

North San Joaquin Water Conservation District

Operations Update

Saturday, June 6, 2026



NSJWCD Mokelumne River Water stacks up behind the Leffler Dam west of Alpine Road

Water Delivery Dashboard:

	Direct Div		Storage Div	Total	
North System Recharge*:	2,510	+	214	2,724	AF
Tracy Lakes Recharge:	0			0	AF
South System Recharge:	303	+	133	436	AF
CalFed Recharge:	467.76			467	AF
TOTAL				3,627	AF

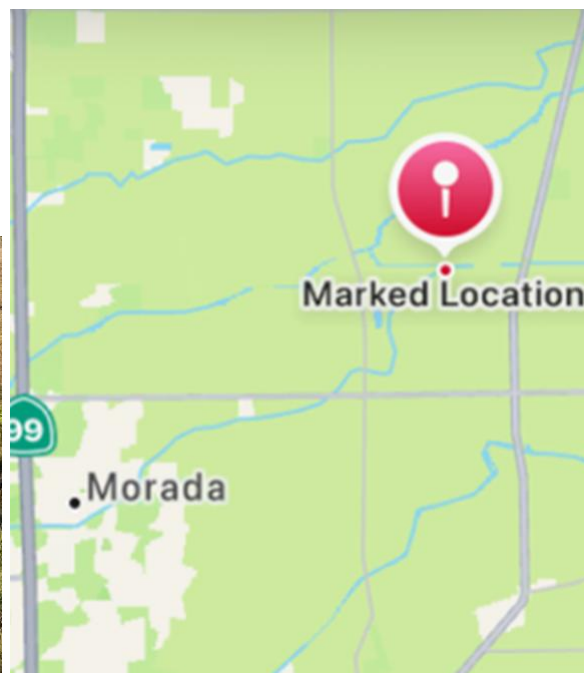
Dashboard count starts December 1, 2025. CalFed is an estimate based on run hours

***This line also includes North System Irrigation**

Experimenting: Having been in existence since the 1950s and largely dormant for much of that time, there are many unknowns in the District System: How far can we push water on Bear Creek? What Laterals may exist out there to move water to unexpected places? Can we get water from Bear Creek to Upper Pixley. There are stories and guesses but not maps and instructions. Staff spent the week testing out some of the stories and has a few more to run down. It started with an effort to get water to Corto Dam. It took over three days to fill all the depressions and wet the soil column. But water is now stacking up and under the Corto Dam. Not only that, it has reached Leffler Dam at Alpine Road and beyond. We know it is District Water because there was no water crossing the Lockeford Springs Golf Dam and SEWD confirmed their outfall is downstream of Corto (and into Mosher Creek) and has not been active this season. Next week we will ask for keys from the county to continue to explore the reach of District water.



Lockeford Springs Dam dry



SEWD Outfall East of Corto

A landowner off of upper Pixley asked if we can get water above the SS Main outfall into Pixley. President Valente reports there is a valve in Bear Creek into upper Pixley and staff will hunt it down next week and see if it remains operable.

One of the more interesting discoveries of the week is a 12 inch pipeline in the east ditch just East of Highway 88 at the Lockeford Springs Golf Course. Staff worked with the landowner to explore where it goes. Staff installed a board and sandbag dam and watched the area for a bit ultimately finding an outfall into Bear Creek 300 yards above the Lockeford Springs Dam. This gives the district the ability to serve Lockeford Spring landowners and store water for later delivery down Bear Creek if we rebuild the dam. Staff is currently waiting for an estimate from Arnaudo to do just that. In the mean-time we continue to operate the lateral and deliver water above the dam to take advantage of the recharge capacity of the additional river bottom,



East Ditch Dam and lateral



2nd District Outfall into Bear Creek above the dam



Water Pours over the East Ditch Dam at Lockeford Springs towards the main outfall into Bear

Operations Update: South System deliveries picked up to 11 CFS on Thursday and 13 CFS Friday to meet demand from Caffese, Oye, Kautz and the exploratory operations on Bear Creek. Corto is expected to start irrigation Monday on their SWEEP grant funded river pump on Bear Creek. Corto can start with 30 acres of the project but the remaining 70 is waiting on a PG&E hookup on the North Side of the river. Angelo Caffese's SWEEP project on the East Ditch is also expected to get PG&E this week.

Creekside is irrigating heavily on the north system this week at 750 GPM and keeping Lakso flows in balance and slightly declining. When they stop over the weekend we can probably run Lakso full tilt for a good 72 hours.

North System Work: The north system pumps continue to derate for a few hours in the heat of the afternoon and we have ordered additional fans from PSWI to cool them.

North System Phase 2: Staff met with the owner of the bottomland today to go over Pump Station and pipeline plans and will be preparing an offer for the Board to consider to acquire the easements needed for the permanent pump station. The project is on the San Joaquin County Council of Government's Agenda next week for inclusion in the Habitat Conservation Plan which will simplify the environmental approval process.

South System Work: Staff ran the Mettler Box to the height necessary to put water in the future Locust Tree Basin. It is able to get water to the necessary height which will eliminate the need for a the \$200,000 control structure in the current Locust Tree Basin Plans. There will be some leaks but we think we can control them onto our side of the road.



High Water Levels at Mettler Box feed a leak onto the Goehring Property

Arnaudo will be out next week to repair the leak at Harney Lane Winery and to work on the leaks on Tretheway North of the Cemetery.

Parting Shot:



Water Pours over the Corto Dam