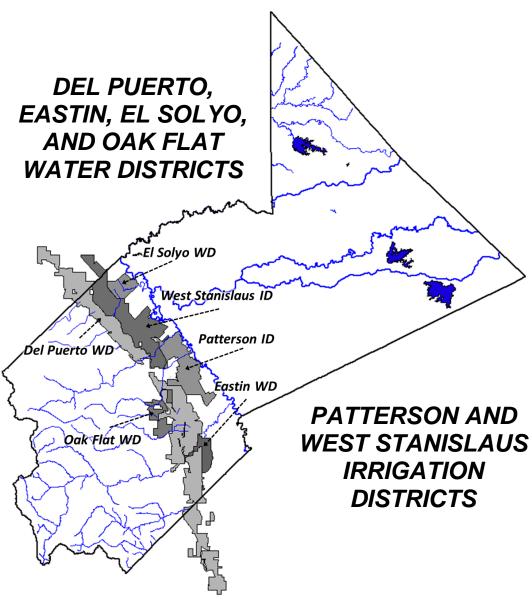


# MUNICIPAL SERVICE REVIEW AND SPHERE OF INFLUENCE UPDATE FOR:



### Prepared By:

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Adopted: February 24, 2021

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### Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update For the Del Puerto, Eastin, El Solyo, and Oak Flat Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts

### Introduction

The Cortese/Knox/Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 Act (CKH Act) requires the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to update the spheres of influence (SOI) for all applicable jurisdictions in the County. A sphere of influence is defined by Government Code 56076 as "...a plan for the probable physical boundary and service area of a local agency, as determined by the Commission." The Act further requires that a municipal service review (MSR) be conducted prior to or, in conjunction with, the update of a sphere of influence (SOI).

Stanislaus LAFCO generally prepares municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates concurrently for efficient use of time and resources. The current review will cover six irrigation and water districts located on the west side of Stanislaus County:

Del Puerto Water District

Cak Flat Water District

Eastin Water District

Patterson Irrigation District

El Solyo Water District West Stanislaus Irrigation District

### Municipal Service Review Factors to be Addressed

The legislative authority for conducting a municipal service review is provided in Government Code Section 56430 of the CKH Act. The Act states that municipal service reviews must have written determinations that address the following factors. These factors were recently amended to include the consideration of disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence of an agency.

- 1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area
- 2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence
- Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities, Adequacy of Public Services, and Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Including Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence
- 4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services
- 5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities
- 6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies
- 7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy

### **Sphere of Influence Update Process**

A special district is a government agency that is required to have an adopted and updated sphere of influence. Section 56425(g) of the CKH Act calls for spheres of influence to be reviewed and updated every five years, as necessary. Stanislaus LAFCO processes municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates concurrently to ensure efficient use of resources. For rural special districts, which do not have the typical municipal-level services to review, this document will be used to determine what type of services each district is expected to provide and the extent to which they are able to do so. For these special districts, the spheres will delineate the service capability and expansion capacity of the agency, if applicable.

The most recent update for the irrigation and water districts in this report was adopted in 2009. The current update serves to comply with Government Code Section 56425 and will reaffirm the SOIs for each district.

### **Sphere of Influence Determinations**

In determining a sphere of influence (SOI) of each local agency, the Commission shall consider and prepare determinations with respect to each of the following factors, pursuant to Government Code Section 56425:

- 1. The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands.
- 2. The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.
- 3. The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.
- 4. The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.
- 5. For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.

### Background

Throughout the years, water and California have been linked. No resource is more vital to California than water, from the agricultural areas, urban centers, and industrial plants, to open space and recreational areas, the distribution of water has been critical to all land uses.

In California, there are hundreds of special districts with a great diversity of purposes, governance structures, and financing mechanisms. Some districts are responsible for one type of specific duty, as in the case of the water and irrigation districts reviewed in this report, while other districts provide a wide range of public services.

### **Authority**

This review will cover the following single-purpose water and irrigation districts, each of which are geographically located on the western portion of Stanislaus County: Eastin, El Solyo, Oak Flat and the Del Puerto Water Districts; and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts. The four water districts are organized under the California Water Code, Division 13, §34000-38501, while the two irrigation districts are organized under Division 11, §20500-29978 of the California Water Code.

The water districts are landowner-voter districts, as their board members are elected by landowners within the respective district's boundaries. The irrigation districts are registered voter districts with board members elected by the registered voters within the respective district's boundaries.

### **Purpose**

Water districts are formed for purposes such as to: produce, store and distribute water for irrigation, domestic, industrial and municipal uses; drain and reclaim lands; collect, treat and dispose of sewage, waste and storm water; generate hydroelectric power; allocate water to crops and acreage; and protect groundwater from contamination.

The purposes of irrigation districts are to: furnish water for, and put water to any beneficial use; provide drainage; develop and distribute electric power; allocate water according to crops and acreage; sewage disposal (upon approval); and protect groundwater from contamination.

### **Classification of Services**

This service review includes a listing of services provided within each of the Districts boundaries. The water and irrigation districts are authorized to provide the functions or classes of services (e.g. irrigation water) as identified in this report. State Law requires that the Districts seek LAFCO approval in order to exercise any other latent powers not currently provided.

### **DEL PUERTO WATER DISTRICT**

### **Formation**

The Del Puerto Water District was originally formed on March 24, 1947 and included only about 3,500 acres. The District was reorganized on January 20, 1995 to include ten other local districts which held similar water service contracts with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation for their water supply. The reorganization provided an increased level of service to the properties within the new district boundaries and reduced the duplication of efforts by the participating districts.

### Governance

A seven-member Board of Directors governs the District. Board Members must be District landowners and are elected by landowners from divisions located within District boundaries. Meetings are open to the public and held on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:30 a.m., at the District office, which is located at 17840 Ward Avenue, Patterson, California.

### **Mission Statement**

The District has adopted the following mission statement: "The Del Puerto Water District is dedicated to providing its agricultural customers with an adequate, reliable and affordable water supply."

### **Location and Size**

The District's boundary currently encompasses approximately 52,800 acres (43,000 irrigable), located on the western most edge of the San Joaquin River Basin, running parallel with Interstate 5 (I-5) and stretching approximately 50 miles in length between the City of Tracy to the north, and the Santa Nella/I-5 Interchange to the south. While the District's boundaries are within three counties (Merced, Stanislaus and San Joaquin), the majority of the territory is located in Stanislaus County. Therefore, Stanislaus LAFCO is considered the principal LAFCO for the processing of changes of organization involving the District.

### Sphere of Influence

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries. No amendments to the District's boundaries or sphere of influence are being proposed with this Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update.

### **Personnel**

There are six full-time employees for the District.

### Services

Under a contract with the United States Department of Interior - Bureau of Reclamation (USBR), the District provides agricultural water to landowners within its boundaries, and by agreement to one landowner whose lands have been detached from the District. Water is provided by way of the Delta-Mendota Canal, a feature of the Central Valley Project, and is delivered to customers canal-side through turnouts licensed to the District by the federal government. The District's

contract authorizes the delivery of up to 140,210 acre-feet of water annually. District lands have produced more than 30 different crops over the years, including almonds, tomatoes, apricots, dry beans, walnuts, alfalfa, grains, melons, citrus, cherries, broccoli, cauliflower and bell peppers.

The District actively engages in local, regional, and statewide efforts to secure additional water supplies as needed to help meet customer demand. These supplies, when available, are purchased by the District, marketed and delivered at rates intended to recoup District costs. As the cost of these supplies has risen, and their availability lessened, District landowners have relied on the fallowing of productive lands or use of groundwater where available.

### **Programs**

The District administers several programs to assist its customers in meeting agricultural conservation and drainage requirements, including the State Revolving Fund Loan Program and the Agricultural Drainage Loan Program, which provide low-interest loans for high-efficiency irrigation system improvements which also serve to reduce irrigation drainage.

### **Support Agencies**

The District maintains positive and collaborative relationships with other agencies, authorities, and associations, such as neighboring irrigation districts, including Patterson, West Stanislaus, and Central California Irrigation Districts, the Oak Flat Water District, as well as the Delta-Mendota Canal Contractors Authority, the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority, the Central Valley Project Water Association, the Association of California Water Agencies, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR).

The District is part of the DM-II Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The GSA represents communities, water districts, and other entities in portions of Merced and Stanislaus Counties which are outside of other GSA boundaries but within county limits in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. The GSA along with eight other GSAs have adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region of the Subbasin in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014.

### **Funding Sources**

The District recovers its administrative expenses through an annual acreage assessment on irrigable lands within the District, designated as a Water Availability Charge. The volumetric Water Rate charged to users is effectively a pass-through charge intended to recoup the various rates and charges the District must pay for each unit of water it delivers. The District does not collect any share of County property tax revenues.

### **Municipal Service Review Determinations - Del Puerto Water District**

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the Del Puerto Water District:

### 1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area

The District serves an area that is unincorporated and agricultural, lying on the western portion of Stanislaus County and portions of San Joaquin and Merced counties. The area is designated as Agriculture on the respective county general plans and, while certain areas within the District are being considered for their development potential, the District does not expect any significant population growth during the five-year timeframe of the current service review. The District currently serves 200 small family farm landowners.

## 2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

There are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the boundaries or Sphere of Influence of the Del Puerto Water District. The community of Crows Landing is contiguous to the easterly boundary of the District.

3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

Irrigation water is provided from the Delta-Mendota Canal and delivered canal-side from turnouts. In recognition of long-term water supply shortages associated with the District's contracted water supplies, the District has agreed to participate in the financing of certain Statewide and regional infrastructure improvement projects including the Delta-Mendota Canal/California Aqueduct Intertie project and the Orestimba Creek Recharge and Recovery Project. The District has also initiated discussions with neighboring agencies aimed at identifying and developing integrated resource management opportunities that may exist. Some of these opportunities may require new or improved water-related infrastructure including local and regional water conveyance and delivery systems.

The District recently completed an environmental impact report for the Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir (DPCR) west of Patterson. The proposed DPCR involves the construction and operation of a reservoir on Del Puerto Creek to provide approximately 82,000 acre-feet (AF) of new off-stream storage to the Central Valley Project (CVP). Project components are the reservoir, conveyance facilities to transport water to/from the Delta-Mendota Canal, electrical facilities, relocation of Del Puerto Canyon Road, and relocation of existing and proposed utilities that within the project area.

### 4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services

The District is in sound financial shape and has the necessary resources to fund its current level of service to its customers under normal budgetary conditions. Rates and fees for services are developed during the District's annual budget review and adoption process and are designed to be sufficient to recover all costs. Ongoing drought and regulatory restrictions on pumping have caused water costs to increase dramatically for the District's landowners in recent years.

### 5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities

The District currently shares a reservoir for drainage water recapture with the Patterson Irrigation District and Central California Irrigation District, and as noted previously is pursuing the concept of a shared surface storage reservoir with the neighboring water service agencies.

## 6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies

The District is governed by a seven-member Board of Directors. Board members must be District landowners and are elected by landowners from divisions within District boundaries. The Board is subject to the provision of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. The District operates in an efficient and professional manner. Additionally, the District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring the maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. Though dependent upon the economic viability of its agricultural customer base, it is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the territory under its jurisdiction.

## 7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy

In 2009, the State Water Resources Control Board approved a temporary consolidation of State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) places of use. While this consolidation could be seen as facilitating the transfer of available water supplies between the Del Puerto District (a CVP contractor) and the Oak Flat Water District (a SWP contractor), other constraints continue to limit the benefits that might accrue to the District from the increased efficiency and flexibility in the source of water supplies and/or points of delivery.

### Sphere of Influence Determinations - Del Puerto Water District

The following determinations for the Del Puerto Water District's Sphere of Influence update and are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy.

## 1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands

The Del Puerto Water District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 52,800 acres. Territory within and outside the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural residential land uses. These uses are not expected to change. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the counties of Stanislaus, San Joaquin, and Merced.

#### 2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area

The need for irrigation water to agricultural lands within the District is not expected to change; however, with the conversion of more District acreage to high-value, permanent cropping patterns, demand has become hardened and water users will not be able to achieve significant reductions in current water use.

## 3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide

The District recently adopted a final environmental impact report for the Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir project in order to provide additional water storage for the District and State Water Project. The District has the necessary infrastructure and contract for the provision of agricultural water service to areas within its existing Sphere of Influence.

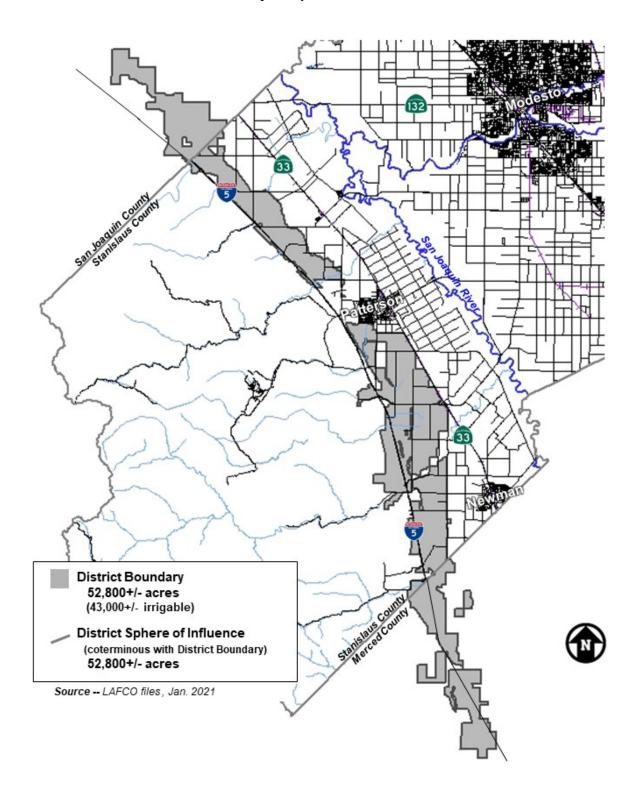
## 4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency

The City of Patterson is considered a community of interest as a portion of City's Sphere of Influence overlaps the District's boundary. Upon submittal of specific development plans, these lands will be requested to detach from the District and the water supply previously allocated to serve these lands will revert to the District for redistribution to remaining District lands.

5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

### DEL PUERTO WATER DISTRICT Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## DEL PUERTO WATER DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE

Location: Along the westernmost edge of the San Joaquin River Basin, parallel to

Interstate 5 (I-5) and stretching approximately 50 miles in length between the City of Tracy to the north, and the Santa Nella (I-5) Interchange to the

South.

Service Area: Approximately 52,800 acres (44,000 irrigable)

Population\*: Approximately 650

Land Use: Agricultural

Date of Formation: March 24, 1947 (original formation), January 20, 1995 (reorganization to

include 10 other districts)

Enabling Act: California Water Code, Division 13, Section 34000 et. seq. (Water District

Act)

Governing Body: 7 Directors (landowner election)

Administration: 6 full-time employees

District Services: Distribution and administration of irrigation water

**Total Operating** 

Budget: Year ending February 29, 2020: \$15,768,766

Revenue Sources: Water fees and assessments

\*LAFCO Staff Estimate

### **EASTIN WATER DISTRICT**

### **Formation**

The Eastin Water District was formed by LAFCO on July 11, 2000.

### **Governance**

The governing Board consists of three directors elected by the landowners within the District.

### **Location and Size**

The District encompasses approximately 3,520 acres, and is comprised of two separate areas, generally located east of Interstate 5 and west of State Highway 33, north of the Stanislaus County line.

The District serves an area that is unincorporated and has a designation of "Agriculture" in the Stanislaus County General Plan.

### Sphere of Influence

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries. No amendments to the District's boundaries or sphere of influence are being proposed with this Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update.

### Personnel

The District does not employ any personnel at this time.

### <u>Services</u>

The District is still in the process of establishing contracts with other water providers in order to deliver irrigation water to the agricultural landowners within the District.

### **Support Agencies**

The District maintains positive collaborative relationship with other agencies, including the Central California Irrigation District. The District is part of the Northwestern Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The GSA represents communities, water districts, and other entities in portions of Merced and Stanislaus Counties which are outside of other GSA boundaries but within county limits in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. The GSA along with eight other GSAs have adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region of the Subbasin in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014.

### **Funding Sources**

Once the District has secured the water needed for its future customers, fees and/or assessments will be applied to the individual landowner, based upon the cost of delivering irrigation water. The District does not collect any share of the county property taxes.

### Municipal Service Review Determinations - Eastin Water District

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the Eastin Water District:

### 1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area

The District is located in an unincorporated area of the County and is designated Agriculture on the County's General Plan. The City of Newman's Sphere of Influence lies along the easterly side of the District, south of Stuhr Road. The District consists of large parcels that are used for large scale farming operations. At this time, no growth is anticipated.

## 2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

Upon review of available Census data, there are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

The District is still in the process of securing necessary contracts for surface water and has not yet begun to provide irrigation water to its customers. Landowners within the District currently rely on groundwater wells for irrigation.

### 4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services

Once the District has secured the water needed for its future customers, fees and/or assessments will be applied to the individual landowner, based upon the cost of delivering irrigation water. The District does not collect any share of the county property taxes.

### 5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities

Although the District is contiguous to other irrigation water providers and infrastructure, the lack of water supply has stymied the ability for the District to secure a surface water source.

## 6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies

The governing Board for the District consists of three members and meets on an as-needed basis. Members of the Board stay apprised through the County's Water Advisory Committee. The District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members.

## 7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy

None.

### **Sphere of Influence Determinations - Eastin Water District:**

The following determinations for the Eastin Water District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands

The Eastin Water District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 3,520 acres. Territory within the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural residential land use areas. These uses are not expected to change. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the County.

2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area

Although the District has not yet secured a contract or agreement for water supply, the existence of the District allows the ability for its landowners to participate in the Northwestern Delta-Mendota GSA.

3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide

The District is still in the process of establishing contracts with other water providers in order to deliver irrigation water to the landowners within the District.

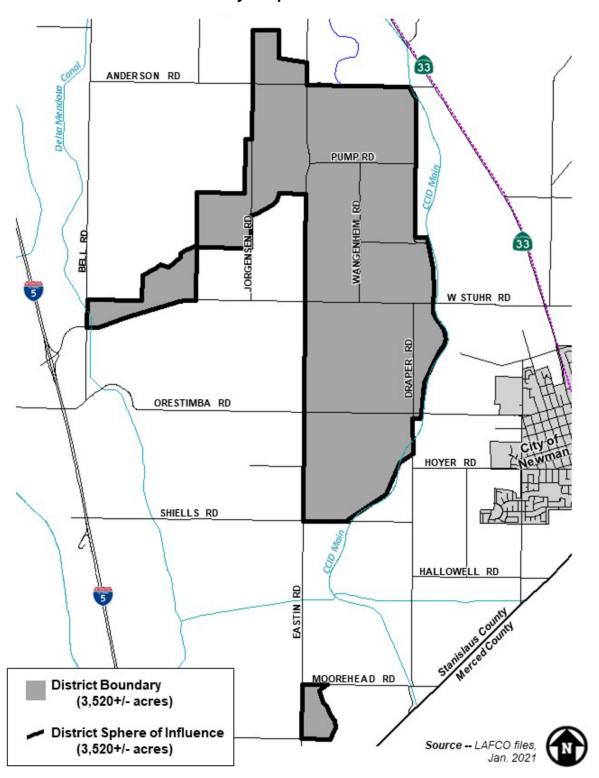
4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency

There are no communities of interest within the District boundaries. The City of Newman's Sphere of Influence lies just east of the District's boundary.

5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

## **EASTIN WATER DISTRICT**Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## EASTIN WATER DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE

Location: Two areas, east of Interstate 5, west of State Highway 33, between Pete

Miller Road and Crow Creek.

Service Area: Approximately 3,520 acres

Population\*: 125

Land Use: Agricultural

Date of Formation: July 11, 2000

Enabling Act: California Water Code, Division 13, Section 34000 et. seq. (Water District

Act)

Governing Body: 3 Directors elected by the landowners within the District

Administration: No employees

District Services: None. The District is still in the process of securing water from other

agencies. However, the District was formed to provide irrigation water to

land within the District's boundaries.

**Total Operating** 

Budget: \$0

Revenue Sources: None

\* LAFCO Staff Estimate

### **EL SOLYO WATER DISTRICT**

### **Formation**

The El Solyo Water District was formed on August 17, 1959.

### **Governance**

A five-member Board of Directors governs the District and is elected by landowners within the District. Meetings are open to the public and held on the third Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m., at the District office located at 542 Center Road, in Vernalis.

### **Location and Size**

The District encompasses approximately 4,060 acres and is located south of State Highway 132, east of McCracken Road, north of Gaffery Road and west of the San Joaquin River, near the unincorporated community of Vernalis.

The District is comprised of land mostly designated Agriculture in the Stanislaus County General Plan.

### **Sphere of Influence**

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries. No amendments to the District's boundaries or sphere of influence are being proposed with this Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update.

### Personnel

The District employs 2 full-time persons.

### Services

Under a pre-1914 water rights contract, the District distributes irrigation water to its customers via the San Joaquin River.

### **Support Agencies**

The District is part of the Northwestern Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The GSA represents communities, water districts, and other entities in portions of Merced and Stanislaus Counties which are outside of other GSA boundaries but within county limits in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. The GSA along with eight other GSAs have adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region of the Subbasin in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014.

### **Funding Sources**

The District's source of revenue is based upon water rate charges, or user fees, which are collected based upon the cost of the water and its delivery to landowners within the District boundaries.

### Municipal Service Review Determinations - El Solyo Water District

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the El Solyo Water District:

### 1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area

The District serves a rural area in the northwesterly portion of Stanislaus County. The area is designated as agriculture on the County's General Plan and does not expect any significant population growth. The District currently serves 12 retail customers with irrigation water for agricultural purposes.

## 2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

Upon review of available Census data, there are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

Water supplies are pumped from the San Joaquin River and delivered through District-maintained canals and ditches. The District operates one pumping station located along the San Joaquin River and five lift stations along the District's main canal. The District has both the ability and the capacity to serve its service area and has no unmet infrastructure needs or deficiencies.

There are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence. Additional services, such as sewer, domestic water, and structural fire protection, are provided through other special districts or by way of private systems.

### 4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services

At present time, the District appears to have the necessary financial resources to fund adequate levels of service within its boundaries. The District maintains its rate schedule with the intent to charge the minimum fees as possible.

### 5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities

At this time, the District does not share any facilities with other agencies or Districts. There is no overlapping or duplication of services within the District boundaries.

## 6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the landowners, governs the District. The Board conforms to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. The District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. It is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the territory under its jurisdiction. The District has a small, yet adequate staff to provide the necessary services to its customers.

## 7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy

None.

### Sphere of Influence Determinations - El Solyo Water District

The following determinations for the El Solyo Water District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands

The El Solyo Water District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 4,060 acres. Territory within the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural residential land use areas. These uses are not expected to change. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the County.

2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area

The El Solyo Water District is presently meeting the needs of its agricultural water customers. The future need of irrigation water to agricultural lands within the District is not expected to diminish.

3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide

The District currently has the capacity to provide irrigation water services to customers within its existing Sphere of Influence.

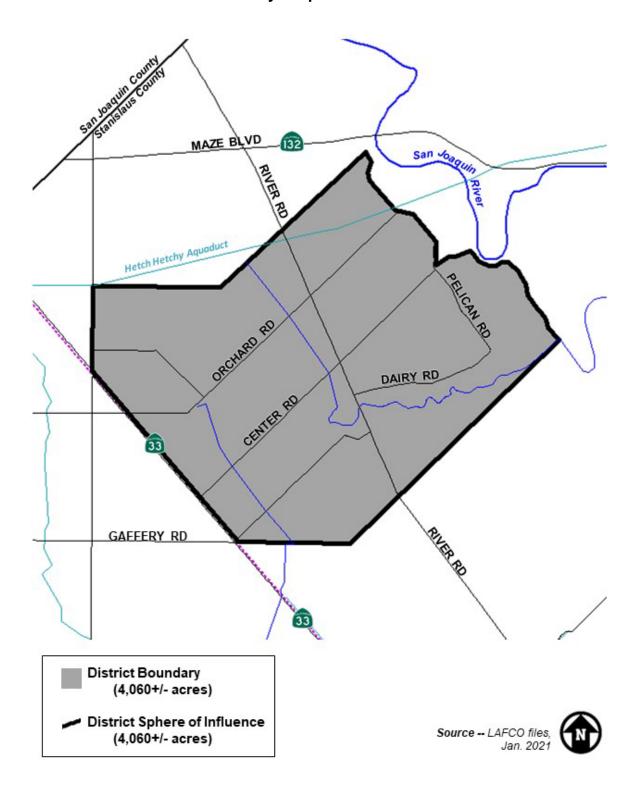
4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency

There are no communities of interest affecting the District's ability to provide services to the communities within the District boundaries.

5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

### EL SOLYO WATER DISTRICT Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## EL SOLYO WATER DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE

Location: South of State Highway 132, east of McCracken Road, north of Gaffery

Road, and west of the San Joaquin River, near the unincorporated

community of Vernalis.

Service Area: Approximately 4,060 acres

Population\*: 129

Land Use: Agriculture

Date of Formation: August 17, 1959

Enabling Act: California Water Code, Division 13, Section 34000 et. seq. (Water District

Act)

Governing Body: 5 Directors elected by the landowners within the District

Administration: 2 Full-time employees

District Services: Distribution of irrigation water

Total Revenue &

Expenditures\*\*: Calendar Year 2019: Revenue - \$866,476. Expenditures - \$731,636.

(State Controller's Office)

Primary Revenue

Source: Water fees and services

\* LAFCO Staff Estimate

### OAK FLAT WATER DISTRICT

### **Formation**

The Oak Flat Water District was formed on October 13, 1964.

### <u>Governance</u>

A five-member Board of Directors governs the District. Directors must be landowners within the District and are elected by landowners. Meetings are held quarterly on the third Wednesday of the month at 2:00 p.m., at the Del Puerto Water District office, located at 17840 Ward Avenue, Patterson, and are open to the public.

### **Location and Size**

The District encompasses approximately 4,537 acres (2,147 irrigable acres), and is located south of the City of Patterson and west of the former Crows Landing Naval Air Station, in the western portion of Stanislaus County.

### **Sphere of Influence**

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries. No amendments to the District's boundaries or Sphere of Influence are being proposed with this Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update.

### **Personnel**

The District contracts with an independent contractor to perform the necessary management, administrative and operational duties for the District.

### **Services**

Under the terms of its water supply contract with the State Water Project, the District delivers up to 5,700 acre-feet of irrigation water to its agricultural customers from the California Aqueduct. The District is subject to reduced allocations based on drought conditions and pumping restrictions. For example, in the 2020 season, the Department of Water Resources stated that it would provide only a 20% contract supply allocation to the District from the State Water Project.

### **Support Agencies**

The District maintains positive collaborative relationships with other agencies including the Del Puerto Water District, the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority, the State Water Contractors Association, and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

### **Funding Sources**

The District receives assessments and water rate charges for providing agricultural irrigation water to its customers.

### **Municipal Service Review Determinations - Oak Flat Water District**

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the Oak Flat Water District:

### 1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area

The District serves an area that is unincorporated and agricultural on the westerly portion of Stanislaus County. The area is designated as agriculture on the County's General Plan and the District does not expect any significant population growth during the five-year timeframe of this current service review. The District currently serves seven retail customers with irrigation water for agricultural purposes.

## 2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

Upon review of available Census data, there are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

At the present time, the District has both the ability and the capacity to serve its service area and has no unmet infrastructure needs or deficiencies. As mentioned previously, there are no disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the Sphere of Influence of the District.

### 4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services

At present time, the District appears to have the necessary financial resources to fund adequate levels of service within the District's boundaries. There is no overlapping or duplication of services within the District boundaries. The District sets its assessments and water rates to recover its costs.

### 5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities

At this time, the District does not share any facilities with other Districts or agencies.

## 6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the landowners, governs the District. The Board is subject to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. Additionally, the District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. It is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the areas under its jurisdiction. The District does not have a traditional management structure as they do not employ full-time personnel. They do, however, employ a Secretary/Manager on a contractual basis to perform the necessary administrative and operational duties for the District.

## 7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy

In 2009, the State Water Resources Control Board approved consolidation of State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) places of use. While this consolidation could be seen as facilitating the transfer of available water supplies between the Del Puerto District (a CVP contractor) and the Oak Flat Water District (a SWP contractor) other constraints continue to limit the benefits that might accrue to the District from the increased efficiency and flexibility in the source of water supplies and/or points of delivery.

### **Sphere of Influence Determinations - Oak Flat Water District**

The following determinations for the Oak Flat Water District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands

The Oak Flat Water District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 4,537 gross acres; of that approximately 2,147 acres are irrigable lands. Territory within the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural land use areas. These uses are not expected to change, excepting that Stanislaus County plans to develop its acreage within the District to solar facility uses in late 2021. The District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the County.

2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area

The need for irrigation water to agricultural lands within the District is not expected to change.

3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide

The District currently has the necessary infrastructure and contract for the provision of agricultural water service to areas within its existing Sphere of Influence.

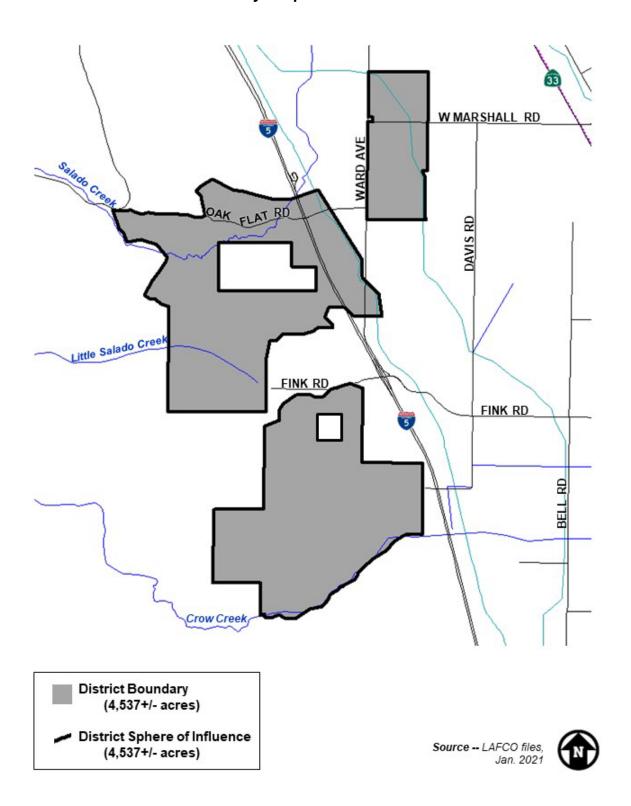
4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency

The District serves a rural area comprised of large scale farming operations. There are no communities of interest affecting the District's ability to provide services to the communities within the District boundaries.

5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence

No Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities have been identified within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence as defined in Section 56033.5 of the CKH Act. In addition, the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection. Therefore, this factor is not applicable.

## OAK FLAT WATER DISTRICT Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## OAK FLAT WATER DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE

Location: South of the City of Patterson and west of the former Crows Landing

Naval Air Station.

Service Area: Approximately 4,537 acres (2,147 acres are irrigable lands)

Population\*: 26

Land Use: Agricultural

Date of Formation: October 13, 1964

Enabling Act: California Water Code, Division 13, Section 34000 et. seq. (Water District

Act)

Governing Body: 5 Directors, elected by landowners within District boundaries

Administration: There are no employees paid by the District

District Services: Contract and delivery of irrigation water

**Total Operating** 

Budget: Year ending December 31, 2020: \$715,062

Revenue Sources: Water fees and assessments

\*Source: LAFCO Staff Estimate

### PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT

### **Formation**

On March 16, 1999, the Patterson Irrigation District (PID) was reorganized from the Patterson Water District for the purposes of continuing to provide agricultural irrigation water to lands within the District, and also to allow the District the ability to provide electrical power supplies both within and outside its boundaries.

### **Governance**

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the registered voters within the District boundaries, governs the District. Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 1:00 p.m., at the District office, located at 948 Orange Avenue, Patterson. The Board also conforms to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings.

### **Location and Size**

The District serves approximately 12,957 acres and is generally located east of the City of Patterson and Highway 33, south of Del Puerto Creek and west of the San Joaquin River, in the western portion of Stanislaus County. The District supplies agricultural irrigation water to users growing over 30 different crops. Crops include alfalfa, corn, almonds, walnuts, tomatoes, apricots and beans.

### **Sphere of Influence**

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries, with the exception of approximately 110 acres adjacent to the northwest portion of the District. Portions of the District's Sphere of Influence are located within the City of Patterson's Sphere of Influence.

### **Personnel**

The District employs 13 employees (12 full-time and 1 part-time).

### Services

The District currently provides agricultural irrigation water to its customers. The District is able to provide irrigation water supplies to its customers via several sources including the following:

- Imported water from the Delta Mendota Canal (Central Valley Project)
- Reclaimed agricultural surface drainage
- > Groundwater from deep wells within the District boundaries
- Surface water from the San Joaquin River (Pre-1914 Water Rights Permit)

The District currently serves a few areas that were annexed by the City of Patterson, namely the Villages of Patterson area, and the Southeast Industrial Reorganization area near the corner of First Street and Orange Avenue. The District also provides water to fringe areas within Del Puerto Water District near Elfers Avenue and Ward Avenue. These out-of-district deliveries are provided under annual contract with landowners. The availability of water to serve out of district areas is made by the Board of Directors on an annual basis after a review of local and statewide hydrologic conditions.

### **Programs**

The Patterson Irrigation District operates the following programs:

- ➤ The District has embarked on a canal improvement project (on Lateral 3-south). The purpose of this project is to: increase canal capacity and operational safety; incorporate the reservoir project into the canal system for both water supply outputs from the canal to the reservoir.
- ➤ The District completed construction of the Fish Screen and Pumping Plant Project in 2011, a partnership between PID, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the US Bureau of Reclamation. The Project replaced the District's San Joaquin River Pumping Plant, which was an un-screened diversion. The completed Project protects fish species in the San Joaquin River, including fall-run Chinook Salmon and Steelhead, while also preserving the District's pre-1914 water rights and right to operate the pumping plant.
- ➤ In addition, the District offers programs to assist water users with water and energy conservation and management including pump testing, irrigation system evaluations, irrigation scheduling and cost sharing on water conserving pipeline projects.
- ➤ The District has recently completed its "Two Drains Project", which captures water from the Spanish and Marshall drains and stores it in the Southside Reservoir for future use. The system will allow PID to capture up to 5,000 acre feet of drain water per year that would normally flow into the river.

### **Support Agencies**

The District maintains positive and collaborative relationships with other agencies, such as the: Central California Irrigation District (CCID), Del Puerto Water District, West Stanislaus Irrigation District (WSID), Turlock Irrigation District (TID), Twin Oaks Irrigation Water Company, Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), and the US Bureau of Reclamation.

The District is a member of several Joint Powers Authorities including:

- a. <u>San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority:</u> A JPA formed by South-of-Delta Central Valley Project contractors for the purpose of operating and maintaining the Federal Delta Mendota Canal, as well as following state and federal water issues that affect CVP contract supply.
- b. <u>San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority:</u> A JPA formed for grower monitoring and compliance for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Drainage Authority serves as the Third-Party Coalition administrator for the Western San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition. Growers enrolled as Coalition members receive regulatory compliance for this statewide program.
- c. <u>Delta Mendota Canal Contractors Authority:</u> A small group of South-of-Delta Central Valley Project contractors formed for the purpose of monitoring regional drainage issues and activities originally planned by Reclamation for the western San Joaquin River. This

- group meets annually to review purpose and financials, but is not regularly active due to lack of activity on that effort.
- d. <u>Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (JPIA)</u>: JPIA is a pooled insurance program of water agencies that administers health, property, and liability insurance.
- e. <u>Westside Power Authority:</u> A JPA formed between Turlock Irrigation District and Patterson Irrigation District with the original purpose of expanding electrical service to the Patterson area. The Westside Power Authority meets occasionally to discuss local power issues that affect the agencies.

### **Funding Sources**

PID currently has two methods from which it generates revenue. The District has a fixed, land-based assessment at \$60 per acre. As of 2020, an allocation of one acre-foot per acre is typically provided with this assessment. Water deliveries beyond the allocation can continue and be unrestricted as long as supplies are available to the District and at a rate of \$30 per acre-foot.

For Priority Area 1 there is a \$60 per acre contract fee, with a water rate of \$55 per acre-foot. Water delivers are unrestricted if supplies to the in-district lands are not restricted. If in-district deliveries are restricted for any reason, out-of-district deliveries will cease.

#### **Municipal Service Review Determinations - Patterson Irrigation District**

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the Patterson Irrigation District:

#### 1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area

The District serves an unincorporated area near the City of Patterson that is primarily agricultural. Portions of the District's boundaries currently overlap with the City of Patterson's Sphere of Influence. As development occurs or with annexation to the City, the territory is detached from the District. The District currently serves 757 retail customers with irrigation water for agricultural purposes.

2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

Upon review of available Census data, there are no known disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

At the present time, the District has both the ability and the capacity to serve its service area and has no unmet infrastructure needs or deficiencies.

PID Staff has indicated that some of the District's infrastructure needs include the following:

- a) Failing existing cast-in-place pipelines.
- b) Existing laterals failing from squirrels and on-going operations and maintenance.
- c) Pipelines failing due to changing irrigation methods taxing lines designed to be gravity operated.

The District has been working on a capital improvement program for its main canal facilities which were built 40+ years ago. This is primarily a replacement effort and not due to service deficiencies. Otherwise, the District will continue to maintain and improve facilities as needed.

The District has a number of upcoming projects in order to maintain and improve its existing infrastructure. The District has the following upcoming projects:

- a) East West Conveyance Project \$45 million project consisting of replacing pumping plants 4 and 5 with a new pump station, replacement of lifts and a new 160 cfs pump station to the Delta-Mendota Canal.
- b) Replacement of the 2N canal from Magnolia to Loquat Avenues.
- c) Relocation of the Marshall Road Pump station into the Marshall Road Reservoir.
- d) Replacement of 3N and 4N canals from Magnolia to Loquat Avenues.

#### 4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services

At present time, the District appears to be in sound financial shape and has the necessary financial resources to fund sufficient levels of service. A base budget is submitted to the Board of Directors for review and approval. The District's budgeting process is designed to screen out unnecessary costs by placing resources where they are most needed. There is no overlapping or duplication of services within the District boundaries. The District, on an annual basis, reviews its rate and fee schedule and attempts to keep the rates and fees as minimum as possible, while maintaining a high level of customer service and water supply reliability.

#### 5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities

When necessary, the District shares facilities, especially in times of emergency situations. The District also assists its customers with a cost-sharing program for water conservation projects. In addition, the District is part of several Joint Powers Authorities providing a variety of services within its district and to its partners.

### 6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the registered voters within the District boundaries, govern the District. The Board is subject to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. Additionally, The District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. It is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the areas under its jurisdiction. The District has the necessary resources and staffing levels to operate in a cost-efficient and professional manner.

### 7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy

The District operates a variety of programs including a water conservation project, a canal improvement project, and the fish screening and pumping project.

#### **Sphere of Influence Determinations - Patterson Irrigation District**

The following determinations for the Patterson Irrigation District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

### 1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands

The Patterson Irrigation District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 13,067 acres. Territory within the District boundaries and SOI consists of agricultural and rural residential land use areas. These uses are not expected to change, with the exception of those areas in the Sphere of Influence of the City of Patterson. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by the County and the City of Patterson.

#### 2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area

The probable need for the District's ability to continue to provide public facilities and services in the area is affected by the fact that the City of Patterson's Sphere of Influence overlaps into the District. The District has a diminishing sphere, in that as territory annexes to the City of Patterson, it detaches from the District.

### 3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide

The District currently has adequate capacity to provide irrigation water to areas within its existing Sphere of Influence in an efficient manner. The District continues to maintain its existing infrastructure through repair, replacement and/or relocation of its facilities.

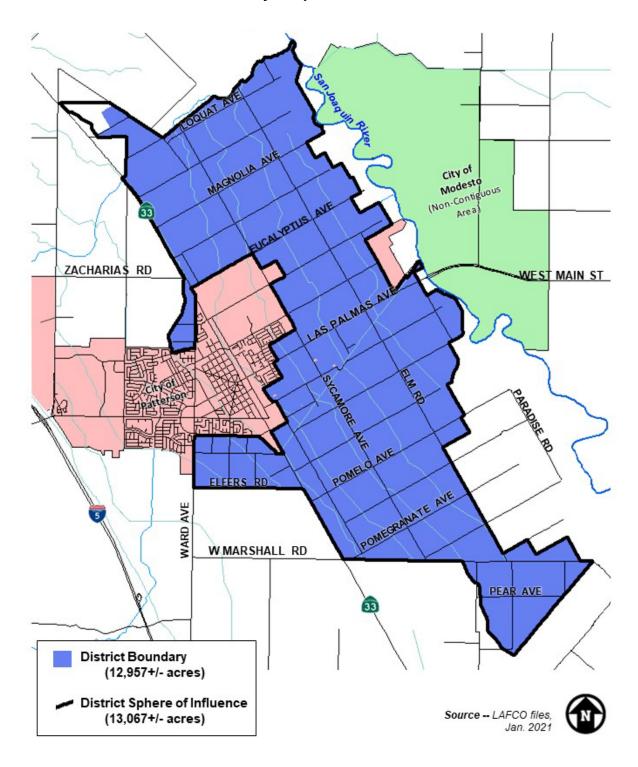
### 4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency

The City of Patterson is considered a community of interest as the City's Sphere of Influence overlaps into the District's boundaries. As territory is annexed into the City, it detaches from the District.

5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

### PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE

Location: East of the City of Patterson and Highway 33, south of Del Puerto Creek

and west of the San Joaquin River.

Service Area: Approximately 12,957 acres

Population\*: 2,107

Land Use: Agricultural

Date of Formation: March 16, 1999 (Reorganization of the Patterson Water District)

Enabling Act: California Water Code, Division 11, Section 20500 et. seq. (Irrigation

District Law)

Governing Body: 5 Directors, elected by registered voters within the District boundaries

Administration: 13 employees (12 full time and 1 part time)

District Services: Distribution of irrigation water

**Total Operating** 

Budget: Year ending December 31, 2019: \$5,848,111

Revenue Sources: Water fees and assessments

\*Source: LAFCO Staff Estimate

#### WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT

#### **Formation**

The West Stanislaus Irrigation District was formed on November 29, 1920.

#### Governance

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the registered voters within the District boundaries, governs the District. Meetings are held on the Tuesday of the second full week of each month at 9:30 a.m. at the Westley Fire House, 8598 Kern Street, in Westley. The Board is also subject to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings.

#### **Location and Size**

The District is located west of the San Joaquin River, northwest of the City of Patterson, and includes the unincorporated communities of Westley, Grayson and Vernalis. The District's boundaries encompass approximately 21,774 acres and contains approximately 20,270 acres in agricultural production. The District currently serve 94 water user accounts.

#### **Sphere of Influence**

The District's Sphere of Influence is coterminous with its current boundaries.

#### **Personnel**

There are 16 persons (15 full-time and 1 part-time) employed by WSID.

#### <u>Services</u>

The District provides irrigation water for agricultural purposes to its customers. The District is able to provide irrigation water supplies to its customers via several sources including the following:

- Surface water from the Tuolumne and San Joaquin Rivers
- > Groundwater from four deep wells within the District boundaries
- > Importing water from the Delta Mendota Canal, as part of the Central Valley Project

The District, under a water rights agreement, also sells irrigation water to 13 landowners, which includes approximately 2,207 irrigable acres outside its Sphere of Influence in the White Lake area (north of the unincorporated community of Grayson). This agreement was part of an original pumping rights contract from the 1920's.

In addition, since 1936, the District has operated an official weather station for the U.S. Department of Agriculture Weather Bureau.

#### **Programs**

The West Stanislaus Irrigation District has embarked on the following programs:

> Main Canal Modernization - Beginning in 2010, WSID performed a Main Canal

Modernization Feasibility Study where pumping plants were evaluated for structural integrity, pumping plan performance and long-term reliability. Through this study, it was determined that the system has significant water supply reliability issues. As a result, four different alternatives were evaluated to modernize the main canal pump facilities to assure long-term water supply reliability to growers. One alternative was chosen to implement in three phases. Phase I consisted of Pump Station 1A facilities construction. This phase consists of a new 350 cubic feet per second (cfs) pumping plant, roughly 4,400 feet of 96-inch diameter reinforced concrete pipe, and associated pumps, motors, switchgear, turnouts, meters, and controls. This phase was completed in 2013. Construction of Pump Station 5A facilities began in 2013 and was complete and operational in 2014 which allow water to be pumped from Reach 4 at a rate of 250 cfs and discharge into Reach 5 & 6 through a 96-inch reinforced concrete pipeline.

The third phase will be the construction of Pump Station 3A and associated conveyance pipeline to replace Pump Stations 3 and 4 and Canal Reaches 3 and 4.

Following the modernization of the Main Canal, the District will move to the modernization of the lateral delivery system to increase the level of service, better regulate the water supply, reduce system losses, and improve water measurement systems to accomplish accurate water management and accounting.

Fish Screen Project - The District is pursuing a fish screen project to screen its diversion off the San Joaquin River to protect entrapment of anadromous fish. Two Fish Screen Feasibility Studies have previously been performed that the District cost-shared with the US Bureau of Reclamation. The District has completed the design phase of the project, which was financed through a grant with the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife. Construction is currently on hold due to funding purposes.

#### **Support Agencies**

The District maintains a positive collaborative relationship with other agencies, authorities and associations, including neighboring water and irrigation districts (El Solyo Water District, Patterson Irrigation District, and Del Puerto Water District), as well as the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, Power and Water Resource Pooling Authority, the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority, the Association of California Water Agencies, Delta-Mendota Canal Contractors Authority, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The District is a member of several Joint Powers Authorities including:

- a. <u>San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority:</u> A JPA formed by South-of-Delta Central Valley Project contractors for the purpose of operating and maintaining the Federal Delta Mendota Canal, as well as following state and federal water issues that affect CVP contract supply.
- b. <u>San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority:</u> A JPA formed for grower monitoring and compliance for the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program of the Regional Water Quality Control Board. The Drainage Authority serves as the Third-Party Coalition administrator for the Western San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition. Growers enrolled as Coalition members receive regulatory compliance for this statewide program.
- c. <u>Delta Mendota Canal Contractors Authority:</u> A small group of South-of-Delta Central

Valley Project contractors formed for the purpose of monitoring regional drainage issues and activities originally planned by Reclamation for the western San Joaquin River. This group meets annually to review purpose and financials, but is not regularly active due to lack of activity on that effort.

d. <u>Power and Water Resources Pooling Authority:</u> A Joint Powers Authority comprised of 9 Irrigation Districts that organized in 2004 under California State law to collectively manage individual power assets and loads.

#### **Funding Sources**

WSID receives the majority (95%) of its funding from water sales and assessments. In addition, the District also receives a small portion of its revenue from property tax collected from Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties.

#### Municipal Service Review Determinations - West Stanislaus Irrigation District

The following are determinations related to the seven factors required by Section 56430 for a Service Review for the West Stanislaus Irrigation District:

#### 1. Growth and Population Projections for the Affected Area

The District serves an area that is unincorporated and agricultural, located west of the San Joaquin River, northwest of the City of Patterson, and includes the unincorporated communities of Westley, Grayson and Vernalis. A small portion of the district extends into San Joaquin County. Significant population growth is not expected. The District currently serves 83 retail customers within its boundaries, and 13 customers outside its boundaries in the White Lake area, with irrigation water for agricultural purposes.

### 2. The Location and Characteristics of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

The District's boundary includes two communities meeting the income criteria to be considered disadvantaged unincorporated communities. The community of Westley and a portion of the community of Grayson are within the District's boundaries and are contiguous to the District's Sphere of Influence.

3. Present and Planned Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services, Including Infrastructure Needs or Deficiencies Related to Sewers, Municipal Water and Industrial Water, and Structural Fire Protection in Any Disadvantaged, Unincorporated Communities Within or Contiguous to the Sphere of Influence

The District currently has both the ability and the capacity to serve its service area and has no unmet infrastructure needs or deficiencies. It is reasonable to conclude that the District can adequately serve the areas under its jurisdiction.

Recently, the District constructed an operations and maintenance facility and administrative office adjacent to the District's main canal system and first pumping station.

#### 4. Financial Ability of Agencies to Provide Services

At present time, the District appears to be in sound financial condition and has the necessary financial resources to fund sufficient levels of service to its customers. There is no overlapping or duplication of services within the District boundaries. The District prepares an annual budget, which includes a review of the rates and fees assessed for the delivery of irrigation water to its customers. The budget is submitted to the District Board for review and approval.

#### 5. Status of, and Opportunities for, Shared Facilities

The District shares facilities with other agencies as necessary and continually reviews new opportunities to continue these efforts. For example, the District has offered conference room space to the neighboring West Stanislaus Fire Protection District. In addition, the District has shared its facilities and equipment with other agencies on an as-needed basis (e.g., flood emergencies).

### 6. Accountability for Community Service Needs, Including Governmental Structure and Operational Efficiencies

A five-member Board of Directors, elected by the registered voters within the District, governs the District. The Board conforms to the provisions of the Brown Act requiring open meetings. Additionally, the District is subject to State Law AB-1234, requiring biennial ethics training, and the Political Reform Act, requiring adoption, maintenance and biennial review of a Conflict-of-Interest Code for board members. The District has the necessary resources and staffing levels to operate in a cost-efficient and professional manner.

7. Any Other Matter Related to Effective or Efficient Service Delivery, as Required by Commission Policy

None.

#### Sphere of Influence Determinations - West Stanislaus Irrigation District

The following determinations for the West Stanislaus Irrigation District's Sphere of Influence update are made in conformance with Government Code Section 56425 and local Commission policy:

### 1. Present and Planned Land Uses in the Area, Including Agricultural and Open-Space Lands

The West Stanislaus Irrigation District's Sphere of Influence (SOI) includes approximately 21,774 acres. Territory within and outside the District boundaries consists of agricultural and rural residential land use areas. These uses are not expected to change. In addition, the District does not have the authority to make land use decisions, nor does it have authority over present or planned land uses within its boundaries. The responsibility for land use decisions within the District boundaries is retained by Stanislaus and San Joaquin Counties.

#### 2. Present and Probable Need for Public Facilities and Services in the Area

The District is presently meeting the needs of its agricultural water customers. The future need of irrigation water to agricultural lands within the District is not expected to change.

### 3. Present Capacity of Public Facilities and Adequacy of Public Services that the Agency Provides or is Authorized to Provide

The District currently has adequate capacity to provide irrigation water to areas within its existing Sphere of Influence in an efficient manner.

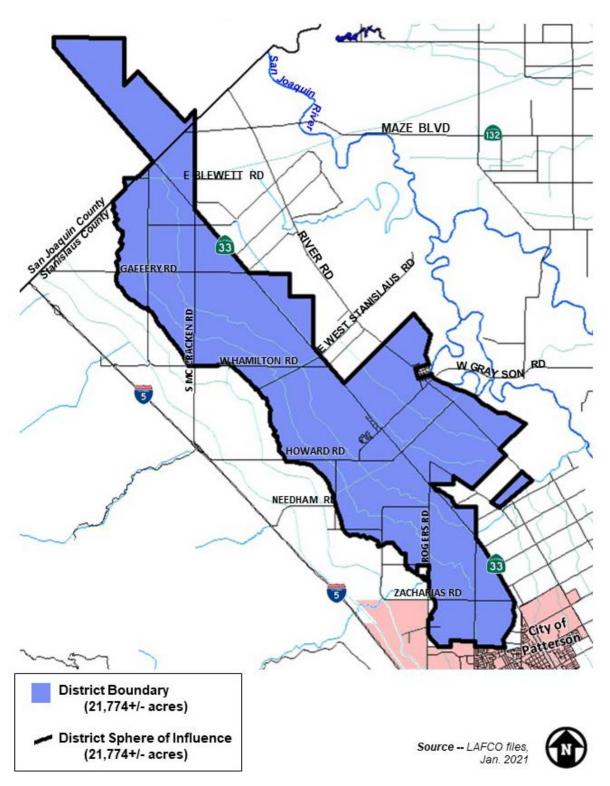
### 4. The Existence of Any Social or Economic Communities of Interest in the Area if the Commission Determines That They are Relevant to the Agency

The City of Patterson is considered a community of interest as the City's current boundary and Sphere of Influence are adjacent to the District's boundaries. Should the City propose to expand its Sphere, it would overlap into the District's boundary. In addition, the District serves the White Lake area, located outside of its boundaries, as a result of an original pumping rights agreement dating back to the 1920s.

5. For an Update of a Sphere of Influence of a City or Special District That Provides Public Facilities or Services Related to Sewers, Municipal and Industrial Water, or Structural Fire Protection, the Present and Probable Need for Those Public Facilities and Services of Any Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities Within the Existing Sphere of Influence

As the District does not provide services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water or structural fire protection, this factor is not applicable.

# WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT Boundary & Sphere of Influence



## WEST STANISLAUS IRRIGATION DISTRICT DISTRICT SUMMARY PROFILE

Location: Northwest of the City of Patterson, including the unincorporated

communities of Westley, Grayson, and Vernalis.

Service Area: Approximately 21,774 acres

Population\*: 1,678

Land Use: Agriculture

Date of Formation: May 20, 1920

Enabling Act: California Water Code, Division 11, Section 20500 et. seq. (Irrigation

District Act)

Governing Body: 5 Directors – elected by registered voters within the District boundaries

Administration: 16 employees (15 full-time and 1 part-time)

District Services: Distribution of water for irrigation purposes

**Total Operating** 

Expenditures: Year ending December 31, 2019: \$9,940,101

Revenue Sources: Water fees/assessments and property taxes

\*LAFCO Staff estimate

#### REFERENCES

#### **REFERENCES**

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- 2. California State Controller's Office. *Special Districts Financial Data*. Website (<a href="https://districts.bythenumbers.sco.ca.gov">https://districts.bythenumbers.sco.ca.gov</a>) Accessed January 19, 2021
- 3. Del Puerto Water District. Audited Financial Statements. February 29, 2020.
- 4. Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan. November 2019
- 5. Patterson Irrigation District. Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report for the Years Ended December 31, 2019 and 2018
- 6. Patterson Irrigation District. Water Management Plan/Agricultural Water Management Plan 2008 Criteria, Revised June 15, 2016.
- 7. Patterson Irrigation District. *Water Rate Study*, November 28, 2018.
- 8. Stanislaus LAFCO. Municipal Service Review and Sphere of Influence Update for the Del Puerto, Eastin, El Solyo, and Oak Flat Water Districts, and the Patterson and West Stanislaus Irrigation Districts. July 27, 2016.
- 9. State of California Legislative Analyst's Office. Water Special Districts: A Look at Governance and Public Participation. March 2002.
- 10. West Stanislaus Irrigation District. *Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report for the Years Ended December 31, 2019.*