

*Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control
& Water Conservation Improvement District*

**General Manager's Report for December 2024
Presented at Regular Meeting of Monday, January 6, 2025**

Priority 1: Security ~ Ensure reliable, resilient, and available sources of water.

(1: Improved river & reservoir operations. 2: Fair & reliable inter-basin. 3: Expanded water sources.
4: Increased storage capacity)

Nothing to note.

Priority 2: Collaboration ~ Work with partners to achieve aligned goals for a common benefit.

(1: Trusted relationships with community partners for regional water security. 2: Improved diversity, equity, and inclusion in the stewardship of water resources. 3: Expanded relationships with non-traditional partners and stakeholders in pursuit of enhanced Environmental Stewardship.)

1-Water Sharing Program: The Working Group met and reviewed progress on the supply modeling scenario developments.

Priority 3: Advocacy ~ Influence outreach, education, funding, regulation, and legislation in support of equitable water resource stewardship.

(1: Improved public awareness and understanding of the importance of water issues. 2: State and Federal governmental policy and funding support for the region.)

2-ACWA: Attended ACWA SGMA Implementation Committee. Applications for Prop 4 money not expected to be open until early to mid-2026. DWR may be interested/willing to assist in GSAs in finding a pathway to access this funding. I have alerted our incoming GSA GM and the engineering consultants.

Priority 4: Use ~ Ensure effective and beneficial use of water as a public resource.

(1: Maximum beneficial use of water under District water right license. 2: Strategic use of water by customers.)

1-Annexation/Change Petition: Meetings and research continues, though slowed down during the holidays. The Ad Hoc Committee will hopefully have recommendations to present to the Board for action in February 2025.

Priority 5: Administration ~ Foster sustainable leadership and management of agency resources.

(1: Capable and high quality executive leadership. 2: Engaged, diverse, and knowledgeable Board leadership. 3: Effective systems and human resources to execute the strategic plan. 4: Sound and sustainable management of District finances.)

1: Executive Leadership: Attended: (1) Consideration of Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems in the Flood-MAR context. (2) Pinoleville Pomo Nation Restoration Workshop on riparian restoration. (3) PPIC hosted Conversation with Governor Jerry Brown. (4) NOAA's December Drought & Climate Outlook Webinar climate and drought update. (5) RR Watershed Association meeting for guest presentation: Climate in the North Bay Region: Indications of Changes for the Coming Decades, Dr. Dan Cayan, Research Meteorologist, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California San Diego.

(Continued...)

Community Meetings

Note: District Board members and GM will no longer be attending all community meetings and reporting here. Please contact the individual organizations for more information on public meetings and updates.

Ukiah Vally Water Authority (UVWA) (12/5/14): City & Willow staff provided updates on a recent meeting with the SWRCB SAFER staff to update them on Willow joining and continued tour with the consultants who will provide a summary of the planning grant package in early 2025. City staff provided a report on the merging of the billing system, which is going well and is on track. Staff transitions are also going very well. Willow staff reported on continuing service for the other water suppliers serviced by Willow and the surprising interest in potentially join the Water Authority. The next meeting which was scheduled for January 2 was cancelled and a meeting is scheduled for January 30th which will include a rate study workshop.

MC Inland Water & Power Commission (12/17/24): Closed session was held. In open session, USACE Legal Counsel provided an update on the USACE feasibility study on Coyote Valley Dam modernization. Schedule of conducting feasibility study is contingent on availability of water to store and therefore dependent on PG&E decommissioning process. USACE understands desire to postpone the cost-share agreement on the feasibility study until more is known and options are being explored including an extension of decision until end of March 2025. Regarding the inclusion of a second non-Federal sponsor, specifically the Lytton Tribe, meetings are being held and interest shown. Discussions with USACE on the financial implications of signing the cost-share agreement were held and positive options developed. Trans Basin Diversion update: working on finalizing a non-binding MOU with negotiating parties prior to PG&E's draft decommissioning plan (being released in late January) which are expected to include the new Eel Russian Facility. A binding agreement between the partners would then be developed, describing under what conditions diversion would occur. In January, IWPC will have an agenda item for financial planning. Glenn McGourty bid Commissioners farewell; this was his last meeting as his Supervisor Term ends December 31st.

City of Ukiah (12/18/24): Council authorized City manager to negotiate and execute a contract amendment for billing transition for Ukiah Valley Water Authority. Doug Crane was appointed Mayor and Susan Sher Vice Mayor.

Redwood Valley Water District (12/19/24): Director Klotter gave an update on the RRFC annexation work. Staff reported on the grant funded project to drill additional wells. Three additional sites near Millview's Well 6 have been identified and consultants are waiting for weather clearance to proceed.

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Prepared and submitted to the Board of Trustees by: *Elizabeth Salomone, General Manager*