



SAN GORGONIO PASS
WATER AGENCY

MEDIA ALERT

****PHOTO/VIDEO OPPORTUNITIES****

WHAT: San Gorgonio Pass Heli-Hydrant Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

WHEN: Thursday, June 12, 9 a.m.

WHERE: Cabazon Water District Facilities, Millard Pass Rd & Seminole Dr., Cabazon, CA 92230

Parking will be available at Morongo Bowl, and shuttles will be provided.

DETAILS: Last summer, San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) joined forces with local agencies to coordinate the critical Heli-Hydrant project. Thanks to the leadership of Fifth District Supervisor Dr. Yxstian Gutierrez, the Riverside County Board of Supervisors approved \$1.8 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds to install six Heli-Hydrant locations on both sides of Interstate 10.

The first of the series of Heli-Hydrants in the area is now complete. Firefighting helicopters can refill water from these strategically located water tanks to quickly control blazes. Originally developed by retired firefighter Mark Whaling, this life-saving investment protects our high fire-risk community.

The ceremony will celebrate the project's partners, including Riverside County Fire, Cal Fire, Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District, City of Banning, High Valleys Water District, Banning Heights Mutual Water Company and Cabazon Water District.

Riverside County Fifth District Supervisor Dr. Yxstian Gutierrez, SGPWA Board of Directors and staff, Cal Fire representatives, and other local leaders will address the community. Refreshments will be served, and photo and video opportunities will also be available.

CONTACT: Tara Mulally at (510) 300-5843; tara@cvstrat.com.

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About San Gorgonio Pass Water Agency

Formed in 1961, SGPWA is a State Water Contractor that serves a 225-square-mile area of western Riverside County. The service area includes the cities of Calimesa, Beaumont, and Banning, and the communities of Cherry Valley, Cabazon, and the Banning Bench. In addition to importing State Water Project (SWP) water from Northern California to augment local groundwater sources, the Agency builds

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local system infrastructure, participates in water transfers, partners in statewide water projects and collaborates on regional water reliability and conservation efforts.