PREPARED FOR COACHELLA VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

# Coachella Valley Water Management Plan Update

FINAL REPORT EXECUTIVE SUMMARY







Water Consult ultants

January 2012

# COACHELLA VALLEY WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN 2010 UPDATE

# **Executive Summary**

January 2012

Prepared for:

**Coachella Valley Water District** 

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# **Executive Summary**

The Coachella Valley Water Management Plan was adopted by the Board of Directors, Coachella Valley Water District (CVWD) in September 2002. The goal of the Water Management Plan is to reliably meet current and future water demands in a cost-effective and sustainable manner. The Board recognized the need to update the Plan periodically to respond to changing external and internal conditions. This 2010 Water Management Plan Update (2010 WMP Update) meets that need. It defines how the goal will be met given changing conditions and new uncertainties regarding water supplies, water demands, and evolving federal and state laws and regulations.

# ES-1 THE COACHELLA VALLEY

The Coachella Valley is located in the central portion of Riverside County. For purposes of this Water Management Plan, the Coachella Valley is divided into the West Valley and the East Valley. Geographically, the East Valley is southeast of a line extending from Washington Street and Point Happy northeast to the Indio Hills near Jefferson Street, and the West Valley is northwest of this line (**Figure ES-1**).

The West Valley includes the cities of Palm Springs, Cathedral City, Rancho Mirage, Indian Wells, and Palm Desert, a portion of the city of Indio, and the unincorporated communities of Sun City and Thousand Palms. The West Valley has a predominately resort/recreation-based economy. Water demand in the West Valley is supplied by several sources: groundwater, surface water from local streams, and recycled water. The East Valley includes the cities of Coachella, Indio, and La Quinta, and the unincorporated communities of Bermuda Dunes, Mecca, Oasis, Thermal, and Vista Santa Rosa. Historically, the East Valley has had an agricultural-based economy. Urban growth is occurring in the East Valley and is projected to continue in the future. East Valley water sources consist primarily of Coachella Canal water and groundwater, with a small amount of recycled fish farm effluent for agricultural uses.

The Coachella Valley's principal groundwater basin, the Whitewater River (Indio<sup>1</sup>) Subbasin, extends from Whitewater in the northwest to the Salton Sea in southeast. The basin has an estimated storage capacity of approximately 30 million acre-feet<sup>2</sup> (AF) (DWR, 1964). Water placed on the ground surface in the West Valley will percolate through the sands and gravels directly into the groundwater aquifer. In the East Valley, however, several impervious clay layers lie between the ground surface and the main groundwater aquifer. Water applied to the surface in the East Valley does not readily reach the lower groundwater aquifers due to these impervious clay layers. The only outlets for groundwater in the Coachella Valley are through subsurface outflow under the Salton Sea or through collection in drains and transport to the Salton Sea via the Coachella Valley Storm Channel (CVSC).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) assigned the name "Indio Subbasin" in its Bulletin 108. CVWD and Desert Water Agency use the designation "Whitewater River Subbasin."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> One acre-foot (AF) is the amount of water that would cover one acre of land (approximately the size of a football field), one foot deep or about 326,000 gallons.



Source: DWR, ESRI, County of Riverside

# ES-2 WATER MANAGEMENT IN THE COACHELLA VALLEY

Water management in the Valley began as early as 1915. With groundwater levels falling, the need for a supplemental water source was recognized for the Valley to continue to flourish.

The Coachella Valley Stormwater District was formed in 1915 followed by formation of CVWD in January 1918. CVWD's first directors quickly filed paperwork to secure rights to all unclaimed Whitewater River water, an important source for aquifer recharge. In 1918, a contract was awarded for construction of water spreading and recharge facilities in the Whitewater River northwest of Palm Springs.

CVWD next focused on obtaining imported Colorado River water. In 1934, negotiations with the federal government were completed, and plans were put in place for the construction of the Coachella Branch of the All American Canal. Construction of the Canal began in 1938, but was interrupted by World War II. The first deliveries of imported Colorado River water to East Valley growers began in 1949. The service area for Canal water delivery under the CVWD's contract with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is defined as Improvement District No. 1 (ID-1). The impact of imported water on the Valley was almost immediate. By the early 1960s, water levels in the East Valley had returned to their historical high levels.

Although groundwater levels in the East Valley had stabilized, water levels in the West Valley continued to decline as growth occurred. Desert Water Agency (DWA) was formed in 1961 to import State Water Project (SWP) water into the Palm Springs and Desert Hot Springs areas. In 1962 and 1963 respectively, DWA and CVWD entered into contracts with the State of California for 61,200 acre-feet per year (AFY) of SWP water. To avoid the then estimated \$150 million cost of constructing an aqueduct to bring SWP water directly to the Valley, CVWD and DWA entered into an agreement with the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan) to exchange SWP water for Colorado River water.

Starting in 1973, the CVWD and DWA began exchanging their annual SWP allocation with Metropolitan for Colorado River water to recharge West Valley groundwater at the Whitewater River Recharge Facility. CVWD, DWA, and Metropolitan also signed an advance delivery agreement in 1984 that allows Metropolitan to store additional water in the Valley. Since 1973, the spreading facility had percolated in excess of 2.6 million AF of Colorado River water exchanged for SWP water.

By the 1980s, groundwater demand in the East Valley had again exceeded supplies, resulting in significant groundwater level decreases in some parts of the East Valley. Because relatively impervious clay layers in the Valley floor impede groundwater recharge in the East Valley, CVWD began looking for sites sufficiently far away from the main clay layer to allow groundwater recharge. In 1995, the CVWD began operating the Dike No. 4 pilot recharge facility located on the west side of the East Valley in La Quinta. The pilot successfully demonstrated the feasibility of East Valley groundwater recharge. The facility was expanded in 1998 to determine the ultimate recharge capacity at this location. In October 2009, the Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment Facility (Levy facility, formerly Dike 4) was dedicated. It has a current recharge capacity of 32,000 AFY, upgradable to 40,000 AFY.

Recycled water has been a priority water supply in the Valley since 1965. Currently, CVWD and DWA provide more than 14,000 AFY of recycled water for golf course and greenbelt irrigation purposes from four wastewater treatment facilities. While recycled water is available in the East Valley, it is not currently treated to sufficient levels for unrestricted reuse. Water conservation is also a key element of managing water demands.

# ES-3 CURRENT CONDITION OF COACHELLA VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN

The demand for groundwater has annually exceeded the limited natural recharge of the groundwater basin. The condition of a groundwater basin in which the outflows (demands) exceed the inflows (supplies) to the groundwater basin over the long term is called "*overdraft*." Overdraft has caused groundwater levels to decrease in significant portions of the East Valley. Groundwater levels in the West Valley have also decreased substantially, except in the areas near the Whitewater Recharge Facility where artificial recharge has successfully raised water levels.

Overdraft has serious consequences. The immediate and direct effect is increased groundwater pumping costs for all water users. With continued overdraft, wells will have to be deepened, pumps that are more powerful will have to be installed, and energy costs will increase as the pump lifts increase. The need for deeper wells and more powerful pumps will increase the cost of water for agriculture, municipalities, resorts, homes, and businesses. Continued decline of groundwater levels could result in a substantial and possibly irreversible degradation of water quality in the groundwater basin due to the intrusion of lower quality, high TDS water applied at the surface for irrigation and reduced drain flows carrying the salts out of the basin. Continued overdraft also increases the possibility of land subsidence. As groundwater is removed, the dewatered soil begins to compress from the weight of the ground above, causing subsidence. Subsidence can cause ground fissures and damage to buildings, homes, sidewalks, streets, and buried pipelines – all of the structures that make the Valley livable. Subsidence also reduces storage capacity in the aquifer. Continued overdraft would eventually stifle growth in the Valley, as it would not be possible to demonstrate that adequate water supplies exist to support growth.

The 2010 WMP Update uses a calculation of change in storage based on long-term local hydrology and imported water deliveries to estimate long-term overdraft. Since the local hydrology varies significantly from year to year, a long term average provides a better method for estimating the local inflows, which are dampened by the large storage volume of the basin. Because imported water recharge deliveries in the West Valley also vary widely from year to year, recharge is based on estimated long-term average SWP Exchange reliability rather than year-to-year values. Other inflows and outflows are estimated using the groundwater model. This approach dampens the variations in the annual change in storage and gives a more accurate indication of long-term overdraft. Based on these adjustments, the average annual overdraft for 2000 through 2009 is estimated to be 70,000 AFY. When the 2010 WMP Update was adopted in January 2012, CVWD and DWA experienced two years of very high recharge with nearly 461,000 AF recharged at Whitewater (including advanced deliveries).

# ES-4 THE 2002 WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

Continued decline of groundwater levels and ongoing overdraft is unacceptable. CVWD and DWA are charged with providing a reliable, safe water supply now and in the future. In order to fulfill obligations to Valley residents, these agencies must take action to prevent continuing decline of groundwater levels and degradation of water quality on a long-term basis. To meet responsibilities for ensuring adequate water supplies in the future, the CVWD and DWA initiated planning in the early 1990s. The comprehensive Water Management Plan developed in 2002 guides CVWD and DWA in efforts to eliminate overdraft, prevent groundwater level decline, protect water quality, and prevent land subsidence.

The 2002 Water Management Plan clearly identified the significant groundwater overdraft that had occurred over decades and, equally important, the threat of continued overdraft to the economy and quality of life in the Valley. It was based on then current projections of growth and corresponding water demand. The Plan identified the actions needed to eliminate overdraft while maintaining the quality of life and avoiding adverse impacts to the environment. The Plan area originally included the Whitewater River and Garnet Hill Subbasins. Portions of Desert Hot Springs Subbasin east of Indio and Coachella were added to the planning area for this Update, as shown in **Figure ES-1**.

# ES-4.1 Goals and Objectives

The goal of the 2002 Water Management Plan is to reliably meet current and future water demands in a cost effective and sustainable manner. To meet this goal, four objectives were identified for the 2002 WMP:

- 1. Eliminate groundwater overdraft and its associated adverse impacts, including:
  - groundwater storage reductions
  - declining groundwater levels
  - land subsidence, and
  - water quality degradation,
- 2. Maximize conjunctive use opportunities,
- 3. Minimize adverse economic impacts to Coachella Valley water users, and
- 4. Minimize environmental impacts.

The 2002 WMP included five major elements:

- water conservation (urban, golf course, and agricultural),
- substitution of surface water supplies (Colorado River water, SWP water, recycled water) for urban, agricultural, and golf course uses in lieu of pumping groundwater,
- continued groundwater recharge at the Whitewater Recharge Facility and development of two new groundwater recharge facilities in the East Valley,

- increasing surface water supplies, and
- monitoring of groundwater production, levels, water quality and land subsidence.

Within each element, the 2002 WMP identified specific actions to aid in eliminating overdraft. Many of the elements of the 2002 WMP have been accomplished as described in **Section ES-4.2**.

# ES-4.2 Accomplishments Since 2002

The actions to eliminate overdraft pursuant to the 2002 WMP taken by CVWD, DWA, other water agencies, municipalities, and tribes are summarized below.

#### ES-4.2.1 Water Conservation

A broad range of water conservation actions was included in the 2002 WMP. Most of those actions have been achieved, some ahead of schedule.

#### Urban Conservation

CVWD first passed a Landscape Ordinance in 2003. The ordinance was updated in 2007, and changes were made in 2009 for consistency with the State's updated model landscape ordinance. The ordinance has been adopted by nearly all Valley cities. The ordinance sets a maximum applied water allowance for new developments, requires efficient irrigation systems, specifies the use of climate appropriate plant materials, reduces applied water runoff and overflow, reduces non-recreational turf at golf courses, and mandates smart irrigation controllers on all new landscapes. The ordinance, in combination with other water conservation measures, results in a significant reduction in existing and new water use.

CVWD established an urban water conservation program in 1988. A water conservation coordinator was appointed in 2007, and the program now has a full-time staff of twelve employees. In 2009, CVWD established tiered domestic water pricing for customers based on individual water budgets. A turf buy-out partnership was established with the cities of Cathedral City, La Quinta, and Palm Desert. CVWD also provides weather-based irrigation controllers to eligible customers in participating cities. CVWD maintains water efficient demonstration gardens at the CVWD offices in Coachella and Palm Desert. CVWD sponsors well-attended semi-annual landscape workshops and tours, and creates displays for special events. CVWD produces the popular book, "*Lush & Efficient: Landscape Gardening in the Coachella Valley*," and various other publications. Analysis of water use for CVWD's 2011 Urban Water Management Plan shows water usage has declined by 18 percent compared to average usage from 1996 through 2005.

DWA offers large water users (condominiums, public parks, and businesses) comprehensive irrigation system water audits at no charge and assists in implementing recommended improvements. In partnership with CVWD and Cathedral City, DWA furnishes irrigation controllers at cost to customers. Free controllers are provided with new water meter installation. In addition, DWA recently installed artificial turf and recycled water drip-irrigation for

xeriscaping at its operations center (DWA website, 2010). The City of Palm Springs also promotes water efficiency programs including landscape water training programs and rebates for water efficient toilets (City of Palm Springs website, 2010). Analysis of per capita water use for DWA's 2011 Urban Water Management Plan indicates a comparable 18 percent reduction in water use. Indio and Coachella have also implemented water conservation programs that are described in their respective Urban Water Management Plans. Their plans show 14 percent and 20 percent per capita demand reductions compared to their respective demand baselines.

#### Agricultural Conservation

The 2002 WMP established a goal of seven (7) percent agricultural water use reduction through conservation. Based on a comparison of the average water use per acre in the 2000 through 2002 period, agricultural water use has generally declined about 9.9 percent through 2008. While this estimate may be due in part to variations in weather conditions, crop water needs, and crop patterns, it represents a significant decrease in agricultural water use over the period. Agricultural water conservation measures included irrigation scheduling, salinity management, and irrigation uniformity evaluation programs for irrigators.

#### Golf Course Conservation

The 2002 WMP goal was to reduce water demand at existing courses by at least five percent by 2010 and for new courses by up to 25 percent compared to historical use by existing courses. Actual use per irrigated acre in the West Valley, where data are available, indicates a reduction of about 14 percent compared to the 2000 to 2002 average. Adoption of the 2009 Landscape Ordinance throughout the Valley is expected to reduce water use by new courses through turf limitations by about 22 percent compared to existing courses. CVWD initiated a program of monitoring golf course water use to ensure that maximum water allowances are not exceeded. A symposium for golf course operators to promote golf course water conservation is held each year.

#### Stakeholder Review and Input

In 2006, CVWD completed, with extensive stakeholder involvement, a Water Management Plan Implementation Program. This effort included review, evaluation, and prioritization of water conservation programs and other elements of the 2002 WMP by stakeholders with recommendations to the CVWD Board (Water Consult, 2006). The Board uses the recommendations in the Implementation Program to guide development of annual budgets.

# ES-4.2.2 Additional Water Supplies

The 2002 WMP identified the need for CVWD and DWA to acquire additional water supplies to manage current and future groundwater overdraft. Supplies identified included the Colorado River, State Water Project, other transfers, recycled water, and desalinated drain water.

# Quantification Settlement Agreement

In 2003, CVWD, IID, and Metropolitan, along with the State of California and Reclamation, successfully completed negotiation of the Quantification Settlement Agreement (QSA). The QSA quantifies the Colorado River water allocations of California's agricultural water contractors for 75 years and provides for the transfer of water between agencies. Under the QSA, CVWD has a base allocation of 330,000 AFY. In accordance with the QSA, CVWD has entered into water transfer agreements with Metropolitan and IID that increase CVWD supplies by an additional 159,000 AFY as shown in **Table ES-1**.

As of 2010, CVWD received 368,000 AFY of Colorado River water deliveries under the QSA. This includes the base allocation of 330,000 AFY, the Metropolitan/IID transfer of 20,000 AFY, 12,000 AFY of the IID/CVWD First transfer, and 35,000 AFY of Metropolitan/SWP transfer. CVWD's allocation will increase to 459,000 AFY of Colorado River water by 2026. After deducting conveyance and distribution losses, approximately 428,000 AFY will be available for CVWD use.

Component	2010 Amount (AFY)	2045 Amount (AFY)
Base Allocation	330,000	330,000
1988 Metropolitan/IID Approval Agreement	20,000	20,000
Coachella Canal Lining (to SDCWA)	-26,000	-26,000
To Miscellaneous/Indian PPRs	-3,000	-3,000
IID/CVWD First Transfer	12,000	50,000
IID/CVWD Second Transfer	0	53,000
Metropolitan/SWP Transfer	35,000	35,000
Total Diversion at Imperial Dam	368,000	459,000
Less Conveyance Losses <sup>1</sup>	-31,000	-31,000
Total Deliveries to CVWD	337,000	428,000

 Table ES-1

 CVWD Deliveries under the Quantification Settlement Agreement

Note:

1 Assumed total losses after completion of All-American and Coachella Canal lining projects

# State Water Project

CVWD and DWA have made significant progress toward meeting the 2002 WMP goal of 140,000 AFY average delivery target (103,000 AFY to Whitewater Recharge Facility; 37,000 AFY via Mid-Valley Pipeline (MVP)) of SWP Exchange water in the Whitewater River Subbasin. CVWD's and DWA's SWP Table A Amounts<sup>3</sup> are used to replenish both the Upper Whitewater River and the Mission Creek subbasins. Per an interagency agreement, water for

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Each SWP contract contains a "Table A" exhibit that defines the maximum annual amount of water each contractor can receive excluding certain interruptible deliveries. Table A Amounts are used by DWR to allocate available SWP supplies and some of the SWP project costs among the contractors.

recharge is allocated in proportion to pumping in each subbasin. CVWD's and DWA's Table A water is exchanged with Metropolitan for a like amount of Colorado River water from Metropolitan's Colorado River Aqueduct (CRA).

Under the 2003 Exchange Agreement, CVWD and DWA acquired 100,000 AFY (88,100 AFY and 11,900 AFY, respectively) of Metropolitan's SWP Table A water as a permanent transfer. In any given year, the agreement allows Metropolitan to call-back the 100,000 AFY and assume the entire cost of delivery if it needs the water. This transfer became effective in January 2005.

In 2004, CVWD purchased an additional 9,900 AFY of SWP Table A water from the Tulare Lake Basin Water Storage District (Tulare Lake) in Kings County, CA. In 2007, CVWD and DWA made a second purchase of 7,000 AFY of SWP Table A water from Tulare Lake: 5,250 AFY for CVWD and 1,750 AFY for DWA. In 2007, CVWD and DWA completed the transfer of 16,000 AFY of SWP Table A water (12,000 AFY and 4,000 AFY, respectively) from the Berrenda Mesa Water District (Berrenda Mesa), effective in January 2010. With these transfers, the combined SWP Table A Amounts for CVWD and DWA total 194,100 AFY, with CVWD's portion equal to 138,350 AFY and DWA's portion equal to 55,750 AFY. **Table ES-2** summarizes CVWD and DWA total allocations of SWP Table A water.

Table ES-2 State Water Project Sources

	Original SWP Table A (AFY)	Tulare Lake Basin 2004 Transfer (AFY)	Metropolitan 2003 Transfer <sup>1</sup> (AFY)	Tulare Lake Basin 2007 Transfer <sup>2</sup> (AFY)	Berrenda Mesa 2007 Transfer <sup>2</sup> (AFY)	Total (AFY)
CVWD	23,100	9,900	88,100	5,250	12,000	138,350
DWA	38,100	_	11,900	1,750	4,000	55,750
Total	61,200	9,900	100,000	7,000	16,000	194,100

Notes:

1 Transfer became effective on January 1, 2005.

2 Transfer became effective on January 1, 2010.

SWP supplies vary annually due to weather and runoff variations and regulatory limitations on exports from the Delta. When the 2002 WMP was prepared, average SWP supply reliability was estimated to be about 82 percent. Under current conditions, DWR estimates the SWP can only provide about 60 percent of the Table A Amounts indicated in CVWD's and DWA's contracts based on an 82-year hydrologic average (DWR, 2011). The current availability of SWP Table A Amounts is presented in **Table ES-3**. In the absence of state and federal actions in the Bay Delta to improve supply reliability and to protect and enhance the Delta ecosystem, it is anticipated that long-term average SWP reliability (deliveries) could decrease to 50 percent of the Table A Amounts over the next twenty years. Additionally, growth and associated groundwater production increases in the Mission Creek Subbasin will result in more SWP Exchange water being delivered to that subbasin reducing supplies for the Whitewater River.

## Other Water Transfers

In March 2008, CVWD and DWA entered into separate agreements with DWR for the purchase and conveyance of supplemental SWP water under the Yuba River Accord Dry Year Water Purchase Program. This program provides dry year supplies. The amount of water available for purchase in a given year varies and is based on DWR's determination of the Water Year Classification. The available water is allocated among participating SWP contractors based on their Table A Amounts. CVWD and DWA may be able to purchase up to 5,600 AFY, and 1,820 AFY, respectively. These agreements provide for the exchange of these supplies with Metropolitan for Colorado River water in accordance with the existing exchange agreements. CVWD and DWA received a total of 5,300 AF of water from this source in 2008 and 2009.

 Table ES-3

 Current (2010) SWP Supply Availability (60% Reliability)

SWP Components	AFY <sup>1</sup>
Table A Amount (Base)	194,100
Average Deliveries with Current SWP Reliability (60%) <sup>2</sup>	116,500
Less Average Metropolitan Callback <sup>3</sup>	(32,900)
Net Average SWP Supply <sup>4</sup>	83,600
Whitewater River Subbasin Recharge (93% of net) <sup>5</sup>	77,800
Mission Creek Subbasin Recharge (7% of net)	5,800

Notes:

1 Values shown are rounded to nearest 100 AFY.

2 Current reliability is based on California DWR's 2009 SWP Reliability Report.

3 Average supply conservatively assumes Metropolitan calls back its 100,000 AFY transfer in four wet years during a 10-year period.

4 Net supply is calculated by deducting the Metropolitan callback from the Table A Amount with current SWP Reliability.

5 Allocation of SWP water to Upper Whitewater River and Mission Creek subbasins is based on production in each basin.

In 2008, CVWD also executed an agreement with Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (Rosedale) in Kern County for a one-time transfer of 10,000 AF of banked Kern River flood water that is exportable to CVWD. Deliveries to CVWD began in 2008 and will be completed by December 31, 2012.

#### Desalinated Drain Water

The 2002 WMP recommended that a drain water desalination facility commence operation between 2010 and 2015 with a 4,000 AFY facility to treat agricultural drainage water for irrigation purposes. The facility would be expanded to 11,000 AFY by 2025. Product water would be delivered to the Coachella Canal distribution system for non-potable use.

A brackish groundwater treatment pilot study and feasibility study was completed in 2008 (Malcolm-Pirnie, 2008a and 2008b). Reverse osmosis (RO) was recommended to meet water quality goals and provide additional flexibility in the level of water quality produced should the facility's objectives change in the future. The recommended approach to brine management was

to convey the RO concentrate via pipeline to constructed wetlands located at the north shore of the Salton Sea. This study concluded that agricultural drainage water can be treated for reuse as non-potable water and potentially as new potable water.

## **Recycling of Municipal Effluent**

CVWD and DWA currently deliver approximately 14,000 AFY of recycled water in the West Valley for golf course and other large irrigation uses. Wastewater generated in the West Valley that is not reused for irrigation is percolated into the groundwater basin. Current recycled water usage in the East Valley is approximately 700 AFY for agricultural irrigation. East Valley wastewater that is not reused is discharged to the CVSC.

#### ES-4.2.3 Source Substitution

Source substitution involves the delivery of alternative water supplies, such as Coachella Canal water or recycled water, to replace of groundwater pumping. Significant efforts have been made to implement source substitution projects in the Valley.

#### Mid-Valley Pipeline (MVP)

In the West Valley, the demand for non-potable water typically exceeds the available recycled water supply, especially in the summer months. Golf courses using recycled water currently must supplement that supply with local groundwater to meet their demands. This limits the amount of overdraft reduction that is possible to the available recycled water supply. Groundwater modeling shows a local pumping deficit (overdraft condition) that cannot be remedied by recharge at Whitewater. The MVP is a pipeline distribution system to deliver Colorado River water to the Mid-Valley area for use with CVWD's recycled water for golf course and open space irrigation. This source substitution project will reduce groundwater pumping for these uses. Construction of the first phase of the MVP from the Coachella Canal in Indio to CVWD's Water Reclamation Plant No. 10 (WRP-10) (6.6 miles in length) was completed in 2009.

At WRP-10, Canal water supplements recycled water for delivery to large irrigators. There are eight golf courses and five other users in the West Valley currently connected to the WRP-10 recycled water system that can receive both recycled water and Canal water via the MVP. If these courses meet at least 90 percent of their irrigation needs with non-potable water, 2,700 AFY of additional groundwater pumping will be eliminated. There are four golf courses adjacent to the MVP that can be connected to the system with minimal construction, thus making them ideal candidates to receive Canal water through the MVP. Construction of Phase 1 of the MVP included outlets along the pipeline to serve these courses. However, pipeline connections to deliver Canal water from the MVP to each course have yet to be constructed. When these four courses are connected, about 4,500 AFY of additional pumping could be eliminated. At least ten additional courses can be connected to the MVP downstream of WRP-10 with relatively simple pipeline connections, reducing pumping by another 11,200 AFY. When fully implemented, the MVP system will be capable of eliminating about 50,000 AFY of groundwater pumping.

# Pilot Study of Canal Water Treatment for Urban Use

As projected growth occurs in the East Valley and farms are converted to urban land uses, agricultural demand for Canal water will decrease. To avoid increased urban groundwater pumping and to use the Valley's Colorado River water supply fully, there will be a need to treat Canal water for urban use. The 2002 WMP anticipated this need and proposed that treatment be provided beginning in the late 2020s with about 32,000 AFY being treated by 2035. Present projected domestic water demand coupled with reduced agricultural demand is expected to increase this amount substantially. Potable use will require Canal water treatment facilities, CVWD completed a pilot treatability study for Canal water in 2008 (Malcolm-Pirnie, 2008c). This study investigated alternative approaches to treatment of Colorado River water delivered for urban use. The study recommended that blending treated Colorado River water with local groundwater be further evaluated to ensure customer satisfaction.

# ES-4.2.4 Groundwater Recharge

Groundwater recharge is a critical component of basin management that involves putting water directly into the groundwater basin through surface percolation ponds. The 2002 WMP included continuing recharge at the existing Whitewater Recharge Facility in the West Valley, proposed recharge in the East Valley using Colorado River water at Dike 4, now the Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment Facility (Levy facility), and recommended another major recharge facility at Martinez Canyon.

# Whitewater Recharge Facility – West Valley

The 2002 WMP established a future average annual recharge target at this facility of about 100,000 AFY. The Whitewater River Recharge Facility has a recharge capacity in excess of 300,000 AFY. Because this capacity is enough to capture the full SWP Table A amount with additional capacity for supplemental recharge, no recharge capacity expansion is required. The available capacity is valuable for conjunctive use operations by CVWD and DWA as well as Metropolitan or other interested parties. Currently, the SWP Exchange supply is expected to provide about 78,000 AFY for the Whitewater facility on average. Under future conditions, it is possible that average recharge at Whitewater could be limited to the available future supply of about 61,400 AFY of SWP Exchange, unless it is augmented with other supplies. To reach the 100,000 AFY recharge goal for the Whitewater facility, CVWD and DWA would need to acquire additional SWP Table A Amounts or other imported water sources.

# Thomas E. Levy Groundwater Replenishment Facility - East Valley

Construction of the full-scale Levy facility was completed in mid-2009. Located on the west side of the Valley in La Quinta, this facility has an estimated average recharge capacity of 40,000 AFY. The current capacity may be limited by hydraulic, water delivery, and maintenance constraints within the Canal water distribution system to an average of about 32,000 AFY. Construction of an additional pipeline to the Levy facility and pumping station from Lake Cahuilla may be required in the future to reach the 40,000 AFY capacity on a consistent basis.

#### Martinez Canyon Pilot Recharge Facility Feasibility Assessment – East Valley

The Martinez Canyon pilot recharge facility began operation in 2005 and currently recharges about 3,000 AFY. When this project is expanded to full scale, it is expected to recharge up to 40,000 AFY.

#### ES-4.2.5 Groundwater/Subsidence Monitoring

CVWD maintains an extensive ongoing groundwater production, level, and water quality monitoring program throughout the Valley. The program includes monitoring of potential saltwater intrusion from the Salton Sea. The data are periodically reviewed to determine impacts of management actions on overdraft and water quality. The data are also applied to re-calibrate the groundwater model that assesses the impact of proposed management actions.

The United States Geological Survey (USGS), working with CVWD, completed subsidence monitoring reports for the Coachella Valley in 2001 and 2007. The reports indicated that subsidence was taking place in varying degrees throughout the Valley.

These studies to date have not confirmed the relationship between land subsidence and declining water levels. The USGS Scientific Investigation Report 2007-5251 states, "Although the localized character of the subsidence signals is typical of the type of subsidence characteristically caused by localized ground-water pumping, the subsidence may also be related to tectonic activity in the valley." This report also concludes additional monitoring is needed to permit meaningful interpretations of the aquifer-system response to water level changes. CVWD's Board of Directors has approved additional funding to continue these cooperative subsidence studies with the USGS. Future studies include additional monitoring designed to evaluate the potential relationship between declining water levels and land subsidence. Potential land subsidence caused by declining water levels was addressed by mitigation measures described in the 2002 Coachella Valley Water Management Plan Programmatic Environmental Impact Report (CVWMP PEIR).

# ES-5 2010 WMP UPDATE

Significant actions have been taken since 2002 to alleviate overdraft in the long term. Changes in internal and external factors mandate new activities and increased levels of current activities to eliminate overdraft and assure reliable long term water supplies to the Valley. These new activities are identified in the 2010 WMP Update.

#### ES-5.1 Population and Water Demand

Since 2002, significant changes have occurred in projections of population and future water demands, including:

- Significantly increased population growth, mainly in the East Valley (Figure ES-2);
- Changes in land use from agricultural to urban land use and water demand in terms of both quantity and quality;

- Development on tribal lands and related water demands;
- Potential development located northeast of the San Andreas fault in the spheres of influence (SOI) of the cities of Indio and Coachella;
- Projected urban development outside the 2002 WMP study area and corresponding increases in water demands;
- Uncertainty in the timing of growth and water demands.

**Figure ES-2** shows the difference in population projections used in the 2002 WMP and projections used in the 2010 WMP Update. The 2010 WMP Update provides water for approximately 500,000 more people in 2045 than the 2002 WMP.





# ES-5.1.1 Future Water Demands

Projected water demands for 2045 resulting from projected population growth and associated assumptions regarding land uses and water demands for land uses are shown by economic sector in **Table ES-4**. Water use by new development is expected to be more efficient due to plumbing code requirements and the Landscape Ordinance. Consequently, water demands are expected to be less than projected in the 2002 WMP. Factoring potential variations in future land use and growth forecasts into these demand projections, water demands in 2045 could range from 793,600 AFY to 971,500 AFY with a mid-range planning value of 885,400 AFY as shown on **Figure ES-3**. If the growth projection in the 2002 WMP, with assumed water conservation measures, were projected to 2045, the projected demand would be approximately 950,000 AFY.

The reduction in projected demand results primarily from the conversion of agricultural lands to urban use and increased water conservation factored into the 2010 WMP Update.

Component	2045
Agricultural	
Crop Irrigation	166,300
Total Agricultural Demand	166,300
Urban	
Municipal	537,000
Industrial	2,300
Total Urban Demand	539,300
Golf Course Demand	169,500
Fish Farms and Duck Clubs	
Fish Farms	8,500
Duck Clubs	2,000
Total Fish Farms and Duck Clubs	10,500
TOTAL DEMAND	885,400

Table ES-42045 Baseline Water Demand Projection for the Coachella Valley



Projected Water Demands in the Study Area

### ES-5.1.2 Demand Uncertainty

Future water demands are based on the latest approved population growth projections (2006) by Riverside County and assumptions regarding impacts of population growth on land uses, impacts of water conservation on water uses, and resulting water demand associated with each type of land use. There are a number of uncertainties inherent in the demand projections, including:

- Growth forecasts or rates of growth may be too high or too low
- Impacts of economic booms and busts
- Reductions in fish farm operations
- Rates of development on Tribal lands
- Rate of agricultural/vacant land conversion to urban use
- Future water demand factors for various land uses
- Growth outside the Whitewater River subbasin
- Number of future golf courses developed in the East Valley
- Acceptance and effects of water conservation measures

Figure ES-3 shows the range in potential future water demands for the study area.

# ES-5.2 Future Water Supply Needs

In addition to changing water demands, changing external factors could affect Valley water supplies:

- SWP allocations fluctuate annually due to snowpack and runoff variations, and the environmental needs in the Bay-Delta.
- Recent environmental rulings have restricted the State's ability to move water through the Delta to the SWP, potentially decreasing supply reliability and deliveries. The degree to which the long-term supply of the SWP will be affected is uncertain.
- The outcome of efforts underway to prepare the Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP), which is intended to restore the Delta's ecosystem and improve water supply reliability, is uncertain.
- The QSA has been upheld in the appeals court but, as of plan adoption, environmental litigation is still pending, creating uncertainty in future Colorado River supplies.
- Climate change could affect the long term supplies of both the SWP and Colorado River and water demands within the Valley.

These changing conditions and uncertainties reinforce the need for a flexible long term Plan and for updating the Plan periodically.

Additional water supplies needed by 2045 are evaluated for four water supply scenarios that incorporate the uncertainties associated with current supply sources, with the exception of climate change. A 10 percent supply buffer addresses potential climate change impacts and other currently unforeseeable factors affecting future water supplies. **Table ES-5** shows the future water supply needs range from 300,000 to 461,000 AFY. The 2010 WMP Update identifies how this future need will be met through a combination of water conservation measures and new supply development. **Figure ES-4** presents the future water supply plan assuming Scenario 2 without the supply buffer.

Table ES-5 Water Supply Needs – 2045

Scenario	QSA Validated	Delta Conveyance Improvements	Demand (AFY)	Demand with 10% Buffer (AFY)	Available Supply (AFY) <sup>1</sup>	Additional Supply Required (AFY)
1	Yes	Yes	885,400	974,000	674,300	299,700
2	Yes	No	885,400	974,000	640,900	333,700
3	No	Yes	885,400	974,000	546,300	427,700
4	No	No	885,400	974,000	512,900	461,100

Note:

1 Available supplies consist of local runoff and streamflow, recycled water, returns from use, Canal water and SWP Exchange water minus anticipated drain flows and subsurface outflows from the basin as explained in Section 7.2.



Figure ES-4 Water Supply Mix for 2010 WMP Update

# ES-5.3 What is New in the 2010 WMP Update?

The 2010 WMP Update identifies proposed ways and means of meeting future water needs in light of changing conditions and uncertainties. To meet future needs, the 2010 WMP Update includes many new features in the areas of water conservation, source substitution, new supplies, and groundwater recharge. The 2010 WMP Update emphasizes enhanced cooperation in Plan implementation. The 2010 WMP Update incorporates a "bookends" approach to define target ranges for each major supply group and incremental "building blocks" of projects to deal with uncertainties in future demands and supplies.

**Revised Goals:** The basic goal of the WMP remains the same but has been modified to reflect a more holistic planning approach: "to reliably meet current and future water demands in a cost-effective and sustainable manner." The underlying objectives of the WMP have been refined as follows to reflect the water resources uncertainties facing the Valley:

- Meet current and future demands with a 10 percent supply buffer
- Eliminate long-term groundwater overdraft
- Manage and project water quality
- Comply with state and federal laws and regulations
- Manage future costs
- Minimize adverse environmental impacts

**Bookends on Demands and Supplies:** To account for the uncertainty and potential variability in demands, the 2010 WMP Update assigns bookend targets (ranges) for each of the major categories of water supplies (see **Section 6**). The book-ends represent reasonable minimum and maximum amounts for potential supply and project development. Depending on the actual demands that are encountered in the future, the 2010 WMP Update elements can be implemented within these ranges to meet demands.

**Building Block Approach**: The 2010 WMP Update incorporates a flexible approach to meeting future needs that reflects uncertainties in supplies, demands and future circumstances by combinations of Plan elements. For example, the 2010 WMP Update includes an aggressive program of water conservation for urban, golf course and agricultural water users. However, there are limits in terms of cost, effectiveness, and acceptability of water conservation activities. As those limits are reached, other Plan elements for meeting future needs also can be adjusted. One source of supply is desalination of drain water, the most expensive alternative for providing new supplies. This source will only be implemented as other sources of supplies reach practical limits. Therefore, the Plan includes a range of 55,000 to 85,000 AFY for desalination of drain water. The actual amount of water from this source will depend upon how much can be obtained first from other, lower cost sources.

**Enhanced Cooperation in Plan Implementation**: The Plan emphasizes cooperation among municipalities, local water agencies and tribes in regional planning and implementation. This occurs through the implementation of activities described in the 2010 WMP Update,

implementation of related planning activities (see **Section 1.0**), and the development of monitoring and data sharing programs among CVWD, other water agencies, cities, and tribes to better manage Valley water resources.

# ES-5.4 2010 WMP Update Elements

In developing the 2010 WMP Update, CVWD evaluated the success of 2002 WMP elements and determined future needs, supplies, and uncertainties. Like the 2002 WMP, the 2010 WMP Update has the same five major elements:

- Water conservation (urban, golf course, and agricultural)
- Increasing surface water supplies for the Valley from outsides sources
- Substitution of surface water supplies for groundwater (source substitution)
- Groundwater recharge
- Monitoring and evaluation of subsidence and groundwater levels and quality to provide the information needed to manage the Valley's groundwater resources

Activities included in the 2010 WMP Update in each of these elements are described below.

#### ES-5.4.1 Water Conservation

New water conservation targets and actions are included for agriculture, urban, and golf course water users. In addition to the water conservation included in the baseline demand projections, the 2010 WMP Update includes a minimum water conservation target of 117,300 AFY by 2045 as shown in **Table ES-6**. This amount could increase to 147,000 AFY to provide a portion of the supply buffer.

Type of Conservation	Low Range <sup>1</sup> (AFY)	High Range <sup>2</sup> (AFY)
Urban	82,400	106,200
Agriculture <sup>3</sup>	23,300	23,300
Golf Courses	11,600	17,400
Total	117,300	146,900

Table ES-6Ranges of Potential Water Conservation Savings – 2045

Notes:

1 The low range represents the minimum amount of demand reduction required assuming successful completion of the BDCP and provides a portion of the supply buffer.

2 The high range represents the amount of demand reduction required if the BDCP is not successful and provides a portion of the 10 percent supply buffer.

3 Agricultural savings decline over time as agricultural land is converted to urban uses.

# Agricultural Conservation

The new agricultural conservation target is a 14 percent savings by 2020 utilizing a phased approach. The first phase will involve low cost voluntary programs. Depending on the success of those programs, more expensive and vigorous programs could be implemented, as needed. If the 14 percent target can be achieved, the agricultural conservation program is expected to save about 39,500 AFY of water in 2020, decreasing to 23,300 AFY by 2045 as agricultural land uses transition to urban uses. Progress toward meeting agricultural conservation goals will be evaluated and reported every five years.

# Urban Conservation

The urban water conservation program will be expanded and enhanced in order to meet changing demands and to comply with the State's requirement of a 20 percent reduction in per capita water use by 2020 compared to average per capita usage for the period of 1995 through 2004. This program could save at least 39,700 AFY by 2020 and achieve a 39 percent reduction in per capita demand by 2030 as it is applied to new growth.

Achievement of the state's 20 percent conservation target in conjunction with on-going conservation programs could result in urban water savings of 82,400 to 106,200 AFY by 2045 depending on the water supply scenario. Progress toward achieving the urban water conservation goals will be reported in urban water management plans prepared on five year intervals.

# Golf Course Conservation

The golf course conservation target is a savings of 11,600 to 17,400 AFY by 2045. For existing courses, the minimum target is a 10 percent reduction in water use through golf course irrigation system audit, and soil moisture monitoring services. The 2009 Landscape Ordinance will apply to all new golf courses with turf limitations of 4 acres of per hole and 10 acres for practice areas. Progress toward meeting golf course conservation goals will be evaluated and reported every five years.

# ES-5.4.2 Additional Supplies

**Table ES-7** summarizes the range of additional supplies that will be developed.

# Acquisition of Imported Supplies

CVWD and DWA will continue to acquire additional imported SWP water supplies by transfer or lease where cost-effective, given Delta environmental restrictions and conveyance capacity limitations. For this update, a planning range of 50,000 to 80,000 AFY of average annual supply has been identified to meet future needs including the supply buffer. This amount includes about 35,000 AFY to meet estimated demand east of the San Andreas fault; the amount will be refined as planning proceeds for this area. Changes to the assumed call-back frequency for the MWD 100,000 AFY SWP transfer could provide up to 33,000 AFY of additional supply to the

Whitewater River Subbasin. Option-type contracts could be considered to meet a portion of the supply buffer.

Action	Low Range (AFY)	High Range (AFY)
Bay-Delta Conveyance Improvements	0	33,400
Purchases and Transfers <sup>1</sup>	50,000	80,000
Changes to MWD Call-back Provisions <sup>1</sup>	0	32,700
Increased Recycled Water - East and West Valleys	14,000	63,000
Recycled Water Use East of San Andreas Fault	10,800	10,800
Canal Water Loss Reduction	0	10,000
Desalinated Drain Water	55,000	85,000
Stormwater Capture – East Valley	0	5,000
Groundwater for Non-potable Use East of San Andreas Fault	9,700	9,700
Total	139,500	329,600

Table ES-7Range of Additional Supplies Through 2045

Note:

1 High range represents potential supplies with Bay Delta conveyance improvements and no call-back.

#### Increased Recycled Water Use

Recycled water in the West Valley is currently used beneficially, either through direct nonpotable use or percolation for wastewater disposal. At least 90 percent of all wastewater generated in the West Valley will be recycled for direct non-potable use. All wastewater generated by new growth in the East Valley will be recycled. All wastewater from development east of the San Andreas fault could be recycled for irrigation or groundwater recharge to meet demands in that area and reduce the need for additional imported water supplies. Up to 34,500 AFY of recycled water could be utilized in the West Valley, and 33,000 AFY of recycled water could be utilized in the East Valley. Up to 10,800 AFY of recycled water could be utilized in the new growth area east of the San Andreas fault for direct non-potable uses by 2045.

#### Canal Water Loss Reduction

Water losses in the All-American Canal in the first 49 miles of the Coachella Canal may be as high as 10,000 AFY. Reducing this loss could increase the amount of water delivered to the Valley. CVWD will determine water lost to leakage in the first 49 miles of the Coachella Canal, evaluate the feasibility of corrective actions to capture the lost water, implement cost-effective water saving measures, and work with IID to share losses.

#### Desalinated Drain Water

A demonstration scale facility will be constructed to gain operational experience in desalinating drain water and brine disposal. Between 55,000 and 85,000 AFY of drain water and shallow

groundwater will be recovered, desalinated, and distributed for non-potable and potable uses in the East Valley. The amount of desalinated water needed will depend upon the resolution of Bay-Delta issues and the resulting amount of SWP water available.

#### Stormwater Capture

Stormwater capture has been identified as a potential method for increasing local water available for either groundwater recharge or direct use. CVWD will conduct a study to investigate the feasibility of additional stormwater capture in the East Valley. Feasible stormwater capture projects will be developed in conjunction with new flood control facilities as development occurs in the East Valley. For planning purposes, the potential yield is assumed to be 5,000 AFY based on a reduction in evaporation losses with more efficient capture and percolation.

#### Development of Local Groundwater Supplies for Non-Potable Use

Growth in the areas northeast of the San Andreas fault will create additional demands for both potable and non-potable water. CVWD, the City of Coachella, and the City of Indio will jointly conduct an investigation of groundwater in Fargo Canyon Subarea of the Desert Hot Springs Subbasin to determine the available supply and suitability for use in meeting non-potable demands (outdoor irrigation) of development east of the San Andreas fault. Based on assumed development, up to 9,700 AFY of groundwater could be developed in this area.

#### ES-5.4.3 Source Substitution

Due to the expected changes in water use patterns from continued development, source substitution will receive increased emphasis in the future to eliminate overdraft and ensure full use of the Valley's available surface water supplies. The ranges of reduction in groundwater overdraft due to source substitution programs are shown in **Table ES-8**.

Action	Low Range (AFY)	High Range (AFY)
Mid-Valley Pipeline	37,000	52,000
Agricultural Canal Water Conversion	5,300	32,000
Oasis Area Conversion to Canal Water	0	27,000
East Valley Golf Course Conversion	43,900	51,700
West Valley Golf Course Conversion	15,200	17,800
Canal Water for Indoor Urban Use – East Valley	48,000	90,000
Canal Water Use for Outdoor Use – East Valley	95,000	115,000
Total	244,400	385,500

Table ES-8Range of Groundwater Pumping Reductions Due To Source Substitution

## Mid-Valley Pipeline

The MVP system delivers Canal water and recycled water to golf courses in lieu of their pumping groundwater. Activities to fully implement the MVP include preparing an MVP system master plan to lay out the future pipeline systems, near-term expansions to connect golf courses along the MVP alignment and extensions of the existing non-potable distribution system, and completion of construction of the remaining phases of the MVP system by 2020 to provide up to 37,000 AFY of Canal water and 15,000 AFY of WRP-10 recycled water on average to West Valley golf courses.

#### Conversion of Agricultural and Golf Course Use to Canal Water

It is expected that agricultural use of groundwater could decrease from about 66,000 AFY in 2009 to about 7,000 AFY by 2045, a decrease of 59,000 AFY or 89 percent. A large portion of this reduction could come from the Oasis area that does not currently have access to Canal water. The Oasis area distribution system feasibility study will be updated to include future conversion to serve urban non-potable water. Cost-effective facilities will be constructed. If conversion of the Oasis system is feasible, it could deliver up to 27,000 AFY of Canal and desalinated drain water for irrigation.

In the 2010 WMP Update, it is estimated that for existing East Valley golf courses having Canal water access, Canal water use will increase to 90 percent of demand by 2015. Conversion to Canal water by East Valley golf courses will reduce groundwater use by 43,900 AFY or more.

#### Colorado River Water for Urban Use

In light of the projected increase in population and change of land use from agricultural to urban in the East Valley, treated Colorado River water for indoor residential use will be essential. In addition, untreated Colorado River water will be used in the future in large developments in the East Valley for outdoor purposes, i.e., lawn and park irrigation. These measures are necessary to reduce overdraft and to insure continued full use of the Valley's Colorado River water supplies.

This program will offset the reduced Canal water use by agriculture as agricultural land use transitions to urban development in the East Valley. Canal water will be treated to meet future indoor urban water demands in the East Valley. The target for urban indoor use of Canal water ranges from 48,000 and 90,000 AFY by 2045.

Dual source plumbing systems will be a feature of new development in the East Valley to provide outdoor use of untreated Canal water. Untreated canal water should provide 67 percent to 80 percent of the landscape demand for new development. This will result in the utilization of 95,000 to 115,000 AFY of non-potable Canal water by 2045. Where found to be cost-effective, existing developments will be retrofitted with distribution systems to provide for outdoor use of untreated Canal water.

# ES-5.4.4 Groundwater Recharge

Groundwater recharge will be expanded to reduce overdraft. The ranges of groundwater recharge operations at various facilities under the 2010 WMP Update are shown in **Table ES-9**.

	5	
Facility	Low Range (AFY)	High Range (AFY)
Whitewater	61,000 <sup>1</sup>	100,000
Levy	40,000	40,000
Martinez Canyon <sup>2</sup>	20,000	40,000
Indio	0	10,000
Total	121,000	190,000

Table ES-9 Range of Groundwater Recharge

Notes:

1 Recharge is limited by available supply.

2 High range will depend on overdraft conditions and implementation of East Valley source substitution projects.

#### Whitewater Recharge Facility

Operation of the Whitewater Recharge Facility will continue with the goal of recharging an average of at least 100,000 AFY of SWP exchange water over the long-term. Unused SWP water and available desalinated drain water from the QSA will be transferred to the Whitewater Recharge Facility. Additional water acquired by transfer or lease will augment the existing SWP exchange water.

#### Thomas E. Levy Recharge Facility

The Levy facility will recharge 40,000 AFY on average. A second pumping station and pipeline will be constructed if needed to achieve and sustain 40,000 AFY of deliveries for recharge.

#### Martinez Canyon Recharge

Siting studies, land acquisition, environmental compliance, design, and construction will be conducted for the full-scale Martinez Canyon facility. The project will be implemented in phases with an initial capacity of 20,000 AFY with potential future expansion to as much as to 40,000 AFY based on groundwater overdraft conditions and implementation of East Valley source substitution projects.

#### Groundwater Recharge in Indio

The City of Indio will evaluate the feasibility of a nominal 10,000 AFY groundwater recharge project in Indio and construct if feasible. The final capacity will be based on pilot studies conducted by Indio.

## Investigation of Groundwater Storage Opportunities with IID

CVWD will work with IID to identify options for storing Colorado River water on behalf of IID with currently planned Valley recharge facilities or additional facilities, including facilities to recover the stored water for use by Canal water users if necessary when IID calls for its stored water.

## ES-6 WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT

#### ES-6.1.1 Additional Groundwater Treatment for Arsenic

CVWD will work with other agencies to assist communities having high levels of arsenic in groundwater supplies to connect to the potable water system. As needed, CVWD will expand its arsenic treatment facilities to allow treatment of additional wells and construct water transmission pipelines as needed to meet future demands.

#### ES-6.1.2 Development of Salt/Nutrient Management Plan

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) requires preparation of a salt/nutrient management plan by 2014 as part of the 2009 State Recycled Water Policy. As stated in the Policy, its purpose is to "establish uniform requirements for recycled water use and to develop sustainable water supplies throughout the state" (SWRCB, 2009). CVWD will work with other Valley water agencies, tribes, and stakeholders to develop a salt/nutrient management plan that meets the State requirements and allows the cost-effective recycling of municipal wastewater in the Valley.

### ES-6.1.3 Drainage Control

For both basin management (groundwater level and salt export), as well as the prevention of adverse impacts, the existing drainage system should be maintained, replaced as needed, or expanded as urban development occurs. CVWD will investigate alternative methods for funding the drainage system, conduct an investigation of the improvements needed to continue system operation in the future, and maintain and expand the drainage system.

#### ES-7 MONITORING AND DATA MANAGEMENT

Monitoring and data management programs aid in evaluating the effectiveness of the water management programs and projects identified in the Plan and to identify needed changes in management strategy and/or implementation.

The existing hydrologic monitoring program of weather data, streamflow data, well data (drilling logs, production, water levels), surface and ground water quality monitoring, and subsidence monitoring should be maintained and expanded. Key features of the expanded program are described below.

# ES-7.1 Water Quality

CVWD will work with water agencies, tribes and cities to develop a coordinated water quality monitoring program to ensure that local water quality concerns and state/federal regulatory issues are addressed.

## ES-7.2 Subsidence

CVWD will continue the USGS subsidence monitoring/reporting program and construct additional extensioneters at critical locations to monitor subsidence, as needed.

#### ES-7.3 Water Resources Database

CVWD will work with water agencies, cities and tribes to develop a shared water resources database. The database could include well ownership data, well logs, groundwater production, water level and water quality data.

# ES-7.4 Groundwater Model Update and Recalibration

Prior to the next Plan update, the CVWD groundwater model will be updated, recalibrated and peer reviewed.

#### ES-7.5 Water Quality Model

CVWD will initiate development of a model capable of simulating the water quality changes in coordination with preparation of the salt/nutrient management plan.

# ES-7.6 Water Demand and Conservation Monitoring

Water purveyors will monitor and report demands by water use sector and correlate demands with implementation of water conservation measures to determine the effectiveness of water conservation measures in achieving goals and the need for additional measures.

# ES-8 PLAN COSTS

The cost of not eliminating overdraft would be far more than the cost of the actions needed for eliminating overdraft identified in the 2010 WMP Update. Cost of overdraft includes increased subsidence with its impacts on individual homes, commercial structures, and infrastructure (streets, highways, water and sewer lines, and other utilities), water quality degradation, and increased pumping costs. Colorado River supplies would go unused as agricultural land is converted to urban land, and groundwater pumping would increase without alternative sources of supplies. At some point, it would not be possible to demonstrate the availability of water supplies to support new growth.

The estimated cost to implement the 2010 WMP Update is shown in **Table ES-10** for the period 2011 through 2045. Capital, operation and maintenance cost, total cost, and average annual cost are shown for each Plan element in 2010 dollars. These are total costs, not incremental costs,

and include the costs of many current activities such as groundwater pumping, acquisition of Colorado River water, current levels of recycling and water conservation, and groundwater recharge. The costs shown are the total costs for the entire Valley.

Table ES-10
Cost by Plan Component
2011-2045

Component	Total Capital Cost \$millions	Total O&M Cost \$millions	Total Cost \$millions	Average Annual Cost <sup>1</sup> \$millions
Water Conservation	\$1	\$ 230	\$ 231	\$ 6.6
Recycled Water	161	153	314	9.0
Colorado River Water		409	409	11.7
SWP Water		1,907	1,907	54.5
Delta Conveyance		472	472	13.5
Desalinated Drain Water	462	277	739	21.1
Groundwater Pumping and Treatment	135	1,950	2,085	59.6
Water Transfers	0	282	282	8.1
Other New Water		262	262	7.5
Source Substitution	1,142	782,	1,924	55.0
Recharge	48	181	229	6.5
Total Cost	\$1,949	\$6,907	\$8,856	\$253.0
Average Annual Cost <sup>1</sup>	\$56	\$197	\$253	

Note:

1 Average annual cost is the total cost divided by 35 years.

The total estimated capital cost through 2045 is \$1.95 billion. Total O & M cost is \$6.91 billion bringing the total cost of the Plan implementation to \$8.86 billion over 35 years. The average annual cost is \$253 million. This annual cost does not reflect the amortized cost of capital projects that may be bond-funded over several decades, thus increasing the annual cost of capital projects.

# ES-9 IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPLEMENTATION COSTS

In developing the 2010 WMP Update, CVWD relied on the latest population projections developed by Riverside County. CVWD does not develop population growth projections for use in water management planning. The 2006 Riverside County projections were prepared before the recent recession, which has slowed growth and is expected to have negative effects on growth in the near term. Over the long term, growth will continue. Future population projections will be adjusted in terms of the timing and magnitude of growth. These realities necessitate adjustment of Plan implementation to meet actual near term needs and continued updates of the Water Management Plan in the future to reflect revised population projections.

#### Near Term Projects to Meet Water Management Needs

Even with the current recession and lack of growth, continuation of existing projects and a few new projects are needed to reduce overdraft and its adverse affects. Ongoing projects that will be continued include:

- Whitewater Recharge with SWP Exchange Water and SWP purchases
- Implementation of the QSA
- Levy Recharge operating at current level of 32,000 AFY
- Martinez Pilot Recharge at current level of 3,000 AFY
- Water conservation programs at current levels, including implementation of the Landscape Ordinance
- Recycling in the West Valley
- Increased use of Canal water by golf courses with Canal water connections
- Conversion of East Valley agriculture to Canal water as opportunities arise
- Groundwater production/level/quality monitoring
- Cooperative subsidence monitoring with USGS

Assuming that growth remains relative low during the next five years, CVWD will focus on three new or expanded activities to reduce overdraft and comply with state regulations:

- Increased use of the Mid-Valley Pipeline project to reduce overdraft in the West Valley by connecting golf courses and reducing groundwater pumping by those courses.
- Implementation of additional water conservation measures, including the Landscape Ordinance, to meet the State's requirement of 20 percent conservation by 2020.
- Preparation of a salt/nutrient management plan for the Valley by 2014 to meet SWRCB Recycled Water Policy requirements

# Long Term Projects

Projects to eliminate and control overdraft that are likely to be needed as future growth occurs are described in the 2010 WMP Update. These projects include:

- Additional water conservation.
- Desalinated drain water.
- Additional water transfers.
- Additional recycled water.
- Canal water treatment for urban indoor use.
- Canal water treatment for urban outdoor irrigation.
- Recharge in the Indio area.

As growth ramps up, the projects will be implemented based on cost effectiveness and need.

# Implementation Costs

In 2010, Valley water agencies expended approximately \$414 million on all water and wastewater management activities. This total cost includes approximately \$106 million per year on activities associated with eliminating overdraft. Since 2002, CVWD and DWA have invested over \$240 million in water conservation, supply acquisition and facilities to reduce overdraft. During the next five years (2011-2015), it is estimated that Valley water agencies will expend an additional \$5.4 million on activities to eliminate overdraft, assuming growth remains slow.

As growth occurs, additional projects to control overdraft will be needed. Ultimately, costs associated with growth to eliminate and control overdraft could approach an additional \$100 million per year in capital project and annual operations and maintenance costs.

Much of the future costs, both capital and operation and maintenance, will not be borne by CVWD. These costs will be borne by developers, other water organizations, and Valley municipalities. Capital costs and operation and maintenance costs associated with new growth will be paid by new growth. For example, the entire cost of systems for treating and delivering Colorado River Canal water for indoor use in East Valley developments and development of dual plumbing systems to provide untreated water to those developments for outdoor use will be paid for by new development.

# **ES-10 CONCLUSION**

Groundwater overdraft is a significant problem in the Coachella Valley. The 2002 Water Management Plan was developed to identify and guide the long term implementation of measures to eliminate groundwater overdraft in the Valley. Since completion of the 2002 Water Management Plan, much has been accomplished by Valley water agencies and agricultural, municipal/residential, and golf course water users to reduce overdraft. Water conservation efforts have expanded, out-of-basin water supplies have increased, surface water and recycled water use is being used in lieu of groundwater, and new groundwater recharge facilities are online and an additional facility is being developed.

However, changing future demands and water supply uncertainties require additional actions to eliminate groundwater overdraft in the future, which are identified in the 2010 WMP Update. Continued implementation of the Water Management Plan will result in unavoidable costs for water users and water agencies alike. Each agency, including CVWD, will consider costs, available resources, funding mechanisms and priorities to eliminate overdraft in a timely manner. The success of the Plan to date indicates broad support for eliminating overdraft and the threats to the economy and quality of life in the Coachella Valley.

The CVWD Board of Directors certified the Supplemental Program EIR and adopted the 2010 WMP Update on January 24, 2012.

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