



MEMORANDUM

TO: City Council

FROM: Bill Robeson, Assistant City Manager/Public Works Director

BY: Shane Taylor, Utilities Manager

SUBJECT: Monthly Water Supply and Demand Update

DATE: April 25, 2023

SUMMARY OF ACTION:

The update reports the City's total water supply and demand for March 2023. Current Lopez Reservoir level and projected levels are provided in the attachments.

IMPACT ON FINANCIAL AND PERSONNEL RESOURCES:

Approximately two (2) hours of staff time is required to prepare the report.

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive and file the Monthly Water Supply and Demand Update.

BACKGROUND:

On October 12, 2021, the City Council adopted a Resolution declaring a State 1 Water Shortage Emergency; and implementing emergency water conservation measures and restrictions because of the extreme drought conditions.

On March 28, 2023, City Council adopted a Resolution rescinding the declaration of a Stage 1 Water Shortage Emergency and related water shortage restrictions and penalties.

The City of Arroyo Grande's water entitlements are calculated on a water year that begins April 1st. The current water supply for water year 2023/2024 includes 2,290 Acre Feet from Lopez Reservoir, 1,323 Acre Feet of groundwater entitlement from the Santa Maria River Groundwater Basin, and 160 Acre Feet from the City's wells that draw from the Pismo formation. An additional amount of surplus water will be declared by the San Luis Obispo Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District) next month. The surplus water, which will be unused downstream release water, will be made available to all agencies based on their project share. The share for Arroyo Grande is 50.5% and this amount will also be placed into storage.

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The predicted water use for the 2023/2024 water year is 2,200 Acre Feet.

In March 2023, the City's water use was 108.9 Acre Feet with a per capita use of 64 gallons per day/per person. The residential capita use was 51 gallons per day/per person. There was a total of 9.1 inches of rainfall in the City in March 2023.

ANALYSIS OF ISSUES:

The United States Drought Monitor, as of April 14, 2023, shows San Luis Obispo County not in a drought. Rainfall to date for the period of July 1, 2022, through April 14, 2023, is 29.75 inches at the Corporation Yard rain gauge. Lopez Lake, as of April 14, 2023, is at 100.5% capacity, or 49,628 Acre Feet.

The 2022/2023 water year ended on March 31, 2023. Lake Lopez began a continuous spill on March 23, 2023. The spill period from March 23, 2023, to March 31, 2023, resulted in 6,071 Acre Feet of spilled water, of which 775 Acre Feet was Arroyo Grande stored water. All district stored water was lost during this spill period. As a result, all project water deliveries are waived during a spill and not charged towards entitlements. Total Lopez deliveries to Arroyo Grande for the 2022/2023 water year was 1,634.8 Acre Feet, which leaves 655.2 Acre Feet of unused entitlement that will be put into storage.

The deep well index for the First Quarter of 2023 was completed on February 7, 2023, and is 10.58 feet above sea level, which is 3.08 feet above the 7.5 threshold value. The current deep well index is 4.70 feet higher than October 2022 and 1.22 feet higher than January 2022.

ALTERNATIVES:

The following alternatives are provided for the Council's consideration:

1. Receive and file the report; or
2. Provide other direction to staff.

ADVANTAGES:

The report provides the City Council and the public with the current and projected conditions of our water supply and demand.

DISADVANTAGES:

No disadvantages noted at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW:

No environmental review is required for this item.

PUBLIC NOTIFICATION AND COMMENTS:

The Agenda was posted at City Hall and on the City's website in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

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Attachments:

1. Lopez Monthly Operations Report for March 2023
2. Lopez Reservoir Storage Projection
3. Yearly Water Use Comparison
4. Monthly Monitoring Report for March 2023