

Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Implementation Proposal IRWM Plan - Reduce Delta Water Dependence

Reducing Delta Water Dependence

Attachment 13 consists of a summary of the portions of the Pajaro River Watershed Region's adopted IRWM Plan that address how implementation of the Region's IRWM Plan will help reduce dependence on the water supply from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta).

Regional Connection to the Delta

Import water supply from the Central Valley Project (CVP) is delivered to the region through the San Felipe Division facilities, which supply water from San Luis Reservoir. The reservoir is a joint project by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) and the State of California, and provides storage for both CVP and SWP supplies. Major Pajaro River Watershed infrastructure for the San Felipe Division includes the Pacheco Pumping Plant, Pacheco Conduit, Santa Clara Conduit, and Hollister Conduit. The SBCWD operates San Justo Reservoir (owned by the USBR), which is used as operational storage for the San Benito CVP water system. SCVWD, SBCWD, and PVWMA all have CVP contracts or contract reservations. However, only SCVWD and SBCWD have existing conduits allowing for use of CVP water. Figure 13.1 shows the import water infrastructure located throughout the Pajaro River Watershed.

CVP water supply is designated into four categories including agriculture, M&I, exchange contractors, and environmental water. The San Felipe Division currently provides supply for agricultural and M&I designations in SCVWD and SBCWD service areas. Table 13.1 summarizes the contract amounts for each agency from the CVP. These amounts are the maximum available, actual deliveries are hydrologically dependent.

Table 13.1: San Felipe Unit Contractors CVP Contracts

CVP Contractor	CVP Agricultural (AFY)	CVP M&I (AFY)
SCVWD ^a	22,500	130,000
SBCWD	35,500	8,250
PVWMA	6,260 ^b	NA
Total	64,260	138,250

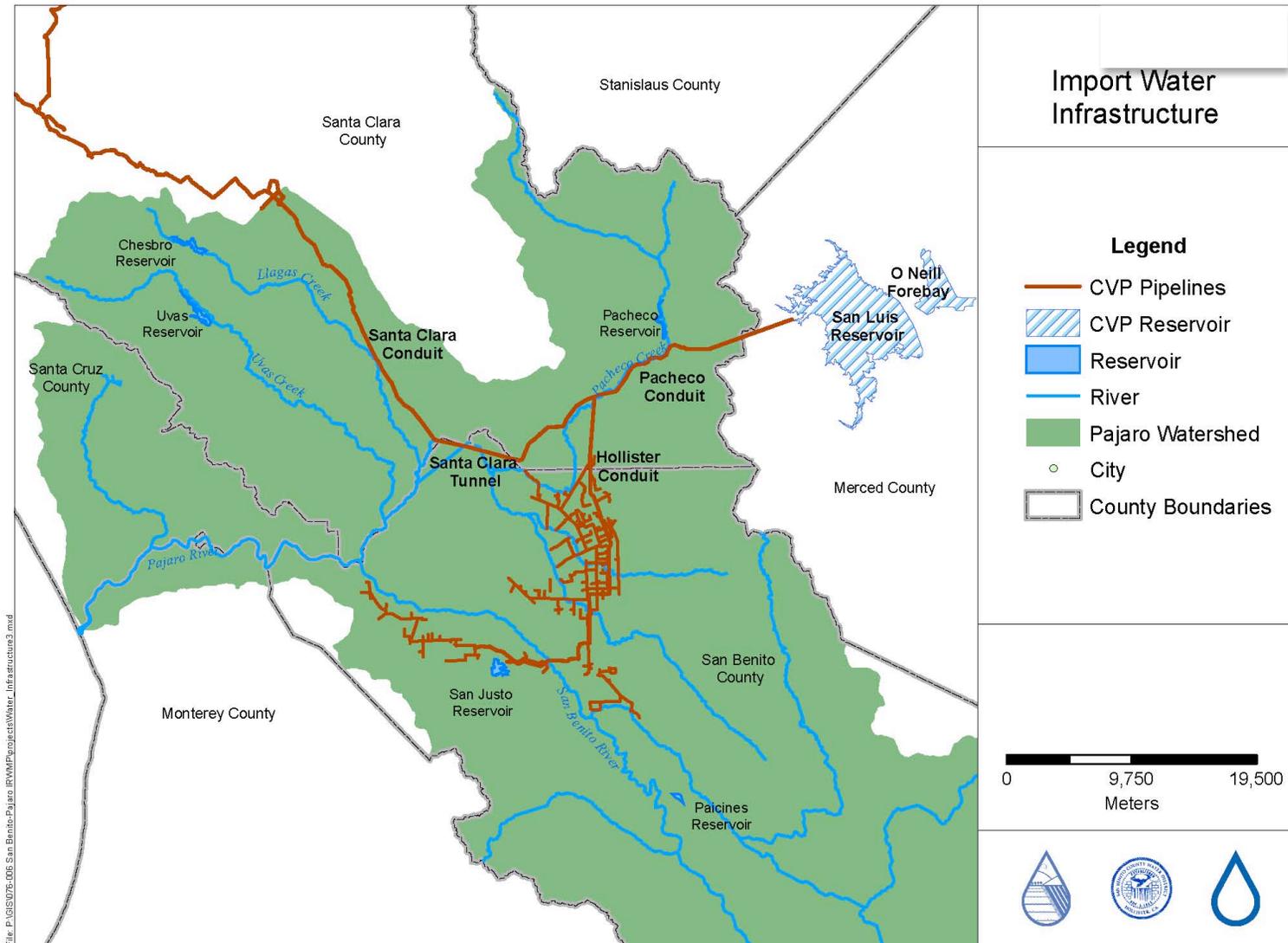
Notes:

1. NA – Not applicable

Footnotes:

- a. The SCVWD CVP water is used throughout Santa Clara County.
- b. PVWMA does not have a connection to the CVP system. PVWMA is currently developing an updated Basin Management Plan that eliminates the dependence on the import supplies.

Figure 13.1: Import Water Infrastructure



Relevant Plan Objectives

The Pajaro River Watershed is currently updating the IRWM Plan. The RWMG, in cooperation with stakeholders, has approved updated goals and objectives for the plan. The updated water supply goal addresses Delta dependence:

***Water Supply Goal** - Protect and improve regional water supply reliability, protect groundwater resources from overdraft, **reduce dependence on imported water**, and protect watershed communities from drought while considering climate change impacts on water supply resources and demands.*

The water supply goal is the highest priority goal for the region. Additionally, the water supply objectives specify how the region will work towards meeting the goal including a reduced dependence on the Delta through conservation, optimization of existing supplies including groundwater, and maximizing the use of local supplies.

Water Supply Objectives:

1. Meet 100% of M&I and agriculture demands (both current and future conditions) in wet to dry years including the first year of a drought.
2. Meet 85% M&I and 75% agriculture demands (both current and future conditions) in second and subsequent years of a drought.
3. Identify and address water supply needs of disadvantaged communities in the Pajaro River Watershed.
4. Implement water conservation programs to reduce M&I and agricultural water uses consistent with SBx7-7 and CVPIA.
5. Maximize the use of recycled water during the irrigation season and expand other uses of recycled water.
6. Optimize the use of groundwater and aquifer storage.
7. Maximize conjunctive use opportunities including interagency conjunctive use.
8. Optimize and sustain the use of existing import surface water entitlements from the San Felipe Unit.
9. Maximize the beneficial use of existing local water supplies while protecting existing surface water rights.

Relevant Plan Projects

Numerous projects in the Pajaro River Watershed IRWM Plan work towards meeting the water supply goals and objectives including projects specifically designed to maximize the beneficial use of local supplies to reduce the dependence on the Delta. *Example* projects from the Plan that will reduce dependence on imported water include:

- Watsonville Slough and Dunes Recharge Basin
- Hollister Urban Area Water and Wastewater Master Plan
- Pacheco Reservoir Reoperation
- Main and Madrone Pipeline Repair

- Regional Mobile Lab

Each of the four projects included in this funding proposal (listed below) help optimize the use of existing supplies and protect and improve the beneficial use of the groundwater basin, which will lead to a reduced dependence on the Delta.

- Hollister Urban Area Water Supply Project
- Increased Recycled Water Storage
- Pajaro Agricultural Water Quality and Aquifer Enhancement Project
- Critical Water Supply System Improvements for Pajaro

Retaining Reducing Delta Water Dependence in Future Plans

The goals, objectives and projects described above are from the current IRWM Plan Update effort, demonstrating a continued commitment to reduced dependence on the Delta. The updated Pajaro River Water IRWM Plan prioritizes projects based on their ability to meet the region's IRWM Goals and Objectives. This approach ensures that the highest priority projects in the IRWM work towards meeting water needs by optimizing and enhancing the beneficial use of local supplies. The RWMG is committed to continuing the IRWM effort with this priority objective.

Additionally, Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency is currently updating its' Basin Management Plan (BMP). The BMP Update focuses on the development of local supplies and excludes the import pipeline connection to the CVP system from further consideration, completely eliminating the potential dependence on the Delta.