



JANUARY 2023

THE WATER DROP

Official Newsletter of Ventura River Water District

General Manager's Corner by Bert Rapp Happy New Year!

January arrived and delivered a powerful punch of storms to California. There was much damage in the Ojai Valley from the storms, fortunately VRWD had no significant damage. Our groundwater basin is rebounding quickly. If the rain continues, the basin should be full by spring. Hopefully the rain will continue and not turn off like it did last spring



District Directors

Ed Lee, President
Bruce Kuebler, Vice-Chair
Jack Curtis, Treasurer
Peggy Wiles, Director
Nathan Rosser, Director

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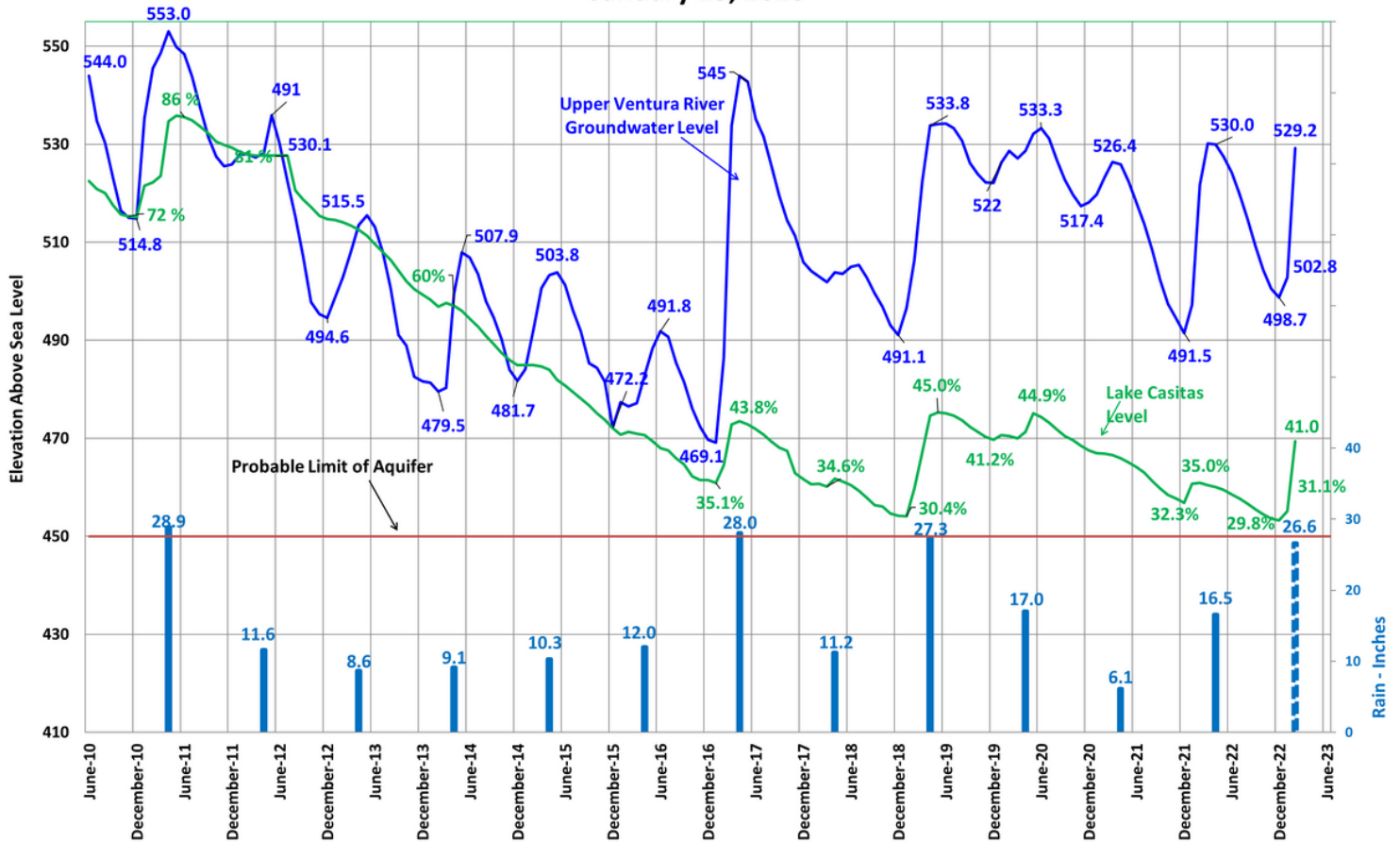
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Water Supply Status Update

As of January 23, 2023 groundwater levels in the Upper Ventura Groundwater basin have increased to elevation 529.2 feet, which is 21.7-feet above normal and Lake Casitas has increased to 43% of capacity, rising 20.3 feet. January delivered a much needed 18.9 inches of rain for a seasonal total thus far of 26.6 inches. This rain will soak into the ground and add to the groundwater levels.

VENTURA RIVER UPPER BASIN & LAKE CASITAS LEVELS
January 23, 2023



Your District at Work

Moving forward on important projects:

An environmental document is being circulated for some important projects for the District. The projects include: (1) Solar panels to energize our two pump stations, (2) Installing the second water tank at the Parker Pump Station off of Highland Drive, (3) rehabilitating the 50-year old Baldwin Pump Station & installing flood protection from the Ventura River, and (5) replacing several aging water mains. The environmental document is available at:

<https://venturariverwd.com/news-updates/>

Water Saving Tips!

Every drop counts. We rely on our customers to continue their water conservation habits to survive the ongoing megadrought. As we continue to grapple with the increasing impacts of drought and climate change, you can **save up to 67,000 gallons annually** with these easy tips.

- **750 to 1,500 gallons/month:** Water your landscape only when needed and before 10AM, or after 6PM.
- **700 gallons/month:** Take slightly shorter showers.
- **600 gallons/month:** Fix leaking faucets and joints, bad sprinklers, irrigation leaks.
- **500-800 gallons/month:** Install water-saving showerheads and other water-saving fixtures.
- **400-600 gallons/month:** Don't use your toilet as a trash can; place waste in the trash bin.
- **300-800 gallons/month:** Use only full loads in washing machines & dishwashers.
- **200-300 gallons/month:** Capture tap water while you wait for hot water and use it on plants.
- **150 gallons each time:** Don't run the hose while washing your car.
- Watch your water use when brushing your teeth, doing dishes by hand, shaving to make sure you are not letting water run freely down the drain.



California Native Corner



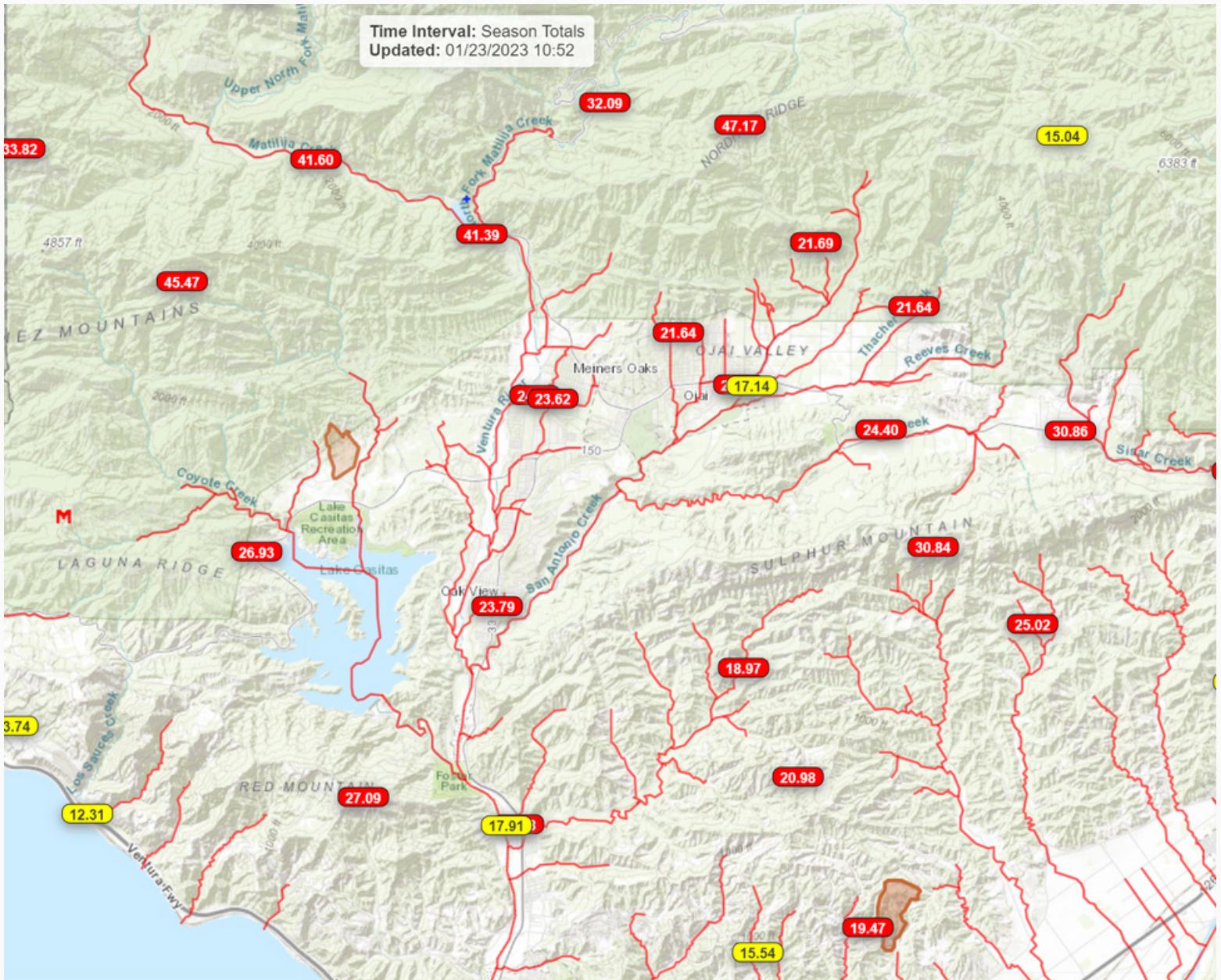
Blue elderberry (*sambucus nigra ssp. caerulea*) is a deciduous shrub to small tree that can grow 15 to 30 feet tall. In the spring, large clusters of fragrant, creamy white flowers appear, making way for edible purple berries in the fall. It's an excellent landscape and habitat plant as it attracts butterflies, native bees, and birds. Its berries are also excellent for making jelly, pies and elderberry wine. Learn more at: CalScape.org

Seasonal Rainfall Totals

Curious about how much rain we've received? The County of Ventura has an interactive map that can be accessed with the most up to date information at:

<http://www.vcwatershed.net/fws/rain-map/#>

Below are the rainfall totals since October 1, 2022.



2023 Board Meetings

****NOTE TIME CHANGE****

The Board of Directors meets the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 2:00 PM in person and via Zoom teleconference. We encourage you to join us. Meeting agendas are posted on our website. Meeting dates for 2023 are:

January, 18
February, 15
March, 15
April, 19
May, 17
June, 21

July, 19
August, 16
September, 20
October, 18
November, 15
December, 20