



2025 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN
ADOPTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS ON JUNE 24, 2026

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Abbreviations

AF	acre-feet
AFY	acre-feet per year
AMI	area median income
AMR	Automated Meter Reading
AWIA	American Water Infrastructure Act
AWSDA	Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment
BO	Biological Opinion
CA	Coastal Area
CalWEP	California Water Efficiency Partnership
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CDP	Census Designated Place
cfs	cubic feet per second
CVWD	Carpinteria Valley Water District
DAC	Disadvantaged Community
DCR	Delivery Capability Report
DIM	Dedicated Irrigation Meter
DRA	Drought Response Assessment
DWR	Department of Water Resources
ERP	Emergency Response Plan
ESA	Endangered Species Act
°F	degrees Fahrenheit
FY	Fiscal year
GIS	Geographic Information System
gpcd	gallons per capita per day
gpm	gallons per minute
gpscd	gallons per service connection per day

GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
GSWC	Golden State Water Company
HAA	Haloacetic acid
HUD	Housing and Urban Development
kWh	Kilowatt-hours
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
mgd	million gallons per day
MWPFP	Marion Walker Pressure Filtration Plant
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NVAA	North Ventura Avenue Area
OBGMA	Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency
OVA	Ojai Valley Area
OVSD	Ojai Valley Sanitary District
OWS	Ojai Water System
PWS	Public Water System
SB X7-7	Water Conservation Act of 2009
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SGPWA	San Geronio Pass Water Agency
SWP	State Water Project
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
THM	Trihalomethane
USBR	US Bureau of Reclamation
UVRGA	Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency
UVRGB	Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin
UWCD	United Water Conservation District
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
VCFC	Ventura County Flood Control District
VCRC	Ventura County Resource Conservation District
WAP	California Water Action Plan
WEAP	Water Efficiency and Allocation Program
WL	Water Loss
WSCP	Water Shortage Contingency Plan
WUE	Water Use Efficiency

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1. Introduction and Lay Description

Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas or District) has prepared this 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) in compliance with the Urban Water Management Planning Act of 1983. This section provides an overview of Casitas' water supplies, demands, water service reliability, and strategies for managing risks.

Overview. Casitas provides wholesale and retail water service to western Ventura County and is governed by a five-member elected Board of Directors (Board). Originally named the Ventura River Municipal Water District, Casitas was formed in 1952 to provide supplemental water to the agricultural communities in its service area. The service area also includes residential, commercial, and industrial uses. Wholesale customers include the City of Ventura and several special districts and mutual water companies. In June 2017, Casitas acquired the Ojai Water System (OWS) from Golden State Water Company (GSWC) and absorbed those customers as retail customers.

Water Supplies. All water supplies are local, consisting of groundwater wells and surface water in Lake Casitas. Lake Casitas was formed by the construction of Casitas Dam by the US Bureau of Reclamation in 1958. The total lake capacity is 237,761 acre-feet (AF) as of 2017. The Robles Diversion and Fish Passage Facility is located on the north end of the Ventura River and allows Casitas to divert river flow to the Robles Canal to feed Lake Casitas. Operation of the Robles Facility is under the jurisdiction of the 2003 non-jeopardy Biological Opinion (BO) prepared by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) due to the listing of steelhead trout as an endangered species.

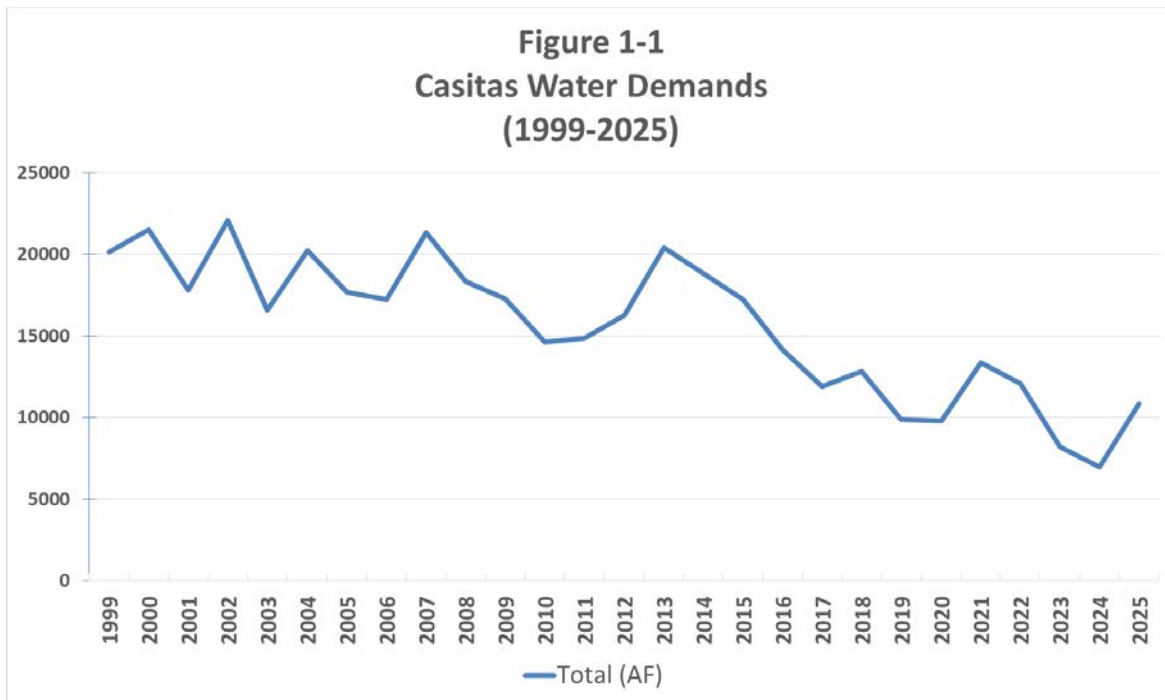
As of December 31, 2025, Lake Casitas was at approximately 97 percent of capacity with 229,880 AF in storage. The Safe Yield of Lake Casitas was re-evaluated in 2022 and the hydrology model was updated as described in Section 6.2.3. The Board adopted a safe yield of 18,420 acre-feet per year (AFY) April 2021 and applied a supply safety factor of -15 percent (2,763 AF) and a climate change adjustment of -4.3 percent (792 AF) for planning purposes, yielding 14,865 AFY as the operational yield.

The Casitas System also includes one groundwater well, the Mira Monte Well, located in the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin with a yield of 145 AF. The combined planned operational yield from Lake Casitas and the Mira Monte Well is 15,010 AFY.

In 2017, Casitas acquired the OWS from GSWC. Prior to this, GSWC had been a wholesale customer of Casitas. Ojai Water System customers are now direct customers of Casitas. The Ojai Water System includes the Ojai Wellfield on the east end of Ojai with six groundwater wells. These wells are located in the Ojai Groundwater Basin and provide 2,300 AFY of supply for planning purposes. The Ojai Groundwater Basin is unadjudicated and is not considered to be in an overdraft condition.

In 1963, the Ventura County Flood Control District (now the Ventura County Watershed Protection District) contracted with the State of California for up to 20,000 AFY of water from the State Water Project (SWP). In 1971, Ventura County Flood Control District assigned the administration of the contract to Casitas. Casitas' contractual share is 5,000 AFY of SWP, the City of Ventura has 10,000 AFY and United Water Conservation District has 5,000 AFY. To date, the infrastructure is not in place to deliver the contractual share to Casitas. The Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie, planned for construction in 2026, will allow delivery of imported water to Casitas to augment local supplies and mitigate impacts of droughts and emergencies.

Water Demands. Demands on the Casitas system have ranged from a low of approximately 5,776 AF in 2023 to a high of approximately 24,000 AF in 1989. Figure 1-1 shows a snapshot of water demands from 1999-2025. In general, agricultural customers make up the majority of demand at approximately 50 percent. Wholesale customers comprise approximately 30 percent and retail customers 20 percent.



Every Casitas customer has an assigned water allocation. Casitas manages customer demands through the Water Efficiency Allocation Program (WEAP), which includes conservation targets based on lake level. In June 2023, the Board declared Stage 1 of the WEAP due to the significant storms that increased the water supply in Lake Casitas.

Both the Casitas Retail and Ojai Retail systems met their '20 by 2020' goal in 2020 to reduce water use 20 percent from the pre-2010 baseline period. Casitas retail users target was 295 gallons per capita per day (gpcd) and the actual 2025 use was 193 gpcd. Ojai users' goal was 257 gpcd and actual 2025 usage was 214 gpcd.

Challenges Ahead. Drought will always affect Casitas as all current water supplies are local groundwater and surface water diversions. Casitas is positioned well to handle these variable weather extremes through the implementation of the WEAP.

The Robles Diversion Facility on the Ventura River may be impacted by the future removal of the Matilija Dam upstream. The release of large quantities of sediment may affect Casitas' ability to divert water to Lake Casitas. Casitas continues to work with the County of Ventura to evaluate the best alternatives to maintain diversions, protect endangered species, and reduce flooding.

The City of Ventura initiated a water rights adjudication of four groundwater basins within the Ventura River watershed. The basins named in the lawsuit include: Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin, Lower Ventura River Groundwater Basin, Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin, and Upper Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin. The adjudication was still active as of December 31, 2025, and the final outcome is

unknown at this time. Casitas is actively defending and protecting its water rights in the case of *Santa Barbara Channelkeeper v. State Water Resources Control Board; City of San Buenaventura; City of San Buenaventura v. Duncan Abbott, et al.*, Cross-Complaint, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. 19STCP01176. More information can be found at: <http://www.venturariverwatershedadjudication.com>

Strategies to Manage Reliability. During drought conditions, the WEAP is a cornerstone policy for Casitas' demand management. The WEAP describes the water demand reduction strategies and measures to address water shortage conditions, promote water conservation and the efficient use of water, and the application of a penalty to customers who waste water. The WEAP was originally developed in response to the 1987-1991 drought period and is updated and modified as needed. The collective work in 1992 set the starting point for a system of water allocation assignments and demand response criteria based on the level of water storage in Lake Casitas.

Since 2022, Casitas prepares an Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment and provides a summary of the previous fiscal year's weather conditions, water resources, and water demands. The Board may take action to implement various stages of the WEAP in response to these factors.

Casitas is currently constructing the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie project to allow Casitas to access its SWP allocation and supplemental water when there is excess delivery capacity in the Santa Barbara County facilities. This intertie would mitigate impacts of droughts and emergencies when local supplies become limited.

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2. Plan Preparation

Casitas is preparing this UWMP in compliance with California Water Code. Casitas is a wholesale and retail water provider and this UWMP incorporates these two elements. On the retail side, Casitas has two water systems, the Casitas System (CA5610024) and the Ojai System (CA5610014), each with their own Public Water System Identification Number. Information presented will reflect these three entities: 1) Casitas Wholesale, 2) Casitas System Retail, and 3) Ojai System Retail.

This UWMP was prepared by Casitas staff from Engineering, Public Outreach and Conservation, Finance, and Operations and Maintenance departments.

2.1. Basis for Preparing a Plan

Casitas is both a wholesale and retail water supplier and will complete applicable sections and tables for both wholesale and retail information. Casitas is required to prepare an UWMP as a retail provider since it serves more than 3,000 AF per year and more than 3,000 connections to retail customers. The Ojai System served 2,994 customers as of December 31, 2025, which is under the threshold of 3,000 customers required to submit an UWMP. Casitas is including the Ojai System to provide a comprehensive picture of the systems Casitas operates.

2.1.1. Wholesale and Retail Sales

The Casitas water system provides wholesale and retail water service. The OWS, acquired from GSWC in 2017, is a retail system only.

2.1.2. Public Water Systems

The Casitas and OWS have separate Public Water System Numbers as shown in Table 2-1.

Submittal Table 2-1 Retail: Public Water Systems			
Public Water System Number	Public Water System Name	Number of Municipal Connections 2025	Volume of Water Supplied 2025 (AF)
			Units:
CA5610024	CASITAS MWD	3,186	9,251
CA5610014	OJAI WATER SYSTEM	2,994	1,740
Total		6,180	10,991
NOTES: Does not include resale (wholesale) connections. Includes agricultural and agricultural-domestic customers. Casitas acquired the Ojai Water System in June 2017.			

2.2. Individual Plan

Casitas completed this UWMP based solely on Casitas' service area and did not participate in a Regional Plan. Casitas is preparing this 2025 UWMP as an individual water supplier as shown in Table 2-2.

Submittal Table 2-2: Plan Identification

Select One	Type of Plan	Name of Regional Alliance or RUWMP
☒	Individual UWMP	
	If Water Supplier is also a member of a SB X7-7 Regional Alliance, select name from the drop-down.	
☐	Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP)	
	If Supplier selected RUWMP, select name from the drop-down.	

2.3. Fiscal or Calendar Year and Units of Measure

Casitas is both a wholesaler and retailer as shown in Table 2-3. Table 2-3 also shows the year type and units of measure used throughout this UWMP.

Submittal Table 2-3: Supplier Identification	
Type of Supplier (select one or both)	
☒	Supplier is a wholesale supplier
☒	Supplier is a retail supplier
Fiscal or Calendar Year (select one)	
☒	UWMP Tables are in calendar years
☐	UWMP Tables are in fiscal years
Units of measure used in UWMP	
Unit	AF

2.4. Coordination and Outreach

Coordination and outreach regarding the preparation of this 2025 UWMP is discussed in the following subsections.

2.4.1. Wholesale and Retail Coordination

Casitas Wholesale System. Casitas supplies water on a wholesale basis to the agencies listed in Table 2-4.

**Submittal Table 2-4 Wholesale: Water Supplier Information Exchange
Water Code Section 10631(h), Casitas Wholesale**

☒	Check the box if the Supplier has informed more than 10 other water suppliers of water supplies available.
7	Provide page number for location of the list.
☐	Check the box if the Supplier has informed 10 or fewer other water suppliers of water supplies available. Complete the table below.
Water Supplier Name	
Casitas Mutual Water Company	
City of Ventura	
Siete Robles Mutual Water Company	
Hermitage Mutual Water Company	
Meiners Oaks Water District	
Old Creek Road Water Company	
Rancho del Cielo Mutual Water Company	
Rincon Road and Water Works	
Senior Canyon Mutual Water Company	
Sisar Mutual Water Company	
Sulphur Mountain Road Water Association	
Tico Mutual Water Company	
Ventura River Water District	

Casitas Retail System. Casitas serves as the ‘wholesaler’ to Casitas retail customers so notifications are unnecessary. Casitas does not purchase water from any other wholesalers.

Submittal Table 2-4 Retail: Water Supplier Information Exchange - Casitas Retail
Wholesale Water Supplier Name
Not applicable.
NOTES: Casitas Serves as the 'wholesaler' to Casitas retail customers so notifications are not necessary. Casitas does not purchase water from any other wholesaler.

Ojai Water System. Casitas serves as the ‘wholesaler’ to Ojai Water System retail customers so notifications are unnecessary. Casitas does not purchase water from any other wholesalers.

Submittal Table 2-4 Retail: Water Supplier Information Exchange - Ojai Retail

Wholesale Water Supplier Name

Not applicable.

NOTES: Casitas Serves as the 'wholesaler' to Ojai retail customers so notifications are not necessary. Casitas does not purchase water from any other wholesaler.

2.4.2. [Coordination with Other Agencies and the Community](#)

Notifications regarding the preparation of this 2025 UWMP were sent to the following agencies and community groups:

Calleguas Municipal Water District	Surfrider Foundation Ventura County
Carpinteria Valley Water District	United Water Conservation District
Farm Bureau of Ventura County	Upper Ventura River Groundwater Management Agency
Friends of the Ventura River	Ventura County Agriculture Commissioner
Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA)	Ventura County Local Agencies Formation Commission
Ojai Chamber of Commerce	Ventura County Resource Conservation District
Ojai FLOW	Ventura County Supervisor Matt LaVere
Ojai Pixie Growers Association	Ventura County Watershed Protection District
Ojai Valley Land Conservancy	Ventura River Watershed Coordinator
Ojai Valley News	Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County
Ojai Valley Sanitary District	

A sample letter is provided in Appendix A. Additionally, Casitas posted a notice on their website and social media accounts including Facebook and Instagram regarding the availability of the Draft 2025 UWMP.

2.4.3. [Notice to Cities and County](#)

Notification letters at least 60 days in advance of the public hearing on the 2025 UWMP were sent to the following Cities and Counties:

- County of Ventura
- City of Ventura
- Ventura Water
- City of Ojai

The sample letter is provided in Appendix B.

3. System Area Description

Descriptions of the Casitas and Ojai water systems are included in the following subsections.

3.1. General Description

Casitas is a Municipal Water District providing wholesale and retail potable water to western Ventura County including 6,180 agricultural, commercial, and residential customer accounts. The District boundaries (Figure 3-1) encompass the City of Ojai, Upper Ojai, the Ventura River Valley area, the City of Ventura (west of Mills Road), and the beach communities of Solimar, La Conchita, and Rincon.

Casitas Wholesale System. Casitas supplies water to several water agencies on a wholesale basis; there are 24 wholesale connections. The largest wholesale customer is the City of Ventura (City of Ventura). Ventura is supplied via the gravity-fed Cañada Larga (30-inch) and Ventura 1(M) (33-inch) Mains. There are two connection points to the City, one at the City's Avenue Treatment Plant, and one near Olive and Ramona Streets in west Ventura. The maximum demand from the City can periodically reach 20 cubic feet per second (cfs). Casitas' service area also includes smaller mutual water companies, and two water districts, Meiners Oaks Water District and Ventura River Water District.

Casitas Retail System. The Casitas retail system includes the services directly to end users including residential, agricultural, commercial, and industrial customers. The Casitas wholesale and retail customers share a potable water transmission and distribution system.

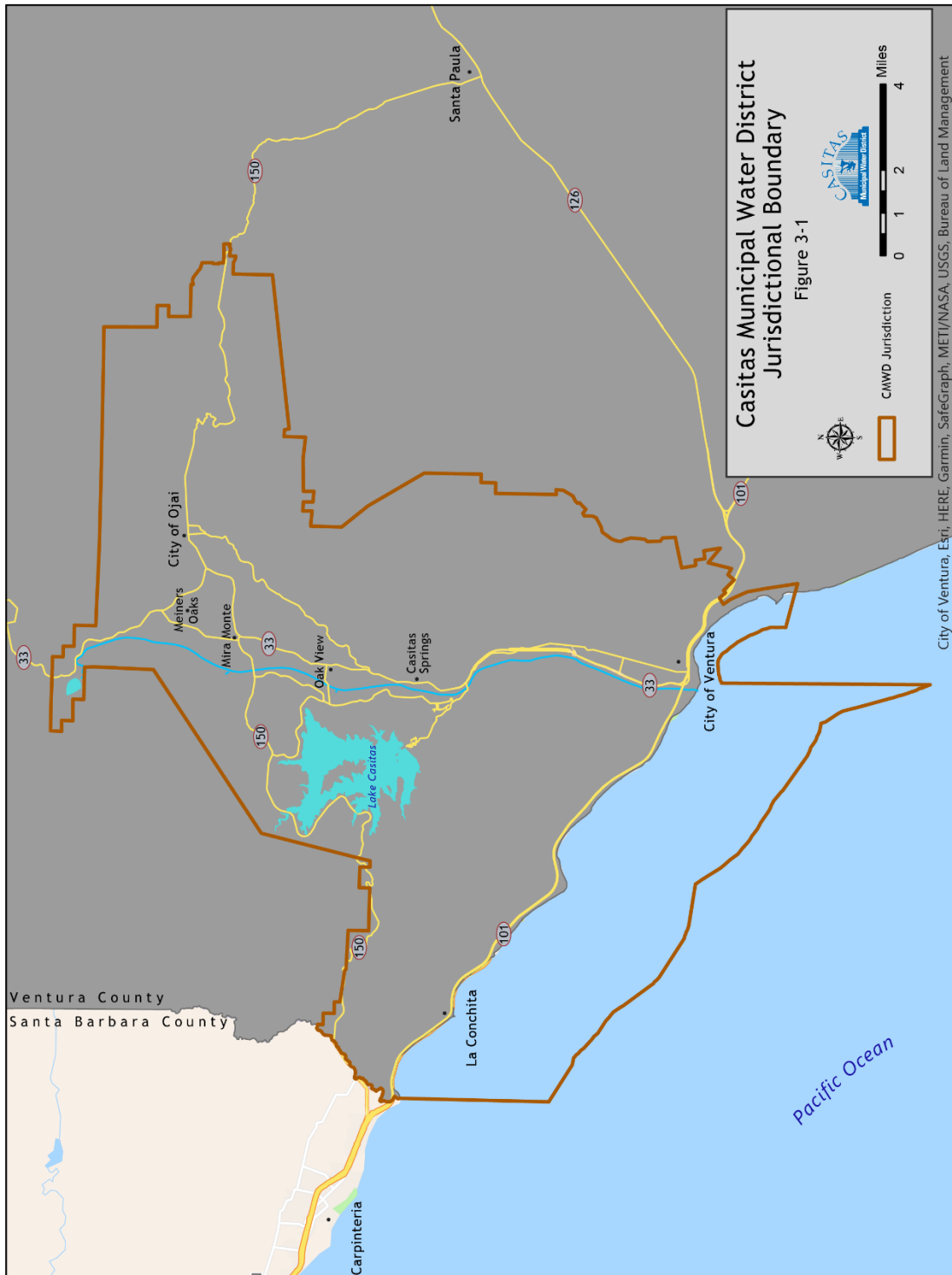
Casitas Municipal Water District was originally formed as Ventura River Municipal Water District in 1952. The main source of supply is Lake Casitas, which was formed by the construction of Casitas Dam. The Dam, the Robles Diversion Facility on the Ventura River, and a majority of the transmission system was constructed by the United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) in the late 1950s and 1960s. In addition to the facilities constructed by USBR, Casitas also constructed water infrastructure (pipelines, tanks, and pump plants) to further expand the system.

The original capacity of Lake Casitas was 254,000 acre-feet (AF); a 2017 bathymetric survey re-calculated the capacity to approximately 238,000 AF. As of December 2025, Lake Casitas was at approximately 97 percent of capacity (229,880 AF in storage) as a result of significant storms in 2022 and 2023.

Lake Casitas receives inflow from the surrounding watershed, Coyote Creek, Santa Ana Creek, and the Robles Diversion Facility. The Robles Fish Passage Facility was constructed at the Robles Diversion in 2004 as a result of the listing of steelhead trout in the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The 2003 non-jeopardy BO prepared by NMFS determines the conditions under which water can be diverted from the Ventura River to the Robles Canal (which feeds into Lake Casitas).

The Marion Walker Pressure Filtration Plant (MWFPF) at the base of Casitas Dam was constructed in 1995 and is a 65 million-gallon per day (mgd) facility utilizing pressure filtration to treat water before distribution in compliance with the State of California Surface Water Treatment Rule.

The Casitas System also includes the Mira Monte Well with a planned operational supply of 145 to 180 AFY. The well water is blended with surface water from Lake Casitas at a high ratio to ensure nitrate concentrations are below the maximum contaminant level.



Ojai Water System. Casitas acquired the Ojai Water System in 2017 from GSWC and completed a Condition Assessment and Master Plan in 2018.

The Ojai System obtains water from the Ojai Groundwater Basin and two interconnections with the Casitas System. The Ojai System acquisition included several groundwater wells, with some wells over 45 years old and in need of rehabilitation and replacement. The wells acquired by GSWC were unable to produce their original design capacity of 4,404 AFY. During the period from 2021-2025, Casitas rehabilitated several wells and installed a new well; the total wellfield capacity with all pumps running is now approximately 3,200 AFY.

The Ojai Groundwater Basin is managed by the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA). In October 2025 the OBGMA Well at Carne Road and Grand Avenue showed groundwater levels at 74.5 percent full (59,600 AF of stored water remaining) in the Ojai Basin¹.

3.2. Service Area Boundary Map

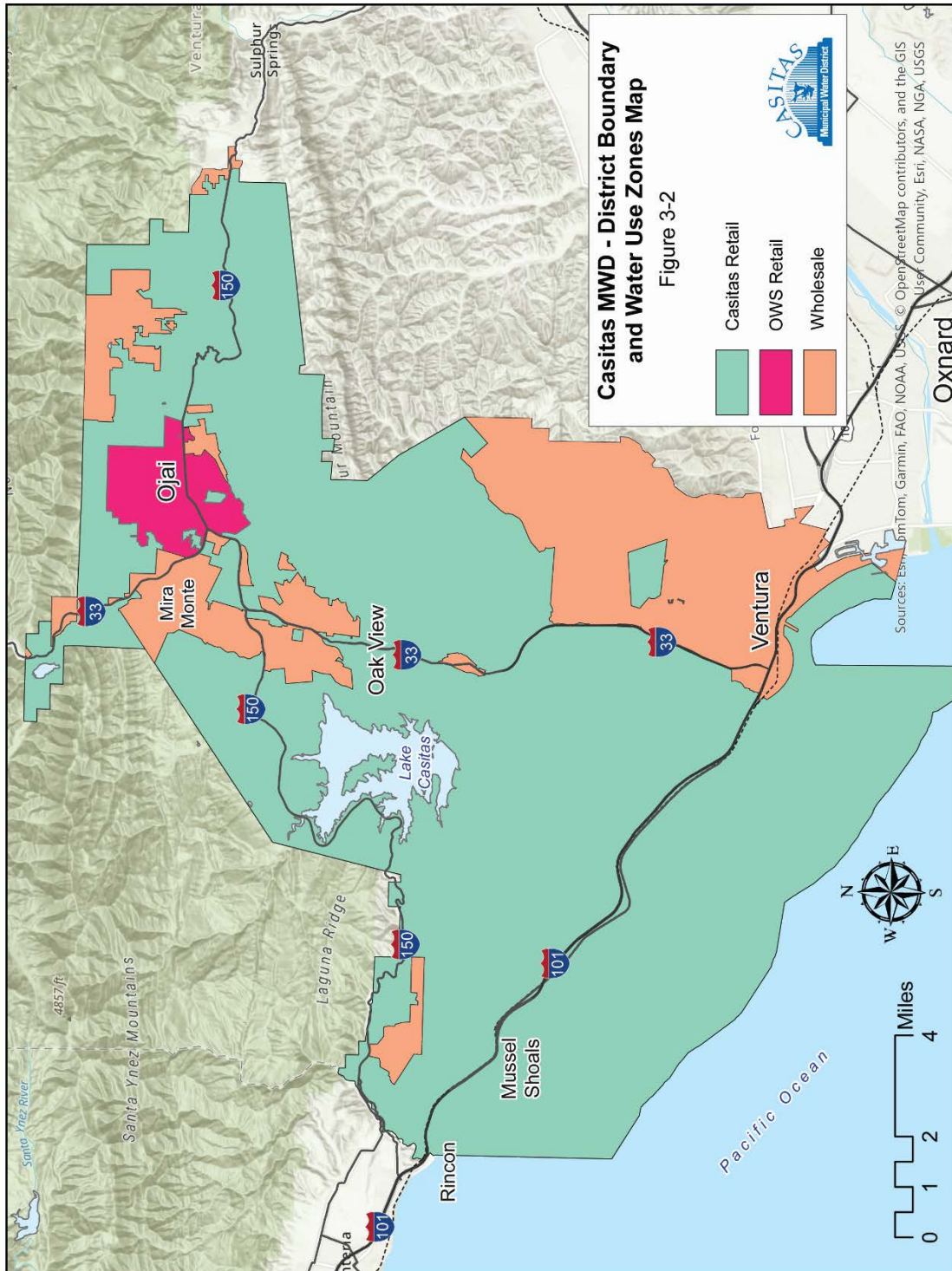
The following subsections show the specific boundaries of the Casitas wholesale system, Casitas retail system and Ojai Water System. Figure 3-2 shows each system's boundaries. Geographic Information System (GIS) files will be uploaded to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) website when the 2025 UWMP is submitted.

Casitas Wholesale System. The wholesale system boundary was created using the service areas of Casitas' wholesale (resale) customers.

Casitas Retail System. The Casitas Retail System boundary was created by excluding the wholesale (resale) customers and the Ojai retail system.

Ojai Retail System. The Ojai retail system boundary map was created using the boundaries of the former Golden State Water Company.

¹ *Bouncing Along, Ojai Basin Conditions*, Jordan Kear PG, CHG, 30 October 2025



3.3. Service Area Climate

The climate conditions for Casitas' entire service area are described in the following subsections. Casitas' service area includes micro-climates of coastal and inland areas. Precipitation and evaporation are measured at Casitas Dam and the Lake Casitas Recreation Area.

Evapotranspiration. Average evapotranspiration by month was evaluated over the 2016-2025 timeframe and ranged from 1.86 inches in December to 7.72 inches in July, with an average monthly evapotranspiration of 4.52 inches. Total annual evapotranspiration over the period averaged 54.28 inches.

Temperature. Casitas' service area experiences significant temperature variation over its terrain. Coastal areas are milder with less temperature fluctuation, while inland areas see a wider temperature swing. For the period of 2016 to 2025, the Lake Casitas Recreation Area weather station showed an average temperature of 55 degrees Fahrenheit (°F) in December and an average temperature of 71.3°F in July.

Precipitation. Similarly, annual precipitation varies throughout the service area. At the Lake Casitas Recreation Area for the previous ten years, the average monthly precipitation ranged from 0.0 inches in July to 2.5 inches in January. Total annual precipitation over the period averaged 22.33 inches.

At Casitas Dam, the minimum annual precipitation was 7.19 inches (2021) and maximum annual precipitation was 53.63 inches (2023). Total annual precipitation over the period averaged 23.7 inches.

Climate Change. A report titled *Projected Changes in Ventura County Climate* was prepared by the Desert Research Institute in 2019. The report was commissioned by Watersheds Coalition of Ventura County, of which Casitas is a member, and can be found on their website <https://watershedscoalition.org/> under Climate Resilience Resources. The projected climate change impacts for the Casitas service area include:

- Winters may get wetter with more short duration/high intensity precipitation due to atmospheric rivers, resulting in increased potential for flash flooding
- Shoulder seasons may have more dry days
- Potential increase in wildfire frequency due to spring/fall drying
- Increased drought susceptibility and increased water demand due to increasing temperatures and evapotranspiration rates
- Good agreement across models for increase in inland area temperatures between 3 – 5°F and coastal areas between 2 – 3°F
- More days exceeding extreme/impactful temperature thresholds

As with any climate modelling efforts, there is uncertainty. These potential impacts are the results of the best tools available at this time and are meaningful in their applicability to the service area and can support decision-making. Casitas will continue to participate in these modeling efforts going forward.

3.4. Service Area Population and Demographics

The service area populations of the Casitas wholesale, Casitas retail, and Ojai Water System are described in the following subsections. Demographics are discussed for the entire service area.

3.4.1. Service Area Population

The service area populations for the Casitas Wholesale System, Casitas Retail System and Ojai Water System are described in the following subsections. Population projections are described in more detail in each subsection. The total population served by Casitas in 2025 is 62,014 for the combined wholesale and retail systems.

Casitas Wholesale System. Population projections for the Casitas Wholesale system are based on a GIS Analysis that used a Casitas Jurisdictional boundary (Parcel level) to extract the populations from a 2010 Census Dataset (SCAG). In cases where less than 100% of the census block was intersected by the service boundary only a percentage of the population was extracted (Ratio Policy). The populations of the Casitas Retail system and the Ojai Retail system were subtracted from the resulting Jurisdictional population (2010). The same process was applied to a 2020 Census dataset (Calif. Dept. of Finance). The percent of change was calculated between both 2010 and 2020 populations by using a simple growth rate which resulted in a 0.26% annual population increase. This positive increase was used to forecast the populations for the subsequent years leading up to 2045.

Submittal Table 3-1 Wholesale: Population - Current and Projected, Casitas Wholesale					
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
	44,719	45,292	45,872	46,460	47,056

Casitas Retail System. The Casitas Retail System population is based on non-wholesale customers with a direct meter from Casitas and not located within the former Golden State Water Company (Ojai) water system.

Population projections for the Casitas Retail system are based on a Casitas Retail service area boundary overlay (parcel level) that is used as an input into the DWR Population tool. The tool interpolates the PPC (persons per connection) for the baseline years and also for 2025. The number of service connections (Residential + Multifamily) for 2025 was then multiplied by 3.75 (PPC) which resulted in a population of 10,139 for 2025. The rate of change was calculated by using the difference of 2025 and 2020 populations and then applying a simple growth rate formula which resulted in a -0.08% annual population change. The rate of change was then used to forecast the populations for the subsequent years leading up to 2045.

There are customers who are served by both the Casitas and Ojai systems; they have two separate meters. The majority of their water use was from the Casitas system, so the population of these parcels was included in Table 3-1 Casitas Retail and calculations.

Submittal Table 3-1 Retail: Population - Current and Projected, Casitas Retail					
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
	10,139	10,097	10,056	10,015	9,974

Ojai Water System. The Ojai Water System is comprised of those customers formerly served by Golden State Water Company in Ojai.

Population projections for the Ojai Retail system are based on an Ojai service area boundary overlay (parcel level) that is used as an input into the DWR Population tool. The tool interpolates the PPC (persons per connection) for the baseline years and also for 2025. The number of service connections (Residential + Multifamily) for 2025 was then multiplied by 2.75 (PPC) which resulted in a population of 7,156 for 2025. The rate of change was calculated by using the difference of 2025 and 2020 populations and then applying a simple growth rate formula which resulted in a 0.16% annual population increase. The rate of change was then used to forecast the populations for the subsequent years leading up to 2045.

Submittal Table 3-1 Retail: Population - Current and Projected, Ojai Retail					
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
	7,156	7,215	7,275	7,335	7,396

3.4.2. Other Social, Economic and Demographic Factors

Information on demographics throughout Casitas' service areas is from *Ventura County 2040 General Plan, Chapter 2 Background Report – Demographics and Economics* (September 2020, County of Ventura); *City of Ventura 2050 General Plan* (November 2025, City of Ventura); and the *City of Ojai 2021 – 2029 Housing Element* (August 2023, City of Ojai).

The City of Ventura is a community of an estimated 106,276 (as of 2020). This reflects a 2.9 percent contraction since 2015, despite sustained population growth in the greater Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) region. Ventura City limits extend into the Pacific Ocean and cover 20,660 acres (32.3 square miles). Of the 20,660 acres, 6,464 acres are the Pacific Ocean.

According to the City of Ojai's Housing Element, the City of Ojai is a community of 7,557 persons (as of 2020), intersected by California State Route 33 and California State Route 150 and covering an area of 4.37 square miles.

The City of Ojai's racial and ethnic composition differs from the County of Ventura in that a smaller proportion of City residents are of Hispanic/Latino origin. The City of Ventura has a 51 – 60 percent White/Caucasian population; 36 – 37 percent Hispanic/Latino population, 5 percent Asian, 1 – 2 percent African American, 1 percent Other/Indigenous, and 6 – 12 percent two or more races.

In Ojai, households with married residents or with children under 18 years of age living with a parent or guardian, is approximately 55 percent of all households in the City, compared to about 73 percent for the County of Ventura as a whole. Ojai's average household size of 2.37 persons per household is significantly smaller than the average County-wide size of 3.08 persons per household, respectively; and nearly 38 percent of Ojai households are people living alone. These statistics suggest a lesser need for large units in Ojai than in other areas of Ventura County.

The City of Ojai has 53 percent owner-occupied units versus Ventura County's 63 percent. The Ojai renter occupied units is 47 percent versus the County of Ventura's 37 percent. Of the City of Ojai's 47 percent renter population, 1.6 percent are considered "overcrowded".

According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), about 40 percent of households in Ojai fell into the lower-income categories (earning under 80 percent of the HUD area median income (AMI) for Ventura County), which is comparable to Ventura County as a whole.

Within Casitas' overall service area, there are several designated Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) and Severely Disadvantaged Communities per the State of California Department of Water Resources Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool. These are shown in Figure 3-3 and are based on tracts and census blocks from DWR's 2023 data.

The economy of Casitas' service area is generally based on oil and gas production, agriculture, and hospitality/tourism.

3.4.3. Land Uses Within Service Area

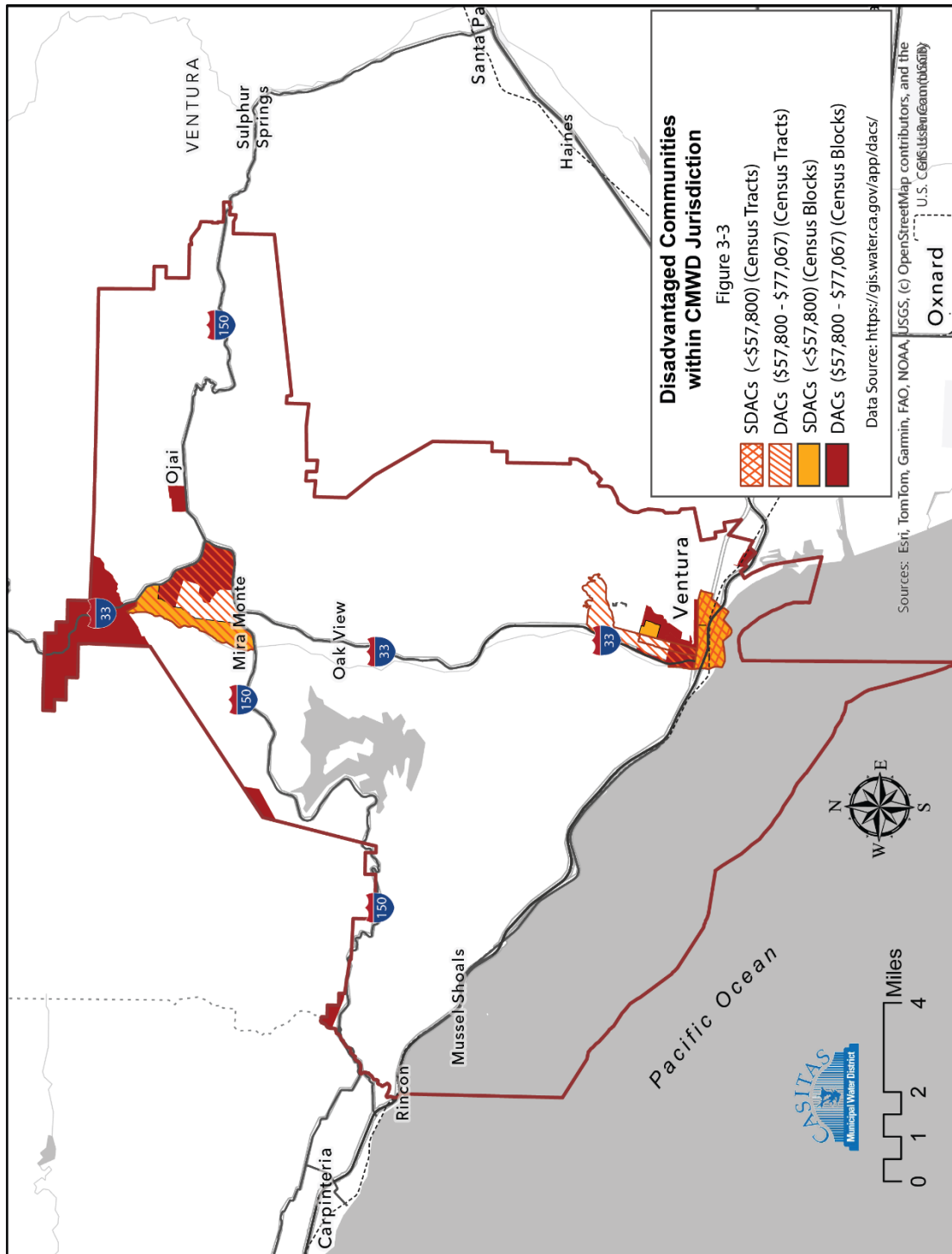
The County of Ventura adopted the 2040 General Plan in September 2020. Area Plans from the General Plan within Casitas' area include the Coastal Area, North Ventura Avenue Area and Ojai Valley Area. The incorporated City of Ojai is entirely within Casitas boundaries. Portions of the City of Ventura on the west end are also in Casitas' service area. Figure 3-4 shows land use designations overlain with District boundaries.

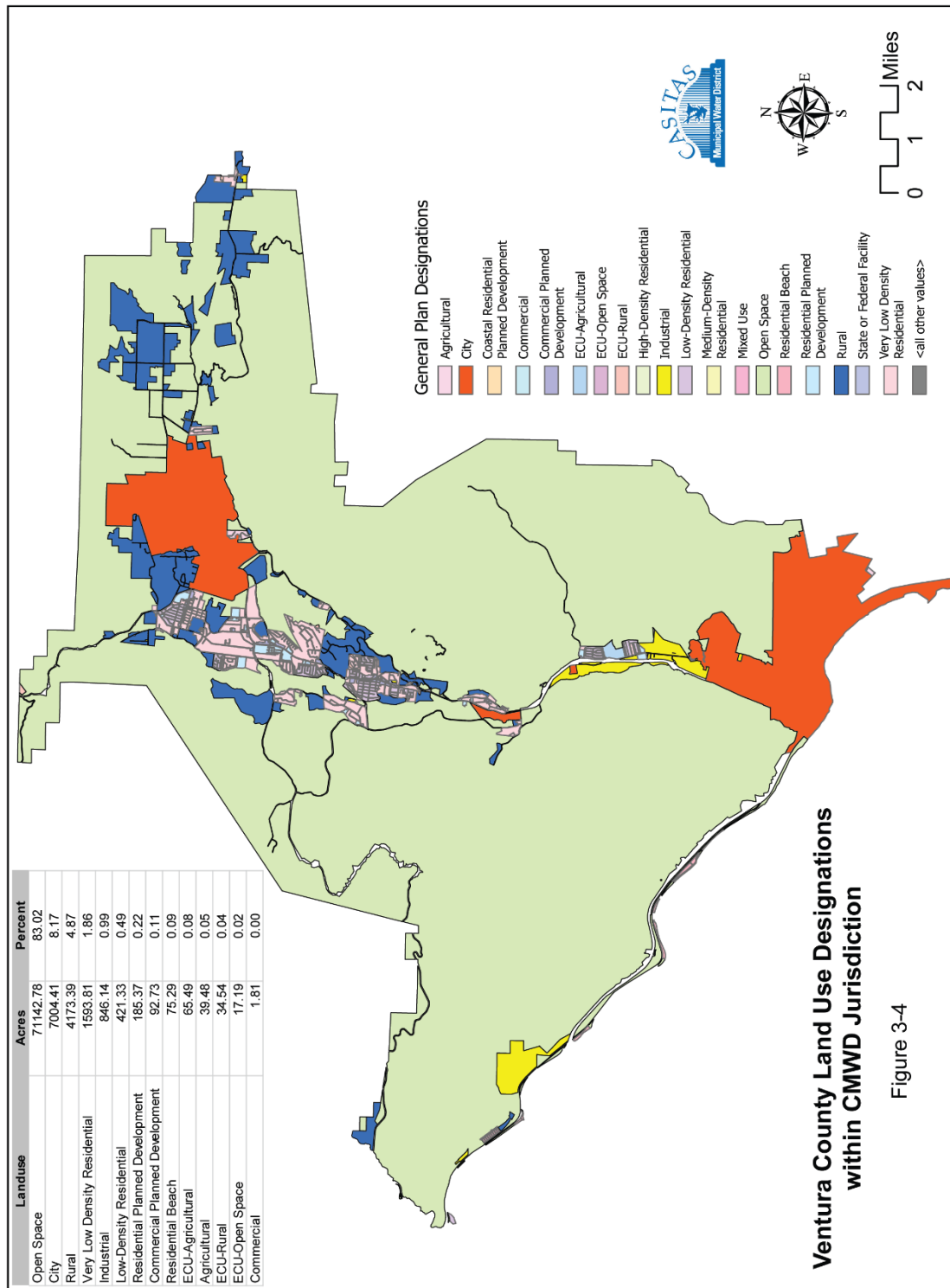
The following subsections provide more information on specific Areas.

Coastal Area (CA). The CA extends along the Pacific Coast from the Los Angeles County Line in the south to the Santa Barbara County Line in the north. Specifically, the North Coast is within Casitas' service area and includes the communities of Rincon Point, La Conchita, Mussel Shoals, Seacliff, Faria, and Solimar.

There is also significant agriculture as well as oil wells and related facilities. Along the coast itself are recreational facilities including State and County campgrounds.

North Ventura Avenue Area (NVAA). The NVAA is located in the Ventura River Valley and is characterized by long-term oilfield and oil-related industries, as well as residential development. There are also numerous brownfield sites with potentially contaminated soils. Casitas serves a handful of retail customers in this area, but the NVAA is generally within the City of Ventura's service area.





Ojai Valley Area (OVA). The OVA is located in the northern section of the District's service area and surrounds the City of Ojai. The area is considered very scenic and land uses are open space, agricultural, and rural. One of the goals of the OVA Plan is to preserve and protect the character of the area.

4. Water Use Characterization

Water usage for the wholesale and retail customers of Casitas is discussed in the following subsections.

4.1. Non-Potable Versus Potable Use

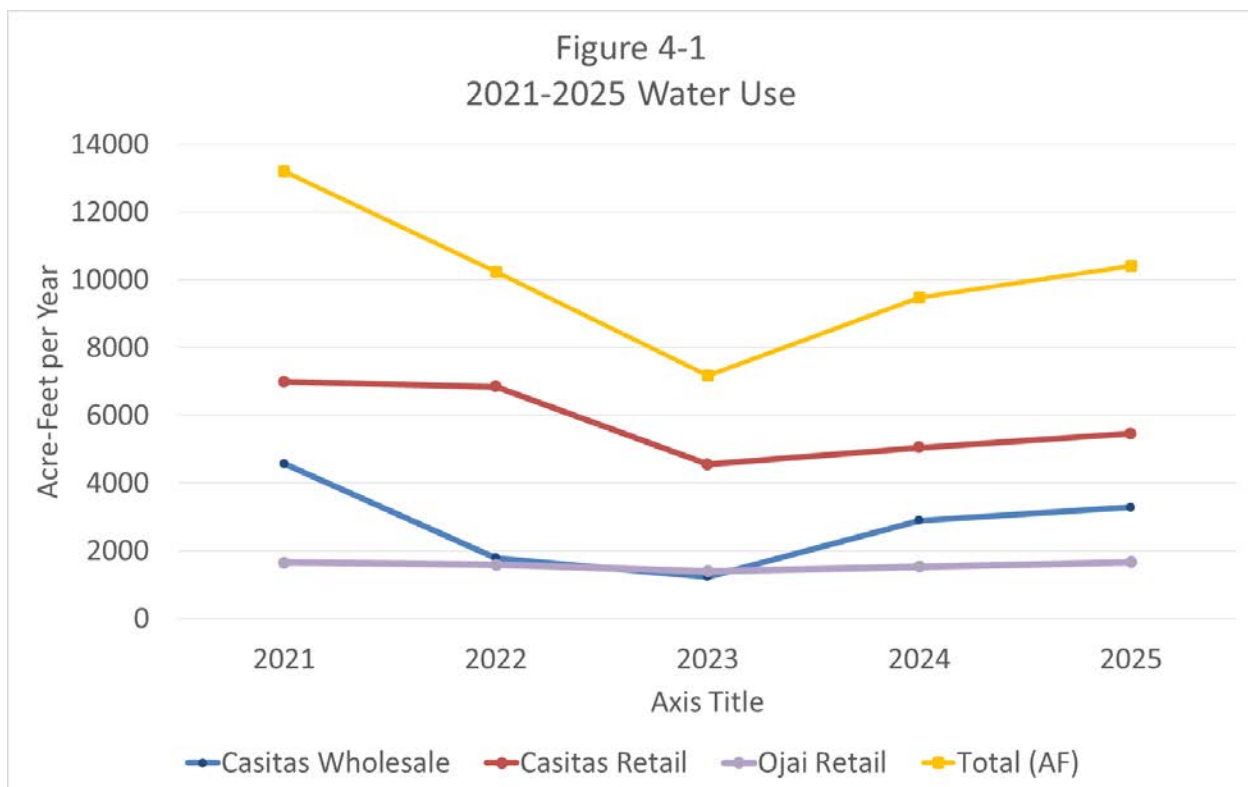
The District serves only potable water to its customers, both wholesale and retail.

4.2. Past, Current, and Projected Water Use By Sector

Past, current, and project water use by sector for Casitas wholesale, Casitas retail, and Ojai Water System retail are described in the following subsections.

4.2.1. Past Water Use

Since 2021, water use in Casitas' service area for wholesale and retail customers has generally decreased or remained flat as shown in Figure 4-1, based on billed consumption data at customer meters. All Casitas customers have an assigned water allocation and they responded to the past drought conditions in the service area by conserving water in a significant manner.



Casitas Wholesale System. Casitas supplies water to the resale customers listed in Section 2.4.1 and Table 2-4. Data is taken from the utility billing system.

Casitas Retail System. Demands for Casitas retail customers are obtained from the utility billing system.

Ojai Water System. Demands for Ojai Water System retail customers are obtained from the utility billing system.

4.2.2. Current Water Use

Current water use (2025) for Casitas wholesaler, Casitas retail and Ojai Water System is described in the following subsections. All Casitas and Ojai Water systems are potable water.

Casitas Wholesale System. Table 4-1 Wholesale shows the Casitas wholesale demands. All water delivered is potable. Specific wholesale customers are listed in Table 2-4 Wholesale.

Optional Submittal Table 4-1 Wholesale: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual, Casitas Wholesale			
Use Type	Additional Description	2025 Actual Water Use	
		Potable or Non-Potable	Volume (AF)
Sales to other agencies	Resale customers	Potable	3,281
Total			3,281
NOTES: Losses for Casitas' system cannot be separated between wholesale and retail; they are reported in Table 4-1 Casitas Retail and Table 4-1 Ojai Retail.			

Casitas Retail System. Table 4-1 Retail Demands for the Casitas System is shown below.

Submittal Table 4-1 Retail: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual, Casitas Retail			
Use Type	Additional Description	2025 Actual Water Use	
		Potable or Non-Potable	Volume (AF)
Single Family		Potable	1,008
Multi-Family		Potable	195
Commercial		Potable	417
Industrial		Potable	17
Institutional/Governmental		Potable	125
Agricultural	Ag, Ag Domestic, Ag Domestic Multi-Family	Potable	3,704
Distribution System Water Loss	2024 Water Loss Audit	Potable	625
Other	Other, Fire Service, Temporary	Potable	11
Sales/Transfers/Exchanges to other Suppliers	Ojai Retail Demands	Potable	134
Landscape	Dedicated Irrigation Meters (DIMs)	Potable	327
Total			6,564
NOTES: 2024 Water Loss Audit data is included as the 2025 Water Loss Audit is not complete at the time this UWMP is due.			

Ojai Water System. Table 4-1 Retail Demands for the Ojai Water System is shown below.

Submittal Table 4-1 Retail: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual, Ojai Retail			
Use Type	Additional Description	2025 Actual Water Use	
		Potable or Non-Potable	Volume (AF)
Single Family		Potable	1,093
Multi-Family		Potable	92
Commercial		Potable	298
Industrial		Potable	4
Agricultural	Ag, Ag Domestic, Ag Domestic Multi-Family	Potable	53
Distribution System Water Loss	2024 Water Loss Audit	Potable	243
Other	Other, Fire Service, Temporary	Potable	48
Landscape	DIMs	Potable	27
Total			1,858
NOTES: 2024 Water Loss Audit data is included as the 2025 Water Loss Audit is not complete at the time this UWMP is due.			

4.2.3. [Projected Water Use](#)

In April 2021, the Board adopted 14,525 AFY as the projected demand for the Casitas system to be used for planning purposes (based on the 10-year average demand from 2011 to 2020). The service area is not expected to see significant development which would cause this projected demand to increase.

Demands for the more recent period 2016-2025 were averaged for each customer type and these percentages were used to develop the projected demands by customer class.

Casitas Wholesale System. For the period 2021 to 2025 (since the last UWMP was prepared), the wholesale customer use ranged from a low of approximately 1,230 AFY (2023) to a high of approximately 4,570 AFY (2021) with an average of 2,752 AFY .

Table 4-2 Casitas Wholesale shows the total projected water use to other agencies. These projections are based on the Board’s projected demands for planning purposes adopted in 2021, which is approximately 30 percent of total demand on the Casitas System.

Optional Submittal Table 4-2 Wholesale: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Projected, Casitas Wholesale					
Use Type	Projected Water Use (Report To the Extent that Records are Available)				
	Potable or Non-Potable	2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)
Sales to other agencies	Potable	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
Total		4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355

Casitas Retail System. The projected demands by customer type for the Casitas Retail system were derived from the average percentage of demand for the period 2016 to 2025. There is little growth expected in the Casitas service area, so demands for planning purposes are not expected to increase. Table 4-2 Casitas Retail shows the projected demands in five-year increments from 2030 to 2045.

Submittal Table 4-2 Retail: Total Uses for Potable, and Non-Potable Water — Projected, Casitas Retail					
Use Type	Additional Description	Projected Water Use			
		2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)
Single Family		1,562	1,562	1,562	1,562
Multi-Family		302	302	302	302
Commercial		646	646	646	646
Industrial		26	26	26	26
Institutional/Governmental		194	194	194	194
Agricultural	Ag, Ag Domestic, Multi-Family Ag Domestic	5,739	5,739	5,739	5,739
Distribution System Water Loss		968	968	968	968
Other	Temporary, Fire	18	18	18	18
Other	Ojai Retail Demand	208	208	208	208
Landscape	DIMs	507	507	507	507
Total		10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170

Ojai Water System. The projected demands by customer type for the Ojai Retail system were derived from the average percentage of demand for the period 2021 to 2025. There is little growth expected in the OWS service area, so demands for planning purposes are not expected to increase. Table 4-2 Ojai Retail shows the projected demands in five-year increments from 2030 to 2045.

Submittal Table 4-2 Retail: Total Uses for Potable, and Non-Potable Water — Projected, Ojai Retail					
Use Type	Additional Description	Projected Water Use			
		2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)
Single Family		1,088	1,088	1,088	1,088
Multi-Family		91	91	91	91
Commercial		297	297	297	297
Industrial		4	4	4	4
Agricultural		53	53	53	53
Distribution System Water Loss		242	242	242	242
Other	Temporary, Fire	48	48	48	48
Landscape		27	27	27	27
Total		1,850	1,850	1,850	1,850

The projected water use demand for lower income households is included in the projections in Section 4.2.3 and all Tables 4-2. Table 4-3 applies to both Casitas and Ojai Retail systems.

Submittal Table 4-3 Retail: Inclusion in Water Use Projections, Casitas and Ojai Retail	
Are Future Water Savings Included in Projections?	Yes
If "Yes" to above, state the section or page number, in the cell to the right, where citations of the codes, ordinances, or otherwise are utilized in demand projections are found.	4.2.3
Are Lower Income Residential Demands Included In Projections?	Yes

4.2.4. [Climate Change Considerations](#)

Since Casitas relies on local surface water and groundwater supplies, the impacts of climate change are magnified when rainfall is scarce or limited. The *Projected Changes in Ventura County Climate* report described in Section 3.3 highlights climatological factors which may lead to higher water demands than projected, including: more days exceeding extreme/impactful temperature thresholds; more dry days during shoulder months; and increased evapotranspiration rates. Declining lake storage level may trigger implementation of more severe water conservation stages as defined in the WEAP.

4.3. Distribution System Loss

This section describes distribution system loss for the Casitas Wholesale, Casitas Retail, and Ojai Retail systems.

4.3.1. Previous Five Years' Distribution System Losses – Casitas Systems

Casitas has completed water loss audits following the procedures outlined by AWWA to identify and quantify system losses. The submitted water audits for calendar years 2021 to 2024 can be found on the WUE Data Portal at: https://wuedata.water.ca.gov/awwa_plans.

System losses are difficult to separate amongst the three systems (Casitas Wholesale, Casitas Retail, and Ojai Retail). Water loss audits were submitted for both the Casitas and Ojai systems. Losses are reported in the Casitas Retail and Ojai Retail systems based on the proportion of pipeline in each system (Casitas Retail 72 percent and Ojai Retail 28 percent).

Casitas Wholesale System. Losses are only reported for Casitas Retail and Ojai Retail as discussed in the previous section.

Casitas Retail System. Table 4-5² Casitas Retail shows the 2020-2024 period for which Casitas submitted water loss audits to DWR for the Casitas Retail system.

Submittal Table 4-5 Retail: Water Loss Audit Reporting, Casitas Retail		
Public Water System ID # Reported in Table 2-1 R	Reporting Period	Submitted to DWR Water Loss Audit Program (yes/no)
CA5610014	2020	Yes
	2021	Yes
	2022	Yes
	2023	Yes
	2024	Yes

Ojai Water System. Table 4-5 Ojai Retail shows the 2020-2024 period for which Casitas submitted water loss audits to DWR for the Ojai Retail system.

Submittal Table 4-5 Retail: Water Loss Audit Reporting, Ojai Retail		
Public Water System ID # Reported in Table 2-1 R	Reporting Period	Submitted to DWR Water Loss Audit Program (yes/no)
CA5610024	2020	Yes
	2021	Yes
	2022	Yes
	2023	Yes
	2024	Yes

² Table 4-4 in the UWMP Guidebook is Optional for Passive Water Savings Projections and Casitas chose not to include it so the table numbers skip Table 4-4.

4.3.2. [Previous Five Years' Distribution System Losses – Ojai Water System](#)

Table 4-6 shows both the Casitas and Ojai Retail systems' progress towards the 2028 water loss standard.

Submittal Table 4-6 Retail: Progress Towards 2028 Water Loss Standard

Public Water System ID # Reported in Submittal Table 2-1 R	Did the Water Board Calculate a Water Loss Standard for this Public Water System?	Real Water Loss					Apparent Water Loss				
		State Water Board Standard		Most Recent AWWA Water Loss Audit		Real Water Loss Per Unit per Day	State Water Board Standard		Most Recent AWWA Water Loss Audit		Apparent Water Loss Per Unit per Day
		2028 Real Water Loss Standard per Unit per day	Units for Real Water Loss	Number of Units (Connections or Miles corresponding with units selected)	Volume of Total Real Loss (from AWWA Water Loss Audit) (AF)		2028 Apparent Water Loss Standard per Unit per Day	Units for Apparent Water Loss	Number of Connections	Volume of Total Apparent Loss (from AWWA Water Loss Audit) (AF)	
Casitas CA5610024	Yes	3,523	Gallons per Mile per Day (GPMD)	116.6	460.191	3,523.4	56	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	3,196	200	66.1
Ojai CA5610014	Yes	24.1	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	2976	23.337	7.0	23.337	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	2,976	23.3	7.0

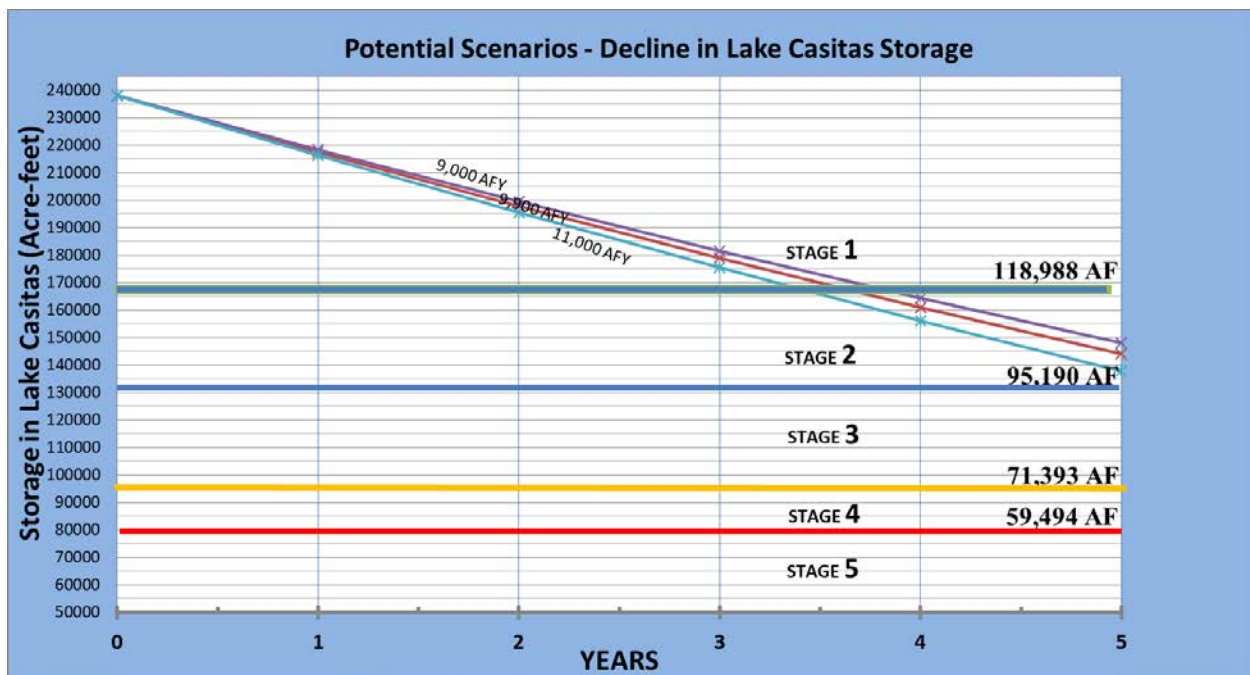
4.3.3. Characteristic Five-Year Water Use

The unprecedented rainfall of late 2022/early 2023 brought the level in Lake Casitas from less than 30 percent to 74 percent of capacity by the end of May 2023. The Board declared a Stage 1 condition starting on June 1, 2023, making a 20 percent conservation level voluntary. In 2024, abundant rainfall occurred once again with Lake Casitas reaching 100 percent of capacity in April 2024. At the end of December 2025, the lake was at 98 percent capacity.

Since 2022, Casitas prepares an Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment (AWSDA) which includes an evaluation of water supplies, demands, and effectiveness of water conservation measures over the previous fiscal year, and projects Lake Casitas levels under potential demand scenarios. Figure 4-2 shows the potential lake levels over the next five years with various demand projections.

These scenarios assume a worst-case scenario of no additions to storage, i.e., no precipitation or diversions. The evaporation rates established in 2013 are also incorporated. Three different demand scenarios are shown, 9,000 AFY, 9,900 AFY and 11,000 AFY. Based on these worst-case scenarios, Casitas could reach Stage 2 in year 4.

Figure 4-2



The FY 2025-2026 Casitas AWSDA is provided in Appendix C. Projected five-year supplies and demands are discussed further in Section 7.

5. SB X7-7 Baselines, Targets, and 2020 Compliance

With the adoption of the Water Conservation Act of 2009 (Act, also known as SB X7-7) the State of California is required to reduce urban per capita water use by 20 percent by the year 2020. In order to achieve this statewide objective, the Legislature required each retail supplier subject to the Act to develop an urban water use target to help the state collectively achieve a 20 percent reduction. The Legislature stated that the cumulative results of each retail supplier's reduction would meet the statewide legislative requirements.

Though wholesale agencies do not set per capita water use targets, wholesale agencies do play a role in water conservation and support retail agencies in achieving their demand targets. Wholesale agencies are guided by the California Water Code, CWC 10608.36, to document the programs and means by which they support retail agencies and the State in meeting water use reduction targets. These programs are described in section 9.

Casitas selected to report baselines, targets, and compliance separately for each of its retail systems. The methodology herein adheres to the California DWR *"Methodologies for Calculating Baseline and Compliance Urban Per Capita Water Use (For the Consistent Implementation of the Water Conservation Act of 2009)"* dated February 2016. More information on Casitas' methodology can be found in the 2020 UWMP.

5.1. Wholesale Suppliers

Casitas Wholesale System. For the wholesale system, Casitas is not required to calculate baselines, targets, or compliance levels. Casitas' demand management measures are described in Section 9.

5.2. SB X7-7 Baselines, Targets, and 2020 Compliance, Retail Suppliers

Casitas Retail System. Casitas met its 2020 Target in 2020. Table 5-1 shows the results for Target Progress in 2020.

Submittal Table 5-1 Retail: SB X7-7 2020 Target Progress, Casitas Retail				
Was Supplier part of a merger or consolidation since 2020?	Regional Alliance Target or Individual Target?	2020 Target	Actual 2020 GPCD	Did Supplier Achieve Targeted Reduction for 2020?
No	Individual Target	295	195	Yes

Ojai Water System. The Ojai Retail system baselines and targets are summarized in Table 5-1. The Ojai System met its 2020 Target in 2020.

Submittal Table 5-1 Retail: SB X7-7 2020 Target Progress, Ojai Retail				
Was Supplier part of a merger or consolidation since 2020?	Regional Alliance Target or Individual Target?	2020 Target	Actual 2020 GPCD	Did Supplier Achieve Targeted Reduction for 2020?
No	Individual Target	257	209	Yes

6. Normal-Year Water Supply Characterization

This section describes Casitas' water supply and its characteristics.

6.1. Water Supply Analysis Overview

Casitas' water supplies are currently 100 percent local, consisting of groundwater wells and surface water stored in Lake Casitas. The following subsections provide more information.

Figure 6-1 shows a representation of Casitas' supply sources. Current water supply sources include:

- Surface water into Lake Casitas from the surrounding watershed including Coyote Creek and Santa Ana Creek
- Surface water from the Ventura River to Lake Casitas via Robles Diversion and Robles Canal; the diversion is subject to the requirements of the 2003 non-jeopardy Biological Opinion for steelhead trout issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service
- Groundwater from the Mira Monte Well in the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin
- Groundwater from the Ojai Wellfield in the Ojai Groundwater Basin

6.1.1. Specific Analysis Applicable to All Water Supply Sources

The following subsections describe all water supply sources currently available to Casitas, as well as those available in the future.

6.1.1.1 *Purchased/Imported Water*

Planned, constructed, and operated by DWR, the SWP is one of the world's largest water, power, and conveyance systems. The SWP relies on a delivery system of reservoirs, aqueducts, power plants, and pumping plants that allow the movement of water from northern to southern CA and the ability to exchange and transfer water with SWP contractors throughout the state. The SWP primary delivery facilities are shown in Figure 6-2. More information on the SWP and its facilities can be found at:

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project>.

DWR's estimates of SWP deliveries are based on a computer model that simulates monthly operations of the SWP and Central Valley Project systems. In the existing conditions model scenario, DWR applied the existing facilities; hydrologic inflows to the model based on 100 years of historical inflows (1921–2021); current regulatory and operational constraints, biological opinions, incidental take permits; and contractor demand at maximum Table A amounts. The future condition study used all of the same model assumptions as the existing conditions study but reflected changes expected to occur from climate change — specifically, projected temperature and precipitation changes centered around 2035 (2020–2049) and a 45-centimeter sea-level rise.

Section 6.2.1 includes a discussion of the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie project, which is currently under construction and will allow Casitas to access a portion of its SWP allotment.

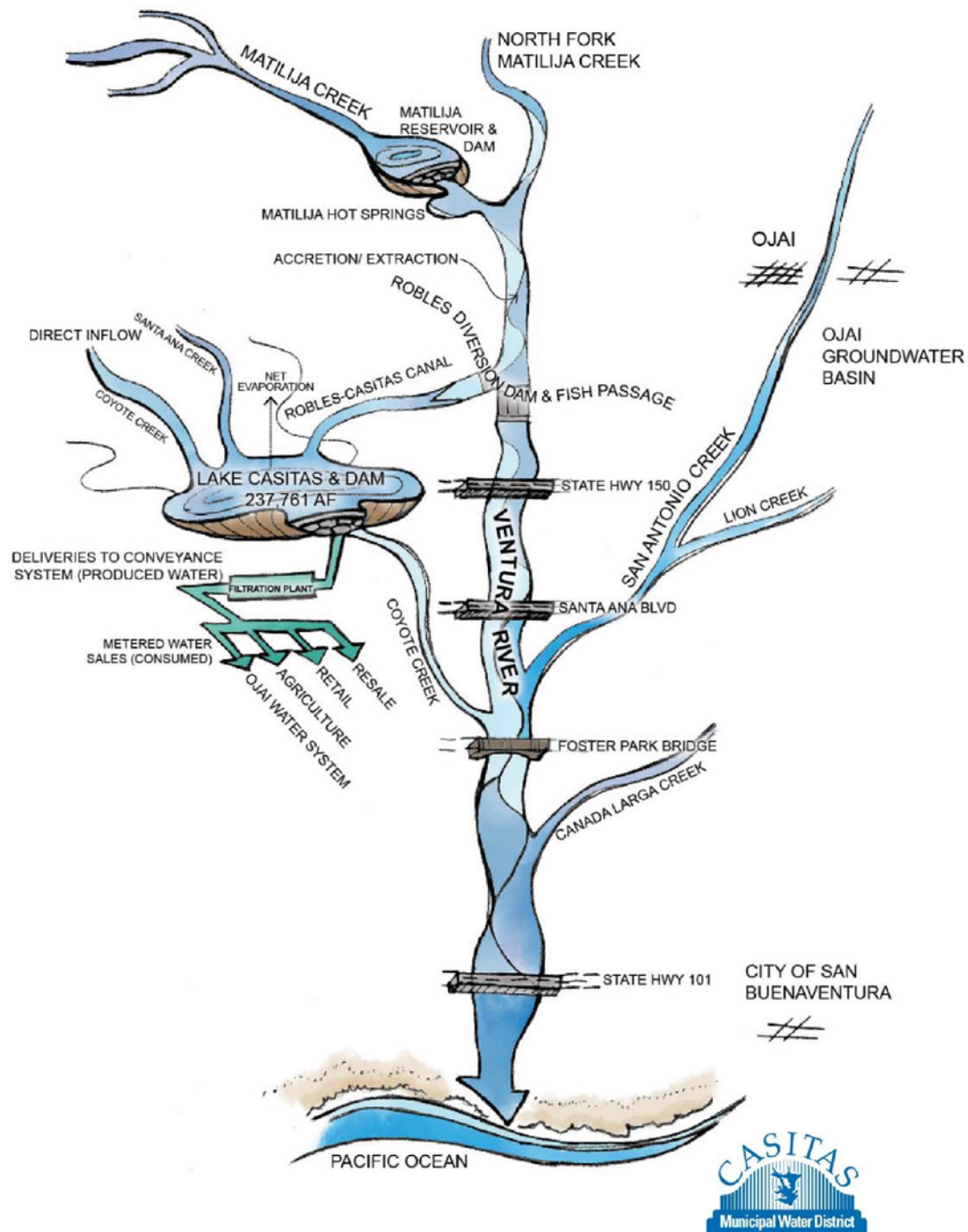


Figure 6-1
Supply Sources Illustration

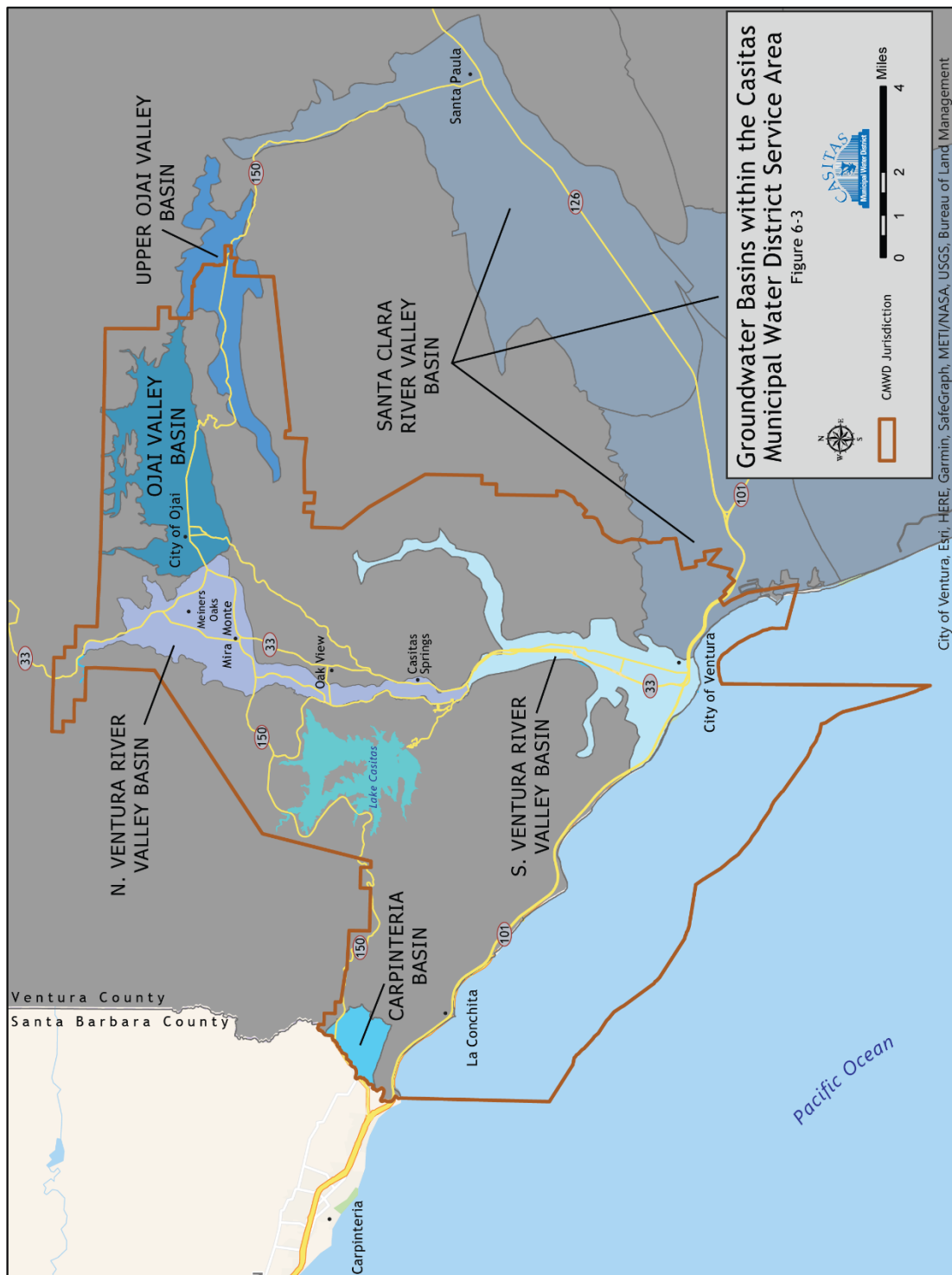


Figure 6-2 SWP Delivery Facilities

(Source: DWR Bulletin 132, 2015)

6.1.1.2 Groundwater

Three groundwater basins are within the Casitas service area: 1) Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin, 2) Lower Ventura River Groundwater Basin and 3) Ojai Basin. Figure 6-3 shows the boundaries of these basins.



6.1.1.3 Surface Water

The Ventura River Project is the primary surface water supply and consists of Casitas Dam and Reservoir (Lake Casitas), the Robles Diversion and Fish Passage Facility on the Ventura River, Robles Canal, and the water distribution system that consist of pipelines, pump plants, storage tanks and chlorination stations. Construction of the original facility was completed in 1959 and the Robles Fish Passage Facility was constructed in 2004.

The Ventura River Project is a federal facility owned by the United States of America. Under a repayment Contract with the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), Casitas was assigned the responsibilities for the operation and maintenance of the Ventura River Project and the perpetual right to use all water that becomes available through the construction and operation of the Project, subject to the satisfaction of vested rights.

Casitas maintains Licenses 11834 and 10133 for Diversion and Use of Water permitted by the State Water Resources Control Board (Casitas Licenses). Under the Casitas License 11834, Casitas may divert up to 107,800 AFY from the Ventura River and other tributaries into Lake Casitas and may put up to 28,500 AFY to beneficial use; and under Casitas License 10133, Casitas may withdraw up to 4,570 AFY diverted at Matilija Dam and re-diverted at Robles Diversion and Fish Passage Facility.

The Robles Diversion is located to the northwest of the City of Ojai, and supplies water via the Robles Canal to Lake Casitas. In 2004, the Robles Fish Passage Facility was constructed to allow endangered steelhead trout the ability to bypass the diversion facility and continue their migration both upstream and downstream.

The Robles Diversion and Fish Passage Facility is operated according with a 2003 Biological Opinion for steelhead trout issued by NMFS which requires minimum bypass flows of 30 cubic feet per second (cfs) once a peak occurs and requires bypass flows of 50-170 cfs for 10-12 days within the fish passage season (January 1 – June 30). Operations outside this period conform to the 1959 Trial Operating Criteria in which the first 20 cfs of flow is generally released downstream.

Coyote Creek. Coyote Creek is located on the west side of Lake Casitas and its drainage area contributes directly to Lake Casitas storage. Casitas and the County of Ventura maintain a stream gaging station on Coyote Creek.

Santa Ana Creek. Santa Ana Creek is also a major tributary to Lake Casitas. Casitas and the County of Ventura also maintain a stream gage to monitor flow. This station was not damaged during the 2017/2018 Thomas Fire but did experience heavy sediment transport and re-channelization following the fire, rendering poor quality flow data.

Lake Casitas. When originally constructed, Lake Casitas had a design capacity of 254,000 AF. A bathymetric survey performed in 2017 shows the capacity reduced to 237,761 AF due to survey methodology changes.

6.1.2. Special Considerations

Special conditions which may affect Casitas' water supplies are described in the following subsections.

6.1.2.1. Climate Change Effects

Climate change may affect Casitas' water supplies as described in Section 3.3.

6.1.2.2. *Regulatory Conditions and Project Development*

The following regulatory conditions and project development may have an impact on Casitas' water supplies in the future.

In-Stream Flow Studies. As directed by Governor Brown, the California Water Action Plan (WAP) was released in 2014 to move California toward more sustainable water management. The WAP was developed by the California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, and the California Department of Food and Agriculture, and includes three objectives: 1) more reliable water supplies; 2) restoration of important species and habitat, and 3) a more resilient sustainable managed water resources system.

As part of the implementation activities for the WAP, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is developing instream flow criteria in the Ventura River watershed that would support the endangered steelhead trout. These flow criteria will be submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to identify potential actions that may be taken to establish or enhance instream flow for steelhead. The SWRCB is developing a groundwater-surface water model of the Ventura River watershed to evaluate potential actions to achieve instream flows. These potential actions could have a significant impact on available water supplies for Casitas and its wholesale agencies. More information can be found at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/instream_flows/cwap_enhancing

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. In 2014 the California Legislature passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) to provide a framework for sustainable management of groundwater supplies by local agencies. The California Department of Water Resources is the jurisdictional agency for SGMA compliance. Depending on the 'priority' of the specific groundwater basin, preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) has a specific target date with critically-overdrafted high priority basins having the earliest deadline. More information can be found on the DWR website at <https://water.ca.gov/programs/groundwater-management/sgma-groundwater-management>

The Ojai Groundwater Basin is considered a high priority basin. The OBGMA manages the quality and quantity of groundwater within the Ojai Groundwater Basin since 1991. OBGMA prepared and submitted its GSP to the DWR in January 2022 and the GSP was approved by DWR on October 26, 2023.

The Ventura River Valley is considered a medium priority basin. The Upper Ventura River Groundwater Management Agency prepared and submitted its GSP to the DWR on January 24, 2022 and the GSP was approved by DWR on April 27, 2023.

Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project. The County of Ventura owns the Matilija Dam, located upstream of Casitas' Robles Diversion and Fish Passage Facility. The County plans to remove Matilija Dam as it has been rendered obsolete. Casitas participates in several committees to coordinate and evaluate the "Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Project", along with numerous stakeholders. Removal of the dam will likely impact the Robles Facility due to increased sediment load. The County is currently seeking funding for the dam removal and associated downstream projects, including improvements and/or modifications to the Robles Facility. More information can be found at: <https://matilijadam.org/>

6.1.2.3. *Other Local Applicable Criteria*

Ventura River Watershed Groundwater Basins Adjudication. The City of Ventura initiated a water rights adjudication of four groundwater basins within the Ventura River watershed through an amended cross complaint filed with the Superior Court of California in September 2018. The basins named in the lawsuit include: Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin, Lower Ventura River Groundwater Basin, Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin, and Upper Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin. This action was filed by the City of Ventura and included not only Casitas but many public and private water users. The outcome of the adjudication is currently unknown. Casitas is actively defending and protecting its water rights in the case of *Santa Barbara Channelkeeper v. State Water Resources Control Board; City of San Buenaventura; City of San Buenaventura v. Duncan Abbott, et al.*, Cross-Complaint, Superior Court of the State of California, County of Los Angeles, Case No. 19STCP01176. More information can be found at: <http://www.venturariverwatershedadjudication.com>

6.1.2.4. *Wholesale and Retail Suppliers Coordination*

Casitas is both a wholesale and retail water supplier and coordinates water supply needs with each wholesale customer. Most of the wholesale customers have other sources of water, such as groundwater wells, and use Casitas water to supplement during periods of high demand or operational failures.

6.2. Water Supply Characterization

The following sections describe Casitas water supplies.

6.2.1. Purchased/Imported Water

In 1963, the Ventura County Flood Control District (VCFCF, now the Ventura County Watershed Protection District), contracted with the State of California for 20,000 AFY of water from the SWP. In 1971, the VCFCF assigned the administration of the Water Supply Contract to Casitas. Casitas' contractual share is 5,000 AFY, the City of Ventura has 10,000 AFY, and United Water Conservation District (UWCD) has 5,000 AFY. UWCD can access SWP through Lake Piru (via Pyramid Lake and Piru Creek), although local infrastructure is not currently in place to deliver the contractual share to Casitas and the City of Ventura.

While Casitas' SWP Table A entitlement is 5,000 AFY, this level of reliability is not expected from the State Water Project. DWR prepares a biennial report to assist SWP contractors and local planners in assessing the availability of supplies from the SWP. In July 2024, DWR issued its most recent update, the 2023 DWR State Water Project Delivery Capability Report (DCR). The 2023 DCR includes DWR's estimates of SWP water supply availability under both existing (2023) and future (2043) conditions. According to the DCR, the long-term average delivery under future conditions is 41 to 46 percent of Table A (2023 DCR, Table 6-4 and Table 7-4). For Casitas, this would result in a long-term average yield of 2,750 AFY under existing conditions and 2,050 to 2,300 AFY under future conditions.

Casitas Wholesale and Retail System. Casitas has maintained an entitlement of 5,000 AFY of SWP water; the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie project, currently under construction, will allow Casitas to receive a portion of its SWP allotment. The project is expected to be completed in 2026.

Ojai System. Similar to the Casitas System, there is no local infrastructure currently in place to deliver imported water supply to the Ojai Water System. With the completion of the Ventura-Santa Barbara

Counties Intertie, SWP received by Casitas customers will offset use of water in Lake Casitas, indirectly benefitting Ojai customers.

6.2.2. Groundwater

The following subsections describe each basin and current issues associated with each.

Basin Description – Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin. The Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin (UVRGB) is managed by the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency (UVRGA). Casitas’ Robles Diversion Facility and Mira Monte Well are located within the boundaries of this watershed. The UVRGB is the largest of the groundwater basins in the Ventura River watershed. All water in the watershed is local precipitation; there are currently no outside or imported water sources. Similar to the overall Ventura River watershed, precipitation in the UVRGB is extremely variable.

In compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the UVRGA prepared and received approval of their GSP by the State Department of Water Resources on April 27, 2023. The GSP is available on the UVRGA website at www.uvrgroundwater.org.

Casitas Wholesale and Retail System. Casitas’ Mira Monte Well has a capacity of 300 AFY although pumping is limited due to the groundwater having high nitrate levels. Casitas blends this water with Lake Casitas to achieve water quality that is well within regulatory standards for drinking water, and the planned operational yield is 145 to 180 AFY on average.

Groundwater pumped from the Mira Monte Well enters the Casitas System (Wholesale and Retail). Based on average demands from 2016 to 2025, 30 percent of water use in the Casitas system is from wholesale customers and 70 percent is from retail customers. Mira Monte Well production has been portioned out to each system based on this average. Table 6-1 Casitas Wholesale and Table 6-1 Casitas Retail show the groundwater pumped from the Mira Monte Well for the period 2021 to 2025.

Table 6-1 Wholesale: Groundwater Volume Pumped Water Code Section 10631(4) and 10631(4)(C), Casitas Wholesale

Groundwater Type	Location or Basin Name	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2024 (AF)	2025 (AF)
Alluvial Basin	Upper Ventura River	57	53	31	35	44
Total		57	53	31	35	44

Submittal Table 6-1 Retail: Groundwater Volume Pumped, Casitas Retail

Groundwater Type	Location or Basin Name	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2024 (AF)	2025 (AF)
Alluvial Basin	Upper Ventura River	133	123	73	73	103
Total		133	123	73	73	103

NOTES: Mira Monte Well

Basin Description – Lower Ventura River Groundwater Basin. While Casitas’ service area includes the Lower Ventura River Groundwater Basin, Casitas does not have any groundwater wells in this basin.

Basin Description – Ojai Basin. The Ojai Basin is a relatively deep, bowl-shaped basin bounded on the west and east by non-water-bearing Tertiary aged rocks, on the south by the Santa Ana fault and Black Mountain, and on the north by the Topa Topa Mountains³.

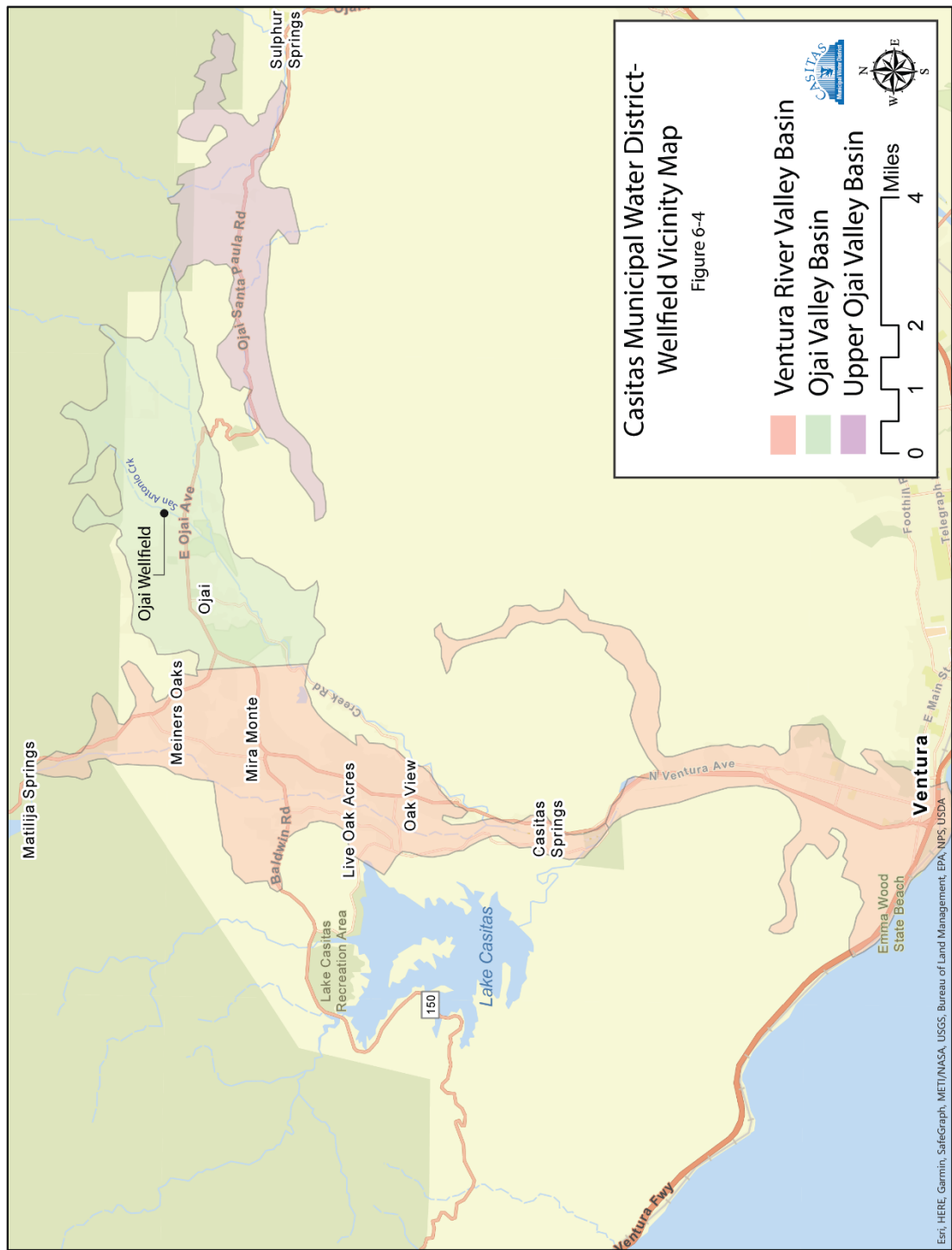
The Ojai Basin is managed by the OBGMA which was established in 1991 by State legislation. The OBGMA monitors, records, and reports groundwater conditions of the Ojai Valley Basin. According to the OBGMA website, approximately 48 percent of groundwater use within the basin is for agricultural demand and 52 percent is for municipal demand.

In compliance with SGMA enacted in 2014, OBGMA prepared a GSP in January 2022 which was approved by DWR on October 26, 2023. The GSP can be found on the OBGMA website www.obgma.org. The OBGMA publishes an Annual Report each water year to describe the basin status. The most recent report was for the 2024-2025 water year and is also available on their website.

Casitas’ groundwater wells for the OWS are located on the east and west sides of San Antonio Creek on the south side of Grand Avenue. Figure 6-4 shows the wellfield location. The east side is referred to as the San Antonio Wellfield and the west side is referred to as the Mutual Wellfield. The San Antonio Wellfield has two active wells. The Mutual Wellfield has four active wells, one of which is a new well completed in 2022. All pumped water is treated at the onsite iron and manganese treatment plant and meets state and federal drinking water requirements. Table 6-1 Ojai Retail shows the groundwater pumped from 2021 to 2025.

Submittal Table 6-1 Retail: Groundwater Volume Pumped, Ojai Retail						
Groundwater Type	Location or Basin Name	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2024 (AF)	2025 (AF)
Alluvial Basin	Ojai Basin	1,186	1,294	1,462	1,524	1,606
Total		1,186	1,294	1,462	1,524	1,606
NOTES: Based on Ojai Wellfield Supply						

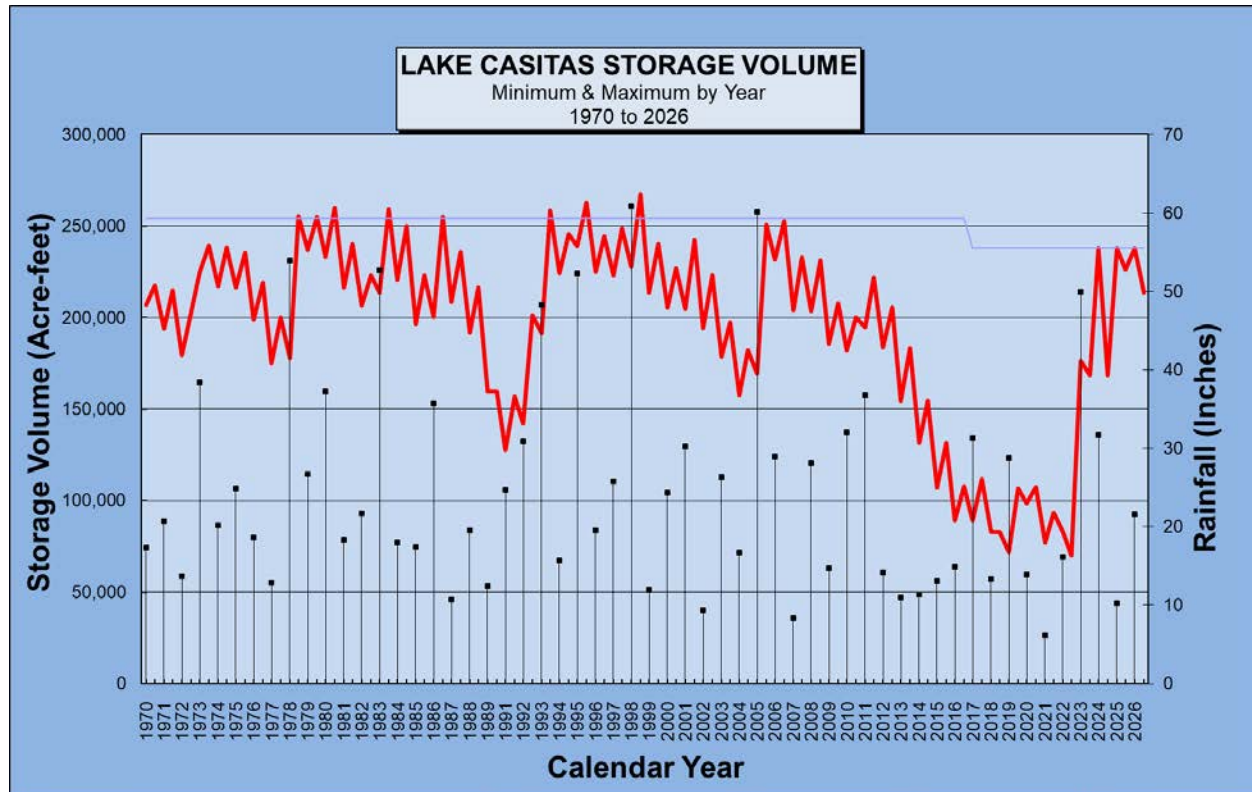
³ <http://obgma.com/the-ojai-valley-basin/>



6.2.3. Surface Water

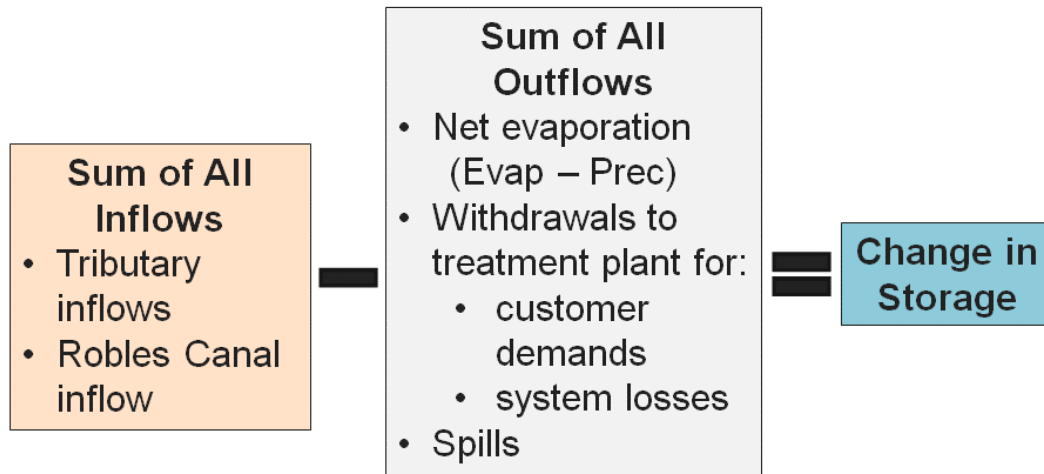
Figure 6-5 shows Lake Casitas storage for the period 1970 to 2026. The effects of the prolonged drought from 2012 to 2023 are apparent, as well as the impact of significant storms in 2022 and 2023.

Figure 6-5. Historic Lake Casitas Storage Volume



The water supply availability from Lake Casitas was previously studied by the USBR in the 1954 evaluation of the Ventura River Project, and later by the District in the 1989 and 2004. In the "Water Supply and Use Status Report" (Casitas, 2004), the Safe Yield of Lake Casitas was determined to be 20,480 AFY based on a mass-balance model that tracks Lake Casitas inflows, outflows (including evaporation) and change in storage to simulate operations over a time series of assumed hydrology conditions, as illustrated in Figure 6-6.

Figure 6-6. Mass Balance Model for Estimating Lake Casitas Yield



In 2020, the yield model was updated to include:

- Extended hydrologic period of record of 1945-2018 (from previous of 1945-1999)
- Incorporated results of recent Lake Casitas bathymetric survey – reduced maximum storage capacity from 254,000 AF to 237,761 AF
- Added function to compute reservoir spills
- Incorporated Robles Diversion operations based on 2003 Biological Opinion requirements and 2018 Critical Drought Protection Measures
- Reduced modeled Robles diversions based on a diversion efficiency of 70 percent, consistent with operational data since the Fish Passage Facility was constructed
- Improved method of calculating monthly net evaporation loss

On April 21, 2021, the Board of Director adopted a planned Casitas System operational yield of 15,010 AFY⁴. The new operational yield is based on the updated modeling results, a -4.3 percent climate change adjustment based on the anticipated changes to precipitation (Section 3.3), and a -15 percent supply safety factor to account for uncertainty in modeling assumptions.

Surface water from Lake Casitas is treated at the Marion Walker Pressure Filtration Plant using pressure filtration before it enters the transmission and distribution system.

Casitas Wholesale and Retail System. Lake Casitas serves as a primary supply for direct retail customers on the Casitas System, and as a supplemental, or backup supply, for groundwater users and wholesale users.

Ojai System. The OWS is connected to the Casitas System, and therefore receives Lake Casitas water, via two interconnections. The connections are used when demand in the OWS exceeds the groundwater well capacity or when well(s) are taken out of service for repair/rehabilitation.

⁴ The planned operational yield is 14,865 AFY from Lake Casitas and 145 AFY from Mira Monte Well.

6.2.4. [Stormwater](#)

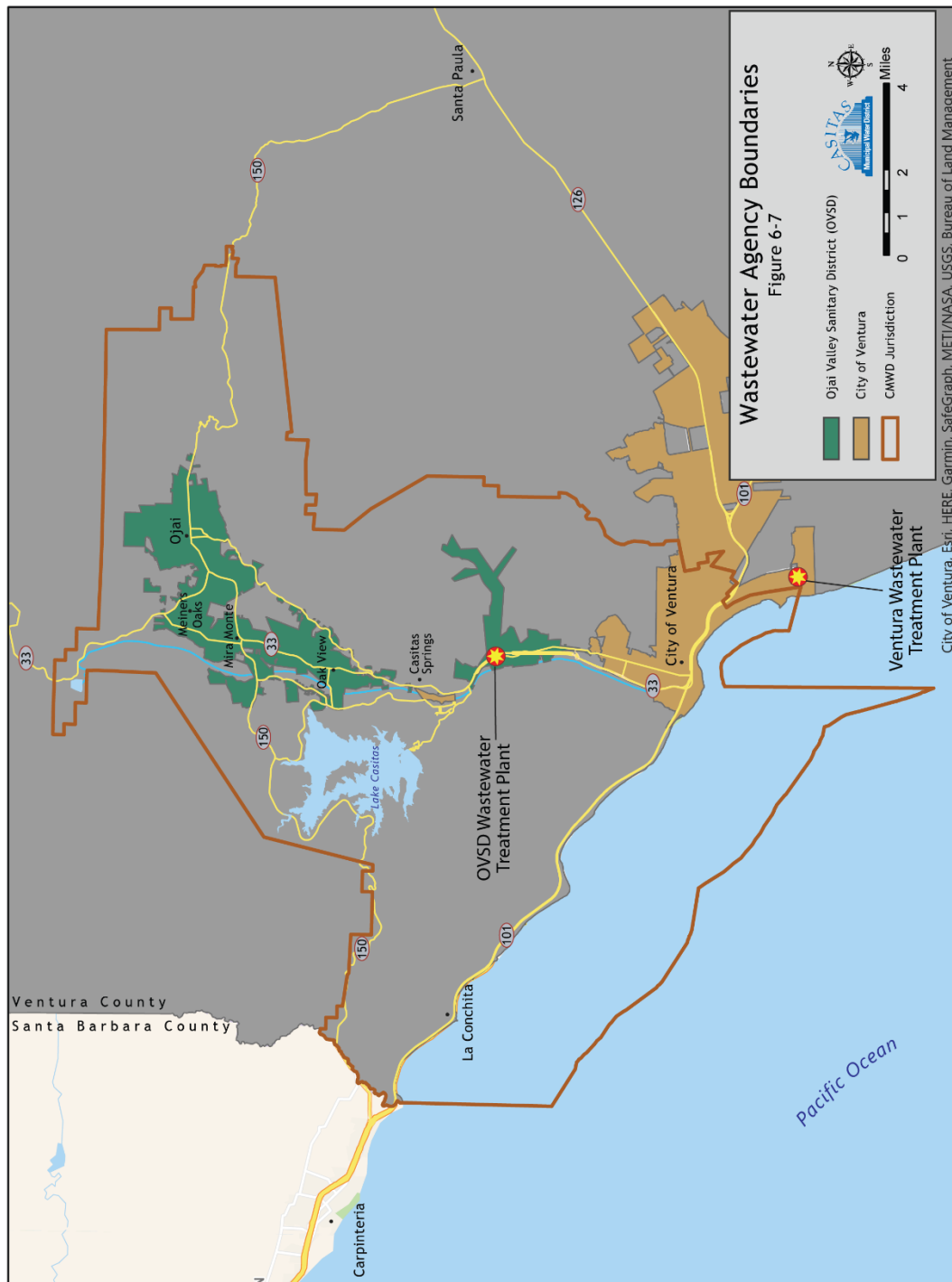
The District does not own, maintain, or operate any stormwater systems or facilities.

6.2.5. [Wastewater and Recycled Water](#)

Wastewater collection, treatment and disposal within Casitas' service area is under the purview of Ojai Valley Sanitary District (OVSD) and the City of Ventura. Figure 6-7 shows the boundaries of each of these agencies in relation to the Casitas service area boundaries.

The City of Ventura, one of Casitas' wholesale customers, is the wastewater agency within City limits, and an unincorporated area along the coast referred to as "Area 29". The portion within City limits is in Casitas' wholesale area and makes up approximately 27% of the wastewater collected, treated, and disposed by the City. Area 29 is within Casitas' retail area and the City separately meters this area.

The OVSD treatment plant is located within Casitas' service area and treats wastewater from unincorporated communities of Oak View, Mira Monte, Meiners Oaks and the City of Ojai. The remainder of Casitas' service area is on septic systems.



Submittal Table 6-2 Retail: Wastewater Collected Within Service Area
Water Code Section 10633(a), Casitas Retail

☐

Check the box if there is no wastewater collection system.
 Proceed to the next table.

Wastewater Collection			Recipient of Collected Wastewater	
Name of Wastewater Collection Agency	Wastewater Volume Metered or Estimated?	Volume of Wastewater Collected from UWMP Service Area 2025 (AF)	Name of Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Place ID Number	Is WWTP Located Within UWMP Area?
City of Ventura	Metered	42	Ventura WRF, Place ID 271054	No
Total Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area in 2025:				

NOTES: This table represents wastewater collected from "Area 29" of the City of Ventura's wastewater service area, which are Casitas' retail customers.

Submittal Table 6-2 Retail: Wastewater Collected Within Service Area, Ojai Retail				
Wastewater Collection			Recipient of Collected Wastewater	
Name of Wastewater Collection Agency	Wastewater Volume Metered or Estimated?	Volume of Wastewater Collected from UWMP Service Area 2025 (AF)	Name of Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Place ID Number	Is WWTP Located Within UWMP Area?
Ojai Valley Sanitary District	Metered	2,003	Ojai Valley WWTP, Place ID 246616	Yes
Total Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area in 2025:		2,003		

Casitas Wholesale System. In calendar year 2025, the Ventura Water Reclamation Facility received 8,572 AF of wastewater from Ventura Water's service area; an estimated 2,334 AF of wastewater was from the Casitas service area (or 27% of 8,572 AF). The volume of recycled water within Casitas' wholesale service area (31 AF) is mainly from the Marina Park area of the City of Ventura. Table 6-3 Wholesale summarizes the wastewater treatment and discharge within Casitas Wholesale area.

Submittal Table 6-3 Wholesale: Wastewater Treatment and Discharge Within Service Area, Casitas Wholesale

☐

Check the box if the Wholesale Supplier neither distributes nor provides supplemental treatment to recycled water.
Proceed to the next table.

Wastewater Treatment Plant Name and Place ID Number Drop down list	Does This Plant Treat Wastewater Generated Outside the UWMP Service Area?	2025 Volume of Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area (AF)	Total 2025 Volume of Water Treated (AF)	2025 Outcomes of Treated Wastewater										
				Water Recycled Within UWMP Service Area		Water Recycled Outside of UWMP Service Area		Effluent Discharge that is not a Permitted Recycled Water Use		Required Discharge for Instream Flow		Delivered to Another Entity for Additional Treatment)		
				Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Name of other entity
Ventura WRF, Place ID 271054	Yes	2,334	2,334	Tertiary	31		0		0		0		0	
Total		2334	2334		31		0		0		0		0	

NOTES: In calendar year 2025, the Ventura Water Reclamation Facility received 8,572 AF of wastewater from Ventura Water's service area; an estimated 2,334 AF of wastewater was from the Casitas service area (or 27% of 8,572 AF). The volume of recycled water within Casitas' wholesale service area (31 AF) is in the Marina Park area of the City of Ventura.

Casitas and Ojai Retail Systems. The City of Ventura’s wastewater information is provided in Table 6-3 Casitas Retail and OVSD’s wastewater information is provided in Table 6-3 Ojai Retail. OVSD does not produce recycled water.

Submittal Table 6-3 Retail: Wastewater Treatment and Outcomes Within UWMP Service Area, Casitas Retail

Wastewater Treatment Plant Name and Place ID Number	Does This Plant Treat Wastewater Generated Outside the UWMP Service Area?	2025 Volume of Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area (As Reported in Submittal Table 6-2 R) (AF)	Total 2025 Volume of Water Treated (AF)	2025 Outcomes of Treated Wastewater										
				Water Recycled Within UWMP Service Area		Water Recycled Outside of UWMP Service Area		Effluent Discharge that is not a Permitted Recycled Water Use		Required Discharge for Instream Flow		Delivered to Another Entity for Additional Treatment		
				Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Name of other entity
Add additional rows as needed														
Ventura WRF, Place ID 271054	Yes	42	8,572	N/A	0	Tertiary	312	Tertiary	7,403		0		0	
Total		0	-				0		0		0		0	
NOTES: NOTES: The City of Ventura's recycled water is not served within Casitas' retail service area and is captured in Table 6-3 Wholesale. The outcome volumes were taken from the City of Ventura's 2025 UWMP Table 6-2 Retail.														

Submittal Table 6-3 Retail: Wastewater Treatment and Outcomes Within UWMP Service Area, Ojai Retail

Wastewater Treatment Plant Name and Place ID Number	Does This Plant Treat Wastewater Generated Outside the UWMP Service Area?	2025 Volume of Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area (As Reported in Submittal Table 6-2 R) (AF)	Total 2025 Volume of Water Treated (AF)	2025 Outcomes of Treated Wastewater										
				Water Recycled Within UWMP Service Area		Water Recycled Outside of UWMP Service Area		Effluent Discharge that is not a Permitted Recycled Water Use		Required Discharge for Instream Flow		Delivered to Another Entity for Additional Treatment		
				Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level	Volume (AF)	Name of other entity
Add additional rows as needed														
Ojai Valley WWTP, Place ID 246616	No	2,003	2,003	N/A	0	N/A	0	Tertiary	1,938	N/A	0	N/A	0	
Total		0	-		0		0		0		0		0	

Casitas Wholesale System. Casitas does not directly treat or distribute recycled water. As shown in Table 6-4 Wholesale, a limited amount of recycled water is produced by the City of Ventura and applied at Marina Park.

Submittal Table 6-4 Wholesale: Current and Projected Recycled Water Uses, Casitas Wholesale

☐		Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.					
Name of Receiving Supplier or Direct Use by Wholesale Supplier	Potable or Non-Potable (after treatment if treated)	2025 (AF)	2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)	Potential Recycled Water Use
							Volume (AF)
Ventura WRF	Non-Potable	31	17	17	17	17	
Subtotal Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Non-Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0
NOTES: The volume of recycled water within Casitas' wholesale service area (31 AF) is in the Marina Park area of the City of Ventura. The City provided the estimate for future recycled water use in Marina Park.							

Casitas Retail System. Casitas does not use nor plan to use recycled water within the Casitas Retail systems as shown in Table 6-4 Casitas Retail.

Submittal Table 6-4 Retail: Current and Projected Recycled Water Uses, Casitas Retail							
☒		Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.					
Name of Receiving Supplier or Direct Use by Wholesale Supplier	Potable or Non-Potable (after treatment if treated)	2025 (AF)	2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)	Potential Recycled Water Use
							Volume (AF)
Subtotal Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Non-Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0

Ojai Retail System. Casitas does not use nor plan to use recycled water within the Ojai Retail systems as shown in Table 6-4 Ojai Retail.

Submittal Table 6-4 Retail: Current and Projected Recycled Water Uses, Ojai Retail							
☒		Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.					
Name of Receiving Supplier or Direct Use by Wholesale Supplier	Potable or Non-Potable (after treatment if treated)	2025 (AF)	2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)	Potential Recycled Water Use
							Volume (AF)
Subtotal Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Non-Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0

Casitas Wholesale System. Casitas did not plan to use recycled water within the Casitas Wholesale system as shown in Table 6-5 Casitas Wholesale. Thirty-one acre-feet was used in Marina Park by the City of Ventura.

Submittal Table 6-5 Wholesale: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual, Casitas Wholesale

☐	Check the box if recycled water was not used or distributed by the supplier in 2025, nor projected for use or distribution in 2020. Proceed to the next table.
--------------------------	--

Name of Receiving Supplier or Direct Use by Wholesale Supplier	2020 Projection for 2025 (AF)	2025 Actual Use (AF)
Ventura WRF	0	31
Total	0	31

NOTES: The volume of recycled water within Casitas' wholesale service area (31 AF) is in the Marina Park area of the City of Ventura.

Casitas Retail System. In its 2020 UWMP, Casitas did not plan to use recycled water within the Casitas retail system, nor was any used in 2025, as shown in Table 6-5 Casitas Retail.

Submittal Table 6-5 Retail: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual, Casitas Retail

☒	Check the box if recycled water was not used in 2025 nor previously projected for use in 2020. Proceed to the next table.
-------------------------------------	---

Use Type	2020 Projection for 2025 (AF)	2025 Actual Use (AF)
	0	0
Total	0	0

Ojai Retail System. In its 2020 UWMP, Casitas did not plan to use recycled water within the Ojai System, nor was any used in 2025 as shown in Table 6-5 Ojai Retail.

Submittal Table 6-5 Retail: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual, Ojai Retail

☒	Check the box if recycled water was not used in 2025 nor previously projected for use in 2020. Proceed to the next table.	
Use Type	2020 Projection for 2025 (AF)	2025 Actual Use (AF)
	0	0
Total	0	0

6.2.5.1. Actions to Encourage and Optimize Future Recycled Water Use

Casitas Wholesale System. This section is not applicable to wholesale agencies.

Casitas Retail System. OVSD and the City of Ventura provide wastewater collection and treatment within the service area of Casitas. The potential use of recycled water in Casitas' service area was evaluated in numerous studies over the years. Wastewater from OVSD's treatment plant is discharged to the Ventura River. OVSD's treatment plant is located on land owned by the City of Ventura, a condition of which is the City has the first right of OVSD's treated effluent.

The City of Ventura is pursuing an Indirect Potable Reuse (IPR) Project, entitled the Ventura WaterPure Program, as a result of a stipulated Federal Consent Decree regarding discharge to the Santa Clara River Estuary. Future recycled water generated by this project is not expected to impact Casitas' service area.

Casitas does not plan to implement recycled water use as shown in Table 6-6 Casitas Retail.

Submittal Table 6-6 Retail: Methods to Encourage Future Recycled Water Use, Casitas Retail

☒	Check the box if the Supplier does not plan to expand recycled water use in the future. Supplier will not complete the table below but will provide narrative explanation.		
54	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP		
Name of Action	Description	Planned Implementation Year	Expected Increase in Recycled Water Use (AF)
			0
Total (AF)			0

Ojai Retail System. The potential for recycled water use in the Ojai area has been studied in the past, particularly the use of packaged satellite treatment systems^{5, 6} and use of OVSD's treatment plant to produce recycled water for irrigation⁷. The analyses of these alternatives determined they are not cost-effective and not feasible to implement. Table 6-6 Ojai Retail indicates there are no plans to implement recycled water use in the future.

Submittal Table 6-6 Retail: Methods to Encourage Future Recycled Water Use, Ojai Retail			
☒	Check the box if the Supplier does not plan to expand recycled water use in the future. Supplier will not complete the table below but will provide narrative explanation.		
55	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP		
Name of Action	Description	Planned Implementation Year	Expected Increase in Recycled Water Use (AF)
			0
Total (AF)			0

6.2.6. Desalinated Water Opportunities

Desalinated water opportunities were most recently studied in the Casitas MWD Draft Comprehensive Water Resources Plan (Stantec, 2020) and were determined to not be cost-effective without regional participation. Casitas is not pursuing any desalinated water opportunities at this time.

6.2.7. Water Exchanges and Transfers

Water exchanges and transfers are discussed in the following subsections.

6.2.7.1. SWP Exchanges

In 2018, 2019, and 2020, Casitas did "bonafide exchanges" with the San Geronio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA), which was an exchange of a portion of Casitas' SWP allocation in return for compensation. Casitas does not have a physical means of receiving SWP water so these exchanges were not actually delivered from the Casitas system to the SGPWA system, but rather were contractual exchanges. The total compensation to Casitas from 2018 to 2020 was approximately \$1.47 million, and the amount of water exchanged varied from year to year, as follows:

- 1,750 AF was delivered to SGPWA 2018, with a return of 700 AF to Casitas by 2028
- 650 AF was delivered to SGPWA 2019, with a return of 325 AF to Casitas by 2029
- 1000 AF was delivered to SGPWA 2020, with a return of 250 AF to Casitas by 2030

SGPWA serves the cities of Calimesa, Beaumont, and Banning, all located in Riverside County. "Bonafide Exchanges" involve a one-year transfer of Casitas MWD's State Water Project 'Table A' water allocation

⁵ Draft Preliminary Water Security Project Analysis, WREA and Kear Groundwater, November 2016

⁶ Treatment Plant Effluent Considerations, Ojai Valley Sanitary District, July 19, 2018

⁷ Reclaimed Water Feasibility/Marketing Study, Boyle Engineering Corporation, March 1992

with an agreement that SGPWA will return 25 to 50 percent of the amount transferred to Casitas in a future year upon mutual agreement of the parties. The bonafide exchange agreements have an initial ten-year term with the option for an additional ten years upon mutual agreement of the parties.

6.2.7.2. Carpinteria Valley Water District Exchanges

A small portion of the Casitas service area overlaps an area in which Carpinteria Valley Water District (CVWD) has distribution facilities. In 1973, Casitas and CVWD entered into an exchange agreement (later amended in 1976) in which CVWD supplies water to Casitas customers and Casitas returns the water to CVWD at another location. From 2021 to 2025, the annual average amount of water delivered by CVWD to Casitas customers was 31 AFY. As of December 2025, the balance of water owed to CVWD was approximately 318 AF.

6.2.7.3. Transfers

In 2022, Casitas MWD and the United Water Conservation District entered into a five-year agreement for the transfer of Casitas MWD's portion of the State Water Project supply (5,000 AF). This agreement covers calendar years 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, and 2027. It is not known at this time if the agreement will be renewed past 2027.

6.2.7.4. Emergency Interties

Casitas does not currently have any permanent emergency interties with neighboring agencies. However, Casitas has multiple one-way interties supplying water to wholesale agencies; in the event of an emergency these interties can be modified to accommodate flow into the Casitas water system. Casitas is currently constructing a permanent emergency intertie, known as the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie, which would supply imported water to Casitas (Section 6.2.10).

6.2.8. Supply from Storage

Supplies from Lake Casitas are considered surface water (not desalinated).

6.2.9. Other

Casitas has no other sources of supply for either the Casitas or Ojai systems.

6.2.10. Future Water Projects

Casitas Wholesale System and Retail System. Casitas is currently implementing the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie. This project includes the construction of a 7,100-foot pipeline and two booster pump stations to connect Casitas' transmission system with that of Carpinteria Valley Water District. The project would allow Casitas to access its SWP allocation and potentially other supplemental water through a wheeling arrangement with Santa Barbara County agencies. This project provides physical delivery of water to Casitas' system to mitigate droughts and emergencies. The project is currently under construction and is expected to be completed in December 2026.

This additional supply is shown in Table 6-7 Casitas Wholesale and Table 6-7 Casitas Retail. Projects to be implemented benefit Casitas Wholesale and Retail customers, as well as indirectly benefitting Ojai Retail customers. To simplify reporting, future water supply projects are allocated 30 percent to Casitas Wholesale and 70 percent to Casitas Retail based on the 2021 to 2025 average demands for these systems.

Submittal Table 6-7 Wholesale Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs, Casitas Wholesale						
Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (AF)
	Yes or No	If Yes, Supplier Name				
Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie	Yes	Carpinteria Valley Water District	Pipeline and two booster pump stations	2026	Multi-Dry Year	600
NOTES: Projects to be implemented benefit Casitas Wholesale and Retail customers, as well as indirectly benefiting Ojai Retail customers. Thirty percent of the projected supply is applied to the wholesale system. Supply is based on available capacity in pipelines on Santa Barbara County side.						

Table 6-7 Casitas Retail includes 70 percent of the projected supplies for new projects based on the 2021 to 2025 average demands.

Submittal Table 6-7 Retail Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs, Casitas Retail						
Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (AF)
	Yes or No	If Yes, Supplier Name				
Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie	Yes	Carpinteria Valley Water District	Pipeline and two booster pump stations	2026	Multi-Dry Year	1,400
NOTES: Projects to be implemented benefit Casitas Wholesale and Retail customers, as well as Ojai Retail customers. Seventy percent of the projected supply is applied to the retail system. Supply is based on available capacity in pipelines on Santa Barbara County side.						

Ojai Water System. Casitas drilled a new replacement well in 2020 at the Ojai wellfield and the well was brought on line in 2022. Under OBGMA policies, groundwater in the Ojai Groundwater Basin cannot be exported out of the basin, so this supply is only available to Ojai Retail customers. While Casitas is working to improve the condition of the Ojai wells, the improved well yields are assumed to only be available when the basin is relatively full. Therefore, the increased water supply is not included in supply projections for later years of multi-year dry periods. There are no projects planned to increase supply in the Ojai system. When SWP is imported to the Casitas system, Ojai customers receive an ‘in-lieu’ benefit, as more water becomes available in Lake Casitas to supplement the Ojai System when needed.

Submittal Table 6-7 Retail Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs, Ojai Retail						
☒	Check the box if there are no expected future water supply projects or programs that provide a quantifiable increase to the agency's water supply. Proceed to the next table.					
☐	Check the box if some or all of the supplier's future water supply projects or programs are not compatible with this table and are described in a narrative format.					
N/A	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP					
Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (This may be a range) (AF)
	Yes or No	If Yes, Supplier Name				

6.2.11. Summary of Existing and Planned Sources of Water

The supplies available to the Casitas and Ojai systems are described in the following subsections. It is difficult to separate supplies from Lake Casitas supplies for the Casitas Wholesale and Casitas Retail systems. To simplify reporting, 30 percent was attributed to Wholesale and 70 percent to Retail based on average ratios from 2021 to 2025.

Casitas Wholesale System. Table 6-8 Wholesale shows the actual volume of supplies in 2025. All water supplied is potable.

Submittal Table 6-8 Wholesale: Water Supplies — Actual, Casitas Wholesale		
Water Supply	Additional Description	2025
		Actual Volume (AF)
Surface water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	6,363
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Mira Monte Well	44
Total		6,407

Casitas Retail System. Table 6-8 Casitas Retail shows the actual volume of supplies in 2025.

Submittal Table 6-8 Retail: Water Supplies — Actual, Casitas Retail		
Water Supply	Additional Description	2025
		Actual Volume (AF)
Surface water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	2,727
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Mira Monte Well	104
Total		2,831

Ojai Water System. Casitas’ wells in the Ojai Groundwater Basin supply the majority of water to the Ojai Retail System. Two connections to the Casitas system are used to supplement groundwater supplies during high demand or when well(s) are non-operational.

Submittal Table 6-8 Retail: Water Supplies — Actual, Ojai Retail		
Water Supply	Additional Description	2025
		Actual Volume (AF)
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Ojai Wellfield	1,606
Surface water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	15
Total		1,621

Casitas Wholesale System. Projected supplies for the Casitas Wholesale system are shown in Table 6-9 Casitas Wholesale.

Submittal Table 6-9 Wholesale: Water Supplies — Projected, Casitas Wholesale					
Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supply			
		2030	2035	2040	2045
		Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume
Surface Water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	4,460	4,460	4,460	4,460
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Mira Monte Well	43	43	43	43

Submittal Table 6-9 Wholesale: Water Supplies — Projected, Casitas Wholesale					
Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supply			
		2030	2035	2040	2045
		Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume
Purchased or Imported Water	Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie	600	600	600	600
Total		5,103	5,103	5,103	5,103

Casitas Retail System. Projected supplies for the Casitas Retail system are shown in Table 6-9 Casitas Retail.

Submittal Table 6-9 Retail: Water Supplies — Projected, Casitas Retail					
Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supply			
		2030	2035	2040	2045
		Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume
Surface Water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	10,405	10,405	10,405	10,405
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Mira Monte well	102	102	102	102
Purchased or Imported Water	Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400
Total		11,907	11,907	11,907	11,907

Ojai Water System. Table 6-9 Ojai Retail shows the project water supplies for the Ojai Retail system.

Submittal Table 6-9 Retail: Water Supplies — Projected, Ojai Retail					
Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supply <i>Report To the Extent Practicable</i>			
		2030	2035	2040	2045
		Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume	Reasonably Available Volume
Surface Water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas Supplement	461	461	461	461
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Ojai Wellfield	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300
Total		2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761

6.3. Energy Use

The following subsections include required tables and discussion for Energy Intensity Reporting.

Casitas Wholesale and Retail Systems. Table O-1C shows the energy reporting table for the “Multiple Water Delivery Products” approach, which is appropriate for the Casitas system (Wholesale and Retail). Data provided by Casitas is shown in the unshaded cells; the shaded cells are auto-calculated. Overall, Casitas’ Wholesale and Retail deliveries have an “energy intensity” of 6,047.6 kilo-Watt hours (kWh) per MG.

Table O-1C: Recommended Energy Reporting - Multiple Water Delivery Products, Casitas Wholesale and Retail

Enter Start Date for Reporting Period	1/1/2025	Urban Water Supplier Operational Control					
End Date	12/31/2025						
Water Volume Units	AF	Water Management Process					
Is upstream embedded in the values reported?	N/A	Extract and Divert	Place into Storage	Conveyance	Treatment	Distribution	Total Utility
Total Volume of Water Entering Process		147	3,714	N/A	9,090	9,090	N/A
Retail Potable Deliveries (%)		20	0	0	20	20	
Retail Non-Potable Deliveries (%)		0	0	0	0	0	
Wholesale Potable Deliveries (%)		30	0	0	30	30	
Wholesale Non-Potable Deliveries (%)		0	0	0	0	0	
Agricultural Deliveries (%)		50	0	0	50	50	
Environmental Deliveries (%)		0	0	0	0	0	
Other (%)		0	0	0	0	0	
Total Percentage [must equal 100%]		100%	0%	0%	100%	100%	N/A
Energy Consumed (kWh)		91,958	14,854	0	884,925	5,344,801	6,336,538
Energy Intensity (kWh/vol. converted to MG)		1,919.8	12.3	N/A	298.8	1,804.5	N/A
Data Quality (Estimate, Metered Data, Combination of Estimates and Metered Data):							
Metered Data							
Data Quality Narrative:							
Water volumes are metered at each facility. Energy consumed data from SCE billing system.							

Narrative:	Mira Monte Well (extraction) has chlorine wellhead treatment facilities. Change in Storage is the energy use at the Robles facility which diverts water from the Ventura River to the Robles Canal and then to Lake Casitas; the Fish Passage Facility at Robles has motorized brushes to clean the fish screens. For Treatment, energy use is at the MWPPF pressure filtration system at the base of Casitas Dam. For Distribution, energy use is for 11 pump plants, 15 storage tanks, and 27 pressure regulating stations.		
	Product Type	Delivery Volume by Product	Total Energy Intensity (kWh/volume)
	Retail Potable	2,860	1,310.6
	Retail Non-Potable	0	-
	Wholesale Potable	3,281	1,713.7
	Wholesale Non-Potable	0	-
	Agricultural	3,704	2,530.0
	Environmental	0	-
	Other	0	-
	Total of All Products	9,845	5,554.3

Ojai Retail System. Table O-1B shows the recommended energy reporting table for the Ojai Retail system using the “Total Utility Approach”. Data provided by Casitas is shown in the unshaded cells; the shaded cells are auto-calculated. The Ojai Retail Systems has an ‘energy intensity’ of 8 kWh per million gallons.

Table O-1B: Recommended Energy Reporting – Total Utility Approach, Ojai Retail				
Enter Start Date for Reporting Period	1/1/2025	Urban Water Supplier Operational Control		
End Date	12/31/2025			
Is upstream embedded in the values reported?	No	Sum of All Water Management Processes	Non-Consequential Hydropower	
Water Volume Units Used	AF	Total Utility	Hydropower	Net Utility
Volume of Water Entering Process (volume unit)		1,606	0	1,606
Energy Consumed (kWh)		4,011	0	4,011
Energy Intensity (kWh/vol. converted to MG)		8	n/a	
Quantity of Self-Generated Renewable Energy:				
0		kWh		

Table O-1B: Recommended Energy Reporting – Total Utility Approach, Ojai Retail
Data Quality (Estimate, Metered Data, Combination of Estimates and Metered Data):
Metered Data
Data Quality Narrative:
Water volume entering system metered at Ojai Wellfield. Energy consumed data from SCE billing system.
Narrative:
Ojai Wellfield consists of Mutual Wells and San Antonio Wells. Pumped water is treated at the on-site iron and manganese treatment plant.

7. Water Service Reliability and Drought Risk Assessment

Section 7 describes Casitas' evaluation of water supply reliability and drought risk assessment in compliance with Water Code Section 10635.

7.1. Constraints on Water Sources Considerations

Water supply reliability is Casitas' mission as a water purveyor. This section describes Casitas' evaluation of potential supply constraints, demands, and drought impacts.

Casitas Wholesale and Retail Systems. As described in Section 6.2.3, the planned operational yield of Lake Casitas was recently evaluated using a model that simulates Lake Casitas inflows, outflows (including evaporation) and change in storage over a time series of assumed hydrology conditions. On April 21, 2021, the Board of Directors adopted a planned operational yield for the Casitas System of 15,010 AFY⁸. The operational yield for the Casitas system is sufficient to provide supplies through an extended drought period lasting 10 to 20 years depending on reservoir levels at the start of the dry period.

SWP water, via the future Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie, is limited by interconnect delivery capacity and SWP allocations from year to year. Casitas would only have access to excess delivery capacity when Santa Barbara County agencies are not fully using their facilities. For planning purposes, it is assumed that only 2,000 AFY could be delivered on average given that capacity would be limited in summer months and during times when Santa Barbara agencies have limited local supplies due to drought.

SWP allocations from DWR vary significantly from year to year due to hydrologic conditions and complex operations to meet environmental requirements. While DWR has estimated that the average SWP yield under existing conditions is about 55 percent of Table A, the most recent drought resulted in the lowest allocation in SWP history at 5 percent of Table A. For the multiple dry-year analysis, Casitas has selected 2018 to 2022, which incorporates low rainfall in the local watershed as well as the low SWP allocations. SWP allocations from DWR during the period 2018 to 2022 were:

- 2018 – 35%
- 2019 – 75%
- 2020 – 20%
- 2021 – 5%
- 2022 – 5%

Casitas' existing allocation of 5,000 AFY would have been affected by the allocations enacted in 2018 through 2022. Table 7-0 shows the SWP allocation for Casitas wholesale (30 percent) and Casitas retail (70 percent) applied to a five consecutive year drought based on SWP percentages from 2018 to 2022.

⁸ The planned operational yield is 14,865 AFY for Lake Casitas and 145 AFY for Mira Monte Well.

Table 7-0 State Water Project Allocation for Casitas Wholesale and Casitas Retail					
	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
Casitas Wholesale	525	1,125	300	75	75
Casitas Retail	1,225	2,000	700	175	175
Notes: This is <u>not</u> a DWR-required table.					

The amounts shown in Table 7-0 are used for the multiple dry year discussion in Section 7.2.2.3.

Ojai Water System. The primary source for the OWS is groundwater from the Ojai Basin, and supplemental water is supplied by the Casitas System through two interconnections. The OWS acquisition included several groundwater wells, with some wells over 45 years old and in need of rehabilitation and/or replacement. The wells acquired by GSWC were unable to produce their original design capacity of 4,404 AFY and Ojai wellfield production from 1994 to 2016 averaged about 1,800 AFY. Casitas installed a new well in 2020 which became operational in 2022. The increased capacity of the Ojai Wellfield is now 3,200 AFY if all wells are operational. The improved wellfield yields are assumed to only be available when the basin is relatively full. Therefore, the increased water supply is not included in supply projections for later years of multi-year dry periods. For planning purposes, the operational yield of the OWS is 2,300 AFY.

7.2. Water Service Reliability Assessment

The following subsections describe service reliability including constraints on water supply sources and reliability under normal year, single dry year, and multiple dry years for five consecutive years.

7.2.1. Year Type Characterization

The following subsections describe service reliability for Casitas under average year, single dry year and multiple dry year conditions. For the 2025 UWMP, the multiple dry year analysis includes five consecutive dry years.

7.2.1.1. Types of Years

Casitas Wholesale System. The average year (2003) was selected based on precipitation records from 1960 to 2025 as it was the year closest to the overall average during that period. Single-Dry Year represents the lowest water supply available to Casitas. Based on lake levels, 2022 is the lowest (driest) year. Five-Consecutive-Year Drought represents the driest five-year historical sequence, which for Casitas is the period from 2014 to 2018 based on precipitation records. Table 7-1 shows the analysis for the Casitas Wholesale system.

Quantification of available supply is based on the operational yield as described in Section 6.2.3. For the wholesale system, 4,460 AFY is assumed to be provided from Lake Casitas and 43 AFY from the Mira Monte Well. SWP water is only included in years 4 and 5 of consecutive dry year scenarios. The lower availability of SWP water is factored into those consecutive dry years (5% of 1,500 AF, or 75 AF).

OPTIONAL Submittal Table 7-1 Wholesale: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment), Casitas Wholesale			
Year Type	Base Year	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		Volume Available (AF)	% of Average Supply
Average Year	2003	4,503	100%
Single-Dry Year	2022	4,503	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2014	4,503	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2015	4,503	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2016	4,503	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2017	4,578	102%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2018	4,578	102%
NOTES: Base volume available: Lake Casitas (4,460 AF), Mira Monte Well (43 AF). SWP availability of 75 AF was factored into years 4 and 5 of multiple dry years as shown in Table 7-0.			

Casitas Retail System. For the Casitas Retail system, supplies include 10,405 AFY from Lake Casitas and 102 AFY from the Mira Monte Well in average, single-dry, and the first three years of consecutive dry years.

The average year (2003) was selected based on precipitation records from 1960 to 2025 as it was the year closest to the overall average during that period. The year 2022 was selected as the single-dry year as this was the year in which Lake Casitas was at its lowest storage level.

The multiple dry-year period of 2014 to 2018 was selected based on the driest five-year period from 1960 to 2025 based on precipitation records at Casitas Dam. Similar to Casitas wholesale system, SWP availability of 175 AF was factored into years 4 and 5 of the consecutive dry year volume available as shown in Table 7-0.

Submittal Table 7-1 Retail: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment), Casitas Retail			
		Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		Volume Available	% of Average Supply
Average Year	2003	10,507	100%
Single-Dry Year	2022	10,507	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2014	10,507	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2015	10,507	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2016	10,507	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2017	10,682	102%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2018	10,682	102%
NOTES: Lake Casitas (10,405 AF), Mira Monte Well (102 AF). SWP availability of 175 AF was factored into the third and fourth years of consecutive dry years (5% of 3,500 AF, or 175 AF).			

Ojai Water System. Ojai Water supplies are based on Ojai Wellfield capacity of 2,300 AFY plus Lake Casitas supplement of 461 AFY.

The average year (2003) was selected based on precipitation records from 1960 to 2025 as it was the year closest to the overall average during that period. The year 2022 was selected as the single-dry year as this was the year in which Lake Casitas was at its lowest storage level. The multiple dry-year period of 2014 to 2018 was selected based on the driest five-year period from 1960 to 2025 based on precipitation records at Casitas Dam.

It was assumed in years 4 and 5 of a consecutive five-year dry period, the wellfield production is reduced by 20 percent to 1,840 AF and Lake Casitas supplement remains at 461 AF. Additionally, it is assumed Casitas would implement SWP delivery to supply Casitas customers. Ojai customers would benefit from this ‘in-lieu’ water (i.e. that amount of water from Lake Casitas would be offset) resulting in additional 250 AF for Ojai customers.

Submittal Table 7-1 Retail: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment), Ojai Retail			
Year Type	Base Year	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		Volume Available	% of Average Supply
Average Year	2003	2,761	100%
Single-Dry Year	2022	2,761	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2014	2,761	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2015	2,761	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2016	2,761	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2017	2,551	92%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2018	2,551	92%
NOTES: Ojai Wellfield Capacity (2,300 AF, not including increased capacity) plus Lake Casitas Supplement (461 AF) in years 1-3. In years 4 and 5 supply from the wellfield is reduced 20% to 1,840 AF while Lake Casitas supplement remains 461 AF and SWP ‘in lieu’ amount is 250 AF.			

7.2.1.2. Sources for Water Data

Data for SWP water availability was derived from the 2025 Delivery Capability Report prepared by DWR.

7.2.2. Water Reliability Assessment – Supply and Demand Comparison

The following subsections describe water supply and demand comparison under multiple scenarios including average year, single dry year and multiple dry year period of five years.

7.2.2.1. Normal Year

Casitas Wholesale System. Table 7-2 Casitas Wholesale summarizes the normal year supply and demand for the Casitas Wholesale system.

Submittal Table 7-2 Wholesale: Normal Year Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals (from Table 6-9)	5,103	5,103	5,103	5,103
Use totals (from Table 4-2)	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
Difference	748	748	748	748

Casitas Retail System. Table 7-2 Casitas Retail summarizes the normal year supply and demand for the Casitas Retail system.

Submittal Table 7-2 Retail: Normal Year Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas Retail				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals (from Table 6-9)	11,907	11,907	11,907	11,907
Use totals (from Table 4-2)	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
Difference	1,737	1,737	1,737	1,737

Ojai Water System. Table 7-2 Ojai Retail summarizes the normal year supply and demand for the Ojai Retail system.

Submittal Table 7-2 Retail: Normal Year Supply and Use Comparison, Ojai Retail				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals (from Table 6-9)	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
Use totals (from Table 4-2)	1,850	1,850	1,850	1,850
Difference	911	911	911	911

7.2.2.2. Single Dry Year

Given that Lake Casitas and groundwater basin storage can sustain extended drought periods, a single dry year has little effect on Casitas' supply availability. However, annual demands can vary significantly from year to year depending on precipitation. Unconstrained demands for water typically increase during dry periods and decrease during wet periods. The demands herein reflect planned average demands and were not adjusted based on weather variations.

Casitas Wholesale System. Table 7-3 Casitas Wholesale shows the single-dry year supply and demand for the Casitas wholesale system.

Submittal Table 7-3 Wholesale: Single Dry Year Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals	4,503	4,503	4,503	4,503

Submittal Table 7-3 Wholesale: Single Dry Year Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
Difference	148	148	148	148

Casitas Retail System. Table 7-3 Casitas Retail shows the single dry year supply and demand for the Casitas retail system.

Submittal Table 7-3 Retail: Single Dry Year Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas Retail				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals	10,507	10,507	10,507	10,507
Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
Difference	337	337	337	337

Ojai Retail System. Table 7-3 Ojai Retail shows the single dry year supply and demand for the Ojai retail system.

Submittal Table 7-3 Retail: Single Dry Year Supply and Use Comparison, Ojai Retail				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
Use totals	1,850	1,850	1,850	1,850
Difference	911	911	911	911

7.2.2.3. Five Consecutive Dry Years

Given that Lake Casitas and groundwater basin storage can sustain extended drought periods, a few dry years have little effect on Casitas' supply availability. However, supplies can become limited during extended drought periods and Casitas implements its WEAP as a demand management tool as Lake Casitas storage declines.

Annual demands typically vary significantly from year to year. Unconstrained demands for water typically increase during dry periods and decrease during wet periods. The demands herein have not been adjusted based on weather variations. However, the demands have been adjusted to reflect mandatory demand reductions with WEAP implementation in later years of a drought.

Casitas Wholesale System. Table 7-4 Casitas Wholesale shows the multiple dry year supply and demand for the Casitas wholesale system. In years 4 and 5, It is assumed a portion of supply would be provided by SWP water.

Submittal Table 7-4 Wholesale: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Use Comparison					
		2030	2035	2040	2045
First year	Supply totals	4,503	4,503	4,503	4,503
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	148	148	148	148
Second year	Supply totals	4,503	4,503	4,503	4,503
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	148	148	148	148
Third year	Supply totals	4,503	4,503	4,503	4,503
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	148	148	148	148
Fourth year	Supply totals	4,578	4,578	4,578	4,578
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	223	223	223	223
Fifth year	Supply totals	4,578	4,578	4,578	4,578
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	223	223	223	223

Casitas Retail System. Table 7-4 Casitas Retail shows the multiple dry year supply and demand for the Casitas retail system.

Submittal Table 7-4 Retail: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas Retail					
		2030	2035	2040	2045
First year	Supply totals	10,507	10,507	10,507	10,507
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
	Difference	337	337	337	337
Second year	Supply totals	10,507	10,507	10,507	10,507
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
	Difference	337	337	337	337
Third year	Supply totals	10,507	10,507	10,507	10,507
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
	Difference	337	337	337	337
Fourth year	Supply totals	10,682	10,682	10,682	10,682
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170

Submittal Table 7-4 Retail: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas Retail					
		2030	2035	2040	2045
	Difference	512	512	512	512
Fifth year	Supply totals	10,682	10,682	10,682	10,682
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
	Difference	512	512	512	512

Ojai Retail System. Table 7-4 Ojai Retail shows the multiple dry year supply and demand for the Ojai Retail system. It was assumed in years 4 and 5, the wellfield production would be reduced from 2,300 AF to 1,840 AF. The 461 AF supplement from Lake Casitas would still be available and it is assumed the purchase of SWP for the Casitas system would yield ‘in-lieu’ supply of 250 AF from Lake Casitas to serve the OWS.

Submittal Table 7-4 Retail: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Use Comparison, Ojai Retail					
		2030	2035	2040	2045
First year	Supply totals	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	910	910	910	910
Second year	Supply totals	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	910	910	910	910
Third year	Supply totals	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	910	910	910	910
Fourth year	Supply totals	2,551	2,551	2,551	2,551
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	700	700	700	700
Fifth year	Supply totals	2,551	2,551	2,551	2,551
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	700	700	700	700

7.2.3. Description of Management Tools and Options

Casitas manages its local water supply with a great deal of cooperation from its customers. During drought conditions, the WEAP is a cornerstone policy for Casitas’ demand management. The WEAP describes the water demand reduction strategies and measures to address water shortage conditions, promote water conservation and the efficient use of water, and the application of a penalty to

customers who exceed their allocation. The WEAP was originally developed in response to the 1987 to 1991 drought period and is updated and modified as needed. The most recently adopted WEAP is included in Appendix D.

Future supplemental supply options are described in Section 6.2.1.

7.3. Drought Risk Assessment

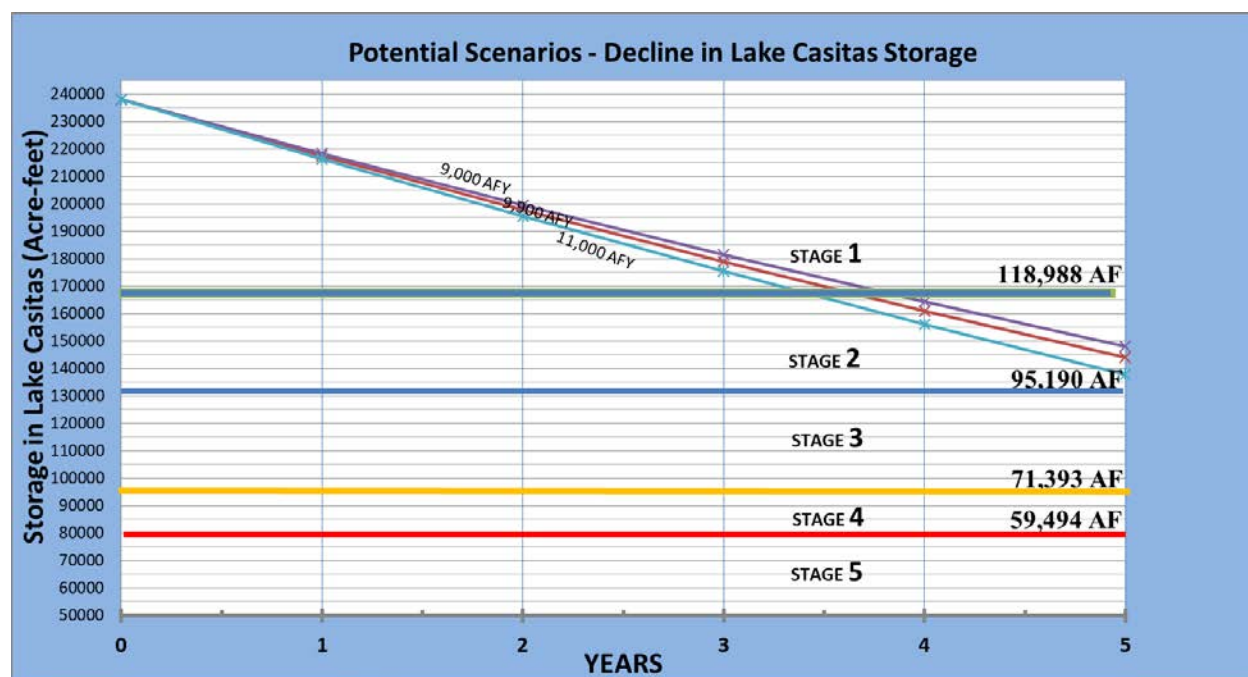
The Drought Risk Assessment (DRA) is intended to address the next five-year cycle of water supplies and demands; for the 2025 UWMP, this is the period from 2026 to 2030.

7.3.1. DRA Data, Methods, and Basis for Water Shortage Condition

Casitas prepares an Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment (AWSDA) which includes an evaluation of water supplies, demands, and effectiveness of water conservation measures over the previous fiscal year, and projects Lake Casitas levels. The 2026 AWSDA is provided in Appendix C.

The analysis is conservative and assumes no inflows to Lake Casitas occur in the next five years. Figure 7-1 shows the potential lake levels with various demand scenarios that reflect recent usage patterns. The graph assumes a worst-case scenario of no precipitation or diversions and takes evaporation rates into account. Casitas will revise the WEAP as conditions warrant.

Figure 7-1



7.3.2. DRA Individual Water Source Reliability

Lake Casitas. As of December 2025, Lake Casitas was at approximately 97 percent of capacity (229,880 AF). Lake Casitas is wholly dependent on precipitation into the watershed and Casitas' ability to divert water from the Ventura River. For drought planning purposes, a conservative assumption of no additional inflows is used.

Groundwater. The DRA assumes that historic pumping levels can be maintained in the next five years. Current groundwater basin conditions are described further in the most recent AWSDA (Appendix C).

State Water Project. Casitas is currently constructing the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie project, which would provide and estimated 2,000 AFY on average. SWP reliability is discussed in Section 7.1.

7.3.3. DRA Total Water Supply and Use Comparison

Casitas Wholesale. Tables 7-5 Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment is shown below. Total supplies are based on recent production trends and water demands ('gross water use') are the unconstrained planned demands.

Submittal Table 7-5: Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment Tables to address Water Code Section 10635(b), Casitas Wholesale	
2026	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148
2027	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148
2028	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148
2029	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148
2030	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148

Casitas Retail System. Table 7-5 Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment for Casitas Retail is shown below.

Submittal Table 7-5: Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment Tables to address Water Code Section 10635(b), Casitas Retail	
2026	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337
2027	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337
2028	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337
2029	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337
2030	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337

Ojai Water System. Table 7-5 Ojai summarizes the Five-Year DRA for the Ojai System. Total supplies are based on recent production trends and water demands ('gross water use') are the unconstrained Stage 1 demands.

Table 7-5: Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment Tables to address Water Code Section 10635(b), Ojai Retail	
2026	Total
Gross Water Use	1,851
Total Supplies	2,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	910
2027	Total
Gross Water Use	1,851
Total Supplies	2,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	910
2028	Total

Table 7-5: Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment Tables to address Water Code Section 10635(b), Ojai Retail	
Gross Water Use	1,851
Total Supplies	2,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	910
2029	Total
Gross Water Use	1,851
Total Supplies	2,551
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	910
2030	Total
Gross Water Use	1,851
Total Supplies	2,551
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	910

8. Water Shortage Contingency Plan

Water shortages can be triggered by hydrologic limitations in supply (e.g. prolonged period of below-normal precipitation and runoff) or failure of supply, treatment, and/or conveyance infrastructure due to a catastrophic event, such as earthquake, power outage, or a toxic spill that affects water quality. Water supply limitations resulting from drought tend to develop and abate more slowly, whereas infrastructure failure tends to happen quickly and relatively unpredictably.

Casitas' Water Shortage Contingency Plan (WSCP) was developed in accordance with California Water Code Section 10632 and the California DWR UWMP Guidebook and includes:

- **Water Supply Reliability Analysis:** Summarizes Casitas' water supply analysis, and identifies any key issues that may trigger a shortage condition;
- **Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment Procedures:** Describes the key data inputs, evaluation criteria, and methodology for assessing the system's reliability for the coming year, and the steps to formally declare any water shortage levels and response actions;
- **Six Standard Shortage Levels:** Establishes water shortage levels to clearly identify and prepare for shortages;
- **Shortage Response Actions:** Describes the response actions that may be implemented or considered for each stage to reduce gaps between supply and demand and to minimize social and economic impacts to the community;
- **Communication Protocols:** Describes communication protocols under each stage to ensure customers, the public, and government agencies are informed of shortage conditions and requirements;
- **Compliance and Enforcement:** Defines compliance and enforcement actions available to administer demand reductions;
- **Legal Authorities:** Lists the legal documents granting Casitas the authority to declare a water shortage; and to implement and enforce response actions;
- **Financial Consequences of WSCP Implementation:** Describes the anticipated financial impacts of implementing water shortage stages and identifies mitigation strategies to offset financial burdens;
- **Monitoring and Reporting:** Summarizes the monitoring and reporting techniques to evaluate the effectiveness of shortage response actions and overall WSCP implementation, and whether response actions should be increased or reduced;
- **WSCP Refinement Procedures:** Outlines procedures for updating the WSCP;
- **Special Water Features Distinction:** Defines ponds, lakes, fountains, pools, and spas, etc.;
- **Plan Adoption, Submittal, Availability, and Amendment Procedures:** Describes the process for WSCP adoption, submittal, availability, and amendment procedures.

The WSCP is prepared as part of Casitas' 2025 UWMP and is a stand-alone document that may be modified as needed. The WSCP is intended to provide guidance, rather than absolute direction, for Casitas' action in response to water shortages.

The WSCP is based on Casitas' currently adopted WEAP, which is included as Appendix D. The WEAP is the primary demand management tool to reduce water demands as Lake Casitas levels decline during extended drought periods and may be modified or updated more frequently than the UWMP five-year

cycle. In addition, Casitas has an Emergency Response Plan and Casitas Dam Emergency Action Plan to provide guidance for a coordinated response to emergency conditions or catastrophic events.

8.1. Water Supply Reliability Analysis

The reliability of Casitas' water supply is described in Section 7 by comparing supply demand projections through 2045 for normal, single dry, and multiple dry years. The following is a concise narrative of the available water supplies and key issues that may create a water shortage condition.

8.1.1. Lake Casitas

Because Lake Casitas is a multi-year reservoir designed to supply water through an extended drought period, a single dry year has little effect on availability of Casitas supplies. However, when average or less rainfall continues for many years in succession, Lake Casitas storage will decline and careful management is needed in the event that dry conditions continue. Figures 8-1 and 8-2 show historical lake levels and the corresponding reduction in demands, respectively, when lake levels start to decline. The demand reductions in the post-1989 and post-2016 periods reflect implementation of the WEAP and its effectiveness as a demand management tool.

The water supply availability from Lake Casitas was previously studied by the United States Bureau of Reclamation in the 1954 evaluation of the Ventura River Project, and later by the District in the 1989 and 2004. In 2020 Casitas updated its evaluation of the reliability of the Lake Casitas water supply using its Lake Casitas safe yield model, which is a mass-balance model that tracks Lake Casitas inflows, outflows (including evaporation), and change in storage to simulate operations over a time series of assumed hydrology conditions. The model evaluates the water supply vulnerability to climatic and seasonal variations in weather, changes in water demands, and changes to water supply operations. The safe yield model was recently updated to include the following improvements:

- Extended hydrologic period of record of 1945-2018 (from previous of 1945-1999)
- Incorporated results of recent Lake Casitas bathymetric survey – reduced maximum storage capacity from 254,000 AF to 237,761 AF
- Added function to compute reservoir spills
- Incorporated Robles Diversion Facility operations based on 2003 Biological Opinion requirements and 2018 Critical Drought Protection Measures
- Reduced modeled Robles diversions based on a diversion efficiency of 70 percent, consistent with operational data since the Fish Passage Facility was constructed
- Improved method of calculating monthly net evaporation loss

Upon review of updated modeling analyses on April 21, 2021, the Casitas Board adopted a revised Casitas System operational yield of 15,010 AFY⁹, which accounts for future climate change and hydrologic uncertainty.

⁹ Based on a planned yield of 14,965 AFY from Lake Casitas and 145 AFY from Mira Monte Well.

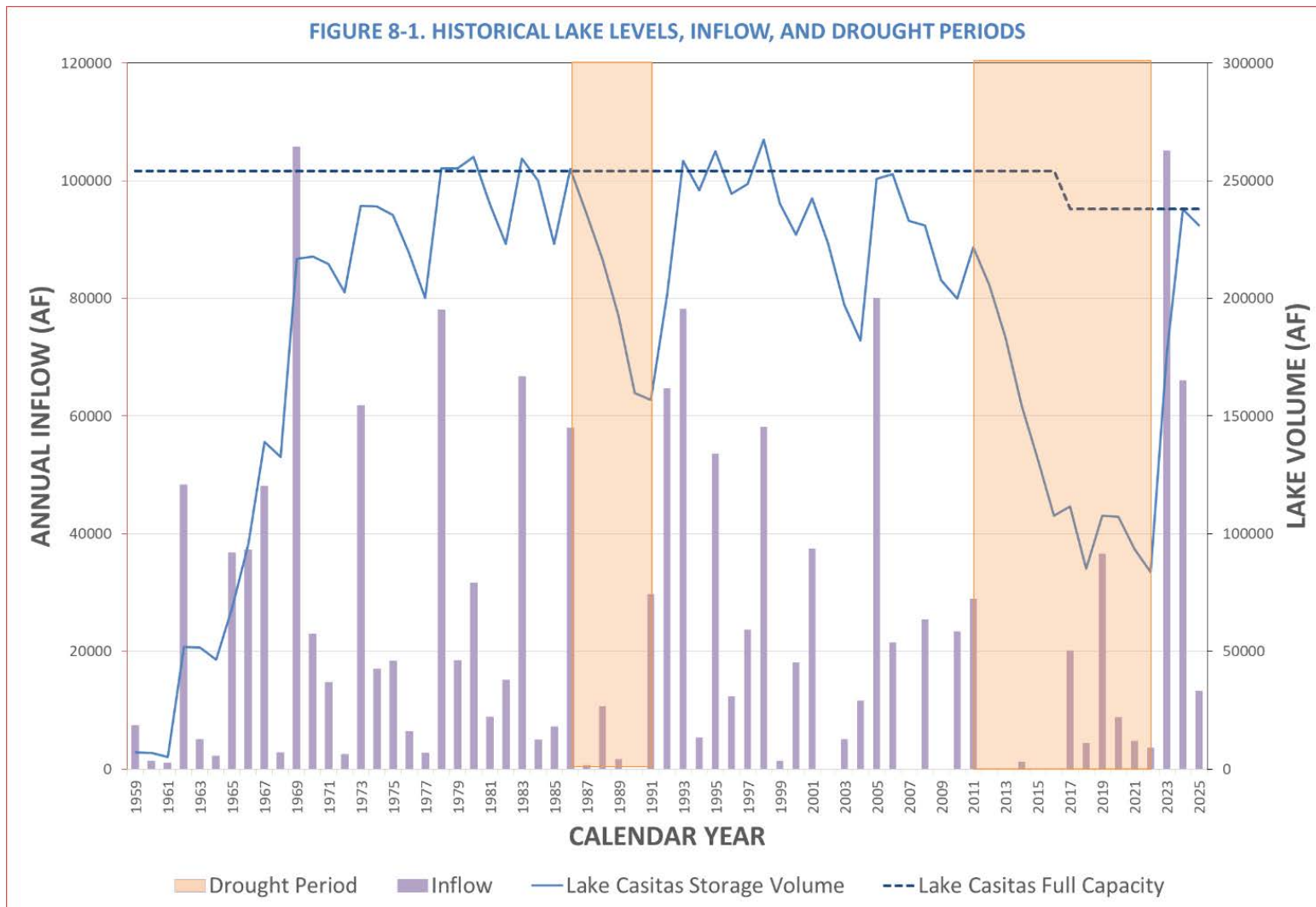
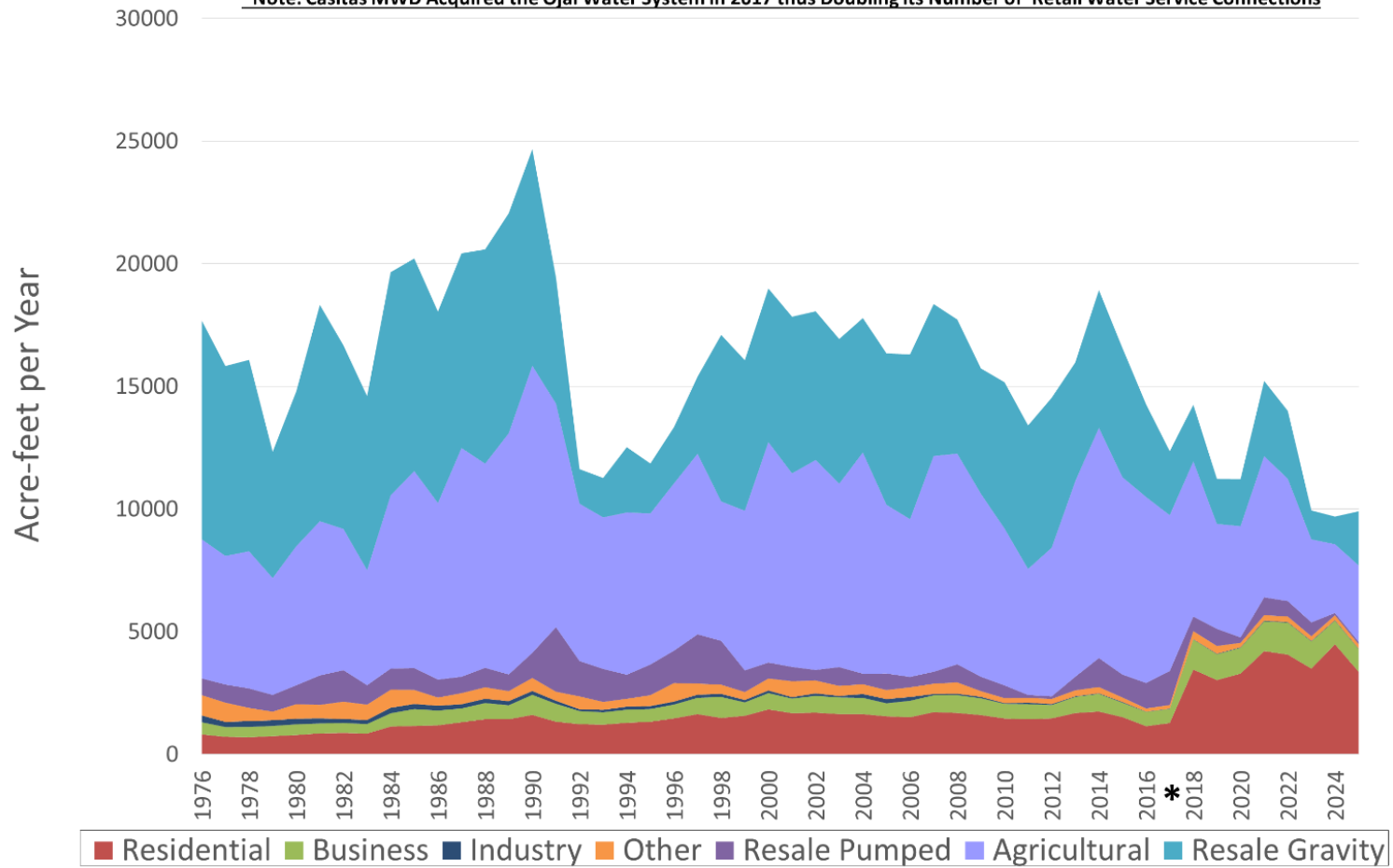


Figure 8-2 Historic Water Use by Customer Class

AF Data is by Fiscal Year

***Note: Casitas MWD Acquired the Ojai Water System in 2017 thus Doubling its Number of Retail Water Service Connections**



8.1.2. Water Quality Impacts on Reliability

The water quality of Lake Casitas may vary significantly as the lake storage transitions from full capacity to minimum pool. Surface water supply from Lake Casitas is treated at the Marion Walker Pressure Filtration Plant (MWFPF) using pressure filtration and chlorination prior to the delivery to the distribution system. The treatment process ensures the water meets all state and federal regulations. At lower levels of Lake Casitas storage there are specific and challenging water quality issues affecting Casitas' ability to treat and deliver potable water from Lake Casitas. During the condition of low lake level the water quality can unfavorably change due to the concentrating of nutrients resulting in eutrophication, increased algae blooms, reduction in dissolved oxygen, and increased turbidity during storm events that could significantly impact filtration treatment process and the rate of water production for the distribution system. Additionally, increased loading of natural organic matter results in elevated precursors that can contribute to trihalomethanes (THMs), haloacetic acids (HAAs), and other disinfection byproducts.

Casitas is also concerned about the release of organic-laden silts from Matilija Dam that, if not properly mitigated during the Matilija Dam removal, can add to the mass balance of nitrogen and phosphorous compounds and increased turbidity of water flowing into Lake Casitas.

Specific actions Casitas has considered and implemented are lake management strategies such as watershed management, intake selection (hypolimnetic withdrawal), algae control, and lake aeration. The level of the lake management implementation may increase as the problem intensifies during low storage conditions.

8.1.3. Groundwater

The Casitas System is supplied by one groundwater well located in the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin, with a planned average supply of 145 to 180 AFY. The well water is blended with surface water from Lake Casitas at a high ratio to ensure the maximum contaminant level (MCL) for nitrate is not exceeded. The resulting blended water is well below the MCL for nitrate. On-site treatment to eliminate the need for blending and increase well production could be a consideration in the future.

The Ojai System is supplied by six groundwater wells in the Ojai Groundwater Basin, with a total capacity (with all wells operational) of 3,200 AFY. Groundwater from all six wells receives treatment for iron and manganese at the San Antonio Groundwater Treatment Plant prior to distribution to the Ojai System and meets all state and federal water quality requirements without blending.

Estimated yield of groundwater supply is based on historical groundwater production records. The groundwater basins are managed by the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Management Agency and the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency. Both agencies have DWR-approved Groundwater Sustainability Plans which determine management actions to support sustainable groundwater yields.

8.1.4. Existing Emergency Supplies

Lake Casitas is the drought and emergency source of supply for the region. In the event Lake Casitas supplies are not available, available groundwater supplies could serve the Ojai System. Groundwater supplies for the Casitas System are limited in their ability to deliver water and interagency agreements are sought for specific and limited emergency conditions.

In addition, the Casitas System (Retail and Wholesale) and Ojai Retail System have approximately 26.3 million gallons and 2.0 million gallons, respectively, of water storage in the distribution system to provide two to three days of reserve water supply. In the event of isolated water outages, Casitas has five portable water tanks (water buffalos), 400 gallons each, for placing in residential areas. Casitas has also employed contract water trucks to provide water to residential areas during major water outages. Casitas will respond to water outages with a pipeline repair crew, contract pipeline crews, engineers, water quality and customer service personnel, and may request assistance from local, state, and federal agencies, as warranted.

8.1.5. Potential Future Emergency Supplies

Casitas is currently constructing a regional emergency interconnection, known as the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie, which is described in Section 6.2.1. This interconnection would allow direct delivery of imported water to Casitas' system to mitigate periods when local supplies are limited.

8.2. Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment Procedures

New provisions in Water Code Section 10632.1 require an urban water supplier to conduct an annual water supply and demand assessment (AWSDA), on or before July 1 of each year, to be submitted to DWR. The requirement to perform the Annual Assessment began in July 2022. Casitas has completed these AWSDAs starting in 2022 and has submitted them through the WUE Data portal. The 2026 AWSDA is provided in Appendix C.

8.2.1. Decision-Making Process

According to the most current WEAP, the General Manager shall report to the Board of Directors each year (April) with an assessment of the current water storage in Lake Casitas and local groundwater basins, current water use trends, predicted weather conditions, and an evaluation of current water use reduction goals. The time of the reporting can be each April, as the rainfall season is ending and water resources can be evaluated at the maximum for the year, or as Lake Casitas storage reaches a change in Stage action level. The Board of Directors may, at their sole discretion, declare a Stage condition of water supply in Lake Casitas exists and implement the appropriate demand reduction goals and measures in response to current and/or predicted water availability conditions. Casitas shall make such determinations public and follow with appropriate and timely notification to all customers. An action to declare and implement a Stage may occur by either an action of the Casitas Board of Directors based on unanticipated changing lake supply conditions or in accordance with the following schedule:

Target Dates	Action
June – April	Monitor water demands, rainfall, reservoir level trend, groundwater trends, and diversion and runoff amounts.
Early April	Staff presents water status report and a recommendation to the Casitas Board of Directors. Publish a notice of a public hearing if changes are recommended.
Late April	Casitas Board of Directors formally declares a Stage, and/or water shortage emergency, adopts recommendations for demand reduction actions.
May	Customer Notification of change in Stage, allocation, and overuse penalties.
June	Finalize Annual Water Assessment and submit to DWR.
July	Stage demand reduction actions are effective and are implemented.

8.2.2. Data and Methodologies

This section provides a description of key data inputs and methodologies to evaluate the water system reliability for the coming year, assuming that subsequent years are dry with low precipitation. To evaluate reliability, the inputs described in the following subsections are considered.

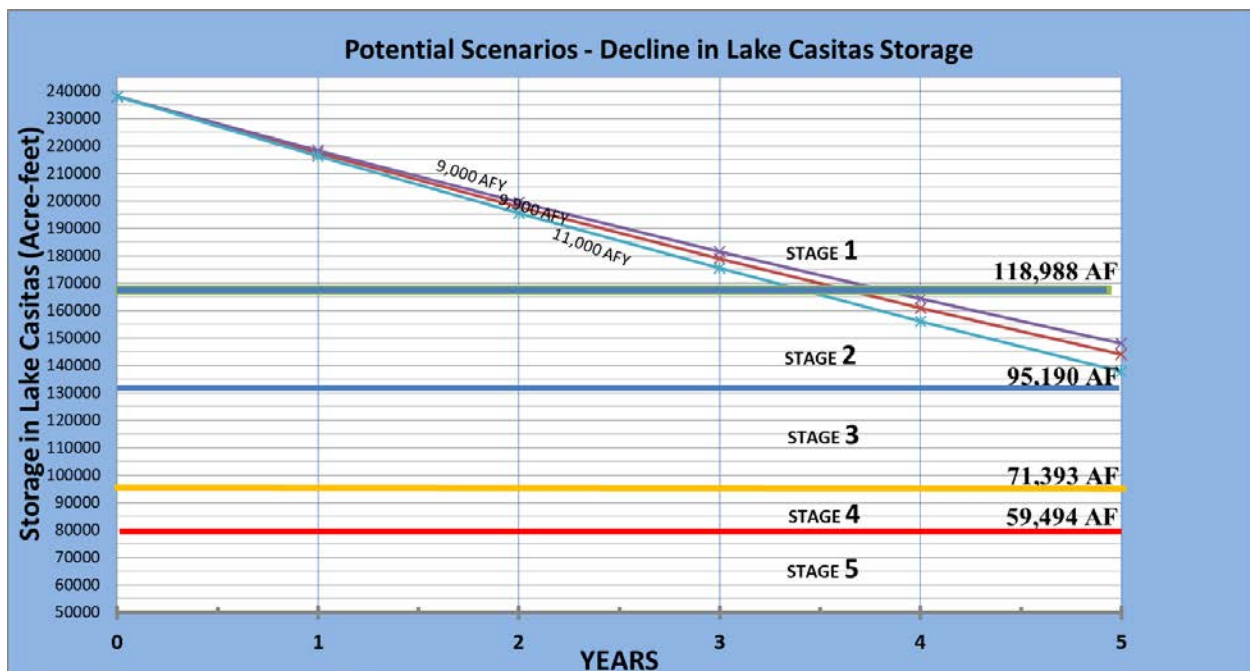
8.2.2.1. Current Year Unconstrained Customer Demand

The unconstrained demand reflects periods when Casitas is not in a declared water shortage stage. For purposes of the Annual Assessment to be submitted to DWR, Casitas estimates near-term demand based on recent trends, with consideration of water supplied over the last twelve months, trends from previous years, and potential increases in demands due to weather or other influencing factors.

8.2.2.2. Current Year Water Supply

Casitas staff estimates projected Lake Casitas storage levels over the next five years or more based on projected near-term demands, current Lake Casitas storage levels, dry year evaporation rates, and a worst-case assumption of no additional rainfall or runoff. This conservative planning approach allows an evaluation of how long current available supplies will last and whether the next drought stage will be triggered within the next year. Figure 8-3 presents an example projection based on conditions and adopted management policies in Spring 2021. The estimated current releases from Lake Casitas to the treatment plant are 10,600 AFY, and two additional scenarios were evaluated based on a 10 percent variation in demands.

FIGURE 8-3. HYPOTHETICAL DECLINE IN LAKE CASITAS STORAGE WITH NO RAINFALL OR RUNOFF; 2013 EVAPORATION RATE EVERY YEAR; STARTING STORAGE AT 237,761 ACRE-FEET



Casitas staff also include groundwater basin status as a consideration in its water supply assessment. The Ojai Basin groundwater levels and storage are tracked by the OBGMA, and the Upper Ventura River groundwater levels are tracked by the Ventura River Water District and UVGMA.

Based on current conditions, projected demands and supplies are compared for both the Casitas (Retail and Wholesale) System and Ojai Retail System assuming dry conditions over the next five years.

8.2.2.3. *Infrastructure Considerations*

As part of its supply availability analysis, Casitas will evaluate how infrastructure capabilities and constraints (e.g. condition of groundwater wells) may affect the ability to access or deliver supplies to meet projected customer water demand in the coming year, as well as any capital projects anticipated to improve the capacity or ability to meet demands.

8.2.2.4. *Evaluation Criteria*

Casitas has established the implementation of various stages of action based on the amount of water in storage in Lake Casitas, as shown in Table 8-0 which reflects the most recently adopted WEAP (Appendix D). These stages apply to both the Casitas system and the Ojai system. The recommended stage will be based on whether the projected lake levels over the next year fall within the action levels.

Table 8-0. Stage Conditions in Relation to Lake Casitas Storage			
Stage	Stage Title	Lake Casitas Storage, %	Lake Casitas Storage Action Level (AF)
1	Water Conservation	100%-50%	237,761 to 118,880
2	Water Shortage Warning	50%-40%	118,880 to 95,104
3	Water Shortage Eminent	40%-30%	95,104 to 71,328
4	Severe Water Shortage	30%-25%	71,328 to 59,440
5	Critical Water Shortage	25%-0%	59,440 to 3,000
Note: This is <u>not</u> a DWR-Required table			

In addition, recent demand trends are evaluated to determine if they are within planned levels and whether additional demand reduction actions are recommended. During periods when Casitas is not in a declared water shortage stage, the recent demand trends are compared with the planned normal demands, which are reflected in Tables 4-2 and 4-3. During periods when Casitas is in a declared water shortage stage, the recent demand trends are compared with the demand reduction goals outlined in Section 8.3 and the most current WEAP.

Planned Water Use for Current Year Considering Dry Subsequent Year. Casitas uses a conservative approach and assume dry conditions throughout a 5-year period for the AWSDA. If recent water demand trends reflect wet conditions and reduced irrigation needs, and Casitas is not in a declared water shortage stage, the planned demands used in the annual assessment are adjusted to account for increases in demand that occur during dry conditions. If previous years reflect extended dry conditions and Casitas is already in a declared water shortage stage, the effects of current restrictions on water demands are considered.

8.2.2.5. *Water Supply*

The following subsections describe the near-term (one-year) forecasts for Casitas' water supplies.

Purchased/Imported Water. Casitas does not expect to purchase SWP in the near-term. The Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie is expected to be complete, however there are sufficient water supplies without the need to purchase SWP water.

Groundwater. Casitas will continue to use groundwater supplies for both the Casitas and Ojai systems in the next year. These supplies were replenished in 2022/2023 due to significant rainfall and it is not anticipated there will be shortages of this supply.

Surface Water. Lake Casitas supplies are plentiful as of December 31, 2025, and this will remain the main source of supply for Casitas Wholesale and Casitas Retail customers in the near-term.

8.3. Six Standard Water Shortage Levels

Casitas water shortage planning is intended to address supply shortages ranging from a slowly developing drought to sudden and potentially catastrophic interruptions, such as earthquakes and/or failure of major system components. Stages 1 through 5 reflect the most recently adopted WEAP which primarily addresses drought conditions, and Stage 6 reflects a catastrophic emergency in which the Emergency Response Plan would be implemented. Table 8-1 reflects the DWR-required Water Shortage Contingency Plan levels and applies to both the Casitas and Ojai systems.

Submittal Table 8-1: Cross-reference for Standard vs Supplier Shortage Levels Water Code Section 10632(a)(3)(B)			
☒		Check the box if the Supplier uses the Standard six levels of water shortage. Proceed to the next table.	
Standard Shortage Levels	Percent Shortage Range	Suppliers Shortage Levels	Percent Shortage Range
1	Up to 10%		
2	Up to 20%		
3	Up to 30%		
4	Up to 40%		
5	Up to 50%		
6	>50%		

8.4. Shortage Response Actions

This WSCP identifies various actions to be considered by the Casitas Board of Directors during the various water shortage stages, including public information, water conservation assistance, supply augmentation, water use regulations, issuance of new water meters, and demand tracking. In the event of a water shortage emergency, Casitas evaluates the cause of the emergency to help inform which response actions should be implemented. Depending on the nature of the water shortage, the Casitas Board of Directors can elect to implement one or several response actions to mitigate the shortage and reduce gaps between supply and demand. Casitas acknowledges the importance of flexibility when responding to emergency conditions and may adopt additional actions not listed here if necessary.

8.4.1. Supply Augmentation

Historically, Casitas' water portfolio has been comprised only of local water sources, with as much as 99 percent coming from Lake Casitas, and the remaining supplies coming from a local groundwater well. In June 2017, Casitas acquired the Ojai Water System from the Golden State Water Company. The Ojai Water System is primarily fed by local groundwater wells, which are augmented by supply from Lake Casitas as needed.

While Casitas' water has historically come from local supplies, Casitas has contracted for up to 5,000 AFY of imported water from the State Water Project. Imported water has not been supplied to Casitas due to lack of local conveyance infrastructure to deliver the water. Table 8-2 shows the supply augmentation at Stage 6, with one table for Casitas Wholesale and one for Casitas Retail. The tables assume 2,000 AF is available through the Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie, portioned between Casitas Wholesale and Casitas Retail.

The Ojai System does not have a reasonable means of obtaining additional supply and would rely on supplementing groundwater supplies with Lake Casitas supply. If Casitas customers received SWP water, this leaves more water in Lake Casitas, to the benefit of Ojai customers.

Submittal Table 8-2 Retail: Supply Augmentation and Other Actions Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(A),(C) and €, Casitas Wholesale				
Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Supply Augmentation Methods and Other Actions by Water Supplier	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference
		Volume or Percentage	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (AF)	
1	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage		
2	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage		
3	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	600	Purchase SWP water as needed
4	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	600	Purchase SWP water as needed
5	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	600	Purchase SWP water as needed
6	Other Purchases	Volume	600	Purchase SWP water as needed
NOTES: The proportion of SWP water available is proportioned between Casitas Wholesale and Casitas Retail				

Submittal Table 8-2 Retail: Supply Augmentation and Other Actions Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(A),(C) and €, Casitas Retail				
Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Supply Augmentation Methods and Other Actions by Water Supplier I	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference
		Volume or Percentage	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (AF)	
1	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage		
2	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage		
3	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	1,400	Purchase SWP water as needed
4	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	1,400	Purchase SWP water as needed
5	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	1,400	Purchase SWP water as needed
6	Other Purchases	Volume	1,400	Purchase SWP water as needed
NOTES: The proportion of SWP water available is proportioned between Casitas Wholesale and Casitas Retail				

8.4.2. Demand Reduction

At all times, including normal and shortage conditions, Casitas implements a comprehensive water conservation program (Section 9). Public information, workshops, rebates, and tiered rates are ongoing during normal supply conditions and adjusted to meet target demand reductions during water shortage conditions.

8.4.2.1. *Stage 1-5 Demand Reduction Actions*

During drought conditions, the WEAP is a cornerstone policy for Casitas' demand management. The WEAP describes the water demand reduction strategies and measures to address water shortage conditions, promote water conservation and the efficient use of water, and the application of a penalty to customers who waste water. The WEAP was originally developed in response to the 1987-1991 drought period and is updated and modified as needed. The collective work in 1992 set the starting point for a system of water allocation assignments and demand response criteria based on the level of water storage in Lake Casitas.

Under the WEAP, each customer is assigned an individual allocation based on reasonable use for their water use classification and property characteristics. The allocation is comprised of both essential and non-essential uses. As Lake Casitas levels decline, the non-essential portion of the allocations are reduced according to mandatory water use reductions associated with each declared water shortage stage. Casitas' customer billing system contains a database to compare actual water use against allocations on a monthly and annual basis, and the District may issue penalties for any excess water used over the allocated amount. In addition to water allocations, the District may consider additional

specific water use prohibitions to augment its ongoing Water Waste Prevention Ordinance (Section 9.2.1). Implementation of the WEAP during the most recent eight-year drought (July 2015 to April 2023) has resulted in consistent overall demand reduction of approximately 50 percent from previous levels (Figure 8-2).

The demand reduction actions for Stages 1-5, which pertain to declining lake levels during extended drought conditions, are summarized in the currently adopted WEAP (Appendix D, Table 6).

8.4.2.2. Stage 6 Demand Reduction Actions

Stage 6 reflects a catastrophic event in which limited to no water supply is available due to damaged or failed infrastructure; in which case, the District's Emergency Response Plan (ERP) is followed. The ERP includes emergency communication procedures for notifying the public about emergency water use restrictions, potential need to boil tap water before drinking, and locations where drinking water is available in the event of distribution system failure.

8.4.2.3. Summary Table

Table 8-3 is based on table formats required by DWR. Because the standard "drop down" lists did not include all of measures considered by Casitas, the table refers to the appropriate policy document to find more information on demand reduction actions. Table 8-3 applies to both Casitas and Ojai water systems, wholesale and retail, as the WEAP applies to all customers

Submittal Table 8-3 Wholesale and Retail: Demand Reduction Actions Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(B) and (E)				
Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference
		Volume or Percentage	Shortage Gap Reduction Value	
1	Other	Percentage	10	Voluntary conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix D)
2	Other	Percentage	20	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix D)
3	Other	Percentage	30	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix D)

Submittal Table 8-3 Wholesale and Retail: Demand Reduction Actions
Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(B) and (E)

Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference
		Volume or Percentage	Shortage Gap Reduction Value	
4	Other	Percentage	40	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix D)
5	Other	Percentage	50	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix D)
6	Other	Percentage	>50	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix D)

8.4.3. Operational Changes

To ensure a coordinated and consistent response across the entire organization, a Water Shortage Response Team is formed as soon as a potential shortage is identified and remains in operation until the water shortage declaration is lifted. The Water Shortage Response Team includes:

- General Manager
- Assistant General Manager
- Public Outreach and Conservation Manager
- Operations and Maintenance Manager
- Chief Financial Officer/Administrative Manager
- Engineering Manager
- Parks Services Manager
- Safety Officer
- Legal Counsel

The Water Shortage Response team may consider operational changes such as:

- Display messaging highlighting water-saving actions in key Casitas facilities, including public and communal areas such as restrooms, kitchens, and break rooms
- Limit vehicle washing

- equip field staff with public information material about the drought and water use regulations, and educate staff on how to report water waste to enforcement staff
- Reduced reservoir cleaning
- Evaluate suspending capital improvement projects that are water intensive;
- Evaluate no-discharge flushing technologies.

8.4.4. Additional Mandatory Restrictions

Mandatory water use restrictions during a declared water shortage condition are addressed in Section 8.1.1 Demand Reduction and further described in the most recently adopted WEAP (Appendix D).

8.4.5. Emergency Response Plan

Casitas has an adopted Emergency Response Plan (ERP) and Casitas Dam Emergency Action Plan. In accordance with the American Water Infrastructure Act (AWIA), Casitas completed the AWIA Risk and Resilience Assessment at the end of 2025 and is on track to complete an updated Emergency Response Plan in 2026. Areas of improvement discovered during the assessment are being incorporated into the updated plan. The framework of the 2026 Emergency Response Plan is based on the AWIA Community Water Systems Emergency Response Plan and incorporates facets of the Incident Command Systems and National Incident Management Systems.

The Casitas Dam is owned by the USBR, which requires a specific Emergency Action Plan for the facility based on federal protocols and formats. USBR reviews the Casitas Dam Emergency Action Plan on annual basis with Casitas operations and engineering staff.

8.4.6. Seismic Risk Assessment and Mitigation Plan

Casitas participated in the Ventura County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan. This plan, available at: chrome-

extension://efaidnbmnnnibpcajpcgltclefindmkaj/https://vcportal.ventura.org/OES/2022-03-01_VenturaHMP_Vol2_PublicReviewDraft-compressed.pdf, meets the requirements of the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-390) as well as the requirements of Water Code Section 10644. Casitas also provided annual updates in 2024 and 2025. Casitas' ERP addresses earthquake response.

8.4.7. Shortage Response Action Effectiveness

Monthly monitoring of water use is part of regular procedures, during normal and water shortage conditions. Water is produced and distributed in response to customer demand and is tracked monthly as an indicator of overall demand. For demand analysis by customer class, geographic area, and usage level, Casitas' billing system provides standardized reports on monthly metered sales by bill code, as well as customized reports for specific areas of analysis.

During water shortage conditions, savings are measured in comparison to what is considered to be a normal-year demand (i.e., current customer base with approximately average rainfall) or in reference to a specific base year as may be dictated by statewide requirements.

8.5. Communication Protocols

A summary of public outreach and communication actions Casitas could potentially take during a specific shortage stage is outlined herein, although this serves as a guide rather than required actions.

8.5.1. Stage 1

To maximize the level of voluntary customer conservation the Stage 1 declaration is coupled with an enhanced public outreach campaign. Public outreach efforts focus on educating Casitas customers and the general public about current supply and demand conditions, encouraging customers to understand and commit to further reducing their water use, and providing tools and resources to customers to successfully reduce use. Information is provided on the plans for water shortage response and the importance of stretching local supplies.

Outreach activities may include:

- Press Release following Board Stage 1 Declaration
- Media interviews and inquiries
- District Newsletter – Water Supply Story, General Manager’s Message, and Water Conservation Tips
- District website – Updates to the home page, conservation, and water supply sections to provide conservation tools and tips for customers
- Ongoing social media posts with water conservation messages
- Ongoing conservation related billing statement messages
- Coordination with regional and statewide partners on messaging and outreach
- Outreach at community events (e.g., school fairs and programs, workshop with landscaping professionals, etc.)
- Outreach to hotels and restaurants to improve opportunities for customers to request daily washing of linens and water for the table, respectively
- Casitas employee outreach and education to promote consistent organizational messages related to water supply and conservation.

8.5.2. Stage 2

Public outreach efforts associated with Stage 2 focus on further educating and informing Casitas customers and the general public about current supply and demand conditions; notifying customers of new demand reduction targets and allocations, prohibited activities, and associated penalties for violations; and directing customers to tools and resources that will help them conserve water.

Outreach activities may include:

- Press Release following Board declaration of a Stage 2 Declaration
- Consider increased paid advertising — print, online, radio, TV, streaming, social media, movie theaters, buses, etc.
- Targeted outreach to customers with large landscapes regarding irrigation restrictions (i.e., schools, parks, property managers, agricultural customers, etc.)
- Postcard or letter to all District customers notifying of allocations, demand reduction programs and requirements, and penalties.
- Publish information on how to preserve most valuable landscaping (trees, edible plants, etc.), including appropriate watering systems and use of gray water
- Enlist support of business groups, such as the Chamber of Commerce, to help encourage conservation among commercial customers
- Educate customers on how to perform regular household meter reading and leak detection

- Publish “conservation stories” featuring individuals and businesses demonstrating leadership in water conservation
- Signage at Casitas public facilities to reduce water usage
- Signage or flyers posted in public places such as libraries and neighborhood centers
- Continued implementation of all other public outreach actions of Stage 1 (newsletters, website updates, social media posts, media interviews, billing statement messages, etc.).

8.5.3. [Stage 3](#)

Public outreach efforts associated with Stage 3 focus on large reductions in outdoor water use; notifying customers of heightened demand reduction targets and changes to allocations and penalties (if applicable); and directing customers to tools and resources to help them conserve water.

Outreach activities may include:

- Press Release following Board Stage 3 declaration
- Consider hiring a third party to assist with the launch of a major public outreach and education campaign
- Postcard/mailer to all customers regarding changes in allocations and penalties (if applicable)
- Expand and intensify all other public outreach actions of Stages 1 and 2 (newsletters, website updates, social media posts, media interviews, billing statement messages, etc.).

8.5.4. [Stage 4](#)

Public outreach efforts associated with Stage 4 focus on large reductions in outdoor water use, educating customers on the severity of the water supply situation, and notifying customers of heightened demand reduction targets and changes to allocations and penalties (if applicable).

Outreach activities may include:

- Press Release following Board Stage 4 declaration
- Implement major public outreach and education campaign
- Postcard/mailer to all customers regarding changes in allocations and penalties (if applicable)
- Provide regular media briefings and updates on supply situation
- Expand and intensify all other public outreach actions of Stages 1-3 (newsletters, website updates, social media posts, media interviews, billing statement messages, etc.).

8.5.5. [Stage 5](#)

Public outreach efforts associated with Stages 5 build on prior efforts and may incorporate elements of the communication plan included in the District’s ERP.

Outreach activities may include:

- Press release following Board Stage 5 Declaration
- Press event at the District Headquarters
- Postcard/mailer to all customers regarding changes in allocations and penalties (if applicable)
- Continue to implement major public education campaign launched during Stage 3-4
- Contact large and critical customers notifying them of the water supply situation (hospital, medical clinics, agricultural customers, and others).

8.5.6. [Stage 6](#)

Public outreach efforts associated with Stages 6 should follow the crisis communication plan in the District's Emergency Response Plan.

Outreach activities may include:

- Press release following Board declaration of a catastrophic emergency
- Press events at the District Headquarters or other location
- Implementation of the District ERP, which includes communication procedures that would be used for notifying the public about emergency water use restrictions, potential need to boil tap water before drinking, locations where drinking water is available in the event of distribution system failure.

8.6. Compliance and Enforcement

At all times, during normal and shortage conditions, Casitas enforces a Water Waste Prohibition Ordinance (Section 9.1.1), which is part of normal Water Conservation Program activities. Customers found to be in violation are issued a written warning and may be subject to a fine as authorized by the Ordinance 2022-01 (Appendix E). During a declared water shortage condition, additional water use restrictions may be adopted, and Casitas may expand its enforcement of water waste prohibitions, including hiring additional staff as necessary.

In accordance with the WEAP, the Casitas Board of the Directors annually considers penalties applied to customers who use water in excess of their assigned water allocations. In the most recent drought, the Board adopted a penalty of \$5 per unit for any usage over the assigned allocation. District customers may appeal any decision made or fine imposed by filing a written appeal with the District.

8.7. Legal Authorities

This section describes Casitas' legal authorities, its right to declare a water shortage emergency and the declaration of a local emergency.

8.7.1. [Legal authorities](#)

Casitas has the legal authority to implement and enforce its WSCP. Relevant sections of the California Water Code (Water Code) include:

- **Water Code Section 100** provides that water must be put to beneficial use, the waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water shall be prevented, and the conservation of water is to be exercised with a view to the reasonable and beneficial use thereof in the interest of the people and public welfare.
- **Water Code Sections 350-359** provide that the governing body of a distributor of a public water supply shall declare a water shortage emergency condition to prevail within the service area whenever it finds and determines that the ordinary demands cannot be satisfied without depleting water supplies to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption, sanitation, and fire protection. When deemed as a water shortage emergency in accordance with Water Code 350, Casitas shall follow the procedures provided by the Water Code in the implementation of the water shortage declaration and actions.

- **Water Code Section 71640** provides Casitas the authority to restrict the use of District water during any emergency caused by drought, or other threatened or existing water shortage, and the District may prohibit the wastage of District water or the use of District water during such periods for any purpose other than household uses or such other restricted uses as Casitas determines to be necessary. Casitas may also prohibit use of District water during such periods for specific uses which it finds to be nonessential.

Pursuant to these authorities, Casitas adopted Ordinance 2022-01 (Appendix E), which prohibits the waste of water and imposes water conservation requirements on customers. In addition, Casitas developed policies within its WEAP and ERP for responding to water shortage conditions and emergencies. Casitas shall declare an emergency upon its determination that such condition exists. Emergencies may exist due to long-term diminishment of the Lake Casitas water supply; or a catastrophic interruption due to earthquake, extended regional power outage, or landslides, or other major events that impact Casitas' water supply or infrastructure. Upon declaration of an emergency, Casitas shall coordinate with any City and County within which it provides water supply service for possible proclamation of an emergency. Casitas provides water service within Ventura County, the City of Ojai, and the City of Ventura.

The State of California, through its authority under the Water Code and Government Code, may declare a water shortage emergency and require curtailment of water use above and beyond the policies outlined in the Casitas WEAP. Customers of Casitas must respond and comply with the orders of the State in a timely manner. A failure to comply may cause the State to impose fines and penalties that will be redistributed to the customers of Casitas in a manner determined by the Casitas Board of Directors.

8.7.2. Declaration of Water Shortage

Casitas Board of Directors shall declare a water shortage emergency in accordance with Water Code Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 350) of Division 1 when conditions warrant such action.

8.7.3. Proclamation of Local Emergency

Casitas shall coordinate with the County of Ventura, City of Ventura, and City of Ojai for the possible proclamation of a local emergency. The following offices will be contacted:

- County of Ventura, Supervisor
- City of Ventura, City Manager and Water Manager
- City of Ojai, City Manager

8.8. Financial Consequences of WSCP

The following subsections describe the financial consequences of implementing the Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

8.8.1. Financial Impacts and Mitigation Action

In the event water shortage measures are implemented, revenue from water sales (volumetric charges) is expected to decline as customers comply with the declared shortage. At the same time, the majority of operating costs are fixed in nature and do not increase or decrease as water use increases or decreases.

Operating costs such as water quality testing, routine maintenance and repairs, meter reading, and customer billing continue to rise every year. Additionally, as infrastructure ages, the pipelines and facilities needed to deliver water safely and reliably require regular preventative maintenance and upgrades to avoid emergency repairs, the costs of which also rise over time.

As additional water shortage measures are implemented, staff costs including enforcement of conservation measures, monitoring and evaluation of water usage, drought planning, and dealing with customer questions and complaints are expected to increase.

Penalties for excess water use beyond a customer's allocation are implemented to encourage conservation. The revenue incurred from these penalties can be used to cover the shortfall created by reduced water usage.

Lower revenue resulting from decreased water use, combined with increasing operating costs, ultimately leads to a substantial shortfall. In an effort to mitigate the shortfall due to reduced revenues Casitas implements a two-rate component bill among customers. The normal two-rate components include: (1) fixed charge based on the size of the water meter serving a property and (2) volumetric charge based on the amount of water served to a property. Allocation penalties are enacted typically when stage 3 of the WEAP is declared by the Board and are ended at the Board's discretion during further WEAP stage updates. The percentage of revenue from fixed, volumetric, and allocation penalty charges is shown in Table 8-4 for the period from 2021 to 2025.

Table 8-4 Percentage of Fixed, Volumetric and Allocation Penalties Revenue					
	2021	2022	2023¹	2024	2025
Volumetric Charges	58%	59%	48%	58%	61%
Fixed Charges	31%	38%	49%	42%	39%
Allocation Penalties	11%	8%	2%	0%	0%
NOTES: This is <u>not</u> a DWR-required table.					
¹ Stage 1 declared in June 2023; allocation penalties no longer enforced.					

Other actions include the utilization of reserve funds to offset the impact of reduced revenue. However, the reserves will eventually need to be restored. Capital infrastructure projects may also have to be delayed. Possible rate increases may be needed in order to mitigate the financial impact of demand and supply management actions during water shortages.

8.8.2. Reporting Cost of Compliance with Excessive Water Use Prohibition During Drought Emergency

Casitas prohibits excessive water use through a tiered rate structure and penalties for exceeding water allocation. Ordinance No. 2022-01 Water Waste Ordinance states that any Administrative fines applied as a result of water waste violations are applied to the customer's regular water billing. Payment of the administrative fines will be the final responsibility of the individual named on the water account. Non-payment of fines will be subject to the same remedies as non-payment of basic water rates in accordance with the Casitas Rates and Regulations for Water Service.

8.9. Monitoring and Reporting

Casitas performs water use monitoring procedures throughout its service area through the Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system at the Casitas Dam source, all pump plants, and reservoirs. In addition, all service connections to the Casitas distribution system are metered and monitored on a monthly basis. Casitas can detect irregularly high water use within a pressure zone and inquire and identify the location of the irregular water use. Significant customer increases in water use are investigated by Casitas staff. In general, the monitoring of water use is performed during each stage as follows, but may be intensified if conditions warrant:

- Stages 1 through 4: Water supply conditions, production data and reservoir elevations are recorded daily. Daily and monthly totals are supplied through the Engineering Department and incorporated into the Water Supply Report. Monthly reports include usage and total allocations for each customer category
- Stages 5 and 6: Water use monitoring will occur as in Stages 1 through 4 and water production data from the MWFPF is reported to the General Manager on a daily basis.

8.10. WSCP Refinement Procedures

Casitas will convene the following departmental staff as needed to refine the WSCP:

- General Manager
- Assistant General Manager
- Engineering Manager
- Chief Financial Officer
- Public Outreach and Conservation Manager
- Operations and Maintenance Manager

The WSCP is updated and refined as appropriate following significant changes to Casitas' supply portfolio, and no less than every five years consistent with Urban Water Management Plan updates. Any updates to the WSCP are adopted by the Casitas Board of Directors.

8.11. Special Water Feature Distinction

The Water Code requires an urban water supplier to analyze water features that are not pools or spas separately from pools and spas. Non-pool or non-spa water features may use or be able to use recycled water, whereas pools and spas must use potable water for health and safety considerations.

Casitas does not provide services to treat and distribute recycled water sourced by the wastewater system. Therefore, all water use restrictions imposed by Casitas pertain to potable water end use. Casitas Ordinance 2022-01 prohibits the operation of any ornamental fountains and decorative water features unless water for such use is recirculated. Under the current WEAP, the filling of swimming pools, ornamental fountains, and decorative water features may be prohibited during heightened water shortage levels (Stage 4 or higher).

8.12. Plan Adoption, Submittal, and Availability

The public hearing for the Water Shortage Contingency Plan was noticed in two local newspapers (the Ventura County Star and Ojai Valley News), as prescribed in Government Code 6066, which included the time and place of the hearing (hearing held in person and through electronic meeting platform on

June 24, 2026). Interested parties, including other local agencies, were notified of the public hearing. The 2026 WSCP was made available from the Casitas website for public inspection prior to the public hearing, so comments could be received and discussed by the Board of Directors ahead of adoption.

The revised WSCP was adopted by the Board of Directors by Resolution No. 2026-16 (provided in Appendix F) and was submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) within thirty days of approval. Additionally, the adopted plan will be made available per the requirements of the Water Code.

Starting in 2020, urban water suppliers are required to report and submit information related to the Water Shortage Contingency Plan in standardized tables developed by DWR. The standardized tables for the 2025 UWMP are provided as Appendix G of this document.

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9. Demand Management Measures

The following sections describe the demand management measures Casitas uses for the retail systems it operates.

9.1. Demand Management Measures for Retail Suppliers

Demand management measures for Casitas' retail customers are described in the following subsections.

9.1.1. Implementation Over the Past Five Years

Casitas' implementation of demand management measures from 2021 to 2025 are discussed in the following subsections.

9.1.1.1. *Water Waste Prevention Ordinances*

Ordinance No. 2022-01 Establishing Water Waste Prohibitions is provided in Appendix E.

The District's website has a link for anonymous reporting of water waste. Notice of Water Waste door hangers are hung at customer's residences when water waste is reported. Information displayed on the door hangers includes the location, date, time, and type of water waste observed. Types of water waste prohibited and increasing violation warnings and penalties are displayed, as well as contact information to allow the customer to ask any questions or schedule a free water use survey to assist them in identifying solutions to prevent water waste and use water more efficiently.

9.1.1.2. *Metering*

All Casitas' retail customers are fully metered. Small and large retail meters in the Casitas System are replaced as needed over time through a reactive replacement program.

Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) is used as a drive-by method once per month. If a meter read results in an unusual recording compared with historical use data, it is flagged to be verified and checked. The customer is notified of any unusual water use.

Casitas began its water survey programs for single-family and multi-family residential customers for direct retail customers and for wholesale agency customers in February 2010.

Casitas' direct survey program includes evaluating all indoor and outdoor water use. A meter check is provided to check for leaks, landscape is thoroughly inspected for irrigation efficiency and plant type. Low-flow showerheads, kitchen aerators, and bathroom aerators are provided, if needed. All toilets and faucets are inspected for leaks. The customer is provided with a report including recommendations and suggestions of how to improve their water efficiency for both indoor and outdoor use. The end of each report includes all current rebate opportunities, a list of free aerators available, and links to the water conservation page on Casitas' website.

Casitas maintains an ongoing meter replacement program supported through annual capital project funding. Meters are identified and flagged for replacement due to age (10 year replacement goal), damage, accuracy issues, and/or malfunction. Customer meters reads are obtained monthly via Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) technology and production meters are read continuously via the District's SCADA system. Throughout the past five years, a focus has been on replacing larger customer meters (2" and above) throughout the District. Production meter accuracy testing is performed annually

at well site and treatment facilities and every two years for pump station facilities. Typically, calibration and/or replacement occurs when inaccuracies greater than 1.5 percent (+/-) are identified.

Known as *Making Conservation a California Way of Life*, SB 606 and AB 1668 (passed in 2018) provide a framework for water conservation and efficiency. One component of this effort by the State is to identify all Dedicated Irrigation Meters (DIMs) associated with Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) accounts.

DIMs are water meters that exclusively measure the amount of water a customer uses for outdoor irrigation.

In 2023, CMWD began working to identify DIMs as outlined by legislation. With over 500 CII accounts in both the Casitas and Ojai systems, staff analyzed consumption history, parcels/customers with multiple meters, aerial imagery via GIS, and field investigations to identify and confirm DIMs.

Casitas' FY24-25 Annual Urban Water Use Report identified 43 DIMs within both the Casitas and Ojai service areas.

For more information about Making Conservation a California Way of Life, visit: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/conservation/regs/water_efficiency_legislation.html

9.1.1.3. Conservation Pricing

Casitas has implemented conservation pricing for decades. Currently, there is a three-tier residential rate structure supporting water conservation incentive. Casitas' current rates are included as Appendix H.

Casitas' water bills include a fixed and volumetric component, and all customers are billed monthly. The volumetric component is based on the amount of water used and encourages conservation. Residential and Agriculture Domestic classifications have a three tier volumetric rate structure consisting of Tier 1 (0 – 10 units¹⁰); Tier 2 (11 – 40 units); and Tier 3 (>40 units). Agriculture Domestic is a class for Agriculture customers who have a legal residential dwelling unit on the same property as their crop. They are billed a tiered Residential Rate through the first two tiers (up to 40 units), and are then charged the uniform Agriculture rate for >40 units. All other customer classifications are billed based on uniform volumetric rate. Table 9-5 summarizes the rate structure for retail customers of the Casitas and Ojai systems, and the water rates are provided in Appendix H.

Table 9-5 Retail Volumetric Rate Structure	
Customer Type	Volumetric Water Rate Structure
Residential	Tiered Conservation Pricing
Commercial	Uniform
Industrial	Uniform
Institutional/Government	Uniform
Agricultural	Uniform
Ag-Domestic	Tiered Conservation
Other	Uniform

¹⁰ A billing unit is one hundred cubic feet per month (HCF/month).

Table 9-6 summarizes the wholesale volumetric water rate structure.

Table 9-6 Wholesale Volumetric Rate Structure	
Customer Type	Volumetric Water Rate Structure
Wholesale (Resale)	Uniform

9.1.1.4. *Public Education and Outreach*

The District's public education and outreach program is managed by the Water Conservation Manager and includes marketing of rebates and giveaways.

The Water Survey Program is a free service to provide indoor and outdoor water-saving assistance, ultimately lowering a customer's water bill. Casitas offers on-site surveys for indoor and outdoor water use of single-family and multi-family residential customers as well as for commercial customers in the service area. The indoor survey includes a test of showerhead and faucet flow rates, an estimate of toilet flush volumes, a review of all water-using appliances and a test for toilet leaks. The outdoor survey includes a review of the irrigation system, irrigation design, and watering schedules. The survey also includes reading the meter to reveal possible leaks in the customer's system.

Casitas provides the following water conservation devices free of charge to all customers in the service area: high efficiency showerhead, hose shutoff nozzle, kitchen aerator with swivel, 1.5 gallons-per minute bathroom faucet aerator, toilet flapper, dye tablets, and shower shut-off valves.

Casitas participates in Smart Rebates, a statewide program administered by the California Water Efficiency Partnership that offers a list of measures for conservation products and appliance rebates available for eligible customers. The Smart Rebates Program is made possible with funding assistance from participating water utilities.

Smart Irrigation Controller Rebates are available to all eligible Casitas customers. The goal of the smart irrigation controller rebate program is to increase irrigation efficiency and promote healthy and attractive landscaping within Casitas' boundaries. It saves water and lowers customer's bills.

Casitas offers a free hobby farm survey and rebate program for those customers with one to two acres of planted agriculture.

The goal of the Agricultural Rebate Program is to encourage water use efficiency for farms within Casitas boundaries. District customers who enlist in an irrigation evaluation through the Ventura County Resource Conservation District (VCRC) and who implement water use efficiency recommendations provided by the VCRC are eligible for a rebate from Casitas.

Customer water bills include a monthly usage bar chart; usage for the current year and previous year comparison; an allocation section that includes the current monthly allocation, current month usage, usage under allocation, and next month's allocation; and a special message section that allows for a variety of communication topics, including conservation tips.

Event booths are provided to share water conservation information, water conservation devices, District information, and Casitas Lake levels to the public. These type of booths are available at the annual Ojai Day event and Ventura County Fair.

Tours of Casitas' facilities are scheduled periodically for District customers and interested participants to learn more about the District water facilities, water supplies, and important issues.

Regular Board Meetings are held twice a month and are open to the public.

A semi-annual electronic newsletter provides project updates, conservation tips, Lake Casitas water level updates, drought updates, and current events that may have an impact on water services.

Casitas' website www.casitaswater.org is the most comprehensive source of information for Casitas' customers. Other informative websites linked on Casitas' website are:

- <http://www.gardensoft.com> partners with water districts and municipalities to educate homeowners about water conservation in the landscape.
- www.venturacountygardening.com Water Wise Gardening in Ventura County – This website resource offers customers a personalized plant database that they can develop for their specific landscape needs.

Casitas utilizes social media such as Facebook and Instagram as additional ways to communicate District news, updates, and projects.

Casitas coordinates with local newspapers to release advertisements for water conservation, current projects, District updates, and legal notices.

9.1.1.5. Water Conservation Devices

Casitas provides free high efficiency showerheads, faucet aerators, toilet flappers, leak detection kits, and automatic hose shut-off nozzles to all residents within the District boundaries. Casitas advertises these devices in the semi-annual newsletter, website, and bill messages.

Casitas tracks the distribution of these water saving devices by keeping a log indicating:

- Type of device provided
- Which event they are being distributed
- Class of service (Single-family, Multi-family, Commercial, etc)
- Which water agency they belong to within the District boundary

9.1.1.6. Smart Rebates: High-Efficiency Washing Machine and Toilet Rebate Program

Casitas began its washing machine rebate program in 2007. Casitas joined the Smart Rebate program which is run by the California Water Efficiency Partnership (CalWEP) and also includes high efficiency toilets. Casitas provides advertising and leaves the processing of rebates to CalWEP. Table 9-1 shows the number of washing machine rebates provided from 2021 to 2025.

Table 9-1 Washing Machine Rebates Completed					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
\$ Per Rebate	\$150 Residential \$400 Commercial	\$150 Residential \$400 Commercial	\$150 Residential \$400 Commercial	\$150 Residential \$400 Commercial	\$150 Residential \$400 Commercial
# of Rebates completed	31	16	10	10	11
NOTES: This is <u>not</u> a DWR-required table.					

Table 9-2 shows the number of toilet rebates completed from 2021 to 2025.

Table 9-2 Toilet Rebates Completed					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
\$ Per Rebate	\$100 Residential \$200 Commercial	\$100 Residential \$200 Commercial	\$100 Residential \$200 Commercial	\$100 Residential \$200 Commercial	\$100 Residential \$200 Commercial
# of Rebates completed	41	35	17	25	30
NOTES: This is <u>not</u> a DWR-required table.					

9.1.1.7. Smart Irrigation Controller Rebates

Casitas offers a rebate of up to \$250 per customer for the purchase of a smart irrigation controller from a preapproved list of manufacturer models. Smart irrigation controllers automatically adjust irrigation schedules based on actual site and real-time weather conditions. They stop irrigating when it rains and apply the most efficient amount during dry weather, including automatic cycle and soak to reduce runoff on slopes. Once a customer applies and qualifies for a smart irrigation controller rebate, a site visit by a Casitas staff member is required to ensure the device is actually installed. Table 9-3 summarizes the smart irrigation controller rebates completed from 2021 to 2025.

Table 9-3 Smart Irrigation Controller Rebates Completed					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
\$ Per Rebate	Up to \$250	Up to \$250	Up to \$250	Up to \$250	Up to \$250
# of Rebates completed	6	4	6	5	3
NOTES: This is <u>not</u> a DWR-required table.					

9.1.1.8. Programs to Assess and Manage Distribution System Real Loss

System losses are described in Section 4.3. Leaks and breaks are repaired as soon as Casitas staff is made aware of them. The OWS has experienced a significant number of leaks and breaks, at three times the rate of the Casitas system. The Ojai Water System Improvements projects include pipeline replacements of aged and under-sized cast iron pipes. Improvements over the last five years included significant pipeline replacements in the Ojai System including segments in:

- Ojai Avenue
- Grand Avenue
- Lion Street

- Pleasant Road
- Daly Drive
- Emily Street
- Canada Street
- Sunset Place
- Ventura Street
- Cuyama Road
- El Paseo Road
- San Antonio Drive
- Topa Topa Drive
- Crestview Drive
- Oak Creek Lane

As funding becomes available, Casitas will continue pipeline replacements.

Casitas contracts with a professional leak detection company to perform annual leak surveys utilizing acoustical listening devices and digital correlation technology. The areas surveyed include both transmission mains as well as residential distribution grids within the Ojai and Casitas water systems. The survey process includes both a general survey phase and a pinpointing phase for any anomalies detected.

9.1.1.9. Water Conservation Program Coordination and Staffing Support

Casitas' public information program started in 2003. It currently includes publishing a semi-annual electronic newsletter to provide information on water conservation to all residents in the District. Water bills include information on previous usage, and every statement has a space for custom messaging to the customer. Bill inserts are often included to ensure there is consistent contact with customers on a variety of topics, including conservation. Press releases, op-eds, public notices and general ads are placed in two local print publications regularly. Casitas removed all turf from the main office and replaced it with drought tolerant plants. The office is located on a main thoroughfare within the District providing high visibility for the drought tolerant plantings and therefore sets a significant example for customers.

District staff members attend multiple community meetings throughout the year and discuss water conservation issues as part of their presentations. Casitas staff tables at community events and offers give-a-ways such as free toilet flappers, low flow showerheads, and faucet aerators. The Board of Directors hold two meetings per month that are open to the public. In 2017, Casitas implemented an increased presence on social media platforms, specifically Facebook and Instagram. Lastly, www.casitaswater.org is the primary consortium for all information related to Casitas Municipal Water District and is referred to in all published outreach material. Table 9-4 summarizes the public information and outreach programs implemented from 2021 to 2025.

Table 9-4 Public Information and Outreach Programs Completed					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Paid Advertising	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Public Service Announcement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Bill inserts, Newsletters, Brochures	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

Table 9-4 Public Information and Outreach Programs Completed					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Bill comparing previous water usage	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Demonstration Garden	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Special Events, Media Events	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Coordination with other government entities	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
NOTES: This is <u>not</u> a DWR-required table.					

Section 16.1, Regulations for Prohibition of Water Waste, is adopted in Casitas’ Rates and Regulations as discussed in Section 9.2.1.

9.1.1.10. *Other Demand Management Measures*

Due to the nature of Casitas’ service area and significant agricultural base, the following special programs are in place.

Hobby Farm Survey and Rebate Program. The Hobby Farm Rebate Program encourages greater water use efficiency for small “hobby” farms under two-acres, maintained without the expectation of a primary income source. In partnership with the VCRCD, an irrigation evaluation is performed to identify water conservation opportunities from which the applicant can choose to implement. The applicant may be eligible to implement some or all of the recommendations with a rebate not to exceed 50 percent of the total receipt amount or \$400.

Agricultural Rebate Program. Like the Hobby Farm Survey and Rebate Program, the Agriculture Rebate Program is a partnership with the VCRCD. Customers with an Agriculture classification who wish to participate will coordinate with the VCRCD to schedule and complete an irrigation evaluation. Upon completion of the evaluation, the VCRCD representative provides the customer with a complete report and recommendations. If the customer purchases and installs equipment within 60 days of receiving the recommendations, they are eligible to complete the rebate application with Casitas. Total rebate amount does not exceed 50 percent of the receipt amount or \$650. Rebates are provided on a first-come, first-served basis until all designated funds are expended.

9.1.2. Implementation to Achieve Water-Use Targets

Casitas met its SB X7-7 target in the 2020 UWMP.

On April 7, 2017, the state of California released the “Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life, Implementing Executive Order B-37-16” Final Framework Report¹¹ (State Framework Report). The State Framework Report, which builds upon Governor Brown’s call for new long-term water use efficiency requirements in Executive Order (EO) B-37-16, provided the state’s proposed approach for implementing new long-term water conservation requirements. A key element of the report is the proposed new water use targets for urban water suppliers that go beyond existing SB X7-7 requirements.

On May 17, 2018, the California Legislature adopted SB 606 and AB 1668 to implement new long-term water use efficiency requirements. The legislation requires the State Water Resources Control Board, in

¹¹ California Department of Water Resources, et al. (2017). *Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life, Implementing Executive Order B-37-16*

coordination with DWR, to adopt long-term standards for the efficient use of water. The legislation establishes specified standards for per capita daily indoor residential use, outdoor water use, CII water use, and water loss.

The legislation requires each urban retail water supplier to calculate and report an urban water use objective, which is an estimate of aggregate efficient water use for the previous year based on the adopted water use efficiency standards. Urban retail water suppliers were required to begin calculating and reporting urban water use objectives by January 1, 2023, and by January 1 every year thereafter, and to compare actual water use to the objective for the prior year by the same date.

The bills grant SWRCB the authority to enforce compliance with the urban water use objectives, with enforcement actions ramping up over the first three years of implementation. The bills also establish a schedule for state agencies to develop the methodology for implementing the requirements, as presented in Figure 9-1.

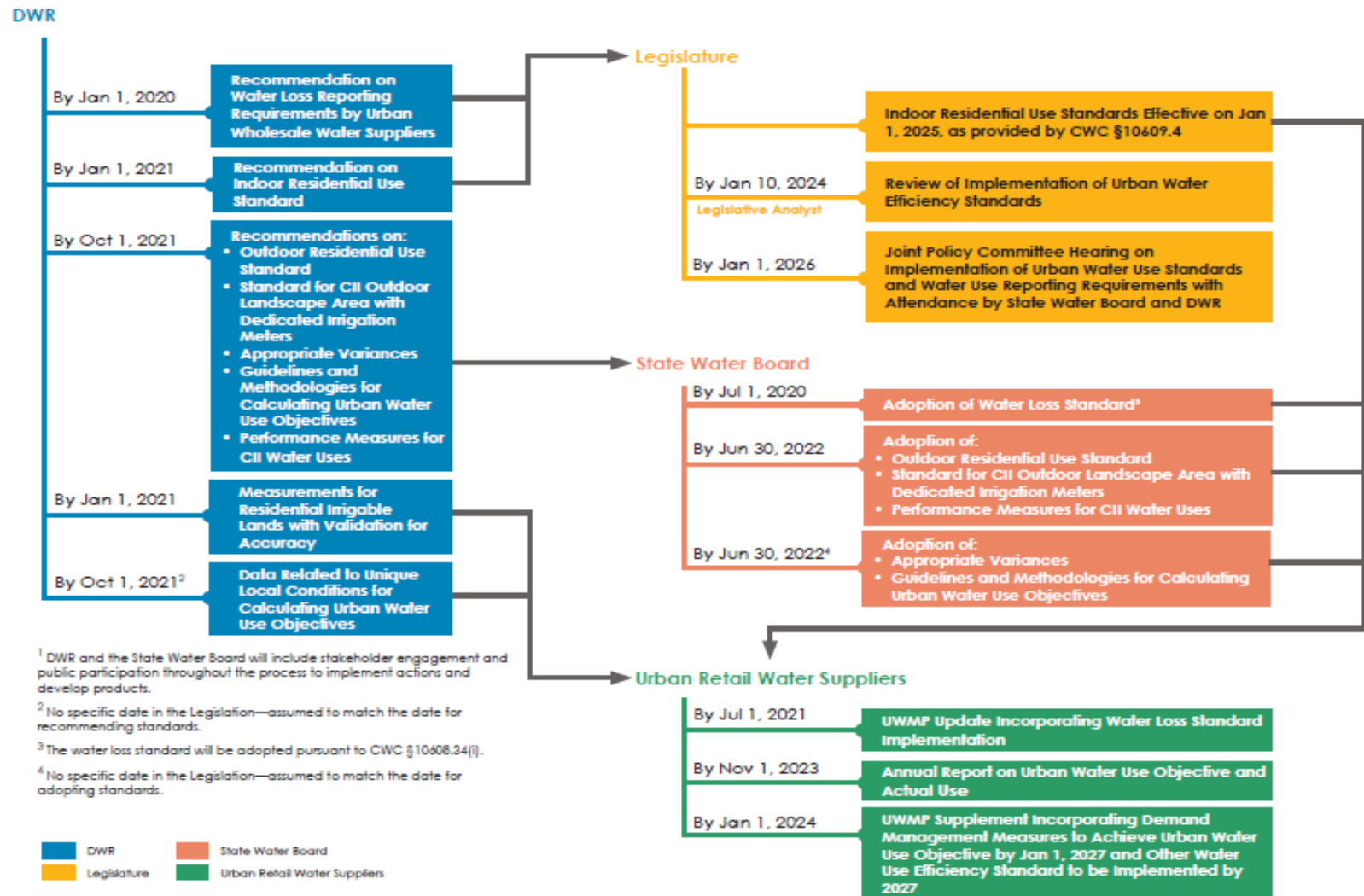
Casitas continues to track the State's development of and report on the new water efficiency standards. Next steps in for Casitas conservation staff include:

- Engage in the State processes of establishing the urban water supplier efficiency standards as part of SB 606 and AB 1668. Casitas will review State documents, submit written comments as needed, and participate in public workshops and stakeholder groups.
- Form partnerships and apply for grants where appropriate.
- Continue to collect and analyze customer participation in conservation measures, costs, and other data to gauge successes and areas that need improvement.
- Continue to successfully submit annual Urban Water Use Objective Reports to the state every year by the reporting deadline of January 1.

With Casitas' existing WEAP, the District is well positioned to meet the State's future water use objectives. The WEAP provides a similar water use budgeting framework with an essential allocation for indoor water use and a non-essential allocation for outdoor water use (refer to Appendix D for allocation methods). A key work effort for Casitas will be to review the State's data and methodology in comparison with the District's allocation methods. In addition, Casitas will review its planned water use and WEAP policies to ensure they meet or exceed the State's water use objectives.

Figure 9-1. Major Actions Related to Making Conservation a Way of Life Legislation (SB 606 and AB 1668)¹²

Major Actions and Products Required to Implement Water Use Efficiency Standards and Urban Retail Water Supplier's Annual Reporting Requirements¹



¹² Source: Making Conservation a Way of Life Primer of 2018 Legislation on Water Conservation and Drought Planning SB 606 and AB 1668, prepared by DWR and SWRCB, November 2018.

9.2. Demand Management Measures for Wholesale Suppliers

Demand management measures for Casitas' wholesale system are described in the following subsections.

9.2.1. Required Demand Management Measures

9.2.1.1. *Metering*

Casitas' wholesale customers are fully metered and are under a reactive meter replacement program. The oldest and largest meters are typically replaced first and on an as-needed basis. Replacement triggers are typically due to accuracy meter reading issues. Current Rockwell meters are dated and parts are very difficult to locate to warrant a repair-based program. Newer and more accurate Omni meters are installed.

Annual budget allocations are included for the reactive replacement program, with an anticipated five-year timeline for all wholesale meters to be replaced.

Most Wholesale customers pay a fixed and volumetric water rate. The volumetric-based rate structure aids in demand management. Additionally, wholesale customers have allocations assigned to assist in demand management.

The City of Ventura and Casitas have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) describing annual allocation and rates which expires at the end of 2026. It is unknown at this time whether the MOU will be extended.

9.2.1.2. *Public Education and Outreach*

Customers of Casitas' wholesale accounts are included in all outreach and education opportunities and additionally are eligible to apply for all rebate programs, provided they meet the requirements. These programs are described in more detail in Section 9.1.1.4.

9.2.1.3. *Water Conservation Program Coordination and Staffing Support*

Casitas full-time Water Conservation staff includes a Manager, a full-time specialist, analyst, and a technician. These positions perform multiple water conservation-related tasks including: landscape, residential, and commercial surveys; administering the allocation program and rebate programs; preparing public information programs; and hosting special events and education programs. Casitas also uses consulting firms, as needed, to assist with the implementation of all the Water Conservation Best Practices, including public outreach and education.

9.2.2. Asset Management

The District's GIS program started in earnest in 2018 with the addition of a GIS Technician in the Engineering Department. All District assets (facilities and infrastructure) are in the GIS portal. Casitas is implementing various applications to use GIS for asset management including Leaks and Repairs, Fire Hydrant Maintenance, and Valve Maintenance. As the GIS program matures, Casitas will make use of the data to manage ongoing asset management.

9.2.3. Wholesale Supplier Assistance Programs

Casitas does not currently have a Wholesale Supplier Assistance Program; however, the District's rebate programs are available to all customers within the Casitas service area, including wholesale agency customers. Sections 9.1.1.5, 9.1.1.6, and 9.1.1.7 describe rebates and free water saving devices.

10. Plan Adoption, Submittal, and Implementation

This section describes the public notifications and requirements for the 2025 UWMP adoption, submittal, and implementation.

10.1. Plan Completion Timeline

This UWMP was prepared on a calendar year basis for the years 2021 to 2025.

10.2. Notice of Plan Preparation

A sample letter sent to Cities and Counties is provided in Appendix B. The letter meets the requirements for 60-day notification.

10.3. Notice of Public Hearing

The Notice of Public Hearings for adoption of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan were provided for the Casitas Wholesale system, Casitas Retail system, and Ojai Retail system and are described in the following subsections.

Casitas Wholesale System. Notifications regarding the Casitas wholesale system were sent to the City of Ventura and the County of Ventura as shown in Table 10-1.

Submittal Table 10-1 Wholesale: Notification to Cities and Counties, Casitas Wholesale		
☐	Check the box if the Supplier has notified more than 10 cities or counties. Completion of the table below is not required. Provide a separate list of the cities and counties that were notified.	
	Provide the page or location of this list in the UWMP.	
☒	Check the box if the Supplier has notified 10 or fewer cities or counties. Complete the table below.	
City Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
City of Ventura	Yes	Yes
County Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
Ventura County	Yes	Yes

Casitas Retail System. For the Casitas Retail system, notification was sent to the City of Ojai and County of Ventura as shown in Table 10-1 Casitas Retail.

Submittal Table 10-1 Retail: Notification to Cities and Counties, Casitas Retail		
City Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
City of Ojai	Yes	Yes
City of Ventura	Yes	Yes
County Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
Ventura County	Yes	Yes

Ojai Water System. For the Ojai Retail system, notification was sent to the City of Ojai and County of Ventura as shown in Table 10-1 Ojai Retail.

Submittal Table 10-1 Retail: Notification to Cities and Counties, Ojai Retail		
City Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
City of Ojai	Yes	Yes
County Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
Ventura County	Yes	Yes

Notifications regarding the public hearings for adoption of the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and 2025 Urban Water Management plan were published in the Ventura County Star on June 5 and June 12, 2026. A copy of the notification and proof of publication are included in Appendix I.

10.4. Public Hearing and Adoption

The public hearing included discussion of baseline values, water use targets and compliance, and implementation plan in compliance with SB X7-7.

The Board of Directors considered and adopted the WSCP and 2025 UWMP at their meeting of June 24, 2026. A copy of the Resolution is provided in Appendix F.

10.5. Plan Submittal

Casitas submitted the WSCP and 2025 UWMP in accordance with Water Code Section 10621.

10.5.1. Submitting a UWMP and Water Shortage Contingency Plan to DWR

The 2025 UWMP including the WSCP was submitted to DWR within 30 days of adoption.

10.5.2. Electronic Data Submittal

The 2025 UWMP including the WSCP was submitted to DWR via the web portal

<https://wuedata.water.ca.gov>.

10.5.3. Submitting a UWMP, including WSCP, to the California State Library

The 2025 UWMP including the WSCP was submitted within 30 days of adoption via hardcopy to the California State Library at:

California State Library
Government Publications Section
Attention: Coordinator, Urban Water Management Plans
PO Box 942837
Sacramento CA 94237-0001

10.5.4. Submitting a UWMP to Cities and Counties

The 2025 UWMP including the WSCP was submitted within 30 days of adoption to the City of Ventura, City of Ojai, and County of Ventura electronically via email.

10.6. Public Availability

The adopted 2025 UWMP including WSCP was made available to the public on the District's website

<https://www.casitaswater.org/urban-water-management-plans>.

10.7. Notification to Public Utilities Commission

This section does not apply to Casitas.

10.8. Plan Implementation

Casitas shall adopt the 2025 UWMP in accordance with the schedule set forth herein.

10.9. Amending an Adopted UWMP or Water Shortage Contingency Plan

If circumstances warrant, Casitas will amend the 2025 UWMP or Water Shortage Contingency Plan as necessary and provide such amendment(s) to DWR.

10.9.1. Amending a UWMP

In the event Casitas amends its 2025 UWMP, the steps for notification, public hearing, adoption, and submittal will be followed for the amended plan.

10.9.2. Amending a Water Shortage Contingency Plan

In the event Casitas amends its WSCP, it shall be submitted to DWR no later than 30 days after adoption through the WUE portal.

10.10. California DWR Review

The required checklist for DWR review is provided in Appendix J.

Appendix A

Sample Letter to Other Agencies



March 13, 2026

Jamie Whiteford
Ventura County Resource Conservation District
P.O. Box 147
Somis, CA 93066

Subject: 2025 Urban Water Management Plan Update

The Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas) is currently in the process of updating its Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). The Urban Water Management Planning Act, Water Code Section 10610 et seq., requires every "urban water supplier" providing water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually to prepare and adopt an UWMP and periodically update that plan at least every five years. The UWMP is a planning document and a source document which reports, describes and evaluates water deliveries and uses, water supply sources and conservation efforts.

As an urban water supplier, Casitas coordinates with water management agencies, relevant public agencies and other water suppliers on the preparation of the UWMP update. Casitas will be reviewing the UWMP and will make amendments and updates, as appropriate.

If you wish to contact Casitas about its review process, you may do so by contacting Tyrone LaFay, PR & Conservation Manager, at 805.649.2251 x118 or by email to tlafay@casitaswater.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Flood", is written over a light blue grid background.

Michael Flood
General Manager
805.649.2251
mflood@casitaswater.com

Appendix B

Sample Letter to City/County



April 23, 2026

Ben Harvey
City of Ojai
401 S. Ventura St
Ojai, CA 93023

Subject: 2025 Urban Water Management Plan Public Hearing and Adoption Notice

The Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas) is currently in the process of preparing its 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). The Urban Water Management Planning Act, Water Code Section 10610 et seq., requires every "urban water supplier" providing water for municipal purposes either directly or indirectly to more than 3,000 customers or supplying more than 3,000 acre-feet of water annually to prepare and adopt an UWMP and periodically update that plan at least every five years. The UWMP is a planning document and a source document which reports, describes, and evaluates water deliveries and uses, water supply sources, and conservation efforts.

As an urban water supplier, Casitas coordinates with water management agencies, relevant public agencies and other water suppliers on the preparation of the UWMP update. Casitas will be reviewing the UWMP and will make amendments and updates, as appropriate.

We anticipate a public hearing for the draft 2025 UWMP will be held and the draft 2025 UWMP presented to the Casitas Board of Directors for adoption on Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at 5:00 pm. at Casitas Municipal Water District, 1055 Ventura Avenue, Oak View CA 93022. Please check our website www.casitawater.org for the agenda and instructions on how to participate virtually.

If you wish to contact Casitas about the 2025 UWMP, you may do so by contacting Tyrone LaFay, PR & Conservation Manager, at 805.649.2251 x118 or by email to tlafay@casitaswater.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "M. Flood", is written over the name "Michael Flood".

Michael Flood
General Manager
805.649.2251
mflood@casitaswater.com

2026 Casitas Water Supply and Demand Assessment



ANNUAL WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND ASSESSMENT

JULY 2026

Prepared by

Michael Flood, PE, General Manager

Julia Aranda, PE, Assistant General Manager

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- A Water Efficiency and Allocation Plan, May 2021, Revised March 2023 per Ordinance 2023-02
- B FY 2022-2023 Water Supply and Demand Assessment, May 2022

Abbreviations

AF	Acre-feet
AFY	Acre-feet per year
AWSDA	Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment
BO	Biological Opinion
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
CVWD	Carpinteria Valley Water District
CWC	California Water Code
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
FY	Fiscal year
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
GSWC	Golden State Water Company
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
OBGMA	Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency
OVGB	Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin
OWS	Ojai Water System
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
SWP	State Water Project
USBR	US Bureau of Reclamation
UVRGA	Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency
UVRGB	Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
VCWPD	Ventura County Watershed Protection District
WEAP	Water Efficiency and Allocation Plan
WSCP	Water Shortage Contingency Plan

1. Introduction and Background

Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas or District) is required by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to prepare an Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment (AWSDA) and provide it to DWR by July 1 each year. The AWSDA covers the period from July 1 to June 30 and includes the current year and one dry year in the assessment. The data will be transmitted to DWR through their WUE Data Portal.

The dry year is consistent with that shown in Table 7-1 in Casitas' 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). Anticipated shortages and actions are included.

Casitas operates two water systems, the Casitas System and the Ojai Water System (OWS) as described in the following subsections. The Casitas System is both a wholesale and retail system; the OWS is retail only.

1.1. Casitas Water System

Lake Casitas was formed by the construction of Casitas Dam by the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) in 1958. The total lake capacity is 237,761 acre-feet (AF) as of 2017. The Robles Diversion and Fish Passage Facility (Robles Facility) is located on the north end of the Ventura River and allows Casitas to divert river flow to the Robles Canal to feed Lake Casitas. Operation of the Robles Facility is in accordance with the 2003 non-jeopardy Biological Opinion (BO) prepared by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) due to the listing of steelhead trout as an endangered species.

As of April 30, 2026, Lake Casitas was at approximately 99.8 percent of capacity (237,494 AF in storage). In April 2021, the Board of Directors adopted a lake safe yield of 18,420 acre-feet per year (AFY) and applied a supply safety factor of -15 percent and a climate change adjustment of -4.3 percent for planning purposes, resulting in an operational yield of 14,865 AFY. The Casitas System also includes one groundwater well, the Mira Monte well, located in the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin. The combined planned operational yield from Lake Casitas and the Mira Monte Well is 15,010 AFY.

1.2. Ojai Water System

In 2017, Casitas acquired the OWS from Golden State Water Company (GSWC). Prior to this, GSWC had been a wholesale customer of Casitas. OWS customers are now direct customers of Casitas. The OWS includes the Ojai Wellfield on the east end of Ojai with seven groundwater wells. These wells are located in the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin (OVGB) and provide approximately 3,200 AFY of supply when all wells are operational. The Board adopted 2,300 AFY as the operational yield of the OWS system in 2022 and this is used for planning purposes.

The OVGB is not considered to be in an overdraft condition. The OWS also includes distribution system interconnections to the Casitas System which are used to supplement groundwater supplies during high demand periods, or when wells are out of service for repair or rehabilitation.

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2. Decision-Making Process to Determine Water Supply Reliability

This section describes the decision-making process Casitas uses to determine water supply availability on an annual basis and complies with California Water Code (CWC) §10632(a)(2).

Table 1 shows Casitas' Annual Assessment Information as required by DWR.

Table 1. Annual Assessment Information

Annual Assessment Information		
Year Covered By This Shortage Report		
	Start: July 1,	2026
	End: June 30,	2027
Supplier's Annual Assessment Planning Cycle		
	Start Month:	July
	End Month:	June
	Data Reporting Interval Used:	Annual
	Volume Unit for Reported Supply and Demand:	AF
Water Supplier's Contact Information		
	Water Supplier's Name:	Casitas Municipal Water District
	Contact Name:	Julia Aranda
	Contact Title:	Assistant General Manager
	Street Address:	1055 N. Ventura Avenue
	ZIP Code:	93022
	Phone Number:	805.649.2251
	Email Address:	jaranda@casitaswater.com
Supplier's Water Shortage Contingency Plan		
	WSCP Title	Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Section 8 of 2025 Urban Water Management Plan)
	WSCP Adoption Date	6/24/2026

According to the most current Water Efficiency and Allocation Plan (WEAP), the General Manager shall report to the Board of Directors in April of each year with an assessment of the current water storage in Lake Casitas and local groundwater basins, current water use trends, predicted weather conditions, and an evaluation of current water use reduction goals. The reporting is timed as the rainfall season is ending and water resources can be evaluated at the maximum for the year, or as Lake Casitas storage reaches a change in Stage action level. The Board of Directors may, at their sole discretion, declare a Stage condition of water supply in Lake Casitas exists and implement the appropriate demand reduction goals and measures in response to current and/or predicted water availability conditions. Casitas shall make such determinations public and follow with appropriate and timely notification to all customers. An action to declare and implement a Stage may occur by either an action of the Casitas Board of Directors based on unanticipated changing lake supply conditions or in accordance with the following general schedule:

Target Dates	Action
June – April	Monitor water demands, rainfall, reservoir level trend, groundwater trends, and diversion and runoff amounts.
Early April	Staff presents water status report and a recommendation to the Casitas Board of Directors. Publish a notice of a public hearing if changes are recommended.
Late April	Casitas Board of Directors formally declares a Stage, and/or water shortage emergency, adopts recommendations for demand reduction actions.
May	Customer Notification of change in Stage, allocation, and overuse penalties.
June	Finalize Annual Water Assessment and submit to DWR.
July	Stage demand reduction actions are effective and are implemented.

Under the WEAP adopted in May 2021, revised in March 2023, and included as Appendix A, Casitas has an existing annual assessment process in place that goes beyond the annual assessment requirements. Casitas also prepares an annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment (fiscal year [FY] based, July 1 to June 30), which summarizes significant or unusual events over the last year, weather conditions, status of water resources, past and current demands, current water management programs and policies in place, and recommended demand management measures. The FY 2022-23 Casitas Water Supply and Demand Assessment was adopted by the Board in April 2023 and is included as Appendix B. Since Lake Casitas and the groundwater basins are at near capacity and the Stage action level has not changed (from Stage 1), assessments were not performed for FY 2023-2024, 2024-2025, or 2025-2026.

Key Data Inputs to Determine Water Supply Reliability

This section describes the factors taken into consideration to determine water supply reliability including current year unconstrained demand; current year available supply; existing infrastructure capabilities and plausible constraints; locally applicable evaluation criteria; and description and quantification of available water supply sources.

2.1. Current Year Unconstrained Demand

Unconstrained demand is water demand absent any water supply and demand restrictions. The planned unconstrained demands in Casitas' adopted 2025 UWMP reflect the planning, which are 14,525 AFY on the Casitas System (Wholesale and Retail) and 1,850 AFY on the Ojai System.

When Casitas declared Stage 2 in FY 2015-2016 and Stage 3 in FY 2016-2017, mandatory conservation restrictions under the WEAP were implemented. Fiscal year deliveries decreased for several reasons: response to the WEAP; water resource changes by large customers; and the heightened customer awareness of water resource conditions. Due to persistent dry conditions, Casitas remained in Stage 3 from FY 2016-2017 through most of FY 2022-2023. With extraordinarily wet conditions in Winter 2022/Spring 2023, water supply conditions improved and mandatory conservation restrictions were lifted, although customers are encouraged to continue conservation efforts voluntarily.

Since Casitas operates two separate water systems, there is a Table 2 – Casitas and Table 2 – Ojai, each of which shows the projected Water Demands for the period July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, as required by DWR. (Casitas' 2025 UWMP was prepared using the demand based on calendar year; the same 'annual' demand totaled in June is used in both cases). Neither Casitas nor OWS have non-potable demands. Each table shows unconstrained demands as adopted by the Board for planning purposes for each system.

Table 2: Water Demands – Ojai System																
Use Type		Start Year:	2026	Volumetric Unit Used:								AF				
These are the only Use Types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool	Additional Description	Level of Treatment for Non-Potable Supplies	Projected Water Demands - Volume													
			Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Total by Water Demand Type	
Demands Served by Potable Supplies																
All Demands														1,850	1,850	
	Total by Month (Potable)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,850	1,850	
Demands Served by Non-Potable Supplies																
N/A														0	0	
	Total by Month (Non-Potable)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

 = From prior tables
 = Auto calculated

2.2. Current Year Available Supply

The primary water resources for Casitas MWD are surface water diverted from the Ventura River to Lake Casitas and the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin (UVRGB) and the OVGB. Table 3 shows the projected Water Supplies for the period July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, as required by DWR; separate tables are provided for the Casitas and Ojai systems. Neither the Casitas system nor the OWS have non-potable supplies.

Casitas typically plans for multi-year demands rather than single-year demands. Though Lake Casitas and the groundwater basins may have supplies that exceed a typical year of demand, these existing supplies must stretch for multiple years until the lake and groundwater basins are replenished and/or the connections to imported water are in place.

Table 3: Water Supplies – Casitas System															
Water Supply		Start Year:		2026		Volumetric Unit Used:							AF		
These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supplies - Volume ³												Total by Water Supply Type	Water Quality
		Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun		
Surface water (not desal.)	Lake Casitas												14,865	Potable	
Groundwater (not desal.)	Mira Monte Well												145	Potable	
Total by Month (Potable)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15,010		
Non-Potable Supplies															
N/A													0		
Total by Month (Non-Potable)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Notes: Supplies are based on the Casitas System operational yield adopted by the Board as shown in Table 7-1 of the 2025 UWNMP. No imported SWP water deliveries projected in FY 2026-27.															

Table 3: Water Supplies - Ojai														
Water Supply			Start Year:	2026	Volumetric Unit Used:								AF	
These are the only water supply categories that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supplies - Volume ³												Water Quality
		Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	
Potable Supplies														
Surface water (not desal.)	Lake Casitas												461	Potable
Groundwater (not desal.)	OWS Wells												2,300	Potable
Total by Month (Potable)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,761	
Non-Potable Supplies														
NA													0	
Total by Month (Non-Potable)		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Notes: Supplies are based on the operational yield of the OWS adopted by the Board as shown in Table 7-1 of the 2025 UWMP. No imported SWP water deliveries projected in FY 2026-27.														

2.2.1. Surface Water

As of April 30, 2026, Lake Casitas was at 99.8 percent capacity or 237,494 AF. Approximately 3,714 AF was diverted to Lake Casitas in calendar year 2025.

2.2.2. Groundwater

The winters of 2022/23 and 2023/24 brought extensive recovery to the local groundwater basins within Casitas' boundaries as described in the following subsections.

2.2.2.1. Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin

Ventura River Water District reported groundwater level at 24.5 feet below ground surface (bgs) as of June 1, 2026. For context, VRWD ceases pumping at 55 feet bgs and switches to purchased water.

2.2.2.2. Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin

The OVGB is a primary water source for the Ojai Valley's urban and agricultural water demands. The Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Agency (OBGMA) has reported the Ojai basin has an estimated storage of 76,000 acre-feet (78% of capacity) as of April 29, 2026. This supply should allow most groundwater pumpers in this basin to minimize their use of Lake Casitas supply during the next twelve months.

2.3. Existing Infrastructure Capabilities and Plausible Constraints

Under the California Water Action Plan, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) are working to identify potential actions to enhance and establish instream flow for anadromous fish in five priority streams, including the Ventura River. The State's potential actions to establish instream flows could have a significant impact on available water supplies within the Ventura River watershed. Casitas is carefully monitoring and reviewing the State's work and providing technical comments throughout the process. There will likely be no impact on water supply for the next twelve months resulting from these studies.

A groundwater adjudication commenced in the Ventura River watershed, and its tributaries in the Ojai Valley area, through an amended cross complaint filed with the California Superior Court on September 21, 2018. This action included not only Casitas but also many public and private water users in the Ojai Valley. This is of special significance to the District due to its operation of groundwater wells within the basins under question in addition to its right to divert water from the Ventura River. There will likely be no impact on the water supply for the next twelve months due to this action.

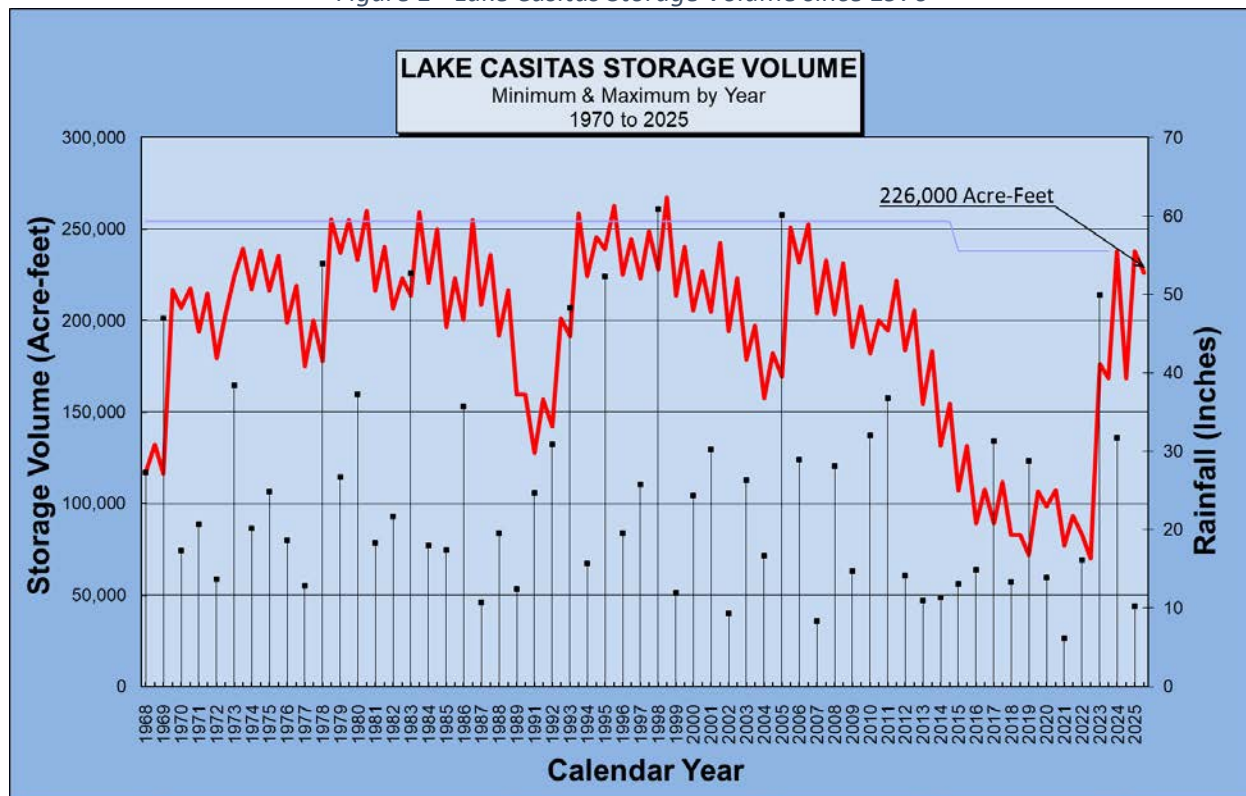
2.3.1. Surface Water

Lake Casitas is the primary source of water supply for the Casitas Municipal Water District. Its construction in the 1950s was as a supplemental supply to local groundwater and as a primary source for areas that do not have groundwater. Figure 1 presents the annual water storage fluctuations Lake Casitas has experienced since 1970. Prior to 2024, Lake Casitas storage was last at full storage capacity in May 2006. The declining storage trend since 2006 was due to drought conditions, evaporation, environmental conditions, and water use. The storage levels recovered significantly in 2023 and 2024 due to abundant precipitation.

Long-term average rainfall at Matilija Dam and Casitas Dam are 28.23 and 23.31 inches, respectively, based on records dating back to the 1957-1958 Water Year. During the period of 2012 through 2022, the

Ventura River watershed was in an extreme to moderate drought condition with less than average rainfall amounts that were insufficient to cause the restoration of local water resources to previous levels. Rainfall during the 2022/23 and 2023/24 winter seasons was far above the long-term average rainfall and has had a positive impact on District water supplies.

Figure 1 - Lake Casitas Storage Volume since 1970



In FY 2025-26 the net impact to water supply in Lake Casitas was an increase of approximately 3,000 AF (stream and watershed inflow plus diversions and precipitation, less evaporation and water demands).

The 2025/26 winter did not bring significant rain to Casitas' service area. Ventura County is classified as being in a 'None' condition by the United States Drought Monitor as of June 4, 2026.

2.3.2. Groundwater

Casitas has one production well in the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin and several production wells in the Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin as described in the following subsections. There are no anticipated constraints to groundwater supply for FY 2026/27.

2.3.2.1. Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin

The UVRGB levels have seen a recovery during the last twelve months as described in Section 2.2.2.1.

Casitas' Mira Monte Well has a capacity of 300 AFY although pumping is limited due to the groundwater having high nitrate levels. Casitas blends this water with Lake Casitas water to achieve water quality that

is well within regulatory standards for drinking water, and the planned operational yield is 145 to 180 AFY on average.

2.3.2.2. *Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin*

Casitas' groundwater wells for the OWS are located on the east and west sides of San Antonio Creek on the south side of Grand Avenue within the OVGB. The east side is referred to as the San Antonio Wellfield and the west side is referred to as the Mutual Wellfield. The San Antonio Wellfield has three wells. The Mutual Wellfield has four wells. All pumped water is treated at the onsite iron and manganese treatment plant and meets state and federal drinking water requirements. The total well capacity used for planning purposes is 2,300 AFY.

2.3.3. Imported Water

Casitas maintains a contract for up to 5,000 AFY from the State Water Project (SWP) but currently has no local infrastructure to physically deliver this water to its system. In 2019, Casitas initiated the Ventura – Santa Barbara Counties Intertie project to connect to the transmission system of Carpinteria Valley Water District (CVWD), which could allow delivery of imported water to Casitas. The project includes approximately 1.5 miles of 16-inch pipeline and two booster pump stations. The project is currently under construction and is expected to be completed in 2026/27.

2.4. Assessment Methodology: Locally Applicable Evaluation Criteria

Casitas has established the implementation of various stages of action based on the amount of water in storage in Lake Casitas, as shown below, which reflects the most recently adopted WEAP. These stages apply to both the Casitas system and the Ojai system. The recommended stage will be based on whether the projected lake levels over the next year fall within the action levels.

Drought Stage as Determined by Lake Casitas Volume

Stage	Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Stage 4	Stage 5
Percent Storage	100%	50%	40%	30%	25%
Volume (AF)	237,975	118,988	95,190	71,393	59,494

Note: This is not a DWR-required table

2.5. Description and Quantification of Each Water Supply Source

Casitas' water supply sources include surface water and groundwater. Descriptions and quantification of these sources for the current year and dry year are included in this section.

2.5.1. Surface Water

Casitas has multiple sources of surface water that contribute to Lake Casitas' supply as described in the following subsections.

2.5.1.1. Coyote Creek

Coyote Creek is located on the west side of Lake Casitas and its drainage area contributes directly to Lake Casitas storage. Casitas and Ventura County Watershed Protection District (VCWPD) maintain a stream gaging station on Coyote Creek.

2.5.1.2. Santa Ana Creek

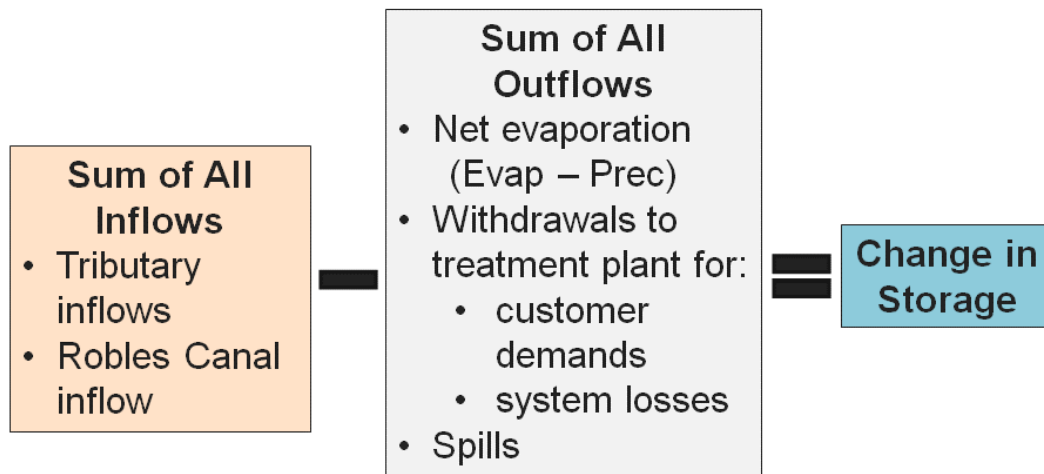
Santa Ana Creek is also a major tributary to Lake Casitas. Casitas and VCWPD also maintain a stream gage to monitor flow. This station was not damaged during the Thomas Fire but did experience heavy sediment transport and re-channelization following the fire, rendering poor quality flow data.

2.5.1.3. Lake Casitas

Lake Casitas has a capacity of 237,761 AF based on bathymetric survey performed in 2017. The recent drought resulted in record low storage levels in 2019 with Lake Casitas at 30 percent of storage capacity. Following the significant rain events in 2022/23 and 2023/24, the lake recovered substantially. The lake reached 100% capacity in April 2024 and again in February 2026.

The water supply availability from Lake Casitas was previously studied by the USBR in the 1954 evaluation of the Ventura River Project, and later by the District in 1989 and 2004. In the “Water Supply and Use Status Report” (Casitas, 2004), the Safe Yield of Lake Casitas was determined to be 20,480 AFY based on a mass-balance model that tracks Lake Casitas inflows, outflows (including evaporation) and change in storage to simulate operations over a time series of assumed hydrology conditions, as illustrated in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Mass Balance Model for Estimating Lake Casitas Yield



The yield model was updated in 2020 to include:

- Extended hydrologic period of record of 1945-2018 (from previous of 1945-1999)
- Incorporated results of recent Lake Casitas bathymetric survey – reduced maximum storage capacity from 254,000 AF to 237,761 AF
- Added function to compute reservoir spills

- Incorporated Robles Diversion operations based on 2003 Biological Opinion requirements and 2018 Critical Drought Protection Measures
- Reduced modeled Robles diversions based on a diversion efficiency of 70 percent, consistent with operational data since the Fish Passage Facility was constructed
- Improved method of calculating monthly net evaporation loss

On April 21, 2021, the Board of Director adopted a planned Casitas System operational yield of 15,010 AFY¹. The new operational yield is based on the updated modeling results, a -4.3 percent climate change adjustment based on the anticipated changes to precipitation, and a -15 percent supply safety factor to account for uncertainty in modeling assumptions.

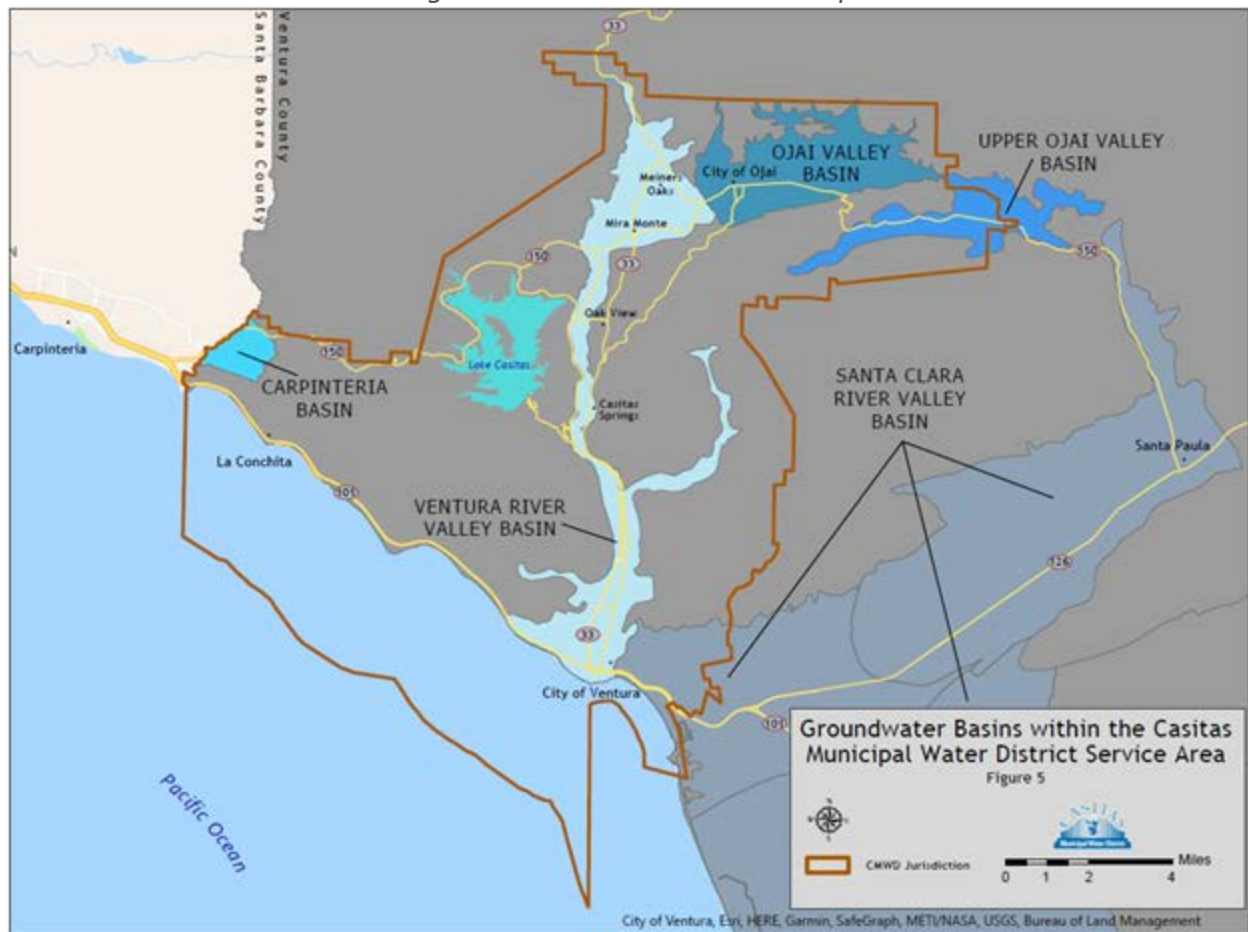
Surface water from Lake Casitas is treated at the Marion Walker Pressure Filtration Plant using pressure filtration before it enters the transmission and distribution system. There are no anticipated constraints to surface water supply for 2026/27.

2.5.2. Groundwater

Three groundwater basins are within the Casitas service area: 1) Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin, 2) Lower Ventura River Groundwater Basin and 3) Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin. Figure 3 shows the boundaries of these basins. The following subsections describe each basin and current issues associated with each.

¹ The planned operational yield is 14,865 AFY from Lake Casitas and 145 AFY from Mira Monte Well.

Figure 3. Groundwater Basins Map



2.5.2.1. Basin Description – Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin

The UVRGB is managed by the Upper Ventura River Groundwater Agency (UVRGA). Casitas' Robles Diversion Facility and Mira Monte Well are located within the boundaries of this watershed. The UVRGB is the largest of the groundwater basins in the Ventura River watershed. All water in the watershed is local precipitation; there are no outside or imported water sources. Similar to the overall Ventura River watershed, precipitation in the UVRGB is extremely variable.

In compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the UVRGA prepared their Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and submitted it to DWR in January 2022. The GSP is available on DWR's website at: <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/gsp/preview/77>.

The Overdraft Assessment in the GSP states "The water budget results do not indicate an overdraft condition in the Basin currently or in the future. Groundwater levels have not been observed to decline over a period of years without fully recovering. Numerical model results for the projected water budget indicate that groundwater levels will continue to fully recover following droughts."

Regarding sustainable yield, the GSP states: "Modeling results for the future projection period indicate that the projected inflows and outflows will be approximately balanced during the 50-year SGMA implementation period even with climate change considered. Therefore, an estimate of the sustainable yield is the modeled projected groundwater extractions minus the modeled surface water depletions that could potentially cause undesirable results for the depletions of ISW sustainability indicator. This calculation results in an estimated sustainable yield of ~5,500 to 5,600 acre-feet per year, depending on climate change assumptions. However, there are two very important caveats to the sustainable yield estimate. First, it is noted that more groundwater could be extracted during wet periods without causing undesirable results because the Ventura River can readily recharge more water into the Basin. Second, undesirable results could occur during dry periods even if the sustainable yield is not exceeded on average over a long-term period of average hydrologic conditions because the Basin has a very small amount of groundwater storage which naturally and rapidly drains to the Ventura River during dry periods. In summary, the concept of a sustainable yield over a long-term average period is not relevant to the management of the UVRGB."

2.5.2.2. Basin Description – Lower Ventura River Groundwater Basin

While Casitas' service area includes the Lower Ventura River Groundwater Basin, Casitas does not have any groundwater wells in this basin.

2.5.2.3. Basin Description – Ojai Valley Groundwater Basin

The OVGB is a relatively deep, bowl-shaped basin bounded on the west and east by non-water-bearing Tertiary aged rocks, on the south by the Santa Ana fault and Black Mountain, and on the north by the Topa Topa Mountains².

The OVGB is managed by the OBGMA which was established in 1991 by State legislation. The OBGMA monitors, records, and reports groundwater conditions of the Ojai Valley Basin. According to the OBGMA website, approximately 60 percent of groundwater use within the basin is for agricultural demand and 40 percent is for 'urban' demand.

In compliance with SGMA, the OBGMA prepared their GSP and it was adopted by the OBGMA Board of Directors in January 2022. The California Department of Water Resources approved the OBGMA GSP on October 22, 2023. The GSP can be found on the OBGMA website at:

<https://www.obgma.com/sustainability>

According to the GSP, "undesirable results within the Ojai Valley Basin have not occurred historically...The water budget indicates that over the 48-year period from 1971 to 2019 the OVGB has operated within its sustainable yield based on available data."

² <http://obgma.com/the-ojai-valley-basin/>

3. Supply and Demand Analysis

This section incorporates the supplies and demands presented in Section 2 to calculate potential shortages and determine water shortage response actions. The WSCP presented in Section 8 of the 2020 UWMP identifies current and potential actions to address anticipated shortages of water supply. Table 4 – Casitas and Table 4 – Ojai summarize data from their respective tables in Section 2, Tables 2 and 3.

As mentioned in Section 2.2, Casitas typically plans for multi-year demands rather than single-year demands. Though Lake Casitas and the groundwater basins may have supplies that exceed a typical year of demand, these existing supplies must stretch for multiple years until the lake and groundwater basins are replenished and/or the connections to imported water are in place.

Table 4 Water Shortage Assessment – Casitas System													= Auto calculated	
Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment for \$10632.1													= From prior tables	
													= For manual input	
Table 4(P): Potable Water Shortage Assessment ¹						Start Year: 2026						Volumetric Unit Used ² :		AF
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun ³	Total	
Anticipated Unconstrained Demand												14,525	14,525	
Anticipated Total Water Supply												15,010	15,010	
Surplus/Shortage w/o WSCP Action												485	485	
% Surplus/Shortage w/o WSCP Action												3%	3%	
State Standard Shortage Level												0	0	
Planned WSCP Actions ⁴														
Benefit from WSCP: Supply Augmentation												0	0	
Benefit from WSCP: Demand Reduction												0	0	
Revised Surplus/Shortage with WSCP												485	485	
% Revised Surplus/Shortage with WSCP												3%	3%	

¹Assessments are based on best available data at time of submitting the report and actual volumes could be different due to many factors.

²Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent.

³When optional monthly volumes aren't provided, verify Tables 2 and 3 use the same columns for data entry and are reflected properly in Table 4 and make sure to use those same columns to enter the benefits from Planned WSCP Actions. Please see directions on the shortage balancing exercise in the Table Instructions. If a shortage is projected, the supplier is highly recommended to perform a monthly analysis to more accurately identify the time of shortage.

⁴If you enter any WSCP Benefits, then you must enter the corresponding planned Actions into Table 5.

¹Assessments are based on best available data at time of submitting the report and actual volumes could be different due to many factors.

²Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent.

³When optional monthly volumes aren't provided, verify Tables 2 and 3 use the same columns for data entry and are reflected properly in Table 4 and make sure to use those same columns to enter the benefits from Planned WSCP Actions. Please see directions on the shortage balancing exercise in the Table Instructions. If a shortage is projected, the supplier is highly recommended to perform a monthly analysis to more accurately identify the time of shortage.

⁴If you enter any WSCP Benefits, then you must enter the corresponding planned Actions into Table 5.

Table 4 Water Shortage Assessment – Casitas System														
Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment for \$10632.1													= Auto calculated	
													= From prior tables	
													= For manual input	
Table 4(NP): Non-Potable Water Shortage Assessment ¹														
	Start Year:							2026	Volumetric Unit Used ² :					AF
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun ³	Total	
Anticipated Unconstrained Demand: Non-Potable														
Anticipated Total Water Supply: Non-Potable												N/A	N/A	
Surplus/Shortage w/o WSCP Action: Non-Potable														
% Surplus/Shortage w/o WSCP Action: Non-Potable														
Planned WSCP Actions ⁴														
Benefit from WSCP: Supply Augmentation														
Benefit from WSCP: Demand Reduction														
Revised Surplus/Shortage with WSCP														
% Revised Surplus/Shortage with WSCP														

¹Assessments are based on best available data at time of submitting the report and actual volumes could be different due to many factors.
²Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent.
³When optional monthly volumes aren't provided, please enter yearly volumes in the June column (Jun³). If a shortage is projected, the supplier is highly recommended to perform a monthly analysis to more accurately identify the time of shortage.
⁴If you enter any WSCP Benefits, then you must enter the corresponding planned Actions into Table 5.

Table 4 Water Shortage Assessment – Ojai System														= Auto calculated		
Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment for \$10632.1														= From prior tables		
														= For manual input		
Table 4(P): Potable Water Shortage Assessment ¹							Start Year: 2026					Volumetric Unit Used ² :			AF	
	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun ³	Total			
Anticipated Unconstrained Demand												1,850.0	1,850.00			
Anticipated Total Water Supply												2,761.0	2,761.00			
Surplus/Shortage w/o WSCP Action												911.0	911.0			
% Surplus/Shortage w/o WSCP Action												49%	49%			
State Standard Shortage Level												0	0			
Planned WSCP Actions ⁴																
Benefit from WSCP: Supply Augmentation												0	0			
Benefit from WSCP: Demand Reduction												0	0			
Revised Surplus/Shortage with WSCP												911.0	911.0			
% Revised Surplus/Shortage with WSCP												49%	49%			
¹ Assessments are based on best available data at time of submitting the report and actual volumes could be different due to many factors. ² Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent. ³ When optional monthly volumes aren't provided, please enter yearly volumes in the June column (Jun ³). If a shortage is projected, the supplier is highly recommended to perform a monthly analysis to more accurately identify the time of shortage. ⁴ If you enter any WSCP Benefits, then you must enter the corresponding planned Actions into Table 5.																

Table 4 Water Shortage Assessment – Ojai System														
Annual Water Supply and Demand Assessment for §10632.1													= Auto calculated	
													= From prior tables	
													= For manual input	
Table 4(NP): Non-Potable Water Shortage Assessment ¹		Start Year:		2026		Volumetric Unit Used ² :							AF	
		Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun ³	Total
Anticipated Unconstrained Demand: Non-Potable														
Anticipated Total Water Supply: Non-Potable													N/A	N/A
Surplus/Shortage w/o WSCP Action: Non-Potable														
% Surplus/Shortage w/o WSCP Action: Non-Potable														
Planned WSCP Actions ⁴														
Benefit from WSCP: Supply Augmentation														
Benefit from WSCP: Demand Reduction														
Revised Surplus/Shortage with WSCP														
% Revised Surplus/Shortage with WSCP														

¹Assessments are based on best available data at time of submitting the report and actual volumes could be different due to many factors.
²Units of measure (AF, CCF, MG) must remain consistent.
³When optional monthly volumes aren't provided, please enter yearly volumes in the June column (Jun³). If a shortage is projected, the supplier is highly recommended to perform a monthly analysis to more accurately identify the time of shortage.
⁴If you enter any WSCP Benefits, then you must enter the corresponding planned Actions into Table 5.

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4. Planned Shortage Response Actions

Triggered shortage response actions, compliance and enforcement actions, and communication actions consistent with the WSCP and the WEAP are shown in Table 5 – Planned Water Shortage Response Actions which applies to both the Casitas and Ojai systems. Casitas adopted a Stage 0 which is voluntary 20% conservation effective June 1, 2023.

Table 5: Planned Water Shortage Response Actions						July 1, 2026	to June 30, 2027
Anticipated Shortage Level State Standard Levels (1 - 6) and Level 0 (No Shortage)	ACTIONS ¹ : Demand Reduction, Supply Augmentation, and Other Actions. (Drop-down List) These are the only categories that will be accepted by the WUEdata online submittal tool. Select those that apply.	Is action already being implemented?	How much is action going to reduce the shortage gap?		When is shortage response action anticipated to be implemented ² ?		
			Enter Amount	(Drop-down List) Select % or Volume Unit			
Add additional rows as needed							
1 (No Shortage)	No Actions	Yes					
NOTES: Casitas adopted a Stage 1 which is voluntary 20% conservation effective June 1, 2023.							
¹ If you plan Supply Augmentation Actions then you must enter WSCP Benefits from Supply Augmentation Actions into Table 4. If you plan Demand Reduction Actions then you must enter WSCP Benefits from Demand Reduction Actions into Table 4. ² If an Action is planned to be implemented in multiple non-contiguous periods of the year, please make separate entries on multiple rows for the same action spanning the different implementation periods.							

Water Efficiency and Allocation Plan

May 12, 2021

WATER EFFICIENCY AND ALLOCATION PROGRAM

Casitas Municipal Water District

May 12, 2021

Revised March 22, 2023 per Ordinance 2023-02

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

In 1992 the Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas) adopted a series of ordinances, resolutions, and a Water Efficiency and Allocation Program (WEAP) in response to the increasing water demands and declining water storage in Lake Casitas experienced during the 1987-1991 drought period. The collective work in 1992 set the starting point for a system of water allocation assignments and demand response criteria that are based on the level of water storage in Lake Casitas. Since 1992, there has been a significant outreach by Casitas to raise the public's awareness on the importance to conserve local water supplies, changes in the water supply and demand, regulatory compliance directives pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and system outage events that temporarily activated Casitas' emergency response plan. All of these factors, including the responses and experiences of the current drought, are considered in the update of the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program.

1.1 Purpose and Principles of the Plan.

The purpose of this update of the WEAP is to provide guidance on water supply and demand strategies that (1) conserve the water supply of the Ventura River Project, Lake Casitas and other water resources that are in the direct control of Casitas, for the greatest public benefit, (2) mitigate the effects of a water shortage on public health and safety and economic activity, (3) allocate water use so that a reliable and sustainable supply of water will be available for the most essential purposes under all water storage conditions of Lake Casitas, and (4) adapt to changing conditions of water supply demand and constraints.

The WEAP describes the water demand reduction strategies and measures to address future water shortage conditions, promote water conservation and the efficient use of water, and the application of a conservation penalty to customers who waste water.

1.2 Relationship between this Document, Water Codes, and Other Plans.

This WEAP shall be guided by State regulations and planning requirements as provided by the California Water Code that provides Casitas with broad powers to implement and enforce regulations and restrictions for managing a water shortage (§71640-71644), to implement water conservation programs (§375--378), to implement allocation-based conservation water pricing (§370-374), and to declare a water shortage emergency (§350-359).

As required by Water Code Section 10632, this WEAP shall be integrated as a part of the Casitas Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), as amended or updated every five years. The Casitas 2010 UWMP has been accepted and approved by the State Department of Water Resources. The UWMP provides an in-depth description of the Casitas water system, water resources and demands, and water supply reliability. For the purposes of integration and lessening the conflicts due to the replication of

information, the WEAP shall rely on the updates of the Water Code Sections provided in the attached Appendices and UWMP, as amended or updated every five years.

SECTION 2: WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND CONDITIONS

2.1 Water Supply.

The water supply for Casitas is derived from (1) the watersheds that flow directly and indirectly by diversion from the Ventura River of water during wet years to carryover storage in Lake Casitas for use during dry years, and (2) groundwater to the extent that Casitas has its own groundwater supply. The watersheds of the Ventura River region are subject to an extreme variation in the weather patterns, ranging from multiple years of drought to sometimes significant wet year events that are associated with El Nino conditions that add to the uncertainty of available local water supplies.

2.1.1 Surface Water.

The primary goal of Casitas is to provide a safe and reliable water supply. Due to the uncertainty of weather conditions that provide water to the local watersheds, a safe yield modeling has been implemented to provide guidance on water supply availability. The safe yield modeling criteria for the Casitas surface water supply provides a theoretical rate of decline in available water supply during a critical drought period, that if given a specific annual extraction rate from storage, that would reduce Lake Casitas to an exhausted minimum pool.

The sizing of Lake Casitas storage volume and the determination of the annual safe yield of water from Lake Casitas was originally determined by the Bureau of Reclamation in 1954, based on the hydrologic modeling for the critical drought period that started in 1919 and continued through 1936. The storage volume of the off stream reservoir, Lake Casitas, was set to be 254,000 acre-feet and the annual safe yield was determined to be 28,000 acre-feet. In 2004, Casitas recalculated the annual safe yield of Lake Casitas for the drought period of 1944 to 1965 based on newer knowledge of the diminished value of Matilija Reservoir and its impending removal, and the change in Robles Diversion operations resulting from the 2003 Biological Opinion established by the National Marine Fisheries Service pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act. The recalculated annual safe yield of Lake Casitas was determined to be 20,840 acre-feet per year.

The safe yield trend for the 1944-1965 critical drought period is illustrated in Figure 1, with the assumption that the critical drought period begins with a full reservoir. The modeling applies the hydrology, river diversions operations, and lake evaporation for the period (1944-1965) that contribute to the Lake Casitas storage. The safe yield is a constant extraction rate from lake storage that contribute to the decline in Lake Casitas storage during the critical drought period, taking lake storage from full capacity to a minimum pool condition. Based on the safe yield model with a continuous and steady extraction rate, or safe yield, of water at 20,840 acre-feet each year, Lake Casitas would decline from full storage to minimum pool in approximately twenty years.

Also included in Figure 1 is the Recovery Period of Lake Casitas, which illustrates the actual filling rate experienced at Lake Casitas during the 1959 to 1978 period. The recovery of the Lake Casitas volume during the Recovery Period that is illustrated in Figure 1 cannot be assumed as the normal or common sequence given the variability of the rainfall amounts in the Ventura River watershed, constraints, and other influences to Lake Casitas inflow and storage. Casitas may experience elevated water supply risks that could be associated with a delay in the start of the recovery period while at minimum pool in Lake Casitas, or there could be a condition where the critical drought period begins with a partially recovered storage level in Lake Casitas.

The availability of the Lake Casitas supply can be influenced or impacted by long-term droughts, changes to lake water quality, and/or changes to diversion and storage conditions. The safe yield of Lake Casitas and annual water availability may need to be reconsidered in the future as a result of changing conditions or new information that differs from the present conditions.

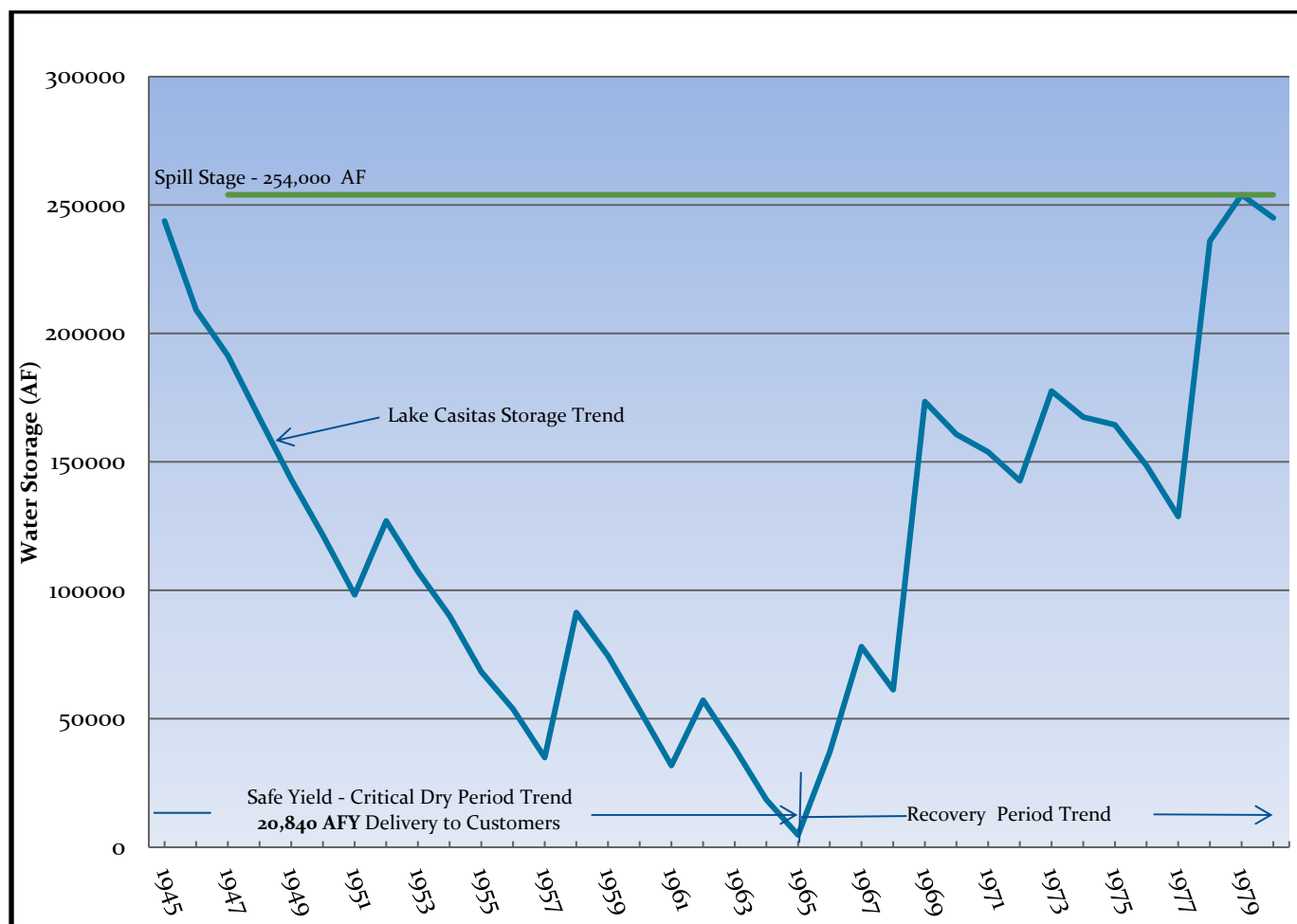


Figure 1 – Lake Casitas Safe Yield Storage and Recovery Period Trends

2.1.2 Groundwater.

Within Casitas' district boundaries, there are several local groundwater basins that are primary and critical sources of water supply for other local water purveyors (public, mutual and private), individual residential use and agriculture. During extended periods of drought with several years of less than average rainfall (20-inches) the local groundwater basins can become depleted due to pumping, natural drainage and evapotranspiration. The Lake Casitas surface water supply serves as a back-up water supply to the groundwater supply during times of extended drought.

Table 1 – Groundwater Basins of the Ventura River Watershed

Groundwater Basin	Acres	Max. Capacity (AF)	Approx. Safe Yield (AF/Yr.)
Upper Ojai	2,840	5,681	Unavailable
Ojai Valley	6,471	85,000	5,026
Upper Ventura River	9,360	35,118	9,482
Lower Ventura River	6,090	8,743	2,130

Source: Ventura River Watershed Council

The groundwater basins have demonstrated an ability to recharge rapidly in any one year with sufficient rainfall events, upon which time groundwater becomes the preferred source for those with well pumping access to the groundwater basins.

2.2 Water Demand.

The Casitas Board of Directors has established that the average long-term demand upon Lake Casitas must not exceed the annual safe yield of Lake Casitas supply. As a result of the 1987-1991, multi-year drought that resulted in water demands exceeding the annual safe yield, Casitas implemented specific actions in 1992 to limit water demands. The actions included the declaration of a voluntary twenty percent reduction in water demand, the assignment of water allocations based on 80 percent of FY1989-90 water usage that reflects a reduction in demand that comports more closely to safe yield of the Lake Casitas Supply, the implementation of water conservation measures to assist water users in adapting to less water consumption, and the limiting of new water service connections and expansions of agricultural plantings. Table 2 provides a comparison of classification water use, from prior to the action being taken by Casitas, to the level of water use during the recent drought. The FY 1989-90 water demand is recognized as being a high extreme water demand year at the end of the four year drought period.

Table 2 – Water Use Comparison by Customer Classification

Classification	No. of Service Connections		Water Demand – Lake Casitas (AF)		
	FY 1989-90	FY 2013-14	FY 1989-90	FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14
Residential	2424	2700	1603	1678	1738
Business	93	108	821	663	724
Industrial	12	9	155	23	22
Other	33	41	530	244	255
Resale Gravity	8	8	7724	4642	5614
Resale Pumped	15	15	1027	551	1182
Irrigation	253	251	11706	7978	9385
Interdepartmental	21	21	343	120	119
Temporary			11	13	55
Total	2,859	3,153	23,909	15,899	19,094

The local groundwater resources of the Ojai Valley and Ventura River provide on average 7,385 acre-feet per year (Daniel B. Stephens, 2010) to municipal, residential and agricultural pumpers. During multiple dry years, the groundwater basins become depleted and groundwater demands are met by supplementing groundwater supply from the Lake Casitas supply. In most cases, groundwater pumpers have a water service connection to Casitas as a backup supply of water. During any year or multiple dry year sequence of less than average rainfall, Casitas can anticipate that a portion of the 7,385 acre-feet of groundwater demand may be supplemented by the Lake Casitas supply. When groundwater basins are restored by rainfall events, groundwater pumpers convert back to the less expensive groundwater supply. The demand shifts are illustrated in Table 2 and Figure 2 for various classifications of water consumers. The FY 1989-90 and FY 2013-14 water demands occurred at the end of a three-year drought sequence.

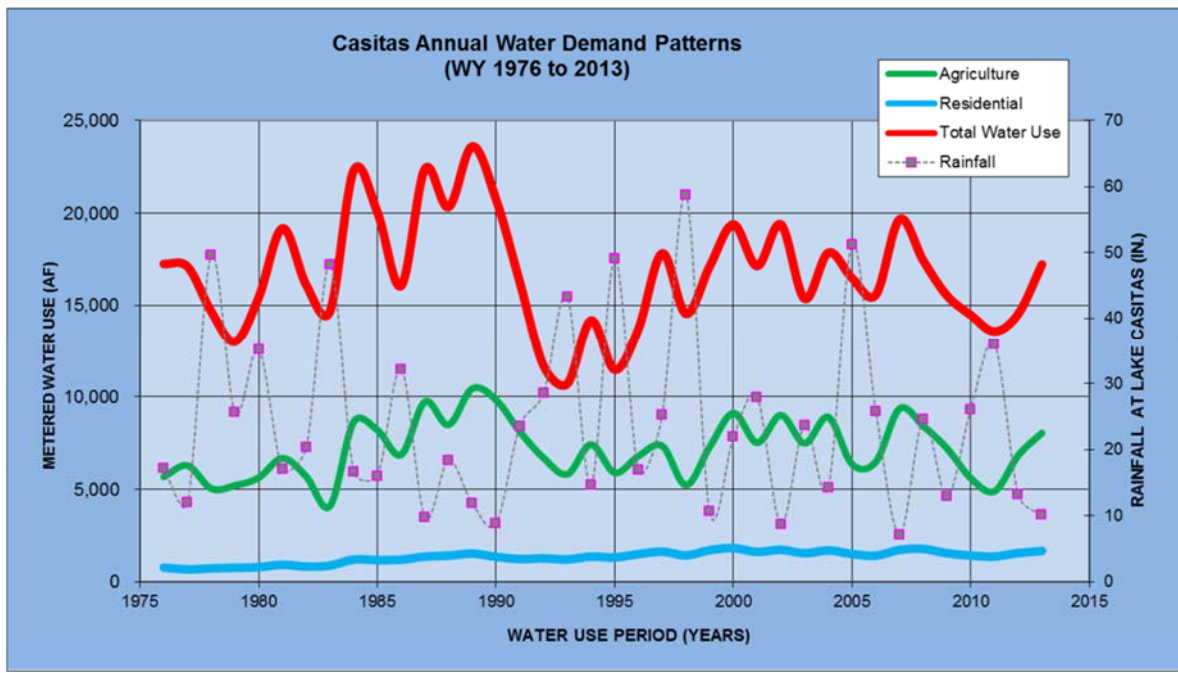


Figure 2 – Casitas Annual Demand Patterns

2.3 Priorities of Water Use.

Casitas recognizes the following priorities for potable water:

- 1) Public safety, health and sanitation;
- 2) Economic sustainability; and
- 3) Quality of life for the district's customers.

Within each of the customer classifications there may be water uses that are considered non-essential to public health and sanitation and may have no significant impact to the economic productivity of the western Ventura County. The non-essential water uses may be asked at any time to be curtailed during times of extreme water shortages.

Casitas recognizes that the agricultural crops in western Ventura County are primarily tree orchards that require a substantial period of time before becoming productive, and if fallowed will experience several years of non-production. To maintain water supplies into the future that will meet the local water demands, Casitas and the public may be faced with additional decisions on water use reductions that may impact the agricultural classification.

SECTION 3: WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY ACTIONS

3.1 Urban Water Contingency Analysis.

Water Code 10632 requires that the agency's Urban Water Management Plan provide an urban water shortage contingency analysis that includes specific elements that are within the authority of the urban water supplier. The required water shortage analysis is performed in the Casitas 2010 Urban Water Management Plan, and is further supported by this WEAP and the Casitas Emergency Response Plan, as amended.

3.2 Water Shortage Emergencies.

Water Code §350-359 provides that the governing body of a distributor of a public water supply may declare a water shortage emergency condition to prevail within the service area whenever it finds and determines that the ordinary demands cannot be satisfied without depleting water supplies to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption. When deemed as a water shortage emergency in accordance with Water Code 350, Casitas shall follow the procedures provided by the Water Code in the implementation of the water shortage declaration and actions.

The State of California, through its authority under the Water Code and Government Code, may declare a water shortage emergency and require curtailment of water use that is above and beyond the requirements of the Casitas WEAP. Customers of Casitas must respond and comply with the orders of the State in a timely manner. A failure to comply may cause the State to impose fines and penalties that will be redistributed to the customers of Casitas in a manner determined by the Casitas Board of Directors.

3.3 Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

The District has prepared a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Resolution 92-11), and further defined in the Casitas Urban Water Management Plan, that addresses emergencies under short-term, catastrophic events, and long-term water shortages that may occur as a result of a prolonged drought.

A water shortage emergency may be determined to exist in the event of a short-term interruption of water supply or as a result of long-term diminishment of the Lake Casitas water supply. A short-term interruption of water supply can be the result of earthquakes, regional power outages, landslides, or other major and minor events that impact Casitas water facilities or supply. These events are more often a short term interruption of water supplies until the water system can be restored to the customers. A long-term or district-wide condition may be the result of drought conditions or a reduction in local water supplies that will require long-term water supply-demand management.

The Casitas response to a short-term interruption of water supply may cause the implementation of the Casitas Emergency Action Plan that is structured under the State's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), in coordination with federal, state and county emergency response planning that provides the framework for an organized response to catastrophic events.

3.4 Water Waste Prohibitions on Certain Uses.

Water Code § 71640 provides the District the authority to restrict the use of district water during any emergency caused by drought, or other threatened or existing water shortage, and the district may prohibit the wastage of district water or the use of district water during such periods for any purpose other than household uses or such other restricted uses as the district determines to be necessary. The District may also prohibit use of district water during such periods for specific uses which it finds to be nonessential.

SECTION 4: STRATEGY FOR MANAGED WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND

4.1 Strategy Principles.

The communities and rural agricultural areas of western Ventura County recognize that there is a reliance on limited local groundwater and surface water supply to serve all of the beneficial uses within the District, and there is a local responsibility required to sustain those supplies during

extended drought periods. The continuous implementation of water conservation education and measures (Best Management Practices) has had a significant influence on the beneficial use and sustainability of local water supplies. Ongoing water conservation efforts can ease the impact on normal activities during drought periods, but may not completely eliminate the need for reductions in water use during periods when Lake Casitas water supplies are severely impacted by extended drought. The main mechanism to respond to water supply conditions is to rely on informed customers working in partnership with Casitas to limit water use to no more than the assigned water allocation and support the water use limitations with appropriate conservation penalties for water use in excess of the assigned, or adjusted, allocation.

To address the water shortage risk that may occur during an extended drought, the Casitas Board established in the Casitas Urban Water Management Plan of 1995 a series of five storage levels of Lake Casitas at which the Board could take actions to restrict the annual water extractions from Lake Casitas. The safe yield trend and the five stages of restrictive actions are illustrated in Figure 3.

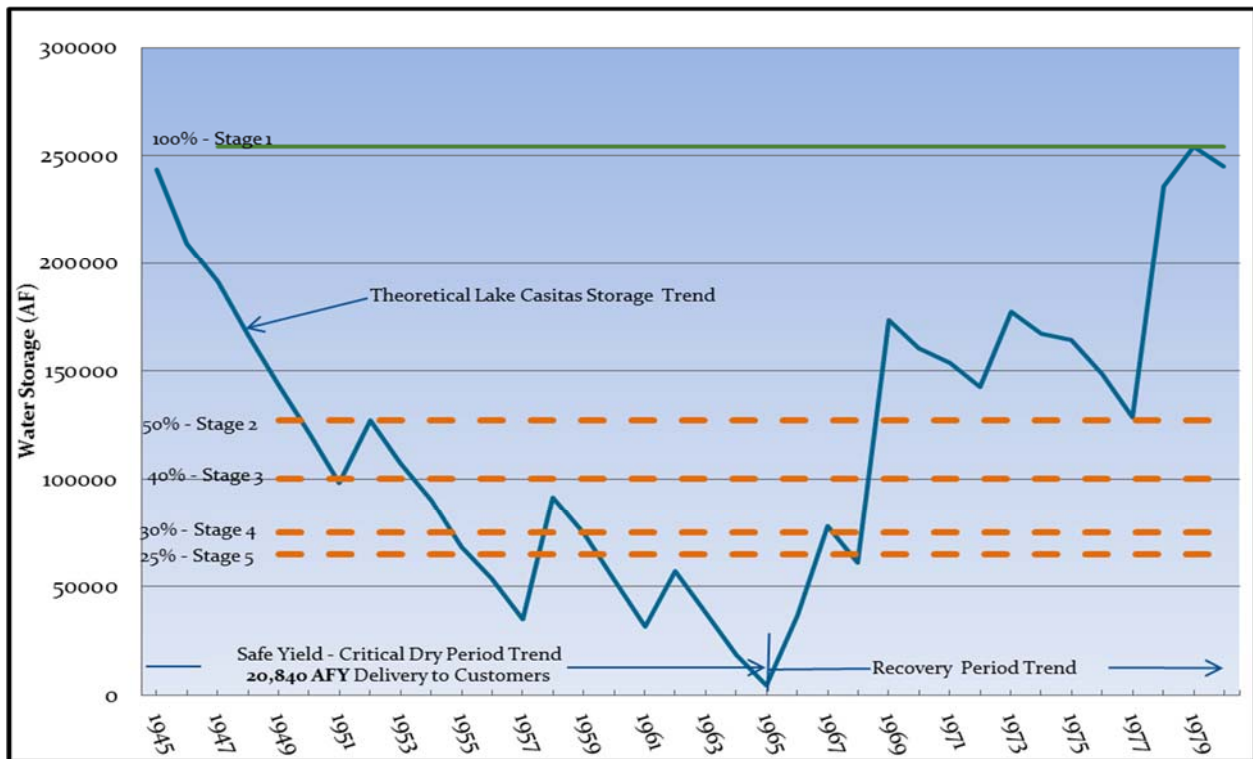


Figure 3 – Lake Casitas Safe Yield Storage Trend and Stages for Demand Reduction

4.2 Water Allocation Principles.

Each and every water service provided by Casitas is metered and a basic water use allocation is established for each customer account that provides a reasonable amount of water for the customer's needs and property characteristics (WC § 372). The following principles are to be followed for the Casitas water allocations:

- 1) Each Casitas water service shall be assigned either a monthly water allocation in the terms of Units or an annual water allocation in terms of Units and Acre-feet.
- 2) Allocation shall not mean an entitlement or imply water rights in favor of the customer.

- 3) The assignment of allocations shall be based on reasonable and necessary water use, the application of water conservation practices and standards, and other relevant factors associated with water use during Stage 1 conditions at Lake Casitas.
- 4) The Casitas Board of Directors reserve the right to make individual allocation assignments and to change water allocations at any time within each classification based on the changes to the availability of water stored in Lake Casitas, changes in water use that appears to compromise the reliability of the Lake Casitas water supply, and changes in water conservation practices and standards.
- 5) Water allocations provided by Casitas are assigned to property or water purveyors and are not transferrable from one property or water purveyor to another.
- 6) In cases where the tenant has been authorized as the water service account holder, the allocation for the service account is assigned to the property and cannot be transferred to another service account or property.
- 7) All requests for allocation adjustment must be made by the property owner.
- 8) Casitas' water allocations shall not be sold, exported, bartered or traded by or between Casitas' customers.
- 9) Casitas water allocated shall not be transported from the property or by any agency served to any other property or agency without prior written agreement with Casitas.

4.3 Allocation Assignments to Water Service Classifications.

Casitas has established the definitions of water customer classifications as provided by the Casitas Rates and Regulations for Water Service and has made specific allocation assignments to each and every water account by either (1) written agreement, or (2) the application of historical water use data, or (3) the application of documented water use standards. Where deemed necessary by Casitas, Casitas may perform site specific water use audits and survey to determine the appropriate level of allocation to be assigned to any one service connection or customer. Water allocations may change by action of the Casitas Board of Directors based on the Lake Casitas storage level or trend, water use trends, and the performance by customer classification in meeting water consumption reduction goals.

The following subsections describe the method used to assign the water allocation for each classification of water service at **Stage 1** condition:

Business

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) Allocation assigned by recorded agreement; or
- 3) Where not defined by recorded agreement, the lesser of the historical water consumption recorded for either the 80% of the 1989-90 water use or the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.
- 4) In cases where historical consumption is not available for a new business, an initial allocation may be assigned based on standard water demand factors used in Engineering Department review of new or expanded uses. Any increases in water allocation over the prior assigned allocation for the property are subject to Casitas' discretion on the limits of available water allocation and subject to the charges for new and/or expanded water use (Section 4.8).

Fire

There is no water allocation for the Fire classification. This water use is for emergency only, and not a part of a continuing annual water use.

Industrial

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) Allocation assigned by recorded agreement; or
- 3) Where not defined by recorded agreement, the lesser of historical water consumption recorded for either the 80% of the 1989-90 water use or the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.
- 4) In cases where historical consumption is not available for a new business, an initial allocation may be assigned based on standard water demand factors used in Engineering Department review of new or expanded uses. Any increases in water allocation over the prior assigned allocation for the property are subject to Casitas' discretion on the limits of available water allocation and subject to the charges for new and/or expanded water use (Section 4.8).

Interdepartmental

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an annual allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) The **annual** allocations for individual Interdepartmental classification services shall be based on the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.

Irrigation (Commercial Agriculture)

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) Qualifying acreage for each Irrigation account shall be limited to acreage that can be identified as under irrigation prior to March 1, 1992. There will be no allocation for irrigation acreage that has been expanded after March 1, 1992, except as otherwise approved in written and recorded agreement between Casitas and the property owner. Casitas' records and mapping will be the standard for the identification of lands in irrigation prior to March 1, 1992.
- 3) Allocation assignments to lands served by multiple meter services shall consider the proportion of the allocation that each meter is intended to serve. The aggregation of meter readings and allocations from multiple meters shall not be allowed except under the terms and conditions of an approved addendum to the Application for Water Service to provide an aggregation variance. The customer may apply for the aggregation of allocations and water volume for accounts serving contiguous parcels under a single ownership, subject to the conditions of the Casitas addendum to the Application for Water Service. The aggregation variance must be approved and on file for the current year during which the variance is applicable. The issuance of the aggregation variance is subject to the discretion of the General Manager.
- 4) The Stage 1 water allocation assigned to each Irrigation water account is the greater volume of either (1) the water use recorded at each meter service during fiscal year 2012-13 or (2) eighty (80) percent of recorded water volume metered to the account in fiscal year 1989-90, neither of which shall exceed a water volume of 3 acre-feet per acre applied to the qualifying acreage.
- 5) The residential water use for Agricultural/Domestic classification that is directly associated with the Irrigation shall be considered as Irrigation for purpose of allocation assignments and meeting the demand reduction requirements for Irrigation.

Multi-Family Residential

- 1) Stage 1 water allocations are assigned to each existing Multi-Family Residential account by either a recorded agreement or based on the standards set in 1992 by Casitas.
- 2) The Multi-Family Residential water allocation for each account shall be distributed by either a monthly or bi-monthly scheduling of the allocation.
- 3) A part of the Multi-Family Residential allocation is provided for health and sanitation and shall be set at **120 units per year per dwelling**, distributed evenly each month as 10 units per month for each dwelling.
- 4) The essential water use portion of the allocation is not subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program, unless otherwise deemed by the Board to be a necessity during extreme water supply conditions or during emergencies.
- 5) The part of the Multi-Family Residential allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation shall be specified as a monthly allocation and distributed proportionally to reflect varying seasonal water use, as follows:

Month	July	August	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
% of Total Annual Allocation	.12	.11	.11	.11	.08	.08	.04	.06	.05	.05	.09	.10

- 6) The part of the Multi-Family Residential allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation is subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program.
- 7) Where not previously assigned a residential allocation, a residential allocation shall be based on the following:
 - a. The essential health and sanitation portion of the residential allocation shall be set at **120 units per year per year per dwelling**, and be constant for each month of the year;
 - b. Non-essential portion of the annual residential allocation shall be based on a maximum limit of 1.99 acres (86,684 square feet) of irrigated landscape area and set as follows:
 - i. For the first 5,000 square feet of landscape area, 15 gallons per square foot;
 - ii. For the next 10,000 square feet of landscape area, 10 gallons per square foot
 - iii. For the next increment up to 71,684 square feet of landscape area, 3 gallons per square foot;
- 8) In cases where a Single Family residence is proposing to construct an Accessory Dwelling Unit, the customer will be reclassified to Multi-Family residential and there will be no required change to the allocation. Staff may make adjustments to the distribution between essential and non-essential provided the adjustments are consistent with similar properties and WEAP allocation standards. The customer may request an increase in allocation provided the amount is consistent WEAP allocation standards. However, any increases in total allocation are subject to approvals for new and/or expanded water use (Section 4.8).

Other

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) Allocation assigned by recorded agreement; or
- 3) Where not defined by recorded agreement, the lesser of historical water consumption of either the 80% of the 1989-90 water use or the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.
- 4) In cases where historical consumption is not available for a new business, an initial allocation may be assigned based on standard water demand factors used in Engineering Department review of new or expanded uses. Any increases in water allocation over the prior assigned

allocation for the property are subject to Casitas' discretion on the limits of available water allocation and subject to the charges for new and/or expanded water use (Section 4.8).

Resale

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) The Stage 1 allocation for each individual Resale customer shall be incorporated into a memorandum of understanding (MOU), and assigned to provide water to supplement the Resale agency's primary source of water supply.
- 3) An objective of a MOU is to achieve parity between the Resale agency customers and Casitas customers in applying similar overall water use restrictions and financial penalties in each Stage.
- 4) The Resale agency shall determine the reliability of its water sources and ensure that the annual water requirements from Casitas do not exceed their annual water allocation from Casitas.
- 5) The allocation assignment from Casitas shall not be used by the Resale agency for growth within the Resale service area, unless additional allocation for growth is authorized by written agreement with Casitas.
- 6) The Resale agency shall implement water conservation measures in accordance with the State's or California Urban Water Conservation Council's Best Management Practices, responsibly maintain water system metering and pipeline systems to reduce water losses, and when necessary or when asked to do so, implement water demand reduction measures similar to or more restrictive than those imposed by Casitas to assure the continued availability of water for health and safety purposes.

Residential

- 1) Stage 1 water allocations are assigned to each existing Residential account by either a recorded agreement or based on the standards set in 1992 by Casitas.
- 2) The Residential water allocation for each account shall be distributed by either a monthly or bi-monthly scheduling of the allocation.
- 3) A part of the Residential Allocation is provided for health and sanitation and shall be set at **120 units per year**, distributed evenly each month as 10 units per month for each dwelling.
- 4) The essential water use portion of the allocation is not subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program, unless otherwise deemed by the Board to be a necessity during extreme water supply conditions or during emergencies.
- 5) The part of the Residential Allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation shall be specified as a monthly allocation and distributed proportionally to reflect varying seasonal water use, as follows:

Month	July	August	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
% of Total Annual Allocation	.12	.11	.11	.11	.08	.08	.04	.06	.05	.05	.09	.10

The part of the Residential Allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation is subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program.

- 6) Where not previously assigned a residential allocation, a residential allocation shall be based on the following:
 - a. The essential health and sanitation portion of the residential allocation shall be set at **120 units per year**, and be constant for each month of the year;

- b. Non-essential portion of the annual residential allocation shall be based on actual irrigated landscape area of the parcel with a maximum limit to 1.99 acres (86,684 square feet) of irrigated landscape area and set as follows:
 - i. For the first 5,000 square feet of irrigated landscape area, 15 gallons per square foot;
 - ii. For the next 10,000 square feet of irrigated landscape area, 10 gallons per square foot
 - iii. For the next increment up to 71,684 square feet of irrigated landscape area, 3 gallons per square foot;

Temporary

- 1) There is no water allocation assigned for the Temporary classification. Temporary water service is not property related on a permanent basis.
- 2) Temporary water use is limited for a short-term, as provided in the Rates and Regulations for Water Service, for such purposes as construction projects, or short-term water supply emergencies, or temporary backup water to non-metered agricultural parcels.
- 3) Temporary meters that are issued to serve supplemental commercial irrigation shall be temporarily allocated water based on the allocation assignment provided at the time of the application for the Temporary service based on the same water use standards as provided for the Irrigation classification, and reduced by Stage conditions,. The allocation does not extend beyond the period of the temporary water service application, unless the Casitas Board of Directors approves a limited continuance of the temporary service.

4.4 Allocation Adjustments.

A property owner with Casitas water service may request the reconsideration of their initial assigned Stage 1 water allocation where the request does not include a consideration for either an expansion in the area of use or new construction. The property owner shall submit a water allocation adjustment application in order to have their request considered by the General Manager of the District. The information contained on the application may be subject to an audit and, if necessary, additional documentation may be required in order to substantiate the requested adjustment.

Adjustments to water allocations that have been assigned through a recorded Water Service Agreement between the property owner, or prior property owner, and Casitas must proceed through an amendatory agreement, will be subject to the capital facility charges for the amount of water provided as the allocation adjustment, and subject to the availability of water allocations.

Adjustments to water allocations will not be granted in amounts that exceed 80 percent of the FY 1989-90 metered usage of water by the meter service account without prior Board approval.

4.5 Standards for a Water Allocation Adjustment.

Water allocation adjustments may be considered by Casitas during initiation of the WEAP that appropriately assigns a Stage 1 allocation, to ensure that the needs of the water customer are reasonably balanced against the purpose of this Plan.

Water allocations may be considered for adjustment for:

- a. Correction of irrigable area square footage;
- b. Correction of number of dwelling units (Multi-family accounts only);
- c. Exemption granted for a licensed in-home childcare or elderly care facility;

Water allocations will not be adjusted to accommodate:

- a. Pools, ponds, spas, or hot tubs;
- b. In-home businesses or hobbies that use an increased amount of water;
- c. Gardens and orchards;
- d. Homeowner's Association requirements for turf areas in excess of that water allocation specified by Casitas for a Residential classification;
- e. Where an allocation has been assigned through a recorded agreement.

Agricultural Irrigation Allocation Adjustment Standards:

- a. Limited to acreage planted in commercial agricultural production prior to March 1, 1992. Casitas shall also consider the assignment of an appropriate allocation to lands that are verified as being in a crop rotation status, or temporarily in a fallowed state, having been in a planted status prior to March 1, 1992.
- b. Comparative (same crop type and average use of various parcels) crop usage in FY2012-13 for full irrigation, not to exceed 3 AF/AC/YR, which is located within a 1-mile circumference of the parcel seeking the appeal for a change in water allocation.

4.6 Appeals Process.

Customers that are denied an adjustment of water allocation may request a review of the request by submitting a written appeal to the Casitas Water Resources Manager stating the nature of the appeal. The appeal shall be reviewed by the Casitas Water Resources Manager and a recommendation shall be reported to the General Manager. The decision of the General Manager shall be reported to the customer in written form. If the customer is not satisfied with the General Manager's decision, the customer must request within 10 days that the appeal be placed on the agenda of the Casitas Board of Directors. The determination by the Board of Directors shall be final.

4.7 Availability of Allocations.

The determination of supplies being available for issuance of new allocations of water shall be made upon staff recommendation at a regular Board of Directors meeting. The determination that water is or is not available shall be within the determination of the Board of Directors. The determination that a supply is available shall be based upon more detailed information about existing supplies, the availability of new supplies, new water supply projects, or contracts or proposed contracts for additional supplies where, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, the supply of water is definite enough to provide the assurance to the County of Ventura that there is a forty year supply.

4.8 Allocation for New or Expanded Water Uses.

A property owner may request a change to a water allocation assignment for the purposes of obtaining new or expanded use of water that is associated with a new building permit, new or existing conditional use permit, or agricultural irrigation acreage expansion. The approval of an addition or change to the water allocation for new and/or expanded water allocation is subject to Casitas' discretion on the limits of available water allocation and subject to the charges for new and/or expanded water allocation.

When the Board of Directors determine that additional new water supplies are available, either from the safe yield of the existing CMWD project supply or additional new supplies, supplies shall be allocated in accordance with the following criteria:

- a) No single property owner or applicant for the given type of service (municipal, industrial or agricultural) shall receive a new water allocation greater than 10 percent of the total new available supply or the minimum standard residential allocation, whichever is greater. If the applicant's allocation requirements are not fully met, the applicant may maintain a position of priority until more water is available.
- b) All applicants seeking an allocation shall provide Casitas with a detailed description of the project, the use of water for which the water is sought, and information on peak flow and annual water requirements. Casitas shall determine meter size and amount of allocation based upon reasonable and necessary needs and Casitas' Rates and Regulations.
- c) The amount of water to be allocated shall be at Casitas' sole discretion. The assignment of an allocation shall be limited to the availability of water from the Lake Casitas safe yield, and be based on current water demand factors as adopted by the District and as amended. The amount of water required for the project may be calculated and submitted for the consideration of Casitas by a civil engineer, registered in the State of California, representing the project proponent.

4.8.1 Expansion of Residential and Commercial Water Use During Water Shortage

It is Casitas' policy that no expansion of water service use will be permitted during the period of declared water shortage, when mandatory water use reductions are being implemented in accordance with the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program, unless the Board of Directors deems an appropriate expansion of water use to be permissible. In the event that no expansion of water service use is permitted by the Board of Directors, the following minimum requirements shall be a condition of approval for residential and business remodels, additions, and replacements:

Remodels and Additions to Existing Buildings

- a) **No Additional Plumbing Fixtures:** If no additional plumbing fixtures are required, the project may be approved and a standard will-serve letter may be issued.
- b) **Additional Plumbing Fixtures:** If additional plumbing fixtures are required, the installation of ultra-low flow toilets and low-flow shower heads will be required throughout the building. This requirement, plus evidence that total water use should not increase as a result of the remodel, will be included in any will-serve letter issued.
- c) **Swimming Pools, Spas, and Pool Cabanas:** Swimming pools, spas, and pool cabanas normally involve installation of additional plumbing fixtures and result in an ultimate increase in total water demand. Such additions may be permitted if the applicant can provide documented evidence that the total water demand for the property will not increase.

Replacement of Residential Units

The replacement of structures may be approved contingent upon installation of water efficient plumbing devices and documented evidence of no additional water use.

Commercial

Existing commercial structures which have inactive water services may reactivate service based upon evidence that water use will not exceed the standard allocation or the historical water use.

Water Service Approved by Resale Agencies

Water service approved by resale agencies shall be supplied by that resale agency without reliance upon Casitas water. A statement to that effect shall be indicated on any revised will-serve letters by a resale agency.

4.8.2 Expansion of Agricultural Service During Water Shortage

No expansion of agricultural service will be permitted during the period of water shortage when mandatory water use reductions are in effect under the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program.

During a period of the water shortage, lands classified by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation as Class 1-4 and not previously irrigated for agricultural use regularly, will not receive water from Casitas. All such Class 1-4 lands must have been under regular agricultural irrigation prior to the declaration of the water shortage unless a request for such expansion was submitted to Casitas for consideration prior to the water shortage.

Under no circumstances will expansion of agricultural irrigation usage onto Class 6 lands be permitted.

Replacement of Agricultural Crops

Trees and crops which have been damaged within the past two years may be replaced upon approval by Casitas. Application outlining crop type, acreage, and schedule of replacement must be filed with Casitas prior to replacement.

SECTION 5: STAGED DEMAND REDUCTION IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Staged Demand Reduction Principles.

The primary source of water that is available to the Casitas Municipal Water District is the amount of water stored behind Casitas Dam, forming Lake Casitas. The quantity of water stored in Lake Casitas is dependent upon the local hydrology, watershed conditions, diversions from the Ventura River, and the outflow from lake evaporation and water deliveries to beneficial uses. There may be times during which Casitas must consider implementing staged water demand reductions to ensure a sustainable water supply and prevent a complete depletion of water supply in Lake Casitas.

The District has assigned five stages of water storage in Lake Casitas that serve as a guidance to triggering the implementation of water use reduction goals and measures. The overarching goals of the Staged Demand Reduction Program are:

- 1) conserving the water supply for the greatest priority and public benefit; and
- 2) mitigating the effects of a water shortage on public health, safety, and economic activity.

5.2 Water Resource Conditions and Actions.

The General Manager shall report to the Board of Directors each year (*April*) with an assessment of the current water storage in Lake Casitas and local groundwater basins, current water use trends, predicted weather conditions, and an evaluation of current water use reduction goals. The time of the reporting can be each April, as the rainfall season is ending and water resources can be evaluated at the maximum for the year, or as Lake Casitas storage reaches a change in Stage action level. The Board of Directors may, at their sole discretion, declare that a Stage condition of water supply in Lake Casitas exists and implement the appropriate demand reduction goals and measures in response to current and/or predicted water availability conditions. Casitas shall make such determinations public and follow with appropriate and timely notification of all customers. Casitas has established

the implementation of various Stages of action based on the amount of water in storage in Lake Casitas, as shown in Table 3. An action to declare and implement a Stage may be by either an action by Casitas Board of Directors based on unanticipated changing lake supply conditions or by the following schedule in Table 4.

Table 3 – Stage Conditions

Stage	Stage Title	Lake Casitas Storage - %	Lake Casitas Storage Action Level (acre-feet)
1	Water Conservation	100% - 50%	237,761 to 118,880
2	Water Shortage Warning	50% - 40%	118,880 to 95,104
3	Water Shortage Eminent	40% - 30%	95,104 to 71,328
4	Severe Water Shortage	30% - 25%	71,328 to 59,440
5	Critical Water Shortage	25% - 0%	59,440 to 3,000

Table 4 - Stage Action Schedule

<u>Target Dates</u>	<u>Action</u>
June - April	Monitor water demands, rainfall, reservoir level trend, groundwater trends, and diversion and runoff amounts.
Early April	Staff presents water status report and a recommendation to the Casitas Board of Directors. Publish a notice of a public hearing if changes are recommended.
Late April	Casitas Board of Directors formally declares a Stage, and/or water shortage emergency, adopts recommendations for demand reduction actions.
May	Customer Notification of change in Stage, allocation, and conservation surcharge.
June	Stage demand reduction actions are effective and are implemented.

5.3 Demand Reduction Goals and Measures.

The demand reduction goals and measures begin with Stage 1, where reasonable and appropriate water allocation assignments are made to each Casitas service connection and the end water users are implementing the Best Management Practices that conform to State requirements for water conservation and water use efficiency measures. Upon determination of a Stage 2 condition and continuing through Stage 5 conditions, the primary actions to achieve the demand reduction goal is the adjustment of allocations that were made available for each classification during Stage 1 by a reduction of the allocation during the duration of the declared Stage condition.

5.4 Stage Adjustments to Allocations.

The five stages of storage in Lake Casitas and the initial guideline for water allocation adjustments for each classification at each Stage are presented in Table 5. Upon recommendation of the General Manager and approval of the Board of Directors at the onset of a specific Stage, the District shall apply appropriate demand reduction factors to the allocations for each customer classification, as deemed necessary. The Board of Directors retain the sole discretion to make allocation changes as a result of declaring a change in Stage, or during any Stage, that are more or less severe than that provided in Table 5. Examples of applying this discretion may include, but not be limited to, the change in any water resource conditions or the demand reduction goals are not being attained by the customer classification.

Table 5 – Staged Water Demand Reductions for Water Classifications

Note: Initial Stage 1 Allocations include a 20% reduction from the 1989-90 demands.

Demand Reduction Stage	1	2	3	4	5
Volume Range of Lake Casitas	254,000 to 127,000	127,000 to 100,000	100,000 to 75,000	75,000 to 65,000	65,000 to 3,000
% Lake Storage	100% - 50%	50% - 40%	40% - 30%	30% - 25%	25% - 0%
Water Use Reduction Response Goal	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Residential & Multi-Family Residential Essential Use Non-essential Use	0% 20%	0% 20%	0% 30%	0% 40%	0% 50%
Business	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Industrial	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Other	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Resale	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Irrigation	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Interdepartmental	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%

Essential Use Allocations will remain the same and not adjusted, except as otherwise determined by the Board to be a necessity to preserve water supply during extreme conditions. The measures to achieve the demand reduction goal may be selected from a menu of options as provided in Table 6, or should water supply conditions become worse than anticipated the Casitas Board may adopt more stringent requirements as deemed necessary.

5.5 Customer Notification.

The customers of each and every classification shall be notified in a timely and appropriate manner of any and all actions to declare and implement Demand Reduction Stage. The methods of communication to the customer shall be through direct mailings, public meetings, and billing information that provides the customer the comparison of water use with allocation.

5.6 Water Rates and Conservation Penalty.

- a. The Casitas Board of Directors shall annually consider the setting or adjustment of water rates that reflect the cost of water service, consistent with State law.
 1. Casitas has implemented a tiered inclining rate structure for the Residential and Multi-family Residential classifications that represents the proportional cost of service that is attributable to the parcel that is served water.
- b. The Casitas Board of Directors shall annually set the Conservation Penalty for each classification that will be applied to each individual customer billing for each unit of

water that is in excess of the customer's allocation, or the adjusted allocation pursuant to a change in Stage. The Conservation Penalty is imposed to curtail the potential for adverse effects of excessive water consumption.

- c. Upon determination of a change in the Demand Reduction Stage, or at such time the Board deems that the customer response does not appear to attain the desired demand reduction goals, the Board may consider the modification of the Conservation Penalty.
- d. Revenues recovered from the Conservation Penalty will supplement Casitas' water conservation costs, provide revenue for water shortage related projects, and cover costs associated with implementing changes to the WEAP as directed by the Board.

5.7 Appeals for Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation or Conservation Penalty Assessment.

- a. A Casitas customer may file an appeal for:
 - 1. An Exception to Staged Adjustment of Allocation, as provided in Section 5.4 above; or
 - 2. The assessment of a Conservation Penaltyby submitting a written appeal, on a form provided by Casitas, directly to the General Manager or his/her designee.
- b. The following paragraphs provide the criteria or reasons for an appeal for an Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation and an appeal for an Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation may be granted for one or more of the following reasons:
 - 1. The staged adjustment would cause a condition affecting the health, sanitation, fire protection, or safety of the customer or the public;
 - 2. Strict application of the water allocation adjustment provisions imposes a severe or undue hardship on a particular business, or renders it infeasible for a business or class of business to remain in operation;
 - 3. The customer is a hospital or health care facility using industry best management practices;
 - 4. The business has already implemented environmental sustainability measures and water conservation measures reducing water consumption to the maximum extent possible.
- c. The customer must support their reason for an appeal for an Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation with supporting documentation or substantial evidence demonstrating the need for an exception. A failure to provide supporting documentation or evidence shall result in a denial of the appeal.
- d. The appeal for an Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation will be first reviewed, approved or denied, by the General Manager or his/her designee. The decision of the General Manager or his/her designee shall be reported to the customer/appellant in written form. If the customer is not satisfied with the General Manager or his/her designee's decision, the customer/appellant must request, within 10 days of the date of the General Manager or his/her designee's decision, that the appeal be placed on the agenda of the Casitas Board of Directors

for their review and determination based on the criteria set forth in Section 5.7(b)(1)-(4). The determination by the Casitas Board of Directors shall be final.

- e. The criteria and process for an appeal from a Conservation Penalty shall be in accordance with the Bill Relief Program described in the Casitas Rates and Regulations for Water Service.

SECTION 6: EXPORT OF CASITAS WATER

Water Code Section 71611 authorizes Casitas to sell water under its control for use only within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Casitas Municipal Water District. The unauthorized export and use of Casitas water beyond the Casitas district boundaries can have significant negative impacts on the Casitas water supply reliability, and therefore shall be prohibited unless specifically authorized in writing by the Casitas Board of Directors. All customers receiving Casitas water into water conveyance systems which cross Casitas boundaries shall meet the following requirements as a condition of service:

- 1) Customers shall submit to Casitas a certified report on the last day of each month that demonstrates that no Casitas water was transported or used outside Casitas boundaries during the prior month without written approval by Casitas.
- 2) Customer shall install and maintain approved metering devices and shall be required to account for all Casitas water delivered in the customer's system.
- 3) In the event Casitas water is exported during any month, the customer shall be billed for exported water at five (5) times the Casitas rate for the Temporary Service classification.
- 4) In the event the customer fails to comply with the conditions of service stated in the above (1) and/or (2), all water purchased in excess of the allocation shall be considered exported water and shall be billed in accordance with the foregoing.
- 5) This Section, Export of Casitas Water, is in effect at all times.
- 6) The exceptions to the export are during a declaration by the Board of Directors of surplus water, and limited to the surplus water or exchange agreement between the Board of Directors and other party.

Continuing or reoccurring violations of this section by any Casitas customer may result in the restriction or disconnection of water service to the customer.

Table 6 – Stage Actions and Water Demand Reduction Measures

Water Shortage Condition	Key Casitas Communications and Actions	Customer Demand Reduction Measures	Penalties And Rates
Stage 1 Supply Range 100% - 50% Voluntary Demand Reduction To Stage 1 Allocation	- Initiate public information and advertising campaign. - Publicize ways to reduce water consumption. - Coordinate conservation actions with other water purveyors and cities. - Perform water audits and promote water efficient use/conversions. - Conduct water workshops. - Temporary staffing for public inquiries, as needed.	- Water conservation practices requested of all customer classifications. - Adhere to Water Waste Prohibition Ordinance and State of California laws and regulations regarding water waste - Adhere to assigned water allocation or less.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.
Stage 2 Supply Range 50% - 40% Mandatory Demand Reduction to Stage 1 Allocation	- Declare Stage 2 - Implement demand reductions for each customer classification. - Intensify public information campaign. - Optimize existing water resources. - Intensify leak detection. - Develop appeals staffing. - Consult with major customers to develop conservation plans and water use audits.	- Continue all Stage 1 measures. - Landscape watering advised to two (2) watering days per week. - Require water audits for large water users; implement recommendations of the water audits. - Businesses display “save water” signage. - Increase public information.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.
Stage 3 Supply Range 40% - 30% Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 10%	- Declare Stage 3 - Implement demand reductions for each customer classification. - Expand and intensify public information campaign. - Provide regular briefings, publish monthly consumption report. - Hire additional temporary staff in customer service and conservation. Water waste enforcement.	- Continue with Stage 1 and 2 measures. - Reduced water allocations. - Landscape watering advised to one (1) watering day per week.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.
Stage 4 Supply Range 30% - 25% Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 20%	- Declare Stage 4 - Implement demand reductions for each customer classification. - Continue to provide regular media briefings. - Open drought information center.	- Continue with Stage 1 through 3 measures. - Reduced water allocations. - Landscape watering advised to one (1) watering day per week. - Consider prohibition of filling swimming pools and fountains.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.
Stage 5 Supply Range 25% - 0% Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 30%	- Declare Stage 5 - Implement demand reductions for each customer classification. - Minimize outdoor water use and non-essential uses. - Implement aggressive public outreach and education program. - Implement crisis communications plan. - Coordinate with State and local agencies to address enforcement challenges. - Water Shortage Emergency declaration to be considered. - Consider further Staged reductions and other future Board actions	- Continue with Stage 1 through 4 measures. - Reduced water allocations. - Rescind Temporary meters issued.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.

FY 2023-2024 Casitas Water Supply and Demand Assessment

April 7, 2023

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors
From: Michael L. Flood, General Manager
RE: FY 2023-2024 Casitas Water Supply and Demand Assessment
Date: April 7, 2023

RECOMMENDATION

Discuss water supply and demand assessment and adopt a resolution declaring a Stage 1 Condition.

1. BACKGROUND

In accordance with the direction provided in the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program, adopted May 12, 2021 and revised on March 22, 2023, the Board of Directors are to receive an annual assessment of local water supplies, water demands, and current effectiveness of water demand reduction measures. The information in the assessment may necessitate the consideration and direction from the Board of Directors for further actions to preserve water supply for the future.

2. ANNUAL EVENT SUMMARY

The annual event summary is to provide insight to unusual events that have occurred within the boundaries of the Casitas Municipal Water District. The key events are as follows:

- a) Rainfall totals in the watershed reached levels not seen in two decades with some areas reaching totals of over 60" for the season. This has added more than 93,000 Acre-Feet of water supply to Lake Casitas bringing the reservoir to nearly 70% of full capacity.
- b) With the abundant amount of rainfall, large amounts of debris impacted the Robles Fish Passage and Diversion facility. Most significantly, the Robles Forebay is completely filled with boulders, rocks, and sediment which will require a cleanout in order to prevent operational impacts to the facility.
- c) Under the California Water Action Plan, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) are working to identify potential actions that may be taken to enhance and establish instream flow for anadromous fish in five priority streams, including the Ventura River. The State's potential actions to establish instream flows could have a significant impact to available water supplies within the Ventura River watershed. Casitas has been carefully monitoring and reviewing the State's work and providing technical comments throughout the process. There will likely be no impact on water supply for the next twelve months resulting from these studies.

- d) The Casitas Municipal Water District has continued to cope with the demands of the acquisition of the Ojai Water System. The acquisition transferred to Casitas the operations and maintenance of the Ojai Water System including six groundwater wells in the Ojai Groundwater Basin which have an ongoing goal of maximizing the use of groundwater for that system through both maintenance and planning for future improvements.
- e) A groundwater adjudication commenced in the Ojai Valley area through an amended cross complaint filed with the California Superior Court on September 21, 2018. This action included not only Casitas but also many public and private water users in the Ojai Valley. This is of special significance to the District due to its operation of groundwater wells within the basins under question in addition to its right to divert water from the Ventura River. There will likely be no impact on water supply for the next twelve months as a result of this action.

3. ASSESSMENTS

The assessments are to be considered in the implementation of a Water Shortage Condition Stage and the demand reduction measures for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

WEATHER CONDITIONS.

Long-term average rainfall at Matilija Dam and Casitas Dam are 28.23 and 23.31 inches, respectively, based on records dating back to the 1957-1958 Water Year. During the period of 2012 through 2022, the Ventura River watershed was in an extreme to moderate drought condition with less than average rainfall amounts (Table 1) that were insufficient to cause the restoration of local water resources to previous levels. Rainfall totals during the 2023 winter season were far above the long-term average rainfall for Matilija and Casitas Dam locations and have had a positive impact to District water supplies in the early months of 2023.

Table 1 – Rainfall Totals for Matilija Dam and Casitas Dam (inches)

Water Year	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Avg.
Matilija Dam	14.21	11.85	14.76	17.57	13.35	31.98	16.75	37.54	16.46	6.42	19.68	63.33	21.83
Casitas Dam	15.11	10.99	9.90	11.65	11.07	30.75	9.89	24.77	13.93	6.39	15.22	45.91	17.13

The winter storms of 2022-2023 provided more than 93,000 Acre-Feet of water supply to Lake Casitas. The annual rainfall total during the period of October 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023, at Matilija Dam and Casitas Dam are 63.33 and 45.91 inches respectively.

Wet conditions have also affected the State of California as a whole with Ventura County classified as being in a 'None' condition by the United States Drought Monitor as of April 4, 2023 (See Attachment #1).

WATER RESOURCES

The primary water resources that provide water to Casitas MWD are collectively the groundwater basins of the Upper Ventura River and Ojai; and surface water storage at Lake Casitas.

Groundwater Basins

The winter of 2022-23 brought extensive recovery to the local groundwater basins within Casitas' district boundaries. The rainfall events caused significant flows with large amounts of debris and silt from the watershed.

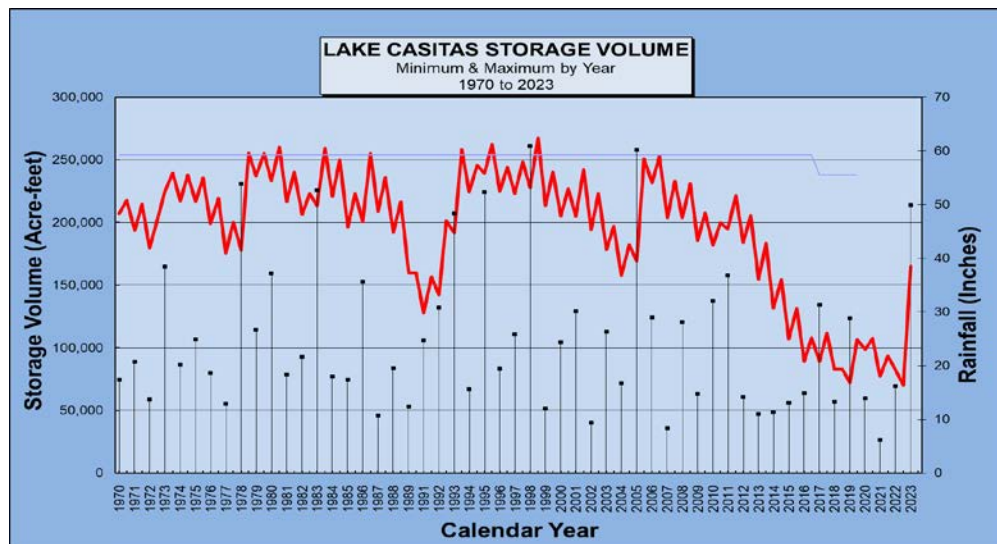
The Upper Ventura River groundwater levels have seen a recovery during the last twelve months. The recent data presented by the Ventura River Water District illustrates that groundwater levels are 21.0 feet above the April 1st static water level average (see April, 2023 VRWD Ground Water Level Chart – Attachment #2). The storage in the Upper Ventura River Basin will continue to allow groundwater pumpers in this basin to minimize their use of Lake Casitas supply over the next twelve months.

The Ojai groundwater basin is a primary water source for the Ojai Valley's urban and agricultural water demands. The basin's groundwater storage increased an approximate 109.62 feet in water elevation recorded at a key well in the basin since November 4, 2022. The Ojai basin Groundwater Management Agency has reported that the Ojai basin has an estimated storage of 77,600 acre-feet (97% capacity) at this same time (See OBGMA Summary Sheet – Attachment #3). This supply should allow groundwater pumpers in this basin to minimize their use of Lake Casitas supply during the next twelve months.

Surface Water Storage

Lake Casitas is the primary source of water supply for the Casitas Municipal Water District. Its construction in the 1950's was as a supplemental supply to local groundwater and as a primary source for areas that do not have groundwater. Figure 1 presents the annual high-low water storage fluctuations that Lake Casitas has experienced since 1970. Lake Casitas storage was last at full storage capacity in May 2006 and has since been in a declining storage trend due to drought conditions, evaporation, environmental conditions, and water use. This year has shown a sharp reversal of that trend.

Figure 1 – Lake Casitas Storage Volume and Annual Rainfall Trend (1970 to April 2023)



On January 1, 2018, Casitas officially changed the storage table based on a bathymetric survey conducted at Lake Casitas. The volume stored at each designated percentage specified in the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program (WEAP) is changed to reflect the data provided by the bathymetric survey as follows:

Table 2 – WEAP Stages and Lake Casitas Volumes

Stage	<u>Stage 1</u>	<u>Stage 2</u>	<u>Stage 3</u>	<u>Stage 4</u>	<u>Stage 5</u>
Percent Storage	100%	50%	40%	30%	25%
Volume (Acre-feet)	237,975	118,988	95,190	71,393	59,494

WATER DEMAND

In FY 2013-14, the Casitas water demands from Lake Casitas reached 20,417 acre-feet, while Lake Casitas was still in a Stage 1 condition. In April 2014, the State's Drought Emergency Declaration raised the public awareness to the on-going drought throughout California, the severe conditions in the State Water Project, and the growing scarcity of water for agriculture and communities statewide.

In April 2015, Lake Casitas storage declined to fifty percent of its storage capacity and the Casitas Board of Directors declared that a Stage 2 condition existed for the Lake Casitas supply. In doing so, the Board of Directors initiated Stage 2 mandatory water demand reduction requirements with the further adoption of a revised Water Efficiency and Allocation Plan (WEAP). A key element of the WEAP was the assignment of individual water allocations for residential, commercial and agricultural beneficial water uses, and the assignment of a conservation penalty for water use that was in exceedance of the assigned water allocation.

In June 2016, the Casitas Board of Directors declared that a Stage 3 condition existed as Lake Casitas continued to decline to 100,000 acre-feet of water in storage. The Stage 3 declaration implemented a conservation penalty of \$5.00 per unit and limited the supply available for new water use to 10 acre-feet per fiscal year.

In April 2017, the Casitas Board of Directors continued the Stage 3 declaration, pending possible further decline of Lake Casitas storage to a Stage 4 level.

From December 2018 through February 2019, the Casitas Board of Directors considered the possibility of a Stage 4 declaration but decided to forego the declaration based on the strong conservation response from the community (near a Stage 5 level) combined with rainfall that added significant supply volume to Lake Casitas in early 2019.

Early April 2020 saw a moderate set of storms allowing Lake Casitas storage levels to remain above 105,000 Acre-Feet, however a Stage 3 declaration was left in place for the 2021 Fiscal Year.

The 2021 Fiscal Year water demands were 13,404 Acre-Feet, an increase of 3,604 Acre-Feet over the Fiscal Year 2020 demand coupled with the lowest local rainfall amounts in more than fifty years. The Stage 3 declaration was left in place for the 2022 Fiscal Year.

During the 2022 Fiscal Year, water demands were 12,067 Acre-Feet, a decrease of 1,337 Acre-Feet. The water year had started out promising with significant rainfall in December 2022 but led to a dry winter/spring. The Stage 3 declaration was left in place for the 2023 Fiscal Year.

At this time, Fiscal Year 2023 demands are down by 2,295 Acre-Feet as compared to the same time in Fiscal Year 2022 with demands expected to reach only 9,700 Acre-Feet by June 30, 2023.

Water Demand Response

A critical function of the WEAP is to manage water supplies in such a manner that prevents Lake Casitas from reaching a minimum pool condition through the implementation of water demand response measures – the assignment of individual water allocations and the implementation of a conservation penalty for water use in excess of the allocation.

Since FY 2013-14, the demand on the Lake Casitas supply continued to decline through the 2020 Fiscal Year (Table 3) in response to the WEAP, water resource changes by large customers, and the heightened customer awareness of water resource conditions. The dry Fiscal Years 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 saw a significant increase in demands. Estimates for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 indicate a continuation of efforts to reduce water use from Lake Casitas which will be, at least partially, attributable to abundant rainfall in the December 2022 through April 2023 period. (Note that the amounts in Table 3 are registered at the Marion Walker Treatment Plant and will differ from amounts reported on the District's Monthly Consumption Reports).

Table 3 – Water Deliveries from the Lake Casitas Supply

Fiscal Year	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23 (Est.)
Lake Casitas Water Deliveries (AF)	20,417	17,339	15,662	13,200	12,322	9,340	8,802	12,460	11,301	9,000
% below 2013-14 Delivery	0	15	23	35	40	55	57	39	45	56
Declared Stage	1	1	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3

Since Fiscal Year 2016, Lake Casitas water demand has remained below the current Stage 3 demand reduction target of 16,736 Acre-Feet. The targeted goals for each WEAP Stage are listed in Table 4.

Table 4 – WEAP Targeted Demand Reduction Goals per Stage (Based of FY 1989-1990 Lake Casitas Demand of 23,909 Acre-Feet)

	<u>Stage 1</u> 20% Voluntary	<u>Stage 2</u> 20% Mandatory	<u>Stage 3</u> 30% Mandatory	<u>Stage 4</u> 40% Mandatory	<u>Stage 5</u> 50% Mandatory
Demand Reduction Goal (in Acre-Feet)	19,127	19,127	16,736	14,345	11,955

Supply and Demand Analysis

In consideration of an April 2023 start point of approximately 165,000 Acre-feet of storage in Lake Casitas, applying 2013 evaporation, no runoff additions to storage, and comparing three rates of water demands, Figure 2 illustrates the time for Lake Casitas to reach a particular level for the following estimated water demands:

1. A demand of **9,000 Acre-Feet/Year** reflects the estimated 2023 Fiscal Year Lake Casitas demand (middle line).
2. A demand of **8,100 Acre-Feet/Year** reflects a 10% reduction in the estimated 2023 Fiscal Year Lake Casitas demand (top line).
3. A demand of **9,900 Acre-Feet/Year** reflects a 10% increase in the estimated 2023 Fiscal Year Lake Casitas demand (bottom line).

Figure 2 illustrates that with the given demand rates, 2013 evaporation, with no additional rainfall and runoff, Lake Casitas would reach Stage 2 levels in 26 to 30 months, and Stage 3 levels in 42 to 48 months.

Given the conditions noted above, Figure 2 illustrates that Lake Casitas could decline to approximately a 150,000 Acre-Foot capacity by December of 2023.

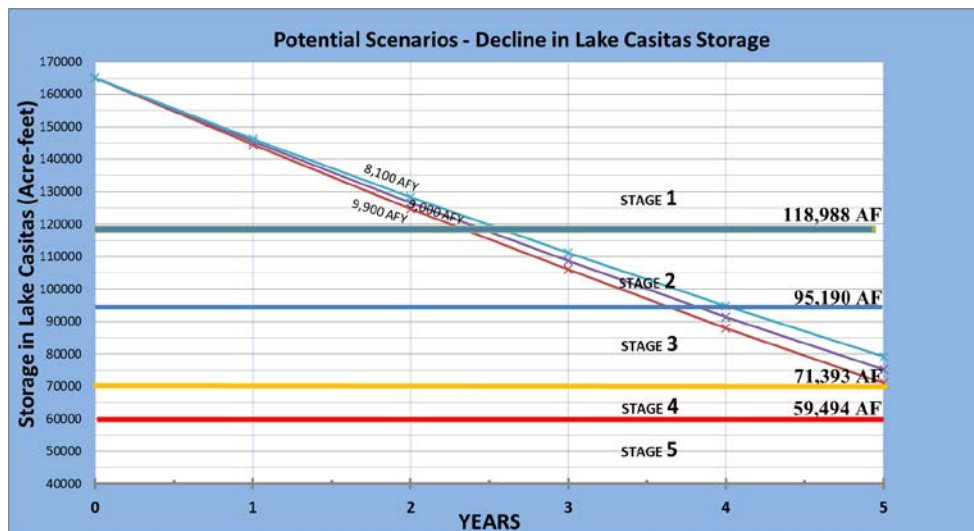


Figure 2 – Hypothetical Decline in Lake Casitas Storage with No Rainfall or Runoff; 2013 Evaporation Rate Every Year; Starting Storage at 165,000 Acre-Feet.

Conservation Penalty

The District has implemented a conservation penalty for water use in excess of the individual customer's Staged allocation. The funds resulting from the conservation penalty are to be applied toward new water supply projects and the water conservation efforts of the District.

In September 2015, and for the remainder of FY 2015-16, the residential water used in excess of the monthly allocation was billed as a conservation penalty at the rate of \$1.00 per unit. Effective July 1, 2016, and continued until the present, the conservation penalty was increased to \$5.00 per unit.

Growth

The service area of the District is experiencing extremely slow growth. Most requests that Casitas receives are related to expansions of residential housing construction. The slow growth rate is indicative of the information illustrated in Table 5. During the past eleven years, Casitas has installed 32 meters and issued 36.07 acre-feet of water allocation. On the average, three meters have been installed per year and new or additional allocation assignments have averaged 3.28 acre-feet per year.

Table 5 – Water Service and Allocation Assignments by Casitas (CY 2012-2022)

Calendar Year	No. of Meters Issued	Allocation Issued (AF)
2012	3	2.22
2013	1	1.88
2014	6	9.85
2015	1	1.27
2016	3	2.08
2017	3	5.54
2018	0	0
2019	6	6.92
2020	3	1.49
2021	4	3.77
2022	2	1.05
Total	32	36.07
Average	3	3.28

4. WATER MANAGEMENT POLICY AND PROGRAMS CURRENTLY IN PLACE

Management Priorities of Casitas Municipal Water District (Resolution No. 93-12)

On March 10th, 1993, the Casitas Board of Directors resolved by Resolution No. 93-12 (1) that Casitas shall manage Lake Casitas and its water supplies so that it can provide back up to other water systems and meet its direct customer demands during droughts.

Water Conservation Program - 1992

Since 1992, Casitas has actively assisted water customers throughout the district with fixture retrofits, irrigation surveys, residential and institutional water use surveys, provision of water conservation materials to local schools, public workshops and presentations on a wide variety of water conservation topics, public messaging, and financing assistance for water well improvements. The Water Conservation Program has partnered with other Ventura County agencies to obtain grants for additional water conservation measures. The Water Conservation Department has also adjusted staffing levels as needed during drought to provide increased customer assistance with meeting conservation targets.

Water Waste Prohibition Ordinance (Ordinance 22-01)

This Ordinance established water waste prohibitions and identified actions against violations of the Ordinance. Casitas staff has been actively engaged with the public reports of water waste.

Water Efficiency and Allocation Program (WEAP)

The WEAP is the key water management tool for long-term drought response and water demand. The WEAP was originally adopted by the Board of Directors in January 1992 and most-recently revised in March 2023. A critical element of the WEAP implementation is to cause water demands to be commensurate to the declared Water Shortage Stage of Lake Casitas.

State of California Drought and Conservation Measures

On April 7, 2017, Governor Brown lifted the January 17, 2014 drought declaration, leaving in place water waste prohibitions and requirements for continuing development of urban and agricultural water use standards to promote continued water conservation (Executive Order B-40-17).

In spring 2021, Governor Newsom proclaimed a drought emergency existed in portions of the State; and by October 2021 expanded the drought proclamation to include all 58 counties in California. In response, the SWRCB developed emergency water use regulations prohibiting wasteful water uses that took effect in January 2022. While most of the SWRCB emergency prohibitions were already adopted and implemented in Casitas' existing waste of water ordinance, Casitas adopted an updated Ordinance 22-01 to reflect all of the SWRCB recent water use prohibitions.

In March 2022, Governor Newsom released Executive Order N-7-22 directing the SWRCB to develop regulations for urban water suppliers to enact, at a minimum, Level 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans and to define "non-functional" turf and ban the irrigation of non-functional turf for commercial, industrial and institutional sectors.

On March 24, 2023, in response to improved Statewide water supply conditions, Governor Newsom released Executive Order N-5-23 ending the requirement that local water agencies implement Level 2 of their Water Shortage Contingency Plans, but maintained that the SWRCB consider a ban of irrigation of non-functional turf for commercial, industrial and institutional sectors. The recent executive order preserves current emergency orders focused on groundwater supply where effects of the multi-year drought are still experienced and retains a state of emergency in all 58 counties to allow for drought response and recovery efforts to continue.

In response to the Governor's directives last year (Executive Order N-7-22), the SWRCB adopted regulations banning use of potable water for irrigation of non-functional turf for commercial, industrial,

and institutional sectors. To maintain consistency with State conservation regulations, Casitas MWD adopted Resolution 2022-30 which is set to expire on June 10, 2023 unless the SWRCB determines it is no longer necessary or the SWRCB renews the regulation. Staff will monitor the SWRCB regulations and return to the Board after the SWRCB decides on whether to terminate or renew the regulation banning irrigation of non-functional turf for commercial, industrial and institutional sectors.

Water Security Projects

The Casitas Municipal Water District is committed to investigating and implementing opportunities to further secure its water supply.

State Water Interties – The Casitas Municipal Water District is monitoring the development of the infrastructure needed for the direct and exchange drought-protection use of the State Water Project water supplies of Casitas, Calleguas MWD, the City of Ventura, and United WCD. This is an opportunity for regional collaboration to address common water supply reliability needs of the entirety of Ventura County. Participation in this project will require future decisions by the Casitas Board of Directors.

Additionally, Casitas and Carpinteria Valley Water District are pursuing State loan/grant funding to increase the size of a current intertie connection as well as build pump stations to provide the ability to move Casitas' State Water Project water supplies directly into Casitas' system.

The preliminary schedule for final completion of these projects is four to eight years.

Ojai Well Field Rehabilitation – This project restored production of the Ojai Well Field wells and included one replacement well. The replacement well has been drilled and equipped and the well began production during the 2023 Fiscal Year.

Comprehensive Water Resources Plan - In 2019, Casitas hired a consultant to analyze current water resources and develop supply options that will support the continued planning efforts of the District. Casitas' stakeholder input was also collected and the draft plan was released to the public in June 2020.

The Casitas Board of Directors continue to review planned water supplies and in 2022, adopted an important planning milestone by declaring a Casitas System Operational Yield of 15,010 Acre Feet per Year and a Planned Demand of 14,525 Acre-Feet per Year.

5. RECOMMENDED WEAP ACTIONS

The following are the staff recommendations for WEAP actions to be considered for adoption by the Board of Directors at the April 12, 2023 Board Meeting:

Customer Demand Reduction Measures

1. **Adopt a Stage 1 Condition**. The level of Lake Casitas has increased greatly in the first three months of 2023 with the addition of over 93,000 Acre-Feet of water supply. Water demands have also decreased over the last twelve months and are expected to remain far below the

WEAP Stage 2 demand target of approximately 19,127 Acre-Feet per Year. While these two factors bode well for next year's water supply, the District should remain cautious until the local weather pattern plays out over the next twelve months.

2. **Enact Stage 1 voluntary water allocations effective June 1, 2023.** If voluntary demand management by customers results in water use that exceeds Casitas' planned water demands during the course of FY 2023-24, the Board should consider additional demand management measures to ensure goals are met by customers.

The system for allocation assignment and billing should continue until such time that the Board makes a different determination. The Board reviews consumption and hydrology information monthly thus it can respond quickly to changes in customer conservation behavior or water supply conditions.

Penalties and Rates

1. **Effective June 1, 2023, discontinue the Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation.**
2. **Continue planned rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.** The Board adopted water rates to achieve revenue stabilization and cost of service that became effective July 1, 2017 and continued for the following four Fiscal Years with the final approved adjustment being made in July 2021. In early 2022, the Board has initiated a new cost of service study in order to understand the District's current revenue needs and adjustments to water rates. This study is expected to be completed later in the 2023 calendar year.

Issuance of Additional Allocations

1. **Discontinue an annual allocation limit for new or existing water service connections.**

Communications

1. **Communicate the Stage 1 Condition.** Stage 1 is identified as a "Water Conservation" reflecting voluntary conservation measures. Communications should include:
 - a. While water supply conditions have improved, next winter's hydrology is uncertain and ongoing customer efforts to use water efficiently and preserve water supplies remain important in the event of future dry conditions.
 - b. The public is strongly encouraged to continue efforts to save water, in particular continuing efficient landscape water use and taking advantage of the water conservation opportunities offered by the Casitas.
 - c. Extraordinary conservation actions previously taken on the part of the public to reduce water use in response to drought are encouraged but not mandatory.
 - d. Mandatory water use restrictions may be necessary in future years, should climate conditions return to dry conditions that result in a decline in Lake Casitas water levels;

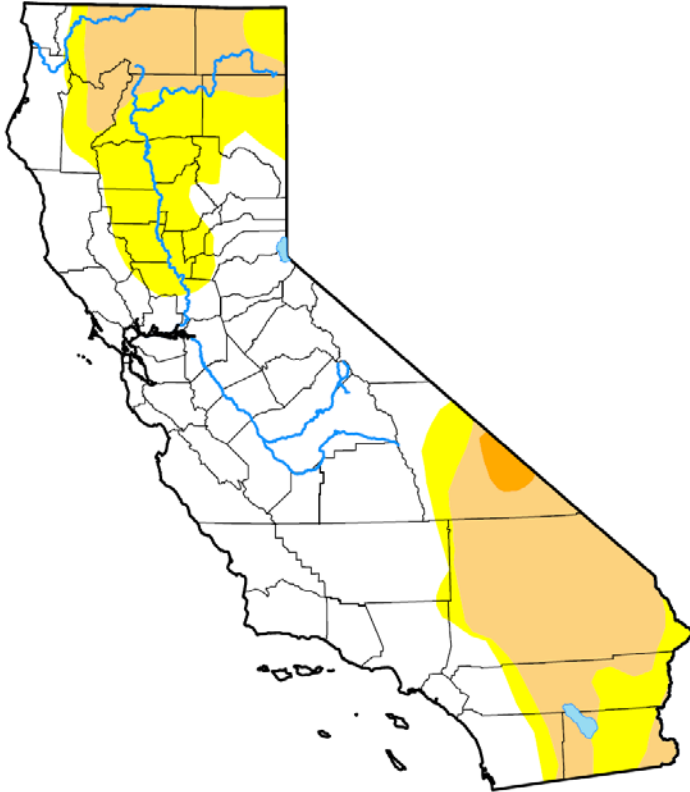
- e. Casitas will continue to enforce its established ordinance prohibiting water waste (Ordinance 22-01).
 - f. The State regulation banning use of potable water for irrigation of non-functional turf for commercial, industrial, and institutional sectors remains in effect.
2. **Continue the public information campaign.** Casitas needs to continue the messaging of local water supply reliability, water security project status, and responsible water use. This can be done through newsletters, website and social media posts, and public workshops.
 3. **Provide regular briefings, publish monthly consumption report.** The billing system provides each customer a monthly status on their water use and the application of conservation penalties. A monthly consumption report is provided to the Board.

ATTACHMENT #1

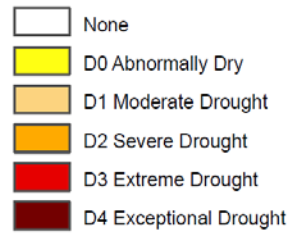
US Drought Monitor - California

U.S. Drought Monitor
California

April 4, 2023
(Released Thursday, Apr. 6, 2023)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

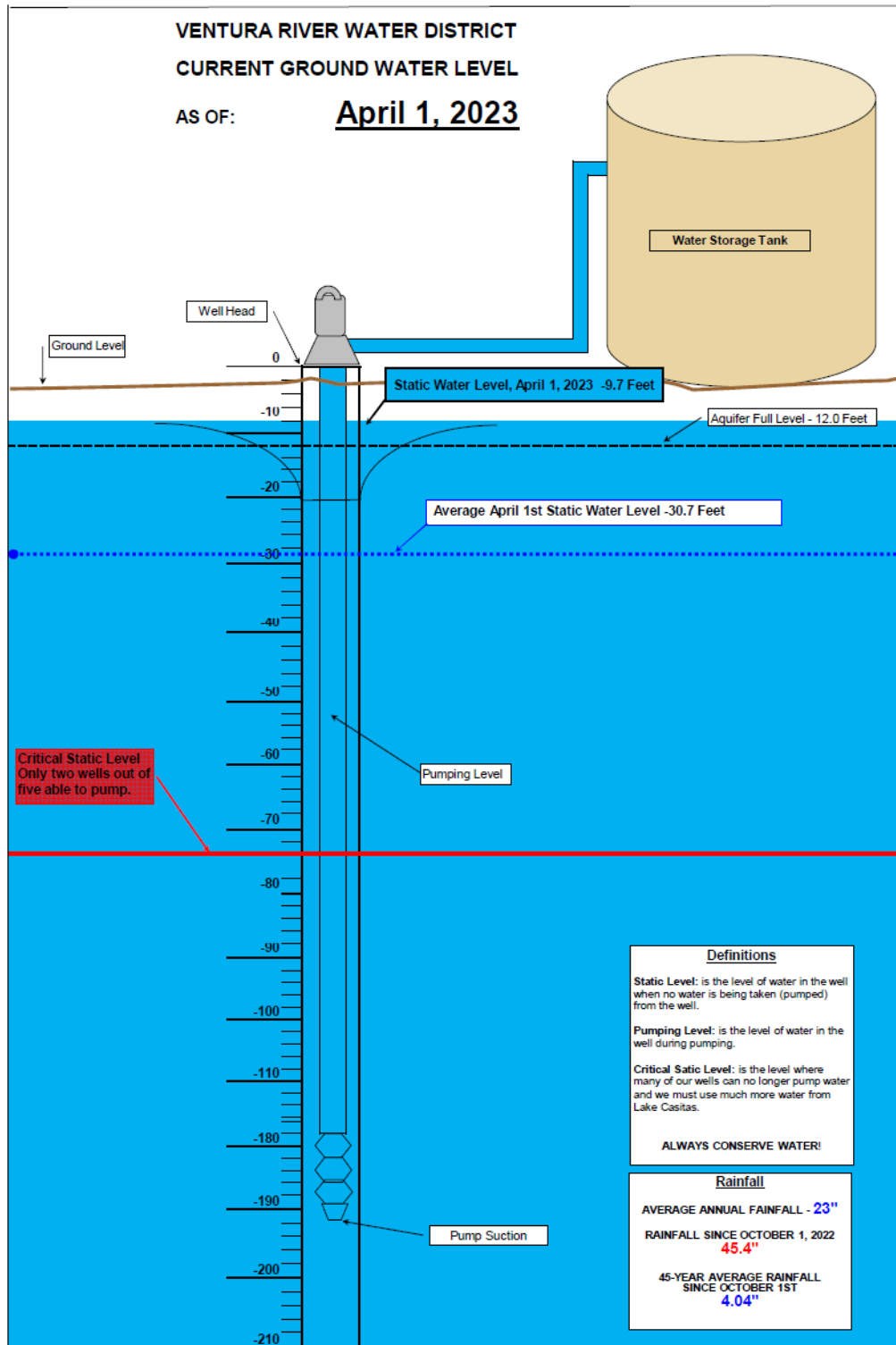
David Simeral
Western Regional Climate Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

ATTACHMENT #2

Ventura River Water District April 1, 2023 "Current Groundwater Level" Graphic



ATTACHMENT #3

**OBGMA March 2023 Summary of Ojai Groundwater Basin Conditions
(from the Basin Status Report of the March 27, 2023 OBGMA Board Meeting)**

Key Well Level (March 2023): 48.13' above mean sea level

Key Well Level (November 2022): 195.97' above mean sea level

Current Basin Volume: 77,600 Acre-Feet; 97% of capacity

Water Efficiency Allocation Program (WEAP)

WATER EFFICIENCY AND ALLOCATION PROGRAM

Casitas Municipal Water District

May 12, 2021

Revised March 22, 2023 per Ordinance 2023-02

SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION

In 1992 the Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas) adopted a series of ordinances, resolutions, and a Water Efficiency and Allocation Program (WEAP) in response to the increasing water demands and declining water storage in Lake Casitas experienced during the 1987-1991 drought period. The collective work in 1992 set the starting point for a system of water allocation assignments and demand response criteria that are based on the level of water storage in Lake Casitas. Since 1992, there has been a significant outreach by Casitas to raise the public's awareness on the importance to conserve local water supplies, changes in the water supply and demand, regulatory compliance directives pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and system outage events that temporarily activated Casitas' emergency response plan. All of these factors, including the responses and experiences of the current drought, are considered in the update of the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program.

1.1 Purpose and Principles of the Plan.

The purpose of this update of the WEAP is to provide guidance on water supply and demand strategies that (1) conserve the water supply of the Ventura River Project, Lake Casitas and other water resources that are in the direct control of Casitas, for the greatest public benefit, (2) mitigate the effects of a water shortage on public health and safety and economic activity, (3) allocate water use so that a reliable and sustainable supply of water will be available for the most essential purposes under all water storage conditions of Lake Casitas, and (4) adapt to changing conditions of water supply demand and constraints.

The WEAP describes the water demand reduction strategies and measures to address future water shortage conditions, promote water conservation and the efficient use of water, and the application of a conservation penalty to customers who waste water.

1.2 Relationship between this Document, Water Codes, and Other Plans.

This WEAP shall be guided by State regulations and planning requirements as provided by the California Water Code that provides Casitas with broad powers to implement and enforce regulations and restrictions for managing a water shortage (§71640-71644), to implement water conservation programs (§375--378), to implement allocation-based conservation water pricing (§370-374), and to declare a water shortage emergency (§350-359).

As required by Water Code Section 10632, this WEAP shall be integrated as a part of the Casitas Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP), as amended or updated every five years. The Casitas 2010 UWMP has been accepted and approved by the State Department of Water Resources. The UWMP provides an in-depth description of the Casitas water system, water resources and demands, and water supply reliability. For the purposes of integration and lessening the conflicts due to the replication of

information, the WEAP shall rely on the updates of the Water Code Sections provided in the attached Appendices and UWMP, as amended or updated every five years.

SECTION 2: WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND CONDITIONS

2.1 Water Supply.

The water supply for Casitas is derived from (1) the watersheds that flow directly and indirectly by diversion from the Ventura River of water during wet years to carryover storage in Lake Casitas for use during dry years, and (2) groundwater to the extent that Casitas has its own groundwater supply. The watersheds of the Ventura River region are subject to an extreme variation in the weather patterns, ranging from multiple years of drought to sometimes significant wet year events that are associated with El Nino conditions that add to the uncertainty of available local water supplies.

2.1.1 Surface Water.

The primary goal of Casitas is to provide a safe and reliable water supply. Due to the uncertainty of weather conditions that provide water to the local watersheds, a safe yield modeling has been implemented to provide guidance on water supply availability. The safe yield modeling criteria for the Casitas surface water supply provides a theoretical rate of decline in available water supply during a critical drought period, that if given a specific annual extraction rate from storage, that would reduce Lake Casitas to an exhausted minimum pool.

The sizing of Lake Casitas storage volume and the determination of the annual safe yield of water from Lake Casitas was originally determined by the Bureau of Reclamation in 1954, based on the hydrologic modeling for the critical drought period that started in 1919 and continued through 1936. The storage volume of the off stream reservoir, Lake Casitas, was set to be 254,000 acre-feet and the annual safe yield was determined to be 28,000 acre-feet. In 2004, Casitas recalculated the annual safe yield of Lake Casitas for the drought period of 1944 to 1965 based on newer knowledge of the diminished value of Matilija Reservoir and its impending removal, and the change in Robles Diversion operations resulting from the 2003 Biological Opinion established by the National Marine Fisheries Service pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act. The recalculated annual safe yield of Lake Casitas was determined to be 20,840 acre-feet per year.

The safe yield trend for the 1944-1965 critical drought period is illustrated in Figure 1, with the assumption that the critical drought period begins with a full reservoir. The modeling applies the hydrology, river diversions operations, and lake evaporation for the period (1944-1965) that contribute to the Lake Casitas storage. The safe yield is a constant extraction rate from lake storage that contribute to the decline in Lake Casitas storage during the critical drought period, taking lake storage from full capacity to a minimum pool condition. Based on the safe yield model with a continuous and steady extraction rate, or safe yield, of water at 20,840 acre-feet each year, Lake Casitas would decline from full storage to minimum pool in approximately twenty years.

Also included in Figure 1 is the Recovery Period of Lake Casitas, which illustrates the actual filling rate experienced at Lake Casitas during the 1959 to 1978 period. The recovery of the Lake Casitas volume during the Recovery Period that is illustrated in Figure 1 cannot be assumed as the normal or common sequence given the variability of the rainfall amounts in the Ventura River watershed, constraints, and other influences to Lake Casitas inflow and storage. Casitas may experience elevated water supply risks that could be associated with a delay in the start of the recovery period while at minimum pool in Lake Casitas, or there could be a condition where the critical drought period begins with a partially recovered storage level in Lake Casitas.

The availability of the Lake Casitas supply can be influenced or impacted by long-term droughts, changes to lake water quality, and/or changes to diversion and storage conditions. The safe yield of Lake Casitas and annual water availability may need to be reconsidered in the future as a result of changing conditions or new information that differs from the present conditions.

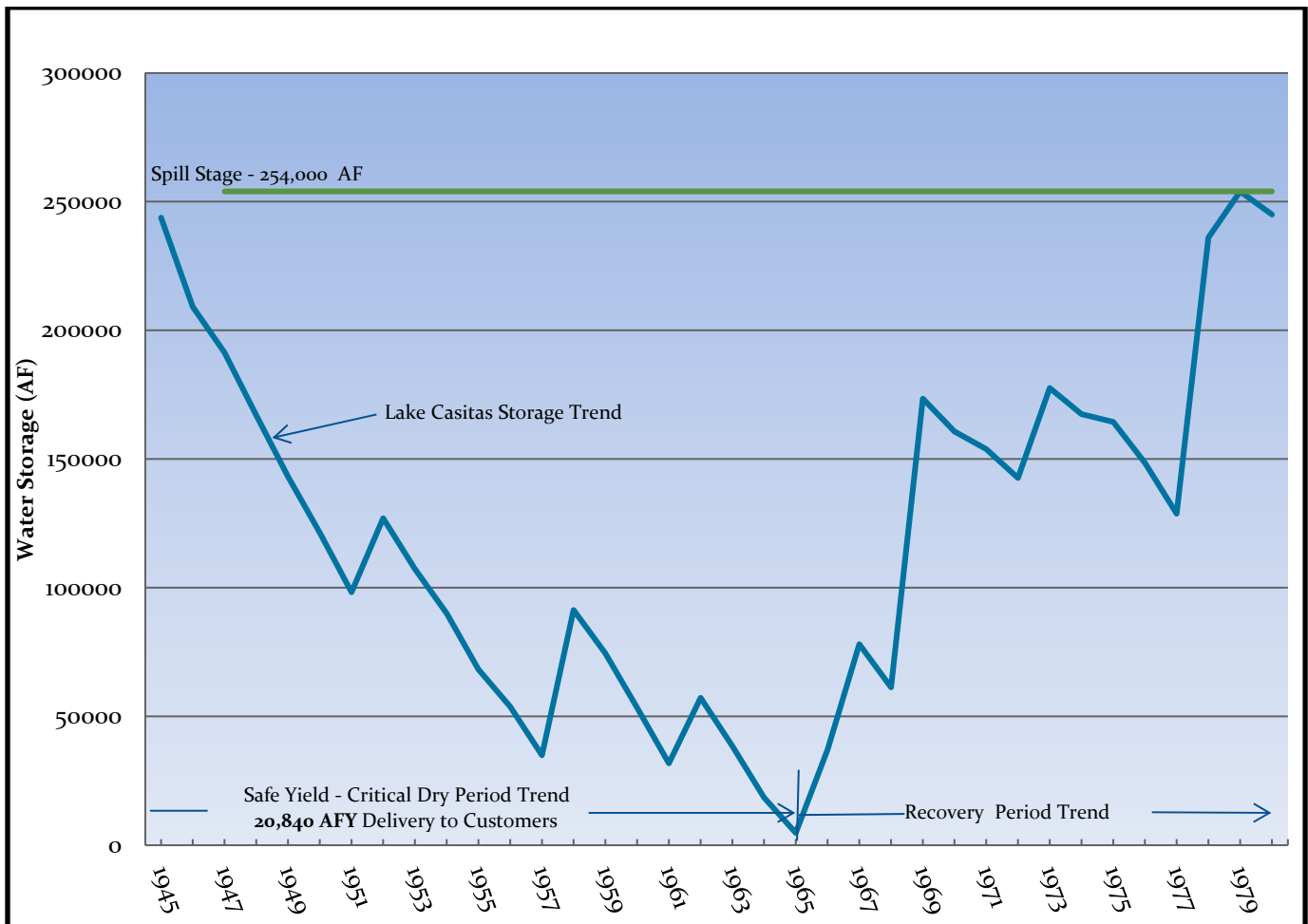


Figure 1 – Lake Casitas Safe Yield Storage and Recovery Period Trends

2.1.2 Groundwater.

Within Casitas' district boundaries, there are several local groundwater basins that are primary and critical sources of water supply for other local water purveyors (public, mutual and private), individual residential use and agriculture. During extended periods of drought with several years of less than average rainfall (20-inches) the local groundwater basins can become depleted due to pumping, natural drainage and evapotranspiration. The Lake Casitas surface water supply serves as a back-up water supply to the groundwater supply during times of extended drought.

Table 1 – Groundwater Basins of the Ventura River Watershed

Groundwater Basin	Acres	Max. Capacity (AF)	Approx. Safe Yield (AF/Yr.)
Upper Ojai	2,840	5,681	Unavailable
Ojai Valley	6,471	85,000	5,026
Upper Ventura River	9,360	35,118	9,482
Lower Ventura River	6,090	8,743	2,130

Source: Ventura River Watershed Council

The groundwater basins have demonstrated an ability to recharge rapidly in any one year with sufficient rainfall events, upon which time groundwater becomes the preferred source for those with well pumping access to the groundwater basins.

2.2 Water Demand.

The Casitas Board of Directors has established that the average long-term demand upon Lake Casitas must not exceed the annual safe yield of Lake Casitas supply. As a result of the 1987-1991, multi-year drought that resulted in water demands exceeding the annual safe yield, Casitas implemented specific actions in 1992 to limit water demands. The actions included the declaration of a voluntary twenty percent reduction in water demand, the assignment of water allocations based on 80 percent of FY1989-90 water usage that reflects a reduction in demand that comports more closely to safe yield of the Lake Casitas Supply, the implementation of water conservation measures to assist water users in adapting to less water consumption, and the limiting of new water service connections and expansions of agricultural plantings. Table 2 provides a comparison of classification water use, from prior to the action being taken by Casitas, to the level of water use during the recent drought. The FY 1989-90 water demand is recognized as being a high extreme water demand year at the end of the four year drought period.

Table 2 – Water Use Comparison by Customer Classification

Classification	No. of Service Connections		Water Demand – Lake Casitas (AF)		
	FY 1989-90	FY 2013-14	FY 1989-90	FY 2012-13	FY 2013-14
Residential	2424	2700	1603	1678	1738
Business	93	108	821	663	724
Industrial	12	9	155	23	22
Other	33	41	530	244	255
Resale Gravity	8	8	7724	4642	5614
Resale Pumped	15	15	1027	551	1182
Irrigation	253	251	11706	7978	9385
Interdepartmental	21	21	343	120	119
Temporary			11	13	55
Total	2,859	3,153	23,909	15,899	19,094

The local groundwater resources of the Ojai Valley and Ventura River provide on average 7,385 acre-feet per year (Daniel B. Stephens, 2010) to municipal, residential and agricultural pumpers. During multiple dry years, the groundwater basins become depleted and groundwater demands are met by supplementing groundwater supply from the Lake Casitas supply. In most cases, groundwater pumpers have a water service connection to Casitas as a backup supply of water. During any year or multiple dry year sequence of less than average rainfall, Casitas can anticipate that a portion of the 7,385 acre-feet of groundwater demand may be supplemented by the Lake Casitas supply. When groundwater basins are restored by rainfall events, groundwater pumpers convert back to the less expensive groundwater supply. The demand shifts are illustrated in Table 2 and Figure 2 for various classifications of water consumers. The FY 1989-90 and FY 2013-14 water demands occurred at the end of a three-year drought sequence.

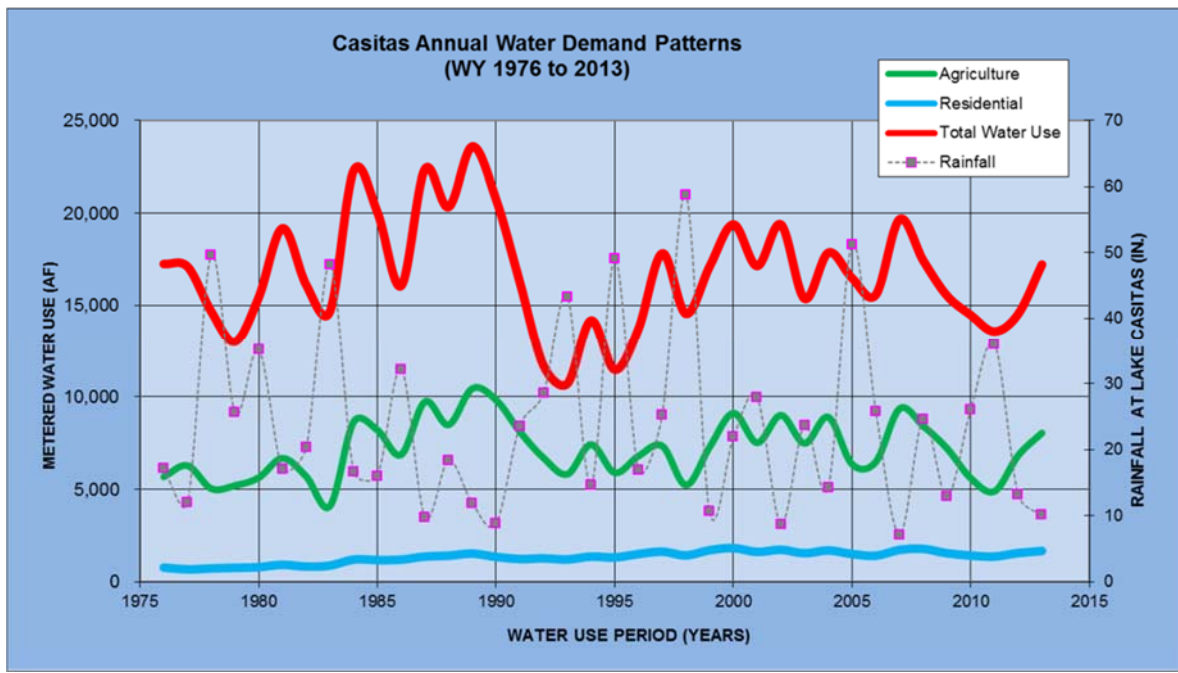


Figure 2 – Casitas Annual Demand Patterns

2.3 Priorities of Water Use.

Casitas recognizes the following priorities for potable water:

- 1) Public safety, health and sanitation;
- 2) Economic sustainability; and
- 3) Quality of life for the district's customers.

Within each of the customer classifications there may be water uses that are considered non-essential to public health and sanitation and may have no significant impact to the economic productivity of the western Ventura County. The non-essential water uses may be asked at any time to be curtailed during times of extreme water shortages.

Casitas recognizes that the agricultural crops in western Ventura County are primarily tree orchards that require a substantial period of time before becoming productive, and if fallowed will experience several years of non-production. To maintain water supplies into the future that will meet the local water demands, Casitas and the public may be faced with additional decisions on water use reductions that may impact the agricultural classification.

SECTION 3: WATER SHORTAGE EMERGENCY ACTIONS

3.1 Urban Water Contingency Analysis.

Water Code 10632 requires that the agency's Urban Water Management Plan provide an urban water shortage contingency analysis that includes specific elements that are within the authority of the urban water supplier. The required water shortage analysis is performed in the Casitas 2010 Urban Water Management Plan, and is further supported by this WEAP and the Casitas Emergency Response Plan, as amended.

3.2 Water Shortage Emergencies.

Water Code §350-359 provides that the governing body of a distributor of a public water supply may declare a water shortage emergency condition to prevail within the service area whenever it finds and determines that the ordinary demands cannot be satisfied without depleting water supplies to the extent that there would be insufficient water for human consumption. When deemed as a water shortage emergency in accordance with Water Code 350, Casitas shall follow the procedures provided by the Water Code in the implementation of the water shortage declaration and actions.

The State of California, through its authority under the Water Code and Government Code, may declare a water shortage emergency and require curtailment of water use that is above and beyond the requirements of the Casitas WEAP. Customers of Casitas must respond and comply with the orders of the State in a timely manner. A failure to comply may cause the State to impose fines and penalties that will be redistributed to the customers of Casitas in a manner determined by the Casitas Board of Directors.

3.3 Water Shortage Contingency Plan.

The District has prepared a Water Shortage Contingency Plan (Resolution 92-11), and further defined in the Casitas Urban Water Management Plan, that addresses emergencies under short-term, catastrophic events, and long-term water shortages that may occur as a result of a prolonged drought.

A water shortage emergency may be determined to exist in the event of a short-term interruption of water supply or as a result of long-term diminishment of the Lake Casitas water supply. A short-term interruption of water supply can be the result of earthquakes, regional power outages, landslides, or other major and minor events that impact Casitas water facilities or supply. These events are more often a short term interruption of water supplies until the water system can be restored to the customers. A long-term or district-wide condition may be the result of drought conditions or a reduction in local water supplies that will require long-term water supply-demand management.

The Casitas response to a short-term interruption of water supply may cause the implementation of the Casitas Emergency Action Plan that is structured under the State's Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS), in coordination with federal, state and county emergency response planning that provides the framework for an organized response to catastrophic events.

3.4 Water Waste Prohibitions on Certain Uses.

Water Code § 71640 provides the District the authority to restrict the use of district water during any emergency caused by drought, or other threatened or existing water shortage, and the district may prohibit the wastage of district water or the use of district water during such periods for any purpose other than household uses or such other restricted uses as the district determines to be necessary. The District may also prohibit use of district water during such periods for specific uses which it finds to be nonessential.

SECTION 4: STRATEGY FOR MANAGED WATER SUPPLY AND DEMAND

4.1 Strategy Principles.

The communities and rural agricultural areas of western Ventura County recognize that there is a reliance on limited local groundwater and surface water supply to serve all of the beneficial uses within the District, and there is a local responsibility required to sustain those supplies during

extended drought periods. The continuous implementation of water conservation education and measures (Best Management Practices) has had a significant influence on the beneficial use and sustainability of local water supplies. Ongoing water conservation efforts can ease the impact on normal activities during drought periods, but may not completely eliminate the need for reductions in water use during periods when Lake Casitas water supplies are severely impacted by extended drought. The main mechanism to respond to water supply conditions is to rely on informed customers working in partnership with Casitas to limit water use to no more than the assigned water allocation and support the water use limitations with appropriate conservation penalties for water use in excess of the assigned, or adjusted, allocation.

To address the water shortage risk that may occur during an extended drought, the Casitas Board established in the Casitas Urban Water Management Plan of 1995 a series of five storage levels of Lake Casitas at which the Board could take actions to restrict the annual water extractions from Lake Casitas. The safe yield trend and the five stages of restrictive actions are illustrated in Figure 3.

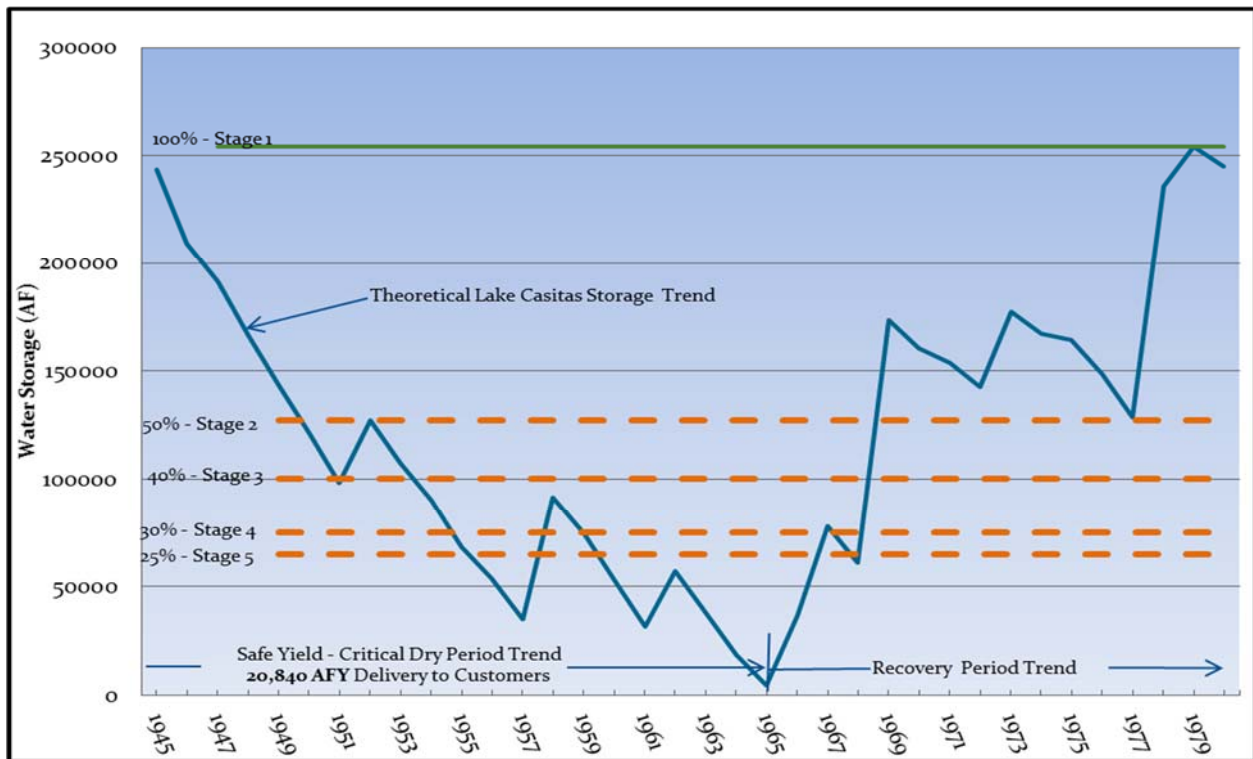


Figure 3 – Lake Casitas Safe Yield Storage Trend and Stages for Demand Reduction

4.2 Water Allocation Principles.

Each and every water service provided by Casitas is metered and a basic water use allocation is established for each customer account that provides a reasonable amount of water for the customer's needs and property characteristics (WC § 372). The following principles are to be followed for the Casitas water allocations:

- 1) Each Casitas water service shall be assigned either a monthly water allocation in the terms of Units or an annual water allocation in terms of Units and Acre-feet.
- 2) Allocation shall not mean an entitlement or imply water rights in favor of the customer.

- 3) The assignment of allocations shall be based on reasonable and necessary water use, the application of water conservation practices and standards, and other relevant factors associated with water use during Stage 1 conditions at Lake Casitas.
- 4) The Casitas Board of Directors reserve the right to make individual allocation assignments and to change water allocations at any time within each classification based on the changes to the availability of water stored in Lake Casitas, changes in water use that appears to compromise the reliability of the Lake Casitas water supply, and changes in water conservation practices and standards.
- 5) Water allocations provided by Casitas are assigned to property or water purveyors and are not transferrable from one property or water purveyor to another.
- 6) In cases where the tenant has been authorized as the water service account holder, the allocation for the service account is assigned to the property and cannot be transferred to another service account or property.
- 7) All requests for allocation adjustment must be made by the property owner.
- 8) Casitas' water allocations shall not be sold, exported, bartered or traded by or between Casitas' customers.
- 9) Casitas water allocated shall not be transported from the property or by any agency served to any other property or agency without prior written agreement with Casitas.

4.3 Allocation Assignments to Water Service Classifications.

Casitas has established the definitions of water customer classifications as provided by the Casitas Rates and Regulations for Water Service and has made specific allocation assignments to each and every water account by either (1) written agreement, or (2) the application of historical water use data, or (3) the application of documented water use standards. Where deemed necessary by Casitas, Casitas may perform site specific water use audits and survey to determine the appropriate level of allocation to be assigned to any one service connection or customer. Water allocations may change by action of the Casitas Board of Directors based on the Lake Casitas storage level or trend, water use trends, and the performance by customer classification in meeting water consumption reduction goals.

The following subsections describe the method used to assign the water allocation for each classification of water service at **Stage 1** condition:

Business

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) Allocation assigned by recorded agreement; or
- 3) Where not defined by recorded agreement, the lesser of the historical water consumption recorded for either the 80% of the 1989-90 water use or the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.
- 4) In cases where historical consumption is not available for a new business, an initial allocation may be assigned based on standard water demand factors used in Engineering Department review of new or expanded uses. Any increases in water allocation over the prior assigned allocation for the property are subject to Casitas' discretion on the limits of available water allocation and subject to the charges for new and/or expanded water use (Section 4.8).

Fire

There is no water allocation for the Fire classification. This water use is for emergency only, and not a part of a continuing annual water use.

Industrial

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) Allocation assigned by recorded agreement; or
- 3) Where not defined by recorded agreement, the lesser of historical water consumption recorded for either the 80% of the 1989-90 water use or the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.
- 4) In cases where historical consumption is not available for a new business, an initial allocation may be assigned based on standard water demand factors used in Engineering Department review of new or expanded uses. Any increases in water allocation over the prior assigned allocation for the property are subject to Casitas' discretion on the limits of available water allocation and subject to the charges for new and/or expanded water use (Section 4.8).

Interdepartmental

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an annual allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) The **annual** allocations for individual Interdepartmental classification services shall be based on the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.

Irrigation (Commercial Agriculture)

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) Qualifying acreage for each Irrigation account shall be limited to acreage that can be identified as under irrigation prior to March 1, 1992. There will be no allocation for irrigation acreage that has been expanded after March 1, 1992, except as otherwise approved in written and recorded agreement between Casitas and the property owner. Casitas' records and mapping will be the standard for the identification of lands in irrigation prior to March 1, 1992.
- 3) Allocation assignments to lands served by multiple meter services shall consider the proportion of the allocation that each meter is intended to serve. The aggregation of meter readings and allocations from multiple meters shall not be allowed except under the terms and conditions of an approved addendum to the Application for Water Service to provide an aggregation variance. The customer may apply for the aggregation of allocations and water volume for accounts serving contiguous parcels under a single ownership, subject to the conditions of the Casitas addendum to the Application for Water Service. The aggregation variance must be approved and on file for the current year during which the variance is applicable. The issuance of the aggregation variance is subject to the discretion of the General Manager.
- 4) The Stage 1 water allocation assigned to each Irrigation water account is the greater volume of either (1) the water use recorded at each meter service during fiscal year 2012-13 or (2) eighty (80) percent of recorded water volume metered to the account in fiscal year 1989-90, neither of which shall exceed a water volume of 3 acre-feet per acre applied to the qualifying acreage.
- 5) The residential water use for Agricultural/Domestic classification that is directly associated with the Irrigation shall be considered as Irrigation for purpose of allocation assignments and meeting the demand reduction requirements for Irrigation.

Multi-Family Residential

- 1) Stage 1 water allocations are assigned to each existing Multi-Family Residential account by either a recorded agreement or based on the standards set in 1992 by Casitas.
- 2) The Multi-Family Residential water allocation for each account shall be distributed by either a monthly or bi-monthly scheduling of the allocation.
- 3) A part of the Multi-Family Residential allocation is provided for health and sanitation and shall be set at **120 units per year per dwelling**, distributed evenly each month as 10 units per month for each dwelling.
- 4) The essential water use portion of the allocation is not subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program, unless otherwise deemed by the Board to be a necessity during extreme water supply conditions or during emergencies.
- 5) The part of the Multi-Family Residential allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation shall be specified as a monthly allocation and distributed proportionally to reflect varying seasonal water use, as follows:

Month	July	August	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
% of Total Annual Allocation	.12	.11	.11	.11	.08	.08	.04	.06	.05	.05	.09	.10

- 6) The part of the Multi-Family Residential allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation is subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program.
- 7) Where not previously assigned a residential allocation, a residential allocation shall be based on the following:
 - a. The essential health and sanitation portion of the residential allocation shall be set at **120 units per year per year per dwelling**, and be constant for each month of the year;
 - b. Non-essential portion of the annual residential allocation shall be based on a maximum limit of 1.99 acres (86,684 square feet) of irrigated landscape area and set as follows:
 - i. For the first 5,000 square feet of landscape area, 15 gallons per square foot;
 - ii. For the next 10,000 square feet of landscape area, 10 gallons per square foot
 - iii. For the next increment up to 71,684 square feet of landscape area, 3 gallons per square foot;
- 8) In cases where a Single Family residence is proposing to construct an Accessory Dwelling Unit, the customer will be reclassified to Multi-Family residential and there will be no required change to the allocation. Staff may make adjustments to the distribution between essential and non-essential provided the adjustments are consistent with similar properties and WEAP allocation standards. The customer may request an increase in allocation provided the amount is consistent WEAP allocation standards. However, any increases in total allocation are subject to approvals for new and/or expanded water use (Section 4.8).

Other

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) Allocation assigned by recorded agreement; or
- 3) Where not defined by recorded agreement, the lesser of historical water consumption of either the 80% of the 1989-90 water use or the Fiscal Year 2012-13 water use.
- 4) In cases where historical consumption is not available for a new business, an initial allocation may be assigned based on standard water demand factors used in Engineering Department review of new or expanded uses. Any increases in water allocation over the prior assigned

allocation for the property are subject to Casitas' discretion on the limits of available water allocation and subject to the charges for new and/or expanded water use (Section 4.8).

Resale

- 1) Water allocation shall be specified as an **annual** allocation based on a fiscal year (July 1st to June 30th).
- 2) The Stage 1 allocation for each individual Resale customer shall be incorporated into a memorandum of understanding (MOU), and assigned to provide water to supplement the Resale agency's primary source of water supply.
- 3) An objective of a MOU is to achieve parity between the Resale agency customers and Casitas customers in applying similar overall water use restrictions and financial penalties in each Stage.
- 4) The Resale agency shall determine the reliability of its water sources and ensure that the annual water requirements from Casitas do not exceed their annual water allocation from Casitas.
- 5) The allocation assignment from Casitas shall not be used by the Resale agency for growth within the Resale service area, unless additional allocation for growth is authorized by written agreement with Casitas.
- 6) The Resale agency shall implement water conservation measures in accordance with the State's or California Urban Water Conservation Council's Best Management Practices, responsibly maintain water system metering and pipeline systems to reduce water losses, and when necessary or when asked to do so, implement water demand reduction measures similar to or more restrictive than those imposed by Casitas to assure the continued availability of water for health and safety purposes.

Residential

- 1) Stage 1 water allocations are assigned to each existing Residential account by either a recorded agreement or based on the standards set in 1992 by Casitas.
- 2) The Residential water allocation for each account shall be distributed by either a monthly or bi-monthly scheduling of the allocation.
- 3) A part of the Residential Allocation is provided for health and sanitation and shall be set at **120 units per year**, distributed evenly each month as 10 units per month for each dwelling.
- 4) The essential water use portion of the allocation is not subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program, unless otherwise deemed by the Board to be a necessity during extreme water supply conditions or during emergencies.
- 5) The part of the Residential Allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation shall be specified as a monthly allocation and distributed proportionally to reflect varying seasonal water use, as follows:

Month	July	August	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
% of Total Annual Allocation	.12	.11	.11	.11	.08	.08	.04	.06	.05	.05	.09	.10

The part of the Residential Allocation that is in excess of the essential allocation is subject to adjustment by the Staged Demand Reduction Program.

- 6) Where not previously assigned a residential allocation, a residential allocation shall be based on the following:
 - a. The essential health and sanitation portion of the residential allocation shall be set at **120 units per year**, and be constant for each month of the year;

- b. Non-essential portion of the annual residential allocation shall be based on actual irrigated landscape area of the parcel with a maximum limit to 1.99 acres (86,684 square feet) of irrigated landscape area and set as follows:
 - i. For the first 5,000 square feet of irrigated landscape area, 15 gallons per square foot;
 - ii. For the next 10,000 square feet of irrigated landscape area, 10 gallons per square foot
 - iii. For the next increment up to 71,684 square feet of irrigated landscape area, 3 gallons per square foot;

Temporary

- 1) There is no water allocation assigned for the Temporary classification. Temporary water service is not property related on a permanent basis.
- 2) Temporary water use is limited for a short-term, as provided in the Rates and Regulations for Water Service, for such purposes as construction projects, or short-term water supply emergencies, or temporary backup water to non-metered agricultural parcels.
- 3) Temporary meters that are issued to serve supplemental commercial irrigation shall be temporarily allocated water based on the allocation assignment provided at the time of the application for the Temporary service based on the same water use standards as provided for the Irrigation classification, and reduced by Stage conditions,. The allocation does not extend beyond the period of the temporary water service application, unless the Casitas Board of Directors approves a limited continuance of the temporary service.

4.4 Allocation Adjustments.

A property owner with Casitas water service may request the reconsideration of their initial assigned Stage 1 water allocation where the request does not include a consideration for either an expansion in the area of use or new construction. The property owner shall submit a water allocation adjustment application in order to have their request considered by the General Manager of the District. The information contained on the application may be subject to an audit and, if necessary, additional documentation may be required in order to substantiate the requested adjustment.

Adjustments to water allocations that have been assigned through a recorded Water Service Agreement between the property owner, or prior property owner, and Casitas must proceed through an amendatory agreement, will be subject to the capital facility charges for the amount of water provided as the allocation adjustment, and subject to the availability of water allocations.

Adjustments to water allocations will not be granted in amounts that exceed 80 percent of the FY 1989-90 metered usage of water by the meter service account without prior Board approval.

4.5 Standards for a Water Allocation Adjustment.

Water allocation adjustments may be considered by Casitas during initiation of the WEAP that appropriately assigns a Stage 1 allocation, to ensure that the needs of the water customer are reasonably balanced against the purpose of this Plan.

Water allocations may be considered for adjustment for:

- a. Correction of irrigable area square footage;
- b. Correction of number of dwelling units (Multi-family accounts only);
- c. Exemption granted for a licensed in-home childcare or elderly care facility;

Water allocations will not be adjusted to accommodate:

- a. Pools, ponds, spas, or hot tubs;
- b. In-home businesses or hobbies that use an increased amount of water;
- c. Gardens and orchards;
- d. Homeowner's Association requirements for turf areas in excess of that water allocation specified by Casitas for a Residential classification;
- e. Where an allocation has been assigned through a recorded agreement.

Agricultural Irrigation Allocation Adjustment Standards:

- a. Limited to acreage planted in commercial agricultural production prior to March 1, 1992. Casitas shall also consider the assignment of an appropriate allocation to lands that are verified as being in a crop rotation status, or temporarily in a fallowed state, having been in a planted status prior to March 1, 1992.
- b. Comparative (same crop type and average use of various parcels) crop usage in FY2012-13 for full irrigation, not to exceed 3 AF/AC/YR, which is located within a 1-mile circumference of the parcel seeking the appeal for a change in water allocation.

4.6 Appeals Process.

Customers that are denied an adjustment of water allocation may request a review of the request by submitting a written appeal to the Casitas Water Resources Manager stating the nature of the appeal. The appeal shall be reviewed by the Casitas Water Resources Manager and a recommendation shall be reported to the General Manager. The decision of the General Manager shall be reported to the customer in written form. If the customer is not satisfied with the General Manager's decision, the customer must request within 10 days that the appeal be placed on the agenda of the Casitas Board of Directors. The determination by the Board of Directors shall be final.

4.7 Availability of Allocations.

The determination of supplies being available for issuance of new allocations of water shall be made upon staff recommendation at a regular Board of Directors meeting. The determination that water is or is not available shall be within the determination of the Board of Directors. The determination that a supply is available shall be based upon more detailed information about existing supplies, the availability of new supplies, new water supply projects, or contracts or proposed contracts for additional supplies where, in the opinion of the Board of Directors, the supply of water is definite enough to provide the assurance to the County of Ventura that there is a forty year supply.

4.8 Allocation for New or Expanded Water Uses.

A property owner may request a change to a water allocation assignment for the purposes of obtaining new or expanded use of water that is associated with a new building permit, new or existing conditional use permit, or agricultural irrigation acreage expansion. The approval of an addition or change to the water allocation for new and/or expanded water allocation is subject to Casitas' discretion on the limits of available water allocation and subject to the charges for new and/or expanded water allocation.

When the Board of Directors determine that additional new water supplies are available, either from the safe yield of the existing CMWD project supply or additional new supplies, supplies shall be allocated in accordance with the following criteria:

- a) No single property owner or applicant for the given type of service (municipal, industrial or agricultural) shall receive a new water allocation greater than 10 percent of the total new available supply or the minimum standard residential allocation, whichever is greater. If the applicant's allocation requirements are not fully met, the applicant may maintain a position of priority until more water is available.
- b) All applicants seeking an allocation shall provide Casitas with a detailed description of the project, the use of water for which the water is sought, and information on peak flow and annual water requirements. Casitas shall determine meter size and amount of allocation based upon reasonable and necessary needs and Casitas' Rates and Regulations.
- c) The amount of water to be allocated shall be at Casitas' sole discretion. The assignment of an allocation shall be limited to the availability of water from the Lake Casitas safe yield, and be based on current water demand factors as adopted by the District and as amended. The amount of water required for the project may be calculated and submitted for the consideration of Casitas by a civil engineer, registered in the State of California, representing the project proponent.

4.8.1 Expansion of Residential and Commercial Water Use During Water Shortage

It is Casitas' policy that no expansion of water service use will be permitted during the period of declared water shortage, when mandatory water use reductions are being implemented in accordance with the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program, unless the Board of Directors deems an appropriate expansion of water use to be permissible. In the event that no expansion of water service use is permitted by the Board of Directors, the following minimum requirements shall be a condition of approval for residential and business remodels, additions, and replacements:

Remodels and Additions to Existing Buildings

- a) **No Additional Plumbing Fixtures:** If no additional plumbing fixtures are required, the project may be approved and a standard will-serve letter may be issued.
- b) **Additional Plumbing Fixtures:** If additional plumbing fixtures are required, the installation of ultra-low flow toilets and low-flow shower heads will be required throughout the building. This requirement, plus evidence that total water use should not increase as a result of the remodel, will be included in any will-serve letter issued.
- c) **Swimming Pools, Spas, and Pool Cabanas:** Swimming pools, spas, and pool cabanas normally involve installation of additional plumbing fixtures and result in an ultimate increase in total water demand. Such additions may be permitted if the applicant can provide documented evidence that the total water demand for the property will not increase.

Replacement of Residential Units

The replacement of structures may be approved contingent upon installation of water efficient plumbing devices and documented evidence of no additional water use.

Commercial

Existing commercial structures which have inactive water services may reactivate service based upon evidence that water use will not exceed the standard allocation or the historical water use.

Water Service Approved by Resale Agencies

Water service approved by resale agencies shall be supplied by that resale agency without reliance upon Casitas water. A statement to that effect shall be indicated on any revised will-serve letters by a resale agency.

4.8.2 Expansion of Agricultural Service During Water Shortage

No expansion of agricultural service will be permitted during the period of water shortage when mandatory water use reductions are in effect under the Water Efficiency and Allocation Program.

During a period of the water shortage, lands classified by the U. S. Bureau of Reclamation as Class 1-4 and not previously irrigated for agricultural use regularly, will not receive water from Casitas. All such Class 1-4 lands must have been under regular agricultural irrigation prior to the declaration of the water shortage unless a request for such expansion was submitted to Casitas for consideration prior to the water shortage.

Under no circumstances will expansion of agricultural irrigation usage onto Class 6 lands be permitted.

Replacement of Agricultural Crops

Trees and crops which have been damaged within the past two years may be replaced upon approval by Casitas. Application outlining crop type, acreage, and schedule of replacement must be filed with Casitas prior to replacement.

SECTION 5: STAGED DEMAND REDUCTION IMPLEMENTATION

5.1 Staged Demand Reduction Principles.

The primary source of water that is available to the Casitas Municipal Water District is the amount of water stored behind Casitas Dam, forming Lake Casitas. The quantity of water stored in Lake Casitas is dependent upon the local hydrology, watershed conditions, diversions from the Ventura River, and the outflow from lake evaporation and water deliveries to beneficial uses. There may be times during which Casitas must consider implementing staged water demand reductions to ensure a sustainable water supply and prevent a complete depletion of water supply in Lake Casitas.

The District has assigned five stages of water storage in Lake Casitas that serve as a guidance to triggering the implementation of water use reduction goals and measures. The overarching goals of the Staged Demand Reduction Program are:

- 1) conserving the water supply for the greatest priority and public benefit; and
- 2) mitigating the effects of a water shortage on public health, safety, and economic activity.

5.2 Water Resource Conditions and Actions.

The General Manager shall report to the Board of Directors each year (*April*) with an assessment of the current water storage in Lake Casitas and local groundwater basins, current water use trends, predicted weather conditions, and an evaluation of current water use reduction goals. The time of the reporting can be each April, as the rainfall season is ending and water resources can be evaluated at the maximum for the year, or as Lake Casitas storage reaches a change in Stage action level. The Board of Directors may, at their sole discretion, declare that a Stage condition of water supply in Lake Casitas exists and implement the appropriate demand reduction goals and measures in response to current and/or predicted water availability conditions. Casitas shall make such determinations public and follow with appropriate and timely notification of all customers. Casitas has established

the implementation of various Stages of action based on the amount of water in storage in Lake Casitas, as shown in Table 3. An action to declare and implement a Stage may be by either an action by Casitas Board of Directors based on unanticipated changing lake supply conditions or by the following schedule in Table 4.

Table 3 – Stage Conditions

Stage	Stage Title	Lake Casitas Storage - %	Lake Casitas Storage Action Level (acre-feet)
1	Water Conservation	100% - 50%	237,761 to 118,880
2	Water Shortage Warning	50% - 40%	118,880 to 95,104
3	Water Shortage Eminent	40% - 30%	95,104 to 71,328
4	Severe Water Shortage	30% - 25%	71,328 to 59,440
5	Critical Water Shortage	25% - 0%	59,440 to 3,000

Table 4 - Stage Action Schedule

<u>Target Dates</u>	<u>Action</u>
June - April	Monitor water demands, rainfall, reservoir level trend, groundwater trends, and diversion and runoff amounts.
Early April	Staff presents water status report and a recommendation to the Casitas Board of Directors. Publish a notice of a public hearing if changes are recommended.
Late April	Casitas Board of Directors formally declares a Stage, and/or water shortage emergency, adopts recommendations for demand reduction actions.
May	Customer Notification of change in Stage, allocation, and conservation surcharge.
June	Stage demand reduction actions are effective and are implemented.

5.3 Demand Reduction Goals and Measures.

The demand reduction goals and measures begin with Stage 1, where reasonable and appropriate water allocation assignments are made to each Casitas service connection and the end water users are implementing the Best Management Practices that conform to State requirements for water conservation and water use efficiency measures. Upon determination of a Stage 2 condition and continuing through Stage 5 conditions, the primary actions to achieve the demand reduction goal is the adjustment of allocations that were made available for each classification during Stage 1 by a reduction of the allocation during the duration of the declared Stage condition.

5.4 Stage Adjustments to Allocations.

The five stages of storage in Lake Casitas and the initial guideline for water allocation adjustments for each classification at each Stage are presented in Table 5. Upon recommendation of the General Manager and approval of the Board of Directors at the onset of a specific Stage, the District shall apply appropriate demand reduction factors to the allocations for each customer classification, as deemed necessary. The Board of Directors retain the sole discretion to make allocation changes as a result of declaring a change in Stage, or during any Stage, that are more or less severe than that provided in Table 5. Examples of applying this discretion may include, but not be limited to, the change in any water resource conditions or the demand reduction goals are not being attained by the customer classification.

Table 5 – Staged Water Demand Reductions for Water Classifications

Note: Initial Stage 1 Allocations include a 20% reduction from the 1989-90 demands.

Demand Reduction Stage	1	2	3	4	5
Volume Range of Lake Casitas	254,000 to 127,000	127,000 to 100,000	100,000 to 75,000	75,000 to 65,000	65,000 to 3,000
% Lake Storage	100% - 50%	50% - 40%	40% - 30%	30% - 25%	25% - 0%
Water Use Reduction Response Goal	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Residential & Multi-Family Residential Essential Use Non-essential Use	0% 20%	0% 20%	0% 30%	0% 40%	0% 50%
Business	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Industrial	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Other	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Resale	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Irrigation	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%
Interdepartmental	20%	20%	30%	40%	50%

Essential Use Allocations will remain the same and not adjusted, except as otherwise determined by the Board to be a necessity to preserve water supply during extreme conditions. The measures to achieve the demand reduction goal may be selected from a menu of options as provided in Table 6, or should water supply conditions become worse than anticipated the Casitas Board may adopt more stringent requirements as deemed necessary.

5.5 Customer Notification.

The customers of each and every classification shall be notified in a timely and appropriate manner of any and all actions to declare and implement Demand Reduction Stage. The methods of communication to the customer shall be through direct mailings, public meetings, and billing information that provides the customer the comparison of water use with allocation.

5.6 Water Rates and Conservation Penalty.

- a. The Casitas Board of Directors shall annually consider the setting or adjustment of water rates that reflect the cost of water service, consistent with State law.
 1. Casitas has implemented a tiered inclining rate structure for the Residential and Multi-family Residential classifications that represents the proportional cost of service that is attributable to the parcel that is served water.
- b. The Casitas Board of Directors shall annually set the Conservation Penalty for each classification that will be applied to each individual customer billing for each unit of

water that is in excess of the customer's allocation, or the adjusted allocation pursuant to a change in Stage. The Conservation Penalty is imposed to curtail the potential for adverse effects of excessive water consumption.

- c. Upon determination of a change in the Demand Reduction Stage, or at such time the Board deems that the customer response does not appear to attain the desired demand reduction goals, the Board may consider the modification of the Conservation Penalty.
- d. Revenues recovered from the Conservation Penalty will supplement Casitas' water conservation costs, provide revenue for water shortage related projects, and cover costs associated with implementing changes to the WEAP as directed by the Board.

5.7 Appeals for Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation or Conservation Penalty Assessment.

- a. A Casitas customer may file an appeal for:
 - 1. An Exception to Staged Adjustment of Allocation, as provided in Section 5.4 above; or
 - 2. The assessment of a Conservation Penaltyby submitting a written appeal, on a form provided by Casitas, directly to the General Manager or his/her designee.
- b. The following paragraphs provide the criteria or reasons for an appeal for an Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation and an appeal for an Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation may be granted for one or more of the following reasons:
 - 1. The staged adjustment would cause a condition affecting the health, sanitation, fire protection, or safety of the customer or the public;
 - 2. Strict application of the water allocation adjustment provisions imposes a severe or undue hardship on a particular business, or renders it infeasible for a business or class of business to remain in operation;
 - 3. The customer is a hospital or health care facility using industry best management practices;
 - 4. The business has already implemented environmental sustainability measures and water conservation measures reducing water consumption to the maximum extent possible.
- c. The customer must support their reason for an appeal for an Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation with supporting documentation or substantial evidence demonstrating the need for an exception. A failure to provide supporting documentation or evidence shall result in a denial of the appeal.
- d. The appeal for an Exception to Staged Adjustments of Allocation will be first reviewed, approved or denied, by the General Manager or his/her designee. The decision of the General Manager or his/her designee shall be reported to the customer/appellant in written form. If the customer is not satisfied with the General Manager or his/her designee's decision, the customer/appellant must request, within 10 days of the date of the General Manager or his/her designee's decision, that the appeal be placed on the agenda of the Casitas Board of Directors

for their review and determination based on the criteria set forth in Section 5.7(b)(1)-(4). The determination by the Casitas Board of Directors shall be final.

- e. The criteria and process for an appeal from a Conservation Penalty shall be in accordance with the Bill Relief Program described in the Casitas Rates and Regulations for Water Service.

SECTION 6: EXPORT OF CASITAS WATER

Water Code Section 71611 authorizes Casitas to sell water under its control for use only within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Casitas Municipal Water District. The unauthorized export and use of Casitas water beyond the Casitas district boundaries can have significant negative impacts on the Casitas water supply reliability, and therefore shall be prohibited unless specifically authorized in writing by the Casitas Board of Directors. All customers receiving Casitas water into water conveyance systems which cross Casitas boundaries shall meet the following requirements as a condition of service:

- 1) Customers shall submit to Casitas a certified report on the last day of each month that demonstrates that no Casitas water was transported or used outside Casitas boundaries during the prior month without written approval by Casitas.
- 2) Customer shall install and maintain approved metering devices and shall be required to account for all Casitas water delivered in the customer's system.
- 3) In the event Casitas water is exported during any month, the customer shall be billed for exported water at five (5) times the Casitas rate for the Temporary Service classification.
- 4) In the event the customer fails to comply with the conditions of service stated in the above (1) and/or (2), all water purchased in excess of the allocation shall be considered exported water and shall be billed in accordance with the foregoing.
- 5) This Section, Export of Casitas Water, is in effect at all times.
- 6) The exceptions to the export are during a declaration by the Board of Directors of surplus water, and limited to the surplus water or exchange agreement between the Board of Directors and other party.

Continuing or reoccurring violations of this section by any Casitas customer may result in the restriction or disconnection of water service to the customer.

Table 6 – Stage Actions and Water Demand Reduction Measures

Water Shortage Condition	Key Casitas Communications and Actions	Customer Demand Reduction Measures	Penalties And Rates
Stage 1 Supply Range 100% - 50% Voluntary Demand Reduction To Stage 1 Allocation	- Initiate public information and advertising campaign. - Publicize ways to reduce water consumption. - Coordinate conservation actions with other water purveyors and cities. - Perform water audits and promote water efficient use/conversions. - Conduct water workshops. - Temporary staffing for public inquiries, as needed.	- Water conservation practices requested of all customer classifications. - Adhere to Water Waste Prohibition Ordinance and State of California laws and regulations regarding water waste - Adhere to assigned water allocation or less.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.
Stage 2 Supply Range 50% - 40% Mandatory Demand Reduction to Stage 1 Allocation	- Declare Stage 2 - Implement demand reductions for each customer classification. - Intensify public information campaign. - Optimize existing water resources. - Intensify leak detection. - Develop appeals staffing. - Consult with major customers to develop conservation plans and water use audits.	- Continue all Stage 1 measures. - Landscape watering advised to two (2) watering days per week. - Require water audits for large water users; implement recommendations of the water audits. - Businesses display “save water” signage. - Increase public information.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.
Stage 3 Supply Range 40% - 30% Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 10%	- Declare Stage 3 - Implement demand reductions for each customer classification. - Expand and intensify public information campaign. - Provide regular briefings, publish monthly consumption report. - Hire additional temporary staff in customer service and conservation. Water waste enforcement.	- Continue with Stage 1 and 2 measures. - Reduced water allocations. - Landscape watering advised to one (1) watering day per week.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.
Stage 4 Supply Range 30% - 25% Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 20%	- Declare Stage 4 - Implement demand reductions for each customer classification. - Continue to provide regular media briefings. - Open drought information center.	- Continue with Stage 1 through 3 measures. - Reduced water allocations. - Landscape watering advised to one (1) watering day per week. - Consider prohibition of filling swimming pools and fountains.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.
Stage 5 Supply Range 25% - 0% Demand Reduction From Stage 1 Allocation 30%	- Declare Stage 5 - Implement demand reductions for each customer classification. - Minimize outdoor water use and non-essential uses. - Implement aggressive public outreach and education program. - Implement crisis communications plan. - Coordinate with State and local agencies to address enforcement challenges. - Water Shortage Emergency declaration to be considered. - Consider further Staged reductions and other future Board actions	- Continue with Stage 1 through 4 measures. - Reduced water allocations. - Rescind Temporary meters issued.	- Consider and implement Conservation Penalty for water use in excess of allocation – response to reduced allocation. - Consider rates for revenue stabilization and cost of service.

CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

ORDINANCE NO. 2022-01

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT
ESTABLISHING WATER WASTE PROHIBITIONS**

THIS ORDINANCE is adopted in light of the following facts and circumstances, which are hereby found and declared by the Casitas Municipal Water District (Casitas) Board of Directors:

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 2 of the California Constitution and Section 100 of the California Water Code declare that the general welfare requires water resources be put to beneficial use, therefore, waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented, and conservation of water be fully exercised with a view to the reasonable and beneficial use thereof.

WHEREAS, the adoption and enforcement of this Ordinance is necessary to help manage Casitas' potable water supply and to avoid or minimize the effects of drought within the Casitas service area.

WHEREAS, Casitas has the power to perform all acts necessary to fully carry out the provisions of this Ordinance consistent with Section 71640 and Sections 10608 through 10656 of the California Water Code.

WHEREAS, this Ordinance rescinds and replaces Casitas Municipal Water District Ordinance No. 15-02, Ordinance Establishing Water Waste Prohibitions.

BE IT ORDAINED by the Board of Directors of the Casitas Municipal Water District as follows:

1. TITLE.

This Ordinance shall be known as the Casitas MWD Water Waste Prohibition Ordinance.

2. APPLICABILITY.

The provisions of this Ordinance shall apply to all persons, corporations, public or private entities, governmental agencies or institutions, or any other direct water customers of the Casitas Municipal Water District. The water customers of other water purveyors shall be governed by the prohibitions that are adopted by the other water purveyors.

3. PROHIBITED USES.

A. The following uses of water are permanently prohibited and are in effect year round:

- a. **General Waste:** Indiscriminate running of water or washing with water which is wasteful and without reason or purpose.
- b. **Washing of Exterior Surfaces:** The washing of hard or paved surfaces, including but not limited to sidewalks, walkways, driveways, parking areas, tennis courts, patios or alleys, except when necessary to alleviate safety or sanitary hazards or when broom or other waterless device will not suffice. If necessary, washing may only be done with a bucket or similar container, a hose equipped with a positive shut-off

- nozzle, a pressure washer, a low-volume high pressure water efficient water broom, or a cleaning machine equipped to recycle the water used.
- c. **Cleaning of Structures and Vehicles:** The washing of building exteriors, mobile homes, cars, boats or recreational vehicles without the use of a positive shut-off nozzle on either the hose or pressure washer.
 - d. **Watering/Irrigation Runoff Control:** The watering of grass, lawn, groundcover, shrubbery, open ground, crops and trees, including agricultural irrigation, in a manner or to an extent which allows water to run off the area being watered. Every water user is deemed to have under their control, at all times, their water distribution lines and facilities, and to know the manner and extent of their water use and run off.
 - e. **Limits on Watering Hours:** The watering or irrigating of outdoor ornamental landscapes and turf areas between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. Pacific Standard Time on any day. (Does not apply to irrigation systems that use drip-irrigation and weather-based controllers or stream rotor sprinklers that meet a 70% efficiency standard. Exceptions may be authorized by the General Manager where there is no ability to not water between 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.).
 - f. **Watering During and within 48 hours after Measureable Rainfall:** The watering of grass, lawn, groundcover, shrubbery, open ground, crops and trees, including agricultural irrigation, at any time during and within 48 hours after measureable rainfall of at least one fourth of one inch of rain. In determining whether measureable rainfall of at least one fourth of an inch of rain occurred in a given area, enforcement may be based on records of the National Weather Service, the closest CIMIS station to the parcel, or any other reliable source of rainfall data available to CMWD.
 - g. **Drought Restrictions:** Watering/irrigating during publicly declared curtailment period in a manner that is not compliant with drought restrictions.
 - h. **Plumbing Leaks:** The escape of water through leaks, breaks, or malfunctions within the water user's plumbing or distribution system, for a substantial period of time within which such break or leak should reasonably have been discovered and corrected.
 - i. **Fountains and Decorative Water Features:** The operation of any ornamental fountain using water from the District's domestic water system unless water for such use is re-circulated.
 - j. **Cooling:** The use of water in mechanical equipment purchased and installed after the adoption of this Ordinance that utilizes a single pass cooling system. Water used for all cooling purposes shall be re-circulated.
 - k. **Drinking Water Served Upon Request Only:** Eating and drinking establishments, including but not limited to restaurants, hotels, cafes, cafeterias, bars, clubs or other public places where food or drinks are sold or served, are prohibited from providing drinking water to customers unless expressly requested. Affected establishments must prominently display notice informing their customers of this requirement using clear and easily understood language.
 - l. **Restaurant Non-water Conserving Dish Wash Spray Valves:** Food preparation establishments, such as restaurants or cafes, are prohibited from using non-water conserving dish wash spray valves.
 - m. **Providing Option to Not Launder Linen and Towels Daily:** Hotels, motels, vacation rentals and other commercial lodging establishments must provide customers the option of not having towels and linen laundered daily. Commercial

lodging establishments must prominently display notice of this option in each bathroom using clear and easily understood language.

- n. **Commercial Car Wash Systems:** Installation of non-recirculating water systems is prohibited in new or renovations of commercial conveyor car washes systems.
- o. **Turf Irrigation Restrictions:** Irrigating turf or ornamental landscapes during and within 48 hours following measurable precipitation of at least one fourth of one inch of rain.
- p. **Public Street Medians:** The use of potable water for irrigation of ornamental turf on public street medians.
- q. **Street Cleaning & Construction Sites:** The use of potable water for street cleaning or construction site preparation purposes, unless no other method can be used or as needed to protect the health and safety of the public.
- r. **Homeowners Association or Community Service Organization:** To prevent the unreasonable use of water and to promote water conservation, any homeowners' association or community service organization or similar entity is prohibited from:
 - i. Taking or threatening to take any action to enforce any provision of the governing documents or architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies of a common interest development where that provision is void or unenforceable under section 4735, subdivisions (a) and (b) of the Civil Code;
 - ii. Imposing or threatening to impose a fine, assessment, or other monetary penalty against any owner of a separate interest for reducing or eliminating the watering of vegetation or lawns during a declared drought emergency, as described in section 4735, subdivision (c) of the Civil Code; or
 - iii. Requiring an owner of a separate interest upon which water-efficient landscaping measures have been installed in response to a declared drought emergency, as described in section 4735, subdivisions (c) and (d) of the Civil Code, to reverse or remove the water-efficient landscaping measures upon the conclusion of the state of emergency.

4. EXEMPTED WATER USES.

- A. All water use associated with the operation and maintenance of fire suppression equipment or employed by the District for water quality flushing and sanitation purposes shall be exempt from the provisions of this Ordinance.
- B. Use of water supplied by gray water or rainwater collection system is also exempt; however, use of water from these systems is not exempt from the applicable regulations of the State and local jurisdictions governing the use of such water.
- C. Supervised testing, adjusting, or repairing of irrigation systems is allowed any time for no more than five (5) minutes per station.

5. VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.

- A. Any person, who uses, causes to be used, or permits the use of water in violation of this Ordinance is guilty of an offense punishable as provided herein.
- B. **Enforcement of Violation.** Complaints of water waste will be investigated and enforced by the District in the form of a notice of violation. The following officers and employees of the Casitas Municipal Water district are hereby designated and authorized to issue citations for enforcement of this Ordinance:

Operations and Maintenance Manager

Public Affairs/Resource Manager
Water Conservation Coordinator
Utility Workers
Water employees designated by the General Manager

- C. **Notice of Violation.** The notice to the District water customer of a violation of this Ordinance will be issued by either a telephone call, mail, hand-delivery, or posting at the entrance of the violator's premises. The District will issue a written notice that state the time, place, and general description of the violation or repeat of violation, as well as a time frame in which the violation must be corrected. District staff may use discretion when determining the correction time.
- D. **Consequence of Violation.** Administrative fines and water service actions may be levied and applied for each violation of a provision of this Ordinance as follows:

1. **Penalties:** Penalties for failure to comply with any provision of the ordinance are as follows:

- a. **First Violation:** The District will issue a written notice to the water customer and attach a copy of this Ordinance.
- b. **Second Violation:** If the first violation is not corrected within the time frame specified by the District, or if a second violation occurs within the following twelve (12) months after the first violation notice, a second notice of violation will be issued and an administrative fine of one hundred dollars (\$100.00) shall be levied for the second violation of this Ordinance.
- c. **Third Violation:** A third violation within the following twelve (12) months after the date of issuance of the second notice of violation is punishable by an administrative fine of two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00).
- d. **Fourth and Subsequent Violations:** Each day that a violation of this Ordinance occurs beyond the remedy allowance provided in the third notice of violation is a separate offense, subject to any or all of the following penalties:
 1. Water service may be turned off or flow may be restricted. Where water service is turned off or flow restricted, it shall be turned on or unrestricted upon correction of the violation and the payment of the reestablishment charges, staff time, and District material purchases per the District's Rates and Regulations for Water Service in effect at the time.
 2. A fine of not more than \$600 or imprisonment in the county jail for not more than 30 days, or both the fine and imprisonment, may be imposed upon conviction under Section 71644 of the California Water Code, or fines/ penalties as defined and allowable under Section 53069.4 of the Government Code may be imposed.
- e. **Payment of Administrative Fines:** The water customer is responsible for the full payment of administrative fines. Each administrative fine shall be applied in the customer's regular water billing. Payment of the administrative fine will be the final responsibility of the individual named on the water account. Non-payment of fines will

be subject to the same remedies as non-payment of basic water rates, in accordance with the Casitas Rates and Regulations for Water Service.

3. **Appeal:** Any customer against whom a penalty is levied pursuant to this Ordinance shall have the right to appeal as follows:
- a. The customer request for an appeal consideration must be in writing, legible, and received by the General Manager within ten (10) calendar days of the issuance of the notice of violation to the customer. Any determination not timely appealed shall be deemed final. The written request for appeal consideration shall include:
 - i. A description of the issue,
 - ii. Evidence supporting the appeal, and
 - iii. A request for resolution of the dispute.
 - b. The General Manager will review the material submitted and make an independent determination of the issue, which shall be mailed to the customer within fifteen (15) calendar days of receipt of the request for appeal.
 - c. The General Manager's determination may be appealed in writing within ten (10) calendar days of the mailing of the notice of determination. The appeal of the General Manager's determination shall be heard and considered by the Board of Directors at an upcoming regular meeting of the Board. Notice of the hearing shall be mailed to the customer at least ten (10) calendar days prior to the date of the appeal hearing. The Board may, in its discretion affirm, reverse, or modify the determination. The Board's determination is final.

6. **SEVERABILITY.** If any competent court shall find any portion of this Ordinance unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of any other portion thereof.

7. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Ordinance becomes effective this 26th day of January, 2022.

PASSED AND ADOPTED at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Casitas Municipal Water District held on January 26, 2022 by the following vote:

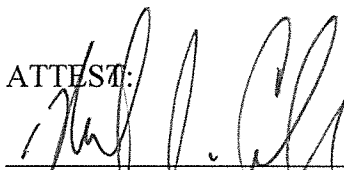
AYES: Bergen, Kaiser, Cole, Hajas, Brennan
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
ABSTAIN: None

APPROVED:



Brian Brennan, President

ATTEST:



Neil Cole, Secretary

Resolution No. 2026-16 Adopting the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and the 2025 Urban Water
Management Plan

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
) ss.
COUNTY OF VENTURA)

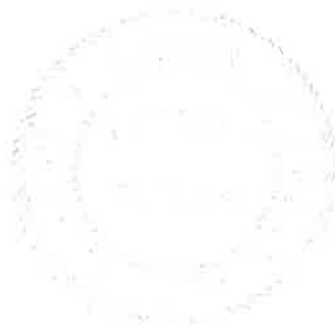
I, Rebekah Vieira, Clerk of the Board of Directors of Casitas Municipal Water District, certify that the foregoing Resolution No. 2026-16 is a true and correct copy of the resolution adopted at a meeting of said Board of Directors held on the 24th day of June, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES:	Directors:	Hajas, Cole, Bergen
NOES:	Directors:	None
ABSENT:	Directors:	Brennan, Kaiser

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have signed my name this 25th day of June, 2026.



Rebekah Vieira, Executive Administrator and
Clerk of the Board of Directors
Casitas Municipal Water District



CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Resolution No. 2026-16

**RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE WATER SHORTAGE CONTINGENCY PLAN
AND THE 2025 URBAN WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN**

WHEREAS, the California Legislature in its 1983-1984 Regular Session adopted the Urban Water Management Planning Act; and

WHEREAS, said Act requires all urban water purveyors with greater than 3,000 service connections or water use of more than 3,000 acre-feet per year served directly to consumers to prepare and submit an urban water management plan to the California Department of Water Resources every five years; and

WHEREAS, the plan shall be reviewed periodically, at least every five years, and Casitas shall make any amendments or changes to its plan which are indicated by the reviews; and

WHEREAS, the original plan was adopted and sent to the California Department of Water Resources in March 1996; and

WHEREAS, the review plan must be filed with the California Department of Water Resources within thirty days of adoption; and

WHEREAS, Casitas' Water Shortage Contingency Plan is included within the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan; and

WHEREAS, the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan addresses all state requirements for such a plan; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Casitas Municipal Water District as follows:

1. The Water Shortage Contingency Plan for Casitas Municipal Water District has been reviewed, modified, and is included in the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan and is hereby adopted.
2. The 2025 Urban Water Management Plan for Casitas Municipal Water District has been reviewed, modified, and is on file in Casitas' office and is hereby adopted.
3. A copy of the Final 2025 Urban Water Management Plan is to be forwarded to the California Department of Water Resources and other entities per California Water Code requirements.

APPROVED this 24th day of June 2026.

ATTEST:



Brian Brennan, Secretary
Casitas Municipal Water District



Mary Bergen, Vice President
Casitas Municipal Water District

Submittal Table 2-1 Retail: Public Water Systems			
Public Water System Number	Public Water System Name	Number of Municipal Connections 2025	Volume of Water Supplied 2025 (AF)
			Units:
CA5610024	CASITAS MWD	3,186	9,251
CA5610014	OJAI WATER SYSTEM	2,994	1,740
Total		6,180	10,991
NOTES: Does not include resale (wholesale). Includes agriculture, and agricultural-domestic customers. Casitas acquired the Ojai Water System in June 2017.			

Submittal Table 2-2: Plan Identification		
Select One ☒	Type of Plan	Name of Regional Alliance or RUWMP
	Individual UWMP	
☐	If Water Supplier is also a member of a SB X7-7 Regional Alliance, select name from the drop-down.	
	Regional Urban Water Management Plan (RUWMP)	
	If Supplier selected RUWMP, select name from the drop-down.	

Submittal Table 2-3: Supplier Identification	
Type of Supplier (select one or both)	
☒	Supplier is a wholesale supplier
☒	Supplier is a retail supplier
Fiscal or Calendar Year (select one)	
☒	UWMP Tables are in calendar years
☐	UWMP Tables are in fiscal years
If using fiscal years provide month and date that the fiscal year begins (mm/dd)	
Units of measure used in UWMP (Select from the drop down list).	
Unit	AF

**Submittal Table 2-4 Wholesale: Water Supplier Information Exchange
Water Code Section 10631(h)**

☒

Check the box if the Supplier has informed more than 10 other water suppliers of water supplies available.
Completion of the table below is optional. If not completed, include a list of the water suppliers that were informed.

7

Provide page number for location of the list.

☐

Check the box if the Supplier has informed 10 or fewer other water suppliers of water supplies available.
Complete the table below.

Water Supplier Name

Add additional rows as needed

Casitas Mutual Water Company

City of Ventura

Siete Robles Mutual Water Company

Hermitage Mutual Water Company

Meiners Oaks Water District

Old Creek Road Water Company

Rancho del Cielo Mutual Water Company

Rincon Road and Water Works

Senior Canyon Mutual Water Company

Sisar Mutual Water Company

Sulphur Mountain Road Water Association

Tico Mutual Water Company

Ventura River Water District

Submittal Table 2-4 Retail: Water Supplier Information Exchange - Casitas Retail	
The retail Supplier has informed the following wholesale supplier(s) of projected water use.	
Wholesale Water Supplier Name	
Add additional rows as needed	
Not applicable.	
NOTES: Casitas Serves as the 'wholesaler' to Casitas retail customers so notifications are not necessary. Casitas does not purchase water from any other wholesaler.	

Submittal Table 2-4 Retail: Water Supplier Information Exchange - Ojai Retail	
The retail Supplier has informed the following wholesale supplier(s) of projected water use.	
Wholesale Water Supplier Name	
NOTES: Casitas Serves as the 'wholesaler' to Ojai retail customers so notifications are not necessary. Casitas does not purchase water from any other wholesaler.	

Submittal Table 3-1 Wholesale: Population - Current and Projected Casitas Wholesale					
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
	44,719	45,292	45,872	46,460	47,056

Submittal Table 3-1 Retail: Population - Current and Projected, Casitas Retail					
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
	10,139	10,097	10,056	10,015	9,974

Submittal Table 3-1 Retail: Population - Current and Projected, Ojai Retail					
Population Served	2025	2030	2035	2040	2045
	7,156	7,215	7,275	7,335	7,396

Optional Submittal Table 4-1 Wholesale: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual, Casitas Wholesale

Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	2025 Actual Water Use	
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only use types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		Potable or Non-Potable (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Volume (AF)
Sales to other agencies	Resale customers	Potable	3,281
Subtotal Potable			3,281
Subtotal Non-Potable			0
Total			3,281
NOTES: Losses for Casitas' system cannot be separated between wholesale and retail; they are reported in Table 4 - 1 Casitas Retail and Table 4 - 1 Ojai Retail.			

Submittal Table 4-1 Retail: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual, Casitas Retail

Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	2025 Actual Water Use	
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only use types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		Potable or Non-Potable (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Volume (AF)
Single Family		Potable	1,008
Multi-Family		Potable	195
Commercial		Potable	417
Industrial		Potable	17
Institutional/Governmental		Potable	125
Agricultural	Ag,Ag Domestic, Ag Domestic Multi	Potable	3,704
Distribution System Water Loss	2024 Water Loss Audit	Potable	625
Other (optional)	Other, Fire Service, Temporary,	Potable	11
Sales/Transfers/Exchanges to other Suppliers	Ojai Retail Demands	Potable	134
Landscape	Dedicated Irrigation Meters (DIMs)	Potable	327
Subtotal Potable			6,564
Subtotal Non-Potable			0
Total			6,564
NOTES: 2024 Water Loss Audit data is included as 2025 Water Loss Audit is not complete at the time this UWMP is due.			

**Submittal Table 4-1 Retail: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Actual
Ojai Retail**

Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	2025 Actual Water Use	
Drop down list May select each use multiple times These are the only use types that will be recognized by the WUEdata online submittal tool		Potable or Non-Potable (OPTIONAL) Drop down list	Volume (AF)
Single Family		Potable	1,094
Multi-Family		Potable	92
Commercial		Potable	298
Industrial		Potable	4
Agricultural	Ag,Ag Domestic, Ag Domestic Multi	Potable	53
Distribution System Water Loss	2024 Water Loss Audit	Potable	243
Other	Other, Fire Service, Temporary	Potable	48
Landscape	Dedicated Irrigation Landscape (DIM's)	Potable	27
Total			1,859
NOTES: 2024 Water Loss Audit data is included as 2025 Water Loss Audit is not complete at the time this UWMP is due.			

Optional Submittal Table 4-2 Wholesale: Total Uses for Potable and Non-Potable Water — Projected

Use Type	Projected Water Use (Report To the Extent that Records are Available)				
	Potable or Non-Potable	2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)
Sales to other agencies	Potable	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
Total		4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355

**Submittal Table 4-2 Retail: Total Uses for Potable, and Non-Potable Water — Projected
Casitas Retail**

Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	Projected Water Use			
		2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)
Single Family		1,562	1,562	1,562	1,562
Multi-Family		302	302	302	302
Commercial		646	646	646	646
Industrial		26	26	26	26
Institutional/Governmental		194	194	194	194
Other	Temp, Fire	18	18	18	18
Other	Ojai Retail Demand	208	208	208	208
Agricultural	Ag, Ag Domestic, Multi Ag Domestic	5,739	5,739	5,739	5,739
Distribution System Water Loss	2024 WL Data	968	968	968	968
Landscape	Dim's	507	507	507	507
Total		10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170

Submittal Table 4-2 Retail: Total Uses for Potable, and Non-Potable Water — Projected Ojai Retail

Use Type	Additional Description (as needed)	Projected Water Use			
		2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)
Single Family		1,088	1,088	1,088	1,088
Multi-Family		91	91	91	91
Commercial		297	297	297	297
Industrial		4	4	4	4
Agricultural	Ag, Ag Domestic, Multi Ag Domestic	53	53	53	53
Distribution System Water Loss	2024 WL Data	242	242	242	242
Other	Temp, Fire	48	48	48	48
Landscape	Dedicated Irrigation Meter (DIM's)	27	27	27	27
Total		1,850	1,850	1,850	1,850
NOTES: Losses are included in Table 4-2 Ojai Retail					

Submittal Table 4-3 Retail: Inclusion in Water Use Projections, Casitas and Ojai Retail

Are Future Water Savings Included in Projections? Drop down list (y/n)	Yes
If "Yes" to above, state the section or page number , in the cell to the right, where citations of the codes, ordinances, or otherwise are utilized in demand projections are found. Optional Suppliers may complete Optional Submittal Table 4-4 R to quantify the expected savings.	4.2.3
Are Lower Income Residential Demands Included In Projections? Drop down list (y/n)	Yes

Submittal Table 4-5 Retail: Water Loss Audit Reporting, Casitas Retail

Public Water System ID # Reported in Table 2-1 R	Reporting Period	Submitted to DWR Water Loss Audit Program (yes/no)
CA5610014	2020	Yes
	2021	Yes
	2022	Yes
	2023	Yes
	2024	Yes

Submittal Table 4-5 Retail: Water Loss Audit Reporting, Ojai Retail

Public Water System ID # Reported in Table 2-1 R	Reporting Period	Submitted to DWR Water Loss Audit Program (yes/no)
CA5610024	2020	Yes
	2021	Yes
	2022	Yes
	2023	Yes
	2024	Yes

Submittal Table 4-6 Retail: Progress Towards 2028 Water Loss Standard

Public Water System ID # Reported in Submittal Table 2-1 R	Did the Water Board Calculate a Water Loss Standard for this Public	Real Water Loss					Apparent Water Loss				
		State Water Board Standard		Most Recent AWWA Water Loss Audit			State Water Board Standard		Most Recent AWWA Water Loss Audit		
		2028 Real Water Loss Standard per Unit per day	Units for Real Water Loss Drop down list	Number of Units (Connections or Miles corresponding with units selected)	Volume of Total Real Loss (from AWWA Water Loss Audit) (AF)	Real Water Loss Per Unit per Day	2028 Apparent Water Loss Standard per Unit per Day	Units for Apparent Water Loss	Number of Connections	Volume of Total Apparent Loss (from AWWA Water Loss Audit) (AF)	Apparent Water Loss Per Unit per Day
CA5610024	Yes	3252.7	Gallons per Mile per Day (GPMD)	116.6	460.191	3,523.4	66.1	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	3196	200.332	66.1
CA5610014	Yes	24.1	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	2976	23.337	7.0	23.337	Gallons per Service Connection per Day (GPSCD)	2976	23.337	7.0

Submittal Table 5-1 Retail: SB X7-7 2020 Target Progress, Casitas Retail

Was Supplier part of a merger or consolidation since 2020?	Regional Alliance Target or Individual Target?	2020 Target	Actual 2020 GPCD	Did Supplier Achieve Targeted Reduction for 2020?
No	Individual Target	295	195	Yes

Submittal Table 5-1 Retail: SB X7-7 2020 Target Progress, Ojai Retail

Was Supplier part of a merger or consolidation since 2020?	Regional Alliance Target or Individual Target? Drop down list	2020 Target	Actual 2020 GPCD	Did Supplier Achieve Targeted Reduction for 2020?
No	Individual Target	257	209	Yes

**Submittal Table 6-1 Wholesale: Groundwater Volume Pumped
Water Code Section 10631(4) and 10631(4)(C)**

Groundwater Availability by Location and Year						
Groundwater Type	Location or Basin Name	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2024 (AF)	2025 (AF)
Alluvial Basin	Upper Ventura River	57	53	31	35	44
Total		57	53	31	35	44

Submittal Table 6-1 Retail: Groundwater Volume Pumped, Castias Retail

Groundwater Type	Location or Basin Name	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2024 (AF)	2025 (AF)
Add additional rows as needed						
Alluvial Basin	Ojai Basin	133	123	73	73	103
Total		133	123	73	73	103
NOTES: Mira Monte Supply						

Submittal Table 6-1 Retail: Groundwater Volume Pumped, Ojai Retail						
Groundwater Type	Location or Basin Name	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2024 (AF)	2025 (AF)
Alluvial Basin		1,186	1,294	1,462	1,524	1,606
Total		1,186	1,294	1,462	1,524	1,606
NOTES: Based on Ojai Wellfield Supply						

Submittal Table 6-2 Retail: Wastewater Collected Within Service Area, Casitas Retail				
☐		Check the box if there is no wastewater collection system. Proceed to the next table.		
Wastewater Collection			Recipient of Collected Wastewater	
Name of Wastewater Collection Agency	Wastewater Volume Metered or Estimated? OPTIONAL Drop Down List	Volume of Wastewater Collected from UWMP Service Area 2025 (AF)	Name of Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Place ID Number Drop down list	Is WWTP Located Within UWMP Area? Drop Down List
City of Ventura	Metered	42	Ventura WRF, Place ID 271054	No
Total Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area in 2025:		42		
NOTES: This table represents wastewater collected from "Area 29" of the City of Ventura's wastewater service area, which are Casitas' retail customers.				

Submittal Table 6-2 Retail: Wastewater Collected Within Service Area, Ojai Retail

Check the box if there is no wastewater collection system.
Proceed to the next table.

Wastewater Collection			Recipient of Collected Wastewater	
Name of Wastewater Collection Agency	Wastewater Volume Metered or Estimated? OPTIONAL Drop Down List	Volume of Wastewater Collected from UWMP Service Area 2025 (AF)	Name of Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) and Place ID Number Drop down list	Is WWTP Located Within UWMP Area? Drop Down List
Ojai Valley Sanitary District	Metered	2,003	Ojai Valley WWTP, Place ID 246616	Yes
Total Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area in 2025:		2,003		

Submittal Table 6-3 Wholesale: Wastewater Treatment and Discharge Within Service Area, Casitas Wholesale

Wastewater Treatment Plant Name and Place ID Number Drop down list	Does This Plant Treat Wastewater Generated from	2025 Volume of Wastewater Received from	Total 2025 Volume of Water Treated (AF)	2025 Outcomes of Treated Wastewater									
				Water Recycled		Water Recycled		Effluent Discharge		Required		Delivered to Another Entity	
				Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)
Ventura WRF, Place ID 271054	Yes	2334	2334	Tertiary	31		0		0		0		0
Total		2334	2334		31		0		0		0		0

NOTES: In calendar year 2025, the Ventura Water Reclamation Facility received 8,572 AF of wastewater from Ventura Water's service area; an estimated 2,334 AF of wastewater was from the Casitas service area (or 27% of 8,572 AF). The volume of recycled water within Casitas' wholesale service area (31 AF) is in the Marina Park area of the City of Ventura.

Submittal Table 6-3 Retail: Wastewater Treatment and Outcomes Within UWMP Service Area, Casitas Retail

Wastewater Treatment Plant Name and Place ID Number Drop down list	Does This Plant Treat Wastewater Generated Outside the UWMP Service Area?	2025 Volume of Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area (As Reported in Submittal	Total 2025 Volume of Water Treated (AF)	2025 Outcomes of Treated Wastewater									
				Water Recycled Within UWMP Service Area (enter data as applicable)		Water Recycled Outside of UWMP Service Area (enter data as applicable)		Effluent Discharge that is not a Permitted Recycled Water Use		Required Discharge for Instream Flow (enter data as applicable)		Delivered to Another Entity for Additional Treatment (enter data as applicable)	
				Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)
Ventura WRF, Place ID 271054	Yes	42	8,572	N/A	0	Tertiary	312	Tertiary	7403		0		0
Total		42	8,572				312		7,403		0		0

Submittal Table 6-3 Retail: Wastewater Treatment and Outcomes Within UWMP Service Area, Ojai Retail

Wastewater Treatment Plant Name and Place ID Number Drop down list	Does This Plant Treat Wastewater Generated Outside the UWMP Service Area?	2025 Volume of Wastewater Received from UWMP Service Area (As Reported in Submittal	Total 2025 Volume of Water Treated (AF)	2025 Outcomes of Treated Wastewater									
				Water Recycled Within UWMP Service Area		Water Recycled Outside of UWMP Service Area		Effluent Discharge that is not a Permitted Recycled Water Use		Required Discharge for Instream Flow		Delivered to Another Entity for Additional Treatment	
				Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)	Treatment Level Drop down list	Volume (AF)
Ojai Valley WWTP, Place ID 246616	No	2,003	2,003	N/A	0		0	Tertiary	1,938		-		-
Total		0	2,003		0		0		1,938		0		0

Submittal Table 6-4 Wholesale: Current and Projected Recycled Water Uses, Casitas Wholesale

☐	Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.						
Name of Receiving Supplier or Direct Use by Wholesale Supplier	Potable or Non-Potable (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL)	2025 (AF)	2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)	Potential Recycled Water Use
							Volume (AF)
Ventura WRF	Non-Potable	31	17	17	17	17	
Subtotal Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Non-Potable		31	17	17	17	17	0
Total		31	17	17	17	17	0

Submittal Table 6-4 Retail: Recycled Water Direct Beneficial Uses Within Service Area, Casitas Retail

☒	Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.						
Use Type Drop down list	Potable or Non-Potable (after treatment if treated)	2025 (AF)	2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)	Potential Recycled Water Use
							Volume
Subtotal Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Non-Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0

Submittal Table 6-4 Retail: Recycled Water Direct Beneficial Uses Within Service Area, Ojai Retail

☒	Check box if recycled water is not used and is not planned for use within the service area of the supplier. The supplier will only complete the column on "Potential Recycled Water Use" and submit an accompanying narrative on the feasibility of that potential recycled water use.						
Name of Receiving Supplier or Direct Use by Wholesale Supplier	Potable or Non-Potable (after treatment if treated) (OPTIONAL)	2025 (AF)	2030 (AF)	2035 (AF)	2040 (AF)	2045 (AF)	Potential Recycled Water Use
							Volume
Subtotal Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Non-Potable		0	0	0	0	0	0
Total		0	0	0	0	0	0

Submittal Table 6-5 Wholesale: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual

☐	Check the box if recycled water was not used or distributed by the supplier in 2025, nor projected for use or distribution in 2020. Proceed to the next table.	
Name of Receiving Supplier or Direct Use by Wholesale Supplier	2020 Projection for 2025 (AF)	2025 Actual Use (AF)
Ventura WRF	0	31
Total	0	31
NOTES: The volume of recycled water within Casitas' Wholesale service area (31 AF) is in the Marina Park Area of the City of Ventura.		

Submittal Table 6-5 Retail: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual, Casitas Retail

☒	Check the box if recycled water was not used in 2025 nor previously projected for use in 2020. Proceed to the next table.	
Use Type Drop Down list	2020 Projection for 2025 (AF)	2025 Actual Use (AF)
	0	0
Total	0	0

Submittal Table 6-5 Retail: 2020 UWMP Recycled Water Use Projection Compared to 2025 Actual, Ojai Retail

☒	Check the box if recycled water was not used in 2025 nor previously projected for use in 2020. Proceed to the next table.		
☐	Use Type Drop Down list	2020 Projection for 2025 (AF)	2025 Actual Use (AF)
		0	0
	Total	0	0

Submittal Table 6-6 Retail: Methods to Encourage Future Recycled Water Use, Casitas Retail

✓	Check the box if the Supplier does not plan to expand recycled water use in the future. Supplier will not complete the table below but will provide narrative explanation.		
54	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP		
Name of Action	Description	Planned Implementation Year	Expected Increase in Recycled Water Use (AF)
			0
Total (AF)			0

Submittal Table 6-6 Retail: Methods to Encourage Future Recycled Water Use, Ojai Retail

✓	Check the box if the Supplier does not plan to expand recycled water use in the future. Supplier will not complete the table below but will provide narrative explanation.		
55	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP		
Name of Action	Description	Planned Implementation Year	Expected Increase in Recycled Water Use (AF)
			0
Total (AF)			0

Submittal Table 6-7 Wholesale: Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs, Casitas Wholesale

Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description (as needed)	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type Drop Down list	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (This may be a
	Yes/No	If Yes, Supplier Name				
Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie	Yes	Carpinteria Valley Water District	Pipeline and two booster pump stations	2026	Multi-Dry Year	600

NOTES: Projects to be implemented benefit Castias Wholesale and Retail customers, as well as indirectly benefitting Ojai Retail customers. Thirty percent of the projected supply is applied to the Wholesale system.

1) Supply is based on available capacity in pipelines on Santa Barbara County side.

Submittal Table 6-7 Retail: Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs, Casitas Retail

☐ Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description (as needed)	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type Drop Down List	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (This may be a range) (AF)
	Yes/No	If Yes, Supplier Name				
Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie	Yes	Carpinteria Valley Water District	Pipeline and two booster pump stations	2026	Multi-Dry Year	1,400

NOTES: Projects to be implemented benefit Casitas Wholesale and Retail customers, as well as indirectly benefiting Ojai Retail customers. Seventy percent of the projected supply is applied to the retail system. Supply is based on available capacity in pipelines on Santa Barbara County side.

Submittal Table 6-7 Retail: Expected Future Water Supply Projects or Programs, Ojai Retail

☐	Check the box if there are no expected future water supply projects or programs that provide						
☐	Check the box if some or all of the supplier's future water supply projects or programs are						
☒	Provide page location of narrative in the UWMP						
Name of Future Projects or Programs	Joint Project with other suppliers?		Additional Description	Potable or Non-Potable	Planned Implementation Year	Planned for Use in Year Type	Expected Increase in Water Supply to Supplier (AF)
	Yes/No	If Yes, Supplier Name					

Submittal Table 6-8 Wholesale: Water Supplies — Actual, Casitas Wholesale

Water Supply	Additional Description	2025
		Actual Volume (AF)
Surface water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	6,363
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Mira Monte Well	44
Total		6,407

Submittal Table 6-8 Retail: Water Supplies — Actual, Casitas Retail		
Water Supply	Additional Description	2025
		Actual Volume (AF)
Surface water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	2,727
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Mira Monte Well	104
Total		2,831

Submittal Table 6-8 Retail: Water Supplies — Actual, Ojai Retail		
Water Supply	Additional Description	2025
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Ojai Wellfield	1,606
Surface water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	15
Total		1,621

Submittal Table 6-9 Wholesale: Water Supplies — Projected, Casitas Wholesale					
Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supply			
		2030	2035	2040	2045
		Reasonably Available Volume (AF)	Reasonably Available Volume (AF)	Reasonably Available Volume (AF)	Reasonably Available Volume (AF)
Surface water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	4,460	4,460	4,460	4,460
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Mira Monte Well	43	43	43	43
Purchased or Imported Water	Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie	600	600	600	600
Total		5,103	5,103	5,103	5,103

Submittal Table 6-9 Retail: Water Supplies — Projected, Casitas Retail

Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supply			
		2030	2035	2040	2045
		Reasonably Available Volume (AF)	Reasonably Available Volume (AF)	Reasonably Available Volume (AF)	Reasonably Available Volume (AF)
Surface water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	10,405	10,405	10,405	10,405
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Mira Monte Well	102	102	102	102
Purchased or Imported Water	Ventura-Santa Barbara Counties Intertie	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,400
Total		11,907	11,907	11,907	11,907

Submittal Table 6-9 Retail: Water Supplies — Projected, Ojai Retail

Water Supply	Additional Detail on Water Supply	Projected Water Supply (Report to the Extent Practicable)			
		2030	2035	2040	2045
		Reasonably Available Volume (AF)	Reasonably Available Volume (AF)	Reasonably Available Volume (AF)	Reasonably Available Volume (AF)
Groundwater (not desalinated)	Ojai Wellfield	2,300	2,300	2,300	2,300
Surface water (not desalinated)	Lake Casitas	461	461	461	461
Total		2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761

Table O-1C: Recommended Energy Reporting - Multiple Water Delivery Products, Casitas Wholesale and Retail.

Enter Start Date for Reporting Period	1/1/2025	Urban Water Supplier Operational Control					
End Date	12/31/2025						
Water Volume Units	AF	Water Management Process					
Is upstream embedded in the values reported?	N/A	Extract and Divert	Place into Storage	Conveyance	Treatment	Distribution	Total Utility
Total Volume of Water Entering Process		147	3,714	N/A	9,090	9,090	N/A
Retail Potable Deliveries (%)		20	0	0	20	20	
Retail Non-Potable Deliveries (%)		0	0	0	0	0	
Wholesale Potable Deliveries (%)		30	0	0	30	30	
Wholesale Non-Potable Deliveries (%)		0	0	0	0	0	
Agricultural Deliveries (%)		50	0	0	50	50	
Environmental Deliveries (%)		0	0	0	0	0	
Other (%)		0	0	0	0	0	
Total Percentage [must equal 100%]		100%	0%	0%	100%	100%	N/A
Energy Consumed (kWh)		91,958	14,854	0	884,925	5,344,801	6,336,538
Energy Intensity (kWh/vol. converted to MG)		1,919.8	12.3	N/A	298.8	1,804.5	N/A

Data Quality (Estimate, Metered Data, Combination of Estimates and Metered Data):	Metered Data						
Data Quality Narrative:	Water volumes are metered at each facility. Energy consumed data from SCE billing system.						
Narrative:	Mira Monte Well (extraction) has chlorine wellhead treatment facilities. Change in Storage is the energy use at the Robles facility which divert water from the Ventura River to Robles facility which delivers water from the Ventura River to the Robles Canal and then to Lake Casitas; the Fish Passage Facility at Robles has mororized brushed to clean the fish screens. For Treatment, energy use is at the MWPPF pressure filtration system at the base of Casitas Dam. For Distribution, energy use is for 11 pump plants, 15 storage tanks, and 27 pressure regulating stations.						
	Product Type	Delivery Volume by Product	Total Energy Intensity (kWh/volume)				
	Retail Potable	2,860	1,310.6				
	Retail Non-Potable	-	-				
	Wholesale Potable	3,281	1,713.7				
	Wholesale Non-Potable	-	-				
	Agricultural	3,704	2,530.0				
	Environmental	-	-				
	Other	-	-				
	Total of All Products	9,845	5,554.30				

Table O-1B: Recommended Energy Reporting – Total Utility Approach, Ojai Retail

Enter Start Date for Reporting Period	1/1/2025	Urban Water Supplier Operational Control		
End Date	12/31/2025			
Is upstream embedded in the values reported?	No	Sum of All Water Management Processes	Non-Consequential Hydropower	
Water Volume Units Used	AF	Total Utility	Hydropower	Net Utility
Volume of Water Entering Process (volume unit)		1,606	0	1,606
Energy Consumed (kWh)		4,011	0	4,011
Energy Intensity (kWh/vol. converted to MG)		8	n/a	
Quantity of Self-Generated Renewable Energy:				
0	kWh			
Data Quality (Estimate, Metered Data, Combination of Estimates and Metered Data):				
Metered Data				
Data Quality Narrative:				
Water volume entering system metered at Ojai Wellfield. Energy consumed data from SCE billing system.				
Narrative:				
Ojai Wellfield consists of Mutual Wells and San Antonio Wells. Pumped water is treated at the on-site iron and manganese treatment plant.				

OPTIONAL Submittal Table 7-1 Wholesale: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment), Casitas Wholesale

Year Type	Base Year	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		Volume Available (AF)	% of Average Supply
Average Year	2003	4,503	100%
Single-Dry Year	2022	4,503	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2014	4,503	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2015	4,503	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2016	4,503	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2017	4,578	102%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2018	4,578	102%

NOTES: Base volume available: Lake Casitas (4,460 AF), Mira Monte Well (43 AF). SWP availability of 75 AF was factored into years 4 and 5 of multiple dry years as shown in Table 7-0.

Submittal Table 7-1 Retail: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment), Casitas Retail

Year Type	Base Year	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		Volume Available	% of Average Supply
Average Year	2003	10,507	100%
Single-Dry Year	2022	10,507	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2014	10,507	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2015	10,507	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2016	10,507	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2017	10,682	102%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2018	10,682	102%

NOTES: Lake Casitas (10,405 AF), Mira Monte Well (102 AF). SWP availability of 175 AF was factored into the third and fourth years of consecutive dry years (5% of 3,500 AF, or 175 AF).

Submittal Table 7-1 Retail: Basis of Water Year Data (Reliability Assessment), Ojai Retail			
Year Type	Base Year	Available Supplies if Year Type Repeats	
		Volume Available	% of Average Supply
Average Year	2003	2,761	100%
Single-Dry Year	2022	2,761	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 1st Year	2014	2,761	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 2nd Year	2015	2,761	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 3rd Year	2016	2,761	100%
Consecutive Dry Years 4th Year	2017	2,551	92%
Consecutive Dry Years 5th Year	2018	2,551	92%
NOTES: Ojai Wellfield Capacity (2,300 AF, not including increased capacity) plus Lake Casitas Supplement (461 AF) in years 1-3. In years 4 and 5 supply from the wellfield is reduced 20% to 1,840 AF while Lake Casitas supplement remains 461 AF and SWP 'in lieu' amount is 250 AF.			

Submittal Table 7-2 Wholesale: Normal Year Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals <i>(from Table 6-9)</i>	5,103	5,103	5,103	5,103
Use totals <i>(from Table 4-2)</i>	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
Difference	748	748	748	748

Submittal Table 7-2 Retail: Normal Year Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas Retail				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals <i>(from Table 6-9)</i>	11,907	11,907	11,907	11,907
Use totals <i>(from Table 4-2)</i>	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
Difference	1,737	1,737	1,737	1,737

Submittal Table 7-2 Retail: Normal Year Supply and Use Comparison, Ojai Retail				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals <i>(from Table 6-9)</i>	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
Use totals <i>(from Table 4-3)</i>	1,850	1,850	1,850	1,850
Difference	911	911	911	911

Submittal Table 7-3 Wholesale: Single Dry Year Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals	4,503	4,503	4,503	4,503
Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
Difference	148	148	148	148

Submittal Table 7-3 Retail: Single Dry Year Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas Retail				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals	10,507	10,507	10,507	10,507
Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
Difference	337	337	337	337

Submittal Table 7-3 Retail: Single Dry Year Supply and Use Comparison, Ojai Retail				
	2030	2035	2040	2045
Supply totals	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
Use totals	1,850	1,850	1,850	1,850
Difference	911	911	911	911

Submittal Table 7-4 Wholesale: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Use Comparison

		2030	2035	2040	2045
First year	Supply totals	4,503	4,503	4,503	4,503
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	148	148	148	148
Second year	Supply totals	4,503	4,503	4,503	4,503
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	148	148	148	148
Third year	Supply totals	4,503	4,503	4,503	4,503
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	148	148	148	148
Fourth year	Supply totals	4,578	4,578	4,578	4,578
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	223	223	223	223
Fifth year	Supply totals	4,578	4,578	4,578	4,578
	Use totals	4,355	4,355	4,355	4,355
	Difference	223	223	223	223

Submittal Table 7-4 Retail: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Use Comparison, Casitas Retail

		2030	2035	2040	2045
First year	Supply totals	10,507	10,507	10,507	10,507
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
	Difference	337	337	337	337
Second year	Supply totals	10,507	10,507	10,507	10,507
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
	Difference	337	337	337	337
Third year	Supply totals	10,507	10,507	10,507	10,507
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
	Difference	337	337	337	337
Fourth year	Supply totals	10,682	10,682	10,682	10,682
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
	Difference	512	512	512	512
Fifth year	Supply totals	10,682	10,682	10,682	10,682
	Use totals	10,170	10,170	10,170	10,170
	Difference	512	512	512	512

Submittal Table 7-4 Retail: Multiple Dry Years Supply and Use Comparison, Ojai Retail					
		2030	2035	2040	2045
First year	Supply totals	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	910	910	910	910
Second year	Supply totals	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	910	910	910	910
Third year	Supply totals	2,761	2,761	2,761	2,761
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	910	910	910	910
Fourth year	Supply totals	2,551	2,551	2,551	2,551
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	700	700	700	700
Fifth year	Supply totals	2,551	2,551	2,551	2,551
	Use totals	1,851	1,851	1,851	1,851
	Difference	700	700	700	700

Submittal Table 7-5: Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment Tables to address Water Code Section 10635(b), Casitas Wholesale

2026	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148
2027	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148
2028	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148
2029	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148
2030	Total
Gross Water Use	4,355
Total Supplies	4,503
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	148

Submittal Table 7-5: Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment Tables to address Water Code Section 10635(b), Casitas Retail

2026	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337
2027	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337
2028	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337
2029	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337
2030	Total
Gross Water Use	10,170
Total Supplies	10,507
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	337

Table 7-5: Five-Year Drought Risk Assessment Tables to address Water Code Section 10635(b), Ojai Retail

2026	Total
Gross Water Use	1,851
Total Supplies	2,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	910
2027	Total
Gross Water Use	1,851
Total Supplies	2,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	910
2028	Total
	1,851
Total Supplies	2,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	910
2029	Total
Gross Water Use	1,851
Total Supplies	2,761
Surplus/Shortfall w/o WSCP Action	910
2030	Total
Gross Water Use	1,851
Total Supplies	2,761
	910

Submittal Table 8-1: Cross-reference for Standard vs Supplier Shortage Levels
Water Code Section 10632(a)(3)(B)

☒	Check the box if the Supplier uses the Standard six levels of water shortage. Proceed to the next table.		
Standard Shortage Levels	Percent Shortage Range	Suppliers Shortage Levels	Percent Shortage Range
1	Up to 10%		
2	Up to 20%		
3	Up to 30%		
4	Up to 40%		
5	Up to 50%		
6	>50%		

Submittal Table 8-2 Retail: Supply Augmentation and Other Actions Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(A),(C) and €, Casitas Wholesale				
Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Supply Augmentation Methods and Other Actions by Water Supplier	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference (OPTIONAL)
		Volume or Percentage Drop down	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (May be a range) (AF)	
1	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage		
2	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage		
3	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	600	Purchase SWP water as needed
4	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	600	Purchase SWP water as needed
5	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	600	Purchase SWP water as needed
6	Other Purchases	Volume	600	Purchase SWP water as needed
Notes: The proportion of SWP water available is proportioned between Casitas Wholesale and Casitas Retail.				

Submittal Table 8-2 Retail: Supply Augmentation and Other Actions
Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(A),(C) and €, Casitas Retail

Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Supply Augmentation Methods and Other Actions by Water Supplier	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference (OPTIONAL)
		Volume or Percentage Drop down	Shortage Gap Reduction Value (May be a range) (AF)	
1	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage		
2	Expand Public Information Campaign	Percentage		
3	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	1,400	Purchase SWP water as needed
4	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	1,400	Purchase SWP water as needed
5	Other Actions (describe)	Percentage	1,400	Purchase SWP water as needed
6	Other Purchases	Volume	1,400	Purchase SWP water as needed

Notes: The proportion of SWP water available is proportioned between Casitas Wholesale and Casitas Retail.

Submittal Table 8-3 Wholesale and Retail: Demand Reduction Actions
Water Code Section 10632(a)(4)(B) and (E)

Yes	Is the Supplier completing this table using the standard six levels? (yes/no)			
Shortage Level	Demand Reduction Actions	How much is this going to reduce the shortage gap?		Additional Explanation or Reference
		Volume or Percentage	Shortage Gap Reduction Value	
1	Other	Percentage	10	Voluntary conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix E)
2	Other	Percentage	20	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix E)
3	Other	Percentage	30	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix E)
4	Other	Percentage	40	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix E)
5	Other	Percentage	50	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix E)
6	Other	Percentage	>50	Mandatory conservation measures to reduce water usage. Demand Reduction Actions are described in the WEAP (Appendix E)

Submittal Table 10-1 Wholesale: Notification to Cities and Counties, Casitas Wholesale

☐

Check the box if the Supplier has notified more than 10 cities or counties.
Completion of the table below is not required. Provide a separate list of the cities and counties that were notified.

Provide the page or location of this list in the UWMP.

☒

Check the box if the Supplier has notified 10 or fewer cities or counties.
Complete the table below.

City Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
City of Ventura	Yes	Yes
County Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
Ventura County	Yes	Yes

Submittal Table 10-1 Retail: Notification to Cities and Counties, Casitas Retail

City Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
City of Ojai	Yes	Yes
City of Ventura	Yes	Yes
County Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
Ventura County	Yes	Yes

Submittal Table 10-1 Retail: Notification to Cities and Counties, Ojai Retail

City Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
City of Ojai	Yes	Yes
County Name	60 Day Notice	Notice of Public Hearing
Ventura County	Yes	Yes

Appendix H

Water Rates

APPENDIX A: MONTHLY WATER RATES AND SERVICE CHARGES

TABLE 1. RESIDENTIAL AND AG DOMESTIC TIER THRESHHOLDS

Tier	Monthly Water Use Threshold
Tier 1	10 HCF
Tier 2	50 HCF
Tier 3	>50 HCF

HCF = hundred cubic feet

TABLE 2. VOLUMETRIC RATES (\$/HCF) – Pumped

Customer Class	Tiers	Effective January 1, 2026	Effective January 1, 2027	Effective January 1, 2028	Effective January 1, 2029	Effective January 1, 2030
Residential ¹	Tier 1	\$2.27	\$2.44	\$2.60	\$2.77	\$2.94
	Tier 2	\$3.16	\$3.41	\$3.66	\$3.91	\$4.17
	Tier 3	\$4.55	\$4.89	\$5.23	\$5.58	\$5.93
Agricultural Domestic ¹	Tier 1	\$2.27	\$2.44	\$2.60	\$2.77	\$2.94
	Tier 2	\$3.16	\$3.41	\$3.66	\$3.91	\$4.17
	Tier 3	\$2.40	\$2.56	\$2.72	\$2.88	\$3.04
Agricultural	All HCF	\$2.40	\$2.56	\$2.72	\$2.88	\$3.04
Commercial	All HCF	\$3.25	\$3.52	\$3.80	\$4.08	\$4.37
Industrial	All HCF	\$3.25	\$3.52	\$3.80	\$4.08	\$4.37
Inter-Departmental	All HCF	\$3.25	\$3.52	\$3.80	\$4.08	\$4.37
Institutional and Other	All HCF	\$3.25	\$3.52	\$3.80	\$4.08	\$4.37
Resale	All HCF	\$3.25	\$3.52	\$3.80	\$4.08	\$4.37

TABLE 3. VOLUMETRIC RATES (\$/HCF) – gravity

Customer Class	Tiers	Effective January 1, 2026	Effective January 1, 2027	Effective January 1, 2028	Effective January 1, 2029	Effective January 1, 2030
Residential ¹	Tier 1	\$1.34	\$1.43	\$1.52	\$1.61	\$1.70
	Tier 2	\$2.26	\$2.43	\$2.59	\$2.76	\$2.93
	Tier 3	\$3.66	\$3.91	\$4.17	\$4.43	\$4.69
Agricultural Domestic ¹	Tier 1	\$1.34	\$1.43	\$1.52	\$1.61	\$1.70
	Tier 2	\$2.26	\$2.43	\$2.59	\$2.76	\$2.93
	Tier 3	\$1.49	\$1.57	\$1.65	\$1.73	\$1.80
Agricultural	All HCF	\$1.49	\$1.57	\$1.65	\$1.73	\$1.80
Commercial	All HCF	\$2.35	\$2.54	\$2.73	\$2.93	\$3.13
Industrial	All HCF	\$2.35	\$2.54	\$2.73	\$2.93	\$3.13
Inter-Departmental	All HCF	\$2.35	\$2.54	\$2.73	\$2.93	\$3.13
Institutional and Other	All HCF	\$2.35	\$2.54	\$2.73	\$2.93	\$3.13
Resale	All HCF	\$2.35	\$2.54	\$2.73	\$2.93	\$3.13

TABLE 4. MONTHLY SERVICE CHARGE

Customer Class	Meter Size	Effective January 1, 2026	Effective January 1, 2027	Effective January 1, 2028	Effective January 1, 2029	Effective January 1, 2030
Residential ¹	5/8" – 3/4"	\$42.12	\$45.80	\$49.65	\$53.62	\$57.69
	1"	\$73.94	\$80.34	\$87.00	\$93.88	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$127.92	\$136.65	\$145.49	\$154.35	\$163.13
	2"	\$349.66	\$395.59	\$446.09	\$501.24	\$561.03
	3"	\$1,037.04	\$1,253.21	\$1,509.48	\$1,811.68	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$2,280.83	\$2,728.03	\$3,252.23	\$3,863.36	\$4,571.62
Commercial and Industrial	5/8" – 3/4"	\$38.51	\$42.82	\$47.47	\$52.43	\$57.69
	1"	\$67.59	\$75.11	\$83.18	\$91.80	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$116.94	\$127.75	\$139.11	\$150.93	\$163.13
	2"	\$319.63	\$369.82	\$426.50	\$490.11	\$561.03
	3"	\$948.03	\$1,171.64	\$1,443.24	\$1,771.48	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$2,085.03	\$2,550.43	\$3,109.50	\$3,777.63	\$4,571.62
Institutional, Inter-Departmental, and Other	5/8" – 3/4"	\$36.81	\$41.40	\$46.41	\$51.84	\$57.69
	1"	\$64.64	\$72.63	\$81.35	\$90.78	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$111.84	\$123.55	\$136.04	\$149.25	\$163.13
	2"	\$305.67	\$357.64	\$417.08	\$484.67	\$561.03
	3"	\$906.61	\$1,133.03	\$1,411.36	\$1,751.81	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$1,993.92	\$2,466.38	\$3,040.80	\$3,735.67	\$4,571.62
Agricultural Domestic ¹	5/8" – 3/4"	\$36.81	\$41.40	\$46.41	\$51.84	\$57.69
	1"	\$64.64	\$72.63	\$81.35	\$90.78	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$111.84	\$123.55	\$136.04	\$149.25	\$163.13
	2"	\$305.67	\$357.64	\$417.08	\$484.67	\$561.03
	3"	\$906.61	\$1,133.03	\$1,411.36	\$1,751.81	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$1,993.92	\$2,466.38	\$3,040.80	\$3,735.67	\$4,571.62
Agricultural	5/8" – 3/4"	\$36.81	\$41.40	\$46.41	\$51.84	\$57.69
	1"	\$64.64	\$72.63	\$81.35	\$90.78	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$111.84	\$123.55	\$136.04	\$149.25	\$163.13
	2"	\$305.67	\$357.64	\$417.08	\$484.67	\$561.03
	3"	\$906.61	\$1,133.03	\$1,411.36	\$1,751.81	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$1,993.92	\$2,466.38	\$3,040.80	\$3,735.67	\$4,571.62
Resale	5/8" – 3/4"	\$40.00	\$44.06	\$48.38	\$52.93	\$57.69
	1"	\$70.23	\$77.29	\$84.79	\$92.68	\$100.92
	1-1/2"	\$121.50	\$131.47	\$141.79	\$152.38	\$163.13
	2"	\$332.09	\$380.58	\$434.73	\$494.82	\$561.03
	3"	\$984.97	\$1,205.71	\$1,471.09	\$1,788.49	\$2,165.99
	4"	\$2,166.28	\$2,624.61	\$3,169.51	\$3,813.91	\$4,571.62
	6"	\$3,624.76	\$4,322.74	\$5,138.25	\$6,085.86	\$7,180.44
	12"	\$25,388.20	\$38,622.68	\$51,370.69	\$68,083.11	\$89,884.58
	18"	\$31,216.71	\$46,518.11	\$58,152.51	\$72,437.92	\$89,884.58

TABLE 5. MONTHLY ADJUDICATION IMPACT CHARGE

Meter Size	Residential	Commercial	Agriculture	Ag Domestic	Inter-Departmental	Industrial	Other	Resale
5/8"	\$1.96			\$4.70	\$4.99	\$0.85	\$3.66	\$13.42
3/4"	\$1.96			\$4.70	\$4.99	\$0.85	\$3.66	\$13.42
1"	\$3.27	\$18.35	\$28.77	\$7.84	\$8.32	\$1.41	\$6.10	\$22.36
1-1/2"	\$6.54	\$36.71	\$57.54	\$15.68	\$16.64	\$2.82	\$12.19	\$44.73
2"	\$10.46	\$58.73	\$92.07	\$25.09	\$26.63	\$4.52	\$19.51	\$71.56
3"	\$22.88	\$128.47	\$201.41	\$54.89	\$58.25	\$9.89	\$42.68	\$156.54
4"	\$41.18	\$231.24	\$362.53	\$98.79	\$104.84	\$17.80	\$76.82	\$281.77
6"		\$477.17	\$748.08	\$203.86	\$216.35	\$36.72	\$158.53	\$581.43
12"								\$3,434.93
18"								\$6,385.47

TABLE 6. MONTHLY FIRE SERVICE CHARGE

Meter Size	Effective January 1, 2026	Effective January 1, 2027	Effective January 1, 2028	Effective January 1, 2029	Effective January 1, 2030
2"	\$5.56	\$5.84	\$6.13	\$6.44	\$6.76
3"	\$12.17	\$12.78	\$13.42	\$14.09	\$14.79
4"	\$21.91	\$23.00	\$24.15	\$25.36	\$26.63
6"	\$45.20	\$47.47	\$49.84	\$52.33	\$54.95
8"	\$55.64	\$58.42	\$61.34	\$64.41	\$67.63
10"	\$79.98	\$83.98	\$88.18	\$92.58	\$97.21

¹Includes Single Family and Multi-Family Uses. Multi-family Residential Tier 1 rate is 10 HCF per dwelling unit.

See Subsection 2.2 of the Casitas Municipal Water District Rates and Regulations for Water Service for definitions of the customer classifications used in the above tables.

Note that certain customers have a special rate based on agreements with the District.

Public Hearing Notification and Proof of Publication



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Casitas Municipal Water District will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, June 24, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.** on the Water Shortage Contingency Plan and 2025 Urban Water Management Plan. At the same meeting, the Board will also consider adoption of these two documents in compliance with Water Code Section 10642. Interested parties may participate in person or use the call-in or Zoom information posted on the District's website for the Regular Board meeting at: <https://www.casitaswater.org/board-meetings>

The Water Shortage Contingency Plan is included in Section 8 of the 2025 Urban Water Management Plan, which is available to review on the District's website starting June 10, 2026, at: <https://www.casitaswater.org/urban-water-management-plans>

Comments or questions may be directed to Tyrone LaFay at tlafay@casitaswater.com or 805.649.2251 x118.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(SECTION 2015.5 CCP)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF VENTURA

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the aforesaid County; I am over the age of eighteen, and not interested in the above entitled matter. I am now, and at all times embraced in the publication herein mentioned, was a principal clerk of the printers and publishers of THE OJAI VALLEY NEWS, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published every Friday at Ojai in the above-named County and State; that the Legal Advertisement.

CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

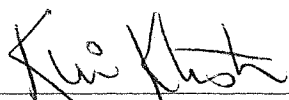
- Water Shortage Contingency
- Water Code Section 10642

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June 5, 12, 2026

That said newspaper was duly and regularly ascertained and established newspaper of general circulation by Decree entered in the Superior Court of the County of Ventura, State of California, on February 14, 1958, under the provision of Chapter 1, Division 7, Title 1 of the California Code of the State of California. I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Kim Klester
Ojai Valley News



Dated this 12th Day of June, 2026
at Ojai Valley News, Ventura County, California

OJAI VALLEY NEWS
FRIDAY, JUNE 5, 12, 2026
PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE
CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

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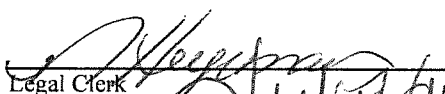
Rebekah Vieira
Casitas Municipal Water Ec Lgl
1055 Ventura AVE
Oak View CA 93022-9622

STATE OF WISCONSIN, COUNTY OF BROWN

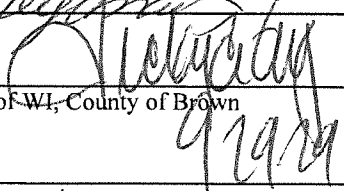
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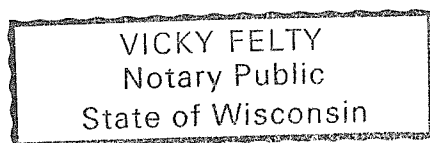
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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Pub: June 5 & 12, 2026
Ad#12372843

Appendix F

Urban Water Management Plan Checklist

This appendix shows the checklist of specific Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) requirements. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) asks urban water suppliers (Suppliers) to complete this checklist as part of their 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). A Microsoft Excel version of this table is available on the Water Use Efficiency Data Portal ([WUEdata portal](#)). On the portal, scroll down to the “Resources” section, and click through to the file.

In the table, suppliers should enter information in the far-right column labeled “2025 UWMP Location,” and indicate the page number in their UWMP where a requirement is addressed.

This checklist may be submitted with the 2025 UWMP and helps DWR reviewers assess whether a UWMP addresses Water Code requirements.

Table F-1. Urban Water Management Plan Checklist

Retail (x = required)	Wholesale (x = required)	2025 Guidebook Location	Water Code Section	Summary as Applies to UWMP	Subject	Relevant Submittal Table	2025 UWMP Location
x	x	Chapter 1	10615	A plan shall describe and evaluate sources of supply, reasonable and practical efficient uses, reclamation and demand management activities.	Introduction and overview	n/a	1
x	x	Chapter 1	10630.5	Each plan shall include a simple description of the Supplier’s plan including water availability, future requirements, a strategy for meeting needs, and other pertinent information. Additionally, a Supplier may also choose to include a simple description at the beginning of each chapter.	Plan preparation	n/a	1
x	x	Section 2.1	10620(b)	Every person that becomes a Supplier shall adopt UWMP within one year after it has become a Supplier.	Plan preparation	n/a	5
x	n/a	Section 2.5	10644	Supplier shall report the Public Water Systems number, volume of delivered water, and number of connections that are included in this UWMP.	Plan preparation	2-1	5
x	x	Section 2.5	10644	Supplier shall report if this UWMP is an individual UWMP and whether the Supplier belongs to a regional UWMP or regional alliance.	Plan preparation	2-2	5-6
x	x	Section 2.5	10644	Supplier shall report whether the data is in fiscal or calendar years and the units of measure used for reporting water volumes.	Plan preparation	2-3	6
x	x	Section 2.4	10642	Provide supporting documentation that the Supplier has encouraged active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the service area prior to and during the preparation of the plan and contingency plan.	Plan preparation	n/a	6-8
x	x	Section 2.4.2	10620(d)(3)	Coordinate the preparation of its plan with other appropriate agencies in the area, including other Suppliers that share a common source, water management agencies, and relevant public agencies, to the extent practicable.	Plan preparation	n/a	8
x	n/a	Section 2.4.1	10631(h)	Retail Suppliers will include documentation that they have provided their Wholesale Supplier(s)—if any—with water use projections from that source.	Plan preparation	2-4 R	7
n/a	x	Section 2.4.1	10631(h)	Wholesale Suppliers will provide their Suppliers with identification and quantification of the existing and planned sources of water available from the Wholesale Supplier to the Supplier during various water year types.	Plan preparation	2-4 W	7
x	x	Chapter 3.0	10631(a)	Describe the Supplier service area.	System description	n/a	9-12
x	x	Section 3.3	10631(a)	Describe the climate of the Supplier’s service area.	System description	n/a	13
x	x	Section 3.4.1	10631(a)	Provide the current and projected service area populations for 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045 and optionally 2050.	System description	3-1	13-14
x	x	Section 3.4.2	10631(a)	Describe other social, economic, and demographic factors affecting the Supplier’s water management planning.	System description	n/a	15-16
x	x	Section 3.5	10631(a)	Describe the land uses within the service area... include the current and projected land uses within the existing or anticipated service area affecting the Supplier’s water management planning. Describe the land uses within the service area.	System description and baselines	n/a	16-19
x	Optional	Sections 4.2.3 and 4.2.4	10631(d)(1)	Quantify past, current, and projected water use, identifying the uses among water use sectors.	System water use	4-1 and 4-2	20
x	Optional	Section 4.3.1	10631(d)(3)(A)	Report the distribution system water loss for each of the five years preceding the plan update.	System water use	4-5	25-26
x	n/a	Section 4.3.2	10631(d)(3)(C)	Retail Suppliers shall provide data to show the distribution loss standards were met.	System water use	4-6	27
x	n/a	Section 4.2.5.4	10631.1(a)	Include projected water use needed for lower income housing projected in the service area of the Supplier.	System water use	4-3	24
x	n/a	Section 4.2.5.3	10631(d)(4)(A)	In projected water use, include estimates of water savings from adopted codes, plans, and other policies or laws.	System water use	4-3	24

Retail (x = required)	Wholesale (x = required)	2025 Guidebook Location	Water Code Section	Summary as Applies to UWMP	Subject	Relevant Submittal Table	2025 UWMP Location
x	n/a	Section 4.2.5.3	10631(d)(4)(B)	Provide citations of codes, standards, ordinances, or plans used to make water use projections.	System water use	4-3	22-24
x	n/a	Section 4.2.5.3	10631(d)(4)(B)(ii)	To the extent that a Supplier reports the information described in subparagraph (A), an urban water Supplier shall... Indicate the extent that the water use projections consider savings from codes, standards, ordinances, or transportation and land use plans. Water use projections that do not account for these water savings shall be noted of that fact.	System water use	4-3	22-24
x	x	Section 4.2.5.6	10635(b)	Demands under climate change considerations must be included as part of the drought risk assessment.	System water use	n/a	24
n/a	x	Section 5.1	10608.36	Wholesale Suppliers shall include an assessment of present and proposed future measures, programs, and policies to help their Retail Suppliers achieve targeted water use reductions.	Baselines and targets	n/a	109-110
x	n/a	Section 5.2	10608.40	Retail Suppliers shall report on their compliance in meeting their water use targets. Reporting requirements will vary depending on whether the Supplier: - Was considered an urban retail water supplier in 2020, - Met its 2020 target in 2020, or - Was part of a merger or consolidation since 2020. Chapter 5 Subsections 5.2.1, 5.2.2, and 5.2.3 address each of these situations.	Baselines and targets	5-1	29-30
x	x	Section 6.1	10631(b)(2)	When multiple sources of water supply are identified, describe the management of each supply in relationship to other identified supplies.	System supplies	n/a	31-37
x	x	Sections 6.1 and 6.2	10631(b)(1)	Provide a discussion of anticipated supply availability under a normal, single dry year, and a drought lasting five years, as well as more frequent and severe periods of drought, including changes in supply due to climate change.	System supplies	n/a	31-61
x	x	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(C)	Indicate whether groundwater is an existing or planned source of water available to the Supplier. If groundwater is identified as an existing or planned source of water... (include) a detailed description and analysis of the location, amount and sufficiency of groundwater pumped by the Supplier for the past five years.	Water supplies and recycled water	6-1	38-40
x	x	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(A)	Indicate whether a groundwater sustainability plan or groundwater management plan has been adopted by the Supplier or if there is any other specific authorization for groundwater management. Include a copy of the plan or authorization.	System supplies	n/a	38-40
x	x	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(B)	Describe the groundwater basin.	System supplies	n/a	38-40
x	x	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(B)	Indicate if the basin has been adjudicated and include a copy of the court order or decree and a description of the amount of water the Supplier has the legal right to pump.	System supplies	n/a	38-40
x	x	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(B)	For unadjudicated basins... (include) information as to whether DWR has identified the basin as a high- or medium-priority basin in the most current official departmental bulletin...	Water supplies and recycled water	n/a	38-40
x	x	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(B)	For unadjudicated basins... describe efforts by the Supplier to coordinate with sustainability or groundwater agencies to achieve sustainable groundwater conditions.	Water supplies and recycled water	n/a	38-40
x	x	Section 6.2.2.	10631(b)(4)(C)	If groundwater is identified as an existing or planned source of water... (include) a detailed description and analysis of the location, amount and sufficiency of groundwater pumped by the Supplier for the past five years.	System supplies	n/a	38-40
x	x	Section 6.2.2	10631(b)(4)(D)	Provide a detailed description and analysis of the amount and location of groundwater that is projected to be pumped.	System supplies	6-9	58-61
x	x	Section 6.1	10631(b)	Identify and quantify the existing and planned sources of water available for 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045 and optionally 2050.	System supplies	6-8 and 6-9	57-61
x	x	Section 6.2.7	10631(c)	Describe the opportunities for exchanges or transfers of water on a short-term or long-term basis.	System supplies	n/a	55-57

Retail (x = required)	Wholesale (x = required)	2025 Guidebook Location	Water Code Section	Summary as Applies to UWMP	Subject	Relevant Submittal Table	2025 UWMP Location
x	n/a	Section 6.2.5	10633(a)	Describe the wastewater collection and treatment systems in the Supplier's service area with quantified amount of collection and treatment and the disposal methods.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-2	45-50
x	x	Section 6.2.5	10633(b)	Describe the quantity of treated wastewater that meets recycled water standards, is being discharged, and is otherwise available for use in a recycled water project.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-3	46-50
x	x	Section 6.2.5	10633(c)	Describe the recycled water currently being used in the Supplier's service area.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-4	51-52
x	x	Section 6.2.5	10633(d)	Describe and quantify the potential uses of recycled water and provide a determination of the technical and economic feasibility of those uses.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-4	51-52
x	x	Section 6.2.5	10633(e)	Describe the projected use of recycled water within the Supplier's service area at the end of 5, 10, 15, and 20 years, and describe the actual use of recycled water in comparison to uses previously projected.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-4 and 6-5	51-54
x	x	Section 6.2.5	10633(f)	Describe the actions that may be taken to encourage the use of recycled water and the projected results of these actions in terms of acre-feet of recycled water used per year.	System supplies (recycled water)	6-6	54-55
x	x	Section 6.2.5	10633(g)	Provide a plan for optimizing the use of recycled water in the Supplier's service area.	System supplies (recycled water)	n/a	54-55
x	x	Section 6.2.6	10631(g)	Describe desalinated water project opportunities for long-term supply.	System supplies	6-7	55
x	x	Section 6.2.10	10631(f)	Describe the expected future water supply projects and programs that may be undertaken by the water Supplier to address water supply reliability in average, single-dry, and for a period of drought lasting five consecutive water years.	System supplies	6-7	56-58
x	x	Section 6.3 and Appendix O	10631.2(a)	The UWMP must include energy information, as stated in the code, that a Supplier can readily obtain.	System suppliers, energy intensity	O-1A, O-1B, O-1C, and O- 2	61-64
x		Section 7.1	10634	Provide information on the quality of existing sources of water available to the Supplier and the manner in which water quality affects water management strategies and supply reliability.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	65-66
x	x	Section 7.2	10635(a)	Service Reliability Assessment: Assess the water supply reliability during normal, dry, and a drought lasting five consecutive water years by comparing the total water supply sources available to the Supplier with the total projected water use over the next 20 years.	Water supply reliability assessment	7-2, 7-3, and 7-4	66-72
x	x	Section 7.2.3	10620(f)	Describe water management tools and options to maximize resources and minimize the need to import water from other regions.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	72-73
x	x	Section 7.3	10635(b)	Provide a drought risk assessment as part of information considered in developing the demand management measures and water supply projects.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	73-76
x	x	Section 7.3	10635(b)(1)	Include a description of the data, methodology, and basis for one or more supply shortage conditions that are necessary to conduct a drought risk assessment for a drought period that lasts five consecutive years.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	73-76
x	x	Section 7.3	10635(b)(2)	Include a determination of the reliability of each source of supply under a variety of water shortage conditions.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	73-76
x	x	Section 7.3	10635(b)(3)	Include a comparison of the total water supply sources available to the Supplier with the total projected water use for the drought period.	Water supply reliability assessment	7-5	73-76
x	x	Section 7.3	10635(b)(4)	Include considerations of the historical drought hydrology, plausible changes on projected supplies and demands under climate change conditions, anticipated regulatory changes, and other locally applicable criteria.	Water supply reliability assessment	n/a	73-76
x	x	Chapter 8	10632(a)	Provide a water shortage contingency plan (WSCP) with specified elements below.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	77-82

Retail (x = required)	Wholesale (x = required)	2025 Guidebook Location	Water Code Section	Summary as Applies to UWMP	Subject	Relevant Submittal Table	2025 UWMP Location
x	x	Chapter 8	10632(a)(1)	Provide an analysis of water supply reliability (from Guidebook Chapter 7) in the WSCP.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	77-82
x	x	Section 8.2	10632(a)(2)(A)	Provide the written decision-making process and other methods that the Supplier will use each year to determine its water reliability.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	82
x	x	Section 8.2	10632(a)(2)(B)	Provide data and methodology to evaluate the Supplier’s water reliability for the current year and one dry year pursuant to factors in the code.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	83-84
x	x	Section 8.3	10632(a)(3)(A)	Define six standard water shortage levels of 10%, 20%, 30%, 40%, 50% shortage, and greater than 50% shortage. These levels shall be based on supply conditions, including percent reductions in supply, changes in groundwater levels, changes in surface elevation, or other conditions. The shortage levels shall also apply to a catastrophic interruption of supply.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	85
x	x	Section 8.3	10632(a)(3)(B)	Suppliers with an existing WSCP that uses different water shortage levels must cross reference their categories with the six standard categories.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-1	85
x	x	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(A)	Suppliers with WSCPs that align with the defined shortage levels must specify locally appropriate supply augmentation actions.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-2	86-87
x	x	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(B)	Specify locally appropriate demand reduction actions to adequately respond to shortages.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-3	87-89
x	x	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(C)	Specify locally appropriate operational changes.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-2	89-90
x	x	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(D)	Specify additional mandatory prohibitions against specific water use practices that are in addition to State-mandated prohibitions are appropriate to local conditions.	Water shortage contingency planning	Table 8-3	90
x	x	Section 8.4	10632(a)(4)(E)	Estimate the extent to which the gap between supplies and demand will be reduced by implementation of the action.	Water shortage contingency planning	8-2 and 8-3	86-90
x	x	Section 8.4.6	10632.5	The UWMP shall include a seismic risk assessment and mitigation plan.	Water shortage contingency plan	n/a	90
x	x	Section 8.5	10632(a)(5)(A)	Suppliers must describe that they will inform customers, the public and others regarding any current or predicted water shortages.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	90-93
x	x	Section 8.5	10632(a)(5)(B), 10632(a)(5)(C)	Suppliers must describe that they will inform customers, the public and others regarding any shortage response actions triggered or anticipated to be triggered and other relevant communications.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	90-93
x	n/a	Section 8.6	10632(a)(6)	Retail Supplier must describe how it will ensure compliance with and enforce provisions of the WSCP.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	93
x	x	Section 8.7	10632(a)(7)(A)	Describe the legal authority that empowers the Supplier to enforce shortage response actions.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	93-94
x	x	Section 8.7	10632(a)(7)(B)	Provide a statement that the Supplier will declare a water shortage emergency per Water Code Chapter 3. <i>Water Shortage Emergencies</i> .	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	94
x	x	Section 8.7	10632(a)(7)(C)	Provide a statement that the Supplier will coordinate with any city or county within which it provides water for the possible proclamation of a local emergency.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	94
x	x	Section 8.8	10632(a)(8)(A)	Describe the potential revenue reductions and expense increases associated with activated shortage response actions.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	94-95
x	x	Section 8.8	10632(a)(8)(B)	Provide a description of mitigation actions needed to address revenue reductions and expense increases associated with activated shortage response actions.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	94-95
x	n/a	Section 8.8	10632(a)(8)(C)	Retail Suppliers must describe the cost of compliance with Water Code Chapter 3.3, <i>Excessive Residential Water Use During Drought</i> .	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	94-95

Retail (x = required)	Wholesale (x = required)	2025 Guidebook Location	Water Code Section	Summary as Applies to UWMP	Subject	Relevant Submittal Table	2025 UWMP Location
x	n/a	Section 8.9	10632(a)(9)	Retail Suppliers must describe the monitoring and reporting requirements and procedures that ensure appropriate data are collected, tracked, and analyzed for purposes of monitoring customer compliance.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	95-96
x	x	Section 8.10	10632(a)(10)	Describe reevaluation and improvement procedures for monitoring and evaluation the WSCP to ensure risk tolerance is adequate and appropriate water shortage mitigation strategies are implemented.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	96
x	n/a	Section 8.11	10632(b)	Analyze and define water features that are artificially supplied with water, including ponds, lakes, waterfalls, and fountains, separately from swimming pools and spas.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	96
x	x	Section 8.12	10632(c)	Make available the WSCP to customers and any city or county where it provides water within 30 days after adoption of the plan.	Water shortage contingency planning	n/a	96-97
x	n/a	Sections 9.1	10631(e)(1)	Retail Suppliers shall provide a description of the nature and extent of each demand management measure implemented over the past five years. The description will address specific measures listed in code.	Demand management measures	n/a	99-109
n/a	x	Sections 9.2	10631(e)(2)	Wholesale Suppliers shall describe specific demand management measures listed in code, their distribution system asset management program, and Supplier assistance program.	Demand management measures	n/a	109-110
x	n/a	Chapter 10	10608.26(a)	Retail Suppliers shall conduct a public hearing to discuss adoption, implementation, and economic impact of water use targets (recommended to discuss compliance).	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	111-114
x	x	Section 10.2.1	10621(b)	Notify, at least 60 days prior to the public hearing, any city or county within which the Supplier provides water that the Supplier will be reviewing the UWMP and considering amendments or changes to the plan.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	10-1	111-114
x	x	Section 10.4	10621(f)	Each urban water Supplier shall update and submit its 2025 plan to DWR by July 1, 2026.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	113
x	x	Sections 10.2.2, 10.3, and 10.5	10642	Provide supporting documentation that the Supplier made the UWMP and WSCP available for public inspection, published notice of the public hearing, and held a public hearing about the UWMP and WSCP.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	111-113
x	x	Section 10.2.2	10642	The Supplier is to provide the time and place of the hearing to any city or county within which the Supplier provides water.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	10-1	111-112
x	x	Section 10.3.2	10642	Provide supporting documentation that the UWMP and WSCP has been adopted as prepared or modified.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	113-114
x	x	Section 10.4	10644(a)	Provide supporting documentation that the Supplier has submitted their UWMP to the California State Library.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	113
x	x	Section 10.4	10644(a)(1)	Provide supporting documentation that the Supplier has submitted their UWMP to any city or county within which the Supplier provides water no later than 30 days after adoption.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	113-114
x	x	Sections 10.4.1 and 10.4.2	10644(a)(2)	The UWMP, or amendments to the UWMP, submitted to DWR shall be submitted electronically.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	113
x	x	Section 10.7.2	10644(b)	If revised, submit a copy of the WSCP to DWR within 30 days of adoption.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	114

Retail (x = required)	Wholesale (x = required)	2025 Guidebook Location	Water Code Section	Summary as Applies to UWMP	Subject	Relevant Submittal Table	2025 UWMP Location
x	x	Section 10.5	10645(a)	Provide supporting documentation that, not later than 30 days after filing a copy of its UWMP with DWR, the Supplier has or will make the plan available for public review during normal business hours.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	113
x	x	Section 10.5	10645(b)	Provide supporting documentation that, not later than 30 days after filing a copy of its WSCP with DWR, the Supplier has or will make the plan available for public review during normal business hours.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	113-114
x	x	Section 10.6	10621(c)	If Supplier is regulated by the Public Utilities Commission, include its plan and contingency plan as part of its general rate case filings.	Plan adoption, submittal, and implementation	n/a	113