: Brett Hodgkiss**

SUBJECT: SCHOLARSHIP CONTEST

RECOMMENDATION: Review application materials and select the winner(s) of Vista Irrigation District's 2024 scholarship contest in honor of George S. Henry.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION: On May 3, 2023, the Board awarded \$2,000 scholarships to Naia Riggenschach from Pacific Ridge High School and Riley Robbins from Rancho Buena Vista High School, and \$1,500 scholarships to Monica Lozada from San Marcos High School and Colin Gastauer, Sarai Rojas and Samantha Harris from Vista High School.

FISCAL IMPACT: \$10,000 for the scholarship program is included in the budget.

SUMMARY: Each year, the District invites high school seniors who live or go to school within its service area to compete for a scholarship. The purpose of the scholarship program is to increase student knowledge and awareness of water related issues affecting the District and its customers. Students who compete for a scholarship must complete an essay and provide a personal statement related to their background and/or goals; selection criteria also include community involvement or volunteer service and letters of recommendation.

DETAILED REPORT: In November 2023, application packets, which included a brochure for the scholarship contest, were provided to counselors of high schools located within the District's jurisdictional boundaries. Follow-up calls and e-mails were made to the counselors to ensure receipt of application materials and inquire as to students' interest in the program; additional scholarship promotional efforts included issuing a news release and promoting the contest on the District's website and San Diego County Water Authority's Water News Network webpage and in the City of Vista's newsletter. Application materials were made available on the District's website. The District received eight applications from high school seniors by the February 23, 2024 deadline.

Public Affairs Committee (Committee) members Sanchez and Kuchinsky are the judges for the contest. Applicants will be rated based on the quality and originality of their essay as well as a personal statement, letters of recommendation and school and community involvement. The Committee's recommendation for the winner(s) will be submitted to the Board for their consideration at the April 17, 2024 Board meeting. The winner(s) will be acknowledged at the May 1, 2024 Board meeting. Once the student has enrolled at a college or vocational school and provides staff with the required information (proof of enrollment and school contact), District staff will forward a check in the amount of the scholarship award to the school on behalf of the student.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Scholarship Application Package
- Rating Sheet
- Scholarship Applications



## SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PACKAGE

Vista Irrigation District (VID) invites local high school seniors to compete for scholarship(s) to college, university or vocational (trade) schools from VID. Up to six scholarships may be awarded; the minimum scholarship award amount is \$1,000 and the maximum scholarship award amount is \$3,000. Winners will be selected based on the quality and originality of an essay prepared by the applicant as well as school and community involvement. Applications will not be accepted if all criteria are not met, including correct formatting. **Applicants must submit each of the following documents in PDF format by 4:00 PM on Friday February 23, 2024:**

1. Completed application form.
2. School/Community involvement:
  - a. One letter of recommendation from a high school faculty member.
  - b. One letter of character reference from a personal or professional associate.
3. A personal statement (**two pages or less, Arial font, 12 point type, with 1 inch margins top, bottom, left and right, and line spacing set to 1½**). Suggested topics include the student's reasons for applying for the scholarship or seeking a higher education, the student's educational/career goals, personal background or interests.
4. An essay (**two pages, Arial font, 12 point type, with 1 inch margins top, bottom, left and right, and line spacing set to 1½**) addressing the following topic:

*The Vista Irrigation District just celebrated their 100-year anniversary of service in 2023.*

*Looking back over the past 100 years, what were the major milestones that occurred that enabled the San Diego region to have the reliable water supply we enjoy today? When the Vista Irrigation District celebrates its 200-year anniversary in 2123, what major milestones might be achieved, or water supply resources invented, and/or programs developed to ensure the San Diego Region and the Vista Irrigation District has a reliable water supply for the next 100 years? (Think creatively)*

The essay will be judged on originality, creativity, grammar/spelling and your response to the essay topic above.

Students may obtain an application package from their High School Counselor or download it from the district's website ([www.vidwater.org](http://www.vidwater.org)). For questions, please contact Brent Reyes at (760) 597-3107 or by email at [scholarships@vidwater.org](mailto:scholarships@vidwater.org).

A completed application package must be received via e-mail at [scholarships@vidwater.org](mailto:scholarships@vidwater.org) or at Vista Irrigation District, 1391 Engineer Street, Vista, CA 92081-8840, **by 4:00 PM on Friday February 23, 2024.**

VID will review qualified applications and select winner(s) who will receive scholarships. Once enrolled at a college, university or vocational school, VID will send a check directly to the school on scholarship recipient's behalf.



**2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

(Competition is open to all high school seniors who live or attend school in VID's service area)

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone number and best time to call:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**High School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**How did you learn about the VID Scholarship?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Post high school education plans (college, vocational school, etc.)**

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**Service and/or other extracurricular activities performed through school or volunteer organizations, community groups, church or clubs, etc. (Include contact name/telephone for verification where possible)**

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**Honors or special recognitions received (school or other)**

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**If employed, job title and total hours per week:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Job Responsibilities:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## 2024 VID SCHOLARSHIP SELECTION

Applicant Name	Essay <i>(Knowledge of issue)</i> 40%	Personal Statement 35%	Community Involvement 15%	Letters of Recommendation 10%	Comments
Laird Breeden					
Elizabeth Fellars					
Jordan Kondo					
Ilona Medina					
Clayton Nightingale					
Erika Obeso					
Juan Paz					
Sophia Sarmiento					

Please rate the scholarship applicants on the basis of these four (4) areas: Essay (knowledge of issue), Personal Statement, Community Involvement, and Letters of Recommendation. Please give a rating from 1-5 (5 being high) in each of the four areas. Feel free to add any additional comments that you might have on the applicants.

PLEASE BRING THIS COMPLETED SHEET WITH YOU TO THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING.

Scholarship applications were provided to the Public Affairs Committee under separate cover.



**PUBLIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
STAFF REPORT**

**Agenda Item: 6**

**Meeting Date: April 10, 2024**  
**Prepared By: Brent Reyes**  
**Reviewed By: Shallako Goodrick**  
**Approved By: Brett Hodgkiss**

SUBJECT: 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

RECOMMENDATION: Discuss draft 2023 Annual Report.

PRIOR BOARD ACTION: None.

FISCAL IMPACT: Design and layout of the Annual Report is performed in-house by District staff. No outside printing costs are anticipated; the Annual Report is only available electronically on the District's website.

SUMMARY: Each year the District prepares an Annual Report that includes its financial statements, demographic data and articles about various water related topics, such as, infrastructure improvements, District operations and water supply. The Annual Report is posted on the District's website and printed in-house upon request.

DETAILED REPORT: On October 5, 2023, the Public Affairs Committee met and provided input on information to be contained in the 2023 Annual Report. The layout and design process of the Annual Report is complete, and the Committee is being provided a draft of the document for their review. Staff would like to receive the Committee's feedback on the draft Annual Report, revise as necessary and provide a final draft version to be reviewed by the full Board at May 1, 2024.

ATTACHMENT: Draft 2023 Annual Report.



# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



# OUR MISSION

The mission of Vista Irrigation District is to provide a reliable supply of high quality water that meets the needs of its present and future customers in an economically and environmentally responsible manner.

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Vista Irrigation District serves roughly 131,000 people through approximately 29,000 residential and business connections in Vista and portions of Escondido, Oceanside, San Marcos and unincorporated areas of San Diego County.

On the Cover:  
Vista Irrigation District  
100 Year Anniversary Logo

# A Message from the Board President

This past year marked a significant milestone for the District as we celebrated our 100-year anniversary. As someone who has proudly served on the District's Board of Directors for nearly one-third of that time, I've had the privilege of being part of an organization that has helped our community thrive. Since my initial election in 1992, the population the District serves has surged by over 30%, a dynamic business park was established, and downtown Vista has undergone a remarkable renewal.



**Jo MacKenzie**  
**2023 Board President**  
**Director, Division 5**

I am equally as proud of how the District adapted to face the many challenges along the way. Multiple historic droughts occurred, a decades long water rights dispute was resolved that secured the District's local water rights, and most recently, the COVID pandemic during which the District managed vital operations without interruption. Throughout these challenges, the District has remained steadfast in its commitment to provide a reliable source of water to the community by investing in major capital improvements to the district's infrastructure.

I am proud to be of part of an organization that has been built upon a century of dedication and service. We are looking forward to our next 100 years, and I am confident that the District is well-equipped to meet the challenges that lie ahead. Many things have changed over the years; however, the District's commitment to providing safe and reliable drinking water remains the number one goal as it has for the past 100 years.

# A Message from the General Manager

Vista Irrigation District celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2023. Much has changed since Vista Irrigation District formed in 1923; in those days, we served a population of roughly 300, and today we serve a population of over 130,000. What hasn't changed is our mission of providing a reliable supply of high quality water to you, our customers.

Over the past year, we continued to make progress on infrastructure projects that are important to ensuring water service reliability to current and future customers. We proactively replaced nearly two miles of pipeline as part of its main replacement program which put in place in 1995. Planning for the replacement of the nearly 100-year old, 11-mile long Vista Flume, which carries water from the Escondido-Vista Water Treatment plant to our distribution system, continued with a decision on the project coming 2024. Also, substantial progress was made on the construction of the new Edgehill Reservoir and Pump Station project in 2023; the new reservoir, which will be completed in 2024, will be larger than the 93-year old reservoir it is replacing, nearly doubling the storage capacity at this location (1.5 million gallons to 2.92 million gallons).

In 2023, we remembered our history and celebrated 100 years of service and stewardship, recognizing that none of this would be possible without the efforts of our dedicated Board members and employees, past and present. We are proud to be one of the oldest water districts in southern California and proud of our track record. As the Vista Irrigation District enters its 101st year of operation, it has positioned itself to succeed and continue to deliver a safe and reliable water supply to its customers now and into its second century of operation.



**Brett L. Hodgkiss**  
**General Manager**

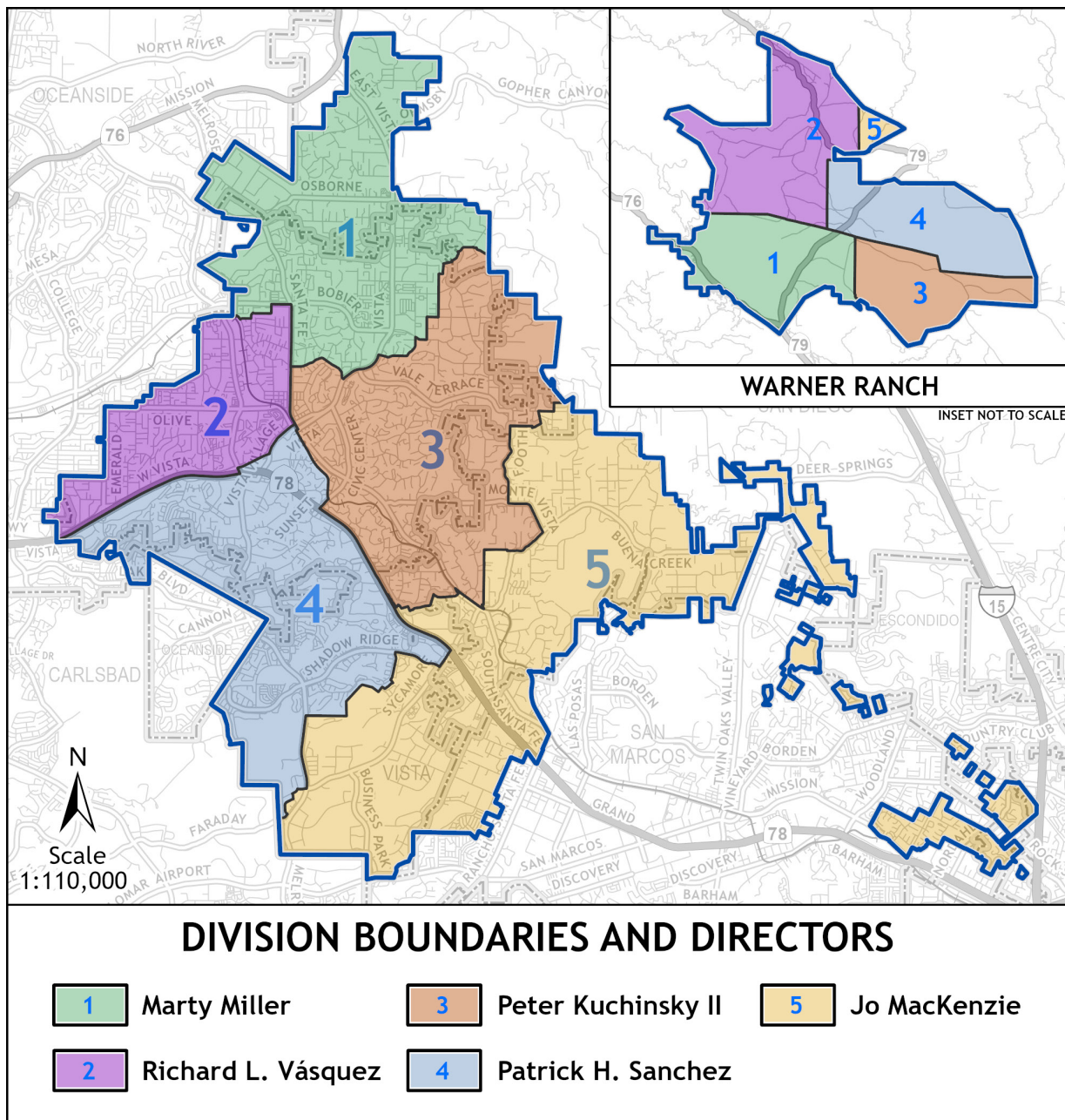



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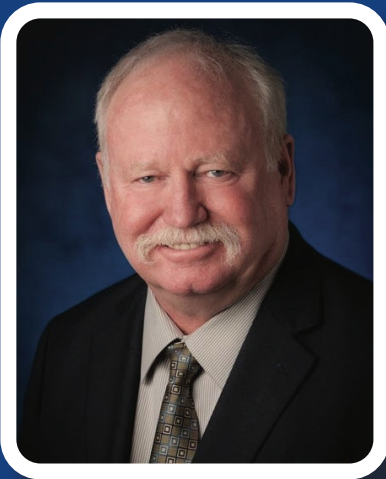
# Division Boundary Map



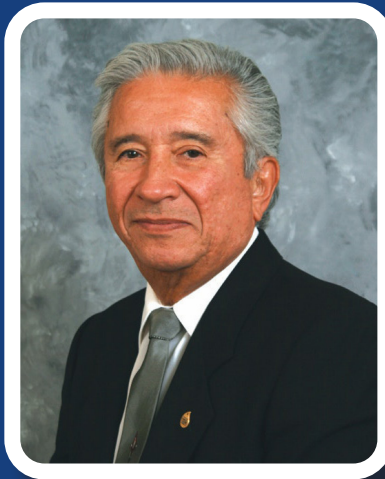


# Vista Irrigation District Board of Directors

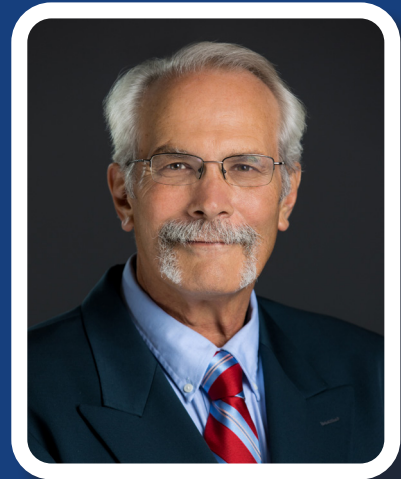
*Marty Miller*  
Division 1



*Richard L. Vásquez*  
Division 2



*Peter Kuchinsky II*  
Division 3



*Patrick H. Sanchez*  
Division 4



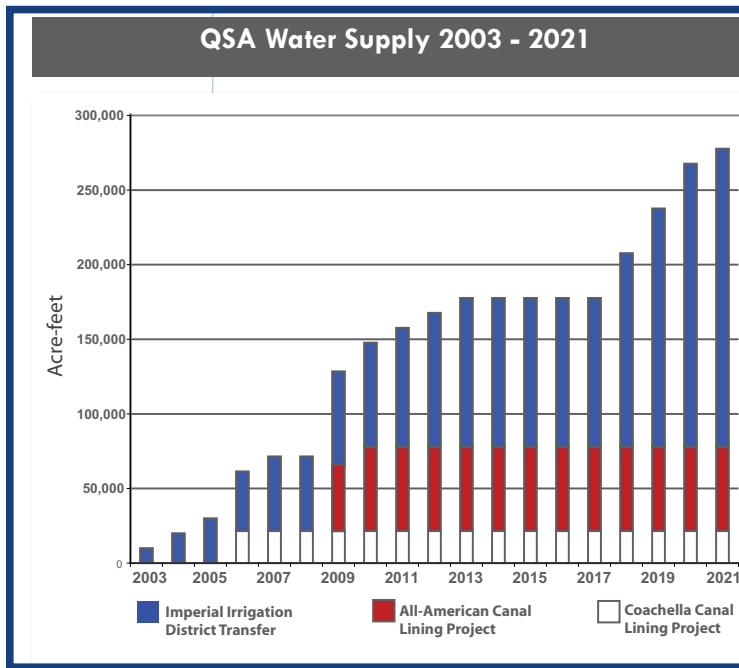
*Jo MacKenzie*  
Division 5



Board meetings are generally held on the first and third Wednesday of each month. Standing committees meet on an as needed basis. Meetings are held at the District office. Meetings are accessible to the public, and agendas are posted the Friday prior to the scheduled meeting. For further information about a meeting, or to request a copy of an agenda or staff report, please contact the Board Secretary at (760) 597-3128.

# QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY

October 2023 marked the 20th anniversary of a landmark piece of water supply legislation that has had a profound impact on the San Diego region. The Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA) stands as arguably the most consequential piece of water legislation involving the San Diego region since the establishment of the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority) in June 1944. Born from the need for California to reduce its over-dependence on Colorado River water, the QSA addressed long standing economic, environmental, and water management concerns, creating a framework for a diverse group of stakeholders to resolve water issues within the state, thereby securing the state's supply of Colorado River water.



Graph and information from the Water Authority

In the 1990s, California was contending with multiple challenges related to the Colorado River. Foremost, the state regularly exceeded its allocated water entitlement, and was facing a mandate to curtail usage to its 4.4 million acre-feet allocation. Legal disputes among Colorado River water agencies and states that share the River further complicated matters, casting uncertainty over water allocations for agricultural agencies in the Coachella and Imperial Valleys. Additionally, there were on-going concerns about the increasing levels of salinity and general health of the Salton Sea. Also during this time, the Water Authority was exploring a water transfer agreement with the Imperial Irrigation District (IID). It was against this backdrop, that negotiations began in 1998 among key stakeholders, including the Water Authority, IID, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, State of California, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, culminating in the QSA.

At its core, the QSA is the largest agricultural-to-urban water transfer in the nation. The Water Authority committed to funding on-farm conservation initiatives in the IID, resulting in the transfer of 200,000 acre-feet annually to the San Diego region. Additionally, the agreement authorized the Water Authority to finance the concrete lining of segments of the All-American and Coachella canals, preventing seepage and enabling the transfer of an additional 77,700 acre-feet annually. The QSA allocated an additional 16,000-acre feet of water per year to the La Jolla, Rincon, San Pasqual, Pauma, and Pala bands of Mission Indians to settle a long running water dispute between the Indian bands, federal government, City of Escondido and Vista Irrigation District involving water from the San Luis Rey River.



All American Canal Paving  
Photo Credit: Water Authority



# QUANTIFICATION SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT 20 YEAR ANNIVERSARY CONTINUED...



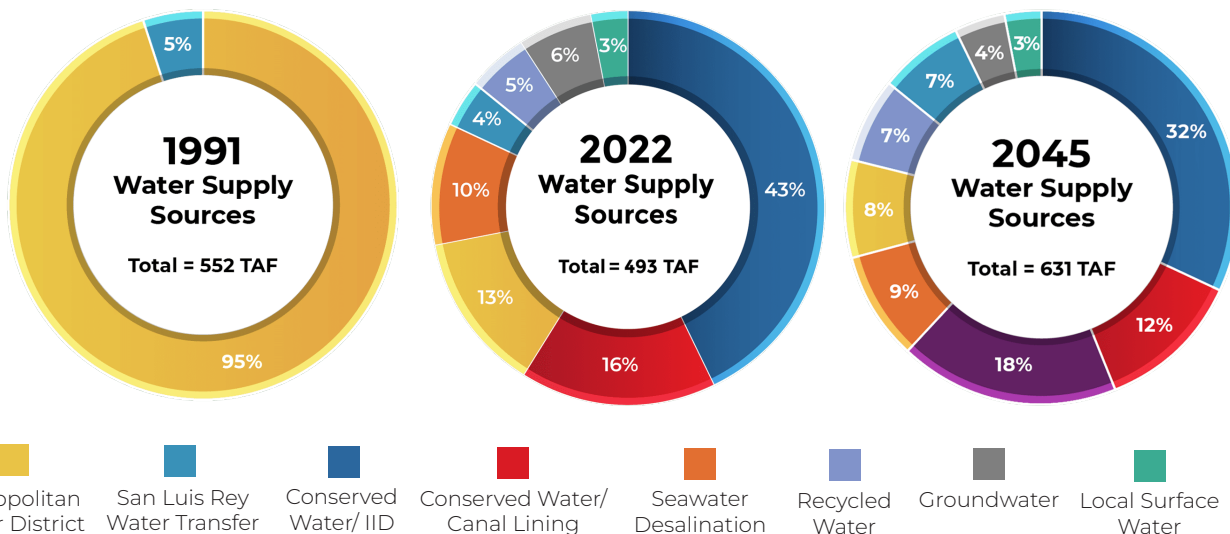
Agriculture in the Imperial Valley  
Photo Credit: Water Authority

In addition to the transfer agreements, the QSA included measures to safeguard the Salton Sea and the Imperial Valley's agricultural economy. The QSA incorporates mitigation measures designed to stabilize the health of the Sea. Initially, mitigation water was delivered to the Sea to compensate for the reduced agricultural water flows due to conservation in the IID, but now efforts are focused on a long-term solution to sustain the Sea. Investments by the Water Authority, increased the efficiency of the agricultural operations in the Imperial Valley, and the agreement provided certainty to agricultural water users by resolving interstate and inter-agency disputes.

For the San Diego region, the benefits of the QSA to the region's water supply have been transformative. Currently, the QSA supplies over half the water the San Diego region uses. The QSA water is the keystone of the Water Authority's decades long quest for supply diversification and local control. The QSA provides more than just water to the San Diego region, it supplies reliability and stability to support the region's economy and ability to continue to grow.

## Water Resource Portfolio

Decreasing our dependency on non-renewable water sources, increasing the diversification of our water supply and bettering the efficiency and conservation of how we use and procure our water.



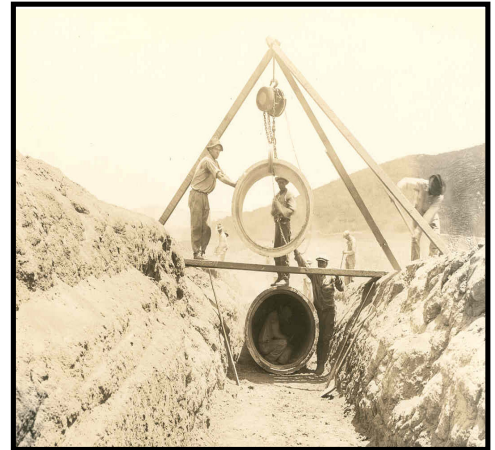
Graphs and information from Water Authority

To learn more about regional investments in local water supply visit [www.sdcwa.org/your-water/](http://www.sdcwa.org/your-water/)

# FLUME REPLACEMENT PHASE 4 UPDATE

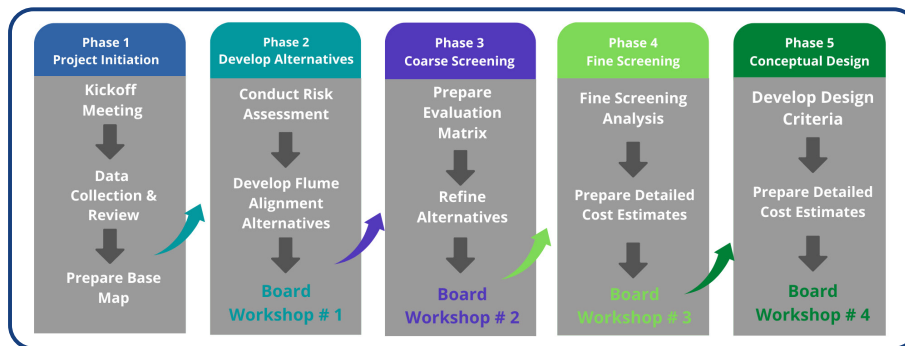
The Vista Irrigation District continued to evaluate replacing its nearly 100-year-old Vista Flume (Flume), which conveys treated water from the Escondido-Vista Water Treatment Plant to its service area. This includes delivery of treated local water from Lake Henshaw, which the District owns and manages. Constructed in the 1920's, the 11-mile Flume is built through rugged country hillsides and valleys, and serves as the District's main water supply conduit to its distribution system, supplying reliable water service to our customers for almost a century.

In 2021, the District's Board of Directors (Board) initiated a multi-phased Flume Replacement Alignment Study (Study) which analyzed project affordability, feasibility and implementation. As with any large infrastructure project, numerous considerations, such as constructibility, operational, environmental and community impacts must be evaluated. During Phase 2 of the Alignment Study, six Flume alignment alternatives were developed along with risk versus cost screening criteria that were presented to the Board in August 2021.



Caldwell Siphon, 1925

## Flume Study Process



The Flume, circa 2016

The results of Phase 3, which narrowed the six alignments alternatives to just two, were presented to the Board in September 2022. Subsequently, Phase 4 took a closer look at the two selected alignments with the goal of determining the most suitable route for conceptual design. In December 2023, the Board was updated on the progress of the Phase 4 review; at that time, the Board requested additional information. The Board will continue their evaluation of the alternatives in 2024.

Once Phase 4 is completed and an alignment is selected, the final phase will begin to develop a recommended alignment report that will include the details necessary to support the future final design and environmental document preparation stages of the project. Transparency is a priority as the District moves through its public review of the Study. The District is committed to keeping our customers informed and ensuring the District determines the most reliable, affordable and responsible option for replacing the century old Flume.



Flume exiting Big Tunnel, circa 1930's - 40's

# A CENTURY OF STEWARDSHIP AND SERVICE

1 9 2 3



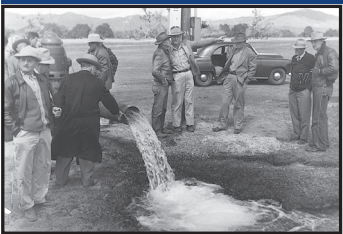
Election was held to form VID. 100% of all eligible voters participated.

1 9 4 5



With a reliable water supply, Vista becomes the "Avocado Capital of the World."

1 9 5 1



38 wells used to pump water into Lake Henshaw to replenish lake levels after five-year drought.

Today, Vista Irrigation District (VID) serves water to roughly 131,000 customers; a century ago, it served a population of only 337 people. VID's first annual report (from 1927) tells us that after the installation of the new water tanks, planting of citrus and avocados increased so rapidly that there was danger of running out of water. This crisis coincided with the building of Henshaw Dam in 1923, which was constructed in just seven months, by the San Diego County Water Company. Completion of the dam made it possible for the Vista community to receive a reliable source of water, instead of relying on local wells.

Considerable time and effort were spent in convincing some reluctant owners of the advantages and advisability of forming a district so outside water could be obtained. An election was held on August 28, 1923, and 100% of the eligible voters participated; the outcome was 104 votes for and four votes against formation of VID.

The area celebrated the arrival of the first water from Lake Henshaw on February 27, 1926. Following the arrival of water, crops of all kinds were planted in increasing numbers, and the Vista area became known as the "Avocado Capital of the World," with six avocado packing houses in the area.

In June 1946, after several years of negotiations, Vista Irrigation District purchased the San Diego County Water Company. Included in the purchase was the 43,000 acre Warner Ranch, a former Spanish Land Grant, which includes Henshaw Dam and Lake Henshaw. Purchase of these facilities was purely economic, in that it was a result of a search for cheaper water for the District.

Drought conditions and population growth eventually caused the District to look for other sources of water. On February 16, 1954, The District became a member of the San Diego County Water Authority to take advantage of water imported from the Colorado River and Northern California.

1 9 2 6



Arrival of first water from Lake Henshaw. At that time, VID had 30 meters that served a population of 337.

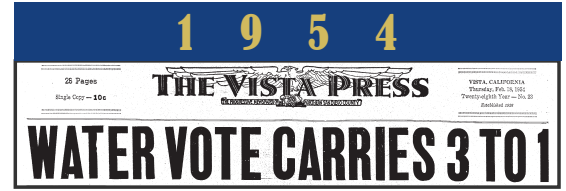
1 9 4 6



VID purchases Lake Henshaw and the surrounding 43,000 acre Warner Ranch.

# A CENTURY OF STEWARDSHIP AND SERVICE CONTINUED...

The year 1955 saw a breakthrough in this agricultural community, when the first city-type, mass-built subdivisions were started. The year 1955 also was the beginning of the decline of Vista as an avocado producing and packing center. This was due primarily to the collapse of the price structure (and the drought), which would continue well into the 1960's. Many groves



VID joins the San Diego County Water Authority and begins receiving imported water.

were split into parcels, and the building of homes on these parcels and in subdivisions continued throughout this period.

The vote of the people in 1923 revolutionized this small rural settlement inhibited by the lack of water. VID's century of service and stewardship has transformed this community from cattle grazing and dry farming to an agricultural wonderland and now into what it is today: a thriving community with a substantial business park, a professional theater production, and a revitalized downtown. VID has demonstrated its ability to adapt with these ever-changing landscapes over time; it is proud of its track record over the last century and looks forward to many more successful years of service to the community.

1 9 7 8



Pechstein Lake is replaced by the covered Pechstein Reservoir.

1 9 8 2



Henshaw Dam is re-engineered for seismic reasons, reducing the lake's capacity from 200,000 acre feet to 50,000 acre feet.

2 0 2 3



Today, VID serves 29,000 meters and has a population of 131,000.

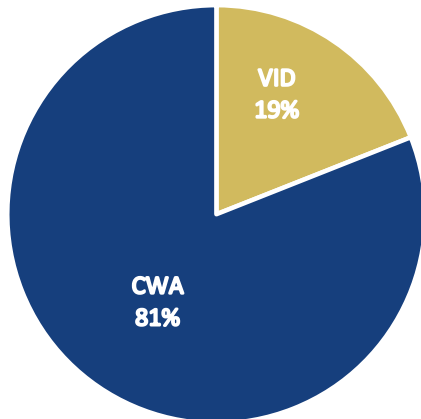


For more information about the District's history, please visit the District's website at: [https://www.vidwater.org/files/de77ff92c/100Year\\_Historical\\_Brochure\\_Final.pdf](https://www.vidwater.org/files/de77ff92c/100Year_Historical_Brochure_Final.pdf)

# WATER SUPPLY FACTS

## 2023 WATER RATES AND CHARGES

### 2023 Water Usage Charge Allocation



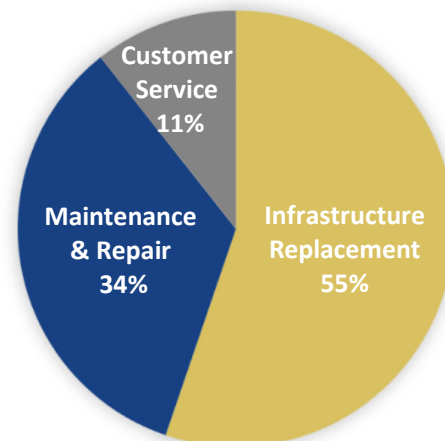
In 2023, approximately 19 percent of the revenue generated by water usage charges was utilized by Vista Irrigation District to cover operating and maintenance expenses; the remaining 81 percent was used to pay the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority) for water purchases.

The Water Authority is responsible for supplying water to 24 member agencies within San Diego County. Not simply a water provider, the Water Authority is also responsible for the construction and maintenance of regional storage, delivery and treatment infrastructure necessary to ensure

the reliable delivery of water to local water agencies like Vista Irrigation District.

Vista Irrigation District's service charge helps pay the District's fixed costs, which exist regardless of the amount of water pumped and delivered. Fixed costs continue without regard to the amount of water that a customer uses and are sometimes called "readiness-to-serve" charges because they are incurred as part of keeping the water system ready to deliver water to any customer at a moment's notice. In 2023, the largest component of the service charge recovers the cost of replacing the District's aging water system infrastructure.

### 2023 VID Service Charge Components



## WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Replacement of aging infrastructure has always been a high priority for the District. In 1995, the Board of Directors initiated an on-going Main Replacement Program (Program) with the goal of replacing aging pipelines before they reach the end of their useful life and become a maintenance liability. The formalized Program has allowed pipe replacements to be prioritized based on a variety of factors, including age of pipe, leak history, pipe material and input from District crews who evaluate every line's condition at the time repairs are being made.

Since its inception, the District has allocated \$37.1 million to this program, which has allowed the replacement of nearly 40 miles of older pipe ranging in size from four to 20 inches. The Board of Directors approved another \$3.125 million for this Program as part of the budget for Fiscal Year 2024.

The District's investments in the Main Replacement Program as well as system upgrades and other infrastructure improvements, including the rehabilitation and replacement of reservoirs, help the District meet its goal of providing a reliable and high quality water supply to its customers.



Mainline Replacement on San Clemente Ave



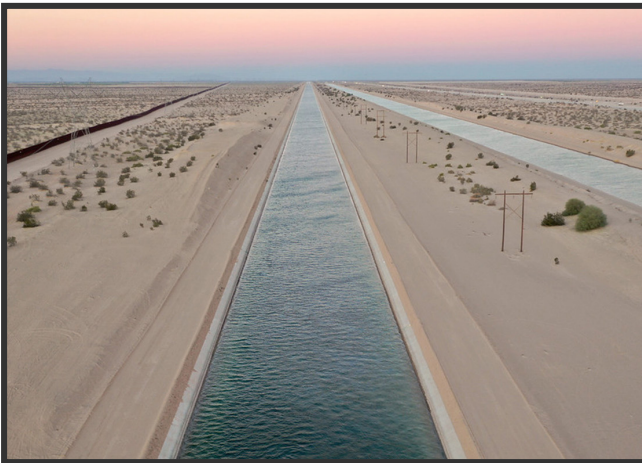
Information about Vista Irrigation District's water supply as well as an electronic copy of the latest Consumer Confidence Report can be found on the District's web site, [www.vidwater.org](http://www.vidwater.org). Additionally, you can find out more information about District services, rates, water conservation and recent announcements. Customers can also download publications, such as the District's direct payment program application and engineering standard specifications/drawings.

# WATER SUPPLY FACTS

## WATER SOURCES

Vista Irrigation District's original source of water, dating back to 1926, was from Lake Henshaw. The lake, along with the 43,000-acre Warner Ranch, was purchased by the District in 1946. However, drought conditions and population growth eventually caused the District to look for additional water sources. In 1954, the District became a member of the San Diego County Water Authority to take advantage of water imported from the Colorado River and Northern California.

Typically, 15 to 25 percent of the District's water comes from Lake Henshaw and the remainder comes from purchased water sources, including the Colorado River, desalinated seawater and the Sacramento River/San Joaquin River Delta in Northern California. Harmful Algal Blooms at Lake Henshaw continue to limit water deliveries from this source in Fiscal Year 2023; only eleven percent of the District's water came from Lake Henshaw last fiscal year despite a wet year.



Purchased Water Source: All American Canal  
Photo Credit: Water Authority



Local Water Source: Lake Henshaw, 2023  
Photo Credit: D. Smith

## WATER QUALITY

Vista Irrigation District takes all steps necessary to safeguard its water supply. Each year staff conducts more than 12,000 tests for over 75 drinking water contaminants, ensuring that the District's water meets safe drinking water standards. Last year, the District's water met or exceeded all Federal and State safe drinking water standards.

Every June, the District makes available its Consumer Confidence Report, also known as the Water Quality Report. The report provides a snapshot of the quality of water provided during the past year. Included are details about what is in your water and how it compares to prescribed standards. It also provides answers to commonly asked questions, such as "what affects the taste of my water?"

The District is committed to providing its customers with information about drinking water because informed customers are the District's best customers. If customers have questions or concerns about water

**2023 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT**  
Vista Irrigation District tests the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

**What's This Report About?**  
Vista Irrigation District (District) is pleased to present its annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), also known as the Water Quality Report. The District takes all steps necessary to safeguard your water supply, conducting more than 12,000 tests for over 75 drinking water constituents. This report provides a snapshot of the quality of water we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best customers.

**Where Does My Water Come From?**  
Vista Irrigation District (District) uses four sources for your drinking water. The first one is local water, which originates from the watershed and well fields located near Lake Henshaw. The District owns the 43,000-acre Warner Ranch which encompasses the lake and monitors activities that could contaminate it. Water from Lake Henshaw is transferred to Lake Wolford via a canal originally constructed in the 1950s. Once the water reaches the Escondido Water Treatment Plant (EWTP), it is treated and disinfected to protect you against microbial contaminants. The second water source is the Colorado River. The third source is from Northern California. The latter two, called imported water, are delivered to San Diego County and ultimately to the District via the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDSC) and the San Diego County Water Authority (Water Authority). Imported water may be treated at EWTP's Water Authority's Turn Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant in San Marcos, Orosoma's Plant #, Wessie Filtration Plant, or MWDSC's Glomar Treatment Plant in Riverside County. The fourth source is desalinated seawater from the Claude "Bud" Lewis Carlsbad Desalination Plant.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Comuníquese con Vista Irrigation District para obtener una copia de este reportaje en Español. Llame al (760) 697-3100.

2022 WATER QUALITY MONITORING RESULTS (continued)											
Treatment Plant Elements											
Parameter	Units	Federal MCL (MCLG)	PRC (MCLG)	Range	Excessible Vials	Turn Oaks Valley Water Treatment Plant	Sluimer Treatment Plant	Wessie Filtration Plant	Carlsbad Desalination Plant	DLR	Typical Source/Comments
<b>Additional Analyzed cont'd</b>											
Calcium (Ca)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range: 57-70 Average: 66	0	67-68	65-71	54-78	17-36	0	Excess of natural deposits, leaching
Iron (Fe)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range: 21-26 Average: 24	0	25-25	24-28	19-27	1-2	0	Excess of natural deposits, leaching
Sulfur (S)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range: 101-110 Average: 105	0	99-98	99-100	NA-NA	53-86	0	Excess of natural deposits, leaching
pH	units	NA	NS	Range: 8.1-8.2 Average: 8.1	0	8.0-8.7	8.1-8.2	7.9-8.4	8.3-8.7	0	Measurement of acidity/alkalinity
Phosphate (P)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range: 4.7-5.2 Average: 4.9	0	4.7-4.9	4.4-4.9	NR-NR	5.0-51.0	0	Excess of natural deposits, leaching
Chloride	mg/L	NS	NS	Range: 181-200 Average: 190	0	188-195	188-195	188-195	NA-NA	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Lead (Pb)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range: 5.0-7.9 Average: 6.9	0	NR-NR	NR-NR	NR-NR	NR-NR	0	Excess of natural deposits, leaching
<b>Unregulated</b>											
Barium (Ba)	mg/L	NS	NS	Range: 0.13-0.15 Average: 0.14	0	0.13-0.13	0.13-0.13	NA-NA	0.47-0.91	0	Excess/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes
<b>Inorganic Constituents - Copper/Lead in Residential Taps (Sampled in 2021)</b>											
Copper (Cu)	mg/L	1.3	0.3	58	0	0.56	0	0	0	0.05	Concentration of natural particles in system, excess of natural deposits
Lead (Pb)	mg/L	1.5	0.2	58	0	1.8	0	0	0	0	Concentration of natural particles in system, excess of natural deposits, leaching from industrial manufacturing, excess of natural deposits

Excerpts from the 2023 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). The 2024 CCR will be available July 1,



# Employee Service Awards

Annually the Board of Directors recognizes employees who have reached major milestones in their careers with Vista Irrigation District. Longevity is a hallmark of the District, and this year was no exception. The pictured employees received service awards commemorating their dedicated service to the District and its customers.

## 25 Years

Yolanda Salazar



## 20 Years



Abe Gomez



Rick Martinez



Luis Ramos



Mark Meza



## 15 Years



Greg Bryant



Jeanette Bradshaw



Pat Smith



## 10 Years



Ryan Carlson



Chris Craghead



Steve Frey



Eric Contreras



## 5 Years



Shallako Goodrick



Greg Keppler



Jaime Perez



Sandra Sanchez



Nick Reardon





# DISTRICT



# DEMOGRAPHICS

# DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

## Reservoirs

The District has 12 treated water reservoirs with a total storage capacity of 47.7 million gallons; the storage capacity of individual reservoirs range from 0.2 to 20 million gallons.

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## Water Transmission Facilities

Escondido Canal and Intake	Carrying Capacity: 50 CFS	VID rights = 1/2
Vista Main Canal (Flume)	Carrying Capacity: 30 CFS	Eleven miles of conduit from the Escondido-Vista Water Treatment Plant to Pechstein Reservoir

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## Water Meters

This table shows the total number of meters in service by the use type.

Residential (Single and Multi-Family)	24,896
Commercial/Industrial	1,572
Irrigation	945
Agricultural	264
Fire Service (Fire Sprinklers)	1,313
Governmental	93
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,083</b>

## VID Pipelines

This table shows miles of pipeline in the District's distribution system by size and material type.

4" to 12" AC	240 miles
14" to 36" AC	17 miles
2.5" to 12" PVC	106 miles
14" to 24" PVC	3 miles
4" to 12" Steel	36 miles
14" to 36" Steel	25 miles
All other materials larger than 4"	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>429 miles</b>

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## Water Equivalents

- 1 Acre Foot equals 325,900 gallons
- 1 Acre Foot equals 43,560 cubic feet
- 1 Cubic Foot equals 7.48 gallons
- 1 Cubic Foot per Second (CFS) equals 449 gallons per minute and in 24 hours equals 1.983-acre feet

# DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

## Performance of Distribution Systems

(Fiscal Year 2022–2023)

This table shows water delivered to the District (from purchased and local sources) versus how much was delivered to customers. Losses encompass water that was delivered to the District but not sold to customers. Water losses can be attributable to a number of factors, including pipeline leaks and breaks, theft, hit fire hydrants and fire suppression activities.

	<u>Acre Feet</u>	
	Water In	Water Out
Local Water Received at Escondido-Vista Water Treatment Plant (Henshaw Water)	1,755	
Received from San Diego Aqueduct (Purchased)	13,739	
Metered to VID users		14,346
Losses		1,148
<b>Total</b>	<b>15,494</b>	<b>15,494</b>

## Lake Henshaw Properties

Warner Ranch:  
43,402 acres (68 square miles)

Semi-Hydraulic Earth Fill Dam:  
Height 110 feet, Length 1,950 feet

Groundwater Development:  
12 active production wells and  
91,000 feet of conduit

Reservoir (Lake Henshaw):  
51,832 acre feet capacity;  
2,256 acres in area, 203 square  
mile watershed

## Lake Henshaw Performance

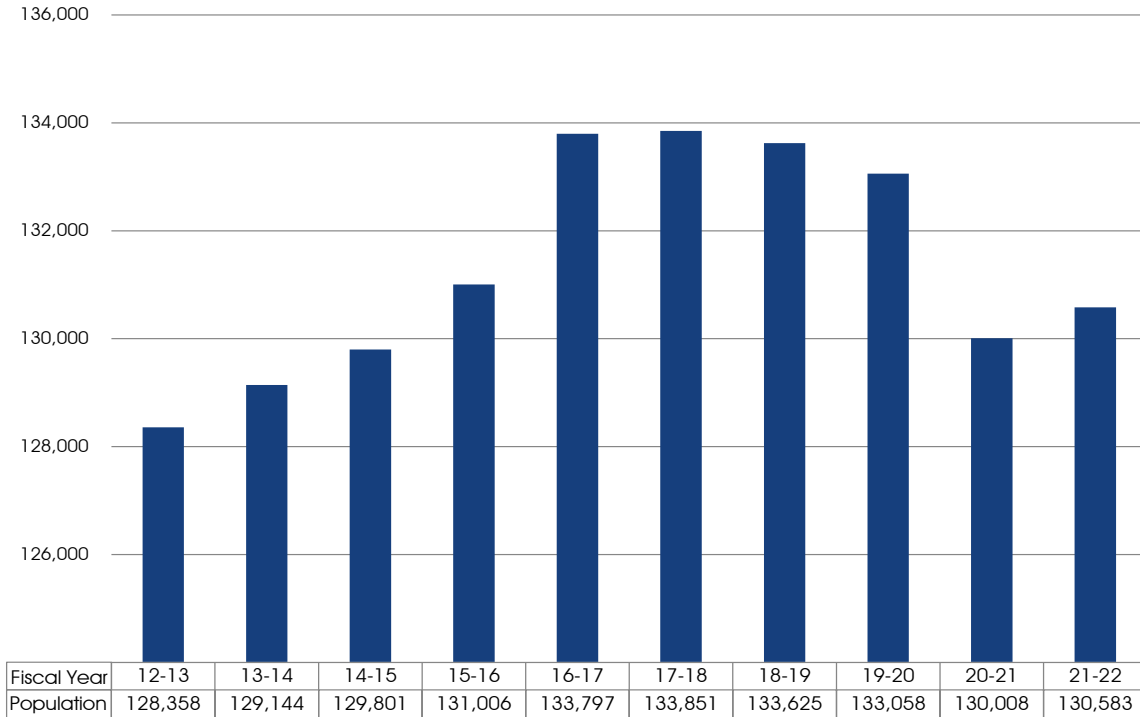
This table presents an annual accounting of various sources of inflows, such as run-off and pumped water from the Warner Basin aquifer, and outflows of water from the lake.

	<u>Acre Feet</u>
Total Storage July 1, 2022	4,122
Plus Pumped Water	3,831
Plus (minus) other gains/(losses)	29,994
Less Release	(2,239)
Less Evaporation	(5,517)
Less Spill	0
<b>Total Storage July 1, 2023</b>	<b>30,191</b>

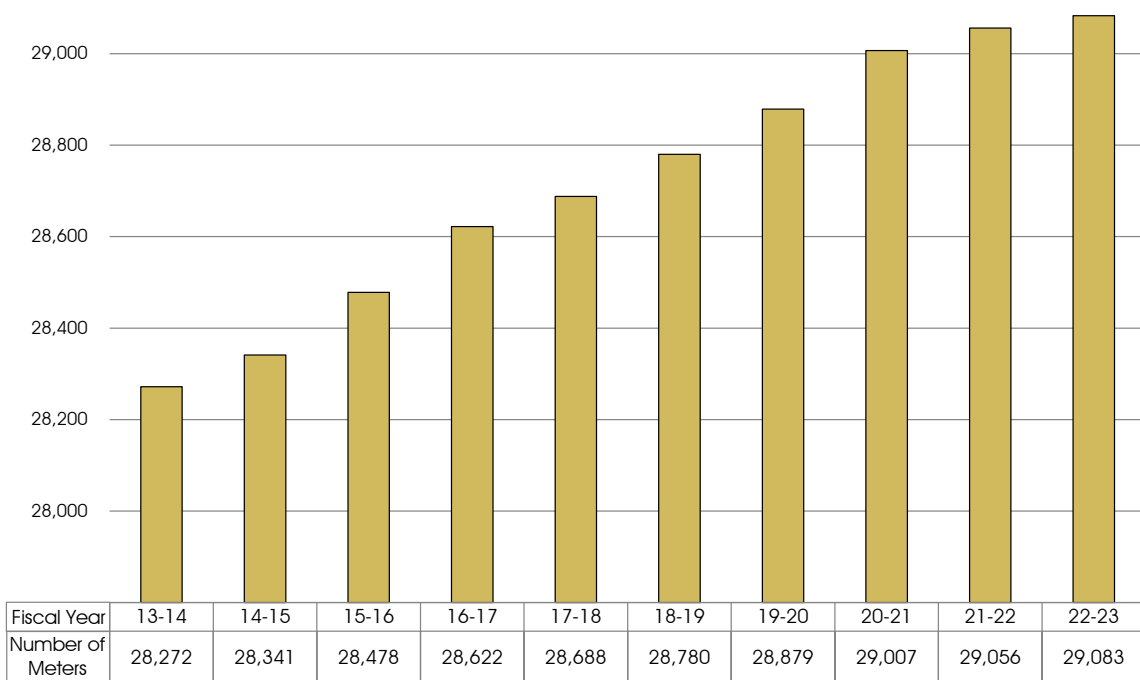
# DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

## Population

The graph depicts population growth within the District's service area, which is comprised of the city of Vista as well as portions of San Marcos, Escondido, Oceanside and unincorporated areas of the county. Source: San Diego Association of Governments.



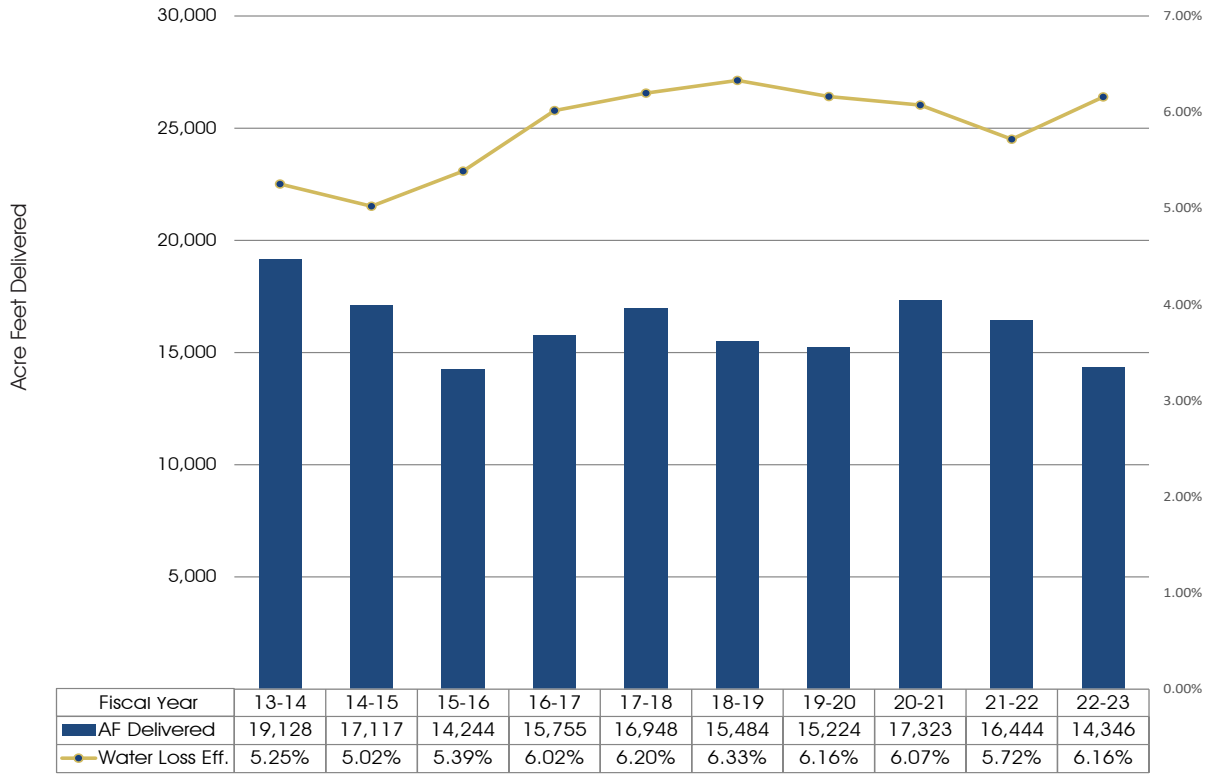
This graph shows the increase in the number of meters in use over a ten year period.



# DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

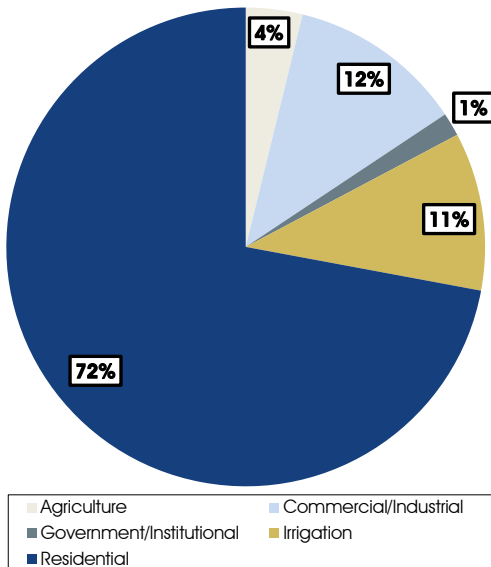
## Distribution Efficiency

The Distribution Efficiency graph shows water delivered to customers (from purchased and local sources) which is represented by the blue bars. The green line shows historical water losses. Losses encompass water that was delivered to the District but not sold to customers. Water losses can be attributable to a number of factors, including pipeline leaks and breaks, under-registering meters, evaporation, theft, hit fire hydrants and fire suppression activities.



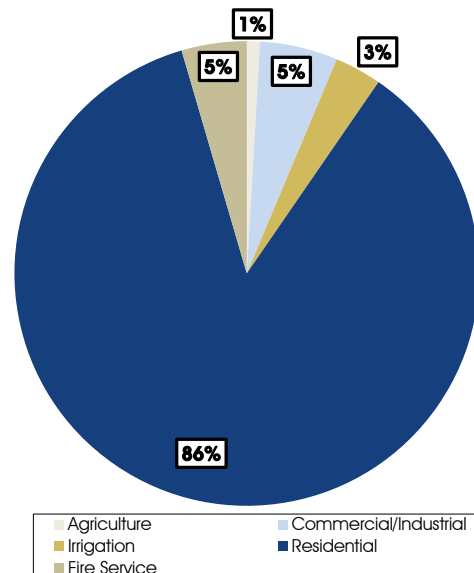
## Water Delivered by Use Type

This graph shows how much water is delivered for different uses. As illustrated, a majority of the water delivered to District customers (72%) is for residential use. The balance is delivered for irrigation, commercial/industrial (business), agriculture and governmental/institutional (parks, libraries, schools) uses.



## Meters in Service by Use Type

This graph shows meters in service by use. Almost 86% of the District's 29,083 meters are used to supply water to single-family residences.

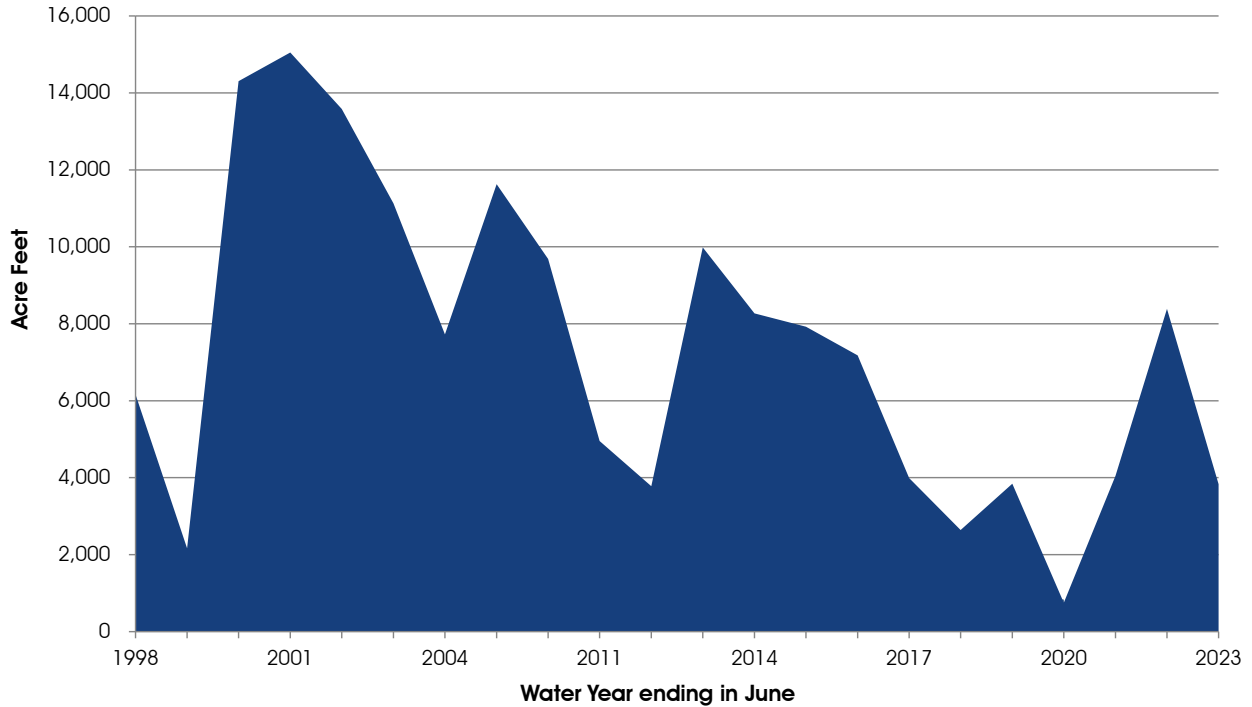


Note: Government/Institutional meters in use less than one percent; not shown in chart.

# DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

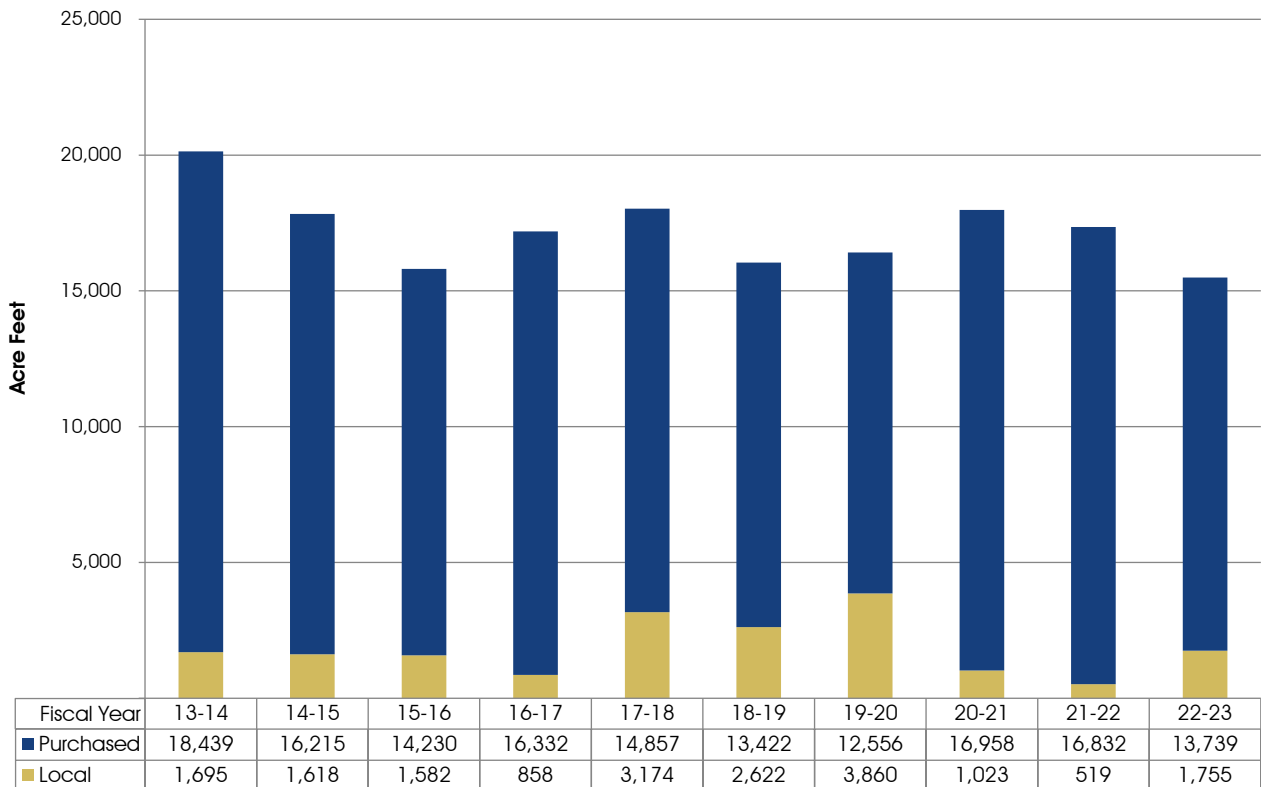
## Water Pumped from Warner Basin (Yearly Totals)

Lake Henshaw’s water comes from run-off as well as pumped groundwater from the Warner Basin, which surrounds the lake. This graph shows pumped water totals from 1998 to 2023. Typically, pumped water is more heavily relied on during extended dry periods.



## Water Received

The District receives water from Lake Henshaw (local) and from Northern California, the Colorado River and desalinated sea water (purchased). This graph shows how much of each source was received in a given year.

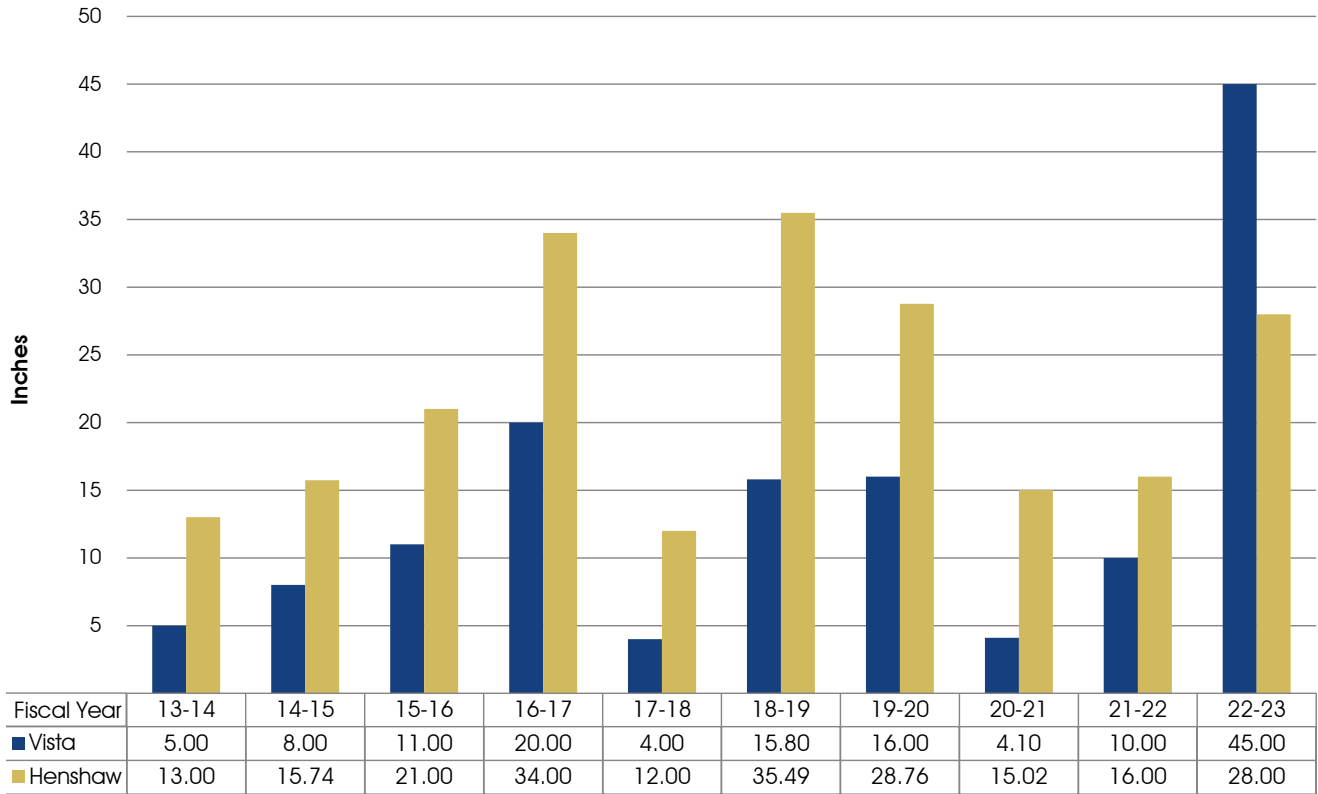


# DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

## Rainfall

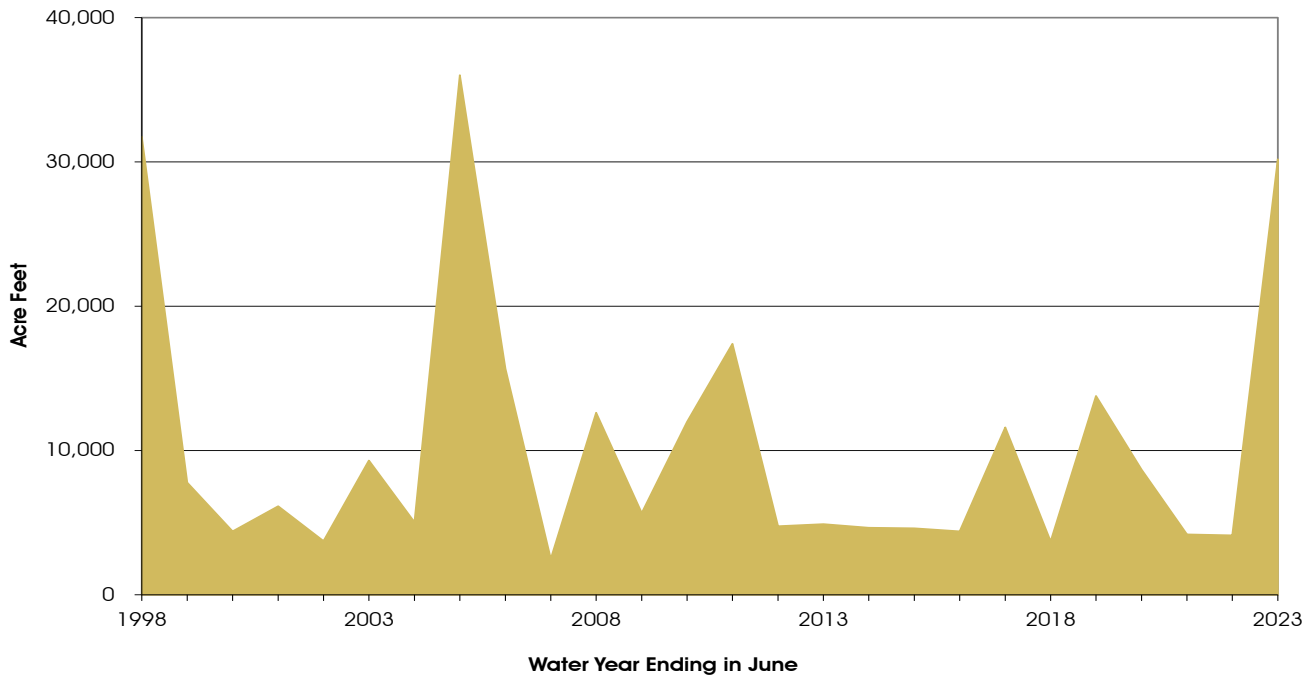
(July 1 - June 30)

This graph shows rainfall totals for Vista and the Lake Henshaw area over the past ten years.



## Water Stored in Lake Henshaw

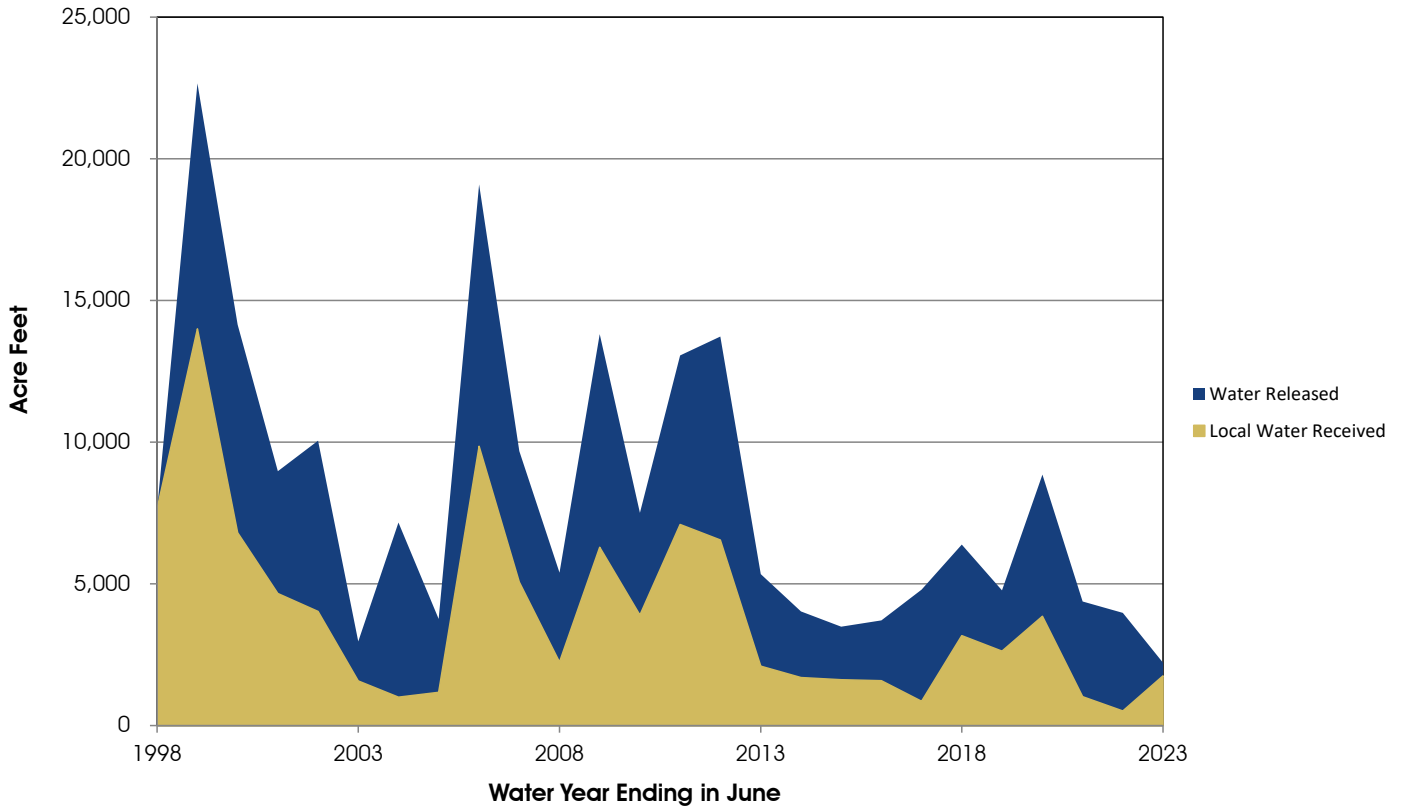
Lake Henshaw's storage capacity is 51,832 acre feet. This graph shows water stored in Lake Henshaw for the past 25 years.



# DISTRICT DEMOGRAPHICS

## Water Released from Lake Henshaw versus Local Water Received

This graph compares the amounts of water released from Lake Henshaw with local water received by the District. Typically, the amount of local water received is less than the amount of water released because a portion of the released water also serves the City of Escondido and the Rincon Band of the Mission Indians.





# DISTRICT FINANCIALS



# Vista Irrigation District Financial Summary

## For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

Below is a summary of Vista Irrigation District's financial performance for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2023. The below summary information should not be relied upon to make financial decisions. For a comprehensive representation of the financial position and results of operations of the District, please see the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for Fiscal Year Ended June 30, 2023, which can be found on Vista Irrigation District website at <https://www.vidwater.org/audited-annual-comprehensive-financial-reports>.

The below summary of the District's financial statements include two components:

- Net Position
- Changes in Net Position

The Net Position table includes the District's assets, deferred outflows, liabilities and deferred inflows, with the difference reported as net position. Net position provides the basis for evaluating the capital structure of the District and assessing its liquidity and financial flexibility.

### Net Position

The District's overall net position decreased \$14.4 million between fiscal years 2022 and 2023, from \$139.6 to \$125.2 million, primarily due to an operating loss of \$16.7 million.

### **Vista Irrigation District Net Position (In Millions of Dollars)**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Current assets	\$ 39.9	\$ 59.9
Capital assets	118.0	111.0
Other noncurrent assets	<u>2.7</u>	<u>4.1</u>
Total Assets	<u>160.6</u>	<u>175.0</u>
 Deferred outflows of resources	 <u>14.6</u>	 <u>5.3</u>
Current liabilities	17.2	17.0
Noncurrent liabilities	<u>26.6</u>	<u>10.6</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>43.8</u>	<u>27.6</u>
 Deferred inflows of resources	 <u>6.2</u>	 <u>13.1</u>
 Net Position:		
Investment in capital assets	118.0	111.0
Restricted	0.1	1.2
Unrestricted	<u>7.1</u>	<u>27.4</u>
Total Net Position	<u>\$ 125.2</u>	<u>\$ 139.6</u>

# Vista Irrigation District Financial Summary

## For the Year Ended June 30, 2023

### Change in Net Position

The Changes in Net Position table presents information identifying how the District's net position changed during each year. All of the year's revenues and expenses are recorded when the underlying transaction occurs, regardless of the timing of the related cash flows. Changes in net position measure the success of the District's operations during the year and determine whether the District has recovered its costs through user fees and other charges.

In fiscal year 2023, the District's operating revenues increased by 0.1% to \$55.1 million, and 96.0% of the District's operating revenues came from water sales and service charge revenues.

During fiscal year 2023, the District's operating expenses increased 47.3% to \$71.8 million primarily due to increased expenses related to undergrounding for the Escondido Canal, pursuant to the Indian Rights Settlement Agreement, and higher pension expense.

### **Vista Irrigation District Changes in Net Position (In Millions of Dollars)**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Operating Revenues		
Water sales, net	\$ 52.9	\$ 53.4
System fees	0.9	0.3
Property rentals	0.9	0.9
Other services	0.4	0.3
Total Operating Revenues	<u>55.1</u>	<u>54.9</u>
Operating Expenses	<u>71.8</u>	<u>48.7</u>
Operating Income (Loss)	<u>(16.7)</u>	<u>6.2</u>
Nonoperating Revenues (Expenses)		
Investment income (loss)	1.3	(0.1)
Property taxes	0.7	0.6
Loss on disposal of capital assets	-	(1.7)
Total Nonoperating Revenues	<u>2.0</u>	<u>(1.2)</u>
Contributed Capital	<u>0.3</u>	<u>0.9</u>
Changes in Net Position	(14.4)	5.9
Total Net Position - beginning	<u>139.6</u>	<u>133.7</u>
Total Net Position - ending	<u>\$ 125.2</u>	<u>\$ 139.6</u>



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