

**BOARD
MEETING**

January 19, 2022

**VENTURA RIVER
WATER DISTRICT**

Award Task Order Engineering for 2023 Water Projects

- The Work: Water main Replacements, Improvements for Tico Mutual, Pumpstation Rehabilitation, Water Tanks & Solar
- Request for Proposals sent to 9 Engr. Firms
 - AECOM & Phoenix Civil Engineers responded
- Review Committee
 - Tico: Allan Connell
 - Board of Directors: Peggy Wiles & Bruce Kuebler
 - Staff: Mark Albertsen & Bert Rapp

Award Task Order Engineering for 2023 Water Projects

- Review Committee interviewed the two consultant teams and recommends Phoenix Civil Engineering.
- Phoenix organized a local team of small firms who will partner to complete the project.
- AECOM is a national firm doing more of the design work in house.
- Input from the two firms highlighted the difficulty of building the Casitas Springs Hwy 33 Loop.

Award Task Order Engineering for 2023 Water Projects

- Casitas Springs Hwy 33 Loop – Options:
 - Merge with Casitas Mutual
 - Utilize exist. easement in front yards parallel to Hwy 33
 - Funded 100% by State grant
 - Obtain easements between Nye Road & Hwy 33 to install hydrants
- Solar – Options:
 - SRF review times could prevent ability to apply for grant funding
 - Therefore: separate Solar & do not fund with SRF

Revisions from Original Proposal Design Phase 2023 Water Projects

- Hwy 33 Casitas Springs & Solar removed.
- CEQA timing moved up to completion of Preliminary Designs.
- Optimization analysis of Baldwin booster pumps with small 24/7/365 pump noted.
- New motor controls for the five Baldwin Wells removed.

2023 Water Projects Proposal Cost Comparison			
Consultant	Design		Construction Observation
	Original Cost	Updated Cost	
Phoenix	\$755,000	\$658,000	\$827,000
AECOM	\$1,051,000	-	\$729,000

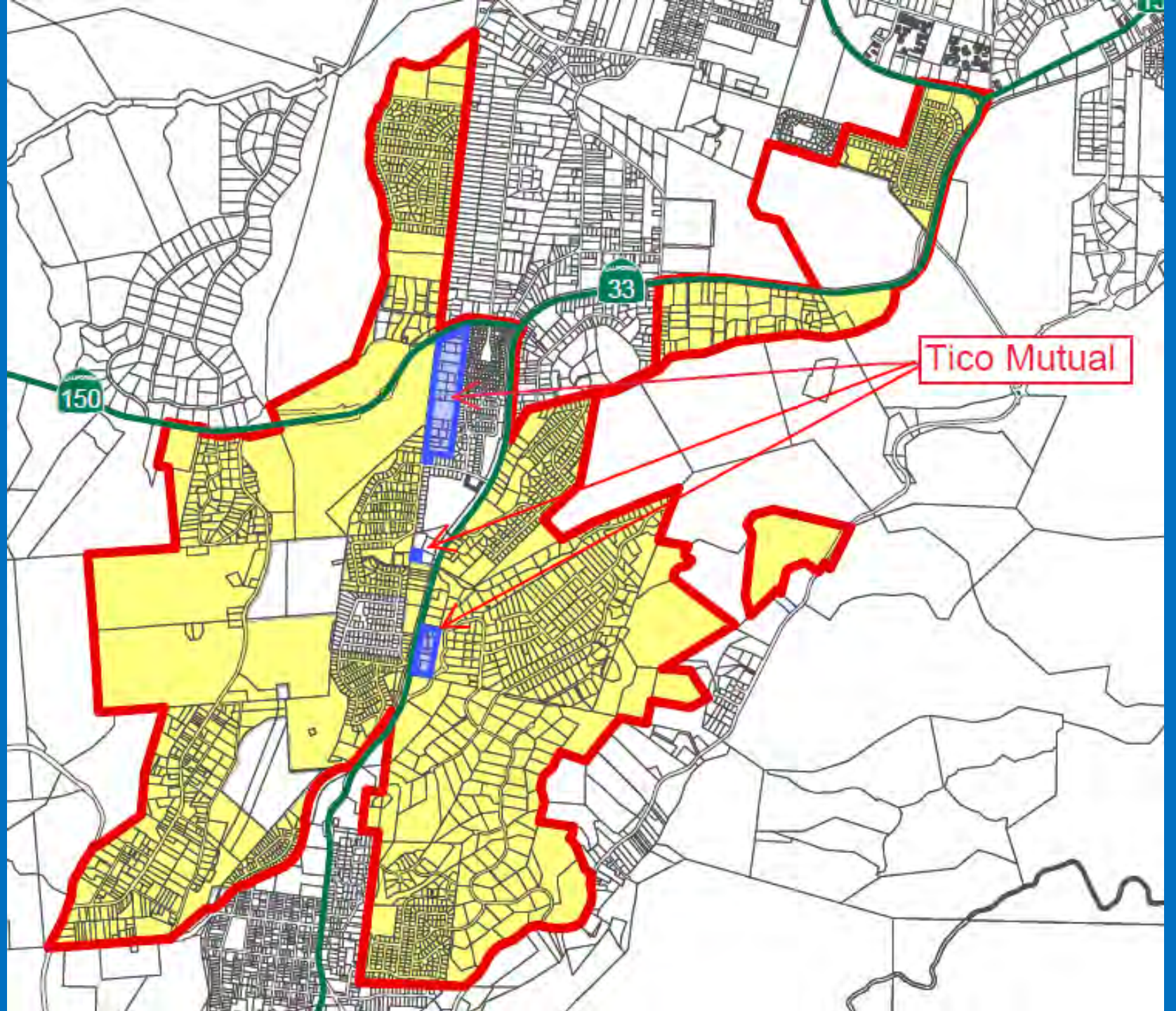
Award Task Order Engineering for 2023 Water Projects

- Recommended Action:

The General Manager recommends the Board award Task Order #16 to Phoenix Civil Engineering in the amount of \$657,565 for the design and environmental work for the 2023 Water Projects.

INITIATING PROCEEDINGS TO ANNEX TICO MUTUAL

- Tico began discussing merging with VRWD in 2017
- Tico entered a consolidation agreement with VRWD in July 2020
- Tico has 43 parcels and 38 shareholders
- Obtained at least a 75% grant from SRF to fund improvements for Tico



INITIATING PROCEEDINGS TO ANNEX TICO MUTUAL

- Tico will use high nitrate well for irrigation and VRWD water for indoor potable use.
- Tico has consented to forming an assessment district to place their reimbursement obligations on their property taxes
- The water demand from Tico represents a 0.5% increase for VRWD.
- And a 5 AF reduction of water use from Lake Casitas

INITIATING PROCEEDINGS TO ANNEX TICO MUTUAL

Next steps:

- Approvals by Casitas Municipal Water District:
 - Annexation
 - Transfer of Tico 8 AF allocation
- Draft Letter to Casitas attached
- LAFCo approval of annexation will be requested when improvement plans are 60% complete & submitted to SRF.

INITIATING PROCEEDINGS TO ANNEX TICO MUTUAL

Recommend Action:

- Approve Resolution 2022-340 Initiating Proceedings to annex the Tico Mutual Water Company Shareholder parcels into the Ventura River Water District.

SUPPORT FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD GRANTS

- A new round of grant funding being applied for from the Wildlife Conservation Board
 - Planning
 - Implementation
- Administered by Ventura County Resource Conservation District

SUPPORT FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD GRANTS

<u>Grant</u>	<u>Customers</u>	<u>WCB Grant</u>	<u>Total</u>
Planning Activities	13%	87%	100%
Planning Activities	\$25,800	\$172,000	\$197,800
Implementation	41%	59%	100%
Implementation	\$139,345	\$202,355	\$341,700

SUPPORT FOR WILDLIFE CONSERVATION BOARD GRANTS

- No match required for VRWD at this time
- VRWD may offer to fund some Planning or Implementation costs if the grant is approved
- About \$45,000 per year available in water waste penalties

Recommended Action:

- Adopt Resolution 2022-341 supporting the Wildlife Conservation Board grant application

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER RECRUITMENT

The Plan:

- Bring an Assistant General Manager on board to assist with the workload during the 2023 Water Projects
- The selected person may become the General Manager with the retirement of the existing General Manager December 2023.

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER RECRUITMENT

- Qualifications:
 - Prior work for a Government Agency or preferred?
 - Required to be Civil Engineer or preferred?
- Salary Range:
 - Existing: \$90,000 to \$125,000
 - Proposed: \$90,000 to \$130,000

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER RECRUITMENT

Recommended Action:

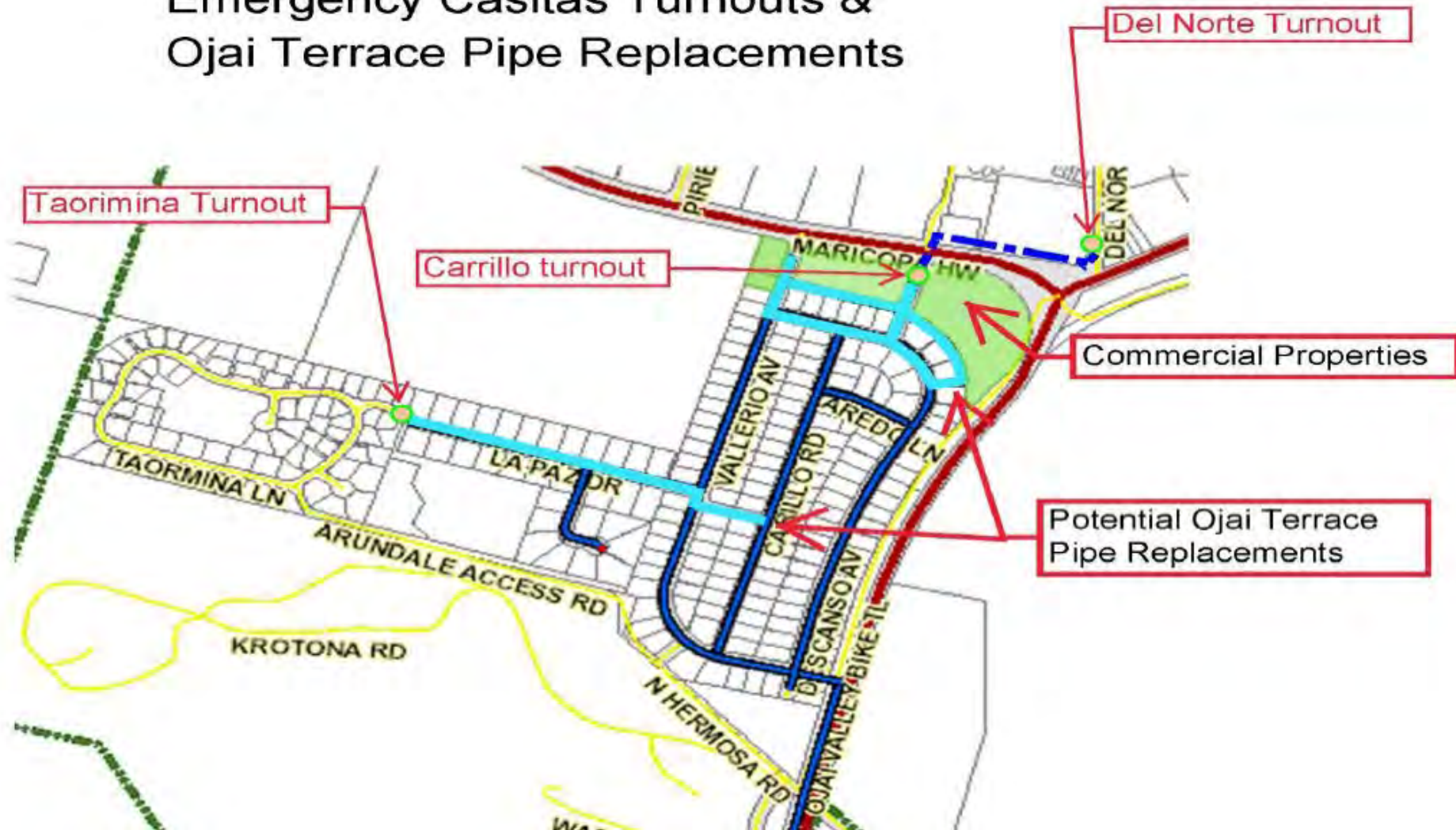
1. Approve the job description.
2. Review and comment on the advertisement and brochure.
3. Approve the updated Salary Range Schedule

AWARD OF TASK ORDER OJAI TERRACE HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS

1. Casitas offers an emergency turnout option that can be very beneficial to the Ojai Terrace neighborhood.
2. The Ojai Terrace is served at the end of a 9,000-foot long single pipe.
3. This project is part of the SRF 2023 Water Projects.
4. Casitas has requested the VRWD to estimate the cost to built three alternatives. Then Casitas will select an alternative.

AWARD OF TASK ORDER

Emergency Casitas Turnouts & Ojai Terrace Pipe Replacements



AWARD OF TASK ORDER OJAI TERRACE HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS

- Water Resources Engineering Associates (WREA) provided attached cost proposal because they maintain the District Hydraulic Model.
- The selected consultant for the 2023 Water Projects will prepare the construction cost estimates for Casitas.

AWARD OF TASK ORDER OJAI TERRACE HYDRAULIC ANALYSIS

Recommended Action:

- Authorize the General Manager to issue a Task Order to WREA in the amount of \$15,180 to conduct the hydraulic analysis of Ojai Terrace neighborhood.

Board Reports on Meetings attended

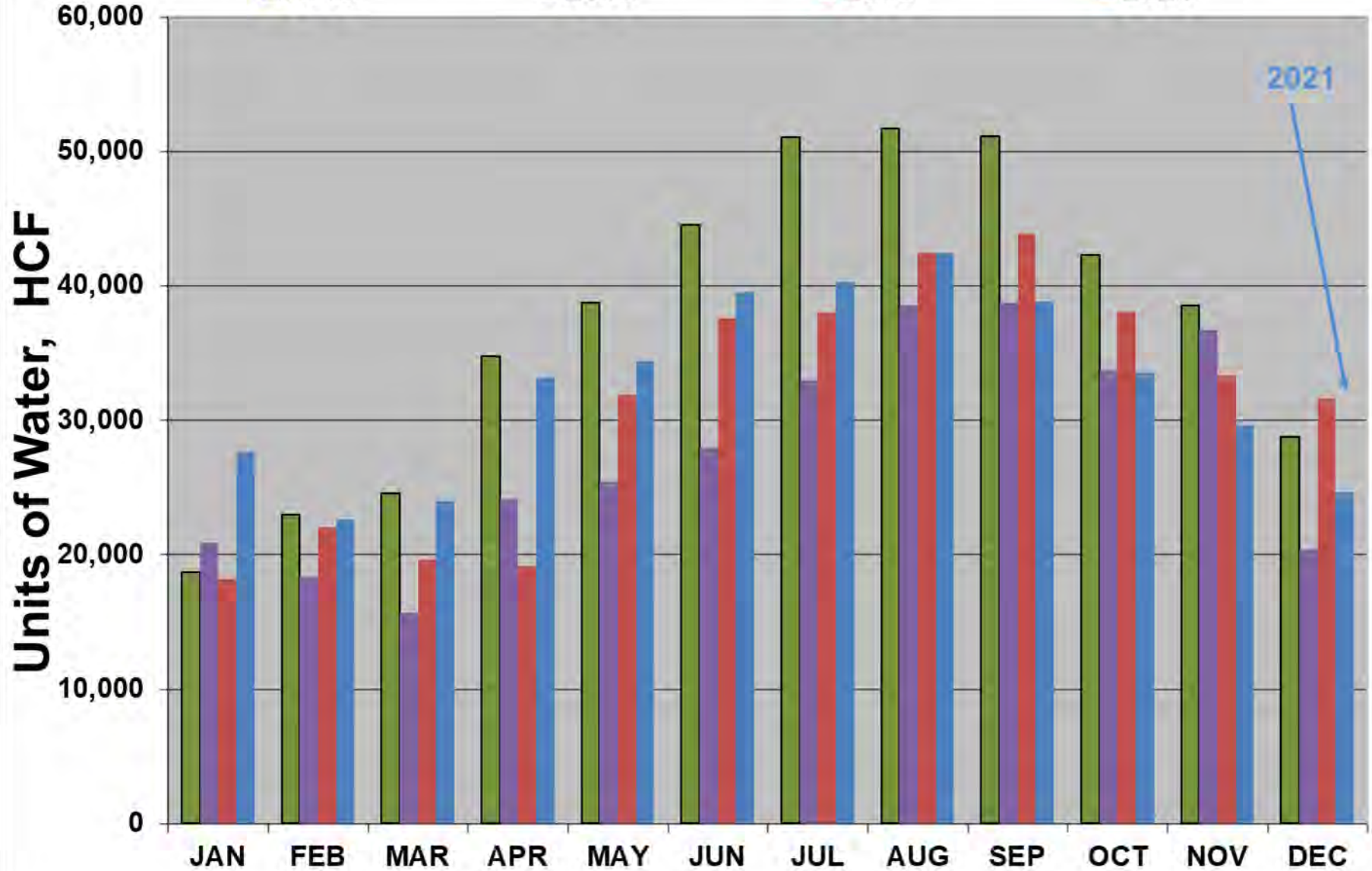
Upper Ventura River
Groundwater Agency

Bruce Kuebler

WATER & DISTRICT UPDATE

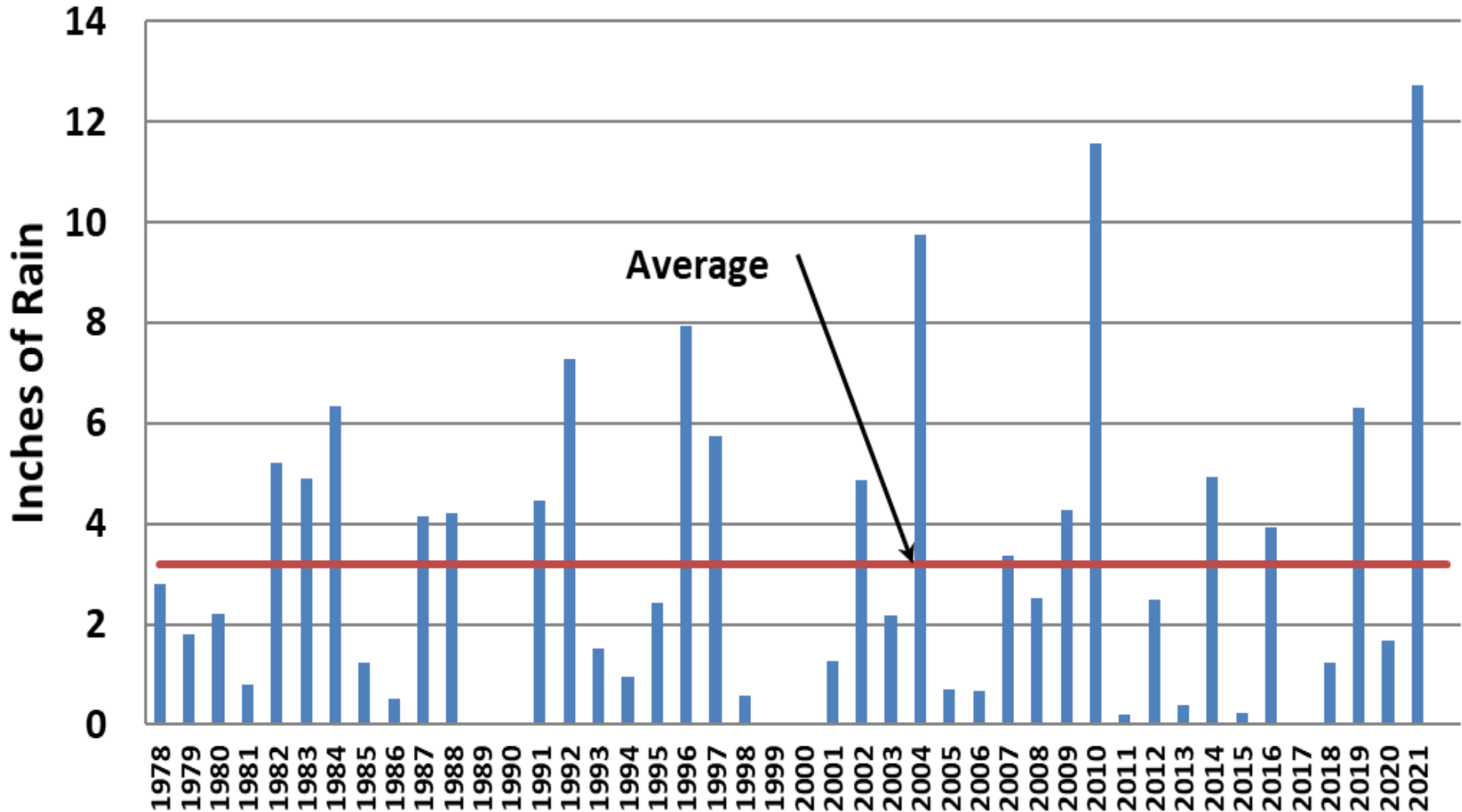
VRWD WELL SERVICE AREA WELL WATER PLUS SUPPLEMENTAL CASITAS WATER

2013 2019 2020 2021

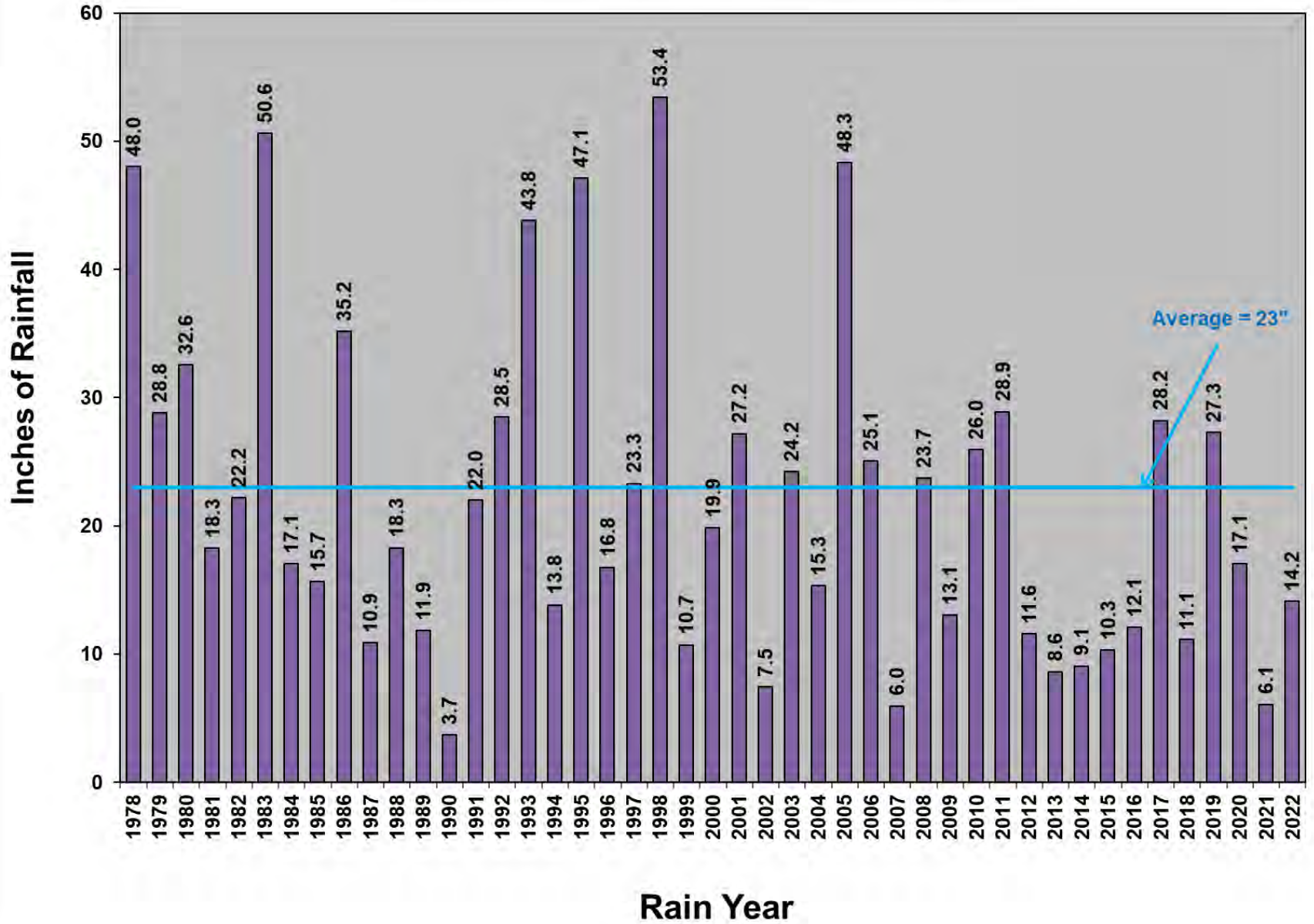


WATER & DISTRICT UPDATE

December Rainfall Record



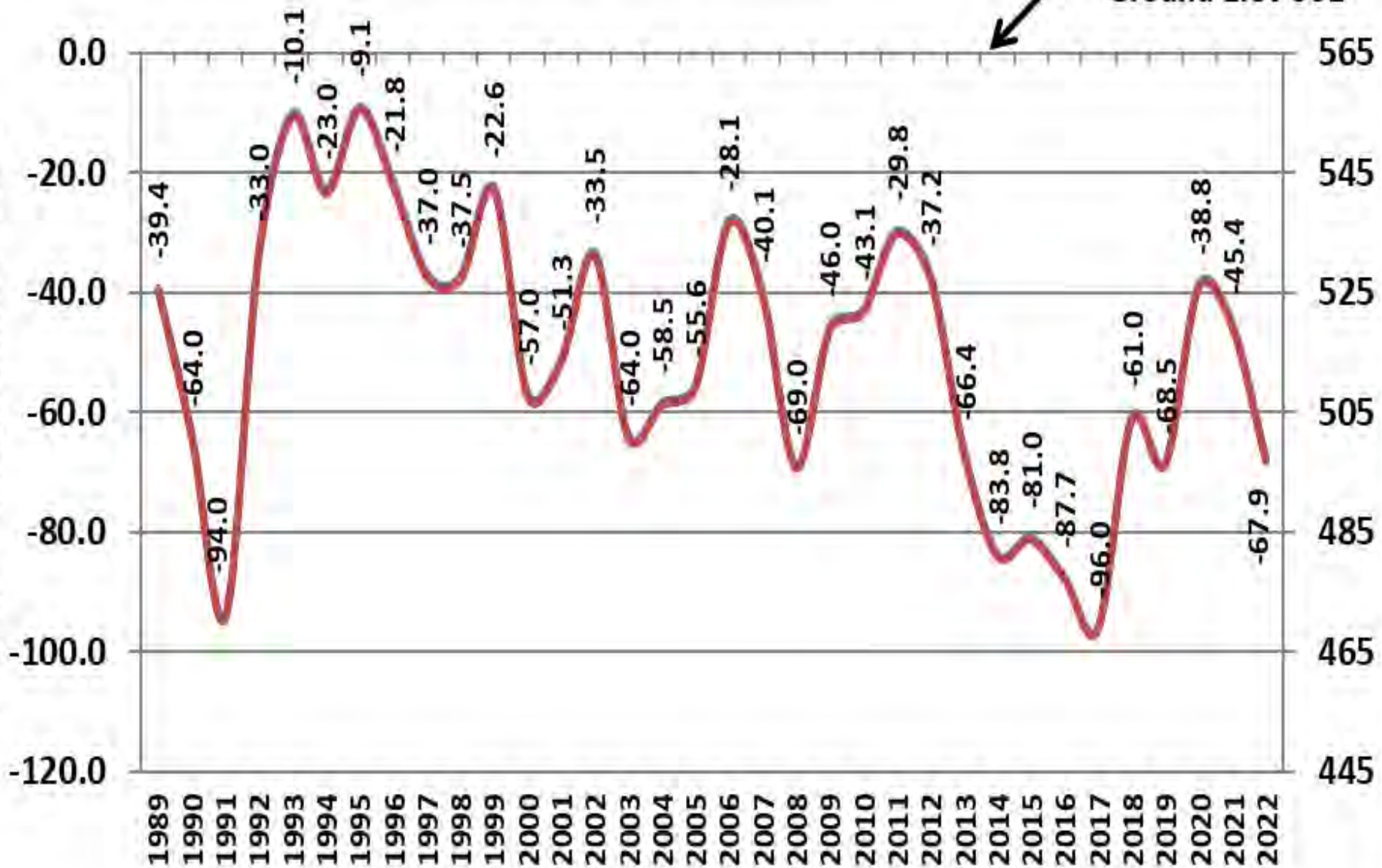
Historic Annual Rainfall - At VRWD Office



DEPTH TO GROUND WATER IN WELL #2 ON THE FIRST OF JANUARY

Sounding Point
Elev 565.11
Ground Elev 561

Depth below ground surface



VENTURA RIVER UPPER BASIN & LAKE CASITAS LEVELS

January 18, 2021

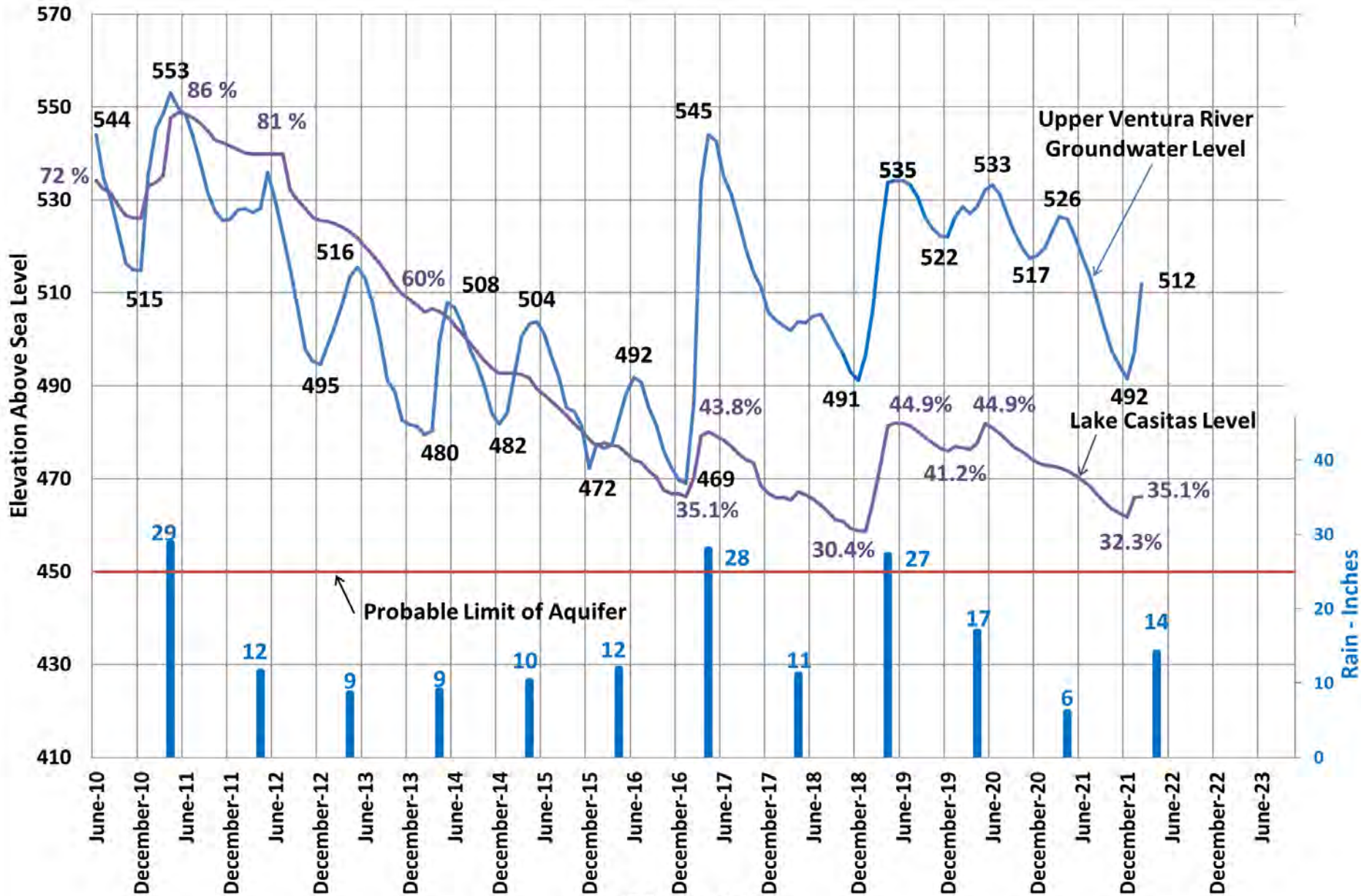


Chart 2

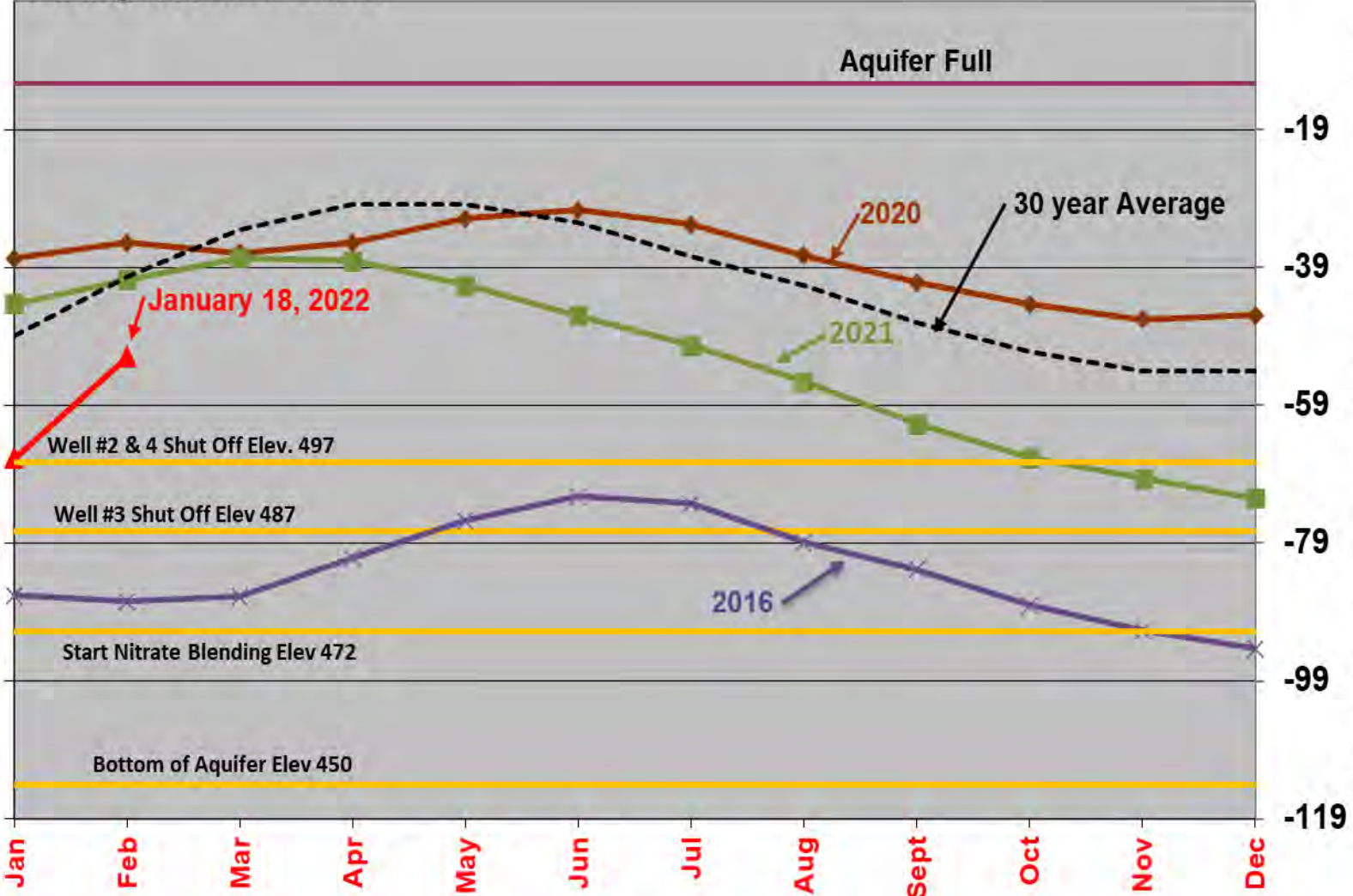
AQUIFER LEVEL BELOW REFERENCE VRWD WELL # 2 FIRST DAY OF THE MONTH

✕ 2016
◆ 2020
■ 2021
▲ 2022
----- 30 Yr AVG

Sounding Pipe Elevation = 565.11

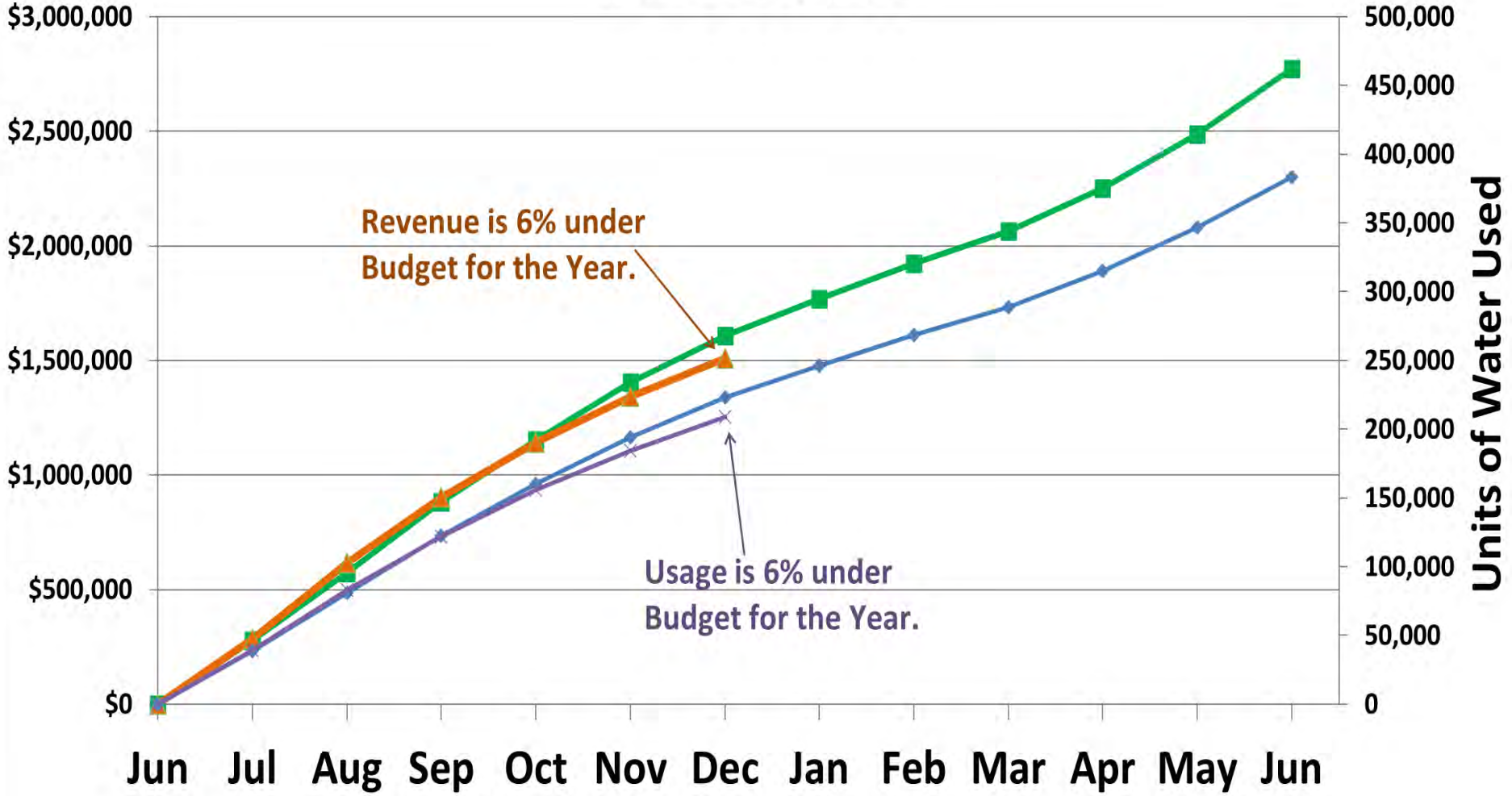
ELEVATION ABOVE SEA LEVEL

Depth Below Ground Surface



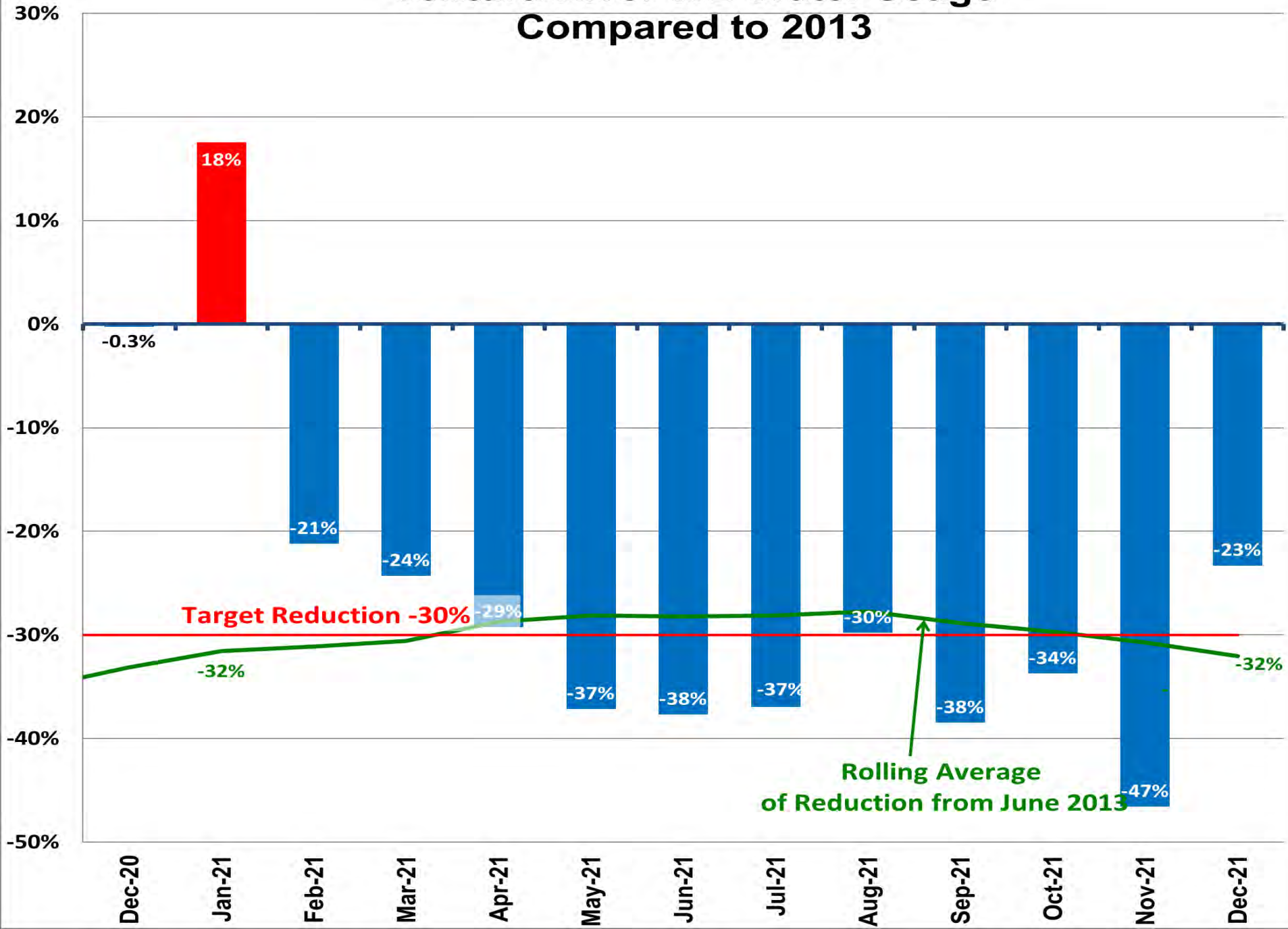
WATER LEVEL HYDROGRAPH

Chart 8 Water Revenues & Usage FY 2020/2021



■ Budgeted Water Revenue Year to date
 ▲ Actual Water Revenue Year to date
◆ Budgeted Water Usage
 ✕ Actual Water Usage

Ventura River WD Water Usage Compared to 2013



District Activities

- Arrearages funded by State grant
 - 51 customers helped
 - \$13,632 applied to eligible accounts
- State has authorized water agencies to turn off water services due to failure to pay starting January 1, 2022.
- The diesel engine generator at Well #6 sold at auction for \$2,550.

New / Old Business

Adjudication - Recent ruling by the Court:

- a. **An adjudication can only address one groundwater basin at a time.**
The court denied this motion and agreed with the arguments advanced by the City, Meiners Oaks and Ventura River that multiple basins can be included in an adjudication.
- b. **Whether the Court has jurisdiction to adjudicate any rights regarding the Ojai Valley Basin given the existence of the Ojai Basin Groundwater Management Authority.** The court does have jurisdiction and its only duty is to make sure that any ruling is consistent with any Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Director Compensation has not been adjusted for more than 10 years. Currently \$160/Board meeting. Should an item be scheduled to update?

Executive Session

Adjudication

Review of:

Legal Counsel Performance

General Manager Performance

