

M E M O

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: District Manager
PREPARED BY: Environmental Programs Manager
SUBJECT: Environmental Department Status Report
DATE: January 20, 2022

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review and file the Environmental Department status report for December 2021.

GRANTS (ONGOING)

CONJUNCTIVE USE GRANT

Contract amendment signed by Rincon Environmental to prepare items for the January Environmental Committee. Tasks in the amendment include kick-off meeting, updated project description, and alternatives.

FIRE/FUEL REDUCTION GRANTS

Information on grants related to fire management and fuel reduction/hardening can be found in the "FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING" section of this report.

SEE GRANT TRACKING TABLE AT END OF REPORT FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION ON DISTRICT GRANTS

WATER RIGHTS (On-going)

CONJUNCTIVE USE WATER RIGHT PETITIONS – FELTON

Petitions drafted but will need to be revisited once CUP is complete and CEQA direction is confirmed.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE - CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (ONGOING)

SANDHILLS HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN FOR THE SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN (DECEMBER 2021)

The PG&E's mitigation project to restore riparian habitat and remove invasive plant species in the Olympia watershed agreement was approved by the Board of Directors. The District Manager will sign the agreement and work is planned to kick-off in November 2021.

CIP PROJECT PERMITTING

Staff is working to secure permits for the following Projects:

- Lyon Treatment Plan Access Road Slide (FEMA funded - 2023)
 - Engineering staff in final stages of alternative route plans
 - Permitting process to kick-off once alternative route approved
- 5-mile pipeline
 - Feasibility study in process
- Quail Hollow Pipeline
 - Quail Hollow environmental monitoring contract awarded
- HUD pipeline replacement
 - Initial contact with permitting agencies made in October
 - Environmental consultant contract awarded

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT/ STEWARDSHIP

FIRE MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Kick-off tour & meeting with RCD for the ~\$480,000 grant funding through CALFIRE's Forest Health Grant completed by staff in October. Project next steps and contracts being worked out with RCD staff.

Fuel reduction work at 7 sites kicked-off November 8th for the \$200,000 grant through the Coast Conservancy's Wildfire Resilience Grant program.

The District is working with Panorama Environmental to complete a Forest Management Plan funded through CAL FIRE's California Forest Improvement Program (\$6,822.00). Staff has lead a tour of the watershed with Panorama and held meetings to discuss current management efforts (as well as future efforts).

PG&E

PG&E is interested in mitigation for Santa Cruz County forested lands on District properties. Staff shared an outline of potential reforestation projects and mapping to be considered for PG&E's mitigation needs in October.

OLYMPIA PATROL (ONGOING)

Octobers reports shared with operations staff and corrected. Two down trees and one damaged sign post cleared in October. Staff met with Land Trust staff on November 9 to review bike trespassing damage and discuss additional signage to discourage trespassing.

Contract with the Land Trust is currently expired and work will be completed/billed month to month until new contract is established in January 2022.

MALOSKY WATERSHED

Sempervirens Fund completed its annual review of the Malosky properties (which the District has easement through) in October. Sempervirens understands the need to rebuild the 5-mile raw water line and is ready to work with the District to allow for construction through its lands.

MOUNTAIN BIKERS OF SANTA CRUZ

Staff was approached by the Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz to discuss potential trails through District land. Potential for income, maintenance, and liability protection for this project would be fully supported by the Mountain Bikers of Santa Cruz. Further discussions planned future Environmental Committee meeting.

WATER CONSERVATION (ONGOING)

RAIN UPDATE

Water year 21/22 (October 1, 2021 – September 30, 2022) totals in downtown Boulder Creek thus far are approximately 11 inches. For current rain fall totals visit <https://www.slvwd.com/about-us/pages/local-weather-rainfall>

PUBLIC OUTREACH

BUZZ PR

Buzz is working with staff on outreach through daily updates, distributing information to press, social media sites, and print sources.

OCTOBER PERFORMANCE SUMMARY (BELOW)

Performance Summary

View your key profile performance metrics from the reporting period.

Impressions ⓘ

35,633 ↗0.1%

Engagements ⓘ

2,336 ↘15.5%

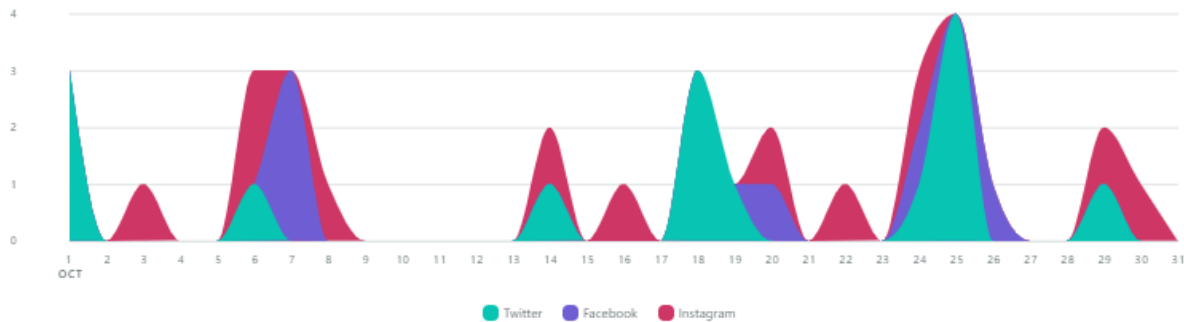
Post Link Clicks ⓘ

444 ↗138.7%

Audience Growth

See how your audience grew during the reporting period.

Audience Gained, by Day



Audience Metrics

Totals

% Change

Total Audience ⓘ

2,536

↗0.8%

Total Net Audience Growth ⓘ

22

↗144.4%

Twitter Followers Gained

15

↗200%

Facebook Page Likes

6

→0%

Instagram Followers Gained

11

↗22.2%

NOVEMBER OUTREACH AS OF 11/15/21:

Master plan meeting
Committee openings and applications
BOD meeting
Rain update
Water conservation
Customer service info.
CIP info.
Ken Moore memorial video
Zayante woody debris project video
Master plan facts

OCTOBER OUTREACH:

HUD Line press release
Stop/Start Service
Water conservation
Drought updates
Hiring ads
PSPS
Zayante Woody Debris Project video

After hours' emergency contact info.
Fire preparedness
BOD meetings
FAQs
Auto-pay

SEPTEMBER OUTREACH:

HUD line break & request for water conservation
Hiring Ads
PSPS
Rate assistance
"In the news"
Water conservation
Fire preparedness
BOD & committee meetings
San Lorenzo Valley 35th Annual River & Road Cleanup
Emergency repair update
FAQs
Newsletter sign-up
811 call before you dig

NETWORKING & COLLABORATIONS

AMERICORPS (JANUARY 2022)

District submitted AmeriCorps application with Camp Harmon as a co-sponsor for an AmeriCorps team in 2022. The team will assist the District with restoration projects such as invasive removal, native planting, and community education.

COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ'S 2021 WATER STATUS REPORT UPDATE

Staff completed the annual water status report update for the County of Santa Cruz in November.

GREEN BUSSINESS PROGRAM

In 2017 the District was certified as a Santa Cruz County Green Business. Staff is working with Green Business certifiers to complete certification for 2021-2022.

SANTA CRUZ NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM EARTH STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (NOVEMBER 2021)

Kick-off on November 4 & 5 with 15 Ben Lomond high school students at the Kirby water treatment plant. Invasive weed removal completed in solar panel portion of property. Future collaboration planned for February 2022.