



PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT

A CENTURY OF SERVICE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROBERT E. ALVARADO
Division 1

DON WILSON
Division 2

GLORIA DIZMANG
Division 3

KATHY MAC LAREN
Division 4

VINCENT DINO
Division 5

DENNIS D. LaMOREAUX
General Manager

ALESHIRE & WYNDER LLP
Attorneys

March 4, 2020

AGENDA FOR REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT to be held at the District's office at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020

6:00 p.m.

NOTES: To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act, to participate in any Board meeting please contact Dawn Deans at 661-947-4111 x1003 at least 48 hours prior to a Board meeting to inform us of your needs and to determine if accommodation is feasible.

Additionally, an interpreter will be made available to assist the public in making **comments** under Agenda Item No. 4 and any action items where public input is offered during the meeting if requested at least 48 hours before the meeting. Please call Dawn Deans at 661-947-4111 x1003 with your request. (PWD Rules and Regulations Section 4.03.1 (c))

Adicionalmente, un intérprete estará disponible para ayudar al público a hacer **comentarios** bajo la sección No. 4 en la agenda y cualquier elemento de acción donde se ofrece comentarios al público durante la reunión, siempre y cuando se solicite con 48 horas de anticipación de la junta directiva. Por favor de llamar Dawn Deans al 661-947-4111 x1003 con su solicitud. (PWD reglas y reglamentos sección 4.03.1 (c))

Agenda item materials, as well as materials related to agenda items submitted after distribution of the agenda packets, are available for public review at the District's office located at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale (Government Code Section 54957.5). Please call Dawn Deans at 661-947-4111 x1003 for public review of materials.

PUBLIC COMMENT GUIDELINES: The prescribed time limit per speaker is three-minutes. Please refrain from public displays or outbursts such as unsolicited applause, comments, or cheering. Any disruptive activities that substantially interfere with the ability of the District to carry out its meeting will not be permitted, and offenders will be requested to leave the meeting. (PWD Rules and Regulations, Appendix DD, Sec. IV.A.)

Each item on the agenda shall be deemed to include any appropriate motion, resolution, or ordinance to take action on any item.

- 1) Pledge of Allegiance/Moment of Silence.
- 2) Roll Call.
- 3) Adoption of Agenda.



- 4) Public comments for non-agenda items.
- 5) Presentations:
 - 5.1) Biological research related to bird species at Lake Palmdale. (Callyn D. Yorke, Ph.D./General Manager LaMoreaux)
- 6) Action Items - Consent Calendar (The public shall have an opportunity to comment on any action item on the Consent Calendar as the Consent Calendar is considered collectively by the Board of Directors prior to action being taken.)
 - 6.1) Approval of minutes of regular meeting held February 24, 2020.
 - 6.2) Payment of bills for March 9, 2020.
 - 6.3) Approval to ratify the entry into and authorization of funding purchase options in the 2020 State Water Contractors Dry Year Water Transfer Program. (\$2,500.00 initial deposit – Budgeted under Water Purchases – Resource and Analytics Director Thompson II)
- 7) Action Items - Action Calendar (The public shall have an opportunity to comment on any action item as each item is considered by the Board of Directors prior to action being taken.)
 - 7.1) Consideration and possible action on approval of Resolution No. 20-5 being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Approving the Adoption of the 2019 Update to the Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. (No Budget Impact – Engineering/Grant Manager Rogers)
 - 7.2) Consideration and possible action to vote for the Public Agency Director and Alternate Public Agency Director on the Antelope Valley Watermaster Board. (No Budget Impact – General Manager LaMoreaux)
 - 7.3) Consideration and possible action on authorization of the following conferences, seminars, and training sessions for Board and staff attendance within budget amounts previously approved in the 2020 Budget:
 - a) Special Districts Summit West to be held June 10, 2020 in Anaheim.
- 8) Information Items:
 - 8.1) Reports of Directors:
 - a) Meetings; Standing Committee/Assignment Reports; General Report.
 - 8.2) Report of General Manager.
 - 8.3) Report of General Counsel.
- 9) Public comments on closed session agenda matters.
- 10) Closed session under:
 - 10.1) Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation: A closed session will be held, pursuant to Government Code §54956.9 (d)(4), to confer with General Counsel regarding anticipated litigation to which the District may be a party, one case.

- 11) Public report of any action taken in closed session.
- 12) Board members' requests for future agenda items.
- 13) Adjournment.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dennis D. LaMoreaux". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Dennis" and last name "LaMoreaux" clearly legible. The middle initial "D." is smaller and less distinct.

DENNIS D. LaMOREAUX,
General Manager

DDL/dd

P A L M D A L E W A T E R D I S T R I C T
B O A R D M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: March 3, 2020 **March 9, 2020**
TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS **Board Meeting**
FROM: Mr. Dennis D. LaMoreaux, General Manager
RE: ***AGENDA ITEM NO. 5.1 – PRESENTATIONS: BIOLOGICAL
RESEARCH RELATED TO BIRD SPECIES AT LAKE PALMDALE.
(CALLYN D. YORKE/GENERAL MANAGER LaMOREAUX)***

For the past several years, the District has granted Dr. Callyn Yorke, Professor of Zoology for Antelope Valley College, access to Lake Palmdale to conduct biological research related to bird species and populations at Lake Palmdale. Dr. Yorke will be presenting information from his Summary Bird Report.

Strategic Initiative/Mission Statement:

This work is part of Strategic Initiative No. 5 – Regional Leadership.

This item directly relates to the District’s Mission Statement.

Supporting Documents:

- December 2, 2019 letter to Dr. Yorke extending his agreement for access to Lake Palmdale for biological research
- Lake Palmdale Summary Bird Report March 2, 2017 – November 4, 2019
- Photos and details of Dr. Yorke bird surveys for 2019



PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT

A CENTURY OF SERVICE

December 2, 2019

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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DENNIS D. LaMOREAUX
General Manager

ALESHIRE & WYNDER LLP
Attorneys

Callyn D. Yorke, Ph.D.
c/o Antelope Valley College
3041 West Avenue K
Lancaster, CA 93536-5426

**RE: ACCESS TO LAKE PALMDALE FOR BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH
– EXTENSION TO DECEMBER 31, 2020**

Dear Dr. Yorke:

Thank you for your continuing work at Lake Palmdale. The District is supportive of the work that has been conducted and understands its importance to for the Antelope Valley. Therefore, the Lake Palmdale access is reauthorized with the same terms outlined in the December 20, 2017 letter agreement (Agreement), copy enclosed. The Agreement allows a 12-month extension if requested before November 30, 2019. Your request for an extension was received November 13, 2019. Access to Lake Palmdale for the purpose of Biological Research is thereby extended to December 31, 2020.

Your work at Lake Palmdale is appreciated and interesting to the Board of Directors. A presentation is tentatively scheduled for the Board meeting on March 9, 2020 for you to present your findings over the last year.

Very truly yours,

DENNIS D. LaMOREAUX,
General Manager

DDL/dd

cc: Mr. Adam Ly, Assistant General Manager
Mr. Mynor Masaya, Operations Manager
Ms. Judy Shay, Public Affairs Director





PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT
A CENTURY OF SERVICE

RECEIVED

NOV 19 2010

December 20, 2017

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ROBERT E. ALVARADO
Division 1

JOE ESTES
Division 2

MARCO HENRIQUEZ
Division 3

KATHY MAC LAREN
Division 4

VINCENT DINO
Division 5

DENNIS LaMOREAUX
General Manager

ALESHIRE & WYNDER LLP
Attorneys

Callyn D. Yorke, Ph.D.
c/o Antelope Valley College
3041 West Avenue K
Lancaster, CA 93536-5426

RE: ACCESS TO LAKE PALMDALE FOR BIOLOGICAL RESEARCH

Dear Dr. Yorke:

Thank you for your work over the last several years at Lake Palmdale. The District is supportive of the work that has been conducted and its continuation and therefore authorizes your access to Lake Palmdale for Biological Research and under the terms set forth in this letter. Please review the proposed terms and waiver. If acceptable, please acknowledge with your signature.

Terms for Lake Palmdale Access

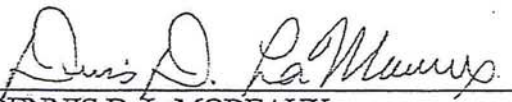
1. The undersigned, Dr. Callyn Yorke (Yorke), desires to voluntarily access property owned by Palmdale Water District ("District") containing Lake Palmdale to conduct biological research.
2. The District authorizes access for Dr. Yorke and an assistant for the stated purposes and under the terms of this letter;
3. Access covered in this document is strictly for biological research related to bird species, populations, and fluctuations over time that will be used in relation to educational activities at the Antelope Valley College and does not constitute a membership to the Fin & Feather Club;
4. Foot access on Palmdale Dam is authorized for the purposes described in this document. This document in no way **requires** District to allow foot access to the Palmdale Dam and District reserves the right to deny Yorke access to the Palmdale Dam without prior written notice;
5. All access to Lake Palmdale shall be through the main entrance of the Leslie O. Carter Water Treatment Plant, during regular business hours, using the following procedure:
 - a. Pull up to the front gate of the Plant and press the "Call" button. The Duty Operator will answer and open the gate.



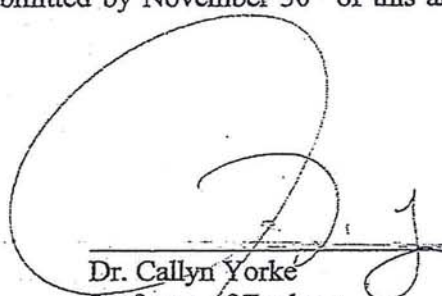
December 20, 2017

- b. The Duty Operator will also open and lock the rear gate into Lake Palmdale until the visit is complete.
 - c. Call the Duty Operator at 661-816-3270 when leaving the Lake or if any problems are encountered.
6. Provide the District annual information on the findings by December 31st of each year.
 7. Yorke knowingly waives any claims against the District arising out of the terms of this letter and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the District from any claims arising out of the terms of this letter brought by third parties. Yorke hereby agrees that Yorke will not make a claim against District for injury or damage, including but not limited to personal injury or property damage, resulting from Yorke's access to or use of the Palmdale Dam or Lake Palmdale arising out of the terms of this letter. Yorke knowingly waives any rights of Yorke's employer, estate or heirs to file a claim against the District arising out of the terms of this letter and agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the District from any such claims. Yorke agrees to indemnify and hold harmless the District against any claim for injury or damages, including but not limited to personal injury or property damage, brought by Yorke's assistant resulting from Yorke or the assistant's access to or use of the Palmdale Dam or Lake Palmdale arising out of the terms of this letter.
 8. This set of terms will be valid through December 31, 2019 and will be considered for a 12-month extension upon notice from Dr. Yorke submitted by November 30th of this and future years.

Very truly yours,


DENNIS D. LaMOREAUX,
General Manager

DDL/dd


Dr. Callyn Yorke
Professor of Zoology
Antelope Valley College


Date

cc: Mr. Mynor Masaya, Operations Manager

LAKE PALMDALE SUMMARY BIRD REPORT

March 2, 2017 – November 4, 2019

Callyn Yorke

SUMMARY

A total of forty-three, three to five-hour morning bird surveys at Lake Palmdale was obtained by Callyn Yorke during 2017-2019. Surveys were made on foot and in every month except July, using predominately the interior shoreline road around the lake. Materials used included a Zeiss 10x42 binocular and a Nikon D850 camera with a Nikon 200-500mm AF VR lens. All birds observed within or adjacent to the Lake Palmdale property boundaries, i.e. fence lines, were identified when possible and counted. Notes on morphology, age, sex, and ecology were included. All survey results were entered on the following two webpages, the first of which is now exclusively archival:

- 1) <http://avconline.avc.edu/cyorke/LakePalmdaleSpring2016.html>
- 2) <https://leiothrichid.com/lake-palmdale-ca-bird-surveys-2019-callyn-yorke/>

The forty-three surveys produced a total of 154 species of bird, approximately 60% of the total number of bird species (254) recorded for Lake Palmdale. About fifty of those species are known to have bred or have attempted to breed at Lake Palmdale. I added four new species for the Lake Palmdale bird list during the survey period: **Little Gull (10/10/ 2019- extremely rare)**, Cassin's Kingbird (5/3/2018), Western Bluebird (12/30/2017) and Least Bell's Vireo (5/4/2017). Additionally, observers watching Lake Palmdale from outside the property boundaries, e.g. the Park & Ride lot on the northwest boundary and suburbs to the south, have provided documentation (photos and detailed descriptions) of four more species for the list, Barrow's Goldeneye (12/24/2018), Lesser Nighthawk (10/10/2019), Red-necked Grebe (1/27/2019) and Pygmy Nuthatch (4/7/2019), bringing the grand total of birds known to have occurred at Lake Palmdale since I began keeping records in 1986, to **258 species**.

The remarkably large number of bird species found at Lake Palmdale is due to a combination of natural and artificial factors, including geographical location, habitat diversity, and maintenance of the water reservoir. All of these convergent features provide an excellent location for monitoring both resident breeding birds and passage migrants.

Among the noteworthy breeding birds at Lake Palmdale, are two closely related species, Clark's Grebe and Western Grebe. They may be identified by differences in facial pattern (the eyes are surrounded by black feathering in most Western's and white feathering in Clark's) and vocalizations (Western adults give a two-syllable call; Clark's a one-syllable call). I have also noted differences in the seasonal abundances of each species, together with subtle differences in habitat selection. Further field studies are necessary to clarify just how these two species partition resources, e.g. often nesting only a few meters apart at Lake Palmdale. It is also noteworthy that Lake Palmdale has the largest perennial population of nesting Clark's Grebe in Los Angeles County.

Other noteworthy species occurring at Lake Palmdale, yet scarce elsewhere in Los Angeles County, include Verdin and Tree Swallow. Both of those species nest at Lake Palmdale, which represents one of the most significant breeding locations in the county. Tricolored Blackbird, a State-listed species threatened by breeding habitat loss (freshwater marsh), has also nested at Lake Palmdale a few times in prior years.

Overall, there are few freshwater lake-riparian habitats left in Los Angeles County with such a rich variety of birds as Lake Palmdale. Long-term studies of bird population, such as the one I am presently conducting, offer the possibility of monitoring changes in regional bird populations, particularly in the context of Global Climate Change. Already, there is evidence of the northward movement of tropical birds into Southern California, e.g. Great-tailed Grackle (common at Lake Palmdale), and elevation shifts in montane species, e.g. Red Crossbill (a rare visitor). Only by continued field observations can these changes be accurately documented.



Lake Palmdale: Recent Bird Surveys (2019; 2020)



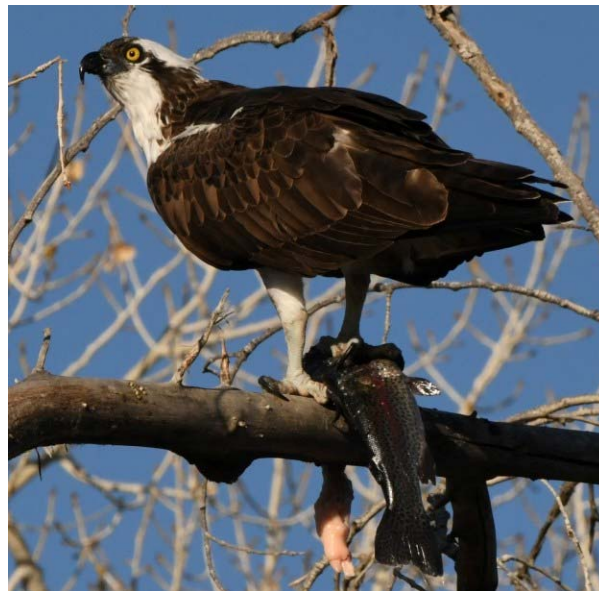
Lake Palmdale Los Angeles County CA, viewing southeast 11 April 2019 Callyn Yorke



Northeastern border of Lake Palmdale Sunrise Los Angeles County CA 17 October 2019 Callyn Yorke



Northeast corner of Lake Palmdale Los Angeles County CA 7 November 2019 Callyn Yorke



Osprey Lake Palmdale Los Angeles County CA 13 February 2020 Callyn Yorke

Lake Palmdale LACO CA 27 February 2020 (54 Species)



California Scrub-jay Lake Palmdale Los Angeles County CA 27 February 2020 Callyn Yorke

Weather: Fair; 46F to 60F; wind NE 2- 5 mph.

Time: 0723-1040 hrs.

Area Covered: *I walked the standard, counter-clockwise route around the entire lake, using the interior shoreline road. Except for a PWD maintenance vehicle and idle backhoe, there was little human disturbance during the survey. The water level continues to be at or near the maximum lake volume, resulting in the landward movement of water, inundating mudflats and previously exposed shoreline. The flow rate in the SE Palmdale Ditch inlet was low.*

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest included, Horned Grebe (4), Western Grebe (3), Osprey (1), Downy Woodpecker (1), Tree Swallow (50), Verdin (1), Western Bluebird (2), Phainopepla (2), Lawrence's Goldfinch (1) and American Goldfinch (10).

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 1 (f) resting at edge of marsh, se; Mallard 8 (m,f) pairs around the edges of the lake; Cinnamon Teal 4 (m,f) individuals and a pair on edge of marsh, w, s; Northern Shoveler 6 (m,f), gregarious in open water, s; Lesser Scaup 6 (m,f), gregarious in open water, se; Bufflehead 40 (m,f) pairs and loose flocks scattered, mostly around the edges of the lake Ruddy Duck 200 (m,f, bsc-trans. alt. plmg.), gregarious around the edges of the lake; California Quail 6 (m,f) flushed from rabbitbrush field, w; Pied-billed Grebe 10 vocal, individuals diving around the edges of the lake; Horned Grebe 4 (bsc. plmg.) individuals diving in open water, n, nw; Eared Grebe 4 (bsc. plmg.) pairs diving in open water, n; Western Grebe 3 one pair swimming together in open water, n, another individual swimming and vocalizing near traditional nesting area, nw; Double-crested Cormorant 10 (ad, imm) diving in open water and near shore, resting on stirring platforms; Great Blue Heron 3 vocal when flushed from shore, n, w, s; Black-crowned Night-heron 1 (imm) resting at edge of marsh, s; Osprey 1 circling above the lake, se; Red-shouldered Hawk 1 vocal in the presence of a nearby CORA in traditional cottonwood nest site, se. American Coot 400 gregarious, ubiquitous on the margins of the lake; Killdeer 4 gregarious, pairs vocalizing when flushed from wetland next to the jetty and dam, nw, e; California Gull 100 (ad, imm) resting in open water, flying to and from direction of Palmdale landfill, nw; Eurasian Collared Dove 3 gregarious, riparian woodland, n, nw; Mourning Dove 20 vocal, mostly in pairs, ubiquitous; Nuttall's Woodpecker 6 (m,f) vocal, drumming, individuals foraging in cottonwoods, pines and willows around the lake; Downy Woodpecker 1 (m) foraging in axillary portion of twigs in the canopy of mature cottonwoods with catkins, w; Northern (RS) Flicker 1 flew to top of creosote bush, n; Black Phoebe 12 vocal, individuals and pairs sallying low from branches near water and open fields around the lake; Western Scrub-jay 2 vocal in junipers, ne (photo -see above); Common Raven 20 gregarious, vocal, a loose flock of ten soaring high above lake and adjacent hills; one flipping over in flight and other acrobatics in mid-air; Tree Swallow 50 vocal, gregarious, pairs perched and flying around traditional nest sites in cottonwoods and willows around the lake; Oak Titmouse 1 vocal (unseen) junipers, w; Verdin 1 foraging on terminal buds of small cottonwood, ne; Bushtit 10 gregarious, pairs and individuals in canopies of a variety of shrubs and trees, n, w; Bewick's Wren 10 vocal, (song) individuals in brushy areas and

riparian edge around the lake; House Wren 1 at edge of open field-riparian-marsh, nw; Marsh Wren 1 in patch of Great Basin Sage adjacent to inundated marsh, nw, two individuals vocalizing in marsh, s; American Robin 2 vocal in cottonwoods, w, sw; Western Bluebird 2 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, a pair flying between low perches in cottonwoods (se – *second record for LP* – photo).



Western Bluebird female Lake Palmdale LACO CA 27 February 2020 Callyn Yorke

Northern Mockingbird 3 vocal (song) individuals at edges of open fields, n, nw, s; California Thrasher 3 vocal, a pair foraging on ground beneath junipers and cottonwoods, sw (photo).



California Thrasher Lake Palmdale LACO CA 27 February 2020 Callyn Yorke

European Starling 20 vocal, gregarious, mostly in trees around picnic area and clubhouse, n; Phainopepla 2 (m,f) individuals in cottonwoods with parasitic mistletoe, s; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 60 (m,f; imm) vocal (calls) gregarious, ubiquitous, often in msf with other canopy-dwelling species, e.g. AMGO and BUSH; Common Yellowthroat 3 (m,f) vocal (calls) loosely gregarious, staying low at edge of marsh, w; California Towhee 2 gregarious, a pair foraging on roadside embankment covered by rabbitbrush, n; Savannah Sparrow 1 on jetty, nw; Song Sparrow 8 vocal, pairs foraging on ground at edge of marsh around the lake; Lincoln's Sparrow 1 flushed from inundated field next to jetty, nw; White-crowned Sparrow 80 vocal (calls and song) gregarious, feeding on ground, ubiquitous; Red-winged Blackbird 10 (m) vocal (song) on exposed perches in marsh and marsh-riparian areas around the lake; Great-tailed Grackle 10 (m,f) gregarious, vocal at edge of marsh-riparian, nw, s; House Finch 25 (m,f) gregarious, vocal, pairs foraging in a variety of habitats around the lake; Lawrence's Goldfinch 1 (m) foraging with WCSP on reseeded lawn in picnic area, n; American Goldfinch 6 (m,f; bsc. plmg.) gregarious foraging mostly in silence on cottonwood fruiting clusters, w (photo).



American Goldfinch Lake Palmdale Los Angeles County CA 27 February 2020 Callyn Yorke

House Sparrow 10 (m,f) vocal, gregarious on sidewalk next to clubhouse, n.

Lake Palmdale LACO 13 February 2020 (46 Species)

Weather: Fair; 41F to 62F; wind WNW 0- 2 mph.

Time: 0736 – 1030 hrs.

Area Covered: *I walked a clockwise route around the entire lake using the interior shoreline road. Aside from a PWD truck, there was no traffic or human disturbance during the survey. The lake water level was at maximum or near maximum volume, resulting in inundated marshland throughout and no exposed mudflats or shoreline.*

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Horned Grebe (1), Osprey (1) and Downy Woodpecker (1). Western and Clark's Grebe were conspicuously absent.

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 2 (m) swimming near shore, e, w; Mallard 4 (m,f) pairs flushed near shore, se, w; Cinnamon Teal 1 (m) flushed from flooded marsh, w; Northern Shoveler 4 (m) gregarious, se; Lesser Scaup 10 (m,f) gregarious, swimming near marsh and into open water, se; Bufflehead 30 (m,f) gregarious in small highly mobile flocks, some showing courtship behavior, ubiq; Common Goldeneye 1 (f) swimming away from the dam, se; Ruddy Duck 160 (m,f) bsc. plmg. gregarious, resting near marsh, ubiq; California Quail 6 vocal, gregarious, rabbitbrush field, w; Pied-billed Grebe 4 individuals diving in open water, ubiq; Horned Grebe 1 (bsc. plmg.) preening, swimming near shore with Bufflehead (photo).



Horned Grebe (Podiceps auritus) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 13 Feb. 2020 Callyn Yorke

Eared Grebe 3 individuals diving in open water, n, s; Double-crested Cormorant 4 flying and perched on strir platforms, n; Great Blue Heron 3 flushed from marshes around the lake; Osprey 1 flying over the lake, subsequently consuming a rainbow trout in a cottonwood tree, se (photo).



Osprey (Pandion haliaetus) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 13 February 2020 Callyn Yorke

Red-shouldered Hawk 2 (ad) vocal, flying low in riparian woodland areas, se, w; Red-tailed Hawk 4, ad, one dark morph, s; one pair in upper branches of large cottonwood, ne; American Coot 600 gregarious, most in shallows around the lake; Killdeer 4 two pair, vocal, on dam and jetty, e, nw; Ring-billed Gull 2 (ad, imm) resting in open water but well apart from CAGU flock, s; California Gull 80 (90% ad) gregarious, mostly resting in open water, n-central, some flying nw toward Palmdale landfill; Feral Rock Pigeon 3 flying over suburbs, n; Mourning Dove 30 gregarious, ubiquitous, especially in riparian areas; Anna's Hummingbird 1 hovering around willows near a dock, w; Nuttall's Woodpecker 2 vocal, in pines, n, ne; Downy Woodpecker 1 (f) foraging on main cottonwood trunk and very small, vertical branches (photo).



Downy Woodpecker (Picoides pubescens) fem. Lake Palmdale LACO CA 13 February 2020 Callyn Yorke

Northern (RS) Flicker 3 flushed from ground and low perches in riparian areas, n, w; Black Phoebe 10 often vocal, individuals sallying from a wide range of heights in trees, on dock railings and shrubs around the lake, usually near water; Common Raven 12 gregarious; one flock including two or three relatively small individuals in their first basic plumage (relatively short tail, no throat hackles and minimal basal feathering on bill) with adults, vocal, n, s; Tree Swallow 10 gregarious, pairs perched and flying around willows with broken limb cavities, i.e. showing early nesting behavior, s; Oak Titmouse 1 vocal (unseen)

cottonwoods, sw; Bushtit 1 flying to canopy of cottonwood, w; Bewick's Wren 6 vocal (calls and song), brushy and riparian areas around the lake; Marsh Wren 2 vocal in dry marsh, w; California Thrasher 3 vocal individuals (fragmented, discordant song) atop junipers, sw, s nw; European Starling 12 vocal, gregarious, around buildings, gardens and riparian edge, n; American Pipit 1 foraging on edge of jetty, nw (photo).



American Pipit (Anthus rubescens) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 13 February 2020 Callyn Yorke

Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 12 (m,f) vocal (calls) loosely gregarious, affecting a variety of vegetation types and heights around the lake; California Towhee 1 foraging on ground with shell casing fragments at edge of skeet range with WCSP, ne; Lark Sparrow 6 gregarious, foraging on ground with WCSP next to skeet range, ne; Song Sparrow 5 vocal (song and calls) riparian-marsh edge, se, s, w (photo).



Song Sparrow (Melospiza melodia) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 13 Feb. 2020 Callyn Yorke

White-crowned Sparrow 80 (ad, imm) gregarious in flocks on ground in brushy and riparian areas around the lake; Red-winged Blackbird 12 (m) vocal (song) atop marsh and in trees adjacent to marsh around the lake, esp. nw, w; Great-tailed Grackle 20 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, lakeshore, marsh-riparian, n, nw, s; House Finch 40 (m,f) gregarious, vocal (calls and song), foraging on ground and in trees (e.g. pines) around the lake, often with WCSP; House Sparrow 2 vocal, a pair hovering around and under the eaves of storage shed, n.

Lake Palmdale LACO 21 November 2019 (65 Species)



Lake Palmdale LACO CA viewing southeast from the northeast shore, 21 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Weather: Overcast to partly cloudy; 41F to 49F; winds NW 2 – 3mph; a cold front moved through the region during the past 24 hrs., including relatively light rains.

Time: 0645 – 1150 hrs.

Area Covered: I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level continues to be low, leaving exposed shorelines throughout. Water flow in both the California Aqueduct and Palmdale Ditch inlets was moderate. There was no disturbance due to human activities during the survey.

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Snow Goose (1-first record for LP), Common Merganser (1-fos), Hooded Merganser (1), Common Loon (2), Pacific Loon (1 – fos), and American Bittern (1).

BIRDS NOTED

Snow Goose 1 (imm) ID: relatively large bill, ruling out ROGO, swimming in open water, central; first photo-documented record for LP (photo).



Snow Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) Lake Palmdale, LACO CA 21 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Gadwall 14 (m,f) gregarious, s, se; American Wigeon 6 (m,f) gregarious, w, se; Mallard 3 (m,f) gregarious in open water, s-central; Cinnamon Teal 3 (m,f) flushed from se corner; Northern Shoveler 3 (m,f) gregarious, swimming near shore, s, se; Northern Pintail 2 (m,f) resting near edge of marsh, se (photo);



Northern Pintail (Anas acuta) male Lake Palmdale, LACO CA 21 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Green-winged Teal 1 (f) in open water, e-central; Canvasback 1 (f) swimming in slough, s (photo);



Canvasback (Aythya valisineria) female Lake Palmdale LACO CA 21 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Redhead 2 (m,f) gregarious in open water, e-central; Lesser Scaup 40 (m,f) gregarious, open water and near shore throughout; Bufflehead 80 (m,f) gregarious, highly mobile, ubiquitous; Common Goldeneye 1 (f) swimming near marsh, nw; Common Merganser 1 (f) swimming in open water, n (fos); Hooded Merganser 1 (f) swimming in open water, e-central; Ruddy Duck 400 (m,f) gregarious, mostly resting around margins of the lake, some diving; Common Loon 2 gregarious, diving, e-central; Pacific Loon 1 ID: contrast between dark brown head with white cheeks, throat, faint but visible 'chinstrap', diving, central (fos – photo);



Pacific Loon (Gavia pacifica) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 21 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Pied-billed Grebe 30 (ad, imm) loosely gregarious around margins of the lake; Horned Grebe 3 gregarious, diving, n-central; Eared Grebe 1 diving, central; Western Grebe 15 vocal, pairs and individuals in open water and near marsh, central, s; Clark's Grebe 60 (ad, imm), gregarious, vocal, at least ten, full-grown, identifiable young giving begging calls with adults, ubiquitous; Double-crested Cormorant 10, (ad, imm) resting on stirring platforms, diving, n, e; American White Pelican 5 gregarious, foraging by surface-scooping near marsh, nw, w; American Bittern 1 (imm) standing on mat of cattails at edge of marsh, ne corner of jetty, nw (photo);



American Bittern (Botaurus lentiginosus) immature Lake Palmdale LACO CA 21 November 2019
Callyn Yorke

Great Blue Heron 3 flushed from shore and marsh around the lake; Great Egret 1 flying over marsh, se; Green Heron 1 vocal (unseen) marsh, nw; Black-crowned Night Heron 2 (imm) at edge of marsh, s, se; Cooper's Hawk 1 flying over willows, nw; Red-shouldered Hawk 1 vocal (unseen), se; Red-tailed Hawk 5 (ad, imm) a pair of adults perched in willows, se; Sora 1 vocal (unseen) w; American Coot 1,500, gregarious, ubiquitous; Killdeer 2 vocal, flushed from shoreline on dam, e; Greater Yellowlegs 2 -cont. shoreline on dam, e; Wilson's Snipe 2 individuals on mudflats, nw, se; Ring-billed Gull 20 (90% ad) gregarious, mostly resting in open water, n-central; California Gull 80 (90% ad) gregarious, mostly resting in open water, n-central, individuals commuting between LP and landfill to nw; Herring Gull 1 C1 - cont. flying low over lake, n-central; Eurasian Collared Dove 12 gregarious around picnic area, mulberry trees and clubhouse, n; Mourning Dove 2 gregarious on utility line, n; Great Horned Owl 1 resting in subcanopy in favored cottonwood next to boat ramp, fresh pellets on ground beneath w; Belted Kingfisher 5 (m,f) vocal individuals, flighty, changing perches around lake; Nuttall's Woodpecker 3 vocal in cottonwoods, w, s, ne; Northern (RS) Flicker 7 (m,f) individuals in trees around lake; Black Phoebe 4 vocal, low perches in fields and shoreline around lake; Common Raven 20 gregarious, flocks soaring high (500 ft. agl) over fields, n, sw; Verdin 1 vocal, flew into juniper, w; Bushtit 20 gregarious, vocal, foraging in shrubs and trees, nw, s; Bewick's Wren 4 vocal in sage-juniper, saltbush and riparian-marsh, n, nw, w; House Wren 1 flushed from riparian edge, nw; Marsh Wren 2 resp. to plshing and more strongly to playback of song, though maintaining silence at edge of marsh, nw; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 20 vocal, gregarious (often paired), foraging in shrubs and trees, often with YRWA, ubiquitous; Northern Mockingbird 1 on fence, n; California Thrasher 2 repeated song (fragmented) in juniper field, nw, w; European Starling 5 vocal, gregarious in pruned cottonwood with large cavity, n; American Pipit 3 vocal, one individual, with dark ventral & pale dorsal streaking, bobbing tail vigorously while foraging in short grass at roadside, ne (photo).



American Pipit (Anthus rubescens) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 21 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 70 (m,f, imm) gregarious, vocal (calls) foraging in a wide variety of vegetation and on the ground, ubiquitous; Common Yellowthroat 2 vocal, in marsh along PD, se; Song Sparrow 5 vocal, pairs at edge of mudflats and marsh, nw, w, se; White-crowned Sparrow 30 (ad, imm) gregarious, vocal (calls and song), brushy and wooded areas throughout; Great-tailed Grackle 6 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, edge of marsh and on jetty, nw, se; House Finch 5 (m,f) open fields and pines, se, ne; Lesser Goldfinch 4 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, foraging in favored patch of dried sunflowers along PD, se; House Sparrow 5 (m,f) vocal, gregarious in garden around clubhouse, n.

Lake Palmdale LACO 14 November 2019 (57 Species)

Weather: Partly cloudy; 61F to 72F; wind WSW, WNW 8- 15 mph.

Time: 0633-1100 hrs.

Area Covered: *I walked a clockwise route around the entire lake using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level continues to be relatively low, leaving exposed shorelines of mud and rock throughout. The southeast Palmdale Ditch was flowing at a relatively low volume. There was little disturbance from human activities during the survey. Windy conditions reduced land bird activity in exposed areas.*

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Common Goldeneye (2 -fos), Common Loon (1), Turkey Vulture (1), Northern Harrier (1), Common Gallinule (1), Red-tailed Hawk (4, including one dark morph), Wilson's Snipe (3), and Herring Gull (1 -cont.).

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 10 (m,f) gregarious, flushed from edge of marsh, w; American Wigeon 10 (m,f) gregarious, usually in pairs and small flocks throughout; Mallard 8 (m,f) pairs and trios around the edges of the lake; Green-winged Teal 3 (f) flushed from edge of marsh, se; Redhead 3 (1 m, 2 f), gregarious, open water, w; Lesser Scaup 40 (m,f) gregarious, two flocks of about 20 each, swimming, e, nw; Bufflehead 150 (m,f) gregarious, ubiquitous in loose flocks on the water, individuals and pairs in flight, low over the lake surface; Common Goldeneye 2 (f) gregarious, swimming near marsh, se (photo – fos);



Common Goldeneye (Bucephala clangula) females Lake Palmdale LACO CA 14 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Ruddy Duck 500 (m,f) gregarious, most resting in shallows near marsh, ubiquitous; Common Loon 1 preening in open water, n-central; Pied-billed Grebe 30 loosely gregarious, swimming, diving near shore and marsh throughout; Western Grebe 22 (a definite increase in numbers, c.f. previous surveys this month) vocal, pairs and small flocks in open water throughout, one swimming with CLGR, s (photo);



Western Grebe (Aechmophorus occidentalis) below left and Clark's Grebe (A. clarkii) above right, Lake Palmdale, CA 14 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Clark's Grebe 40 vocal, pairs and individuals, including nearly full-grown juveniles, swimming in open water and near the shore throughout; Double-crested Cormorant 12 (ad, imm) resting on stirring platforms, swimming and diving near shore, n,w; American White Pelican 5 gregarious, swimming in open water and flying north away from the lake, n, sw; Great Blue Heron 3 vocal when flushed from edge of lake, e, s, w; Black-crowned Night Heron 2 edge of marsh, s; Turkey Vulture 1 flying low over riparian woods, w; Northern Harrier 1 (f) flying low over marsh, s; Cooper's Hawk 1 imm flew to horizontal limb in large cottonwood, se; Red-shouldered Hawk 2 (ad, imm) vocal, flying over cottonwoods, s, sw; Red-tailed Hawk 4 (ad, imm) one immature dark morph, probably the *calurus* subspecies, flying low over riparian woods, w (photo)



*Red-tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis ssp. c.f. calurus) immature dark phase, Lake Palmdale
LACO CA 14 November 2019 Callyn Yorke*

Common Gallinule 1 swimming at edge of marsh, nw (photo);



*Common Gallinule (Gallinula galeata) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 14 November 2019 Callyn
Yorke*

American Coot 1,500 gregarious, vocal, ubiquitous, esp. margins of the lake; Greater Yellowlegs 4 gregarious, vocal, foraging in shallows, se; Wilson's Snipe 3 one pair on mudflat, se, another single individual on edge marsh near jetty, nw; Ring-billed Gull 30 (90% ad), most resting or flying over open water, n-central; California Gull 30 (90% ad) resting in open water, flying nw; Herring Gull C1 1 -cont. flying near dam, se; Eurasian Collared Dove 1 in cottonwood, s; Anna's Hummingbird 1 vocal, around junipers, w; Belted Kingfisher 4 (m,f) vocal, flying around edges of the lake, perched over water in trees, one on wooden beam beneath a dock, w; Nuttall's Woodpecker 3 (m,f) vocal, pairs foraging in adjacent cottonwoods, s, w; Northern (RS) Flicker 5 vocal, individuals flying to junipers and cottonwoods, ubiquitous; Black Phoebe 5 vocal, individuals perched near water or over moist soils, ubiquitous; Say's Phoebe 1 perched on safety cone on dam, e; California Scrub-jay 1 flying e toward Lake Una, se; Common Raven 20 gregarious, vocal, circling above dam and fields, e, sw; Verdin 1 vocal (unseen), nw; Bushtit 40 vocal, gregarious, foraging in willows and cottonwoods, s, n; Bewick's Wren 3 vocal (scold calls), riparian-marsh and saltbush field, s, w, nw; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 4 vocal, often in msf with WCSP and YRWA, s, w; Northern Mockingbird 1 flying over parking area, ne; California Thrasher 1 vocal (calls - unseen) saltbush field, nw; European Starling 4 flying over riparian edge, s; American Pipit 3 vocal in flight, two landed together on jetty, sw one on shoreline of dam, e; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 60 (m,f, imm) vocal (calls), gregarious, foraging mostly in cottonwoods and willows, and a variety of other vegetation, a few on ground, ubiquitous; Common Yellowthroat 2 vocal (calls), secretive in marsh and saltbush scrub, s, nw; Savannah Sparrow 1 at edge of jetty and marsh, nw; Song Sparrow 4 vocal (calls) marsh and mudflats, s, w; Lincoln's Sparrow 2 vocal (calls - responded to

psshing) in riparian edge and saltbush scrub, w, nw; White-crowned Sparrow 40 (ad, imm) vocal (calls and fragmentary song), gregarious, ubiquitous in dense cover; Red-winged Blackbird 1 (m) in flight over marsh, nw; Great-tailed Grackle 6 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, nw, s; House Finch 5 (m,f) vocal, brushy field, edge of skeet range with WCSP; Lesser Goldfinch 4 gregarious, vocal, riparian and dried sunflower patches, se.

Lake Palmdale LACO 7 November 2019 (65 Species)

Weather: Fair; 50F to 66F, wind WNW 0- 3 mph.

Time: 0700-1130 hrs.

Area Covered: *I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake, using the interior shoreline road. Except for a PWD crew taking water samples, the survey area was quiet and undisturbed by human activities. The lake water level continues to be about 3 to 4 ft. below maximum height, leaving exposed shorelines of mud and/or rocks throughout (see above photo). Water flow was moderate through the southeast Palmdale Ditch inlet.*

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Canvasback (1 – fos), Hooded Merganser (1 – fos), Horned Grebe (2 – fos), Bonaparte's Gull (7), Herring Gull (1 – fos), House Wren (1), and Orange-crowned Warbler (1).

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 25 (m,f) gregarious, dabbling in shallows, se; American Wigeon 10 (m,f) gregarious (often paired), open water and shallows, nw, se; Mallard 20 (m,f) mostly in pairs, shallows throughout; Blue-winged Teal 2 (f) a pair flushed from the ne shallows; Cinnamon Teal 1 (m) with other ducks, n; Green-winged Teal 3 gregarious (paired) at edge of marsh, se; Canvasback 1 (m) resting in open water, e (fos); Ring-necked Duck 2 paired in shallows, nw; Lesser Scaup 30 (m,f) gregarious, swimming long distances throughout; Bufflehead 100 (rough est.) (m,f) gregarious, highly mobile throughout; Hooded Merganser 1 (f) open water, ne (fos); Ruddy Duck 500-600 (m,f) gregarious, mostly resting around edges of the lake; California Quail 18 (m,f) gregarious, flushed from marsh at north end of the PD, se; Pied-billed Grebe 20 (ad, imm), vocal, individuals and small flocks around the marshy edges of the lake; Horned Grebe 2 one observed diving and staying submerged for about 5-minutes in open water, n (photo – fos);



*Horned Grebe (Podiceps auritus) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 7 November
2019 Callyn Yorke*

Western Grebe 8 vocal, one pair swimming together, open water throughout and in s slough; Clark's Grebe 40 (some adults and immatures with relatively pale colored bills, suggesting WEGR at a distance) vocal, gregarious with and without nearly full-grown young (vocal), ubiquitous except for s slough, which has been frequented by WEGR in recent weeks; Double-crested Cormorant 10 (at least 5 imm.) gregarious on stirring platforms and small islet, n; American White Pelican 3 (imm) gregarious, swimming long distance, nw, ne; Great Blue Heron 3 flushed from shore, n, e; Green Heron 1 vocal (unseen) in marsh, se; Red-shouldered Hawk 2 (ad, imm) vocal, flying low over marsh and woodland, imm perched in a willow, adult vocalizing in flight over cottonwoods, w, se; Red-tailed Hawk 4 (3 ad, 1 imm) a pair of adults circling with ravens at 200-300 ft. agl, w; American Coot 1,200 (rough estimate) gregarious, ubiquitous, mostly in shallows but readily flushed to open water; Killdeer 2 vocal, flushed from shoreline, e; Greater Yellowlegs 2 – cont, in the usual location on dam shoreline, e; Wilson's Snipe 2 individuals foraging in marsh on secluded mudflats – one bird showing how its long bill with a distally curved culmen is used to grasp small prey items taken from the soft mud on a recently exposed shoreline sw, s (photo);



Wilson's Snipe (Gallinago delicata) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 7 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Bonaparte's Gull 7 (ad) gregarious, resting in open water, n-central; Ring-billed Gull 18 (only adults seen) gregarious, resting in open water, n-central; California Gull 10 (ad, imm) flying to and from Palmdale landfill (nw), gregarious in open water, n-central; Herring Gull 1 (imm C1) **ID**: in flight (from photos), contrasting pale patch on inner primaries, mantle relatively pale gray-brown, dusky breast contrasting with white neck 'collar', dark feathering around eyes and cheeks, bill of moderate length and proportions with gonydeal expansion (c.f. CAGU), flying alone, low over lake and jetty, nw (photos);



Herring Gull (Larus argentatus) immature Lake Palmdale LACO CA 7 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Eurasian Collared Dove 3 on utility lines, n; Mourning Dove 12 gregarious, ubiquitous, esp. n; Barn Owl 1 flushed from cottonwood at edge of boat launch at Docks 6 & 7, w; Great Horned Owl 1 in subcanopy of favored large cottonwood at edge of boat launch, Docks 6 & 7; Anna's Hummingbird 4 (m, f) hovering over creosote bush and junipers, n, w, se; Belted Kingfisher 4 (m, f) vocal, individuals flying over marsh, wary and readily flushed, throughout; Nuttall's Woodpecker 2 vocal, one fem. flying from a pine to utility pole, then perching on a utility line, ne, s; Northern (RS) Flicker 5 vocal, individuals flying around wooded areas throughout; Black Phoebe 6 vocal, ubiquitous, usually near water; Common Raven 30 a large, vocal flock circling 200-300 ft. agl around a pair of RTHA, w, several others (often paired) on and near dam, e; Oak Titmouse 2 vocal in cottonwoods, s; Verdin 3 vocal in saltbush scrub with HOWR and WCSP, nw (photo);



Verdin (Auriparus flaviceps) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 7 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Bushtit 30 (probably 3 different flocks) gregarious, vocal, foraging in a variety of tall shrubs and trees, n, w, s; Bewick's Wren 2 vocal, brushy areas and riparian edge, n, nw; House Wren 1 vocal (calls) in saltbush scrub with VERD, WCSP, nw (photo);



House Wren (Troglodytes aedon) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 7 November 2019 Callyn Yorke

Marsh Wren 3 vocal (calls) in dense marsh, nw, w; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 10 vocal, often in msf with YRWA in cottonwoods, nw, w, sw; Northern Mockingbird 1 in mulberry canopy in F & F picnic area near a PHAI, n; California Thrasher 1 vocal (song) in junipers, w; European Starling 5 vocal, gregarious on utility poles and lines around F & F clubhouse; American Pipit 1, gave alarm call when flushed, showing strong variegated facial markings and heavy black streaks on breast and sides; remainder of underparts whitish-buff, white wing bars; crown, nape and mantle relatively plain gray-brown, unstreaked; this individual was seen briefly and flushed from mowed dry weeds at roadside, w; Phainopepla 1 (f) in mulberry canopy above fruiting hedgerow of pyracantha, F & F picnic area, n; Orange-crowned Warbler 1 relatively dull-colored overall, in msf with BUSH and YRWA in cottonwood and tamarisk, w; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler (m,f, imm) vocal (calls), gregarious, often in msf, foraging by gleaning, snatch and hover-glean, flycatching, in a variety of vegetation types and heights throughout; Common Yellowthroat 12 (m,f) vocal (calls) in a variety of vegetation types, often in msf with SOSP, LISP, WCSP, ubiquitous; Savannah Sparrow 1 vocal (calls – unseen) saltbush scrub, nw; Song Sparrow 5 vocal (calls) in marsh, mudflats and riparian edge, nw, sw; Lincoln's Sparrow 5 vocal (calls) individuals in brushy edges of fields, marsh-riparian, sometimes on mudflats and bulrush patches; White-crowned Sparrow 40 (ad, imm) vocal (calls and song), gregarious, on the ground in a wide variety of vegetation types from xeric to mesic, ubiquitous; Red-winged Blackbird 2 (m) vocal (calls) flew to edge of marsh on w side of jetty, foraging at base of cattails nw; Great-tailed Grackle 10 (m,f) noticeably fewer compared with previous weeks, vocal, gregarious, n, s; House Finch 10 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, brushy edges of skeet range, ne; Lesser Goldfinch 5 (m,f) foraging in desiccated sunflower patch at edge of the s side of the PD, se; House Sparrow 10 (m,f) vocal, gregarious in F & F picnic area with WCSP, n.

Lake Palmdale LACO 31 October 2019 (65 Species)

Weather: Fair: 36F to 50F; wind N 1 – 3 mph.

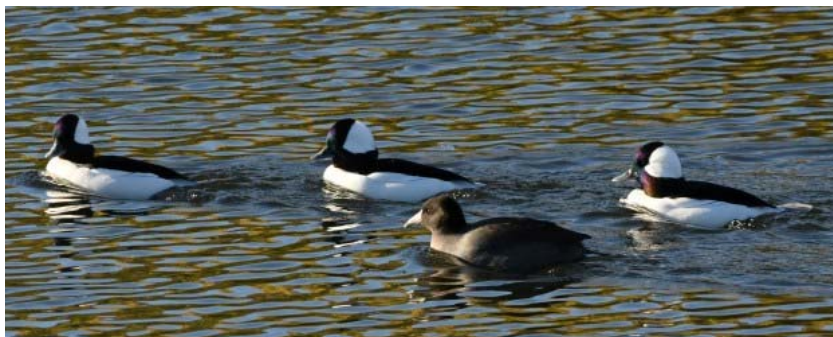
Time: 0644- 1210 hrs.

Area Covered: I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake, using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level continues to decrease, now by about 5 ft., leaving exposed mud or rock shorelines of varying width, 3 – 50 ft. The south California Aqueduct inlet was shut off; the southeast Palmdale Ditch inlet flowing at moderate volume. Except for a LACO Fire helicopter taking water by hovering low near the nw jetty at sunrise, the survey area was quiet and undisturbed by human activities.

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, American White Pelican (6), Bonaparte's Gull (3), and Great horned Owl (1).

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 16 (m,f) gregarious, pairs and small flocks scattered around the edges of the lake; American Wigeon 8 (m,f) gregarious, flushed from shallows to open water, e; Mallard 5 (m,f) in shallows near marsh, nw, se; Blue-winged Teal 1 (f) foraging in shallows at edge of boat launch, nw; Cinnamon Teal 2 (m,f) a pair swimming together in open water, ne; Northern Shoveler 6 (m,f) gregarious in shallows, w, s; Green-winged Teal 6 (m,f) gregarious in shallows, se; Ring-necked Duck 6 (m,f) gregarious, open water, nw, se; Lesser Scaup 30 (m,f) gregarious, open water and shallows around the lake; Bufflehead 40 (m,f) gregarious, ubiquitous (photo);



Bufflehead (Bucephala albeola) and American Coot (Fulica americana) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 31 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

Ruddy Duck 350 (conserv. est.) gregarious ubiquitous around the edges of the lake and in open water; California Quail 6 (m,f) flushed from the marsh along the PD inlet, se; Pied-billed Grebe 5, individuals around the edges throughout, often near the marsh; Western Grebe 8 gregarious, vocal, one pair engaged in rush display, n, s; Clark's Grebe 30 vocal, gregarious with at least five nearly full-grown young staying near adults, open water and near shore throughout, except in south slough where WEGR usually predominates; Double-crested Cormorant 5 swimming in open water at daybreak, apparently leaving the lake sometime later; American White Pelican 6 resting together on a small wooden dock, s; Great Blue Heron 3 individuals vocal when flushed from shore or marsh around the lake; Great Egret 1 on shore, ne; Green Heron 1 vocal when flushed from marsh, ne; Black-crowned Night Heron 2 (ad, imm) at edge of marsh, n, s; Red-shouldered Hawk 1 (ad) flying low over marsh, w; Red-tailed Hawk 3 (2 ad; one imm dark morph) on utility poles, in flight, n,e; *Buteo* sp. 1 (imm) ID (see photo): overall size appeared as a relatively medium to small *Buteo*, comparable to RSHA when perched on snag over marsh (s); In flight, showing pointed wings, underwings contrasting dark wing linings and dark wing borders, upper wing and tail uniformly dark brown with fine barring (no black and white speckling or reddish shoulder patch, cf RSHA, underside of tail with even dark barring for about 2/3 of length and narrow subterminal band on worn edges of rectrices. Viewing several additional images of this bird suggest that rather than the rare dark morph Broad-winged Hawk, it is likely an immature male Red-tailed Hawk.



Buteo sp. imm Lake Palmdale Los Angeles County CA 31 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

American Coot 800 gregarious, ubiquitous, many foraging on shore; Killdeer 7 vocal, gregarious nw, e; Greater Yellowlegs 2 -cont. a pair in the same location on shore of dam as in previous surveys this month; Spotted Sandpiper 1 on shore, n; Wilson's Snipe 3 individuals foraging in shallows on mud shoreline, nw (photo), s, ne;



Wilson's Snipe (Gallinago delicata) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 31 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

Bonaparte's Gull 3 (2 imm, 1 ad) flying around lake, dipping in surface, resting together in open water, n, nw (photo);



Bonaparte's Gull (Chroicocephalus philadelphia) immature Lake Palmdale LACO CA 31 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

Ring-billed Gull 10 (ad, imm) resting in open water and on jetty, nw; California Gull 8 (ad, imm) resting in open water, in flight to and from nw; Eurasian Collared Dove 3 n; Mourning Dove 7 pairs flushed from fence line, n; Great Horned Owl 1 in subcanopy of cottonwood next to road and boat launch, castings and fecal droppings on the ground below, same tree where GHOW has been found in previous years, w (photo);



Great Horned Owl (Bubo virginianus) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 31 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

Anna's Hummingbird 1 (imm or fem) hovering around pines, ne; Belted Kingfisher 4 vocalm individuals flying to perches over marsh around the lake; Nuttall's Woodpecker 2 vocal in cottowoods, w, s; Northern (RS) Flicker 8 vocal, loosely gregarious in wooded areas around the lake; Black Phoebe 8 vocal, individuals perched over marsh and in adjacent shrubs around the lake; California Scrub-jay 1 at edge of F&F picnic area, n; Common Raven 12 vocal, gre-

gamous, ubiquitous; Barn Swallow 1 (imm) flying low, back and forth over the lake near docks, w; Verdin 2 foraging in msf in saltbush-creosote scrub with BUTI, WCSP, LISP BEWR, and COYE, nw; Bewick's Wren 3 vocal, one foraging in msf as noted above; Marsh Wren 2 one foraging in msf in salt cedars with YRWA, COYE, WCSP, LISP, nw; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 6 vocal, often in msf with YRWA, ubiquitous in cottonwoods; American Robin 1 in flight, se; Northern Mockingbird 1 on ground beneath pyracantha hedgerow along F&F entrance road, n; California Thrasher 2 vocal (calls) shrubby areas, n, nw; European Starling 5 vocal, on utility poles and one in a large cottonwood cavity,n; American Pipit 1 vocal in flight over skeet range, ne; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler (m,f, imm) vocal (calls), gregarious, ubiquitous in woods and tall shrubs; Common Yellowthroat 6 (m,f) vocal (calls) often in msf with WCSP, SOSOP and other small passerines in shrubs and marsh throughout; California Towhee 2 a pair on the ground in sage scrub, ne; Savannah Sparrow 1 vocal (unseen) creosote bush patch, n; Song Sparrow 3 vocal (calls) in msf with COYE and WCSP in marsh and riparian edge, nw, w; Lincoln's Sparrow 5 individuals in msf with WCSP, COYE, YRWA and BEWR, n, nw; Red-winged Blackbird 4 (m,f) flying over cattail marsh, nw; Great-tailed Grackle 20 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, on shore, nw, s; House Finch 10 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, n; Lesser Goldfinch 3 (m) in sunflower patch, PD se; House Sparrow 5 (m,f) vocal, gregarious in pyracantha hedgerow next to F&F clubhouse.

Lake Palmdale LACO CA 24 October 2019 (74 Species)

Weather: Fair; 64F to 80F; wind ENE 3 – 20 mph; whitecaps on lake by 0900 hrs.

Time: 0650-1040 hrs.

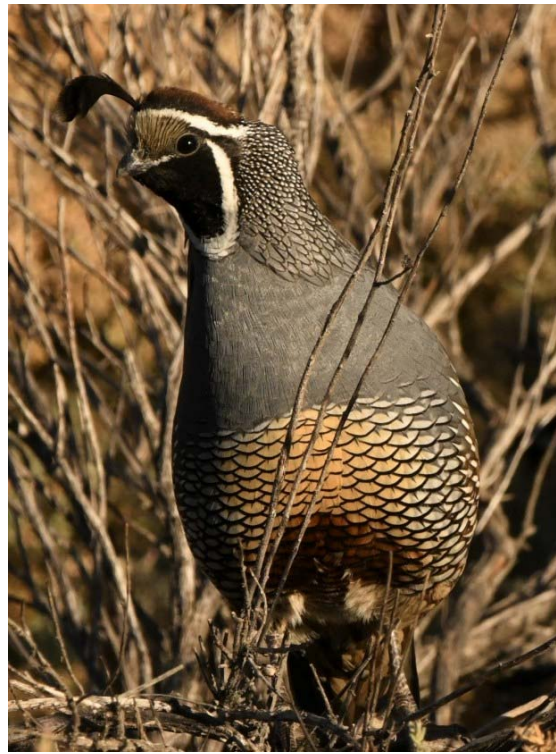
Observers: Jon Feenstra and I

Area Covered: *We walked the standard, counter-clockwise route around the entire lake using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level continues to drop, now lowered by about three feet, resulting in a variable shoreline of 3- 50 ft in width. Water flow in the southeast Palmdale Ditch was moderate. Except for one PWD vehicle, there were no disturbances from human activities during the survey. Increasing winds (15-20 mph) began at about 0900 hrs. rendering the detection of birds in the southern and eastern sections more difficult than in the remainder of the area during the first two hours of the survey.*

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Common Loon (1), Wilson's Snipe (3), Downy Woodpecker (1), Mountain Bluebird (1), and Phainopepla (1).

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 8 (m,f) individuals and pairs scattered around the edges of the lake, also in flight; American Wigeon 14 (m,f) gregarious in open water and shallows around the lake, also in flight; Mallard 12 (m,f) mostly in pairs around the edges of the lake, also in flight; Cinnamon Teal 2 (m,f) swimming, flying near the marsh, nw; Northern Pintail 8 (m,f) gregarious in flight and in open water, s, e; Green-winged Teal 4 (m,f) individuals and pairs, also in flight with NOPI and AMWI, w, s, se; Redhead 3 (m,f) a pair resting in quiet waters,w, also open water, e-central; Ring-necked Duck (m,f) gregarious in open water with other ducks, e; Lesser Scaup 26 (m,f), gregarious, two flocks of 6-7 in open water and near the jetty, nw, se; Bufflehead 32 (m,f) gregarious in flocks of 4 – 10 around the lake, also in flight over the lake surface, w; Ruddy Duck 500 (conserv. est.) (m,f) gregarious, ubiquitous, mostly around the edges of the lake; California Quail 4 (m,f) saltbush-creosote bush scrub, nw (photo);



California Quail (Callipepla californica) m Lake Palmdale LACO CA 24 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

Common Loon 1 diving in open water, central (fos); Pied-billed Grebe 9 (conserv. count – many more probably taking cover during high winds), ubiquitous around the edges of the lake; Eared Grebe 6 exclusively gregarious, open water, central; Western Grebe 18 (ad; about 5 juv.) gregarious, mostly away from CLGR, a significant increase since the previous count on 10/17, s, se; Clark's Grebe 37 (ad; about 10 juv.) loosely gregarious, vocal, ubiquitous around edges of the lake; Double-crested Cormorant 13 ad, imm, gregarious in open water and flight, nw, n; American White Pelican 13 gregarious, staying partly concealed in shallows, nw, se, also in flight, s; Great Blue Heron 4 flushed from shore around the lake; Great Egret 1 flying low over lake, nw; Black-crowned Night Heron 3 (imm) in flight, low over marsh, nw, s; Turkey Vulture 1 soaring at 100- 200 ft agl, n; Osprey 1 flying around the lake; Cooper's Hawk 2 (ad, imm) in mulberry next to clubhouse (imm) and over riparian, w (ad – JF); Red-shouldered Hawk 2, one adult swooping down, capturing and killing an American coot (imm) next to the jetty, remaining with its kill until flushed 30 minutes later but dropped the coot when taking off, the dead coot had damage to its head, nw; Red-tailed Hawk 3 (2 ad – 1 dark morph; one imm) perched on antenna tower and a dark morph in a dead cottonwood (photo), n, nw;



Dark morph Red-tailed Hawk (Buteo jamaicensis) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 24 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

American Kestrel 1 se; American Coot 1,200 gregarious, ubiquitous; Killdeer 11, gregarious, vocal, ubiquitous, nw, ne; Greater Yellowlegs 2 -cont. a pair flushed from water's edge of dam (same location in previous survey of 10/17), e; Wilson's Snipe 3 gregarious, vocal when flushed from shore, circled around and disappeared, nw; Ring-billed Gull 5 (ad, C1) gregarious, resting in open water, nw, also in flight; California Gull 15 (ad, C1) gregarious, resting in open water, flying in from nw, Eurasian Collared Dove 2, n, nw; Feral Rock Pigeon 4 all white morphs, in flight, nw; Mourning Dove 5 gregarious, nw; Anna's Hummingbird 3 (m,f, imm), n, s; Belted Kingfisher 4 flying around and perching over the marsh, ubiquitous; Nuttall's Woodpecker 2 vocal (unseen) sw, ne; Downy Woodpecker 1 vocal (unseen - JF), se; Northern Flicker 2 vocal, flying, n, w; Black Phoebe 5 vocal, ubiquitous, usually near water; Say's Phoebe 4 pairs in open fields, n, nw; Western Scrub-jay 1 vocal, se; Common Raven 12 pairs flying around lake, one on jetty watching RSHA with coot kill, nw; Tree Swallow 1 flying n, n; Barn Swallow 1 flying 50 ft. al, n; Verdin 1 vocal, n; Bushtit 15 gregarious, w, s; Bewick's Wren 3 with WCSP, brushy fields, n, w; Marsh Wren 2 in dense cattails, nw; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 2 in creosote bush and riparian, n, w; American Robin 10 gregarious, vocal, cottonwoods, w, se; Mountain Bluebird 1 on rocks e side of dam, e (photo);



*Mountain Bluebird (Sialia currucoides) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 24
October 2019 Callyn Yorke*

Northern Mockingbird 1 brush pile next to boat storage, n; California Thrasher 2 one giving continuous song before sunrise, nw, another on fence line by PWD plant, ne; European Starling 5 vocal, gregarious on utility poles and lines, n; American Pipit 3 vocal in flight, se, a pair on shore, n; Cedar Waxwing 1 vocal (unseen - JF), se; Phainopepla 1 (m) on top of Juniper/ Joshua Tree cluster near entrance, F & F entrance; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 21 (ad, imm) gregarious, vocal (calls) ubiquitous in shrubs and trees; Common Yellowthroat 6 vocal (mostly unseen), marsh-riparian, ubiquitous; California Towhee 2 fence line brushy field by PWD plant, ne; Savannah Sparrow 1 in saltbush at edge of mowed field, nw; Song Sparrow 1 vocal (song), n, 2 calls in riparian-marsh, se; Lincoln's Sparrow 4 vocal (calls) brushy fields with WCSP, n, nw; White-crowned Sparrow 36 (ad, imm) gregarious, vocal (calls and song), ubiquitous; Red-winged Blackbird 6 (m,f) in flight over marsh, nw,s; Brewer's Blackbird 2 (JF), nw; Great-tailed Grackle 12 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, n, s; House Finch 20 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, ne, n; Lesser Goldfinch 5 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, in and around sunflower patch, se; Lawrence's Goldfinch 1 (vocal - JF), n.

Lake Palmdale LACO CA 17 October 2019 (69 Species)

Weather: Partly cloudy and clearing; 63F to 75F; wind W, WSW 0 - 20 mph, reaching maximum velocity by 1100 hrs. and producing whitecaps on lake.

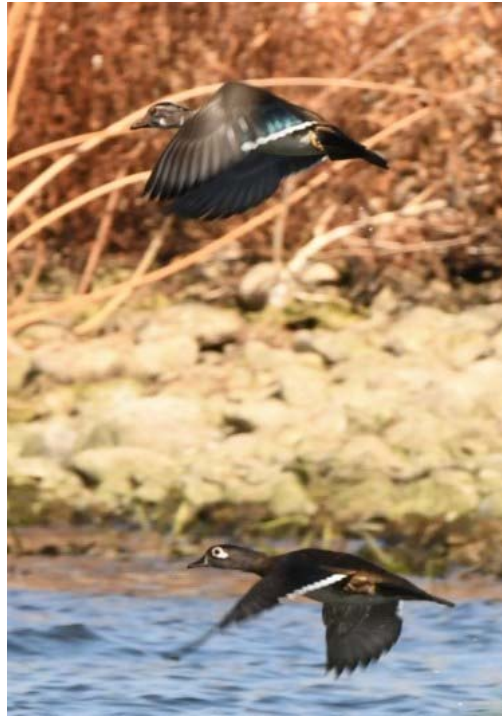
Time: 0651-1140 hrs.

Area Covered: I walked the standard, counter-clockwise route around the entire lake, using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level was down about 2 ft.; no water was flowing in either the aqueduct inlet (south) or Palmdale Ditch inlet (southeast). A newly exposed mudflat and/or rocky shoreline varied in width from about two to five feet. Except for maintenance vehicles in the northeast section by the dam, the lake area was quiet and undisturbed by human activities. Several groups of duck decoys were out in front of a few western docks with blinds. Waterfowl hunting season in Southern California officially begins this weekend.

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Wood Duck (2 - fos), Lesser Scaup 6 - fos), Bufflehead (7 - fos), Blue-winged Teal (2 - cont.), Merlin (1 - fos), and Rock Wren (1 - fos).

BIRDS NOTED

Wood Duck 2 (m,f) both in transitional plmg. swimming then flushed near dam, se (photo – fos);



*Wood Duck (Aix sponsa) male (above), female (below) Lake Palmdale
LACO CA 17 October 2019 Callyn Yorke*

Gadwall 4 (m,f) gregarious, open water, n; American Wigeon 6 (m,f) gregarious, swimming near docks, w; Mallard 8 (m,f) pairs scattered around edges of the lake, wary and easily flushed; Blue-winged Teal 2- cont. flushed from near docks, w; Northern Pintail 1 (fem) open water, s; Green-winged Teal 6 (f, imm m) dabbling in shallows, w; open water, se; Ring-necked Duck 6 (5 m, 1 f) gregarious, open water e; Lesser Scaup 6 (4 m, 2 f) gregarious, swimming near marsh and jetty, nw (fos); Bufflehead 6 (3m, 3 f) apparently three pairs, all swimming together, open water, e (fos); Ruddy Duck 140 (m,f) gregarious, flocks scattered around the edges of the lake; California Quail 2 in rabbitbrush field near PWD back gate, n; Pied-billed Grebe 8 (ad, juv.) scattered around edges of the lake, diving; Eared Grebe 10 gregarious in a tight flock, open water, central; Western Grebe 3 (noticeably scarce at LP today) vocal, open water, n, s, se; Clark's Grebe 30 (at least 7 young, most nearly full-grown, some staying near adults and giving repeated, high-pitched begging calls, one pair doing head-rotating courtship displays, other individuals resting in open water, vocal, ubiquitous around edges of the lake, esp. nw; Double-crested Cormorant 1 flying over lake, n; American White Pelican 4 (imm, bsc. plmg.) gregarious in open water, n; Great Blue Heron 6 wary, easily flushed from shorelines around the lake; Great Egret 12 gregarious in willows and marsh, n; Snowy Egret 1 with GREG, n; Green Heron 1 vocal in marsh, n; Black-crowned Night Heron 2 (imm, one heavily streaked and spotted and one in nearly all gray, advanced imm. plumage), n; Cooper's Hawk 1-2 (imm) seen flying over willows, n, another imm concealed in subcanopy of willows, nw; Red-tailed Hawk 3 (2 ad, 1 imm, one dark phase, on utility pole, flying over canopy of cottonwoods, another soaring 100 ft. agl, w n, se; Merlin 1 (f) perched on snag overhanging marsh, making short flights over slough and returning to a different snag, s (photo – fos);



Merlin (Falco merlinus) Lake Palmdale Los Angeles County CA 17 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

Sora 1 edge of marsh next to jetty, nw; American Coot 300 gregarious, ubiquitous; Killdeer 9 vocal, gregarious, on jetty and dam, nw, e; Greater Yellowlegs 2 a pair, vocal when flushed from shore of dam, e; Spotted Sandpiper 1 flushed from shore of dam, e; Wilson's Snipe 1 flying 50 ft. agl over shore, n; California Gull 1 (ad) resting in open water, n; Eurasian Collared Dove 2 on utility line, n; Mourning Dove 4 on utility line, n, dead tree, nw; Belted Kingfisher 4 vocal, flying to exposed perches over marsh, n, w, s; Nuttall's Woodpecker 3 vocal in cottonwoods, n, sw, se; Northern Flicker vocal (unseen) e; Black Phoebe 8 vocal, low perches around the lake, usually near water but sometimes in open fields; Say's Phoebe 2 a pair interacting in flight, perched on parking signs at boat launch field, nw; Common Raven 6 paired, vocal, ubiquitous; Barn Swallow 2 individuals flying over marsh and lake, n, s; Oak Titmouse 1 vocal in cottonwood, s; Verdin 2 vocal, a pair flew to marsh from creosote bush patch, nw; Bushtit 5 vocal, gregarious, foraging in cottonwood canopy, sw; Rock Wren 1 vocal, flying to numerous perches on metal objects in F & F outdoor storage yard, n; Bewick's Wren 7 vocal, individuals in brushy areas and riparian-marsh around the lake; Marsh Wren 4 vocal (calls) in marsh, w, sw, se; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1 in willows with YRWA, sw; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher 1 vocal in creosote bush patch, nw; Northern Mockingbird 2 in brush pile, Joshua tree scrub, n; California Thrasher 1 foraging in dry leaf litter beneath a creosote bush, n; European Starling 6 vocal, gregarious on utility lines, n; American Pipit 1 calls (unseen) ne; Orange-crowned Warbler 3 in msf with YRWA in mulberry trees and cottonwoods, n, nw; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 25 (m, f, imm), vocal (calls) gregarious, ubiquitous, esp. in cottonwoods. Black-throated Gray Warbler 1 with YRWA in mulberry trees, n; Common Yellowthroat 10 (m,f) vocal, active in marsh-riparian and adjacent brushy fields around the lake; California Towhee 1 vocal at edge of brushy field, w; Savannah Sparrow 2 vocal calls -unseen) brushy field, n; Song Sparrow 2 vocal (calls) at edge of marsh-riparian, nw; Lincoln's Sparrow 1 flushed from marsh into small tree, vocal (repeated alarm calls), nw; White-crowned Sparrow 30 vocal (call & song) gregarious, ubiquitous in brushy areas and adjacent riparian; Red-winged Blackbird 2 vocal in marsh, nw; Great-tailed Grackle 10 (m,f) vocal, gregarious in marsh, nw, s; House Finch 20 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, utility lines and in brushy fields, n; Lesser Goldfinch 2 vocal, sunflower patch, se; House Sparrow 5 in clubhouse garden with HOFL, n.

Lake Palmdale LACO CA 10 October 2019 (68 Species)

Weather: fair; 50F to 60F; wind ESE 25 mph; whitecaps on lake.

Time: 0714-1100 hrs.

Area Covered: I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level continues to be at or near the maximum volume, leaving little to no exposed shoreline. The Palmdale Ditch inlet in the southeast was flowing at a comparatively low volume. Except for two maintenance vehicles (below the dam), the lake was quiet and undisturbed by human activities. Strong easterly winds appeared to decrease bird activity and my ability to find and count them.

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Blue-winged Teal (2 – cont.), Northern Pintail (2 – fos), Redhead (2 – fos), Ring-necked Duck (11), Great Egret (10), Turkey Vulture (70), **Sabine's Gull** (1 imm – cont.), **Little Gull** (1 – imm), and Cliff Swallow (1).

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 6 (m,f) open water near dam, e; Mallard 4 (m,f) in shallows; flying, s, se; Blue-winged Teal 2 (f) a pair swimming then flushed near docks, w; Northern Shoveler 6 (m, f) gregarious, swimming in open water, n; Northern Pintail 2 (f) swimming together near marsh, se (fos); Green-winged Teal 10 (f) gregarious, swimming in channel and open water near dam, se, e; Redhead 2 (m,f) a pair in open water, e; Ring-necked Duck 11 (m,f) gregarious, open water, e; Ruddy Duck 120 (m,f) loosely gregarious, ubiquitous around edges of the lake; California Quail 10 (m,f) a vocal covey on skeet range fence line in rabbit-brush scrub; Pied-billed Grebe 8 vocal; individuals diving in open water and near marsh around the lake; Eared Grebe 6 a tight flock swimming in open water, n; Western Grebe 13 occasionally vocal (10 adults; three nearly grown young swimming near an adult, e); Clark's Grebe 30 (ad, imm), vocal, one adult carrying young chick on back; several juveniles of different sizes swimming with and distant from adults in open water, ubiquitous, outnumbering WEGR by at least 3:1; Double-crested Cormorant 4 (ad, imm) gregarious on small islet, n; Great Blue Heron 2 vocal; flushed from marsh, n, s; Great Egret 10 gregarious, flying from tree perches at edge of slough, s; Snowy Egret 1 perched and following GREG, s; Black-crowned Night Heron 2 (imm) at edge of marsh, se; Turkey Vulture 70 (conserv. est.) in a loose flock 100 – 300 ft. agl, flying obliquely downwind from northeast to the southwest; Osprey 1 flying n over lake, nw; Red-shouldered Hawk 3 (1 imm) individuals flushed from willow and cottonwood riparian, w, s; Prairie Falcon 1 flying from lake to a perch atop a large cottonwood, se; Sora 1 vocal (unseen) in marsh, w; Common Moorhen 1 at edge of marsh next to jetty, nw; American Coot 300 (many more probably concealed in marsh during high winds), gregarious, vocal, ubiquitous around edges of the lake; Killdeer 5 vocal, gregarious, on jetty and dam, nw, e; Greater Yellowlegs 2 vocal, gregarious, flushed from water's edge on dam, e; Spotted Sandpiper 2 individuals flushed from water's edge on dam, e; Ring-billed Gull 2 (ad) flying low over lake, later resting in open water, n; California Gull 7 (ad, imm) gregarious, resting in open water, n; **Sabine's Gull** 1 (imm. – probably a continuing bird, based on similar appearance with previous sightings here with photos), flying low over, into wind (photo); alighting in open water.



Sabine's Gull (Xema sabini) immature Lake Palmdale, LACO
CA 10 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

Little Gull (Hydrocoloeus minutus) 1 imm seen and photographed briefly at 0800 hrs. from bluff on north side of lake, as it flew low over the lake, struggling against a stiff wind; an immature Sabine's Gull was in the lead, suggesting the two birds were loosely associated (*first photo-documented record for LP*).



Little Gull (Hydrocoloeus minutus) immature Lake Palmdale, Los Angeles County CA 10
October 2019 Callyn Yorke



Little Gull (Hydrocoloeus minutus) immature (same individual as above) Lake Palmdale, LACO CA 10 Oct. 2019 Callyn Yorke

Eurasian Collared Dove 2 on and around utility line, n; Mourning Dove 20 individuals, pairs and small flocks, ubiquitous; Vaux's Swift 3 flying with BASW, up-wind over lake, n; Belted Kingfisher 5 (m,f) vocal, flying over marsh, ubiquitous; Nuttall's Woodpecker 2 vocal in cottonwoods, s; Northern Flicker 1 vocal (unseen) s; Black Phoebe 8 vocal; active in trees and on ground despite strong winds; Say's Phoebe 1 on fence line next to PD inlet, se; Western Scrub-jay 1 vocal (unseen) se; Common Raven 6 gregarious, vocal, soaring over and around lake; Tree Swallow 4 flying with BASW low over lake, n; Cliff Swallow 1 (ID: white spot on forehead, light undersides; triangular wing profile, flying low with BASW over lake; Barn Swallow 40 (ad, imm) loosely gregarious, flying low into wind over lake, n; Verdin 1 vocal (unseen) se; Bushtit 20 two gregarious, vocal flocks foraging in creosote, tamarisk and juniper, n, w; Bewick's Wren 2 vocal (scold calls), active in junipers and rabbitbrush, w, n; Hermit Thrush 1 vocal (unseen) in junipers, sw; Northern Mockingbird 1 (imm) perched atop a juniper, se; California Thrasher 1 vocal in rabbitbrush scrub, n; European Starling 4 vocal, gregarious, n; American Pipit 2 vocal when flushed from shore, e, n; Orange-crowned Warbler 20 (all appeared to be the relatively dull subspecies), gregarious, often in msf with WCSP and YRWA, ubiquitous in shrubs and trees, mostly staying low and out of the wind; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 12 (m,f) vocal (calls), loosely gregarious, foraging in shrubs and low trees throughout. Common Yellowthroat 1 vocal in marsh-riparian, nw; California Towhee 2 vocal (calls) on ground beneath rabbitbrush, ne, w; Savannah Sparrow 2 vocal (unseen) in rabbitbrush ne; Song Sparrow 1 vocal (abbreviated song) in marsh-riparian, w; Lincoln's Sparrow 1 in juniper scrub, ne; White-crowned Sparrow 20 (ad, imm) vocal (calls and song) brushy areas throughout; Red-winged Blackbird 4 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, marsh-riparian, nw, w; Great-tailed Grackle 10 (m,f) gregarious, on jetty and in nearby marsh, nw; House Finch 20 (m,f) gregarious, vocal, often with WCSP on ground, ubiquitous; Lesser Goldfinch 8 (m,f) gregarious, vocal, feeding on sunflowers along PD, se; House Sparrow 3 on fence at edge of skeet range, n.

Lake Palmdale LACO CA 3 October 2019 (61 Species)

Weather: Fair; 50F to 74F; wind WSW 1 – 3 mph.

Time: 0715-1200 hrs.

Area Covered: *I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level continues to be at or near the maximum, leaving little to no exposed shoreline. The Palmdale Ditch inlet in the southeast area was flowing at a comparatively low volume. The lake was quiet without any disturbance from human activities during the survey.*

*Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Ring-necked Duck (3), Long-billed Dowitcher (1), Greater Yellowlegs (1), Virginia Rail (1), Common Moorhen (1), **Sabine's Gull** (1 imm – cont.), **Red-eyed Vireo** ? (1 imm – see notes below), Barn Swallow (120), Northern rough-winged Swallow (1), Tree Swallow (4), and Lawrence's Goldfinch (2).*

Birds Noted

Mallard 12 (m,f) pairs around the edges of marshes throughout; Ring-necked Duck 3 (imm separate from 2 ad m) swimming near dam, e; Ruddy Duck 120 (m,f) loose flocks scattered around edges of the lake; California Quail 30 (m,f) gregarious, vocal (2-3 coveys), n, s; Pied-billed Grebe 12 vocal around edges of the lake; Western Grebe 5 (ad), individuals swimming near marsh and in open water, w, s, one chased by CLGR, nw; Clark's Grebe 35 (ad, imm) vocal, adults single and paired, one on nest (photo), four juveniles nearly full grown, vocal and staying near adults, nw, w, s, central;



Clark's Grebe (Aechmophorus clarkii) Lake Palmdale, LACO CA 3 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

Double-crested Cormorant 1 flying around lake, alighting on solar stirrer platform, n; Great Blue Heron 3 individuals flushed from shore, n,e, ne; Great Egret 2 on shore, s, e; Green Heron 1 flushed from weedy margin of dam, e; Black-crowned Night Heron 1 (imm) in willows, ne; Red-shouldered Hawk 3 vocal; flying over cottonwoods, sw, s, se; Red-tailed Hawk 2 (ad) flying, n, s; Virginia Rail 1 calls (loud, repeated, unseen) in cattail-riparian, sw; Common Moorhen 1 (imm) foraging in shallows near dam, se; American Coot 400 (conserv. est.) gregarious, vocal, ubiquitous around edges of lake; Killdeer 7 gregarious, vocal on jetty, nw and dam, e; Greater Yellowlegs 1 bobbing, vocal, on rock at edge of dam, e (photo).



*Greater Yellowlegs (Tringa melanoleuca) Lake Palmdale LACO CA
3 October 2019 Callyn Yorke*

Long-billed Dowitcher 1 (imm) ID: unbarred tertials; relatively dull gray and brown dorsal plumage resting at sw edge of jetty; gave loud, shrill, three-note call when flushed (photo).



Long-billed Dowitcher (*Limnodromus scolopaceus*) Lake Palmdale LACO
CA 3 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

California Gull 5 (4 ad, one imm C1) resting in open water, central; **Sabine's Gull** 1 (imm) possibly a continuing bird seen at LP on 26 September, 2019 (photo).



Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) immature Lake Palmdale LACO CA 3 October 2019 Callyn Yorke

Mourning Dove 30 gregarious, ubiquitous, especially n; Anna's Hummingbird 2 (f) hovering around cottonwoods, nw, s; Belted Kingfisher 5 (m,f) vocal, individuals apparently setting up territories, flying, alighting on snags around edge of lake; Nuttall's Woodpecker 4 vocal, pairs in willows and cottonwoods, sw, s; Northern (RS) Flicker 1 (imm) on outer snag of willow, w; Western Wood Pewee 1 sallying from outer snag on cottonwood, s; Black Phoebe 8 vocal, individuals in marsh-riparian and open fields around the lake; **Red-eyed Vireo ?** 1 (imm): **ID:** dark, bluish-gray crown faintly bordered by black; long white supercilium with complete and distinct dark eyeline extending to lores; olive green colored mantle; darker primaries. The bird was observed for several minutes foraging quickly at middle to upper level of willow, captured a small, adult moth (photos). **Note:** Two local authorities believed this bird to be a Warbling Vireo, claiming that the bill appears too small (difficult to judge in my photos), and other plumage features. After viewing multiple online images of REVI and WAVI, nearly all of which were of adults, I am leaning in favor of the LP bird being a WAVI. However, [hybrid WAVI x REVI](#) have been documented and at least one individual shows intermediate plumage features similar to the Lake Palmdale bird. Further complications to this presumably involve considerable regional variation in vireo facial markings, e.g. extent of the eyeline and width of the supercilium; separating immature vireos can be challenging.



Possible Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*) immature; note, especially in lower image, a bluish-gray cap bordered by black; conspicuous dark eyeline extending into lores Lake Palmdale LACO CA 3 October 2019 Callyn Yorke



Western Scrub-Jay 3 vocal, in junipers and cottonwoods, w, se; Common Raven 6 vocal, individuals and pairs flying 20 – 200 ft. a.g.l., ubiquitous; Horned Lark 5 foraging on ground in skeet range, n; Tree Swallow 4 with large flock of BASW on utility line, n; Northern Rough-winged Swallow 1 on utility line with BASW, n; Barn Swallow 120 (ad, imm) gregarious on utility lines, n, flying low over lake; Oak Titmouse 3 vocal in cottonwoods, se; Verdin 2 vocal in creosote bush and cottonwoods, n, nw; Bushtit 20 gregarious, vocal in cottonwood subcanopy, sometimes joined by OCWA, nw, se; Bewick's Wren 5 vocal in shrubs and trees around the lake; House Wren 1 vocal in roadside saltbush, n; Marsh Wren 3 vocal and staying low, concealed in cattails, nw, w; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1 vocal in cottonwood, n; American Robin vocal (unseen) in cottonwood, n; European Starling 4 vocal, gregarious, on utility lines and poles, n; Orange-crowned Warbler 20 one rather dull yellow subspecies, often in msf with other warblers, ubiquitous in shrubs and trees; Yellow Warbler 3 (f, imm) in msf with OCWA and YRWA in cottonwoods, w, ne; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 15 (f; imm) in msf with OCWA and YEWA in cottonwoods, nw, ne; Black-throated Gray Warbler 1 (f) foraging alone in creosote bushes, n; Common Yellowthroat 15 (m,f) vocal, often in msf with warblers and SOSP, individuals and pairs foraging in marsh-riparian and cottonwoods around the lake; Wilson's Warbler 2 (m,f) foraging low in marsh-riparian with OCWA, w; Chipping Sparrow 2 vocal in pines, n; Savannah Sparrow 2 flushed from ground in skeet range, n; Song Sparrow 5 vocal (calls) individuals and in msf in marsh-riparian, staying on or near the ground; White-crowned Sparrow 20 (ad, imm) gregarious, vocal (calls and song), saltbush and creosote bush areas n, ne; Red-winged Blackbird 5 (m,f) gregarious, a small flock flying over marsh, nw, one fem. foraging on sunflowers with LEGO, se; Great-tailed Grackle 5 (m,f) vocal individuals, ubiquitous, esp. n, s; House Finch 50 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, ubiquitous, esp. open fields, e.g. skeet range, n; Lesser Goldfinch 10 (m,f; imm) vocal, gregarious, foraging in shrubs and sunflowers, n, se; Lawrence's Goldfinch 2 (imm) foraging together in marsh-riparian in cattails, w; House Sparrow 5 (m,f) vocal, gregarious in garden around clubhouse, and skeet range, n.

Lake Palmdale LACO CA 26 September 2019 (59 Species)

Mojave Rattlesnake (*Crotalus scutulatus*) Lake Palmdale, LACO CA

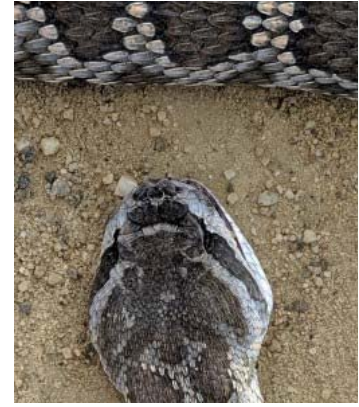
26 September 2019 Callyn Yorke

Weather: Partly cloudy, increasing to overcast with WSW winds 10-15 mph; 66F to 70F.



Time: 0742-1155 hrs.

Area Covered: I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level continues to be at or near maximum, leaving little or no exposed shoreline. The Palmdale Ditch inlet in the SE corner was flowing at a relatively high rate. Little or no human disturbance occurred during the survey. A lively cohort of about twenty hatchling bullfrogs (*Lithobates catesbeianus*) moved quickly from wet grass into deeper water as I approached the shoreline on the west side. Presumably, these prolific, non-native frogs are attracting herons and other predators to the lake.



A recently deceased (road killed) adult Mojave Rattlesnake (*Crotalus scutulatus*) was found on the south side of the main road in the northwest section. Specific identification was based on the presence of enlarged internasal (snout) and frontal scales (between the supraoculars), i.e. eliminating Southern Pacific Rattlesnake (*Crotalus viridis helleri*), which is closely similar in appearance and may be sympatric with *C. scutulatus* in this area (see above images).

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, American Wigeon (2), Blue-winged Teal (2), **Sabine's Gull (1 imm)**, Vaux's Swift (5), Downy Woodpecker (1), Bank Swallow (1), Verdin (3), Ruby-crowned Kinglet (1), Cedar Waxwing (2), **American Redstart (1)**, Savannah Sparrow (3) and White-crowned Sparrow (10).

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 2 (m,f) swimming in open water near dam, e; American Wigeon 2 (trans. plmg.) swimming near docks, w (photo);

American Wigeon (*Anas americana*) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 26 Sept. 2019 C. Yorke



Mallard 30 (m,f) shy and easily flushed, margins of the lake; Blue-winged Teal 2 (trans. plmg.), flushed open water near docks, w (photo);

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors*) Lake Palmdale, LACO CA 26 Sept. 2019 C. Yorke



Ruddy Duck 40 (m,f) loosely gregarious, around docks and marsh, nw, w; California Quail vocal (unseen) w; Pied-billed Grebe 2 open water, se; Western Grebe 4 open water, w, sw; Clark's Grebe 30 (ad; imm) ad followed closely by three young, advanced hatchling and about half-grown juveniles. another adult on nest, nw; Great Blue Heron 4 edges of the lake, shy and easily flushed; Great Egret 2 flushed from shore, w, ne; Green Heron 2 (ad) flying short distances (one vocalizing) in marsh, w, se; White-faced Ibis 2 (ad, imm) flushed from shore of dam, e; Cooper's Hawk 2 one flew to middle limb of a mature willow where it remained motionless for several minutes, sw; Red-shouldered Hawk 2 vocal, flying, w, se; American Coot 200 gregarious, most staying close to marsh and easily flushed; Killdeer 7 gregarious at s end of jetty, sw; California Gull 1 resting in open water, central; **Sabine's Gull 1 (imm)** circling the lake a few times, dipping and alighting on the surface, central (photo);

Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabini*) LakePalmdale, LACO CA 26 Sept. 2019 C.Yorke



Caspian Tern 2 (ad, imm) flying over marsh and edge of lake, w, se; Eurasian Collared Dove 4 on utility lines, n; Mourning Dove 30 gregarious, in leafless trees and on utility lines, n, nw; Vaux's Swift 5 gregarious, flying 100- 300 ft. agl, loosely associated with TRSW, n, s; Anna's Hummingbird 1 hovering around juniper, w; Belted Kingfisher 5 (m,f) highly vocal individuals, flying around lake, alighting on posts and in trees overhanging the water; Nuttall's Woodpecker 3 vocal in cottonwoods, ne, nw; Downy Woodpecker 1 repeatedly vocal (unseen) in willow patch next to dock, nw; Pacific slope Flycatcher 1 in fresh bsc. plmg. sallying from lower middle level of cottonwood, nw; Black Phoebe 10 vocal, sallying from low perches, often near water, ubiquitous; Western Scrub-Jay 3 vocal in junipers, w, sw; Common Raven 8 pairs (often vocal) circling above the lake, 100- 200 ft. agl, ubiquitous; Horned Lark 5 gregarious, foraging in open field, weedy gravel patch, n; Tree Swallow 4 gregarious, circling above the lake, 75-150 ft. agl, n; Bank Swallow 1 flying 50- 80 ft. agl over open fields and marsh, n; Barn Swallow 15 flying at a variety of heights (20-100 ft. agl) over the water and shore, on power lines, ubiquitous. Oak Titmouse 2 vocal (unseen) cottonwoods, sw; Verdin 3 vocal, individuals active in rabbitbrush and juniper, w, e; Bushtit 8 gregarious, vocal while foraging in canopy of cottonwoods, w; Bewick's Wren 8 vocal, active in a variety of vegetation types, including riparian-marsh and juniper scrub around the lake; House Wren 1 in lower level of a willow on shore, n; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1 vocal in large juniper at edge of Palmdale Ditch, se; European Starling 10 vocal, gregarious, most on utility lines, n; Cedar Waxwing 2 (possibly more) vocal in tops of cottonwoods, n; Orange-crowned Warbler 20 (2 or 3 subspecies, relatively bright plumage, e.g. *lutescens*, and another with gray head contrasting with greenish-yellow dorsum and pale yellow undersides; intermediate plumaged individuals also present), vocal (calls), often with other warblers, e.g. YRWA and WIWA, mostly in riparian-marsh with mature cottonwoods and willows; Yellow Warbler 2 (m,f) individuals foraging in cottonwood canopies, w, ne; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 5 (all imm. fem. types) vocal (calls) foraging in cottonwoods and willows, n, w; Black-throated Gray Warbler 1 (m) foraging in outer foliage of a mature cottonwood, n; **American Redstart 1 (imm. fem. type)** foraging quickly in lower middle level of a mature willow, riparian-marsh, n; Common Yellowthroat 8 (m,f) vocal (calls) individuals and pairs foraging low in riparian-marsh around the lake, sometimes associated with BEWR, SOSP, OCWA and WIWA; Wilson's Warbler 3 (m,f) a pair foraging near ground and water level in riparian -marsh, nw; California Towhee 1 vocal (unseen) rabbitbrush-juniper field, w; Savannah Sparrow 3 gregarious, foraging on gravel walkway by dock, w; Song Sparrow 10 vocal (calls) individuals and pairs in dense riparian-marsh, nw, w, se; White-crowned Sparrow 10 (ad, imm) gregarious, foraging on ground beneath creosote and saltbush, nw, w, e; Red-winged Blackbird 10 (m,f) vocal, individuals and pairs in marsh, flying over shore, n, w; Great-tailed Grackle 8 (m,f; bsc. plmg.) vocal, gregarious, flying over marsh, nw, s; House Finch 50 (m,f) gregarious, vocal (calls and song) ubiquitous in open fields and edge of riparian; Lesser Goldfinch 12 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, foraging in patches of sunflowers, se; House Sparrow 5 vocal, gregarious in shrubs around clubhouse, n.

Lake Palmdale LACO 12 September 2019 (40 Species)

Weather: Fair; 59F to 76F; wind WSW 2 mph.

Time: 0720-1030 hrs.

Area Covered: I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level continues to be high, at or near maximum volume. The Palmdale Ditch inlet was flowing at moderate volume. The survey area was quiet this morning with little or no human disturbances.

BIRDS NOTED

Mallard 20 (m,f) scattered around the edges of the lake in small flocks; Cinnamon Teal 2 in flight, s; Ring-necked Duck 1 (m, trans. plmg.) swimming near docks, w; Ruddy Duck 10 (m,f , 2 or 3 in alt. plmg.) resting near docks, w; Pied-billed Grebe 12 individuals swimming near marsh around the lake; Western Grebe 10 (ad, imm) vocal; pairs and individuals swimming near the marsh; one adult on a nest, nw; Clark's Grebe 28 (ad, imm; 3 pair nesting in nw) vocal; pairs and individuals swimming near marsh and in open water around the lake; Great Blue Heron 2 individuals in trees and on jetty, nw, ne; Great Egret 6 gregarious in trees at edge of marsh, nw,se, ne; Black-crowned night heron 1 (imm) at edge of marsh, nw; Cooper's Hawk 1 flushed from shrubs at edge of PD inlet, se; Red-shouldered Hawk 1 flushed from riparian patch, w, another flying, calls, se; American Coot 200 gregarious, ubiquitous around margins of the lake; Killdeer 8 gregarious, vocal, on jetty and dam, nw, e; Spotted Sandpiper 5 gregarious, edge of dam and rocky shore, e, n; California Gull 4 (ad, imm) resting on lake, flying from nw; Caspian Tern 20 (ad, imm) gregarious, vocal (begging calls from young), flying around dam, se; Mourning Dove 20 individuals and small flocks around the lake; Anna's Hummingbird 6 (m,f) hovering around cottonwoods, ubiquitous; Belted Kingfisher 4 (m,f) vocal; flying around edges of lake; Nuttall's Woodpecker 4 (m,f) individuals calling, foraging in cottonwoods and willows around the lake; Black Phoebe 10 vocal, pairs, ubiquitous near water; Western Scrub-jay 1 vocal, s; Common Raven 8 pairs and trios soaring around the lake; Tree Swallow 2 flying over the lake, n; Barn Swallow 30 vocal, gregarious, ubiquitous; Verdin 2 vocal, at edge of brushy fields, w, ne; Bushtit 12 vocal, gregarious in creosote bush and cottonwoods, w, s; Bewick's Wren 6 vocal; ubiquitous in rabbitbrush areas and riparian edge; Marsh Wren 5 vocal in marsh, w, sw, s; European Starling 3 gregarious, on utility pole and in mulberry trees, n; Orange-crowned Warbler 10 calls; individuals and pairs foraging in cottonwoods and willows, ubiquitous; Yellow Warbler 1 (f) foraging in cottonwoods, w; Common Yellowthroat 12 (m,f) vocal, foraging near ground and in subcanopy, ubiquitous; Wilson's Warbler 2 (m,f) foraging in willows with OCWA, w; Song Sparrow 3 vocal (calls) marsh-riparian and rabbitbrush, nw, w; Red-winged Blackbird 10 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, ubiquitous in riparian-marsh; Great-tailed Grackle 5 (m,f, bsc. and trans. plmg.) vocal; individuals scattered around riparian and marsh, nw, s; House Finch 30 (m,f) vocal, gregarious (pairs and small flocks), ubiquitous; Lesser Goldfinch 1 (m) in sunflower patch, se.

Lake Palmdale LACO CA 5 September, 2019 (51 Species)



Lake Palmdale viewing sw 5 September 2019 C. Yorke

Weather: Partly cloudy; 75F to 91F; wind WNW 0- 2 mph.

Time: 0700- 1030 hrs.

Area Covered: I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake, using the interior shoreline road. The survey area was quiet and undisturbed

by human activities. The lake water level was at or near the maximum, leaving little to no exposed shoreline. The SE Palmdale Ditch inlet flow was moderate.

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Ring-necked Duck (1 -cont.), Western Grebe (12; two pair nesting); Clark's Grebe (22; 3 pair nesting), Spotted Sandpiper (5), Pacific Slope Flycatcher (1 -FOS), Loggerhead Shrike (1), Barn Swallow (30), Verdin (2), Marsh Wren (3), Orange-crowned Warbler (5), Nashville Warbler (1), Yellow Warbler (3), Black-throated Gray Warbler (1), Common Yellowthroat (5), Wilson's Warbler (1), and Bullock's Oriole (1).

BIRDS NOTED

Mallard 30 (m,f) ubiquitous in small flocks around the edges of the lake; Cinnamon Teal 5 (m – trans. plmg. ,f), gregarious, open water n; Ring-necked Duck 1 -cont. (m – trans. plmg.); Ruddy Duck 5, gregarious, near docks, w; California Quail 20 (m,f) a cohesive, vocal flock flushed, n edge of skeet range; Pied-billed Grebe 5 (ad, imm) swimming near marsh, n; Western Grebe 12, vocal, gregarious (ad, imm; 2 pair nesting on floating mats; one pair with 2 young swimming alongside), nw, w;

Clark's Grebe 22 (ad, imm; 3 pair on nesting on floating mats, nw; one adult with young on back (photo).



Clark's Grebe with young NW Lake Palmdale LACO CA 5 September 2019 C Yorke

Great Blue Heron 2 (ad) flying and standing at the edge of the lake, nw, s, e; Great Egret 4 gregarious in willows, ne; Turkey Vulture 2, gregarious, flushed from a large cottonwood in SE corner; Cooper's Hawk 1 flying low across road, s; Red-shouldered Hawk 1 (ad) vocal, flushed from a mature cottonwood, s; American Coot 100 (conserv. est.) gregarious, vocal, ubiquitous around the margins of the lake; Killdeer 8 gregarious, vocal; all flushed from edge of dam, e; Spotted Sandpiper 5; individuals flushed from the shore, se, n and edge of dam, e; California Gull 3 (ad) resting in open water, central; Eurasian Collared Dove 2 on utility line, n; Mourning Dove 40 gregarious, ubiquitous in open areas; Anna's Hummingbird 10 vocal, gregarious, ubiquitous, several hawking insects by hovering around cottonwood foliage;

Belted Kingfisher 4 (m,f) vocal, ubiquitous individuals perched on limbs over the water (photo).



Belted Kingfisher (fem) Lake Palmdale LACO CA 5 Sept. 2019 C. Yorke

Nuttall's Woodpecker 3 (m,f) vocal; pairs and individuals foraging in upper interior levels of cottonwood limbs, n,s; Northern Flicker 1 vocal (unseen) n; Pacific-slope Flycatcher 1 (fos) foraging in subcanopy of a cottonwood, s; Black Phoebe 10 vocal, pairs chasing, individuals sallying from low perches, usually near water, ubiquitous; Loggerhead Shrike 1 (ad) perched atop a cottonwood next to the dam and archery target, ne; Western Scrub-jay, 4 vocal, gregarious, w, sw; Common Raven 10 vocal, gregarious (including pairs), ubiquitous; Tree Swallow 1 flying over lake with BASW, n; Barn Swallow (ad, imm) 40 gregarious on utility lines; foraging over lake; flying to and from concrete drainage bunker colonial nest site, se; Oak Titmouse 2 vocal, cottonwoods, w, sw; Verdin 2, vocal, an individual in creosote bush and in cottonwoods, n, sw; Bushtit 12 gregarious, vocal; foraging in cottonwood subcanopy, w, sw; Bewick's Wren 6 vocal; brushy areas and riparian-marsh edge, ubiquitous; Marsh Wren 3 vocal in dense marsh-riparian, w, sw; California Thrasher 2 vocal in brushy areas, n, w; European Starling 3 gregarious, vocal on utility line, n;

Orange-crowned Warbler 5 (2 subspp – one with gray head; others relatively dull olive green above and on sides; bright yellow split eyering, belly and undertail coverts – photo), foraging individually and in pairs, sometimes in msf with other spp, e.g. NAWA and BTGW, in cottonwoods, ubiquitous;



Orange-crowned Warbler Lake Palmdale LACO CA 5 Sept. 2019 C. Yorke

Nashville Warbler 1 foraging in cottonwood with nearby OCWA, ne (photo).



Nashville Warbler Lake Palmdale LACO CA 5 Sept. 2019 C. Yorke

Yellow Warbler 3 (m,f) vocal, individuals foraging in canopy and subcanopy of cottonwoods, n, w; Black-throated Gray Warbler 1 (m) foraging in outer, lower foliage of a cottonwood, se; Common Yellowthroat 5 (m,f) vocal; in marsh-riparian patches, nw, w, sw; Wilson's Warbler 1 (m) foraging in canopy of a cottonwood with a YEWA, n; California Towhee 1 calls (unseen) brushy area, n; Song Sparrow 4 vocal; active but relatively secretive in marsh-riparian

patches, nw, w; Red-winged Blackbird 12 (m,f) gregarious, flying over riparian-marsh, n; Great-tailed Grackle 4 (m,f; molting tail feathers), nw, s; Bullock's Oriole 1 (fem.) in canopy of cottonwood n; House Finch 30 (m,f; ad imm) vocal, gregarious, feeding on gravel roadway edges, ubiquitous; Lesser Goldfinch 2 flushed from sunflower patch, Palmdale Ditch, se.

Lake Palmdale, LACO CA 29 August 2019 (45 Species)

Weather: Fair; 78F to 85F; wind WSW 10 -17mph.

Time: 0702-1040 hrs.

Area Covered: I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake, using the interior shoreline road. The survey area was quiet and undisturbed by human activities. The lake water level continues to be near the maximum volume; the Palmdale Ditch inlet was flowing moderately.

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Ring-necked Duck (2), Western Grebe (14; 2 pair nesting; fledglings); Clark's Grebe 24; 2 pair nesting), American Bittern (1), Willow Flycatcher (1), Black-throated Gray Warbler (1), and Black-headed Grosbeak (1).

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 2, fem. open water, n; Mallard 30 (m,f) scattered flocks around the edges of the lake; Ring-necked Duck 2 (eclipse plmg.) swimming near dam, e; Ruddy Duck 30 (m,f; some in alt. plmg.); resting near marsh, w; California Quail 3 brushy area, n; Pied-billed Grebe 3 hiding in or near the marsh, nw, s;

Western Grebe 14 vocal; one pair with four chicks, two carried, older ones swimming nearby; one on nest about 20m from a nesting CLGR; Clark's Grebe 24 vocal pairs swimming near marsh, two floating platform made of an assortment of cattail stems and aquatic vegetation; nests with a single adult resting on it, occasionally visited by mate; no chicks seen; WEGR and CLGR swimming and nesting in same small area near marsh, jetty and docks, nw;



Western Grebe (left) and Clark's Grebe (right) Lake

Palmdale, LACO CA 29 Aug 2019 C Yorke



Western Grebe pair with chicks Lake Palmdale LACO CA 29 Aug 2019 C Yorke

American Bittern 1 (imm) flying sw, low in front of docks, w; Great Blue Heron 2 edge of marsh and shore, nw, ne; Green Heron 2 (ad, imm) edge of marsh, w, s; Turkey Vulture 1 soaring at 100 ft. agl over dam, e; Red-shouldered Hawk 1 vocal, in an altercation of some kind with two BEKI, nw; Red-tailed Hawk 1 (ad., light phase) soaring 200 ft. agl, w; American Coot 100 (conserv. est.) ubiquitous in shallows; Spotted Sandpiper 1 flushed from edge of dam, e; California Gull 1 (ad) flying 50 ft. agl near dam, e; Caspian Tern 1 (imm) flying with FOTE, nw; Forster's Tern 3 (trans alt; bsc. plmg.) gregarious, dipping and diving in open water; Common Tern 1 (?) complete black cap; comparatively thin bill; flying with FOTE around the lake; Eurasian Collared Dove 4 pairs in cottonwoods, n, sw; Feral Rock Pigeon 1 flying over dam, e; Mourning Dove 12 gregarious, ubiquitous in open areas; Anna's Hummingbird 6 (m,f) foraging on sunflowers, se; *Selasphorus* sp. 1 fem. foraging on sunflowers after ANHU had left; Belted Kingfisher 4 gregarious, vocal; chasing and interacting aggressively with a RSHA, nw; Willow Flycatcher 1 sallying from a midlevel perch in a mature black willow on the shore, n; Black Phoebe 8 sallying from low perches around the lake; Common Raven 15 vocal, gregarious; most around dam, e; Barn Swallow 30 (a few in alt. plmg; many HY and bsc. plmg.) gregarious on utility wire, n; flying around concrete box in drainage ditch (colonial nest site), se; Bushtit 12 vocal, gregarious; two flocks, one foraging in creosote bushes, n and other in cottonwood subcanopy se; Bewick's Wren 6 vocal in brushy and riparian areas throughout;

California Thrasher 2 (imm; ad) a gray and light brown plumaged immature (allowed my close approach) on edge of roadway, nw, adult on ground in sage

scrub, se;



California Thrasher immature (L) and adult (R) Lake

Palmdale CA 29 Aug 2019 C. Yorke

European Starling 3 in cottonwood, n; Orange-crowned Warbler 4 ubiquitous; vocal (calls) (1 gray-headed form; others with more uniform dull yellowish plumage, individuals and pairs foraging 3-15 ft. agl in willows, cottonwoods and tamarisk; Yellow Warbler 4 (m,f) vocal (calls,song) foraging in canopy of cottonwoods and willows around the lake; Black-throated Gray-Warbler 1 (f) flew to outer canopy of a cottonwood, w; Common Yellowthroat 3 vocal (unseen) marsh and riparian edge, nw,w; California Towhee 1 calls (unseen) edge of riparian-rabbitbrush, w; Song Sparrow 6 vocal; pairs at edge of marsh-riparian, nw, w; Black-headed Grosbeak 1 (f) vocal (calls) in cottonwood, w; Red-winged Blackbird 12 (m,f; some molting rectrices) gregarious; in cottonwoods and marsh, nw, w, s; Great-tailed Grackle 4 (m,f) edge of marsh, s; House Finch 30 (m,f) gregarious, vocal, ubiquitous; Lesser Goldfinch 6 (m,f) foraging on sunflowers, se and in edge of open fields with HOFL.

Lake Palmdale, LACO CA 22 August 2019 (38 Species)

Weather: Fair; 70F to 85F; wind WSW 10 mph.

Time: 0642-0930 hrs.

Area Covered: I walked the standard, counter-clockwise route around the entire lake using the interior shoreline road. The lake water level was relatively high; inlet flow from the Palmdale Ditch (SE) was moderate. Disturbance on land around the lake edges was minimal; a PWD pontoon boat was motoring over most of the lake during the survey.

Birds Noted

Gadwall 2 swimming together, n; Mallard 30 (m,f) ubiquitous around the edges; Cinnamon Teal 1 (m) resting in marsh, s; Ruddy Duck 10 (m,f) swimming/resting near jetty, nw; California Quail 6 flew to saltbush near jetty, nw; Pied-billed Grebe 8 individuals scattered around edges of the lake; Western Grebe 16 (a pair nesting on a mat of marsh vegetation, nw); one fem. carrying chick on back; vocal; mostly in nwc along with a nearby CLGR on nest about 15m from a WEGR nest); no interspecific pairing seen; Clark's Grebe 20, including two nesting in nwc near jetty and marsh; not heard vocalizing; pairs swimming in open water around edges of the lake. Nests appeared essentially similar in materials and size as WEGR. Both species swimming as pairs and individuals near the marsh, nw; Great Blue Heron 2-3 (ad) individuals flushed from marsh, nw, se, ne; Great Egret 3 (ad) in marsh and in trees above marsh, e; Snowy Egret 1 (ad) flushed from shore, se; Green Heron 1 (imm) at edge of marsh near jetty, nw; Cooper's Hawk 2 (ad) flying low over riparian and dam, w, e; one landed on boulders, e side of dam, apparently searching for food; Red-shouldered Hawk 1 (ad) flushed from riparian patch, nw; Red-tailed Hawk 1 (ad dark phase) on utility pole, ne; American Coot 100 (conserv. est.) gregarious, ubiquitous, esp around edges of the lake; Killdeer 1 vocal, flushed from dam, e; Feral Rock Pigeon 1 flying over dam, e; Mourning Dove 30 gregarious, ubiquitous; Anna's Hummingbird 2 (fem) hovering/flycatching about 8 ft agl in riparian patch; vocal, se, ne; Belted Kingfisher 2 (m, ?) vocal; flying at edge of lake, se; Nuttall's Woodpecker 5 (m,f) gregarious, vocal pairs in cottonwoods, n, sw, ne; Olive-sided Flycatcher 1 sallying from exposed perch, 15 ft agl on outside limb of cottonwood over PD inlet, se; Black Phoebe 10 vocal; individuals scattered around lake, sallying from low perches; Say's Phoebe 1 on barbed wire fence next to skeet range, ne; Common Raven 10 pairs and individuals flying around the lake and perched in cottonwoods; Tree Swallow 4 on outer limbs of cottonwood nest sites, s; flying over lake, ne; Barn Swallow 20 (most in bsc. plmg., including HY) on utility lines; flying over lake, n; Oak Titmouse 2 vocal (unseen) in cottonwoods, s; Bushtit 10 gregarious, vocal in cottonwood canopy, w; Bewick's Wren 4 vocal (unseen) in junipers and rabbitbrush scrub/riparian edge, n, w, s; European Starling 4 on utility lines, n; Orange-crowned Warbler 3 gregarious; foraging in outer canopy of cottonwoods, s; Yellow Warbler 5 (m, ?) vocal; individuals in cottonwoods around the lake; Red-winged Blackbird 3 (m) gregarious; in marsh and trees overhead, nw, s; Great-tailed Grackle 12 (m,f; bsc. plmg.) vocal, gregarious, nw, s; House Finch 40 (m,f) gregarious, ubiquitous in open fields and edge of brushy areas; Lesser Goldfinch 2 on fence at edge of skeet range, ne.

Lake Palmdale, LACO CA 18 April 2019 (51 Species)

Weather: Fair; 60F to 80F; wind WNW 2 - 5 mph.

Time: 0805-1050 hrs.

Area Covered: *I walked the standard counter-clockwise route around the entire lake, primarily using the interior perimeter road. A maintenance crew was at the dam in the northeast corner; fishermen were on a dock in the western section, where I detoured onto the exterior fenceline road. Otherwise, the lake was quiet and undisturbed by human activities during my survey. Water was flowing at medium volume in the Palmdale Ditch.*

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Ash-throated Flycatcher (1 – first of the season), Yellow Warbler (10), Yellow-headed Blackbird (2 – fos) and Bullock's Oriole (3 – fos).

BIRDS NOTED

Mallard 10 (m,f) pairs around the edges of the lake; Ring-necked Duck 1 (m) diving near shore, n; Bufflehead 13 (m,f) pairs and individuals, loosely gregarious in open water throughout; Ruddy Duck 85 (m,f) males (alt. plmg.) displaying to females; gregarious in cohesive flocks nw, s; California Quail 5 (m,f) gregarious; running across road and clearings, n; Pied-billed Grebe 3 vocal; edges of the lake, n,s; Eared Grebe 8 (alt. plmg.) gregarious; diving and swimming just below the surface, central; Clark's Grebe 1 open water, central; Double-crested Cormorant 3 on snags and shore, n; Great Blue Heron 1 on shore, e; Great Egret 1 on shore, e; Snowy Egret 2 flying low along shore, se; Osprey 2 – one with fish, flying e over lake; American Coot 100, gregarious, ubiquitous; Killdeer 1 vocal, flying over dam, e; Spotted Sandpiper 1 flying over shore on dam, e; California Gull 70 (90 % ad; remainder C2, C3), gregarious, resting in open water, central; Eurasian Collared Dove 6 vocal pairs, riparian; Mourning Dove 20, gregarious, ubiquitous, esp. n; Anna's Hummingbird 3 (m) on conspicuous perches, n, sw, se; Nuttall's Woodpecker 2, vocal in cottonwoods, n; Black Phoebe 3 sallying from perches near water, n, s; Ash-throated Flycatcher 1 vocal atop tall cottonwood, se (fos); Western Kingbird 6 vocal; loosely gregarious, n; Common Raven 10 vocal, gregarious, ubiquitous, esp. n; Tree Swallow 20 pairs in dead trees with nest holes, s, n; Northern Rough-winged Swallow 4 pairs flying low over open ground, n; Cliff Swallow 2 a pair flying low over lake and marsh, n; Barn Swallow 10 gregarious; circling old nest site in concrete bunker, se; Oak Titmouse 4 vocal in cottonwoods, s; Verdin 5 vocal; pairs active in creosote bush and adjacent cottonwood, n, s; Bushtit 2 a pair on fence line, w; Bewick's Wren 6 vocal, individuals singing atop junipers and cottonwoods, n, w; House Wren 1 vocal in cottonwoods, n; Marsh Wren 4 vocal in marsh at edge of slough, s; Northern Mockingbird 2 vocal, n, s; California Thrasher 1 vocal in junipers, nw; European Starling 2 on utility lines, n; Yellow Warbler 10 (m) vocal in cottonwoods around the lake; a pair chasing, n; Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 60 (m,f; alt. plmg.) gregarious, ubiquitous; Song Sparrow 6 vocal in riparian/marsh around the lake; White-crowned Sparrow 20 gregarious on ground in brushy areas around the lake; Western Tanager 1 (m) foraging in a fruit cluster of a Joshua Tree, n (fos); Red-winged Blackbird 30 (m,f) vocal in marshes around the lake, esp. n; Yellow-headed Blackbird 2 vocal (unseen) marsh areas, w (fos); Great-tailed Grackle 25 (m,f; alt. plmg.) males gregarious, displaying in crowns of cottonwoods, n; Brown-headed Cowbird 6 (m,f) gregarious in cottonwoods and willows near vocal YEWA and RWBL, nw, w; Bullock's Oriole 3 (m,f) vocal in cottonwoods, n, w (fos); House Finch 15 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, ubiquitous; Lawrence's Goldfinch 8 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, n, s; House Sparrow 2 (m) around clubhouse, n.



Verdin (Auriparus flaviceps) Lake Palmdale, LACO CA 18 April 2019 Callyn Yorke

Lake Palmdale, LACO , CA April 11, 2019 (62 Species)

Weather: *Fair; 54F to 63F; wind WNW 5 – 12 mph.*

Area Covered: I walked a clockwise route around the entire lake, using the interior shoreline road. Relatively little traffic (two maintenance vehicles in the NE; two fisherman in SW) and human disturbance during the survey. Water level medium-high with little to no exposed shoreline; Palmdale Ditch inlet in NE flowing at moderately high volume.

Birds of seasonal and/or distributional interest found today included, Common Goldeneye (1 f), Red-breasted Merganser (1m), Osprey (3), Bank Swallow (1), Verdin (1), Yellow Warbler (4), Black-throated Gray Warbler (2), and Lawrence's Goldfinch (6).

BIRDS NOTED

Gadwall 2 (f) w; Mallard 18 (m,f) scattered around the edges of the lake; Cinammon Teal 1 (m) ne; Northern Shoveler 6 (m) ne; Bufflehead 12 (m,f) pairs and individuals scattered, mostly in open water; Common Goldeneye 1 (f) swimming near dam, e; Red-breasted Merganser 1 (m) swimming on w side of jetty, nw; Ruddy Duck 120 (m,f; some in alt. plmg.) gregarious; most near marsh in backwater areas, s; California Quail 3 (m,f) brushy areas, n, ne; Pied-billed Grebe 5, vocal near marsh around the lake; Eared Grebe 5 (2 in alt. plmg.) open water throughout; Clark's Grebe 3, vocal in open water, n; Double-crested Cormorant 4 (ad, imm) resting on shore and islets; Great Blue Heron 1 on shore, ne; Great Egret 1 on shore, ne; Snowy Egret 1 foraging in shallows, ne; Osprey 3 seen flying, loosely gregarious; one with 10 inch trout in talons; Red-tailed Hawk 2 (ad, imm) on utility poles and in canopy, nw; Sora 1 vocal (unseen) w; American Coot 100, gregarious, ubiquitous around edges of the lake; Killdeer 1 vocal; flushed from dam, e; American Avocet 1 (alt. plmg.) flushed from s end of jetty, nw; Spotted Sandpiper 2 flushed from shore and jetty, e, nw; Ring-billed Gull 2 (ad) resting in open water with CAGU, central; California Gull 80 (ad, imm) resting in open water, central; Eurasian Collared Dove 4 vocal, gregarious, n; Mourning Dove 20 gregarious, mostly n, ne; Anna's Hummingbird 1 (f) on fence with CASJ, se; Nuttall's Woodpecker 1 vocal (unseen) cottonwoods, n; Northern RS Flicker 3 vocal in tree tops, n, sw; Black Phoebe 3 sallying from low perch, n, s; Western Kingbird 6 vocal, gregarious in tree canopies and on utility lines, n; California Scrub-Jay 1 on fence line with ANHU, se; Common Raven 10 gregarious; flying around lake edges of lake; Tree Swallow 120; ubiquitous; at least 2 pair nesting in willow and cottonwood cavities; vocal, gregarious; many on utility lines, n; Northern Rough-winged Swallow 12 gregarious; mostly pairs flying low over open areas; perched in trees and on utility lines, n; **Bank Swallow** 1 with TRSW, flying and on utility line, n; Cliff Swallow 1 flying low over lake, nw; Barn Swallow 10 pairs and individuals flying low over open areas and lake, n, nw; Oak Titmouse 2 vocal in cottonwoods, s; Verdin 1 vocal flying into junipers, w; Bushtit 4 pairs in cottonwoods and understory, s, n; Bewick's Wren 2 vocal, top of cottonwood and junipers, w; Marsh Wren 5 highly vocal in marsh lining s channel; California Thrasher 2 on fence line adjacent to skeet range, n; European Starling 1 in cottonwood, s; American Pipit 2 vocal; one landing on utility pole adjacent to skeet range, n; Orange-crowned Warbler 1 in cottonwood with YRWA, n. Yellow Warbler 4 (m) vocal in canopies of cottonwoods, n, sw. Yellow-rumped (A) Warbler 80 (m,f; alt. plmg.) vocal (calls), ubiquitous; Black-throated Gray Warbler 2 (m) foraging in creosote bushes, n; California Towhee 1 calls (unseen) shrubby roadside, n; Song Sparrow 6 vocal in riparian areas around the lake; White-crowned Sparrow 10 (ad) vocal, gregarious (pairs) in shrubby areas around the lake; Red-winged Blackbird 18 (m) vocal in marshes around the lake; Brown-headed Cowbird 4 (m,f) vocal individuals in canopies of cottonwoods around the lake with singing YEWA; House Finch 10 (m,f) vocal, gregarious, n; Lesser Goldfinch 4 vocal, gregarious, n; Lawrence's Goldfinch 6 vocal males in pines and cottonwoods, ne, se; House Sparrow 3 around buildings, n.



Common Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*) female Lake Palmdale, LACO CA
11 April 2019 C. Yorke



Red-breasted Merganser (Mergus serrator) Lake Palmdale LACO CA
11 April 2019 C. Yorke

P A L M D A L E W A T E R D I S T R I C T
C O M M I T T E E M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: March 3, 2020 **March 9, 2020**
TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS **Board Meeting**
FROM: Mr. Peter Thompson II, Resource and Analytics Director
VIA: Mr. Dennis D. LaMoreaux, General Manager
RE: ***AGENDA ITEM NO. 6.3 – APPROVAL TO RATIFY THE ENTRY INTO AND AUTHORIZATION OF FUNDING PURCHASE OPTIONS IN THE 2020 STATE WATER CONTRACTORS DRY YEAR WATER TRANSFER PROGRAM. (\$2,500.00 INITIAL DEPOSIT – BUDGETED UNDER WATER PURCHASES – RESOURCE AND ANALYTICS DIRECTOR THOMPSON II)***

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the Board ratify the District's entry into the State Water Contractor's (SWC's) Dry Year Water Transfer Program and further to authorize funding of initial purchase option payments, which will be determined later (estimated between \$300-\$500 per Acre Foot (AF) with a 30% delta loss = \$428-\$714 AF) .

The SWC charges a \$5.00 per acre foot initiation and administration deposit towards the Program. It is anticipated that the District may possibly need a 500 AF purchase of water through this program to protect carryover water for 2021 at a maximum dollar amount of \$360,000.00. This quantity required an initial deposit of \$2,500.00 in order to reserve options for dry year supplemental water in 2020.

Alternative Options:

An alternative option is to independently pursue scarce dry year supplemental water purchases in a reduced water availability market.

Impact of Taking No Action:

The District would opt to tap into its 2000 AF of water planned for carryover into 2021. This would reduce the reliability of next year's supply requiring more expensive purchases should 2021 be another dry year.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT

VIA: Mr. Dennis D. LaMoreaux, General Manager

March 3, 2020

Background:

At the last (February 2020) State Water Contractors meeting, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) held firm with a 15% allocation. Unless there is a significant increase in precipitation over March and April, this will be the final allocation. Currently, there is very little precipitation forecasted for March and April.

The State Water Contractors (SWC's) have initiated a Dry Year Transfer Program for 2020, which is designed to help fill water shortages in the coming year. The Program will acquire water transfers from rice fallowing in northern California. The initial option/participation payment of \$5.00 per acre foot, which will go towards administrative costs, will be either billed or refunded at actual cost at Program's end. The remaining purchase deposit amounts required to secure supplemental water through contracts with willing sellers will be determined when actual available purchase quantities and their cost per acre foot are agreed upon.

There are several off-ramp points in the Program, which allows the District to decline exercising water transfer options in the event that the 2020 water year proves to be more abundant than anticipated or if the price exceeds the anticipated cost per AF.

District staff has looked at potential impacts due to the low allocation of SWP supply and has already begun working to secure water from existing exchange and banking agreements. The critical point of decision to fully participate in this Program will be predicated on whether the final allocation is below 25%.

Participation in the SWC's Dry Year Transfer Program gives insurance against water shortages in 2021 should there be back-to-back dry water years.

Strategic Plan Element:

This work is part of Strategic Initiative 1 – Water Resource Reliability.

Budget:

The cost to enter into and exercise options for supplemental water will be covered under PWD Operating Budget for 2020 under Water Purchases.

Supporting Documents:

- State Water Contractors Dry Year Transfer Agreement

VERSION 2-21-20 - FINAL

STATE WATER CONTRACTORS 2020 DRY YEAR WATER TRANSFER AGREEMENT

This State Water Contractors ("SWC") 2020 Dry Year Water Transfer Agreement ("Agreement") is between and among the SWC and certain SWC member agencies who execute this Agreement with the intent to purchase water ("Buyers") through the 2020 Dry Year Transfer Program ("DYTP"). SWC and Buyers may be referred to collectively as "Parties" and the actions being carried out under this Agreement may be referred to as the "Program." This Agreement is effective when executed by SWC and as to each Buyer, when executed by such Buyer.

RECITALS

- A. The SWC is a non-profit mutual benefit corporation created under California law in 1982.
- B. The Buyers who have executed this Agreement are SWC member agencies.
- C. The Buyers desire to purchase water to help meet their service areas' needs in 2020, and desire the SWC to act as a negotiating and fiscal agent to collect, hold, disburse, and account for funds deposited by the Buyers pursuant to this Agreement. The SWC is empowered and is willing to do so.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties to this Agreement agree as follows:

AGREEMENT

1. BUYER-SELLER AGREEMENTS

(A) The SWC, along with certain Buyers, shall jointly negotiate agreements to purchase water from to-be-determined water districts/water agencies/water companies in the Sacramento Valley ("Sellers") through an agreement ("Buyer-Seller Agreements")

for use by Buyers in 2020. The Buyers shall make their best efforts to negotiate and execute Buyer-Seller Agreements by April 17, 2020.

(B) Each Buyer will execute a Buyer-Seller Agreement with each Seller. The SWC shall not be a party to the Buyer-Seller Agreements.

(C) Each Buyer will execute Storage and Conveyance Agreements with the California Department of Water Resources ("DWR") and the Seller and/or Sellers. There will be additional conditions, risks, and possibly DWR administrative charges associated with the Storage and Conveyance Agreements. The SWC shall not be a party to the Storage and Conveyance Agreements.

(D) The Buyers understand that (i) water purchased through the Buyer-Seller Agreements will be subject to losses and (ii) the water actually delivered by DWR could be reduced or delayed based on regulatory or judicially-imposed restrictions on DWR's ability to operate the export pumps and State Water Project infrastructure outages. The Buyers further understand that payments required by the Buyer-Seller Agreements and this Agreement are based on the water amount purchased and not the water amount actually delivered.

2. INITIAL WATER REQUEST AND INITIAL ALLOCATION PROPORTION

(A) Provided Buyer has executed this Agreement on or before March 2, 2020, each Buyer shall: (i) provide written notification to the SWC of its initial water request ("Initial Request") and (ii) remit to the SWC \$5 for each acre-foot included in its Initial Request as an initial administrative deposit ("Administrative Deposit"), to be held in trust by the SWC under Section 7. The Administrative Deposit shall be used to pay the SWC's staff and administrative costs described in Section 6 and Sellers' staff, environmental, legal, technical/engineering, and regulatory costs described in Section 5.

(B) Upon executing this Agreement, submitting an Initial Request, and remitting an Administrative Deposit, the Buyer shall be entitled to make a final water request ("Final Request") pursuant to Section 3(B).

(C) The initial allocation of the water to be purchased through the Buyer-Seller Agreements will be based on the lesser of Buyer's Initial Request or Buyer's proportionate

share to the total DYTP supply, determined by the ratio of participating Buyers' maximum SWP Table A amount to the total maximum SWP Table A amounts of all Buyers ("Initial Allocated Proportion").

(D) Should a Party(ies) desire to adjust the allocation methodology specified in Section 2(C), the Parties who have made an Initial Request must agree unanimously in writing.

3. FINAL WATER REQUEST AND PURCHASE WATER DEPOSITS

(A) On or before April 2, 2020, the SWC will provide Buyers written notice of: (i) the current Sellers' anticipated total water amount available by water supply type (e.g. crop idling, crop shifting, groundwater substitution, reservoir reoperation) for purchase through the Buyer-Seller Agreements; (ii) the Buyer-Seller Agreements' final terms; and (iii) each Buyer's Initial Allocated Proportion of water available per Section 2(C).

(B) On or before April 9, 2020, each Buyer will provide the SWC and other Buyers written notice of its final water request ("Final Request"). The Final Request cannot be greater than the Buyer's Initial Request or the Initial Allocated Proportion identified in the SWC's Section 3(A) notice unless agreed to in writing by all Buyers. If a Buyer is allowed to expand its request beyond the Final Request, the corresponding supplemental SWC Administrative Deposit will be submitted within one week of the granted increase.

(C) On or before April 30, 2020, the SWC will provide Buyers written notice of any adjustments, in accordance with Section 4, to each Buyer's Initial Allocated Proportion of water available for purchase based on the Final Request ("Final Allocated Proportion").

(D) On or before May 8, 2020, each Buyer shall remit to the SWC an initial purchase deposit ("Initial Purchase Deposit") equal to 50% of its Initial Allocated Proportion multiplied by the price per acre-foot established in the Buyer-Seller Agreements or any Letter of Commitment. The price per acre-foot may vary among each unique Buyer-Seller Agreement. Based on the Final Allocated Proportion, determined in Section 4, the Buyer shall remit to the SWC the remaining balance of the

cost of Buyer's Final Allocated Proportion ("Final Purchase Deposit") by June 5, 2020. The SWC shall hold all purchase deposits in trust under Section 7.

(E) If the purchased water amount allocated to a Buyer is not made available to a Buyer based on Seller's failure to perform, resulting in excess of Final Purchase Deposit, the SWC shall refund any excess purchase deposits not needed for Buyer's share of purchase costs.

(F) The Parties may mutually agree to adjust the dates specified in this Section 3, in writing, without amending this Agreement.

4. FINAL ALLOCATION PROPORTION

(A) If a Buyer's Final Request is less than its Initial Allocated Proportion as provided in the SWC's notice in Section 3(A), the forfeited potential water transfer quantity will be offered to other Buyers pursuant to Section 4(B). If a Buyer does not execute the Buyer-Seller Agreements or submit Purchase Deposits to the SWC pursuant to Section 3(D), it will be considered a withdrawn buyer ("Withdrawn Buyer") and will have no rights or obligations to purchase water pursuant to this Agreement and cannot rejoin the 2020 DYTP. A Withdrawn Buyer will still be responsible for any proportional cost obligations as described in Sections 5 and 6, prior to the date SWC receives actual notice of the Buyer's withdrawal from the 2020 DYTP.

(B) Each Buyer remaining in the Program may request a share of water made available by Withdrawn Buyers or by reduced requests of remaining Buyers equal to its proportionate share of the total amount of Final Requests made under Section 3. If a remaining Buyer does not want additional supply, this reallocation process will be repeated as necessary to distribute the additional water to willing Buyers. If the reallocation process results in a Buyer accepting an assigned proportional share that is greater than the Initial Allocated Proportion, the Buyer must submit the corresponding additional \$5 per acre-foot Administrative Deposit and corresponding Purchase Deposits to the SWC for the additional quantity above the Initial Allocated Proportion within ten business days of accepting the additional assigned share.

(C) SWC will determine each Buyer's Final Allocated Proportion, in accordance with Sections 4(A) and (B), and will notify each Buyer in the required Section 3(C) notice.

(D) After the Buyer-Seller Agreements have been executed and the Sellers have been notified of the intent to purchase the water, remaining Buyers will be responsible for full payment of allocated purchased supplies and potential Seller legal/administrative costs/liabilities, if any, as set forth in the Buyer-Seller Agreement and/or referenced in Section 5.

5. PAYMENTS TO SELLERS

(A) Letter(s) of Commitment: If it is deemed necessary, this Agreement authorizes the SWC to execute a Letter of Commitment with the Sellers on behalf of the Buyers prior to the actual execution of a Buyer-Seller Agreement. Buyers shall have the right to review any Letter of Commitment before it is executed. Upon the execution of this Agreement and any Letter of Commitment, the SWC may commit the Buyers to pay some of Sellers' future or past regulatory and administrative costs. In addition, the Letter of Commitment may commit Buyers to cover certain Sellers costs in the event of an administrative challenge, litigation, and/or certain Seller costs incurred prior to DTYP cancellation. Such payments may be required regardless if water is ultimately purchased or moved. Funding for these payments will come from the Buyers' \$5 per acre-foot Administrative Deposit or subsequent payments provided such subsequent payment is consistent with the Buyer-Seller Agreement, as described in Section 2(A), in proportion to their participation share of the DYTP at the time of the execution of any Letter of Commitment.

(B) Buyer-Seller Agreement(s):

(i) Water Purchase: Upon Buyers submitting a Final Request, Buyer must remit an Initial Purchase Deposit to the SWC pursuant to Section 3(D), and the SWC will promptly, but no later than any notification deadline in the Buyer-Seller Agreements, notify the Sellers that the Buyers have submitted a Final Request and will make payments to the Sellers in accordance with the payment provisions of the Buyer-Seller Agreements. In addition, the Buyers must remit a Final Purchase

Deposit to the SWC pursuant to Section 3(D). The payments made by the SWC to the Sellers based on a Buyer's Final Allocated Proportion will not be refundable to the Buyer unless Sellers fail to perform and are required to return the payments based on their failure to perform as specified in the Buyer-Seller Agreements and any Letter of Commitment.

(ii) Seller Administrative, Regulatory, and Litigation Costs:

(a) If not obliged by an execution of a Letter of Commitment in Section 5(A), the Buyer-Seller Agreement will likely commit the Buyers to incur some of the Sellers' administrative and regulatory costs in addition to possible litigation and administrative costs associated with an unforeseen administrative challenge and/or litigation against a 2020 DYTP water transfer. Such expenses would be funded using the Buyers' Administrative Deposit described in Section 2(A). If the Administrative Deposit is insufficient and additional funds are required, a sufficient subsequent Administrative Deposit will be paid by Buyers to the SWC, provided such subsequent payment is consistent with the Buyer-Seller Agreement.

(b) The SWC are authorized to, and shall, disburse from the Administrative Deposit funds necessary to pay the Buyers' share of Sellers' administrative, regulatory, and litigation (if any) costs, including any such costs required by Letters of Commitment and/or the relevant Buyer-Seller Agreement. Subject to Sections 5(B)(ii)(c) and (d), each Buyer's Administrative Deposit will be debited with a proportionate share of these costs equal to the Final Allocated Proportion of water.

(c) Because the Sellers' administrative, regulatory, and potential litigation costs will be incurred irrespective of whether any of the Buyers ultimately purchase water or whether there is capacity to deliver purchased water, Withdrawn Buyers will be responsible for the payment of the cost specified in 5(B)(ii) proportionate to the Initial Allocated Proportion for environmental and legal costs associated with the defense of the Program that were initiated prior to the Buyer becoming a Withdrawn Buyer.

However, a Withdrawn Buyer's maximum liability for administrative costs shall be limited by its total Administrative Deposit.

(d) In the event that all Buyers withdraw from the Program or no water can ultimately be delivered, the administrative, regulatory, and litigation (if any) cost responsibilities, as required in the Buyer-Seller Agreements and/or the Letter of Commitment, will be apportioned to all Buyers who executed this Agreement according to the Initial Allocated Proportion at the time of withdrawal or Program termination. In the unlikely event where the resulting payment obligations to the Seller exceed the 2020 DYTP Administrative Deposits, additional Administrative Deposits, assessed in proportion to the participation share at the time of withdrawal or Program termination, will be required.

6. SWC'S ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS

The SWC will be responsible for taking the following actions to facilitate the transfers:

(A) Hold/manage the deposits in a separate interest bearing account for the Buyers' benefit and return to the Buyers their proportionate share of any interest remaining in the account when their duties have ended under this Agreement;

(B) Collect money from Buyers and disburse to Sellers;

(C) Account for money/water and refund any excess deposits made by Buyers;

(D) Administer contract changes, transfer adjustments, and any repayment required due to failure/inability to deliver water; and

(E) Coordinate with DWR on behalf of the Buyers regarding the Storage and Conveyance Agreements, carriage loss calculation, and any DWR administrative fees.

(F) Subject to Section 6(G), each Buyer that receives water from this Program shall pay the SWC a proportionate share of the SWC's actual costs to administer this Agreement equal to its Final Allocated Proportion. When the SWC administrative duties have ended, it will provide the Buyers an accounting for its actual costs. If the SWC's actual administration and administrative costs identified in Section 6 and the Sellers' costs identified in Section 5(B)(ii) exceed the Administrative Deposits, each Buyer shall pay to the SWC an amount equal to its proportionate share of its Final Allocated

Proportion within ten business days of receiving an invoice or notification from the SWC, provided such subsequent payment is consistent with the Buyer-Seller Agreement. If the costs are less than the Administrative Deposits, the SWC shall refund to each Buyer its proportionate share of the remaining Administrative Deposits based on its Final Allocated Proportion. In either case, at the conclusion of the program the SWC will retain a sum of \$2,000 from the combined Administrative Deposits to cover costs associated with typical post-program activities such as answering questions regarding water and cost accounting, preparation for program audits, and documenting the program, including "lessons learned," which will aid future programs.

(G) Withdrawn Buyers will pay the SWC a proportionate share of the SWC's actual costs to administer this Agreement and the DYTP incurred prior to becoming a Withdrawn Buyer, designated as the date of written notification to SWC of withdrawal or failure to execute a Buyer-Seller Agreement by the required date (whichever is earlier) based on its Initial Allocated Proportion, or failure to make the required deposit by the due date.

7. SWC's DUTIES AS FISCAL AGENT

The SWC shall hold and manage the funds deposited by Buyers in a separate interest bearing account in trust for the benefit of the Buyers and shall exercise the same duty of care in managing the Buyers' account as it exercises in maintaining its own accounts.

8. INDEMNITY AND LIABILITY

(A) As between themselves, the Buyers agree to jointly and severally assume any liability of the SWC resulting from this Agreement in proportion to their respective share of the total amount of Initial Requests. The Buyers agree that the SWC shall incur no liability as a result of the SWC undertaking the work provided for by this Agreement.

(B) The Buyers agree to jointly and severally protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the SWC, including its directors and staff, and any members of the SWC who are not parties to this Agreement and their respective directors, officers, agents, servants, employees, and consultants from and against any and all losses, claims, liens,

demands, and causes of action of every kind and character, occurring or in any way incident to, connected with, or arising directly or indirectly out of the Buyers' performance or non-performance under this Agreement.

9. AUDIT

(A) SWC shall be responsible for ensuring the accuracy and propriety of all billings and shall maintain all supporting documentation for the period specified below.

(B) Buyer will have the right to audit SWC's invoices and all supporting documentation for purposes of compliance with this Agreement during the term of this Agreement and for a period of three years following completion of services under this Agreement.

(C) Upon reasonable notice from Buyer, SWC shall cooperate fully with any audit of its billings conducted by Buyer and shall permit access to its books, records, and accounts as may be necessary to conduct such audits.

10. TERM OF AGREEMENT

This Agreement shall be effective until December 31, 2020 or upon the completion of all duties and obligations of the Parties.

11. NOTICES

All notices required by this Agreement to be made in writing can be made by facsimile, e-mail, or signed document via e-mail.

12. SIGNATURE BY COUNTERPART

This Agreement may be signed in counterparts by the Parties and, if executed in counterparts, will be deemed to be the same instrument and valid and binding on a Party as if fully executed all in one copy.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties hereto have executed this Agreement by authorized officials thereof on the dates indicated below.

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State Water Contractors

By: _____

Date: _____

BUYER Palmdale Water District

By:  _____

Date: 02/27/2020

Approved as to legal form: _____ Date: _____

P A L M D A L E W A T E R D I S T R I C T
B O A R D M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: March 2, 2020 **March 9, 2020**
TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS **Board Meeting**
FROM: Mr. Scott Rogers, Engineering/Grant Manager
VIA: Mr. Adam Ly, Assistant General Manager
Mr. Dennis D. LaMoreaux, General Manager
RE: ***AGENDA ITEM NO. 7.1 – CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 20-5 BEING A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT APPROVING THE ADOPTION OF THE 2019 UPDATE TO THE ANTELOPE VALLEY INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN. (NO BUDGET IMPACT – ENGINEERING/GRA NT MANAGER ROGERS)***

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board approve the adoption of the 2019 update to the Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

Alternative Options:

There is no other alternative option.

Impact of Taking No Action:

There is an impact from no action where the District will not be eligible for IRWM funding.

Background:

The Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management (AV IRWM) Plan is a collaborative effort to identify and implement water management solutions on a regional scale that increase regional self-reliance, reduce conflict, and manage water to concurrently achieve social, environmental, and economic objectives. Originally written in 2007 and updated in 2013, the AV IRWM Plan was updated once again in 2019 to reflect the current conditions in the Region and meet the 2016 IRWM Grant Program Guidelines. The 2019 AV IRWM Plan Update must now be adopted by all members of the Regional Water Management Group and Project Sponsors to be eligible for grant funding.

Strategic Plan Initiative/Mission Statement:

This item is under Strategic Initiative No. 1 – Water Resource Reliability, No. 4 – Financial Health and Stability, and No. 5 – Regional Leadership.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT

VIA: Mr. Adam Ly, Assistant General Manager
Mr. Dennis D. LaMoreaux, General Manager

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March 2, 2020

Budget:

This item has no budget impact.

Supporting Documents:

- Resolution No. 20-5 being a Resolution of the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District Approving the Adoption of the 2019 Update to the Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
- Executive Summary of the 2019 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

RESOLUTION NO. 20-5
A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT APPROVING
THE ADOPTION OF THE 2019 UPDATE TO THE ANTELOPE VALLEY
INTEGRATED REGIONAL WATER MANAGEMENT PLAN

WHEREAS, the State of California Department of Water Resources (DWR) created the Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Program to encourage integrated, regional strategies for managing water resources and to provide funding for both planning and implementation of projects that support management of water supply, water quality, environmental interests, drought protection, flood protection, land use, climate change, and reduction of dependence on imported water; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 14-10, adopted May 28, 2014, the Board of Directors of the Palmdale Water District (the “Board” and the “District,” respectively) previously adopted the 2013 Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, pursuant to which the District has taken on the role of regional water management group for the geographic area within the Antelope Valley IRWM region that is served by the District; and

WHEREAS, the Antelope Valley-East Kem Water Agency; Palmdale Water District; Quartz Hill Water District; Littlerock Creek Irrigation District; Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association; City of Palmdale; City of Lancaster; County Sanitation District No. 14 of Los Angeles County; County Sanitation District No. 20 of Los Angeles County; Rosamond Community Services District; and Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40, Antelope Valley have established a Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) by means of a Memorandum of Understanding; and

WHEREAS, DWR and State Legislators have established program guidelines for the IRWM Program through Proposition 1 (2016 Guidelines); and

WHEREAS, the RWMG for the Antelope Valley IRWM Region is responsible for the preparation and adoption of an IRWM Plan; and

WHEREAS, the RWMG for the Antelope Valley IRWM Region has developed the 2019 Update to the Antelope Valley IRWM Plan to address the provisions of the 2012 Guidelines; and

WHEREAS, the RWMG solicited and incorporated input from all interested stakeholders in preparation of the 2019 Update to the Antelope Valley IRWM Plan; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the 2019 Update to the Antelope Valley IRWM Plan will enable participants in the Antelope Valley IRWM to apply for future grant funding under various grant programs including grants from Proposition 50, Proposition 84, and Proposition 1; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of the 2016 Update to the Antelope Valley IRWM Plan is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under Section 15262 of the Guidelines as a project involving only feasibility or planning studies for possible future actions.

NOW THEREFORE, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT DOES HEREBY RESOLVE AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Adopt the 2019 Update to the Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED THIS: 9th day of March, 2020.

Vincent Dino, President
Board of Directors
Palmdale Water District

Don Wilson, Secretary
Board of Directors
Palmdale Water District

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Aleshire & Wynder. LLP
District Legal Counsel



Executive Summary

Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Overview

This document is the 2019 Antelope Valley Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Plan Update (2019 Plan Update). It includes new information as required by the California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) 2016 Integrated Regional Water Management Proposition 1 Guidelines as well as updates to previous information from the 2013 Antelope Valley IRWM Plan.

IRWM is a collaborative effort to manage all aspects of water resources in a region. The State recognizes that there is a need to consider a broader range of resource management issues, competing water demands, new approaches to ensuring water supply reliability, and new ways of financing. The State's IRWM program was developed beginning with Senate Bill 1672 which created the Integrated Regional Water Management Act to encourage local agencies to work cooperatively to manage local and imported water supplies to improve water quality, quantity and reliability.

Funding programs for IRWM planning were created when voters passed Proposition 50 in November 2002, Proposition 84 in November 2006, and Proposition 1 in 2014. These propositions set aside funds for IRWM planning and project implementation to be administered by the State. These grant programs state that IRWM Plans should include specific aspects, or "standards", as outlined in Table ES-1. This table also indicates where each standard may be located in the 2019 Plan Update. A more detailed cross-reference table showing IRWMP standards and their locations in both the 2007 IRWMP, the 2013 IRWMP Update, and the 2019 IRWMP Update may be found in Appendix L.

Table ES-1: IRWM Plan Standards and Locations in AV IRWM Plan

IRWM Plan Standard	Location in Antelope Valley IRWM Plan
Governance	Section 1, Section 8
Region Description	Section 2
Objectives	Section 4
Resource Management Strategies	Section 5
Integration	Section 6
Project Review Process	Section 7
Impact and Benefit	Section 8
Plan Performance and Monitoring	Section 8
Data Management	Section 8
Finance	Section 8
Technical Analysis	Section 3, Section 8
Relation to Local Water Planning	Section 8
Relation to Local Land Use Planning	Section 8
Stakeholder Involvement	Section 1, Section 8
Coordination	Section 1, Section 8
Climate Change	Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8

Introduction (Section 1)

Several years ago, leaders and agencies in the Antelope Valley Region recognized the need for regional cooperation and planning. In an effort to represent the broad interests within the Antelope Valley Region, a number of organizations joined to form a Regional Water Management Group (RWMG) to work together and create this IRWM Plan. Members of the RWMG include the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK), Antelope Valley State Water Contractors Association (AVSWCA), City of Lancaster, City of Palmdale, Littlerock Creek Irrigation District, Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD) Nos. 14 and 20, Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40 (LACWD 40), Palmdale Water District (PWD), Quartz Hill Water District (QHWD), and Rosamond Community Services District (RCSD). These 11 public agencies signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to define what their roles and responsibilities are in developing and moving forward with implementation of the AV IRWM Plan. The decision-making structure of the MOU provides the RWMG with the responsibility to make formal decisions regarding the scope and content of the AV IRWM Plan. These agencies agreed to contribute funds to help develop the AV IRWM Plan, provide and share information, review and comment on drafts, adopt the final AV IRWM Plan, and assist in future grant applications for the priority projects identified in the Plan.

In January 2007, the RWMG and other community participants (the Stakeholders) set about developing a broadly supported water resource management plan that defines a meaningful course of action to meet the expected demands for water within the entire Antelope Valley Region through

2035. They chose to create the AV IRWM Plan consistent with the State sponsored Integrated Regional Water Management Program that makes grant funds available to support sound regional water management. In 2012, the RWMG began development of an IRWM Plan Update to incorporate changes to the Region's water resources that occurred since 2007. The IRWM Plan was revisited in 2017 and updated once again in two phases. The first phase revised the Plan to comply with the 2016 IRWM Grant Program Guidelines. The second phase (referred herein as the "2019 IRWM Plan Update") conducted an extensive update of the IRWM Plan so that the Plan is reflective of the current conditions of the Region. The 2019 IRWM Plan Update extended the planning horizon through 2040. This IRWM Plan contains information to help take action to meet shared objectives for long-term water management for the entire Region.

Region Description (Section 2)

The Antelope Valley Region of California is home to approximately 461,000 people living in many different communities. Residents within this Region have experienced tremendous changes over the past generation due to rapid population growth in nearby large cities. Current forecasts of population growth suggest even larger changes will occur before 2040. Water plays a central role in the health and wellbeing of all residents within the Antelope Valley Region. People use water for drinking, bathing, household and outdoor activities, agriculture, business endeavors, recreation, and to sustain and enhance natural habitats. This common need for water links communities together in many ways. When anyone uses water, the ability of other people to use water within the Antelope Valley Region may be impacted.



The Antelope Valley Region encompasses approximately 2,400 square miles in northern Los Angeles County, southern Kern County, and western San Bernardino County. Major communities



within the Antelope Valley Region include Boron, California City, Edwards Air Force Base, North Edwards, Lancaster, Mojave, Palmdale and Rosamond. All of the water currently used in the Antelope Valley Region comes from two sources: (1) naturally occurring water within the Antelope Valley Region (surface water and groundwater accumulated from rain and snow that falls in the Antelope Valley and surrounding mountains, and recycled water), and (2) State Water Project water (surface water that is collected in northern California and imported into the Antelope Valley and other areas around the state).

The number of residents within the Antelope Valley Region will expand by almost 350 percent between 1970 and 2020, growing from 103,000 people in 1970 to 461,000 people in 2020. Forecasters expect the population to continue to increase, potentially reaching 535,000 residents by the year 2040. As the number of people living and working in the Antelope Valley Region increases, the competition for water supply intensifies, and the challenge of maintaining good water quality and managing the interconnected water cycle becomes more challenging.

Creation of a proactive, “SMART¹” approach for the fast-developing Antelope Valley Region makes this IRWM Plan essential to efficient and effective water management.

Issues and Needs (Section 3)

Water managers and local planners face many daunting challenges related to supporting the wellbeing of the Antelope Valley Region. Past activities have created problems that need to be addressed and expected increases in population growth make resolving these problems even more difficult. In order to help address the broad challenges, the AV IRWM Plan was organized to address issues and needs in the following categories. Section 3 of the Plan describes these issues and needs in detail.



Supplies are Variable and Uncertain

Determining the amount of water available for use at any given time (now or in the future) is challenging. All water supplies within the Antelope Valley Region come from two sources: (1) local rain and snowmelt that percolate into the groundwater aquifers or are captured in Littlerock Reservoir, or (2) imports of water from outside the Antelope Valley Region via the State Water Project. The amount of water supply available varies considerably due to changes in weather, rain and snow, and other conditions.

Demand is Greater than Supply in Average and Dry Years

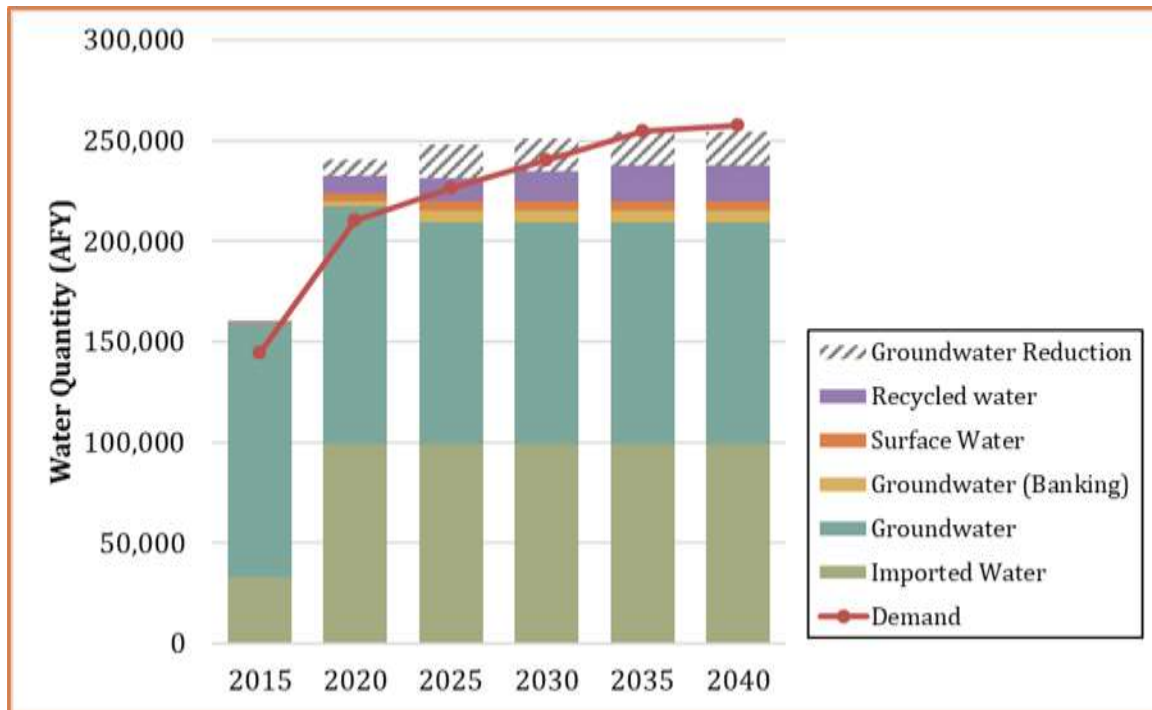
One fundamental challenge in the Antelope Valley Region is that demand for water exceeds available supplies in future average and dry years. In average years beyond 2025, the mismatch between water supply and demand is currently approximated at 19,500 AFY, as shown in the figure below. In future single dry years, the supply demand mismatch is estimated to be 77,200 AFY, while in future multi-dry year periods the mismatch is estimated at 198,800 AF over four years. If communities do not implement projects to account for these mismatches, such as conservation, recycled water, stormwater capture, and water banking projects, the Region will not be able to meet its demands during future average years and dry periods. The Region also recognizes the need for other actions to reduce the mismatch, such as reducing reliance on imported water and improving conveyance facilities.

¹ A SMART approach includes objectives that are Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-Based.

Historically, water supplies within the Antelope Valley Region have been used primarily for agriculture; however, due to population growth, water demands from residential and business uses have increased significantly and this trend is expected to continue. The expected continuation of rapid growth in the Antelope Valley Region will affect water demand and increase the threat of water contamination from additional urban runoff. More residents will also lead to higher demand for water-based recreation.



Figure ES-1: Water Supply Summary for an Average Water Year



Note: "Groundwater Reduction" is the amount of groundwater production decreased as a result of the adjudication Judgment and therefore does not represent an additional supply source.

Much of the water used within the Antelope Valley Region is extracted from groundwater aquifers. The amount of water pumped within the Antelope Valley Region has varied tremendously since the early 1900's. The United States Geological Survey estimated that groundwater pumping in 1919 was about 29,000 AFY and reached as high as 400,000 AFY in the 1950's. For many of those years, the amount of water being pumped was greater than the amount of water being replenished, creating an imbalance within the groundwater aquifers. Because the amounts pumped were greater than the amounts being replenished, groundwater levels have declined significantly throughout the Antelope Valley Region. The long-term depletion of aquifers cannot be continued indefinitely without serious consequences. The historical declines in groundwater levels within the Antelope Valley Region have caused permanent damage to aquifers in some areas through land subsidence.

In order to prevent further damage from declining groundwater levels, many water providers and managers within the Antelope Valley Region recognize the need to balance the water being pumped from the aquifers with the water being put back. In response to this need, a legal process called adjudication was finalized in 2015. The adjudication process defined the Basin boundaries,

quantified a safe yield, and established Production Rights in order to stabilize groundwater levels and prevent further damage that can result from declining groundwater levels. The Total Safe Yield of the Antelope Valley Groundwater Basin must be met by 2023 as defined in the adjudication Judgment.

Water Quality and Flood Management

The groundwater basin within the Antelope Valley Region is an un-drained, closed basin, meaning there is no outlet for water to flow to the ocean. When water enters a closed basin, any minerals or chemicals in the water typically accumulate in the basin. Currently, groundwater quality is excellent within the principal aquifer but is not as good toward the northern portion of the dry lake areas. Some portions of the basin contain groundwater with high fluoride, boron, total dissolved solids, and nitrate concentrations. Arsenic is another emerging contaminant of concern in the Antelope Valley Region and has been observed in the northern and eastern areas of the Region. Research conducted by the LACWD 40 and the United States Geological Survey has shown the problem to reside primarily in the deep aquifer, therefore it is not anticipated that the existing arsenic concentrations will lead to future loss of groundwater as a water supply resource for the Antelope Valley. In addition, a Salt and Nutrient Management Plan was developed in 2014 to monitor and maintain water quality conditions in the Antelope Valley groundwater basin.

Much of the Antelope Valley Region is subject to flooding from natural runoff through alluvial fans in the nearby foothills. Some of these flood waters eventually move into developed areas, many of which lack sufficient drainage capacity, causing impacts to infrastructure and other improvements. Runoff flowing across impervious surfaces can also become contaminated with constituents such as petroleum products. At the same time, the Region recognizes the downstream benefits of flood waters, including habitat preservation, dust control, and other uses. The need for regional coordination of flood control efforts with natural habitat protection and water supply is critical as urban development and the accompanying paved surfaces increase throughout the Region.

Environmental Resources

The Antelope Valley Region has many unique environmental features that are dependent on natural surface flows, such as the dry lakebeds (Rosamond, Buckhorn, Rogers), Piute Ponds, mesquite bosques, alkali mariposa lily, Joshua tree woodlands, desert tortoise, Le Contes thrasher, tricolored blackbirds, and others. Part of the Antelope Valley wash areas are incorporated into a Significant Ecological Area designated by Los Angeles County intended to provide added protection to sensitive natural resources. As the pressure for growth expands into undeveloped or agricultural lands, the need to balance industry and growth against the protection of endangered species and sensitive ecosystems requires a careful consideration of trade-offs, many involving water resources in the Region. The actions identified in the AV IRWM Plan can help to preserve open space and natural habitats in the Antelope Valley Region while maximizing the effective use of water resources.



Water Management and Land Use

What people do on the land of the Antelope Valley and how they do it directly impacts many aspects of life, including the water cycle, within the Antelope Valley Region. Historically throughout California, land use planning and water use planning have been done almost independently of one another. The challenges identified within the Plan clearly show a need for much closer collaboration between land use planning efforts and water management planning efforts.

Continued development within the Antelope Valley Region depends heavily on meeting the objectives presented in the Plan to balance the growing demand for development while preserving recreational opportunities and avoiding major impacts to natural resources, agriculture, and the loss of local culture and values.

Climate Change

The Antelope Valley Region's Stakeholders identified and prioritized a number of climate change vulnerability issues facing the Region's water resources based on the expected effects of climate change, including water demand, water supply, flooding, ecosystem and habitat, and water quality. The identified and prioritized vulnerabilities are discussed in Section 3.

Objectives (Section 4)

The Stakeholders worked together to identify clear objectives and planning targets they wish to accomplish by implementing the AV IRWM Plan (see Table ES-2). Although the AV IRWM Plan is intended to address the Antelope Valley Region's water resource management needs, this document also identifies several open space, recreation, and habitat targets as well. Refer to Section 4 of the AV IRWM Plan for details on how the objectives and targets were developed.

These objectives and planning targets represent the most important needs and issues the Stakeholders hope to address over the next several years. Everything done within the context of this IRWM Plan should contribute in some way to achieving these objectives. Also, because the planning targets are measurable, residents within the Antelope Valley Region can monitor how successfully the Plan is being implemented.

Table ES-2: Antelope Valley Region Objectives and Planning Targets

Objectives	Planning Targets
Water Supply Management	
Provide reliable water supply to meet the Antelope Valley Region's expected demand between now and 2040; and adapt to climate change.	Maintain adequate supply and demand in average years.
	Provide adequate reserves (77,200 AFY) to supplement average condition supply to meet demands during single-dry year conditions, starting 2009.
	Provide adequate reserves (198,800 AF/ 4-year period) to supplement average condition supply to meet demands during multi-dry year conditions, starting 2009.
	Adapt to additional 7-10% reduction in imported deliveries by 2050, and additional 21-25% reduction in imported water deliveries by 2100.
Establish a contingency plan to meet water supply needs of the Antelope Valley Region during a plausible disruption of SWP deliveries.	Demonstrate ability to meet regional water demands over an average year without receiving SWP water for 6 months over the summer by 2025
Stabilize groundwater levels.	Manage groundwater levels throughout the basin such that Production Rights defined in the adjudication Judgment are met by 2023.
Water Quality Management	
Provide drinking water that meets regulatory requirements and customer expectations.	Continue to meet Federal and State water quality standards as well as customer standards for taste and aesthetics throughout the planning period.

Objectives	Planning Targets
Protect and maintain aquifers.	Prevent unacceptable degradation of aquifer according to the Basin Plan throughout the planning period. Map contaminated sites and monitor contaminant movement, by 2017. Identify contaminated portions of aquifer and prevent migration of contaminants, by 2017.
Protect natural streams and recharge areas from contamination.	Prevent unacceptable degradation of natural streams and recharge areas according to the Basin Plan throughout the planning period.
Maximize beneficial use of recycled water.	Increase infrastructure and establish policies to use 33% of recycled water to help meet expected demand by 2015, 66% by 2025, and 100% by 2035.
<i>Flood Management</i>	
Reduce negative impacts of stormwater, urban runoff, and nuisance water, and adapt to climate change impacts in the future.	Coordinate a regional Stormwater Resources Plan and policy mechanism by the year 2025 and incorporate adaptive management strategies for climate change.
Optimize the balance between protecting existing beneficial uses of stormwater and capturing stormwater for new uses.	
<i>Environmental Resource Management</i>	
Preserve open space and natural habitats that protect and enhance water resources and species in the Antelope Valley Region.	Contribute to the preservation of an additional 2,000 acres of open space and natural habitat, to integrate and maximize surface water and groundwater management by 2025.
<i>Land Use Planning/Management</i>	
Maintain agricultural land use within the Antelope Valley Region.	Preserve 100,000 acres of farmland in rotation ² through 2040.
Meet growing demand for recreational space.	Contribute to local and regional General Planning documents to provide 5,000 acres of recreational space by 2040.
Improve integrated land use planning to support water management.	Coordinate a regional land use management plan by the year 2025 and incorporate adaptive management strategies for climate change.
<i>Climate Change Mitigation</i>	
Mitigate against climate change	Implement “no regret” mitigation strategies, ³ when possible, that decrease greenhouse gases (GHGs) or are GHG neutral

Resource Management Strategies (Section 5)

The State of California, through the 2009 California Water Plan, has identified 37 different Resource Management Strategies (RMS) to improve regional water resource management. In order to determine what regional water management strategies should be included in the IRWM Plan, the Stakeholders considered the RMS listed and defined in Section 5 of the IRWM Plan. The relationship

² The phrase “in-rotation” means that not all 100,000 acres will be in agricultural production at one time rather the land will be rotated in cycles to make most efficient use of the land.

³ No regret projects are projects that would still be considered beneficial even if climate change weren’t happening.

of these strategies (Table ES-3) to the Region’s objectives (Table ES-2) was discussed for those strategies included in the IRWM Plan.

Table ES-3: RMS included in the IRWM Plan

Reduce Water Demand	Improve Operational Efficiency and Transfers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Water Use Efficiency • Urban Water Use Efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conveyance – Regional/Local • System Reoperation • Water Transfers
Increase Water Supply	Flood Management
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conjunctive Management and Groundwater • Recycled Municipal Water • Surface Storage – Regional/Local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Risk Management
Water Quality Management	Practice Resources Stewardship
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drinking Water Treatment and Distribution • Groundwater and Aquifer Remediation • Matching Water Quality to Use • Pollution Prevention • Salt and Salinity Management • Urban Runoff Management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agricultural Lands Stewardship • Ecosystem Restoration • Forest Management • Land Use Planning and Management • Recharge Areas Protection • Sediment Management • Watershed Management
People and Water	Other Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic Incentives • Outreach and Engagement • Water and Culture • Water-dependent Recreation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crop Idling for Water Transfers • Irrigated Land Retirement

IRWM Project Integration, Evaluation and Prioritization (Sections 6 and 7)

Many local agencies and other community participants have worked well together to create a Plan that identifies challenging issues and needs being faced by all Antelope Valley residents. Fortunately, this IRWM Plan also identifies actions that can help meet the objectives for the Antelope Valley Region and identifies methods for cooperative implementation of those actions.

Table ES-4 lists the projects and actions that the Stakeholders believe will help meet the Regional objectives. In total, over 80 projects were submitted for inclusion in the IRWM Plan, and include implementation projects, plans and studies, and conceptual projects. All projects included in the IRWM Plan will help the Region to meet its goals and objectives. Implementation projects are programs or construction projects that have had some planning completed, such as facilities planning or cost analyses, and could potentially be implemented in the near future. Plans and studies may also be considered “implementation projects” because they are eligible under certain grant funding opportunities. Finally, conceptual projects are those projects identified by stakeholders that *could* contribute to meeting the Region’s IRWM objectives but may not yet be developed enough to include in the IRWM Plan as an implementation project.

Implementing the IRWM projects will require focused effort, broad community support, political resolve, and funding. The Stakeholders are actively pursuing financial assistance through several grant programs designed to help leverage local investments. The RWMG is also working to establish

a secure and long-lasting approach to coordinate resources to meet the growing needs of the entire Antelope Valley Region.

The projects proposed by Stakeholders are primarily expected to help the Region meet the water supply management objectives, some of the water quality management objectives, and the climate change objective described in Section 4. For the flood management, environmental resource management, land use planning/management, and climate change objectives, additional projects need to be developed and proposed to ensure progress in those management areas.

Table ES-4: Stakeholder Implementation Projects

Sponsor	Project Name	Project Type
Antelope Valley Resource Conservation District	Antelope Valley Regional Conservation Project	Implementation
AVEK	AVEK Strategic Plan	Study/Report
AVEK	South North Intertie Pipeline (SNIP) Phase II Project	Implementation
AVEK	South Antelope Valley Intertie Project	Implementation
AVEK	Water Supply Stabilization Project (WSSP) – Westside Expansion	Implementation
City of Lancaster	Antelope Valley Recycled Water Master Plan	Study/Report
City of Lancaster	Division Street and Avenue H-8 Recycled Water Tank	Implementation
City of Lancaster	Lancaster National Soccer Center Recycled Water Conversion	Implementation
City of Lancaster	Pierre Bain Park Recycled Water Conversion	Implementation
City of Lancaster	Whit Carter Park Recycled Water Conversion	Implementation
City of Palmdale	Palmdale Power Plant Project	Implementation
City of Palmdale	Upper Amargosa Creek Recharge and Channelization Project	Implementation
Palmdale Recycled Water Authority	Phase 2 Distribution System	Implementation
Palmdale Water District	Littlerock Dam Sediment Removal	Implementation
Palmdale Water District	Palmdale Regional Groundwater Recharge Project	Implementation
Rosamond CSD	Wastewater Treatment Plant Rehabilitation and Groundwater Project	Implementation
Willow Springs Water Bank	Willow Springs Water Bank	Implementation

In terms of supply, the implementation and conceptual projects proposed will allow the Region to maintain adequate supply and demand in average years. The IRWM projects identify approximately 24,400 AFY of new supply, while also identifying up to approximately 1,000,000 AFY of water bank storage capacity. These projects, if implemented, would help the Region to meet demands during single-dry years and multi-dry year periods, as well as during a plausible six month disruption of State Water Project deliveries.

A number of projects were proposed that would help the Region to meet its water quality targets, including improving drinking water quality, protecting and maintaining aquifers, protecting natural streams and recharge areas from contamination, and maximizing beneficial use of recycled water. As water quality issues are further studied and plans such as the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan are implemented, it is expected that additional projects will be identified to target specific water quality issues.

Additional projects may be necessary to help address the Region's flood management issues, particularly since a majority of the projects proposed to help improve flooding are conceptual and

require further development. Section 6 lists a number of suggestions for improving flood management in the Region, including beneficial use identification, existing flood hazard mapping, development of policy actions, and flood mitigation.

The environmental resource management objective will also require more projects. Proposed projects that would help the Region to meet its environmental resource management targets are mainly multi-benefit projects that would provide water supply, water quality and/or flood improvements in addition to providing open space and habitat. Section 6 suggests development of a habitat conservation plan for the Region, and promotion of land conservation projects that enhance flood control, aquifer recharge and watershed and open space preservation to further identify projects to meet this objective.

Similarly, additional projects may be necessary to meet the Region's targets that include preserving farmland, increasing recreational space and coordinating a regional land use plan. Many of the projects identified would indirectly support these targets by providing water to irrigate farm and recreational lands, but few projects would directly support these targets.

A majority of the projects proposed would support the Region's climate change objective. For example, projects that increase local supply production are expected to reduce the embedded energy required to supply imported water. Projects that would increase habitat would allow for the sequestration of carbon through the increase in vegetation. Further planning and study would be necessary to numerically assess GHG reductions in the Region.

Framework for Implementation (Section 8)

The AV IRWM Plan is a dynamic document that identifies monitoring guidelines and sets forth procedures for measuring the success, benefits, and impacts of the Plan. The Region will continue with its current governance structure and continue its efforts to encourage stakeholder involvement in the IRWM program. An ongoing management process is proposed for evaluating, updating and maintaining the Plan, and a funding and financing plan has been established to implement the Plan. The stakeholders decided to continue using the current approach of facilitated broad agreement to implement and update the AV IRWM Plan.

Implementation of the priority projects in the IRWM Plan is currently the responsibility of individual lead agencies with the jurisdictional authority to approve projects. The Stakeholders and RWMG have chosen these projects because they directly address the objectives and planning targets for the most pressing issues and constitute the most well-developed projects to improve management of water resources within the Region. Furthermore, implementing the projects in an integrated fashion is understood to achieve greater benefits to the Region.

The collection, management, distribution and use of data collected as part of this IRWM Planning effort, and through implementation of the Plan, are essential to making this a sustainable effort that will benefit the Antelope Valley Region for years to come. Data regarding water quantity and quality are currently collected and distributed by a number of different agencies. The Stakeholders have identified strategies in this IRWM Plan to ensure quick identification of data gaps, avoiding duplicative (and costly) studies that result in the same information/findings, and successful integration with other important regional, statewide, and federal programs.

This IRWM Plan also identifies performance measures that will be used to evaluate performance, monitoring systems that will be used to gather actual performance data, and mechanisms to change these strategies if the data collected shows the Antelope Valley Region's IRWM objectives and planning targets are not being met. The Stakeholders also recognized that additional technical detail is needed for several of the IRWM Plan's performance measures to be properly implemented

and measurable. The Stakeholder group has agreed to continue to refine these performance measures as the AV IRWM Plan is implemented.

Finally, the Region evaluated the funding and financing that would be necessary to implement this IRWM Plan. To meet the resource needs identified above, the Region will need to secure funding as both in-kind services and monetary resources. Given that local revenue sources will not be sufficient to fully fund all aspects of the IRWM Program's financing needs over the 20-year planning horizon, the Region intends to fund its activities using a combination of local, state and federal funds.

This IRWM Plan is a Stakeholder-driven planning process. The RWMG invites the public and interested Stakeholders to become active participants in the Region's ongoing efforts to:

- Identify, evaluate, prioritize, and implement solutions to the Region's complex water management issues, challenges, and conflicts; and
- Continue the development and evolution of this Plan.

For additional information on this IRWM Plan and the Antelope Valley Region, please visit www.avwaterplan.org.

P A L M D A L E W A T E R D I S T R I C T
B O A R D M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: March 3, 2020 **March 9, 2020**
TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS **Board Meeting**
FROM: Mr. Dennis D. LaMoreaux, General Manager
RE: ***AGENDA ITEM NO. 7.2 – CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO VOTE FOR THE PUBLIC AGENCY DIRECTOR AND ALTERNATE PUBLIC AGENCY DIRECTOR ON THE ANTELOPE VALLEY WATERMASTER BOARD. (NO BUDGET IMPACT – GENERAL MANAGER LaMOREAUX)***

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that the Board vote for Kathy Mac Laren, Palmdale Water District Director, to fill the Public Agency Director seat on the Antelope Valley Watermaster Board of Directors and vote for Barbara Hogan, Littlerock Creek Irrigation District Director, to fill the Public Agency Alternate Director seat on the Antelope Valley Watermaster Board of Directors.

Impact of Taking No Action:

The District would not have a vote for these Board of Director seats.

Background:

The Antelope Valley Watermaster Board consists of five directors specified as follows:

1. Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency
2. Los Angeles County Waterworks District 40
3. Public Water Supplier
4. Landowner
5. Landowner

The Public Water Supplier (PWS) seat is shared by the following agencies (PWS Group):

LACWW	Palmdale Water District	City of Lancaster
Quartz Hill WD	Littlerock Creek ID	Rosamond CSD
California Water SC	Desert Lake CSD	Palm Ranch ID
North Edwards WD	City of Palmdale	West Valley CWD

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT

March 3, 2020

Leo Thibault, Littlerock Creek Irrigation District Director, who occupies the PWS seat, has submitted his resignation for this seat. Kathy Mac Laren, Palmdale Water District Director, occupies the Alternate PWS seat.

To avoid delays in filling the vacated seat, it is the recommendation of the Public Water Suppliers Group that Kathy Mac Laren, Palmdale Water District Director, and Barbara Hogan, Littlerock Creek Irrigation District Director, be included on the ballot to fill the vacant seat and that the option to write-in additional names if an agency so chooses also be included on the ballot.

It is the recommendation of Palmdale Water District staff that the Board vote for Kathy Mac Laren for the PWS seat and Barbara Hogan for the PWS Alternate seat.

The PWS representative must follow the direction of the PWS Group when making decisions on the Antelope Valley Watermaster Board.

Strategic Plan Initiative:

This work is part of Strategic Initiative No. 5 – Regional Leadership.

Budget:

There is no impact to the budget from this item.

Supporting Documents:

None



Hotel and Travel Accommodations

Event Name/Date:**CONTACT INFORMATION**

First Name

Last Name

Date

ACCOMMODATION INFORMATION

Rooms and rates are subject to availability. Complete and submit this form as soon as possible to guarantee a room at the host hotel. In the event that the host hotel is booked, every effort will be made to secure a room at the closest hotel within comparable rates to the event discounted rate.

Arrival Date

Departure Date

No. of guests

Room Type

Do you require a smoking room?

☐ Yes ☐ No**Do you need transportation from the airport to the hotel?**☐ Yes ☐ No

Flight Number

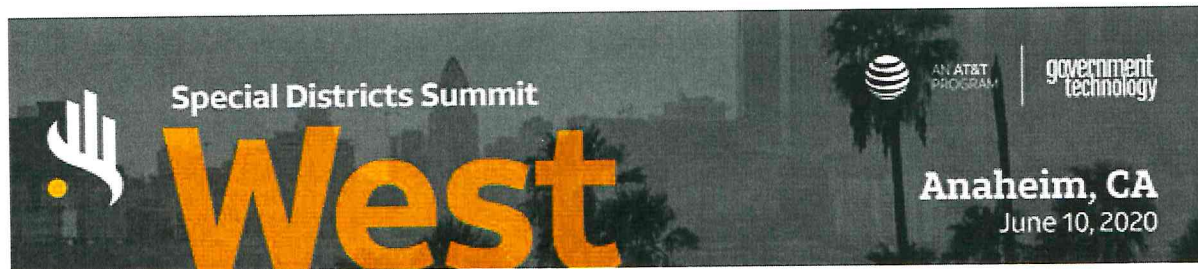
Time

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/REQUESTS

Staff Representative

To: Adam Ly <aly@palmdalewater.org>

Subject: We hope to see you June 10!



Dear Adam,

We're excited to share the [Special Districts Summit West](#) is back and scheduled for **June 10 at the Disneyland Paradise Pier Hotel!**

As someone who previously registered, you may recall topics we have addressed - from effective leadership and future readiness, to data analytics and cybersecurity. As we develop the 2020 Summit, we are building upon the past three years of collaboration and will dive into topics based upon input and feedback received from districts across the country, including a deep dive into the future of:

- Workforce
- Innovation
- Cybersecurity
- Customer Experience
- Infrastructure Modernization
- And more!

The summit remains a rare opportunity for special district leaders across the spectrum to join together for a day of professional development that will provide tools, actionable plans, and a professional network to help your district become future ready.

[Registration is complimentary](#), and you are welcome to reserve a seat for yourself and/or your colleagues online, or by responding to this message.

We hope to see you this year! If you have any questions or need assistance registering, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,

Raquel

Raquel Figueira
Sr. Registration Coordinator
Government Technology magazine
916.932.1341 direct
rfigueira@govtech.com



Overview

National Special Districts Summits

Exploring the Next Decade of Technology and Behavior Changes and How Special Districts Are Laying the Foundation for 2030 today.

The Special District Summits provide an opportunity for special district leaders to come together in-person to understand the macro trends that are reshaping their future employees and customers – and how other special districts across the country are laying the foundation for the future today. Each Special District Summit is designed to be highly interactive with content designed for both the technology and business leaders of all special district types – including airports, utilities, transportation, parks, ports, and, libraries, fire, housing districts and more.

The 2020 Special Districts Summits will build upon the past three years of collaboration, and will dive into topics based upon District input, including innovation, cybersecurity, customer experience, infrastructure modernization and much more. Each summit will provide special district leaders an exclusive look at the trends that will shape the next decade as well as actionable tips on how to make their districts future ready.

This complimentary day of professional development will provide your district with **tools, actionable plans, and a professional network** to help lay the foundation for the future.

What They Are Saying

“The Special District Summit will be a unique gathering of dozens of government organizations that represent water, power, transportation, planning, ports, sewage, bridges and more. The event will include topics on management and leadership, process improvement and emerging technologies, to name a few. If last year’s summit is any indicator, this year’s event will be a great opportunity for you and your staff to gather lessons learned and best practices relevant to any government organization. I hope you can join us!”

Bryan Sastokas, Chief Information Officer, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority



Professional Development

For those attendees who maintain a professional certification, certificates of attendance will be available at the registration desk.

Registration Information / Contact Us

Event Date: June 10, 2020

Open to Public Sector only.

Registration - Free

Contact Information

For registration and general assistance contact:

[Raquel Figueira](#)

Government Technology

Phone: (916) 932-1341

E-mail: rfigueira@govtech.com

Venue

Disney Paradise Pier Hotel

1717 South, Disneyland Dr

Anaheim, CA 92802

714-999-0990

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, NOVEMBER 14, 2019:

A meeting of the Personnel Committee of the Palmdale Water District was held Thursday, November 14, 2019, at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, California, in the Board Room of the District office. Chair Dizmang called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

1) Roll Call.

Attendance:

Committee:

Gloria Dizmang, Chair

Kathy Mac Laren, Committee
Member

Others Present:

Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager

Adam Ly, Assistant General Manager

Robert Alvarado, PWD Director

Mike Williams, Finance Manager

Jennifer Emery, Human Resources Director

Scott Rogers, Engineering/Grant Manager

Chris Bligh, Facilities Manager

Dawn Deans, Executive Assistant

0 members of the public

2) Adoption of Agenda.

It was moved by Committee Member Mac Laren, seconded by Chair Dizmang, and unanimously carried by all members of the Committee present at the meeting to adopt the agenda, as written.

3) Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items.

There were no public comments for non-agenda items.

4) Action Items: (The Public Shall Have an Opportunity to Comment on Any Action Item as Each Item is Considered by the Committee Prior to Action Being Taken.)

4.1) Consideration and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held September 19, 2019.

It was moved by Committee Member Mac Laren, seconded by Chair Dizmang, and unanimously carried by all members of the Committee present at the meeting to approve the minutes of the Organizational Excellence Committee meeting held September 19, 2019, as written.

4.2) Consideration and Possible Action on Revision to the Organizational Structure Chart to Add One Operations Technician I/II Position. (Budgeted – 2020 – Facilities Manager Bligh)

After a brief discussion of this revision and of the need to add one Operations Technician I/II position to the District's Organizational Structure Chart, it was moved by Committee Member Mac Laren, seconded by Chair Dizmang, and unanimously carried by all members of the Committee present at the meeting that the Committee concurs with staff's recommendation to revise the Organizational Structure Chart to add one Operations Technician I/II position and that this item be presented to the full Board for consideration at the November 25, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

4.3) Consideration and Possible Action on Revision to the Organizational Structure Chart Regarding the Engineering Department. (No Budget Impact – Engineering/Grant Manager Rogers)

After a brief discussion of this Engineering Department revision to the District's Organizational Structure Chart, it was moved by Committee Member Mac Laren, seconded by Chair Dizmang, and unanimously carried by all members of the Committee present at the meeting that the Committee concurs with staff's recommendation to revise the Organizational Structure Chart regarding the Engineering Department and that this item be presented to the full Board for consideration at the November 25, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

4.4) Consideration and Possible Action on Updates and Revisions to the Employee Handbook. (No Budget Impact – Human Resources Director Emery)

After a brief review and discussion of proposed revisions to the Employee Handbook, it was moved by Committee Member Mac Laren, seconded by Chair Dizmang, and unanimously carried by all members of the Committee present at the meeting that the Committee concurs with staff's recommendation to revise the Employee Handbook, as presented, with the exception of pursuing a Dog at Work Policy, and that this item be presented to the full Board for consideration at the November 25, 2019 Regular Board Meeting.

4.5) Consideration and Possible Action on Updating Community Workforce Agreement. (Organizational Excellence Committee Goal)

General Manager LaMoreaux stated that the existing Project Labor Agreement expired November 4, 2019; that an updated draft Community Workforce Agreement has been presented to General Counsel Dunn for review; and that staff will continue negotiations and present the updated Community Workforce Agreement to the full Board for consideration.

5) Information Items:

5.1) Other.

Committee Member Mac Laren inquired as to the number of applications received for the Customer Care Representative position after which Human Resources Director Emery stated that over 1,200 applications were received.

She then stated that she and Water Use Efficiency Specialist I Avelar will be representing the District at the upcoming Littlerock High School career fair and that staff is reviewing unpaid Internship Program applications for the Public Affairs and Information Technology Departments.

There were no other information items.

6) Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

Chair Dizmang recommended an item be placed on the next agenda for "Consideration and possible action on Internship Program."

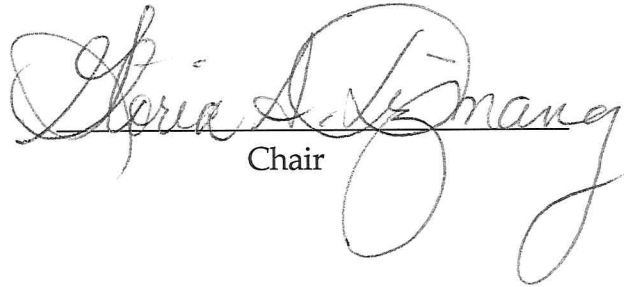
There were no further requests for future agenda items.

7) Date of Next Committee Meeting.

It was determined that the next Personnel Committee meeting will be held in January.

8) **Adjournment.**

There being no further business to come before the Personnel Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:16 p.m.


Chair

MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE OUTREACH COMMITTEE OF THE PALMDALE WATER DISTRICT, JANUARY 28, 2020:

A meeting of the Outreach Committee of the Palmdale Water District was held Tuesday, January 28, 2020, at 2029 East Avenue Q, Palmdale, California, in the Board Room of the District office. Chair Wilson called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

1) Roll Call.

Attendance:

Committee:

Don Wilson, Chair

Robert Alvarado, Committee
Member

Others Present:

Dennis LaMoreaux, General Manager

Adam Ly, Assistant General Manager

Mike Williams, Finance Manager

Judy Shay, Public Affairs Director

Dawn Deans, Executive Assistant

0 members of the public

2) Adoption of Agenda.

It was moved by Committee Member Alvarado, seconded by Chair Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Committee present at the meeting to adopt the agenda, as written.

3) Public Comments.

There were no public comments.

4) Action Items: (The Public Shall Have an Opportunity to Comment on Any Action Item as Each Item is Considered by the Committee Prior to Action Being Taken.)

4.1) Consideration and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes of Meeting Held November 18, 2019.

It was moved by Committee Member Alvarado, seconded by Chair Wilson, and unanimously carried by all members of the Committee present at the meeting to approve the minutes of the Outreach Committee meeting held November 18, 2019.

4.2) Discussion of Let's Talk H2O! – Emergency Preparedness. (Public Affairs Director Shay).

Public Affairs Director Shay provided an overview of the upcoming Let's Talk H2O! event scheduled for February 19, 2020 from 6 – 7 p.m. and stated that Assistant General Manager Ly will moderate with information on how the District has prepared for emergencies and how attendees can prepare for emergencies; that items for a mini emergency preparedness kit will be provided to those who have signed up, and this same kit will be provided to staff and Directors; and that due to the large number of registrants and wait list, two sessions will be held.

4.3) Discussion of Development of an Informational Handout for Customers Regarding Residential Water Use in the Event of an Emergency. (Public Affairs Director Shay)

Public Affairs Director Shay reviewed the draft informational handout regarding residential water use in the event of an emergency, and after a brief discussion of revisions, Public Affairs Director Shay stated that a final proof will be provided to the Committee prior to in-house printing.

4.4) Consideration and Possible Action on Outreach Activities for 2020. (Public Affairs Director Shay)

a) Outreach Report.

Public Affairs Director Shay reviewed press releases to date, publications featuring the District's events, Coffee with Director Dino, the blood drive, spots on the Café con Leche Radio Show, attendance at the Palmdale and Hispanic Chamber of Commerce luncheons, participation in the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative, ads for the Palmdale School District's Foundation Dinner on January 31 and for the Greater Antelope Valley Economic Alliance Roundtable Report, CV Strategies meetings regarding the logo and website for the Palmdale Recycled Water Authority, the update for the Crisis Communication Plan for the Public Affairs Department, which will be presented at the next Committee meeting, and "Your Dollars at Work" barricade signs notifying the public when work is being performed on the District's capital improvement projects.

Participation from other organizations in the San Gabriel Mountains Community Collaborative was then discussed.

b) Upcoming Events/2020 Plans.

She then stated that upcoming events include Let's Talk H2O on February 19; the Antelope Valley Board of Trade Business Outlook Conference on February 28; the District's third annual Water Ambassadors Academy on March 4, 11, 18, and 21, which will include an emergency preparedness component and speakers from the Department of Water Resources and the City of Palmdale; the Extreme Home Makeover Palmdale edition airs March 29; a groundbreaking ceremony for the Water Conservation and Education Garden in coordination with Earth Day in April; 400 water bottles to the Palmdale Chamber of Commerce Family Picnic on April 18 and the Homeless event on April 27; a tour with our new Congressperson in May or June; the A.V. Taco Festival on June 13; Coffee with a Director; and the Junior Water Ambassador's Academy in September.

4.5) Review 2019 Outreach Committee Goals and Establish 2020 Outreach Committee Goals.

The 2019 Outreach Committee Goals were reviewed, and it was determined that 2020 Outreach Committee Goals are as follows:

- As a regional organization, continue to ensure outside organizations within the District's boundaries are aware the District is available to offer water-related information and assistance.
- Provide continuing education on the District's water rate structure.
- Develop a brochure regarding water industry jobs and required classes and certifications for these jobs for presentation to Human Resources Departments of area high schools and community colleges in addition to continuing the Junior Water Ambassador Academy and school presentations, including the Water Conservation and Education Garden.
- Continue plans for educating the public on emergency preparedness.
- Review of Strategic Plan initiatives regarding outreach.

5) Information Items.

**5.1) Status Report on Lobbying Efforts with Reeb Government Relations LLC.
(Chair Wilson/Assistant General Manager Ly)**

The Cost Sharing Agreement for Lobbying Services with Reeb Government Relations LLC was reviewed after which it was clarified that each of the participating agency's goals are being addressed and that the Agreement is for a period of one year and will be evaluated prior to its expiration followed by discussion of Reeb's Annual 2019 Report.

Chair Wilson then requested more frequent lobbying updates and a copy of the District's Lobbying Policy, and Committee Member Alvarado recommended attendance at Association of California Water Agencies' and California Special Districts Association's legislative update conferences and webinars.

5.2) Other.

Public Affairs Director Shay stated that the District is supporting the U.S. Census by posting flyers and with notices in newsletters; that the District has four entries in the upcoming California Association of Public Information Officials' annual awards program; and that information regarding using a water bill when applying for the California Department of Motor Vehicles Real I.D. has been posted on Facebook and will be included in the next issue of The Pipeline.

There were no additional information items.

6) Board Members' Requests for Future Agenda Items.

It was determined that "Discussion of the Public Affairs Department's Crisis Communication Plan" will be placed on the next agenda.

There were no further requests for future agenda items.

7) Date of Next Committee Meeting.

It was determined that the next Outreach Committee meeting will be held February 25, 2020 at 3:30 p.m.

8) **Adjournment.**

There being no further business to come before the Outreach Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.



Chair