Memorandum

To: On-line file for Santa Paula Basin, California Adjudicated Basins Annual Reporting System (https://sgma.water.ca.gov/adjudbasins/report/)

From: John Lindquist, United Water Conservation District (UWCD)

cc: Bryan Bondy, Santa Paula Basin Pumpers Association
Betsy Cooper, City of San Buenaventura

Date: February 1, 2023

Subject: **2022 Santa Paula Basin Annual Report – In Progress**

This memorandum summarizes the status and timeline for submittal of the Santa Paula Basin Annual Report and related groundwater monitoring data for 2022 to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) web-based tool for adjudicated basins. In a phone call on November 18, 2021, Anita Regmi/DWR-Southern Region Office recommended that United Water Conservation District (UWCD)—on behalf of the Santa Paula Basin Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)—prepare and submit such a memorandum by April 1 of each year if the annual report for the prior year has not been finalized and submitted by that date.

The stipulated judgment (adjudication) for the Santa Paula basin (originally entered on March 7, 1996, amended August 24, 2010; hereinafter referred to as "Judgment") requires monitoring and annual reporting of groundwater conditions in the basin. The Judgment provided for the creation of a Santa Paula Basin Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) with equal representation from UWCD, the Santa Paula Basin Pumpers Association (SPBPA), and the City of San Buenaventura. The TAC was charged with establishing a program to "monitor conditions in the basin, including but not necessarily limited to verification of future pumping amounts, measurements of groundwater levels, estimates of inflow to and outflow from the basin, increases and decreases in groundwater storage, and analyses of groundwater quality." The Judgment states that "United Water Conservation District shall have the primary responsibility for collecting, collating, and verifying the data required under the monitoring program, and shall present the results thereof in annual reports to the Technical Advisory Committee." Accordingly, UWCD submits draft annual reports to the TAC members for review, comment, and revision prior to preparation and submittal of a final draft. The format of the Santa Paula Basin annual reports was modified beginning in 2015 to improve compliance with the annual reporting requirements for adjudicated basins under California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA).

Preparation of the 2022 Santa Paula Basin annual report is currently in process. UWCD collects pumping data on a calendar-year basis, divided into two equal periods (January 1 through June

30, and July 1 through December 31). Requests for pumping data are sent to groundwater users shortly after the end of each period, typically in July and January. Therefore, UWCD receives most pumping data for the second half of each calendar year by March of the following year. Those data then have to be entered into UWCD's database, QA/QC-checked, and corrected (if needed) before being used in the analyses, tables, and figures that are included in the annual report. In addition, each year the SPBPA prepares detailed tables of average and annual production, transfers, and allocations for the parties involved ("Appendix D, Individual Party Allocations and Groundwater Extractions) using UWCD's pumping data; these tables are typically finalized by June.

During most years since 2015, UWCD has been able to complete a draft annual report and submit it to the other members of the TAC for review and comment in July or August. Following receipt of TAC-member comments, UWCD submits a revised draft of the annual report to the TAC members for another review before a final version is prepared and submitted to the Court and to the DWR on-line tool for adjudicated basins. This process is often completed by September or October. We expect a similar process and timeline to occur in 2023 for the 2022 Santa Paula Basin annual report.