

Groundwater Management Workshop

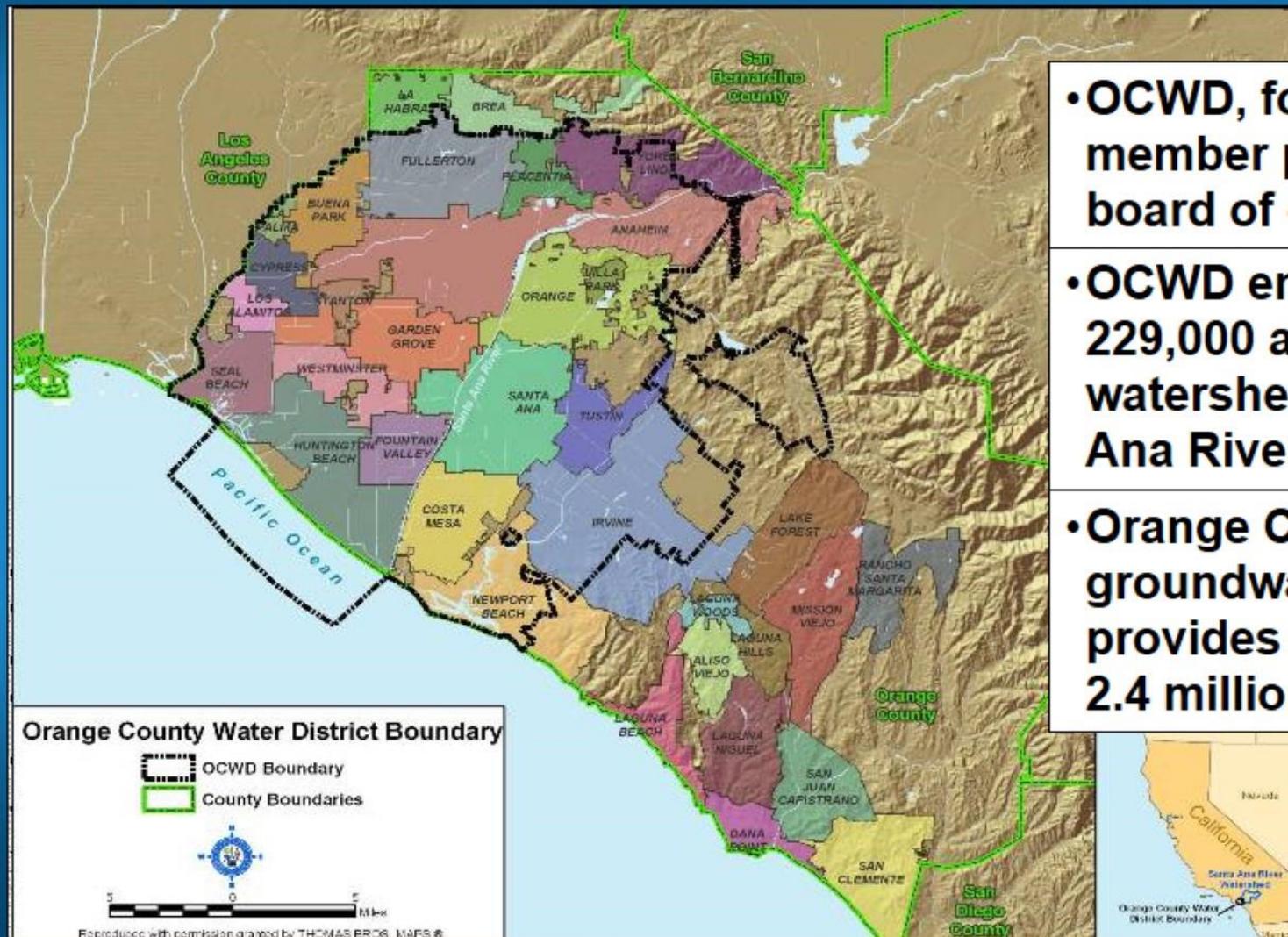
Michael R. Markus, P.E.
General Manager
March 24, 2014



SINCE 1933



ORANGE COUNTY WATER DISTRICT



- OCWD, formed in 1933, 10 member publicly elected board of directors
- OCWD encompasses 229,000 acres in the lower watershed of the Santa Ana River (SAR)
- Orange County groundwater basin provides water for over 2.4 million people

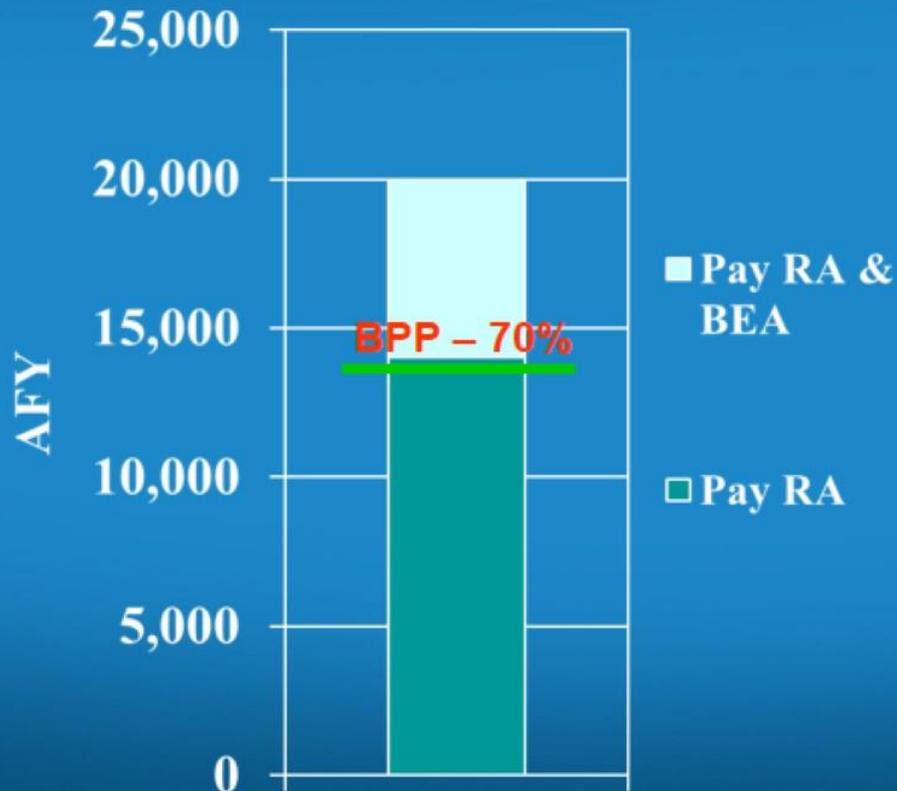


OCWD GENERAL INFORMATION

- ▶ **OCWD governed by a 10 person Board of Directors**
 - ▶ **7 members directly elected by the public**
 - ▶ **3 members appointed (Santa Ana, Anaheim & Fullerton)**
- ▶ **Non-adjudicated groundwater basin**
- ▶ **Each year the Board sets the percentage of groundwater that can be pumped (BPP)**
- ▶ **Each year the Board Replenishment Assessment (RA) and Basin Equity Assessment (BEA) for the cost of pumping groundwater**

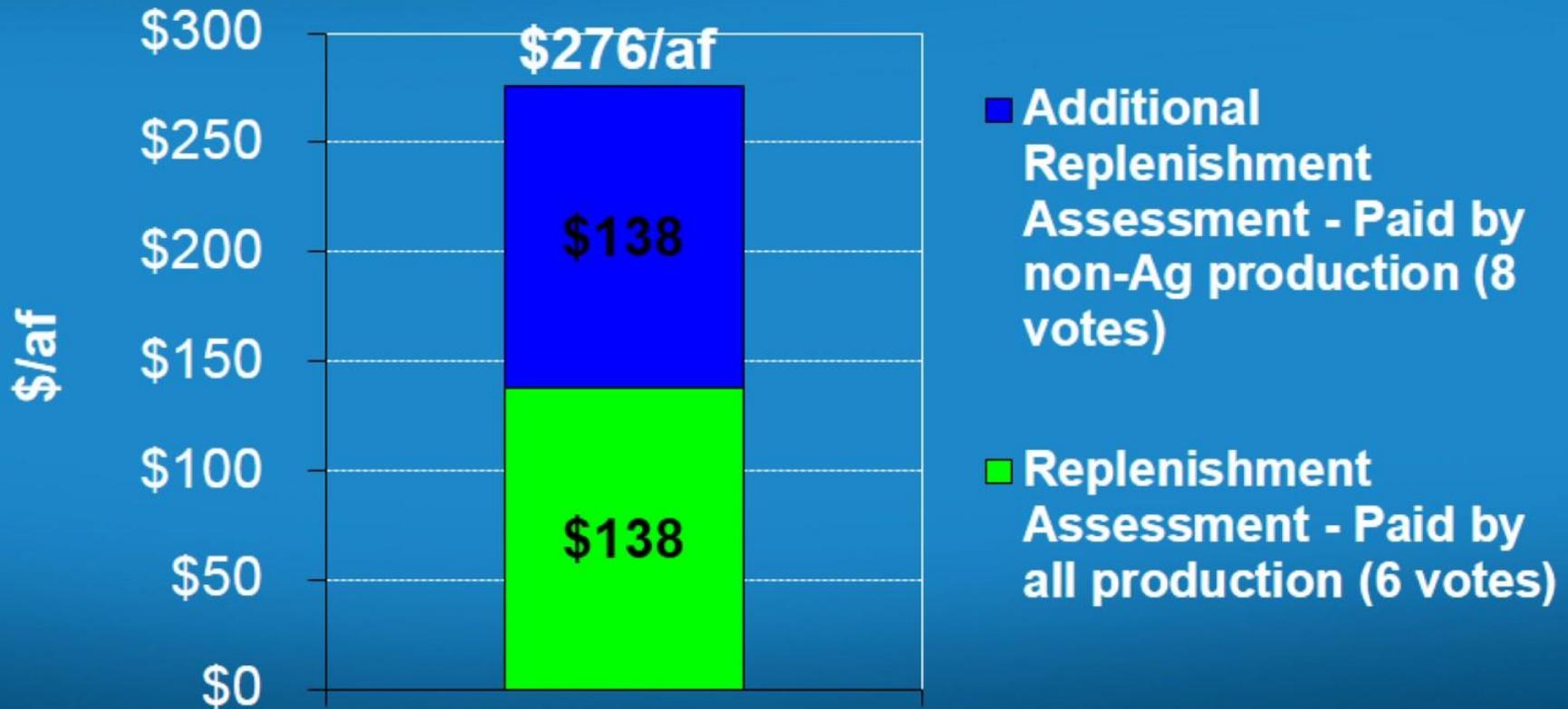
OCWD BASIN MANAGEMENT TOOLS

Typical Retail Water Utility with
20,000 afy of Total Water
Demands

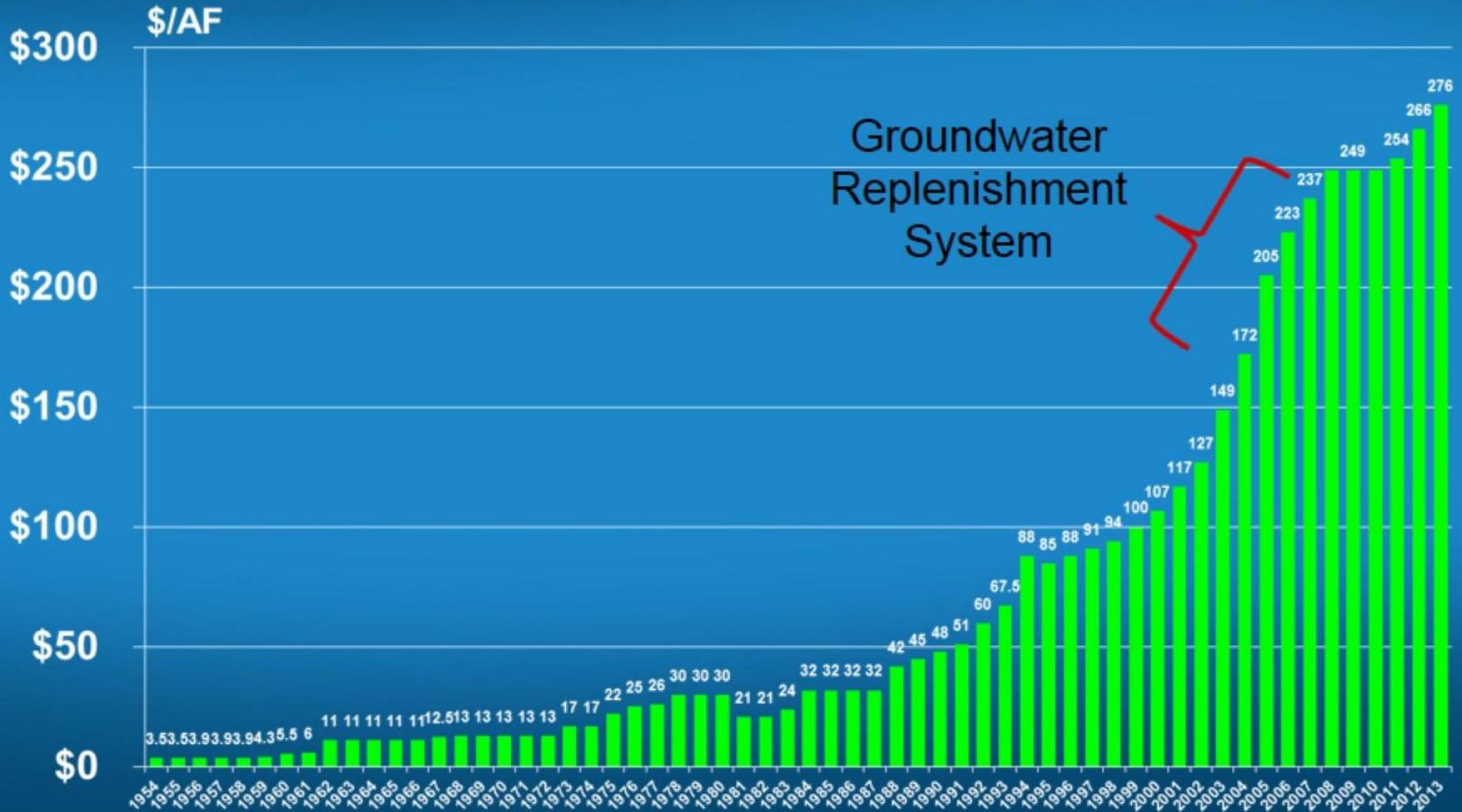


- ▶ Basin Production Percentage (BPP) Set Annually - Currently 70%
- ▶ Replenishment Assessment (RA) Paid for groundwater pumping below BPP - \$276/af
- ▶ Basin Equity Assessment (BEA) Paid for groundwater pumping above the BPP in addition to the RA - \$600/af

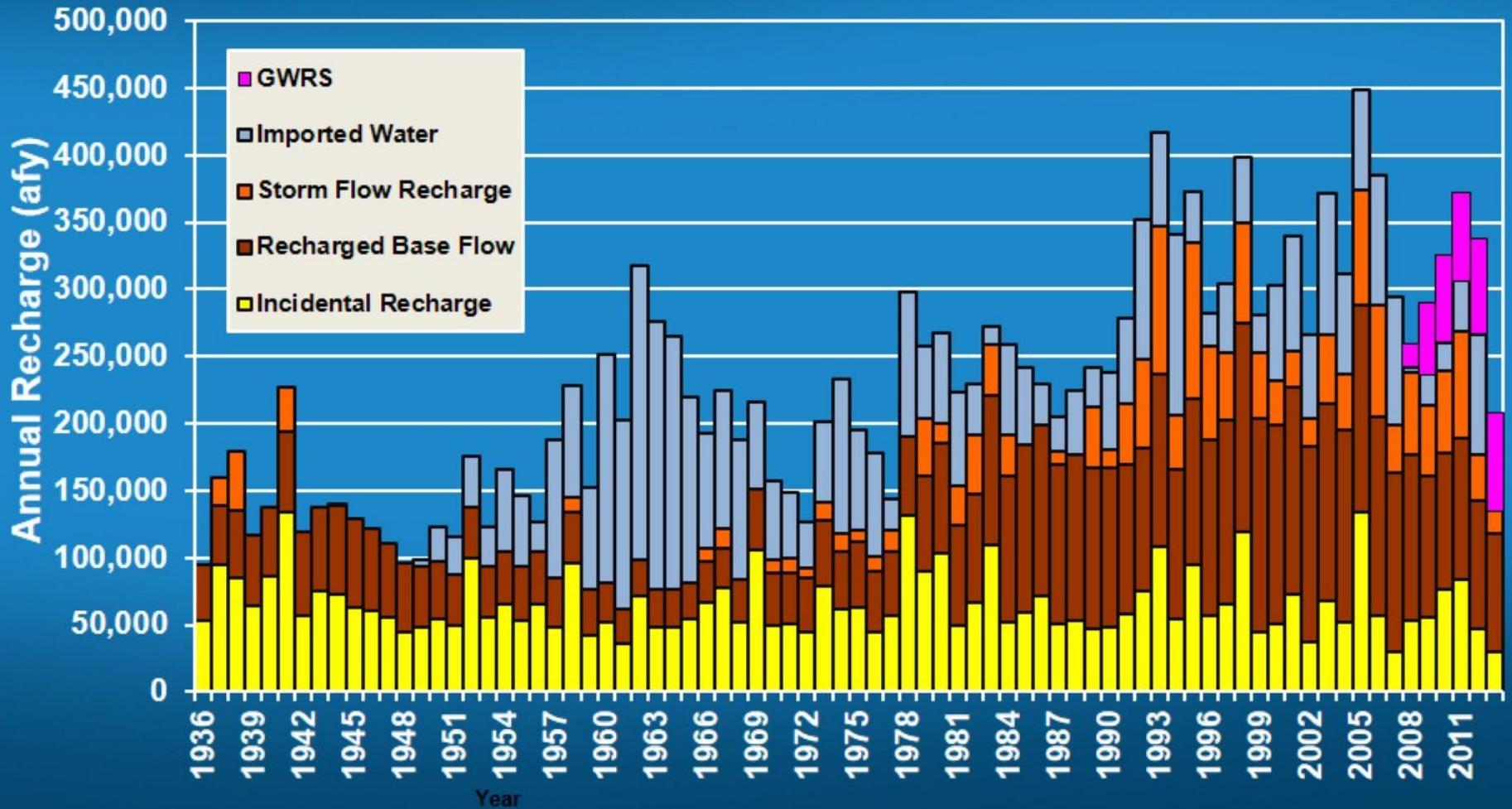
RA & ADDITIONAL RA



REPLENISHMENT ASSESSMENT HISTORY



SOURCES OF WATER TO THE GROUNDWATER BASIN



GROUNDWATER BASIN LEVELS



OCWD MANAGEMENT POLICIES

- ▶ **Invest in local projects**
- ▶ **Avoid basin adjudication**
 - ▶ **Maintain uniformity of cost and access to the groundwater basin**
 - ▶ **Treat all parties equally**
- ▶ **No power to restrict pumping – only set the rates paid to pump**
- ▶ **Conjunctively operate with the MWD imported water system**

PROPOSITION 218



- ▶ **Passed in 1996**
 - ▶ **Property related fees**
 - ▶ **Fees proportional to cost**
 - ▶ **Procedural requirements**
 - ▶ **Annual vote & 45 days noticing**
- ▶ **OCWD has claimed Prop 218 does not apply to our operations – but follows many of the procedural requirements**
- ▶ **Subsequent court rulings have expanded who must comply with proposition**



For more information,
Visit www.gwrsystem.com
Or www.ocwd.com

Or contact:
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A joint effort of the
Orange County Water District and Orange County Sanitation District