

**For immediate release**

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**EMERGENCY TREE WORK PLANNED TO PROTECT SAN LORENZO  
VALLEY WATER DISTRICT PIPELINE**

***SLVWD BOARD APPROVES FEMA-FUNDED CONTRACT***

APRIL 25, 2023 — BOULDER CREEK, CA — The San Lorenzo Valley Water District (SLVWD) announced emergency tree work will begin to assess hazardous trees to kick-start the rebuild of the Peavine Raw Water Pipeline that was destroyed by the CZU Complex Fire in 2020.

The 2020 CZU Complex Fire resulted in extensive damage to the San Lorenzo River watershed, including with significant impacts to SLVWD's facilities including the Peavine and 5-Mile Pipeline. The Peavine and 5-Mile segments need to be reconstructed to restore the critical surface water supply for the SLVWD system. Damage in the area has made it dangerous for District staff to conduct necessary pipeline replacement and repair work. Clearing this area of hazards is the first step in replacing the pipeline.

"The District has been focused on recovering not only from recent storm damage but also from damage sustained in the CZU Fire. It has been a difficult road to bring all of the SLVWD infrastructure back online. This contract is the first step in moving ahead rehabilitation of the raw water line, once the assessment is complete discussions on how the pipelines will be reconstructed will begin, San Lorenzo Valley Water District Manager Rick Rogers said. "We're happy to finally move forward and begin assessing the trees along the Peavine pipeline."

Powers Forestry, LLC was awarded the contract for work on a 1.3-mile stretch along Foreman Creek and Peavine Creek. Phase 1 will include tree surveying and inventory tracking to record trees that will be removed to accommodate the pipeline. In Phase 2, a six-person crew will clear fallen trees, including the removal of leaning and/or damaged trees and scattering of small branches and logs to protect the area from erosion. After work is completed, District staff will have a better understanding of the terrain to move forward with evaluating a construction alternative to replace the pipeline.

The project is expected to begin April 2023 and will take 4 weeks, at an estimated cost of \$31,970. The Board of Directors unanimously approved a contract for the work at its March 16 meeting. The majority of the work will be paid for by a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) reimbursement grant.

Despite extensive damage and continuous efforts to recover from the CZU Fire, the District has been able to operate on 100% surface water thanks to recent rainfall. Efforts to rebuild damaged infrastructure will ensure that District customers continue to have access to clean, reliable water. The District is committed to continue maintaining, repairing infrastructure in its service area.

**ABOUT THE SAN LORENZO VALLEY WATER DISTRICT**

The San Lorenzo Valley Water District is located in the mountains of northern Santa Cruz County. The district serves more than 7,500 metered connections. Established in 1941, the district supplies water to the communities of Boulder Creek, Brookdale, Ben Lomond, Zayante, Quail Hollow, Scotts Valley, Whispering Pines, Manana Woods, and Felton. For more information, visit [www.slvwd.com](http://www.slvwd.com) or follow the District on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#) and [Nextdoor](#).

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