



June 17, 2026

TO: Utilities Advisory Committee
FROM: Greg Kwolek, General Manager
SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 3 – 06/17/26 UAC Meeting**
BMC Update

The BMC has had two meetings since the last UAC meeting. The first meeting was on May 29th, the second on June 17th.

President
Matthew D. Fourcroy

Vice President
Charles L. Cesena

Directors
Tom Cross
Richard Hubbard
Christine M. Womack

General Manager
Greg Kwolek

District Accountant
Robert Stilts, CPA

Unit Chief
John Owens

Battalion Chief
Joshua Lorenzo

The following are the highlights of the May 29th meeting:

Sweet Springs Groundwater Monitoring Well(s)

After months of delays due mainly to the Habitat Conservation Plan credits not being available, the project is moving forward. Credits have been paid for, biological and archaeological surveys have been completed, and the issuance of the encroachment permit should be sometime during the week of June 15th.

It is anticipated the project will go out to bid late June and, hopefully, completed sometime in August/September.

These monitoring wells are located in the portion of the groundwater basin that has yet to be monitored for seawater intrusion. The project has been fully funded by a Rose Foundation grant.

Draft Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) Released

The draft AMR was presented at the meeting. Attached to this report is the Executive Summary. The entire report can be found on the BMC website:

<https://www.losososbmc.org/>

Staff will provide an update of the June 17th meeting at the UAC meeting.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Los Osos Basin Plan Groundwater Monitoring Program – 2025 Annual Report (Annual Report) describes activities related to the Los Osos Basin Plan (LOBP) Groundwater Monitoring Program and provides results and interpretation of these activities for calendar year 2025. The LOBP Groundwater Monitoring Program is necessary to accomplish the following continuing goals set forth in Section 2.4 of the LOBP (ISJ Group, 2015):

1. Provide for a continuously updated hydrologic assessment of the Los Osos Groundwater Basin (Basin), its water resources and Sustainable Yield.
2. Create a water resource accounting which is able to meet the information needs for planning, monitoring, trading, environmental management, utility operations, land development and agricultural operations.

The LOBP Groundwater Monitoring Program is also necessary to support other goals of the LOBP, including halting or reversing seawater intrusion, establishing a long-term environmentally and economically sustainable and beneficial use of the Basin, and the equitable allocation of costs associated with Basin management.

Groundwater Production

Groundwater production for calendar year 2025 is summarized in Table ES-1 below. Reported Purveyor (Los Osos Community Services District, Golden State Water Company, and S&T Mutual Water Company) production has increased 3.8 percent compared to 2024, while total Basin production is estimated to have decreased by 0.6 percent compared to 2024.

Table ES-1. Groundwater Production		
Description	2024 Production in Acre-Feet	2025 Production in Acre-Feet
Los Osos Community Services District	491	494
Golden State Water Company	505	538
S&T Mutual Water Company	26	29
Purveyor Subtotal (metered)	1,022	1,061
Domestic wells ¹	110	110
Community facilities ¹	50	40
Agricultural wells ¹	510	470
Total Estimated Production¹	1,690	1,680

¹ Rounded to the nearest 10 acre-feet. Production from non-metered wells (Domestic, Community, Agricultural) estimated per methods described in Appendix F and LOBP Section 4 and Section 7.5.



Basin Status

The status of the Basin in terms of key parameters and metrics is listed below, along with the page reference for definitions and additional details on each key parameter:

Precipitation (p. 41). The Basin received above average rainfall in calendar year 2025. San Luis Obispo County started 2025 with no drought to abnormally dry conditions in January; by end of the calendar year in December 2025 no drought conditions were reported (NDMC/USDA/NOAA, 2026).

Seawater Intrusion Front (p. 57). The seawater intrusion front in Zone D retreated between Fall 2024 and Fall 2025. This interpretation is based on localized conditions contoured to represent regional trends. The seawater intrusion front in Zone E moved inland at LA11 between Fall 2024 and Fall 2025.

Basin Yield Metric (p. 71). The Basin Yield Metric was steady between 2024 and 2025 (no change) and meets the LOBP goal in 2025. An update to the Basin sustainable yield was approved in Fall 2025 based on the Transient Model, which is expected to lower the Basin Yield Metric in 2026 (Section 7.5.1).

Water Level Metric (p. 75). The Water Level Metric decreased between Spring 2024 and Spring 2025 (a deterioration) and has not reached the target value.

Chloride Metric (p. 77). The Chloride Metric decreased between Fall 2024 and Fall 2025 (an improvement) but has not reached the target value.

Nitrate Metric (p. 78). The Nitrate Metric decreased between Winter 2024 and Winter 2025 (an improvement) but has not reached the target value.

Upper Aquifer Water Level Profile (p. 81). Water levels in the Upper Aquifer along the bay remain safely above the Protective Elevation, except for near well UA5, where chloride concentrations have increased but remain at relatively low concentrations.

Recommendations for improving the quality and availability of data are contained in Section 9 of the Annual Report. Recommendations from the 2024 Annual Report that were completed in 2025 included construction and calibration of the Transient Model and development of updated Sustainable Yield estimates with the second Program C well and other LOBP programs, continued water quality monitoring at UA5, and a discussion of Chromium-6 and PFAS concentrations in purveyor wells.

Recommendations from 2024 that are on-hold, in progress, or planned for 2026 include re-evaluating the Water Level, Chloride, and Nitrate Metrics (in progress), and continuing to implement recommendations for new monitoring well construction to help characterize Lower Aquifer seawater intrusion (Sweet Spring monitoring well cluster planned; Section 7.3).

LOBP Metrics

As described in Section 7.5 (“Basin Metrics”) of this Annual Report, the LOBP established several Basin metrics to evaluate nitrate impacts to the Upper Aquifer, seawater intrusion into the Lower



Aquifer, and the effect of management efforts of the Basin Management Committee (BMC). These metrics allow the BMC, regulatory agencies, and the public to evaluate the status of nitrate levels and seawater intrusion, and the impact of implementation of the LOBP programs in the Basin through objective, numerical criteria that can be tracked over time. The status of key Basin metrics is summarized in Table ES-2.

Table ES-2. LOBP Metric Summary			
Metric¹	LOBP Goal	Calculated Value from 2025 Data	Change in Condition from 2024
Basin Yield Metric²	80 or less	71	No change from 71 (steady)
Water Level Metric	8 feet above mean sea level or higher	3.5 feet above mean sea level	Decrease from 4.1 ft. (deterioration)
Chloride Metric	100 mg/L or lower	230 mg/L	Decrease from 249 mg/L (improvement)
Nitrate Metric	10 mg/L or lower	12.9 mg/L (NO ₃ -N)	Decrease from 15.7 mg/L (improvement)

¹Revisions to the Water Level, Chloride, and Nitrate Metrics are currently in progress.

²An update to the Basin sustainable yield was approved by the BMC in Fall 2025 based on the Transient Model, which is expected to lower the Basin Yield Metric in 2026 (Section 7.5.1).

Approval of the Annual Monitoring Report by the BMC does not constitute unanimous approval of actions listed under Section 5.11.4 (Approval Requirements) of the Stipulated Judgment or setting the Sustainable Yield for a given year. These actions require a separate action and unanimous approval by the BMC.

Adaptive Management

In addition to the programs described in the LOBP, the following additional initiatives were under evaluation or completed by the BMC in 2025 through adaptive management. Details regarding the status of each program listed below are provided in Section 10 of this Annual Report.

- Basin Metrics
- Program C Adaptive Management
- Lower Aquifer Nitrate Investigation
- Evaluation of Water Conservation Measures
- Water Recycling Funding Program (WRFP) Study/Transient Groundwater Model
- Discussion and Recommendation of Criteria for Future Growth



LOBP Infrastructure Programs

The status of LOBP infrastructure programs is summarized in Table ES- 3.

Table ES-3. Basin Infrastructure Projects				
Project Name	Parties Involved	Funding Status	Capital Cost	Status
Program A				
Water Systems Interconnection	LOCSD/ GSWC			Completed
Upper Aquifer Well (8 th Street)	LOCSD		\$307,000	Completed
South Bay Well Nitrate Removal	LOCSD			Completed
Palisades Well Modifications	LOCSD			Completed
Blending Project (Skyline Well)	GSWC			Completed
Water Meters	S&T			Completed
Program B				
LOCSD Wells	LOCSD	Not Funded	LOBP: \$2.7 mil	Project not initiated
GSWC Wells	GSWC	Not Funded	LOBP: \$3.2 mil	Project not initiated
Community Nitrate Removal Facility	LOCSD/GSWC/S&T	GSWC Portion Funded	GSWC: \$1.23 mil	GSWC’s Program A Blending Project might be capable of expanding to be the first phase of the Program B Community Nitrate Removal Facility.



Project Name	Parties Involved	Funding Status	Capital Cost	Status
Program C				
Expansion Well No. 1 (Los Olivos)	GSWC			Completed
Expansion Well No. 2	LOCSD	LOCSD	LOBP: \$2.5 mil	The Bay Oaks well is completed and operational as of January 2026.
Expansion Well 3 and LOVR Water Main Upgrade	GSWC/LOCSD	Cooperative Funding	LOBP: \$1.6 mil	The deferral from Program C for this project was removed by the BMC on August 16, 2023.
LOVR Water Main Upgrade	GSWC	May be deferred	LOBP: \$1.53 mil	Project may not be required, depending on the pumping capacity of the drilled Program C wells. It may be deferred to Program D.
S&T/GSWC Interconnection	S&T/ GSWC	Pending	LOBP: \$30,000	Currently on hold pending further evaluation of the project.



Project Name	Parties Involved	Funding Status	Capital Cost	Status
Program D				
Shift production within the Lower Aquifer from the Western Area to the Eastern Area of the Basin				Currently being considered for deferment through Adaptive Management. BMC to review on an annual or semi-annual basis.
Program M				
New Zone D/E Lower Aquifer monitoring well in Cuesta by the Sea	All Parties			Completed
Sweet Springs Monitoring Well	All Parties	\$150,000 in Rose Foundation Grant Funding, \$50,000 match from LOCSA's 2025 BMC contributions	TBD	In progress, anticipated completion in 2026.
Program U				
Creek Discharge Program	All Parties		TBD	These activities are currently on hold. The Transient Model and Water Recycling Funding Study are intended to better inform the BMC on the most effective opportunities for increasing the sustainable yield of the Basin.
8 th and El Moro Urban Storm Water Recovery Project	All Parties		TBD	These activities are currently on hold. The Transient Model and Water Recycling Funding Study are intended to better inform the BMC on the most effective opportunities for increasing the sustainable yield of the Basin.