



SAN GORGONIO PASS
WATER AGENCY
A California State Water Project Contractor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Imported Water Expands Groundwater Storage Across the Region

Turning Additional Water Supplies into Long-Term Resilience

BEAUMONT, CA (June 4, 2026) – San Geronio Pass Water Agency (SGPWA) is moving quickly to maximize the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) recent increase in the 2026 State Water Project (SWP) allocation to 45 percent, strengthening local water supplies and groundwater recharge efforts throughout the Pass area.

“This allocation increase is an opportunity to act, not wait,” said SGPWA Board President Robert Ybarra. “Every acre-foot we can recharge helps protect the communities we serve. SGPWA is focused on making the most of every available drop of water.”

The increased allocation, combined with existing supplies and carryover water, brings SGPWA's total water supply portfolio to 17,035 acre-feet. That additional water will be used strategically to support groundwater recharge, improve regional water security, and prepare local communities for future dry conditions.

As the region's State Water Project contractor, SGPWA imports water 500 miles from the Northern Sierras and delivers it to local water retailers throughout the Pass area. Those deliveries help reduce pressure on groundwater basins while providing a dependable supply for residents, businesses, and agriculture.

SGPWA is increasing efforts to put available water into the ground now, storing it for future use when supplies are more limited. Some of that recharge will take place through facilities operated by Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District, highlighting how regional partnerships can stretch every available water resource.

“When we work together, the Pass area benefits,” said Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District General Manager Dan Jagers. “This partnership with SGPWA allows us to recharge more water locally and improve water reliability across the region.”

The DWR increased the SWP allocation from 30 percent to 45 percent following improved late-season precipitation and strong reservoir conditions in Northern California. Through careful water management, SGPWA continues to build resilience against future shortages and ensure the region is prepared for whatever the next water year brings.

Learn more about SGPWA's water portfolio and groundwater advocacy at sgpwa.com.

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