

## 2.0 DESCRIPTION OF CURRENT WATER PROVIDERS

The following sections provide a brief description of the current water providers located within the Santa Clarita Valley.

### 2.1 Castaic Lake Water Agency

The Castaic Lake Water Agency (CLWA) was formed in 1962 for the purpose of contracting with DWR to acquire and distribute imported State Water Project (SWP) water to the water purveyors in the Valley. CLWA serves an area of 195 square miles in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Adequate planning for, and the procurement of, a reliable water supply is a fundamental function of CLWA. CLWA obtains its water supply for wholesale purposes principally from the State Water Project (SWP) and currently has a long-term SWP water supply contract with the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for 95,200 acre-feet (AF) of SWP Table A Amount.

Over the years, CLWA has acquired and developed additional water supplies, as well as storage in groundwater banks. The primary additional supply is a surface supply CLWA imports from the Buena Vista Water Storage District (Buena Vista or BVWSD) and the Rosedale-Rio Bravo Water Storage District (Rosedale-Rio Bravo or RRBWSD) in Kern County. This supply, which is developed from Buena Vista's high flow Kern River entitlements, was first delivered to CLWA in 2007 and is available as a firm annual supply delivered to CLWA through SWP facilities.

In addition to its role as a State Water Contractor, CLWA has planned and constructed two regional water treatment plants as well as an imported water delivery system that provides treated water at various points across the valley for purchase and use by the local water retailers. CLWA also operates a water quality laboratory, which processes samples for both CLWA and the retail purveyors' water quality monitoring. In 2015, the lab completed tests on about 100,000 water samples.

Over the years, additional roles have evolved for CLWA due to its regional focus. These activities are generally conducted in collaboration and cooperation with the retail purveyors. These include urban water management planning, integrated regional watershed planning, regional water conservation outreach and programs (including a water conservation demonstration garden and school programs to educate kids about water and science), groundwater treatment and remediation activities related to the Whittaker Bermite perchlorate contamination, and regional recycled water master planning.

As discussed in more detail below, CLWA provides retail water service in the Santa Clarita Valley through its Santa Clarita Water Division and owns the stock of the Valencia Water Company, which also provides retail service in the area.

**Mission Statement:** *The mission of CLWA is to provide reliable, quality water at a reasonable cost to the Santa Clarita Valley.*

## 2.2 Santa Clarita Water Division

Santa Clarita Water Division has a service area that covers 34,700 acres and includes a portion of the City of Santa Clarita and unincorporated portions of Los Angeles County in the communities of Saugus, Canyon Country, and Newhall with about 30,700 service connections. Water has been supplied from both groundwater and imported water sources in varying proportions over the last 35 years, with the majority of supply currently being met by imported sources (69 percent in 2015). The Santa Clarita Water Division was formerly a privately owned water company that was acquired by CLWA and converted to a public benefit corporation. It is operated as a subsidiary division of the CLWA.

**Mission Statement:** *The mission of SCWD is to provide reliable, quality water at a reasonable cost to our customers.*

## 2.3 Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 36

Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 36 (LACWD) has a service area that encompasses approximately 6,600 acres in the Hasley Canyon area and the unincorporated community of Val Verde. LACWD has about 1,350 service connections. Prior to 2012, LACWD had typically obtained its full water supply from a connection to the CLWA's Castaic Conduit. However, beginning in 2012 and continuing through 2015, that imported water supply was reduced to about one-third of the overall water supply by groundwater pumped from the Saugus Formation.

**Mission Statement:** *The mission of LACWD is to provide reliable, high-quality water and responsive customer care in a safe, cost-effective, sustainable, and environmentally responsible manner; and to foster mutual respect, professional growth, and a positive workplace.*

## 2.4 Newhall County Water District

Newhall County Water District's service area is approximately 24,170 acres and includes portions of the City of Santa Clarita and unincorporated portions of Los Angeles County in the communities of Newhall, Canyon Country, Valencia, and Castaic with about 9,750 service connections. NCWD supplies water from both groundwater and imported water sources (with groundwater historically being the more predominant source of supply), and in 2015 groundwater accounted for 69 percent of supply.

**Mission Statement:** *The Mission of NCWD is to provide quality water service at a reasonable cost by practicing careful stewardship of natural resources, utilizing innovative measures, and providing a quality working environment.*

## 2.5 Valencia Water Company

Valencia Water Company's service area serves about 31,350 service connections in a portion of the City of Santa Clarita and in the unincorporated communities of Castaic, Newhall, Saugus, Stevenson Ranch, and Valencia, representing an area of about 18,000 acres. VWC supplies water from both groundwater and imported water sources in generally even proportions historically, with slightly more supply generally coming from imported sources (however, in 2015, groundwater was 70 percent of supply). VWC also has a small amount of recycled water for non-potable use.