



# STAFF REPORT

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**Meeting Type:** Board of Directors  
**Title:** General Manager's Report January 2026  
**From:** Ben Horenstein, General Manager  
**Meeting Date:** February 24, 2026

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**TYPE OF ITEM:** X Action Information

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve Report

## SUMMARY:

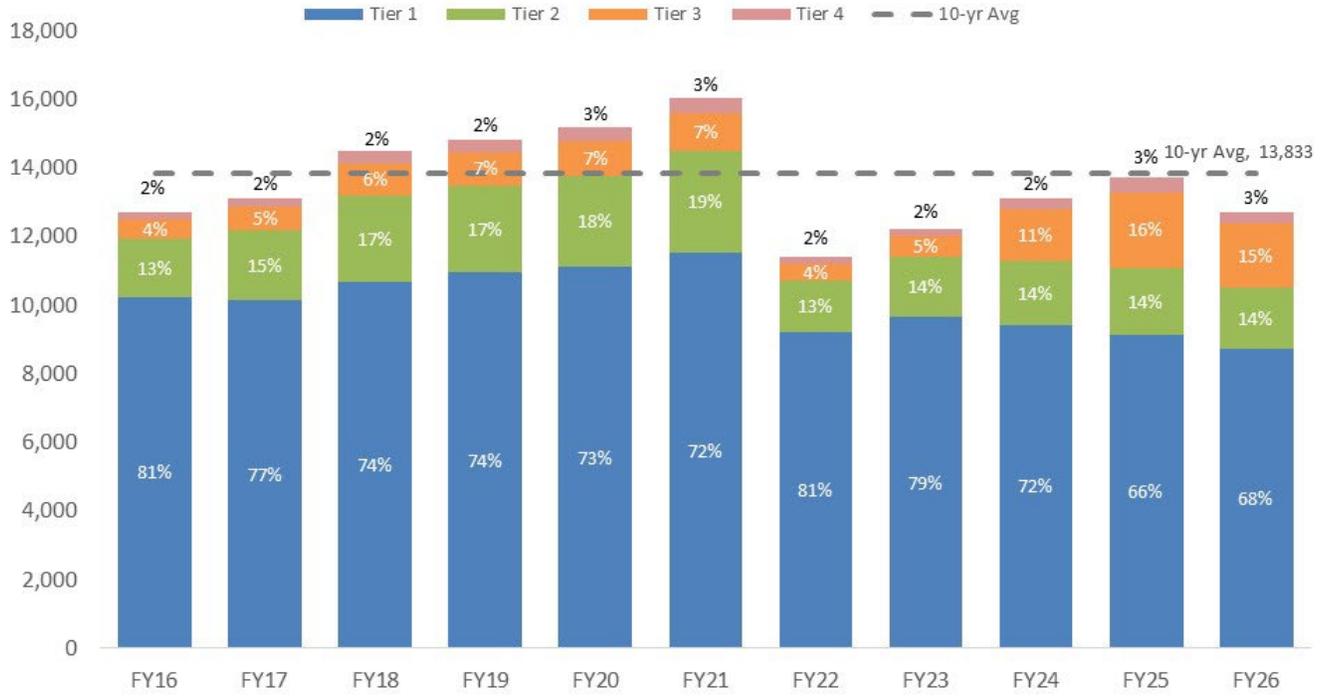
### A. HIGHLIGHTS:

- The daily average net production for the month of January 2026 was 13.8 MGD compared to 14.3 MGD for the month of January 2025. Typical usage for January is 17.1 MGD.
- Staff completed the 60% design of the Hind Tanks Replacement Project. This project will replace two of the four remaining redwood tanks in our system with two new 200,000-gallon welded steel tanks, improving system reliability and seismic resiliency in the District's distribution system.
- Staff responded to 1,480 underground service alert tickets and marked out approximately 39,324 feet (~7.5 miles) of pipe in the month of January, helping ensure that District underground infrastructure was not damaged by contractors or homeowners during excavation work.
- Staff implemented an alarm protocol designed to notify Distribution System Operators through SCADA of unchanged data from the U.S. Geological Survey flow sensor at Samuel P. Taylor State Park. Receiving real-time data information allows for improved flow control with Kent Lake stream release.
- Staff responded for two after hour back-to-back water main breaks on January 26th. The first was reported at the 4200 block of Redwood Highway in San Rafael and shortly thereafter the second was reported just down the road at 370 Channing Way in San Rafael. Two initial crews were dispatched to repair the leaks with one crew being relieved at two o'clock in the morning ensuring repairs continued throughout the night at the 4200 block of Redwood Highway, and the second crew being relieved at the start of the next working day to continue repairs at 370 Channing Way.
- The District continued implementation of BFFIP Year 7 through December 2025 with a focus on forest maintenance in several units surrounding Bon Tempe Treatment Plant totaling 200+

acres. New work included continued Forest Thinning project in a 71 acre unit near Fish Grade, and ongoing Fuelbreak Construction in a 15 acre unit near Fern Canyon Tank.

- Watershed Pile Burning work resumed in the Ross Reservoir area, and across 6 burn days in December the District burned 320 piles.
- On January 10 the District led an educational walk for over 50 people on Lagunitas Creek to highlight recently completed restoration work and ongoing fisheries monitoring efforts.
- Fisheries staff continued weekly salmon surveys throughout the Lagunitas Creek watershed, with preliminary results indicating high numbers of Chinook and steelhead and a below-average number of Coho. Salmon Monitoring data can be viewed here  
<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/dashboards/8885849c033f45daae033aaa45c6606b>

## TIER CONSUMPTION AS OF JANUARY 2026 (Acre Feet)



AWARDED GRANTS							
PROJECT	FUNDER	FUNDER PRIORITIES	FUNDING OPPORTUNITY	MATCHING PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	AWARD AMOUNT
Prop.1. Round 2 IRWM Disadvantaged Community	DWR	Water Infrastructure	Prop.1. Round 2 IRWM Disadvantaged Community	Marin City/San Rafael Infrastructure	Replacing aging transmission lines and laterals in Marin City and San Rafael's Canal District	Awarded; in progress and on track. Coordinating site visit with DWR/SFEP.	\$6,408,000
Forestry Corps	CCNB	Vegetation Management		Ongoing Forestry work	Workforce development; state funding directly to CCNB to fund crews working on the watershed	Awarded; in progress and on track.	\$500,000
Fisheries Restoration Grant Program	CDFW	Fisheries	Fisheries Restoration Grant Program (FRGP)	Lagunitas Creek Restoration	Lagunitas Creek Coho Habitat Enhancement Plan - 100% Designs for Phase 2 Sites (7, 8, 9, 10, 11); CEQA	Awarded; in progress and on track.	\$599,689
Lagunitas Creek Salmonid Spawning Gravel Improvement Project	DWR	Fisheries	Riverine Stewardship Program (RSP)	Lagunitas Creek Restoration	Gravel augmentation for Lagunitas CreekThe Lagunitas Creek Salmon Spawning Gravel Project will inject 1,700 tons of clean river-run gravel just below Peters Dam and Kent Lake at two sites within Lagunitas Creek. This project is part of a larger 13-site project with over 100 large wood structures and gravel to restore 4 miles of Lagunitas Creek to its historical geomorphic condition. This would be the first time that gravel augmentation would be conducted in Lagunitas Creek.	Awarded; in progress and on track.	\$590,000
Lagunitas Creek Salmonid Spawning Gravel Improvement Project	USBR Environmental Restoration Project	Fisheries		Lagunitas Creek Restoration	Gravel augmentation for Lagunitas Creek Sites 1-3	Awarded; in progress and on track. Working on no-cost extension.	\$1,400,000
Rain Water Harvesting Project	MCSTOPP	Conservation		Conservation	Barrels for customers	Awarded; in progress and on track.	\$15,032
Water Conservation: turf rebates	USBR	Conservation	Water and Energy Efficiency Grant (WEEG)	Conservation		Awarded; in progress and on track.	\$722,925
Prop 1. Fisheries Restoration Grants Concept Proposals	CDFW	Fisheries	Lagunitas Creek Coho Enhancement Project Phase 1	Lagunitas Creek Restoration	Lagunitas Creek Restoration Sites 1-6	Awarded; in progress and on track.	\$4,659,898
Azalea Hill Trail Restoration	California State Parks	Trail Restoration	Recreational Trails Program (RTP)	Watershed	Azalea Hill Restoration	Awarded; in progress and on track. Working on no-cost extension to wrap up closeout items.	\$952,657
One Tam Regional Forest Health Project	CA WCB	Forestry Restoration		BFFIP Implementation		Awarded; in progress and on track. MMWD funds have all been spent down.	\$4,260,000
WaterSMART Applied Science	USBR	Water Resources		Advanced Weather Modeling	Funding for weather modeling to inform water resources management	Awarded; in progress. Expect that funds will be entirely spent down by the next reporting period.	\$150,628.00
One Tam Regional Forest Health Project Phase II	CAL FIRE	Forestry Restoration	California Climate Investments Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Forest Health Program 2023-2024	BFFIP Implementation	BFFIP Implementation for 2-3 years	Awarded; in progress and on track.	\$6,966,078
<b>TOTAL FUNDED:</b>							<b>\$27,224,907</b>

PENDING GRANTS							
PROJECT	FUNDER	FUNDER PRIORITIES	OPPORTUNITY	DATE SUBMITTED	AMOUNT REQUESTED	DESCRIPTION	STATUS
Lagunitas Creek Coho Enhancement Phase 2	Wildlife Conservation Board	Restoration	Full Application	8/27/2025	\$1,109,000	Short pre-application submitted to WCB for review 5/27/25. The District was invited to submit a full proposal on 7/10.	Pending; on the agenda for the February 26, 2026 WCB board meeting.
One Tam Block Grant	California Natural Resources Agency	Forestry Restoration	Block/Regional Grant	7/2/2025	\$10,371,070	One Tam block grant request to CNRA to increase the pace and scale of forestry work between FY26 and FY32. Total request across One Tam agencies is \$28,378,435. MMWD's request of \$10,371,070 would enable us to complete an estimated 2,700 additional treatment acres during the project period.	Pending

UPCOMING GRANTS						
FUNDER	OPPORTUNITY	FUNDER PRIORITIES	PROJECT	DESCRIPTION	STATUS	
Various	Prop. 4 Bond Funding	Various	TBD	granting agencies complete or update program guidelines. A legislative fix (AB 35) has passed the Assembly and is in the Senate.	Monitoring	
Economic Development Agency	Economic	Disaster Recovery	TBD	Federal - \$1.45B in available funds on a rolling (first-come, first served) basis. Staff attended an informational webinar on 11/13 to inform next steps and better understand alignment. This opportunity is primarily focused on funding public-private partnerships that will increase economic output (e.g., building a data center).	On hold	
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Water Resources Development Act 2022	Various	TBD	\$2M for Marin Water is written into the current FY26 Army Corps funding bill, which was passed by the House and Senate and signed into law. The Army Corps is now working on a FY26 work plan based on the bill. Once the Corps has a work plan in place, we will begin coordinating with the San Francisco District of the Army Corps.	Secured	

**DISCUSSION:**

**B. SUMMARY:**

- AF = Acre Feet
- Mg/L = milligrams per liter
- MPN = most probable number
- MPY = mils per year
- MG = million gallons
- NTU = nephelometric turbidity units

**1. Water Production:**

	FY 2025/26		FY 2024/25	
	(million gallons)	(acre-feet)	(million gallons)	(acre-foot)
<b>Potable</b>				
Total production this FY	4,139	12,703	4,499	13,808
Monthly production, January	428	1,314	458	1,405
Daily average, January	13.82	42.40	14.77	45.33
<b>Recycled</b>				
Total production this FY	127.98	392.76	167.64	514.45
Monthly production, January	4.22	12.95	8.86	27.19
Daily average, January	0.14	0.42	0.29	0.88
<b>Raw Water</b>				
Total production this FY	71.58	219.66	73.38	225.2
Monthly production, January	25.62	78.62	11.82	36.27
Daily average, January	0.83	2.54	0.38	1.17
<b>Imported Water</b>				
Total imported this FY	1,509	4,630	1,433	4,397
Monthly imported, January	26	79	12	36
<b>Reservoir Storage</b>				
Total storage, January	25,767	79,077	25,927	79,566
Storage change during January	1,800	5,525	00	00
<b>Stream Releases</b>				
Total releases this FY	1,893	5,811	1,931	5,926
Monthly releases, January	267	819	421	1,293

**2. Precipitation:**

	<u>FY 2025/26 (in.)</u>	<u>FY 2024/25 (in.)</u>
ALPINE	24.64	29.76
BON TEMPE	18.97	24.35
KENT	22.2	31.60
LAGUNITAS	23.77	28.09

NICASIO	14.27	21.22
PHOENIX	21.56	29.10
SOULAJULE	14.6	23.05
Average to date = 30.11 inches		

### 3. Water Quality:

<u>Laboratory</u>	<u>FY 2025/26</u>	<u>FY 2024/25</u>
Water Quality Complaints:		
Month of Record	12	18
Fiscal Year to Date	96	135
Water Quality Informational Inquiries:		
Month of Record	6	10
Fiscal Year to Date	67	85

The WQ Lab ensured that the water supplied met or surpassed water quality regulations by collecting and analyzing 1,626 analyses on treatment plants and distribution system samples.

Mild steel corrosion rates averaged 1.96 (0.24 – 3.92) MPY. The AWWA has recommended an operating level of <5 MPY with a goal of <1 MPY.

Complaint Flushing: No flushing events were performed for the month on record.

Disinfection Program: 2,072' of new pipeline was disinfected during the month of January. Performed chlorination on 7 water storage tanks to ensure compliance with bacteriological water quality regulations.

Tank Water Quality Monitoring Program: Performed 101 water quality-monitoring events on storage tanks for various water quality parameters this month to help ensure compliance with bacteriological water quality regulations.

#### Summary:

The Lab analyzed 1,626 treatment plant and distribution water samples, and the water quality department treated 7 tanks for low chlorine and checked an additional 101 tanks for low chlorine residual in January 2026.

**4. Water Treatment:**

<u>Treatment Results</u>	<u>San Geronimo</u>		<u>Bon Tempe</u>		<u>Ignacio</u>	
	Average	Monthly	Average	Monthly	Average	Monthly
		Goal		Goal		Goal
Turbidity (NTU)	0.06	≤ 0.10	0.03	≤ 0.10	0.06	≤ 0.10
Chlorine residual (mg/L)	2.79	2.75 *	2.74	2.75 *	2.72	2.75 *
Color (units)	0.4	≤ 15	0.1	≤ 15	0.1	≤ 15
pH (units)	7.8	7.8*	7.8	7.8*	8.0	8.1**

\* Set monthly by Water Quality Lab

\*\* pH to Ignacio is controlled by SCWA

**5. Capital Improvement:**

- a. Pine Mountain Tank Phase 2 – New Water Tanks Project (D21043): The Pine Mountain Tunnel Tanks Replacement Project is a multi-year two-phased project that will replace the existing Pine Mountain Tunnel. The current project (Phase 2) will construct two 90-foot inside diameter pre-stressed concrete potable water storage tanks, install yard piping and control systems, and complete final site grading.
  - Project Budget: \$19,142,500
  - Monthly Activities: The Contractor has completed the first season of Phase 2 construction work and demobilized equipment for the Northern Spotted Owl work prohibition period beginning February 1. The District will begin construction work after the prohibition period ends on August 1, 2026, or after biological surveys identify that owls have fledged their nests. The District will begin tank construction in summer 2026 for three more construction seasons, with an anticipated completion in 2029.
  
- b. San Geronimo Treatment Plant Roof Replacement Project (D21034): The San Geronimo Treatment Plant Roof Replacement Project is a component of the District’s Capital Improvement Program. This project will remove and replace the existing leaky roof membrane with a new Class A Fire Rated Thermoplastic Polyolefin (TPO) and add fall protection to the San Geronimo Treatment Plant and North Marin Line Pump Station.
  - Project Budget: \$ 1,495,747.00
  - Monthly Activities: The Contractor continues to install the new roofing system. When the roof installation is complete, the contractor will install fall protection guardrails and access ladders. Project completion is estimated Summer 2026.
  
- c. Canal Pipeline Replacement Project (GC25005): The Canal Pipeline Replacement Project will install approximately 3,800 feet of new 12”, 8”, 6”, and 4” welded steel pipe to replace

asbestos-cement pipe and leak-prone plastic service laterals installed as early as 1951. The District was awarded a Bay Area Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Proposition 1 Round 2 grant in the amount of \$6,408,000 to implement the Marin City/San Rafael Water Supply Resilience Project. The grant also includes funding for community partners to conduct project-related outreach to support implementation and community-based water education activities.

- Project Budget: \$2,958,870
- Monthly Activities: The Contractor continues to perform water service installations, final paving, and punch list items. Project completion is estimated in March 2026.

d. Bon Tempe Treatment Plant Backwash Valve Replacement Project (D23008): This project is part of the District's Capital Improvement Program and will address the deteriorating condition of the existing backwash system by replacing existing backwash valves, select pipe, and associated appurtenances.

- Project Budget: \$1,200,960
- Monthly Activities: The Contractor has completed all exterior construction work including the 24-inch filter backwash pipeline, a motor operated valve vault, and 8-inch plant water pipeline. The contractor demobilized equipment for the Northern Spotted Owl work prohibition period beginning February 1. Work that remains includes interior backwash valve replacements, interior 8-inch plant water pipeline, and miscellaneous construction items. The project completion is estimated May 2026.

e. Kastania Pump Station Rehabilitation Project Phase II (D21027): This project will install a single, new high efficiency pump and motor and will incorporate various new drainage features at Kastania Pump Station. The project will also install a new 16" pressure relief valve and 8,000-gallon pressure relief discharge tank at Ignacio Treatment Plant.

- Project Budget: \$3,733,577
- Monthly Activities: The contract was awarded at the December 9 Board of Directors meeting, and has been executed. A preconstruction meeting was held January 6, and current work activities include submittal review and material procurement. Project completion is estimated Summer 2027.

f. Marin City Phase II Pipeline Replacement Project (GC25005): Marin City Phase II Pipeline Replacement Project is a component of the District's Capital Improvement Program. The Project will install approximately 10,440 feet of 16, 8, 6 and 4-inch welded steel pipe to replace the old, leak prone, seismic deficient cast iron and asbestos cement piping installed as early as 1961.

- Project Budget: \$5,387,010
- Monthly Activities: The Contractor has mobilized equipment to the project site and begun potholing and main pipeline installations. The project is estimated to be completed by July 2026.

g. Sleepy Hollow Pipeline Replacement Project (F24002): Sleepy Hollow Pipeline Replacement Project is a component of the District's Fire Flow Improvement Program. This Project will install approximately 4,250 feet of new 12-, 8-, and 6-inch welded steel pipe to replace old, leak-prone, fire flow deficient piping installed as early as 1932.

- Project Budget: \$2,328,132

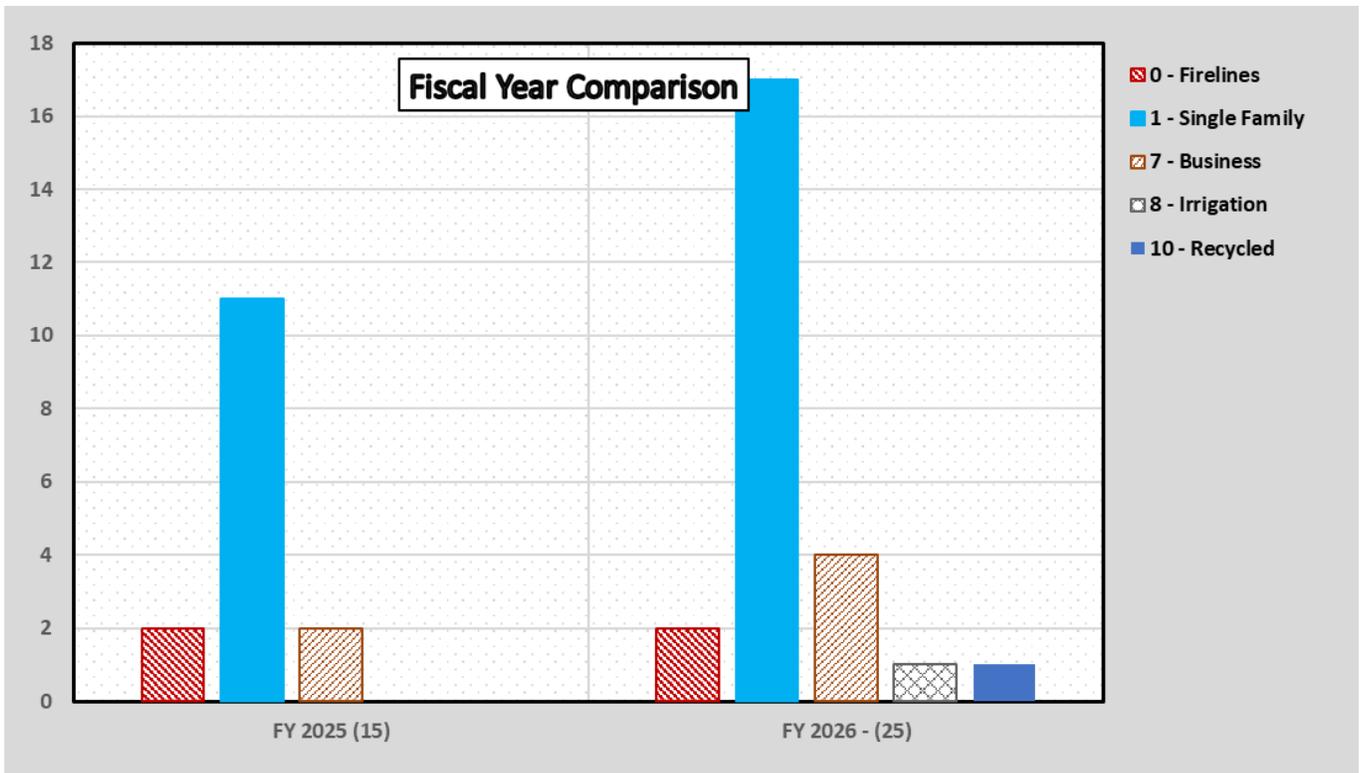
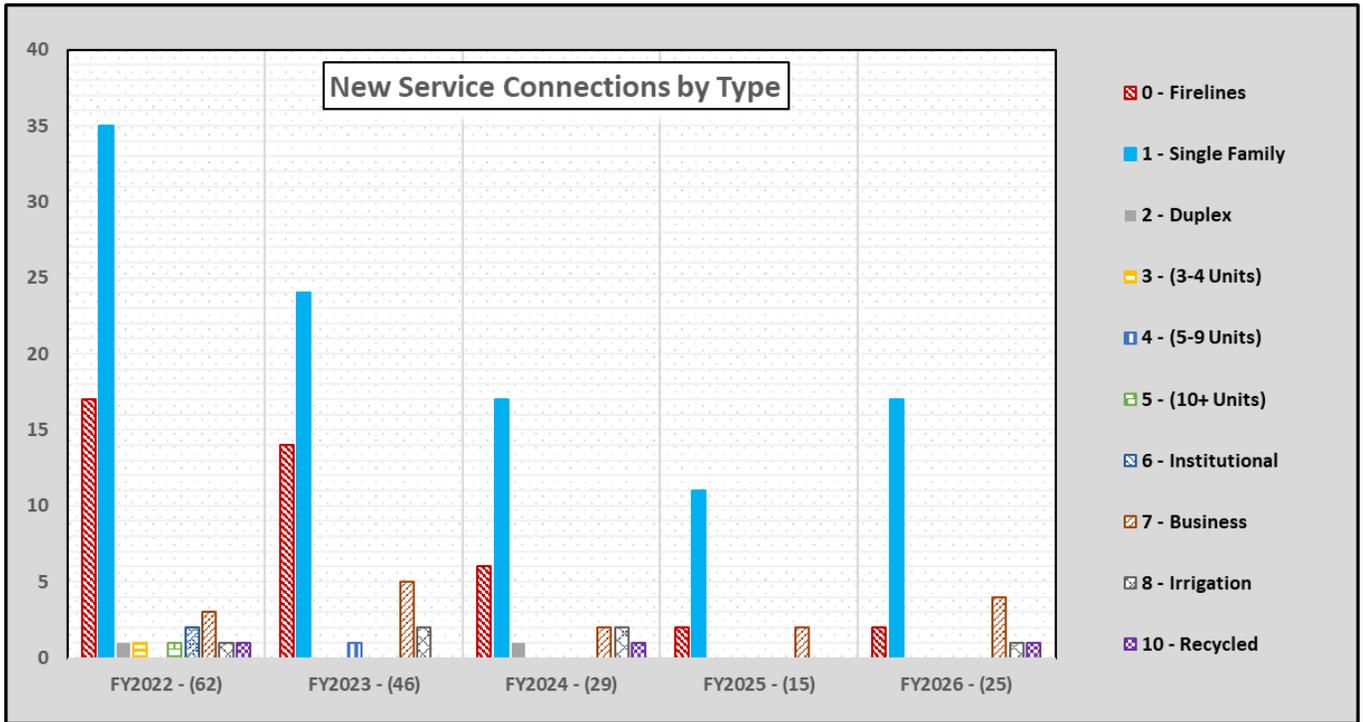
- Monthly Activities: The contract was awarded at the December 16 Board of Directors meeting, and the contract has been executed. Work is anticipated to begin February 2026, and be completed Summer 2026.

h. Alpine Barge Anchor and Pipe Float Replacement Project (D24010): This project will install new pipe floats, barge anchoring, connections, and appurtenances at the Alpine Reservoir pump barges located within District Watershed Lands.

- Project Budget: \$262,000
- Monthly Activities: The District has begun preparations for performing this work using the On-Call Capital Construction Contract. A preconstruction meeting was held with the District’s Contractor in December and work is anticipated to begin February 2026.

6. Other:

<b>Pipeline Installation</b>	<b>FY 2025/26</b>	<b>FY 2024/25</b>
Pipe installed during January (feet)	1,407	1,890
Total pipe installed this fiscal year (feet)	10,893	17,861
Total miles of pipeline within the District	908*	908*
<i>* Reflects adjustment for abandoned pipelines</i>		
<b>Pipe Locates (1,480 Responses)</b>	<b>FY 2025/26</b>	<b>FY 2024/25</b>
Month of January (feet)	39,324	37,375
Total this fiscal year (feet)	233,849	265,736
<b>Main Line Leaks Repaired</b>	<b>FY 2025/26</b>	<b>FY 2024/25</b>
Month of January	3	9
Total this fiscal year (7/1/25-5/31/26)	85	94
<b>Services</b>	<b>FY 2025/26</b>	<b>FY 2024/25</b>
Service upgrades during January	10	23
Total service upgrades this FY	100	115
Service connections installed during January	1	3



## **7. Recruitments and Hires:**

### **The District recruited for the following positions:**

1. Accounting Supervisor
2. Administrative Analyst
3. Assistant or Associate Engineer
4. Field Supervisor
5. Landscape and Facilities Maintenance Coordinator
6. Park Ranger I/II
7. Watershed Aide (Veg Management)

### **The District hired new employees for the following positions:**

1. Associate Engineer

### **Employees promoted through competitive process:**

1. Superintendent of Operations (Mechanical, Electrical, and Corrosion)
2. Water System Technician

**8. Demand Management:**

	Jan-26	FY 25/26 TOTAL	FY 24/25 TOTAL	FY 23/24 TOTAL
<b>WATER-EFFICIENCY PROGRAMS</b>				
<b>Water-Use Site Surveys</b>				
<b>Conservation Assistance Program (CAP) Consultations</b>				
Residential properties resi 1-2 (single-family)	62	539	692	404
Residential properties resi 3-5 (multi-family units)	0	9	10	6
Non-residential properties resi 6-7 (commercial)	0	0	1	0
Dedicated irrigation accounts resi 8-10 (large landscape)	0	3	7	0
<b>Marin Master Gardeners' Marin-Friendly Garden Walks</b>				
Residential garden walks	7	86	147	173
<b>Public Outreach, Education, Customer Service</b>				
Public outreach events (number of people attending)	22	2522	3870	7022
Public education events (number of participants)	0	330	265	425
Department customer calls/emails	379	3546	6124	4485
Outreach to new Marin Water customers (letters sent)	240	1084	1483	1908
<b>School Education</b>				
<b>School assemblies</b>				
Number of activities	0	6	19	19
Number of students reached	0	1885	7212	21850
<b>Field trips</b>				
Number of activities	0	3	22	16
Number of students reached	0	60	471	343
<b>Classroom presentations</b>				
Number of activities	0	5	13	14
Number of students reached	0	114	390	457
<b>Other (e.g. Earth Day booth events, school gardens)</b>				
Number of activities	0	0	2	3
Number of students reached	0	0	225	400
<b>Incentives</b>				
Rain Barrel/Cisterns approved	0	3	14	9
Rain Barrel/Cisterns gallons	0	1860	13650	0
Rain Barrel Give-a-way (Gallons)	0	9150	33550	4840
"Cash for Grass" Lawn Replacements total properties approved	11	55	81	61
"Cash for Grass" (Best Practices) square ft. lawn replaced	0	3721	17699	0
"Cash for Grass" (Standard) square ft. lawn replaced	28686	72032	51049	0
"Cash for Grass" (MCSTOPP) square ft. lawn replaced	4300	5420	3555	0
Number of Laundry-to-Landscape Systems (kits) approved	0	0	0	1
Hot water recirculating system rebates	2	4	6	11
Pool Cover rebates	2	4	25	35
Number of Smart Home Water Monitor "Flume Direct Distribution" redeemed	30	266	456	544
Number of Smart Controllers MW rebates approved	1	14	37	49
Number of Smart Controllers "Rachio Direct Distribution" approved	1	67	184	219
Custom Rebate - Commercial and Multi-Family	0	0	1	0
<b>Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)</b>				
AMI leak letters sent to customers (>200 GPD)	72	675	1319	1330
<b>ORDINANCES</b>				
<b>Water Waste Prevention</b>				
Water Waste Reports Received	5	67	177	224
Water Waste Notifications Sent	0	11	34	49
<b>Landscape Plan Review</b>				
Plans submitted	10	67	90	117
Plans exempt	0	11	15	23
Plans completed	2	16	23	30
Plans in workflow (pass & fail)	6	109	139	172
<b>Tier 4 Exemption</b>				
Inspections that resulted in a pass	0	0	1	2

## 9. Watershed Protection:

### Waterfall Season on the Watershed

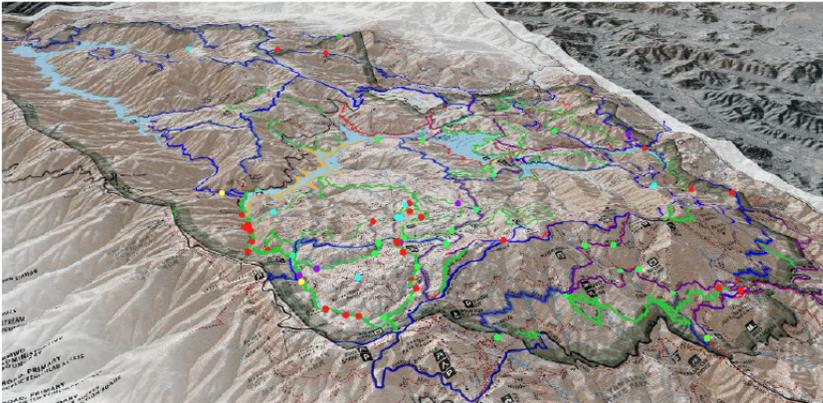
The heavy rains in late December and early January recharged the major waterfalls on the Mount Tamalpais Watershed. With this recharge and exposure in both traditional and social media, the crowds came out. The most significant impact was on Cataract Trail, where on weekends, the rangers often observed more than 500 people in just over an hour on the lower portion. The Cataract Trailhead near Alpine Dam was also heavily impacted. There are approximately 100 safe parking spots at that location, but a ranger counted nearly 200 cars one Saturday. The rangers increased patrols on Cataract Trail to manage visitation and reduce impacts from off-trail use, littering, and other violations. Cataract Trail also saw two medical aid calls that the rangers handled. One person broke their ankle and was taken by ambulance to the hospital, and the other involved a person that was having a diabetic emergency who declined medical transport to the hospital.



Cataract Trail on Saturday in January

### Rangers Digitally Track Patrol Activities

In January, the rangers began using the CalTopo team app to track patrol activities, including foot, bike, UTV, and boat patrols. This allows for better tracking of patrols and lets the rangers mark locations that need more attention or follow-up, such as downed trees or signs that need replacement. It also has a live track feature that, when turned on, shares the ranger's location with the other ranger logged into the account.



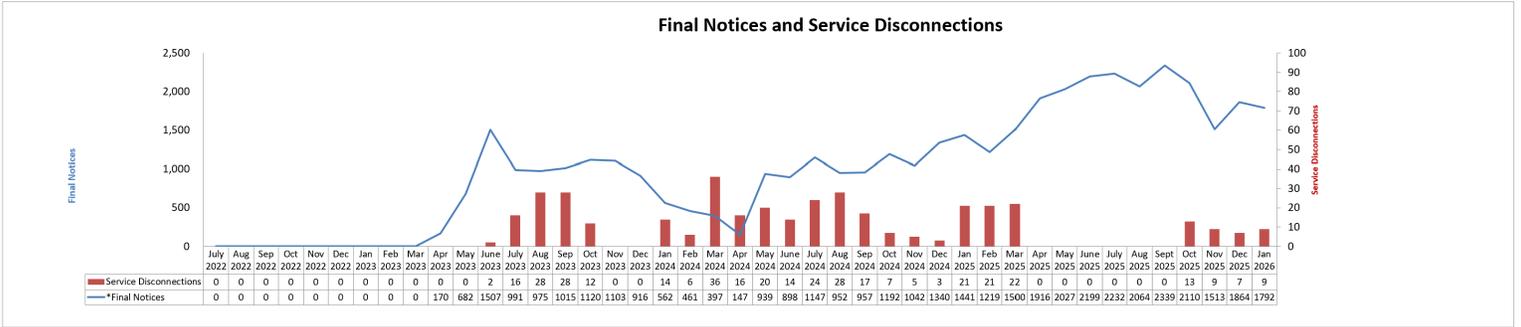
The Rangers CalTopo Patrol Map for January

<b>RANGER ACTIVITIES</b>	
<b>Law Enforcement</b>	<b>#</b>
<b>MMWD Ordinance Violations</b>	
• Cites	59
• Dog off Leash	2
• Bike on Trail	1
• Parking	56
<b>Penal Code Violations</b>	<b>#</b>
• Vandalism	15
• Auto Burglary	1
• Theft	2
<b>Vehicle Code Violations</b>	<b>#</b>
• Parking Violations Cites	27
• Vehicle Code Violation Warnings	14
<b>Fish and Wildlife</b>	<b>#</b>
• License Checks	25
• Warning for Fishing Violations	2
<b>Warnings</b>	<b>#</b>
• All	243
<b>Other</b>	
Misc. Law Enforcement Calls	25
Ranger Callout	2
<b>Medical/Fire</b>	<b>#</b>
Responses	
• Medical Calls	2
<b>Search and rescue</b>	<b>#</b>
Search and Rescue	2
Preventive Search and Rescue	9
<b>General</b>	<b>#</b>
Visitor Assists	322
Dam Checks	67
Assist MMWD groups	54
<b>Watershed Observation Reports</b>	<b>#</b>
Received	7
<b>Additional Patrols</b>	
Foot	138 miles
Bike	76 miles
ATV/UTV	183
Boat patrols	3
LIDAR patrols	3



# 10. Shutoff Notices and Disconnections:

- \*Final Notices
- Service Disconnections
- \* Includes 10 day and final notices



**FISCAL IMPACT:** Not Applicable.

**ATTACHMENT(S):** None.

DEPARTMENT OR DIVISION	DIVISION MANAGER	APPROVED
Office of the General Manager	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <b>Ben Horenstein</b> General Manager	<hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-top: 5px;"/> <b>Ben Horenstein</b> General Manager