



Curious about your water district?
 Stay current by joining us on
 March 26, 2019 for the CMWD
State of the District

Event will start at 6 PM at the
 Oak View Park & Resource Center
 555 Mahoney Ave
 Oak View, CA 93022

Board of Directors
Brian Brennan, Division I
James W. Word, Division II
Pete Kaiser, Division III
Angelo Spandrio, Division IV
Russ Baggerly, Division V
 Board meetings are held on the 2nd and
 4th Wednesdays of every month at
 3:00p.m. Location: 1055 Ventura Ave., Oak
 View, CA.

Open the newsletter to learn more
 about the District's water
 security projects!!



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- Water supply updates
 - Water security project updates
 - Save the date! State of the District



Dear Casitas Customers,
 I am pleased to have been named General Manager of the Casitas Municipal Water District. After spending the last sixteen years of my career working with public water supplies here in Southern California, I recognize and share many of the concerns that you have about water supply here in Western Ventura County. The District is working to push forward its planned water security projects, many of which are described in this newsletter. As a District, there are important decisions ahead, where we will need to weigh different aspects of the projects, particularly being mindful about the cost that customers will need to bear in order for these additional water supplies to be realized. I look forward to working with the Casitas Board of Directors and our customers in making informed decisions that will ensure water supply security for all of the District's customers. Thank you.

Sincerely,
 Michael Flood

DIVERSION UPDATES

The 2018/2019 rainy season is here and Casitas has been met with success and also challenges in operating the Robles Fish Passage & Diversion Facility.

Casitas has been able to successfully divert more than 12,000 Acre-Feet of water from the Ventura River to Lake Casitas. Keep in mind that on average, this represents about 1/3 of the water that finds its way into Lake Casitas. Tributary streams and direct rainfall have contributed more than 13,000 Acre-Feet for a total of 25,000 Acre-Foot increase in Lake Casitas thus far this season.

The storms of this season have also brought heavy debris loads into the Robles facility as well, clogging screens and causing equipment failures. This has been typical of diversion operations over the years but has worsened as a result of the Thomas Fire.

Despite this, Casitas field crews have worked long hours to keep the screens clear and water flowing into Lake Casitas from the Robles Fish Passage and Diversion Facility.



WATER SECURITY PROJECT UPDATES

CASITAS-VENTURA STATE WATER PROJECT (SWP) INTERCONNECTION

Since 1970, Casitas and its partner agencies, the City of Ventura and United Water Conservation District (UWCD) have contracted with the State of California a 20,000 acre-foot (AF) annual allocation of State Water Project (SWP) water, which is contractually divided as follows: Casitas - 5,000 AF / Ventura - 10,000 AF / UWCD - 5,000 AF. Neither Casitas nor Ventura currently have the necessary infrastructure to receive SWP water.

Casitas, the City of Ventura, UWCD, and Calleguas Municipal Water District (MWD) are evaluating a SWP connection through Metropolitan Water District and Calleguas MWD that would bring SWP water to the east end of Ventura. In theory, this interconnection could serve water up to Casitas' interconnection with the City of Ventura, near Olive Street and Ramona Street. Meanwhile, Casitas is embarking on a preliminary design contract to evaluate all of the key infrastructure issues related to bringing that water into the rest of Casitas' system. The contract for preliminary design is anticipated to be completed by December 2019.



MATILIJA FORMATION DEEP WELLS

The Matilija Formation is a water bearing fractured rock formation that runs deep under the Casitas MWD service area. Casitas is investigating the potential to develop horizontal and vertical wells into the formation to extract water for emergency supplies.

HOBO Project: short for "horizontal bore" - a horizontal well drilled ~10,000 feet into the easternmost portion of the Santa Ynez Mountains. The District is awaiting a permit from U.S. Forest Service (USFS) to install monitoring gauges to gather data to evaluate the feasibility of this project. USFS has not responded to our request and the District is working with our legislators to garner a response from them.



VERBO Project: short for "vertical bore" - a vertical well drilled ~7,000 foot deep on District property, near the Robles Diversion facility. A test bore would be installed to determine water quantity and quality coming from the well. Casitas has begun the CEQA process with a consulting firm. Potential Board adoption of the CEQA document is expected in June 2019.

OJAI WELLFIELD REHABILITATION

As a part of the acquisition of the Ojai Water System in 2017, Casitas now owns and operates the Ojai Wellfield near Grand Avenue. The six wells were constructed between 1947 and 2012.



Since the acquisition, inspecting and testing has indicated the wells are operating significantly under their capacity to pump water. The District, in cooperation with our consulting hydrogeologist, are preparing specifications for the rehabilitation of two established wells, as well as the installation of a new well. The rehabilitation of the older wells is scheduled to be completed by May 2019. The installation of the new well would begin in the summer of 2019, once the rehabilitation efforts are successful.

The project implementation process from concept to completion has many phases. The flow chart below shows key steps and considerations.

