



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Regular Governing Board Meeting

Agenda

Friday, April 24, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
McLean Hall, Pardee Center, Valley Springs, CA 95252

**Zoom option available (see bottom of page for information)*

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PUBLIC COMMENT: When responding to a matter not on the agenda, state law limits a Board member to providing a brief response, asking clarifying questions, and/or referring it to staff.

AUTHORITY BUSINESS:

Recommended Action

1. Board Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2026	Approve by Motion
2. Treasurer's Report (1st Quarter FY 2026)	Approve by Motion
3. Phase 1 - Forest Projects Plan Implementation Report	Approve by Motion
4. Phase 2 - MAC Forest Health and Resilience Project Report	Approve by Motion
5. Amador Aspen Restoration Project Approval	Approve by Motion
6. Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget	Approve by Motion
7. Procurement Policy	Approve by Motion
8. CPUD Substitute IRWM Project	Approve by Motion
9. Audited Financials - FY 2025 and FY 2024	Approve by Motion
10. Legislative Issues Update	Discussion/Possible Action

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS:

11. Board Member Comments

EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORT:

12. Executive Officer's Oral Report

ADJOURNMENT:

- Next Regular Board Meeting: July 24, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. (Pardee Center, Valley Springs, CA, 95252)

Zoom UMRWA Board Meeting: Apr 24, 2026 10:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://zoom.us/j/94544617859?pwd=f3zHO5UnbHoBBF9pysfiKIMXDYClRG.1>

Meeting ID: 945 4461 7859

Passcode: 766039

One tap mobile

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Requests for disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, may be made to Lorna Barfield at 209.772.8286 or lorna.barfield@ebmud.com no later than 48 hours before the meeting.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **1**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Board Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2026

Recommended Action:

Approve the meeting minutes of January 23, 2026.

Summary:

The summary minutes of the January 23, 2026, Board meeting are included here for Board review and approval.

Friday, January 23, 2026 – 10:00 a.m.
Governing Board Meeting
Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority
Pardee Center, Valley Springs, CA 95252

Summary Minutes

ROLL CALL

Directors Terry Woodrow, Chair, Jeff Davidson, Vice Chair, Richard Farrington, Autumn Andahl, Marina Brand, and Richard Blood, were present at roll call. Director Smith arrived during agenda item 5. Also present were Executive Officer (EO) Richard Sykes, Authority Council Greg Gillott, Authority Treasurer David Glasser, Authority Secretary Lorna Barfield, and 18 visitors in person and attending via Zoom.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

AUTHORITY BUSINESS

1. Regular Meeting Minutes of October 3, 2025

Motion 01-26 to approve the meeting minutes of October 3, 2025, was made by Director Davidson, seconded by Director Farrington, and carried by voice vote: Yea 6 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

2. Treasurer's Report - 4th Quarter FY 2025 and Budget Reserve Policy

The Board was presented with the Treasurer's Report for the 4th Quarter of fiscal year 2025, which ended September 30, 2025, and a recommended change to the UMRWA Budget Reserve Policy to improve reserve fund administration. Given UMRWA's Reserve fund balance of \$1.3M, and the diminished risk for unforeseen cash flow contingencies, it was recommended that the Budget Reserve Policy be simplified to provide a minimum reserve amount of \$500,000 and to engage the Board during the annual budget process regarding the appropriate use of any surplus funds.

Motion 02-26 to accept the Treasurer's Report for filing and approve the revised Budget Reserve Policy to address recent changes in annual indirect fee revenues was made by Director Davidson, seconded by Director Farrington, and carried by voice vote: Yea 6 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

3. Phase 1 - Forest Projects Plan Implementation Report

Executive Officer Richard Sykes shared the Phase 1 Implementation Report which included two general services agreements recommended for Board approval. The Thompson Land Management agreement will execute prescribed treatments in the 614-acre Cedar North Project, and a GTS Forestry agreement will accomplish fuels treatments to the 744-acre Cedar South Project. Both projects are fully funded by Cal Fire grant agreement #3.

The EO also presented two consulting services agreements for Board approval including an agreement with Pyramid Botanical Consultants for botanical services required for seven prioritized treatment projects and an agreement with Stewardship West to

participate in managing the Dogwood project contractor. Both agreements will be paid by grants awarded to UMRWA.

Also presented was a brief update on the progress being made to fully implement the Phase 1 - Forest Projects Plan (FPP-1) program, including recent developments to enhance the financial potential of the Mokelumne FRB (Forest Resilience Bond). Director Farrington discussed the benefits and outcomes of the FPP-1 program. He noted Amador Water Agency's \$10,000 contribution to the FRB, and the matched funding opportunity provided by EBMUD. He suggested that other member agencies consider contributions to FRB to take advantage of that match.

The Executive Officer shared photos of the recent Beaver Fire, which reached the Arbor Project area. In areas where mastication had been completed, the fire either extinguished on its own or required minimal effort to control, highlighting the significant impact of the fuels reduction work.

The Board emphasized the importance of highlighting UMRWA's project successes and encouraged staff to communicate achievements with the public. The discussion included strategies such as using photos, press releases, and newspaper articles. The Executive Officer noted that a few press releases are issued annually. Craig Baracco from Foothill Conservancy offered to feature UMRWA in their newsletters and Director Blood inquired about improving the UMRWA website and mailing lists to enhance communication.

**Copies of the general services agreements with Thompson Land Management, GTS Forestry, Pyramid Botanical Consultants and Stewardship West were included in the Supplemental Materials Packet.*

Motion 03-26 to (1) approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement in the amount of \$1,394,073 with Thompson Land Management to perform the Cedar North fuels treatment project (2) approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement in the amount of \$1,346,510 with GTS Forestry to perform the Cedar South fuels treatment project (3) approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a Consulting Services Agreement with Pyramid Botanical Consultants, Inc. in the amount of \$179,157 for botanical surveys of the Dogwood (Central, South, North, and West), Amador Aspen Restoration, Grove and Hemlock Projects and (4) approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a Consulting Services Agreement in the amount of \$242,108 with Stewardship West for Dogwood Project Implementation Support was made by Director Farrington, seconded by Director Blood, and carried by voice vote: Yea 6 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

4. Phase 2 - MAC Forest Health and Resilience Project Report

The EO provided the Board with a summary of the Mokelumne Amador Calaveras Forest Health and Resilience Project (MAC Project) status and presented the basis for the recommended Seventh Amendment to the Stantec agreement.

MAC Forest Project Status:

The MAC project is nearing completion of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The project spans approximately 250,000 acres across Stanislaus and Eldorado National Forest lands and includes proposed actions, including approximately 67,000

acres of forest thinning, 50,000 acres of fuels reduction, and 22,000 acres of fuel breaks and prescribed fire.

The DEIS is expected to be finalized by February 2026, followed by a streamlined 14-day public review period. Forest Service decisions are anticipated in spring 2026. UMRWA will also begin pre-implementation bird surveys in 2026–2027 to enable thinning work starting in 2028.

Stantec – Seventh Amendment:

The Stantec contract has been funded through several grants and amended as needed to complete the environmental documentation when funding is available. An additional \$150,000 is needed to finish up the Draft EIS and support preparation of the Final EIS once the public comments are received. This funding is available and identified in the Cal Fire #3 Grant Agreement. The contract termination date will also be extended from March 31, 2026, to December 31, 2026.

**A copy of the recommended Seventh Amendment to the Stantec agreement was included in the Agenda Packet.*

Director Farrington inquired about the two-year bird survey requirement. The EO shared that timber harvesting cannot proceed until the surveys are completed. The Forest Service currently lacks the resources to conduct this work and has requested UMRWA's support. An RFQ has been issued to solicit firms for the surveys. The Executive Officer informed the Board that he may need to execute a contract within his delegated authority before the April Board meeting.

Katherine Evatt encouraged UMRWA member agencies to engage with congressional representatives and senators to advocate for increased Forest Service funding, noting that a lack of funding has delayed forest management work for decades.

Motion 04-26 to approve the Seventh Amendment to the Consulting Services Agreement with Stantec to increase the maximum cost ceiling by \$150,000 and extend the term from March 31, 2026, until December 31, 2026, and authorize the Executive Officer to sign was made by Director Davidson, seconded by Director Farrington, and carried by voice vote: Yea 6 – Nay 0 – Abstain 0.

5. Report on Mokelumne Pumped Storage Project

The EO presented the Board with an update on the Mokelumne Pumped Storage Project being developed by GreenGenStorage LLC. The project aims to provide 400 MW of renewable electric energy through pumped storage hydroelectric generation, utilizing tunnels between Lower Bear River Reservoir and Salt Springs Reservoir. Water will be pumped during periods of excess grid power and released to generate electricity during high-demand periods.

The project is currently in the permitting phase with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the State Water Resources Control Board with an estimated cost of \$1.8 billion. Key benefits include significant renewable energy capacity, hundreds of construction jobs, up to 40 permanent jobs, and tax revenue for Amador and Calaveras Counties.

*Director Smith joined the meeting at 10:39.

Director Farrington asked about mitigation measures the company is proposing to reduce fire threat during construction, as the Power Fire was started by contractors in this same area, and asked if UMRWA can propose mitigation measures.

Craig Baracco, Executive Director of Foothill Conservancy, emphasized the immense scale of the proposed project, noting it would double the capacity of all existing Mokelumne River hydropower combined. He explained that the current road infrastructure cannot support the volume of material and equipment required, and existing power transmission lines would need replacement with high-capacity transmission lines. Craig recommended that UMRWA submit written comments to FERC addressing concerns about one-way traffic restrictions and fire mitigation, warning that the project would have severe impacts on recreation.

Katherine Evatt added that there are no water rights to support the proposed transfer and highlighted significant long-term impacts, including campground closures, restricted emergency access, extended construction timelines, and major infrastructure work in the Wild and Scenic Mokelumne watershed. She also noted potential harm to archaeological sites, trail closures, and changes to reservoir elevations, urging UMRWA to approach the project with caution.

Michelle Workman shared that East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) may submit a future comment letter to FERC and will review the matter internally. The Executive Officer will draft a paragraph regarding concerns over fire risk and response, ingress/egress during construction in case of fire, and arch sites and share with EBMUD (and copy the UMRWA board) for possible inclusion with their comments. The EO will continue to update the board on the project.

Directors Farrington and Andahl mentioned attending a field trip with Senator Alvarado-Gil, who invited the submission of comments on the project. The Board also discussed contacting Valerie Spake, the Senator's District Representative, for further engagement. The EO noted he has been in touch with Valerie Spake and will continue to engage with her regarding this topic in the future.

There was no recommended action at this time.

6. Legislative Issues Update

The EO had no items to report.

Director Farrington requested the Executive Officer review these items and suggested UMRWA potentially support:

AB 35, as amended, Alvarez. Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

Senate Bill 3609, Padilla, and H.R. 582, Huffman, Community Protection and Wildfire Resilience Act

Board Member Comments:

None

Executive Officer (EO) Comments:

The EO reminded Board Members of the upcoming Form 700 filing requirements.

ADJOURNMENT: Director Woodrow adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m. The next regular meeting will be held on April 24, 2026, at McLean Hall, Pardee Center, Valley Springs.

SUBMITTED BY:

Lorna Barfield, Authority Secretary

Terry Woodrow, Chair of the Board
APPROVED: April 24, 2026



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **2**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Treasurer's Report (1st Quarter FY 2026)

Recommended Actions:

Accept Treasurer's Report for filing.

Summary:

A copy of the Treasurer's Report for the 1st Quarter of fiscal year 2026, which ended December 31, 2025, will be presented at the Board meeting.

**UPPER MOKELUMNE RIVER WATERSHED AUTHORITY
TREASURER'S REPORT
STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2025**

<i>Fiscal Year 2026 (beginning Oct. 1, 2025)</i>	Assessment, Grants & USFS	Budget FY 2026	Actual		
			Current Quarter	YTD	YTD %
General Assessments & Operating Revenue					
Amador Agencies Funding	35,963	35,963	35,963	35,963	100%
Calaveras Agencies Funding	42,461	42,461	42,461	42,461	100%
EBMUD Funding	77,076	77,076	77,076	77,076	100%
Member Agencies Contribution	155,500	155,500	155,500	155,500	100%
Interest/Misc income	-	-	43,828	43,828	
Applied Operating Reserve (Adjusted FY2026 Reserves Bal. \$1,359,672)	150,000	150,000	-	-	0%
Misc Revenue	150,000	150,000	43,828	43,828	29%
Total Assessments & Operations Funding	305,500	305,500	199,328	199,328	65%
IRWM Grant Funding					
CPUD - Jeff Davis WTP	563,934	563,934	-	-	0%
Forestry/Watershed Funding					
Sierra Nevada Conservancy - RFFCP #1701	168,696	168,696	-	-	0%
Sierra Nevada Conservancy - #1636 (FPP1 - Birch & Hwy 88 East Projects)	1,942,735	1,942,735	286,151	286,151	15%
Sierra Nevada Conservancy - #1646 (FPP2 - MAC Forest Plan)	171,605	171,605	4,677	4,677	3%
CalFire Grant #1 (8GG21607) - Hwy 88 Project	26,490	26,490	-	-	0%
CalFire Grant #2 (8GG22614) - Arbor Project	3,962,367	3,962,367	-	-	0%
CalFire Grant #3 (8GT24607) - Dogwood Project	4,164,440	4,164,440	-	-	0%
Wildlife Conservation Board #1 (WC2262CR) - Aspen Project	159,298	159,298	(28,992)	(28,992)	-18%
Wildlife Conservation Board #2 (WC2517JS) - Cedar Project w/MAC Support)	3,635,310	3,635,310	-	-	0%
Blue Forest 2024 FRB Grant	450,000	450,000	-	-	0%
USFS Eldorado NF Stewardship Agreement (24-SA-11050300-018)	850,000	850,000	-	-	0%
USFS Stanislaus NF MSA Supplemental Project Agreement (21-SA-11051600-003)	135,000	135,000	-	-	0%
USFS Stanislaus NF Stewardship Agreement (25-SA-11051600-008)	450,000	450,000	-	-	0%
Total Grants and Other Funding	52,577,683	16,679,875	261,836	261,836	2%
TOTAL REVENUES & FUNDING	52,883,183	16,985,375	461,164	461,164	3%
ASSESSMENT EXPENDITURES					
General Assessment (Administration)					
Executive Officer		75,000	7,322	7,322	10%
Administrative Officer		75,000	13,440	13,440	18%
Project Manager (Includes \$10,000 carry-forward)		20,000	2,156	2,156	11%
Streamline Website (\$1,680) & GoogleDocs (\$820 est)		2,500	26	26	1%
SDRMA Insurance (\$5,600 est) & CSDA Membership (\$1,398)		7,000	1,398	1,398	20%
Mountain Counties Water Resources Assn.		2,000	-	-	0%
General Assessment (Operations)					
MLLT - STE Watershed Program CY 2024		16,500	-	-	0%
Inter-agency Liaison & Board Support (LEI, Inc)		10,000	280	280	3%
Forest Project Development, Grant Applications & Procurement (LEI, Inc)		60,000	70	70	0%
Forest Projects & MAC Plan Support (LEI, Inc)		40,000	-	-	0%
CHIPS (BF grant) Project Support (LEI, Inc) (All carry-forward FY 2025)		8,722	1,210	1,210	14%
CHIPS (BF grant) Cedar Fuels Treatment Project (All carry-forward FY 2025)		61,325	61,325	61,325	100%
ACCG Administration/Support (Includes \$12,500 carry-forward)		20,000	-	-	0%
TOTAL ASSESSMENT EXPENDITURES (Includes \$92,547 total carry-forward)		398,047	87,227	87,227	22%
GRANT and FORESTRY/WATERSHED FUNDING EXPENDITURES					
DWR Prop 1 Grant - Round 2					
CPUD - Jeff Davis WTP		566,225	-	-	0%
Woodard & Curran - invoicing & reporting		7,550	-	-	0%
WCB - Aspen Restoration Project					
Landmark Environmental Inc.		95,405	-	-	0%
Institute For Bird Populations		23,453	-	-	0%
Stringer Biological Consulting, Inc		910	910	910	100%
Other - TBD		29,089	-	-	0%
CalFire Grant #1 (8GG21607 - Hwy 88)					
Landmark Environmental Inc.		150,000	14,723	14,723	10%
BurnBot - Dell'Orto		29,600	(29,600)	(29,600)	-100%
CalFire Grant #2 (8GG22614 - Arbor)					
Landmark Environmental		300,000	19,483	19,483	6%
Markit! (Arbor 1)		1,234,643	65,469	65,469	5%
GTS Forestry (Arbor 2)		1,403,369	506,183	506,183	36%
GTS Forestry (Arbor 3)		594,754	23,963	23,963	4%
Uncommitted - Cal Fire #2		381,071	-	-	0%
Megan Layhee (MAC Forest Plan)		14,625	-	-	0%
Executive Officer (MAC Forest Plan)		14,461	-	-	0%
SNC - #1701 (Capacity/ACCG Support)					
Char Sarkis (ACCG Admin)		8,615	1,822	1,822	21%
Liam Walsh (Tribal Liaison)		54,017	6,370	6,370	12%
Ty McCarthy (Monitoring Coordinator)		61,989	5,774	5,774	9%
Megan Layhee (Project Management)		5,814	3,545	3,545	61%
Landmark Environmental (FPP1 Ground Truth & Project Portfolio)		1,499	149	149	10%

SNC - #1636 (Birch & Hwy 88 East)					
Stewardship West		234,570	8,544	8,544	4%
Landmark Environmental		64,000	-	-	0%
Pyramid - Botanical ((Hwy 88 E contract - \$19,525)		8,129	-	-	0%
Redding Tree Growers (Birch 1)		92,364	314,568	314,568	341%
GTS Forestry (Birch 2)		213,052	-	-	0%
Washoe Tribe (Hwy 88 East)		46,500	-	-	0%
SNC - #1646 (MAC Forest Project)					
Megan Layhee (MAC Forest Plan)		21,500	7,079	7,079	33%
Landmark Environmental		1,000	73	73	7%
WCB #2 - WC2517JS (Cedar Project w/MAC Plan Support)					
Landmark Environmental		250,052	12,625	12,625	5%
Stantec		162,991	-	-	0%
Executive Officer (MAC Forest Project)		19,893	7,404	7,404	37%
Megan Layhee (Task 1 - Project Management)		19,310	647	647	3%
Megan Layhee (Task 4 - MAC Forest Project)		30,000	-	-	0%
Chuck Loffland - Biologist		15,272	1,260	1,260	8%
Pyramid - Botanical (Contract \$39,725)		7,000	-	-	0%
Washoe - Cedar		80,175	80,175	80,175	
Thompson Land Management (Cedar North)		1,394,073	-	-	
GTS Forestry (Cedar South)		1,346,510	-	-	0%
CalFire #3 (8GT24607 - Dogwood)					
SW/LEI, et al (Tasks 1 & 2)		565,666	33,143	33,143	6%
Megan Layhee (Project Management)		29,534	716	716	2%
Pyramid - Botanical (Contract \$33,616)		33,616	-	-	0%
Treatments		2,797,300	-	-	0%
MAC Project		359,790	-	-	0%
Eldorado NF Stewardship Agreement					
Project Management - ENF Bird Survey		85,000	-	-	0%
Consultant for ENF Bird Survey		765,000	-	-	0%
Stanislaus NF MSA Supplemental Project Agreement (SPA)					
Project Management (R. Sykes)		15,000	-	-	0%
Consultant Services (incl Stantec Cultural Resources)		120,000	-	-	0%
Stanislaus NF Stewardship Agreement					
Project Management - SNF Bird Survey		45,000	-	-	0%
Consultant for SNF Bird Survey		405,000	-	-	0%
TOTAL GRANT EXPENDITURES		14,709,013	1,085,025	1,085,025	7%
Total Project Expenses		15,107,060	1,172,252	1,172,252	8%

Prepared by _____
Johnny Wong

Date

-

Reviewed by _____
Matt Houck

Date

Approved by _____
David Glasser

Date



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **3**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Phase 1 - Forest Projects Plan Implementation Report

Recommended Actions:

- 1) Approve and authorize the Executive Officer (EO) to sign a General Services Agreement in the amount of \$1,615,565 with Thompson Land Management (TLM) to perform the Dogwood North fuels treatment projects (bid items 1 and 2),
- 2) Approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement in the amount of \$581,427 with VM West to perform the Dogwood Central fuels treatment project (bid item 3),
- 3) Approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement with GTS Forestry in the amount of \$367,225 to perform the Dogwood Central fuels treatment project (bid item 4),
- 4) Approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign a General Services Agreement with the Buena Vista Rancheria (BVR) in the amount of \$400,000 to perform fuels reduction treatments to approximately 175 acres in the Birch BVR-1 Project, and authorize the EO to issue a change order to BVR for an additional amount up to 30% of the agreement amount to treat additional project acres.
- 5) Approve and authorize the Executive Officer to sign two Grant and Services Agreements with Blue Forest Conservation in the amounts of \$1,143,708 for completed Arbor, Birch and Hwy 88 East Project treatments, and \$2,007,840 for to-be-completed Dogwood Project treatments.

Summary:

This report presents four General Services Agreements for Phase 1 Forest Projects Plan Implementation (FPP-1) fuels treatment projects for Board approval. Two Blue Forest grants and services agreements are recommended to provide over \$3M to UMRWA's FPP-1 implementation efforts. The Amador Water Agency (AWA) recently approved a \$10,000 contribution to the Mokelumne Forest Resilience Bond (FRB), subject to a full match by East Bay Municipal Utility District. UMRWA staff participated in the CA Wildfire Task Force's March regional meeting in Jamestown by presenting and hosting a tour. This report concludes with a brief update on the progress being made to fully implement the FPP – Phase 1 program, including an outlook on funding.

Fuels Treatment Agreements for Dogwood Projects:

Three General Services Agreements are presented for Board approval. The recommended contractors were among the most highly qualified group of eight contractors as determined by the UMRWA RFQ process completed in 2025. Seven of the eight short-listed contractors submitted cost and schedule proposals to provide prescribed fuels treatments in the Dogwood North and Dogwood Central project areas. The three recommended contractors were selected based on cost and schedule.

- Award Dogwood North (bid item 1 - mastication) and Dogwood South (bid item 2) to Thompson Land Management in the not-to-exceed total amount of \$1,615,565 (to treat a total 1,042.3 acres).
- Award Dogwood Central (bid item 3 – mastication) to VM West in the not-to-exceed amount of \$581,427 (to treat 361.8 acres).
- Award Dogwood South (bid item 4 - hand) to GTS Forestry in the not-to-exceed amount of \$367,225 (to treat 338.3 acres).

Funding for the above Dogwood North and Central Projects is provided by Cal Fire and Blue Forest grants.

Fuel Treatment Agreement Buena Vista Rancheria:

Through the tribal outreach efforts of UMRWA Tribal Liaison Liam Walsh, staff has engaged with the Buena Vista Rancheria (BVR) and developed a General Services Agreement to treat approximately 175 acres of the Birch BVR-1 fuels reduction project. Funding for this work is available from unspent SNC (Grant No. 1636) dollars. SNC approved the expenditure of these remaining grant funds to facilitate UMRWA's further forest program engagement with tribal interests.

The BVR agreement, in the amount of \$400,000, will result in mastication and hand treatments to approximately 175 acres in 2026.

Mokelumne Forest Resilience Bond Updates:

There have been two recent developments that impact the Authority's FPP-1 implementation efforts and the financial potential of the Mokelumne FRB. The first is Blue Forest's ongoing negotiation with a major US corporation for a significant contribution to the Mokelumne FRB. This corporation is seeking investment opportunities to demonstrate its efforts to partially replenish the water used by its facilities. UMRWA's fuels treatments remove small trees and brush eliminating a significant source of evapotranspiration. This results in increased streamflow in the Mokelumne River. Blue Forest has entered into an agreement with this corporation for contributions to the Mokelumne FRB based on the volumetric water benefits from UMRWA's treatments.

To receive these funds the Authority must enter into Grants and Services Agreements with Blue Forest. Two such agreements are recommended for Board approval today. The first provides \$1,143,708 to fund UMRWA's ongoing management and implementation of FPP-1 forest restoration activities based on 1,146 acres of treatments completed in 2025 in the Arbor, Birch and Hwy 88 East projects. The volumetric water benefits associated with this 2025 work will be assigned to this corporation. The second agreement provides \$2,007,840 toward 1,335 acres of Dogwood project treatments for the volumetric water benefits for work to be conducted in 2026 (and, as necessary, 2027).

The second recent development is that the Amador Water Agency (AWA) Board of Directors voted to approve a \$10,000 commitment to the Upper Mokelumne FRB. With this contribution AWA is taking advantage of EBMUD's matched funding opportunity. EBMUD's match offer expires on June 30, 2026 (verbal commitments must be made by other UMRWA agencies by this time in order to qualify for matched funding).

CA Wildfire Task Force – Spring Regional Meeting:

UMRWA was well represented at the March 19 & 20 CA Wildfire Task Force meeting in Jamestown (Tuolumne County). Executive Officer Richard Sykes participated on the Financing Resilience: Innovative Strategies for Funding Projects panel. Additionally, staff conducted a field visit to FPP-1 treatment areas attended by approximately 30 people.

The California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force was established in 2021 as a statewide coordinating body to address California’s escalating wildfire crisis. Its primary purpose is to align and integrate the efforts of federal, state, tribal, local, and private partners to reduce catastrophic wildfire risk and improve the long-term health of forests and wildlands.

FPP – Phase 1 Implementation Status:

The Board’s January 2023 approval of the 26,000-acre Forest Projects Plan - Phase 1 (FPP-1) marked the beginning of UMRWA’s FPP-1 fuels treatment program. Shortly thereafter UMRWA and Eldorado NF staff worked collaboratively to develop the FPP-1 Implementation Work Plan (IWP). The IWP ranks and sequences mechanical and hand fuels reduction treatment projects across the Phase 1 footprint. The IWP was updated in March 2025 to recognize treatment projects then underway and to reflect UMRWA having secured funding to treat nearly half of the total FPP-1 project area. [See Table 1 – FPP Phase 1 Projects Contracted to Date]

In the program’s first two full years (through the end of the 2025 work season) UMRWA contractors have treated more than 6,600 of those acres, with 4,588 acres treated in 2025. In November 2025, the 2,348-acre Hwy 88 project, which was UMRWA’s first FPP-1 implementation project, was completed.

Looking ahead to the 2026 season, UMRWA has the following projects under contract. The acre amounts shown below are the number of project acres remaining to be treated (rather than the contract total acres).

Project	Contractor(s)	Acres	Status
Arbor 1	Markit!	655	Contracted
Arbor 2	GTS Forestry	1,063	“
Birch 2	GTS Forestry and	144	Contracted
Birch – Hwy 88 E	Washoe Tribe	9	“
Birch BVR-1	Buena Vista Rancheria	175	Award Today
Cedar North	Thompson Land	614	Contracted
Cedar South	GTS Forestry	744	“
Dogwood North 1&2	Thompson Land	1,042	Award Today
Dogwood Central 3	VM West	361	“
Dogwood Central 4	GTS Forestry	338	“
		5143	

Table 1 – FPP Phase 1 Projects Contracted to Date

Project	Contractor	Treatment Contract (or Grant budget) \$ Amount	Total Grant Award	Treatment Contract Expires	Acres	Funding Expires
Hwy 88	Burnbot	\$3,672,000	\$4,999,967	10/31/2025	2,348	Cal Fire #1 (3/31/26)
Arbor 1	Markit!	\$1,341,429	\$6,999,934	11/15/2027	813	Cal Fire #2 (3/30/29)
Arbor 2	GTS Forestry	\$2,860,158	"	11/15/2027	1,483	Cal Fire #2 (3/30/29)
Arbor 3	GTS Forestry	\$682,541	"	11/15/2027	767	Cal Fire #2 (3/30/29)
Birch 1	Redding Tree	\$940,959	\$4,739,056	11/15/2027	1,118	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)
Birch 2	GTS Forestry	\$718,551	"	11/15/2027	486	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)
Hwy 88 East	Redding Tree	\$1,578,677	"	12/15/2026	1,447	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)
Hwy 88 East	Washoe Tribe	\$46,500	"	12/15/2026	9.3	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)
Birch BVR-1	Buena Vista Rancheria	\$400,000		11/15/2026	175	SNC 1636 (1/1/28)
Cedar - Washoe	Washoe Tribe	\$80,175	\$3,986,000	12/15/2026	10.5	WCB #2 (3/31/28)
Cedar - North	Thompson Land	\$1,394,073	"	11/15/2027	614	WCB #2 (3/31/28)
Cedar - South	GTS Forestry	\$1,346,510	"	11/15/2027	744	WCB #2 (3/31/28)
Cedar - Chips	CHIPS	\$85,250	\$100,000	12/15/2026	15.5	Blue Forest
Dogwood N 1&2	Thompson Land	\$1,615,565	\$4,293,399	11/15/2027	1042	Cal Fire #3 (3/31/30)
Dogwood C 3	VM West	\$581,427	"	11/15/2027	361.8	Cal Fire #3 (3/31/30)
Dogwood C 4	GTS Forestry	\$377,225		11/15/2027	338.3	Cal Fire #3 (3/31/30)
		\$17,721,040	\$25,118,356		11772	

FPP – 1 Implementation Funding:

Efforts have primarily been funded through \$25M in grants from CalFire (\$16.3M), Sierra Nevada Conservancy (\$4.7M) and the Wildlife Conservation Board (\$4M). The Blue Forest FRB through its various grant and services agreements will total about \$3.7M if today's recommended agreements are approved. The US Forest Service has not funded any FPP implementation contracts, but they have contributed substantial staff time to support implementation planning, coordination and oversight. This funding profile is anticipated to continue at least through the next two years and UMRWA and Blue Forest are hoping that additional beneficiaries will contribute to the FRB. UMRWA staff believe that if state agency and FRB support continue at the current pace then UMRWA's goal of treating 4,000 acres per year will be achieved and all FPP-1 treatments will be completed in 2029. In March, UMRWA staff submitted concept proposals to two CalFire grant programs, each proposal was for approximately \$8M to fund continued implementation of FPP-1 and development of the MAC Implementation Plan and pre-implementation surveys.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: 4

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Phase 2 - MAC Forest Health and Resilience Project Report

Recommended Actions:

- 1) Approve a \$597,447 increase to the March 12, 2026 Summit West Environmental, Inc. Consulting Services Agreement for avian surveys in the Eldorado and Stanislaus National Forests.
- 2) Approve the ranked list of best qualified avian survey consulting firms.

Summary:

UMRWA's landscape-level planning and environmental compliance initiative Mokelumne Amador Calaveras Forest Health and Resilience Project (MAC Project) Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been completed. The Forest Service is preparing the final EIS and has indicated that Records of Decision by the Stanislaus and Eldorado National Forests are expected in the next several weeks. The project status, consulting services agreement between UMRWA and Summit West Environmental, and the ranked list of best qualified avian survey consulting firms are presented below.

MAC Forest Project Status:

The MAC Project proposed actions include approximately 67,000 acres of forest thinning, 50,000 acres of fuels reduction, 22,000 acres of fuel break construction and prescribed fire proposed across the 250,000-acre project area.

The USFS used new NEPA regulations that allow for a more streamlined comment opportunity for regulatory agencies, tribes, the public and other key stakeholders, instead of the previous standard formal 45-day public comment period. Chapters 1 and 2 of the DEIS, including the purpose and need and proposed action, were circulated for public review from September 10 to September 24, 2025. Input from that comment period was used to finalize the full DEIS package. That package included updated Chapters 1 and 2, as well as the effects analysis, and specialist and resource reports. These were completed and released for public review for a 14-day period in late February. There were substantial comments received, including significant support for the project, but also concerns over environmental issues related to the scale of the project and potential for impacts to some sensitive species and habitats. The USFS is taking the lead in responding to comments on the DEIS and completing the Final EIS. Eldorado NF and Stanislaus NF project decisions are expected to be signed in April or May 2026.

Once decisions are signed, UMRWA will begin CEQA compliance for portions of the MAC Project proposed action that are broadly supportable, like surface and ladder fuels reduction treatments, fuel breaks and prescribed fire. MAC CEQA will use the same exemption process used for the FPP-1 and this is anticipated to be completed by Summer 2026. Concurrently, the UMRWA MAC Implementation Work Plan will be developed. This is intended to be a 10-year plan identifying and sequencing priority treatment areas and future maintenance (including for the FPP1 area). Spatial Informatics Group (SIG), the

consulting firm that performed much of the MAC Project NEPA modeling and analysis, will conduct the prioritization analysis. The plan is also intended to identify pre-implementation layout and ground-truthing needs, resource survey requirements, and outline a proposed funding strategy for the implementation work. The plan is anticipated to be developed by Fall 2026.

Avian Surveys Agreement and Ranked List of Best Qualified Firms:

With the MAC Project nearing completion, and fuel treatment work to begin as soon thereafter as possible, the ENF and SNF each requested that UMRWA initiate required avian surveys as soon as possible. These two-year surveys, which must be initiated in the spring for California Spotted Owl, American Goshawk, and Great Grey Owl, must precede any thinning and fuels treatment work authorized under the MAC EIS.

In February UMRWA staff conducted a Request for Qualifications process (RFQ 26-01) for qualified firms with experience performing avian surveys on NF lands. A Selection Review Committee of UMRWA staff and USFS biologists reviewed the submitted responses using the established criteria (demonstrated competence, cost, and relevant experience). The committee's ranked list of best qualified avian survey consulting firms is presented below.

Rank	Firm Name
1	Summit West with Tanner Environmental
2	Institute for Bird Populations
3	Tanner Environmental

With avian surveys scheduled to begin in early April the Executive Officer (EO) negotiated a \$647,447 consulting services agreement with Summit West. This contract amount is within the funding available from the USFS but exceeds the limit authorized by Board policy. Due to the urgent nature of this work the EO signed an agreement on March 12 with Summit West Environmental to initiate the avian surveys in an amount not to exceed \$50,000. The Board's approval of the additional \$597,447 agreement cost is needed to compensate SWCA for completion of the avian survey tasks. Funding for this work is fully provided by the USFS through existing UMRWA Stewardship Agreements (with \$278,709 by the Eldorado NF and \$368,738 by Stanislaus NF).



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **5**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Amador Aspen Restoration Project Approval

Recommendation:

- (1) Approve the Amador Aspen Restoration Project.
- (2) Confirm staff's determination that the Aspen Restoration Project is exempt from CEQA and authorize staff to file a Notice of Exemption with the CA Office of Planning and Research and Amador County, El Dorado County and Calaveras County Clerks.
- (3) Authorize staff to pursue grants for implementation treatments.

Summary:

Funded by a \$649,400 grant awarded in 2022 by the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB) UMRWA has been overseeing the planning, design, and permitting of the Aspen Restoration Project. Working with partners Eldorado National Forest (ENF), Amador Ranger District (ARD), and ACCG, the Project establishes a plan for aspen restoration on FS lands and provides the NEPA/CEQA clearance needed for implementation of prioritized aspen stand restoration work (entitled the Amador Aspen Restoration Project). Project work is largely being completed by Landmark Environmental Inc. and the Institute for Bird Populations.

Discussion:

The Amador Aspen Restoration Project will restore five clusters of aspen stands, totaling up to 604 acres of aspen, by removing encroaching and overtopping conifers, selectively girdling conifers where it is not practical or feasible to remove cut conifers, installing temporary fencing, and implementing prescribed fire treatments. The project also will erect temporary fencing generally around individual or small groups of aspen suckers within an additional 124 acres of aspen that are heavily browsed, for a total proposed project area of up to 728 acres. The project was designed by UMRWA in cooperation with the Eldorado National Forest, Amador Ranger District (ARD) and the ACCG.

The purpose of the project is to reestablish historic aspen stands by:

- Promoting the expansion of aspen stands and protecting important wildlife habitat provided by them.
- Promoting long-term health, resilience, and sustainability of aspen stands thereby reducing the risk of high severity wildfire.

The project objectives are to reestablish historic aspen stands and promote regeneration and sustainability of aspen stands that are currently either limited in age classes, suppressed, stunted, or declining in acreage, or a combination of these conditions due to conifer encroachment, overtopping, intense herbivory, and suppression of wildfire.

The project's aspen stands are situated entirely within National Forest System lands administered by ARD within El Dorado, Alpine, and Amador Counties. Aspen are a keystone species and a critical component of a thriving forest ecosystem in the Sierra Nevada. The project is southwest of Lake Tahoe and east of Jackson, in the vicinity of the Highway 88 corridor at the headwaters of the Mokelumne, Cosumnes and South Fork American Rivers. The aspen stands proposed for conifer cutting and removal, girdling, and prescribed fire treatments are situated above 7,000 feet elevation. Temporary fencing is proposed for aspen stands above and below 7,000 feet elevation.

The 728 acres proposed for restoration under this project were evaluated as part of a larger, detailed, watershed-wide mapping and condition assessment of aspen stands across the Upper Mokelumne and adjacent areas of the upper South Fork American and Cosumnes River watersheds. The in-field mapping and conditions assessment completed in October 2024 identifies and maps existing stands, assesses their condition, prioritizes stands for restoration, and recommends treatment methods.

Environmental Review:

The Aspen Restoration Project is categorically exempt (Sec. 15304 - Minor Alterations to Land) from CEQA because it involves minor fuel reduction and vegetation management activities, including prescribed fire applications, with no expansion of use and no removal of healthy, mature, scenic trees. None of the exceptions under Section 15300.2 apply.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **6**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Proposed Fiscal Year 2027 Budget

Recommendation:

Endorse the proposed FY 2027 UMRWA budget and authorize staff to transmit the proposed budget to Member Agencies for review and comment.

Summary:

This proposed FY 2027 budget, with notable new items including Authority funded treatments, reflects the increased capacity required by UMRWA's forest health program.

Background:

In July 2023 the Board approved the FPP-1 implementation strategy and set 4,000 acres as UMRWA's annual forest treatments goal. Since then, the Authority has secured more than \$25M in grant funding and awarded contracts to operators to treat a total of 11,772 acres. To date, 6,636 acres have been treated. The implications of UMRWA's intensified forest stewardship efforts are evident in the Authority's financial condition. UMRWA's recent revenue and expenditure profile has grown nearly ten-fold and the Reserves balance, which is up three-fold, will continue to grow as long as UMRWA collects indirect fee revenues from grants it is awarded.

End of Fiscal Year	Total Revenue	Total Expenditures	Reserves Balance
2022	\$1,046,556	\$906,793	\$453,826
2023	\$1,004,728	\$1,177,720	\$428,217
2024	\$3,368,955	\$3,215,676	\$311,027
2025	\$9,678,118	\$9,390,160	\$482,799
2026	Tbd	Tbd	1,359,672

Further implications for UMRWA's budget result from \$3,151,548 in contributions to the UMRWA FPP-1 program made available from Blue Forest's agreements with a corporate entity to partially offset its water resource demands.

Funding largely influences UMRWA and the Forest Service seeing the MAC Project realized. All signs indicate that the State will continue to provide funding for organizations like UMRWA to serve as the front-line expeditors of forest restoration. To effectively compete for these grant and other funding opportunities UMRWA and the Forest Service must continue having a broadly supported strategic program with prioritized shovel-ready projects. This will require continued collaboration with the ACCG, tribes and other stakeholders as well as UMRWA maintaining the tactical and technical expertise to conduct a large-landscape forest health program. The fiscal year 2027 budget presented below has been developed with the intention of maintaining the Authority's investment-ready status and achieving the highest level of competitiveness for future funding.

Proposed FY 2027 Budget:

The total member-supported portion of the proposed budget is \$370,810, which is an \$8,500 increase over the current fiscal year budget. Presented in Table 2 are member funding offsets. These are in-kind Member contributions and a \$158,500 allocation from Unrestricted Reserves (an \$8,500 increase over the current year). Resulting Member Agency funding allocations and assessment amounts, which are identical to those for the current fiscal year, are shown in Table 3.

The budget is organized into the Authority’s four primary Member funded program areas. Program work activities planned for FY 2027, and the changes in recommended funding over current budget amounts, are summarized below.

- a. Increase funding to Board and Authority administration by \$5,000 to \$174,000.
- b. Increase funding for the local school watershed education program by \$3,500 to \$20,000.
- c. Reduce from \$120,000 to \$100,000 the Member Fund contribution to costs associated with the forest health grant proposals, plus funding for UMRWA’s Forest Projects Plan – Phase 2 activities not covered by grants.
- d. Add \$1,110,000 to fund treatment projects and program-related support positions (Forest Program Manager, Tribal Liaison, ACCG Administrator, Monitoring Coordinator, Contracts Specialist, GIS Support, and Biologist).
- e. Maintain at \$0 the funding for IRWM-related tasks requiring Member funding. (Note: The next IRWM funding round of \$96 million from Prop 4 is expected in FY 2028.)

Table 1 - UMRWA MEMBER AGENCY BUDGET – FISCAL YEAR 2027 (begins Oct. 1, 2026)

Programs	Categories	Member & Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Reserve Fund	Program Total
Board and Authority Administration	Executive Officer	75,000		174,000
	Administrative Officer	25,000		
	Planning Officer	60,000		
	Webpage and On-line Doc System	3,500		
	CSDA and SDRMA Insurance	7,500		
	Direct Expenses	3,000		
Watershed Education	Public school program (STE)	20,000		20,000
Forest Health	Grant Applications	60,000		1,230,000
	MAC Implementation	60,000		
	UMRWA Treatment Projects		\$900,000	
	Forest Program Manager		\$75,000	
	GIS Support (AP)		\$25,000	
	Contract Specialist (PF)		\$10,000	
	Partnership Coordinator (RM)		\$20,000	
	Monitoring Coordinator (TM)		\$20,000	
	Tribal Liaison (LW)		\$20,000	
	Biologist (CL)		\$20,000	
	ACCG Administrator (CS)		\$20,000	
IRWM	No member funded FY27 activity	0		0
TOTAL BUDGET		\$314,000	\$1,110,000	\$1,424,000

Table 2 – FY 2027 MEMBER AGENCY FUNDING OFFSETS

Member assessments	As required by the above Proposed Fiscal Year Budget	\$314,000
In-kind contributions <i>(Estimated based on FY 2025 amounts)</i>	Authority Legal Counsel \$6,500 (Amador County) Accounting (\$21,569), annual audit (\$5,345) and Authority Secretary (\$23,396) (EBMUD)	\$56,810*
	TOTAL MEMBER SUPPORTED BUDGET =	\$370,810
Indirect Fee Allocation	Apply portion of Unrestricted Reserves as supplemental operating revenue	(\$158,500)
	REQUIRED FY27 MEMBER ASSESSMENT FUNDING =	\$212,310

* ESTIMATE: In-kind labor and expense contributions by Members for work performed in support of UMRWA through prior fiscal year.

Table 3 – FY 2027 MEMBER FUNDING ALLOCATIONS & ASSESSMENTS

Formula % Share	Member Agency %	Proposed FY 2027 Allocation	In-Kind Credit	Proposed FY 2027 Assessment	Actual FY 2026 Assessment
Amador Entities 20%	Amador County – 9.2%	19,533	(6,500)	13,033	13,033
	Amador Water Agency – 9.2%	19,533	0	19,533	19,533
	Jackson Valley ID – 1.6%	3,397	0	3,397	3,397
Calaveras Entities 20%	Calaveras County – 6.0%	12,738	0	12,738	12,738
	Calaveras County WD – 9.6%	20,381	0	20,381	20,381
	Calaveras PUD – 4.4%	9,342	0	9,342	9,342
EBMUD	EBMUD – 60%	127,386	(50,310)	77,076	77,076
TOTAL		\$212,310	\$56,810	\$155,500	\$155,500



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **7**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Procurement Policy Amendment

Recommendation:

Approve the amended Procurement Policy and Procedure (Policy 4) to authorize the practice of a two-step contracting process. Consider a change to the five percent local preference percentage.

Discussion:

UMRWA’s Procurement Policy and Procedure was first adopted in April 2017 and most recently revised April 25, 2025 to authorize the Executive Officer (EO) to approve contracts costing up to \$50,000.

In two recent experiences the Authority has approved contracts organized into two parts, with the initial part approved by the EO for \$50,000, and the second Board-approved component for the balance of the contracted work. This has served as an effective means for contracting out forest-related work with urgent or time-dependent elements that make waiting for Board approval problematic.

It is recommended the Board approve the proposed amendment (see *italicized* text below) to the Procurement Policy and Procedure (Policy 4) to authorize the practice of two-step contracting.

PROCUREMENT TYPES, LIMITS, METHODS AND AWARDS

Type	Limit	Method	Award
Informal Quote	Up to \$5,000	Obtain up to 3 price quotes by telephone or email whenever feasible.	EO
Formal Quote	Up to \$50,000	Obtain up to 3 written price quotes by email or letter whenever feasible.	EO
Request for Proposal/ Invitation to Bid	Above \$50,000	Issue RFPs (generally conforming to the accompanying <i>RFP Guideline and Template</i>) to seek proposals from at least 3 qualified proposers, and ITBs for competitive bidding processes.	Board **

*** When the EO determines it necessary and appropriate, the EO is authorized to implement a two-step contracting process in which a contract is organized into two parts, with the initial part of the contracted work approved by the EO for up to \$50,000, and the second part of the contracted work approved by the Board. Staff will provide advance notice to the Board Chair prior to initiating any RFP that uses this two-step process.*

One other change to the Procurement Policy and Procedure that the Board may wish to consider is the preference applied to the scoring evaluation for Local Service Providers. Staff and the Board have discussed the desire to increase local contracts for forest health implementation several times in the past three years and made changes in the Request for Proposals/Invitation to Bid process to yield more local contracts. In 2025, staff solicited Statements of Qualifications for forest health contractors. That process yielded selection of eight contractors of which three are local who now receive invitations to bid on UMRWA forest health work. So far, no local contractors have been awarded contracts, primarily because other companies came in with costs lower than the current 5% preference. Staff believe that a preference of 8% could provide better results in the future, though it would not have changed the results of ITBs issued since 2025. Staff will discuss potential changes to the current preference at the Board meeting. The current local preference language is provided below.

The Executive Officer, or designee, shall consider the locality of business enterprises submitting proposals and bids to the Authority. In evaluating proposals or bids submitted to the Authority by a qualified Local Service Provider the applicable preference as specified below shall be applied.

General Services: A five percent (5%) preference will be applied to the scoring evaluation of proposals submitted by qualified Local Service Providers.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **8**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Substitute Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Project

Recommendation:

Adopt Resolution No. 2026-01 requesting the substitution of the Rich Gulch Waterline Replacement Project for funding under the CA Department of Water Resources (DWR) IRWM grant agreement number 4600014982 and authorize the Executive Officer, or designee, to execute the DWR grant agreement amendment, and perform any and all work required to fulfill the grant requirements.

Summary:

In March 2023 UMRWA entered into an IRWM implementation grant agreement with the DWR to fund Calaveras Public Utility District's (CPUD) Jeff Davis Water Treatment Plant Backwash Recycle Project with a project cost of \$566,225. Due to a series of challenges encountered over the past several years CPUD has proposed to replace the Jeff Davis WTP Project with the Rich Gulch Waterline Replacement Project. DWR is receptive to CPUD's proposed project substitution and has asked UMRWA, as the grantee, to adopt a resolution formally requesting the substitution.

Discussion:

The Authority was notified in December 2025 that the Calaveras Public Utility District could not complete the DWR IRWM-funded Jeff Davis Water Treatment Plant Backwash Recycle Project with the grant funding available. The Project had originally applied for \$2,057,820 in grant funds, but had received only \$566,225 and needed to secure additional funding. CPUD had initially hoped to supplement the IRWM grant funds with other state or federal funds, but neither was able to fund the project. CPUD was not then able to find any other supplemental funding and could not support the additional \$1,492,595 needed to complete the project with its own funds.

CPUD has proposed a replacement project, the Rich Gulch Waterline Replacement Project, which will replace a failing segment of the primary potable water transmission line located in the Rich Gulch area. Most of the 20-mile transmission line is in good condition, but the failing segment has experienced accelerated deterioration and structural failure. This condition has resulted in ongoing leaks and structural failures within this segment that the District continually must repair, with continued leakage resulting in significant treated water loss with an escalating risk of catastrophic failure. The project will replace 685 feet of transmission pipeline. The proposed project, if accepted as a fundable substitute project, will be completed by September 30, 2026, with a total project budget of \$566,225.

**UPPER MOKELUMNE RIVER WATERSHED AUTHORITY
RESOLUTION 2026-01**

**REGARDING PROPOSITION 1 - ROUND 2 - IRWM GRANT REPLACEMENT PROJECT
AND THE EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S AUTHORITIES RELATED THERETO**

WHEREAS, the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority (UMRWA) is a regional water management group as defined by the California Water Code. A Joint Powers Agency formed in 2000 to address water quality, water supply and environmental matters. UMRWA is comprised by Amador Water Agency, Calaveras County Water District, Calaveras Public Utility District, East Bay Municipal Utility District, Jackson Valley Irrigation District, Alpine County Water Agency and the counties of Amador, Calaveras and Alpine; and

WHEREAS, at its January 28, 2022 regular meeting the Board of Directors reviewed and approved the Updated Mokelumne-Amador-Calaveras (MAC) IRWM Plan Projects List; and

WHEREAS, on January 28, 2022 the UMRWA Board of Directors approved the selection of Calaveras Public Utility District's (CPUD) Jeff Davis WTP Recycle Project for inclusion in its Round 2 IRWM grant application to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) pursuant to the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014, and authorized the Executive Officer to submit a Round 2 grant application; and

WHEREAS, the grant agreement for the Prop 1 – Round 2 program was executed on November 23, 2022; and

WHEREAS, UMRWA was informed on December 4, 2025 that the Jeff Davis WTP Recycle Project could not be completed without supplemental funding and CPUD proposed a replacement project, the Rich Gulch Waterline Replacement Project; and

WHEREAS, UMRWA has initiated an amendment request to DWR to replace the Jeff Davis WTP Recycle Project with the Rich Gulch Waterline Replacement Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the UMRWA Board of Directors authorizes the Executive Officer to submit required Prop 1 – Round 2 grant replacement amendment materials, execute the DWR grant agreement amendment, and perform all work required to fulfill Prop 1 – Round 2 grant requirements.

Approved and adopted by unanimous vote this 24th day of April 2026.

Terry Woodrow, Board Chairperson

Attest:

Lorna Barfield, Authority Secretary



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **9**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Audited Financials – FY 2025 and FY 2024

Recommendation:

Accept for Filing.

Summary:

East Bay Municipal Utility District, whose Controller serves as the Authority's Treasurer, maintains the Authority's financial records. The Authority's financial records for the years ending September 30, 2025 and 2024 have been audited by the independent accounting firm Lance, Soll & Lunghard, LLP. This year's audit is presented in the document titled Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority Basic Financial Statements - Fiscal Years Ending September 30, 2025 and 2024.

The financial statements present an independent overview of the Authority's finances, demonstrates the Authority's accountability of the monies it manages, and provides general information related to the preparation of the audit for UMRWA's Board of Directors and management staff. The FY 2025 and 2024 audit report neither finds nor describes any financial problems or irregularities.

A copy of the Basic Financial Statements report is included in the Supplemental Materials Packet.



Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority

Agenda No: **10**

Meeting Date: April 24, 2026

Title:

Legislative Issues Update

Recommendation:

For discussion and possible action – legislative matters discussed by the Board

Summary:

This report includes brief summaries of three bills including AB 35, Alvarez, which provides an administrative fix to allow Proposition 4 (2024) grant programs to fully proceed, and HR 582 and SB 3609 which are identical House of Representatives and Senate bills titled the *Community Protection and Wildfire Resilience Act*. At the Board meeting the EO may orally summarize other relevant legislative information that may be obtained prior to the Board meeting. Additionally, Board directors and/or agency staff may have legislation of interest, and this agenda item is intended to facilitate discussion of it.

***AB 35, Alvarez, as amended January 14, 2026
Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.***

This bill aims to streamline implementation of Proposition 4 passed in 2024 which authorizes \$10B in bonds for forest health and other purposes. This bill would exempt the adoption of regulations needed to effectuate or implement Prop 4 programs from the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act. The bill would require a state entity that receives funding to administer a competitive grant program established using the Administrative Procedure Act exemption to do certain things, including develop draft project solicitation and evaluation guidelines and to submit those guidelines to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, except as provided. The bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to post an electronic form of the guidelines submitted by a state entity and the subsequent verifications on the Natural Resources Agency's internet website. The bill would authorize the use of certain previously developed program guidelines and selection criteria for these purposes, as provided. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

This bill passed the state Assembly by unanimous vote and is in the state Senate for consideration.

***HR 582, Huffman, introduced January 21, 2025
Community Protection and Wildfire Resilience Act***

This bill would establish a new grant program under the US Fire Administrator to fund projects in a Community Protection and Wildfire Resilience Plan and to develop those plans for communities that do not have them. The program would be funded by an annual federal appropriation of \$1B from FY2025 through FY2029. Grants would be for up to \$10M with a local cost share of no more than 25 percent, and no cost share required under some conditions. The bill would also require a report on the radio communication problems related to wildfire control

and management activities, and it would amend the Infrastructure and Jobs act to allow the funding of structure hardening.

This bill was introduced in the House of Representative on January 21, 2025 and referred that day to the Committee on Science, Space, and Technology, and in addition to the Committees on Natural Resources, and Agriculture. None of these committees have taken action on this bill.

SB 3609, Padilla, introduced January 8, 2026

Community Protection and Wildfire Resilience Act (this is the language bill as HR 582)

This bill would establish a new grant program under the US Fire Administrator to fund projects in a Community Protection and Wildfire Resilience Plan and to develop those plans for communities that do not have them. The program would be funded by an annual federal appropriation of \$1B from FY2025 through FY2029. Grants would be for up to \$10M with a local cost share of no more than 25 percent, and no cost share required under some conditions. The bill would also require a report on the radio communication problems related to wildfire control and management activities, and it would amend the Infrastructure and Jobs act to allow the funding of structure hardening.

This was referred to the Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs on January 8, 2026 and no actions have been taken by the Committee.