

North San Joaquin Water Conservation District

Operations Update

Saturday, September 12, 2026



Hundreds of Mallards now call Lakso Basin their vacation home

Water Delivery Dashboard:

	Direct Div	Storage Div	Total
North System Recharge:	2,859** +	2529.5	5,388.5AF
North System Irrigation:		177.5	177.5 AF
Gill Creek Private Pump*:		240	240 AF
Tracy Lakes Recharge:	0		0 AF
South System***:	228 +	1873	2101 AF
<u>CalFed Recharge:</u>	<u>467</u>		<u>467 AF</u>
TOTAL	3,554		8374 AF

The Dashboard starts October 1 and is updated through 9/12 at 2:17 PM. CalFed is an estimate based on run hours.

* Gill Creek is a SWEEP Grant funded private pump that purchases Permit 10477 Water from the District for non-riparian land. Staff and the landowner calculated that the pump will take 240 AF for the irrigation season.

** 349 AF of this number was purchased from WID in October of 2025.

***This includes recharge and irrigation.

Operations Update: The North System ran at 14 CFS all week. Creekside came back on Monday. The North Pump meters needed some maintenance and new batteries this week.

Fortunately, we had some in stock so the system didn't lose any meter reads. We ordered more to keep on hand.

The South System was off over the weekend given reduced irrigation demands for harvest and an effort to dry out the leaks on Tretheway. It came back on at 4 CFS on Monday for the Bear Creek irrigators and bumped up to 8 CFS for the Pixley irrigators on Wednesday night. It will drop back to 4 CFS today to allow the olives on Tretheway to dry out again. Richard Rodriguez will be out on Tretheway Thursday to pull a ditch between the rows to see if we can get the water away from the olive's feet for the remainder of the irrigation season.

Staff installed a gas tank and pump on the operations truck. While we do have locks on the fill tank, we plan to keep the tank empty between refills given the high value contents. We also bought a grease gun, and the materials for the 50 hour oil change which we will hit next week.



Speaker Requests:

Staff gave Roggel Rogers from Sustainable Conservation a tour of Lakso and the North Pump this week. Roggel was incredibly impressed by the recharge capacity and habitat impact of the

Project. He requested staff present on the project at a Fresno State Recharge Conference in November and a DWR Webinar in February.

Teck Basin: Nic was able to use the new Bobcat to remove all the silt in Teck Basin over the course of the week. Richard Rodriguez will be out to rip the basin to 2.5 feet this weekend. The automated controls are not in yet but the gates can be manually opened and closed so we hope to flood Teck Basin starting Monday or Tuesday. Water won't impact the remaining installation for the meters so Staff is ready to put the recharge capacity to use.



Teck Basin with the silt windrows all removed



Silt Removal with the new Bobcat

Locust Tree Basin: Arnaudo started lifting the control structure at the toe of the Basin from the ground. They also built up the berms on the south and east of the basin and installed the ditch turn on the north west corner.

Staff heard from the USDA this week requesting additional details on the transfer of the \$1,000,000 earmark from Handel Road to the South Main pipeline. The Board approved the transfer to construct the pipeline between the south end of Locust Tree Basin and the Mettler Box and between the north end of Locust Tree Basin and Locust Tree Road earlier this year. USDA staff reported that they expect to have the approval for us in writing next week. However, they will require a new bid process for the work so we may not be able to time it perfectly with the existing project.

Staff talked to Don Wortley about ripping the bottom of the Locust Tree Basin to 5.5 feet. The cost of diesel, over \$8.00 a gallon, made Don wince but he gave us an estimate of 11,000-12,000 dollars to do the 14 acres that will be ready to rip next week. It includes a mobilization cost of \$1200 which we could avoid by scheduling it all at the end of the project. However, we would likely lose the chance to put water in the basin till next year.



Arnaudo Framing the box that will direct water back into the South Main Pipeline at the Toe of Locust Tree Basin

Parting Shot:



The New Rubicon automated valves and meters are installed at Teck Basin