



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: PW/Flood Control
Department No.: 054
For Agenda Of: November 28, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Directors, Flood Control & Water Conservation District

FROM: Department Scott D. McGolpin, Public Works Director, (805) 568-3010
Director(s)
Contact Matt Young, Interim Deputy Director – Water Resources (805) 568-3546
Info:

SUBJECT: Santa Barbara County Hydrology Report for 2023, All Supervisorial Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

- a) Receive and file the Santa Barbara County Hydrology Report for 2023, and authorize distribution of the report for County and public information; and
- b) Find that the proposed action does not constitute a “Project” within the meaning of CEQA, pursuant to 14 CCR 15378 (b), in that this administrative action has no potential for resulting in a direct or indirect physical change to the environment.

Summary Text:

The Santa Barbara County Hydrology Report for 2023, dated October 15, 2023, includes documentation of the Countywide Flood-Warning-System, and multi-year analysis of rainfall, stream/river flow and reservoirs within the County.

The intention of this report is to concisely document hydrologic observations and processes from water-year 2023, recent year trends, and to provide a reference document for future years.

The Public Works Department will place this report on its Hydrology website to download free of charge. Copies of this report will also be available in a printed color version for public viewing at the County Flood Control District office library.

Background:

The Hydrology section within the Water Resources Division of Public Works periodically prepares water-year reports covering hydrologic processes & observations, particularly following more significant rainfall or drought years. These reports were first published in 1991.

The report documents the significant Hydrology (surface water) related events for the 2023 water-year within Santa Barbara County.

This 111-page report includes a 1-page executive summary, which is followed by more detailed discussion of Hydrologic Monitoring Systems, NWS Winter Forecast, Wildfire Burn-Areas, Rainfall, Significant Storm Events, Rivers & Streams, Reservoirs, Flood-Forecast Modeling, Storm Damage, and other related topics.

Report Appendices are inclusive of reference information on Hydrologic Gauge Station listings, Hydrologic Station Installation pictures, Yearly/Monthly Rainfall listings, and Rainfall Return Periods.

The water-year 2023 referred to in this report runs from September 1, 2022 through August 31, 2023.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative:

Hydrology is an ongoing program for the Flood Control District. Staff time for this project is included in the Water Resources Division of the Public Works Department FY 2023-24 Adopted Budget as shown on page D-331 of the budget book.

Special Instructions:

Direct the Clerk of the Board to email a copy of the minute order of this action to clopez@countyofsb.org

Attachments:

Attachment A - “Santa Barbara County Hydrology Report” for 2023

Authored by:

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