



4699 HOLLISTER AVENUE
GOLETA, CALIFORNIA 93110-1999
TELEPHONE 805/964-6761
FAX 805/964-7002

PRESS RELEASE

News Media Contact:

John McInnes, General Manager
(805) 879-4620

jmcinnes@goletawater.com

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Goleta Water District Completes Project to Protect Monitoring Wells

GOLETA, California – This past fall, the Goleta Water District completed a project to protect and preserve -historic monitoring wells used to track water levels in the Goleta Groundwater Basin. The Basin is a vital water resource to over 80,000 people in the south coast area. The District monitors water levels within the basin to ensure water is available to its customers in the event of a drought.

Groundwater elevations in the Basin have been collected from wells since the 1940s. Forty-seven wells are used for this purpose.

An inspection of the wells showed that nineteen needed attention. The District made various upgrades to these 19 wells including concrete pads around the wellheads and installation of safety covers. “The District is always concerned about public safety and the safety of our employees. This project helps preserve our important monitoring wells and addresses safety concerns at the same time.” Said Board President Bill Rosen. The work was completed at minimal cost by using District Engineering staff to perform the necessary engineering work and District Operations staff to complete the construction work.

The District has also completed a land survey of the wells, updating location and elevation information to more precisely calibrate results. Additionally, the District has collected and entered all of the information gathered at its monitoring wells into a digital database. The most current monitoring tests, performed in late December, show that the Basin is near or above historical high groundwater conditions. This database is being incorporated into a Groundwater Management Plan which will be used by the District in its ongoing management of the basin.

The Goleta Water District’s service area spans 29,000 acres from the western edge of the City of Santa Barbara to El Capitan and provides water to a population of over 80,000.

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