

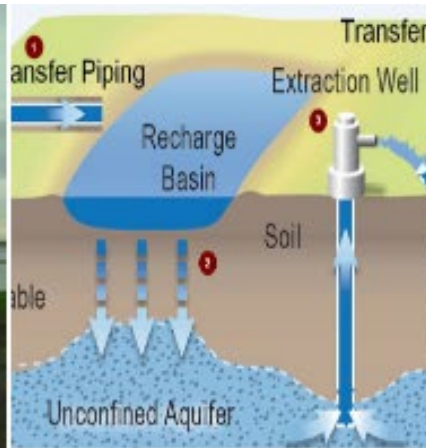


Willow Springs
Water Bank

WSWB Conjunctive Use Project
Update for the California Water Commission (CWC)
in connection with the Prop. 1 WSIP Program
August 19, 2026

By: Willow Springs Water Bank (WSWB)

Presenters: John A. Pérez, Kristoffer Bale, Alan Sollof





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Agenda / Executive Summary

1. Willow Springs Water Bank

Project overview, public benefits, operational diagrams

2. Turnout/Turn-In and Pipeline CEQA (IS/MND)

Environmental review is underway with AVEK as lead agency

3. CA Aqueduct Turnout

DWR has provided a hydraulic study of the proposed turnout; project turnout application to come

4. Groundwater Modeling

The basin model has been built and is running scenarios to support a groundwater agreement

5. Project Participants

State Water Contractor (SWC) participation in the project is being formalized to support the project

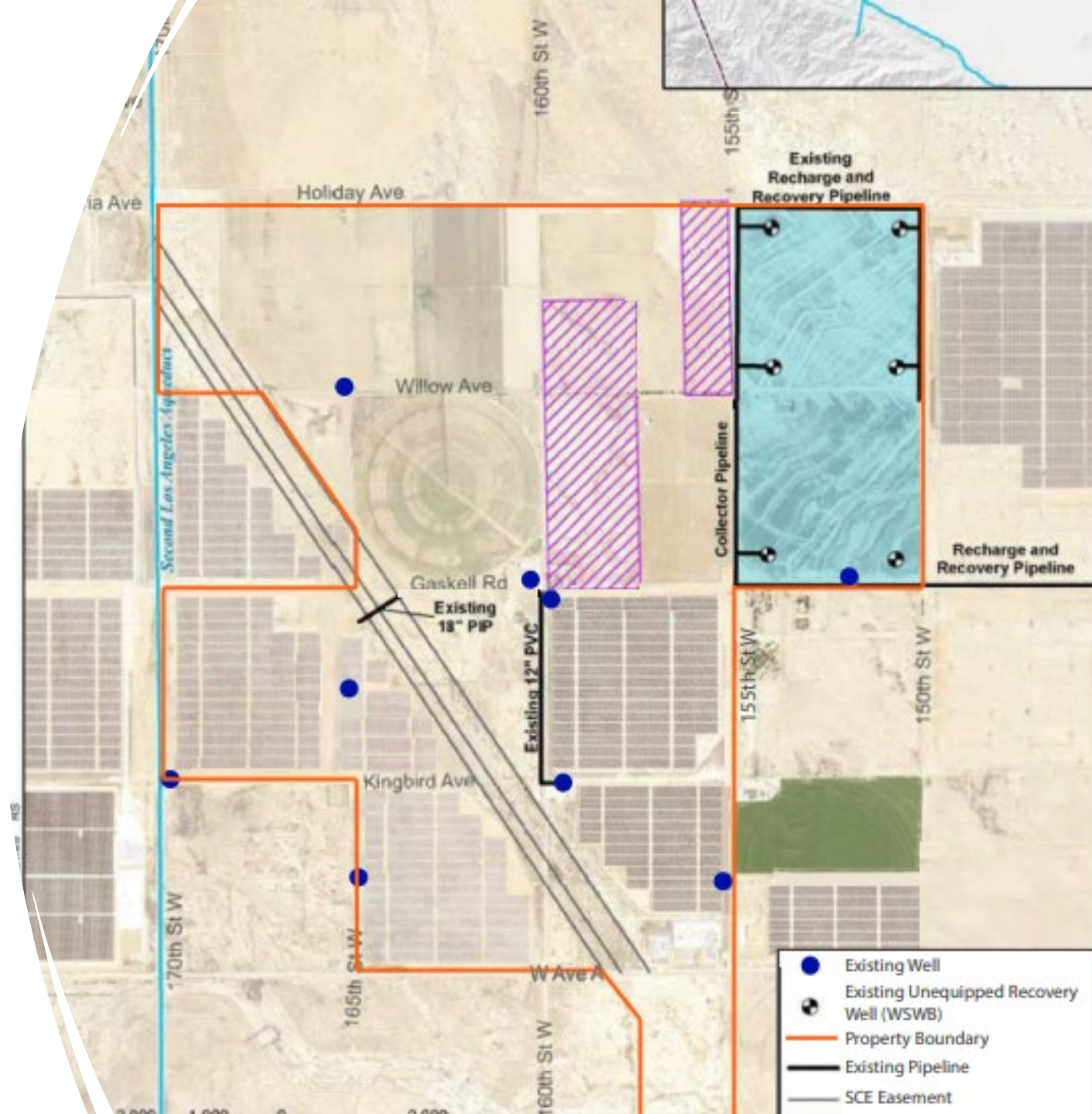
6. Path to Final Funding

Previously established milestones from April 2025 complete, new milestones established

Willow Springs Water Bank

- Located south of the Delta and the Tehachapi Mountains along the East Branch of the SWP, near Lancaster and Palmdale
- Storage capacity goal of up to 1 million acre-feet
- Permeable soils with existing facilities which have been used for recharge
- Adjudicated groundwater basin provides objective oversight by the Antelope Valley Watermaster

There can be no guarantee any timeline or objective will be met.



WSWB Prop. 1 WSIP Project Public Benefits



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Ecosystem Water Benefit:

- Water to be released in pulse flows of **28,600 AF during dry and below normal years** to benefit juvenile Chinook – **Supply an annual average of approximately 8,800 AF per year water to Feather River**

Emergency Water Storage:

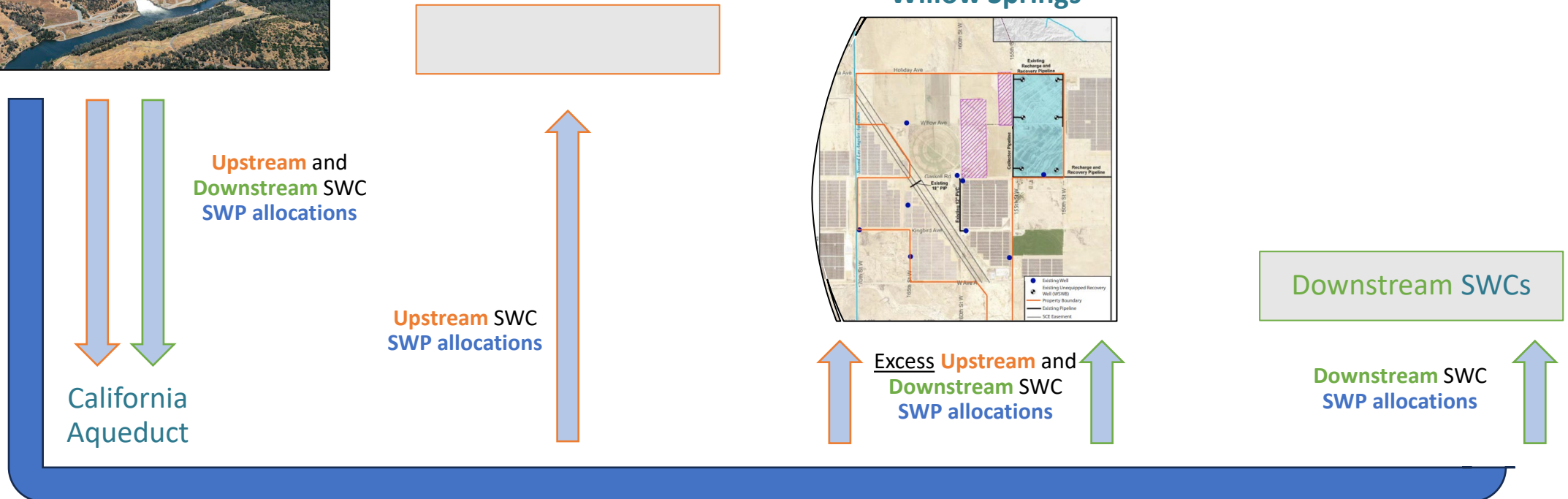
- Provides **215,000 AF of emergency water storage** for communities along the California Aqueduct for use during future Delta water supply failures
- New wells and pipelines to be built for extracting and delivering the water to communities

Illustrative Flow Charts – Wet Year



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Lake Oroville

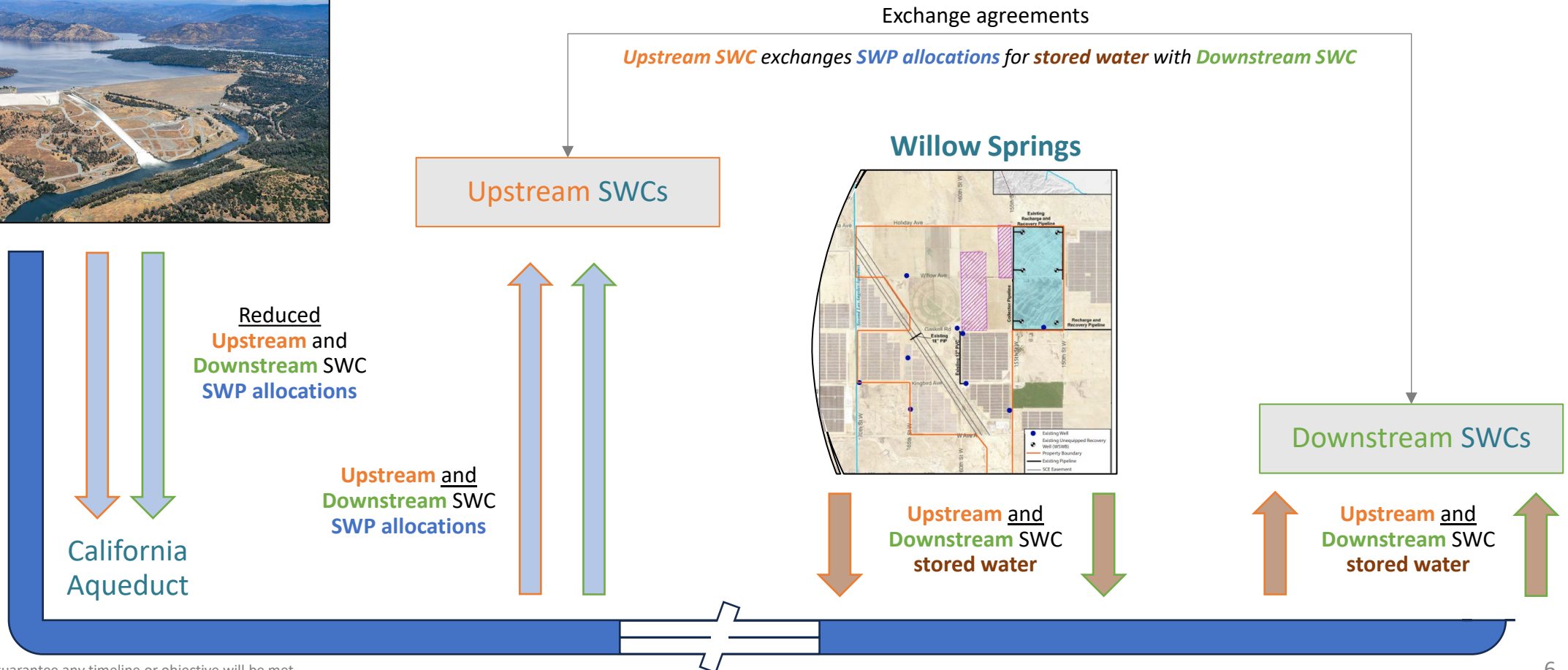


Illustrative Flow Charts – Dry Year



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Lake Oroville



Pipeline CEQA (IS/MND)

Relevance

- Necessary for construction and operation of pipeline, aqueduct turnout/turn-in, pressure reducing station, and pump station
- Balance of WSWB previously CEQA approved

Progress

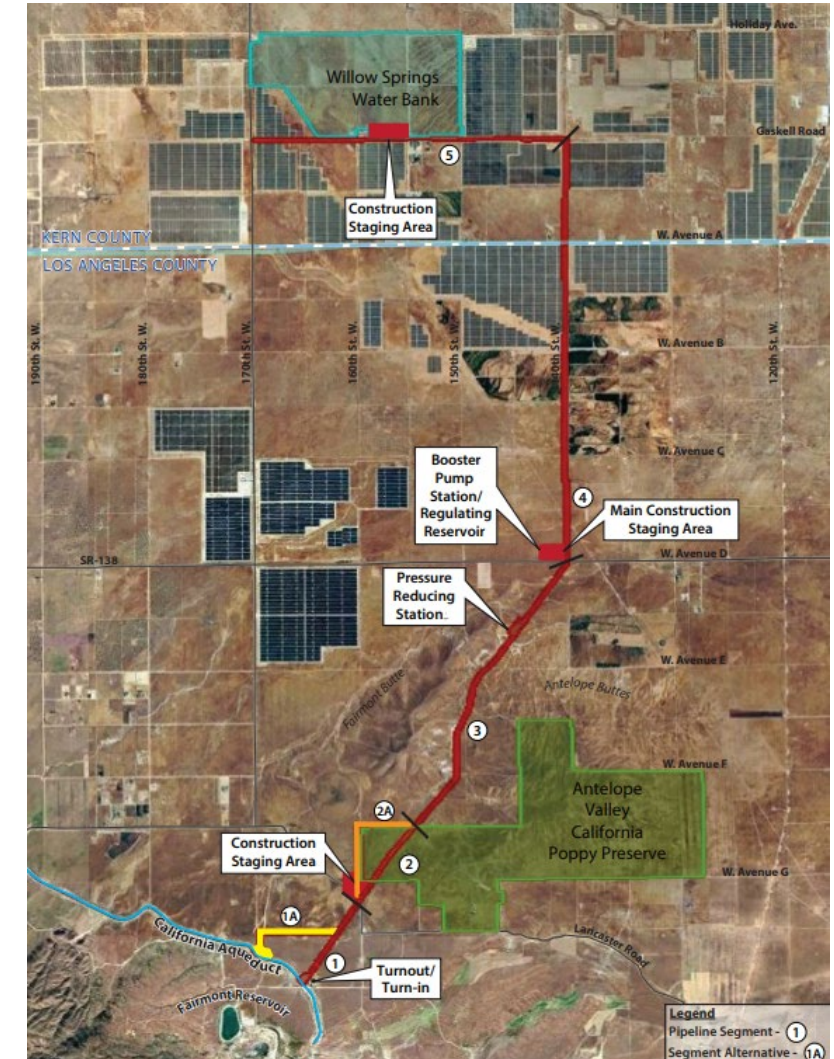
- Project description: Finalized
- Preliminary technical studies: Complete
- Administrative draft IS/MND: Substantially complete
- AB 52 tribal consultation: Initiated
- AVEK Lead: AVEK will be the reviewing agency for the IS/MND

Next Steps

- Finalize IS/MND (Sept. '26)
- Public review (Oct. '26)
- Hearing (Nov.'26)
- Notice of Determination (Nov. '26)



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Pipeline Design

Relevance

- Analyze pipeline routes, pump station location, and construction staging, which informed the CEQA process
- Allows initiation with Southern California Edison for electrical service

Progress

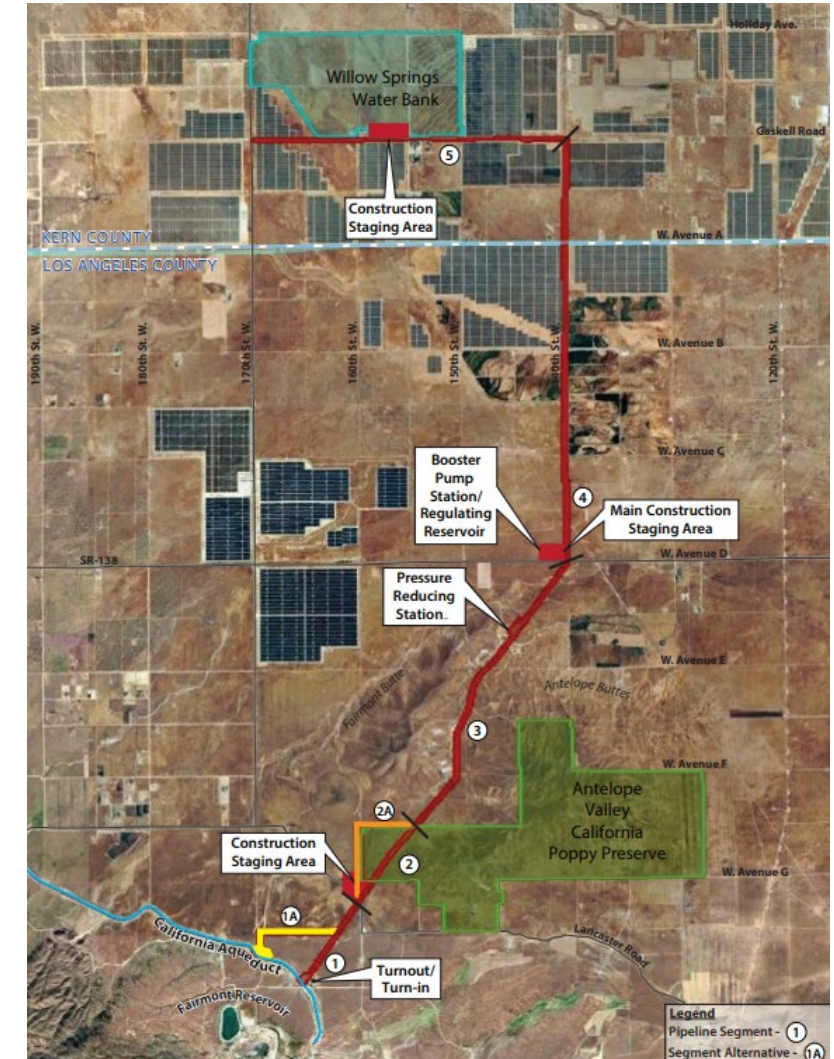
- Concept design: Evaluated site configuration to determine the location of major infrastructure
- Considers pump station location, pressure reduction needs, alignment route, right of way needs, construction access and staging

Next Steps

- Initiate field surveys
- Initiate geotechnical investigations
- Initiate electrical studies for service to the site
- Fine tune design assumptions based on DWR CA Aqueduct Turnout location and right-of-way negotiations



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CA Aqueduct Turnout

Relevance

- Informs SWC participants when and how much CA Aqueduct capacity there is to utilize the WSWB

Progress

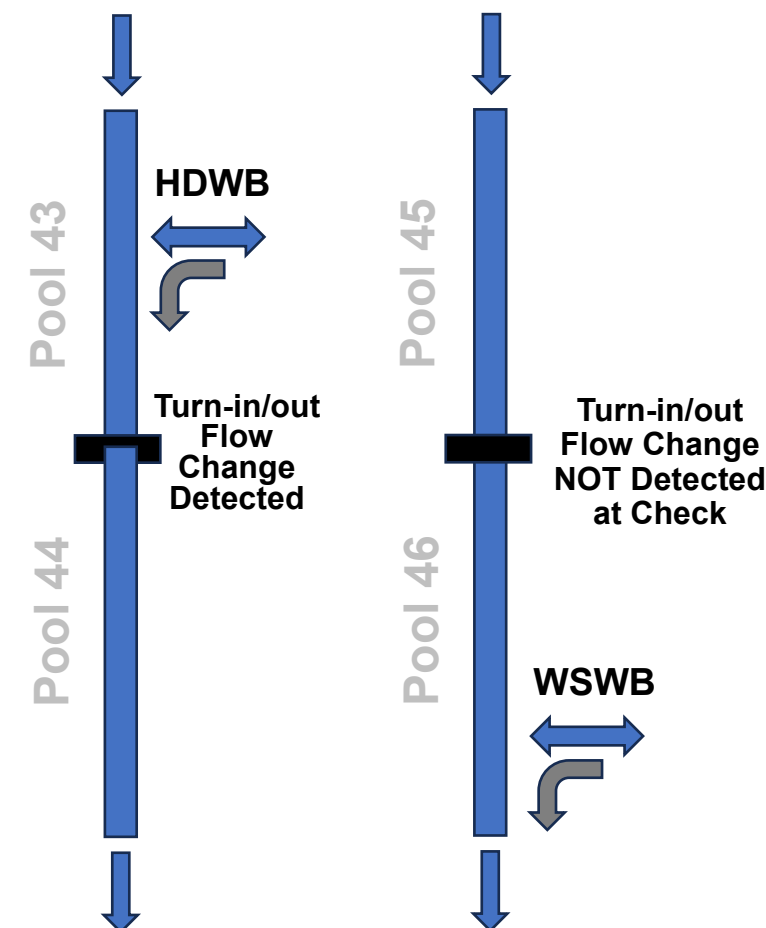
- DWR Study: DWR delivered on July 1, a preliminary hydraulic modeling study for the WSWB, testing a 800 cfs turn-in/out
- Meeting: DWR and WSWB discussed the study on July 20
- Preliminary Results: 800 cfs turnout in Pool 46 appears feasible

Next Steps

- Develop a Basis of Design (BoD) (expected Aug '26)
- Follow-up meeting with DWR to discuss participation from SWCs, the BoD, and test additional edge and high-flow scenarios (expected Sep '26)
- Submit formal turn-in/out application to DWR (Q4 '26)



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Groundwater Modeling



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Relevance

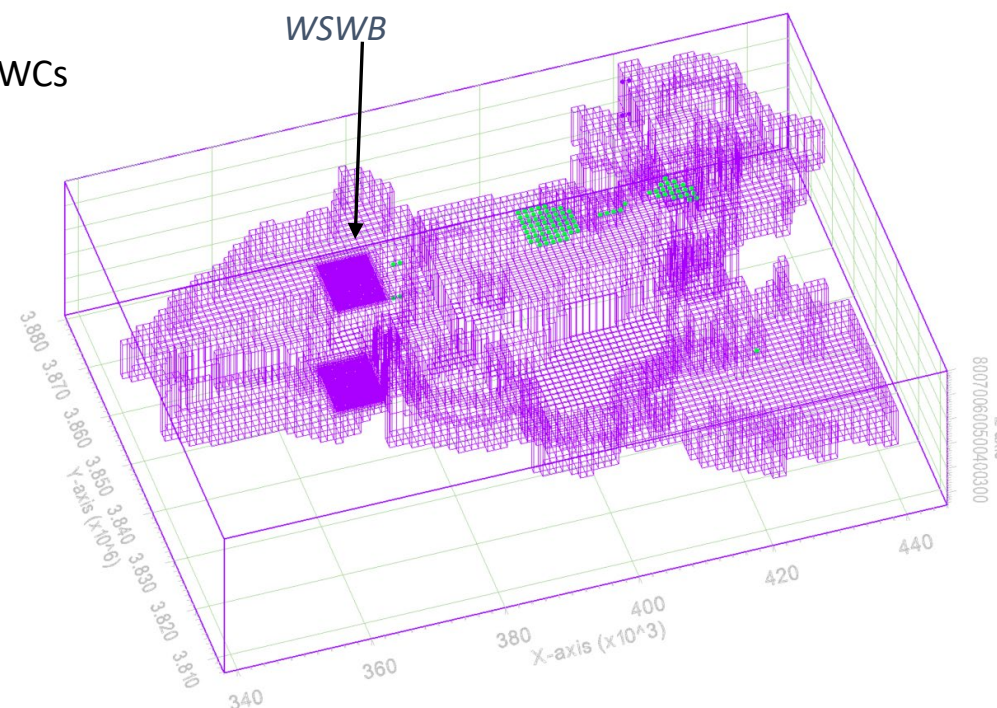
- Confirms storable/recoverable volumes
- Underpins storage agreement with Antelope Valley Watermaster for use by SWCs
- Informs monitoring and mitigation measures to ensure no material injury to existing groundwater users and pumpers

Progress

- Model build: AV Watermaster's basin model refined for WSWB
- Calibration: Tracked historical groundwater levels
- Scenarios: Developed
- Water quality: Historic surface & groundwater baselines compiled

Next Steps

- Run future banking/recovery scenarios (Sep '26)
- Issue draft & final model report (Oct/Nov '26)
- Begin drafting water storage agreement with the AV Watermaster (Dec '26)





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Project Participants (SWCs)

Relevance

- Set expectations between the WSWB and SWC participants
- Signed MOIs affirm interest in the WSWB project

Progress

- Working group meeting: Convened Mar 31, 2026 (7 SWCs)
- Request for MOIs: Moving interested SWC participation to non-binding Memorandums of Interest (“MOIs”)
- MOI Scope: Phased development, sharing in public-benefit component, public support, and more
- MOI Status: First MOI executed in June '26, additional MOIs in progress through boards/committees

Next Steps

- Execute additional MOIs (Q3 '26)
- Continue working group meetings with newly established MOI group to advance WSWB in all respects

Path to Final Funding



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Agreement	Status	Next Steps / Milestones
Non-Public Benefits (Storage)	▪ <u>Previous milestone complete</u>: Project cost update and reaffirmed interest in the project, and more formal MOIs have been drafted ▪ MOIs are being entered that sets expectations for participation in the WSWB	▪ Continue signing MOIs with SWCs (Q3'26) ▪ Establish a new working group with those that have signed MOIs to progress WSWB in all respects (Q3'26) ▪ As WSWB progresses, move MOIs to binding documentation
Public Benefits (Pulse Flow)	▪ <u>Previous milestone complete</u>: Framework to deliver Pulse Flows established, with presentation and technical memos, and reaffirmed interest in the project	▪ Work on public benefit terms and arrangements with MOI group (Q4'26) ▪ Update CA DFW on how the MOI group will deliver public benefits (Q1'27) ▪ Providing Pulse Flow benefit will be penciled in binding documentation between SWCs and the WSWB, with CA DFW
Public Benefits (Emergency Response)	▪ <u>Previous milestone complete</u>: Preliminary hydraulic modeling study from DWR received on July 1, 2026 ▪ Study does not indicate limitations on ability to pump-back water to CA Aqueduct and deliver on Emergency Response	▪ Emergency Response will naturally be provided in such events by virtue of the WSWB location ▪ Providing Emergency Response benefit will be penciled in binding documentation between SWCs and the WSWB, with CA DWR

Project Schedule

2025				2026				2027				2028				2029				2030			
Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Project Management																							
Project Partnership and Water Supply Agreements (SWPC for supply)																							
		Contracts for Administration of Public Benefits (Pulse flow and Emergency Response)																					
		O&M Planning and Agreements																					
								Predesign, 30%, Field Data (geotech, well and aquifer testing), 60%, 90%, Final Design, and Bid Packaging															
Turnout/Turn-in & Pipeline CEQA																							
Groundwater Modeling																							
				AV Watermaster Groundwater Storage Agreement																			
			DWR Turnout Agreement and Aqueduct Modeling																				
								Project Permits															
													Development of Final Funding Agreement										
															WSWB Construction and Final Funding Implementation								

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