

# SEVEN OAKS DAM ENHANCED RECHARGE PROJECT, PHASE 1B CONSTRUCTION STATUS- UPDATE

## Riverside Public Utilities

### Board of Public Utilities

April 14, 2025

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## BACKGROUND

### "New Conservation" projects:

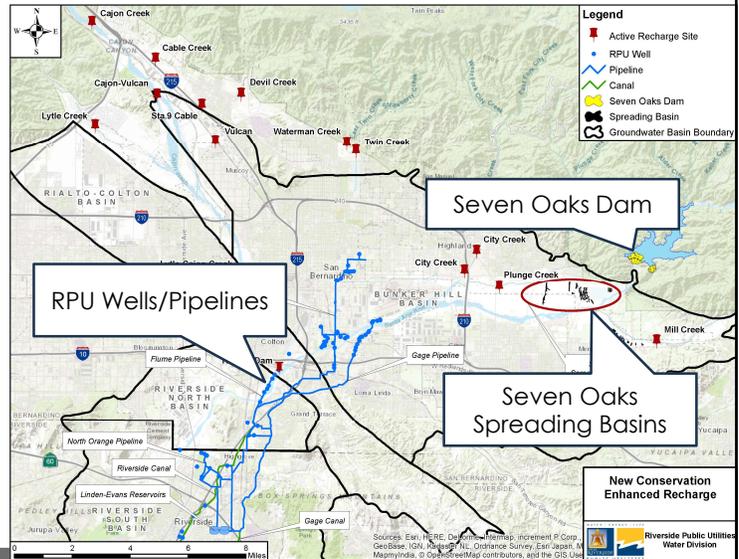
1. Seven Oaks Dam Initial Conservation
2. Seven Oaks Dam Enhanced Recharge

### Project purpose:

1. Increases groundwater recharge to Bunker Hill Basin
2. Acquire additional Water Rights

### Project Location :

1. East of Redlands
2. 2 miles downstream of the Dam



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## BACKGROUND

1. Riverside has invested ~ \$23.5 million since 1994
2. Riverside strategically increases extraction and export rights:
  - a. 1,719 AF/Y Initial Conservation.
  - b. 711 AF/Y ER
3. Multi Party Agreements (SB Valley as the lead agency)



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## BACKGROUND

### Enhanced Recharge Phases:

1. **Phase 1A:** Consists of the improvements to the San Bernardino Valley Water Conservation District's (WCD) canal, construction of the sedimentation basin and pipelines connecting to the Foothill Pipeline downstream of the Seven Oaks Dam.
2. **Phase 1B:** Consists of construction of new canals and 20 recharge basins.
3. **Phase 1C:** Consists of improvements to the Intake Structure and construction of debris removal equipment.

### What is the Enhanced Recharge in the Santa Ana River Basins Phase 1B (SARER 1B)?

1. Wet Year recharge of up to 78,500 af/yr.
2. Instantaneous Capture of 500 cfs.
3. "New Conservation" of approx. 11,000 af/year.



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## DISCUSSION

1. Phase 1B: Construction Started May 2023, completed ahead of schedule by 10 months (Dec 2024).
2. Construction costs: Base contract: \$51,380,900. Contingency/change orders: \$2,300,000, bringing total construction costs to \$53,680,900.
3. Environmental restoration work ongoing until March 2025, estimated at \$4,500,000.
4. Accelerated mitigation timeline (reduced from 5 to 3 years) achieved through a change order and use of existing rock-crushing operations.



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## PHASE 1B NEW FACILITIES CONSTRUCTION

1. 20 new recharge basins
2. 1.2 miles improved main channel
3. 50 Inlet & Outlet Structures
4. 7 New Basin Inlet Diversions
5. Improved recharge metering throughout basins

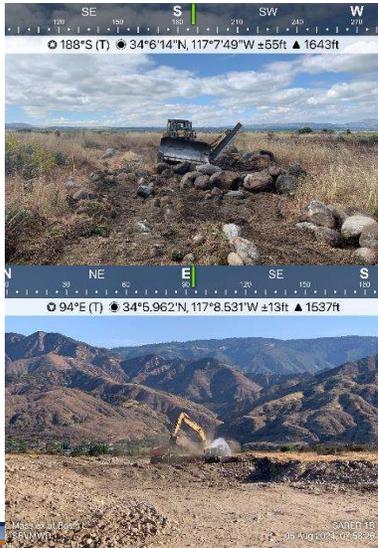


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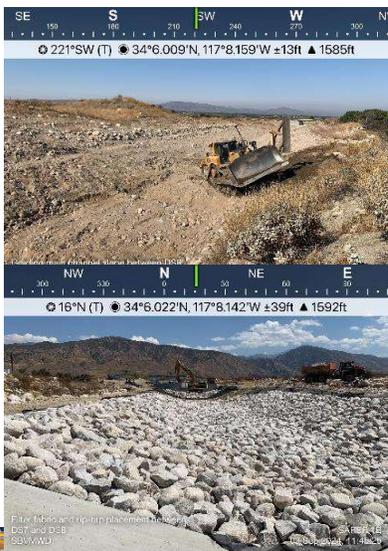
# CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS: BASINS GRADING



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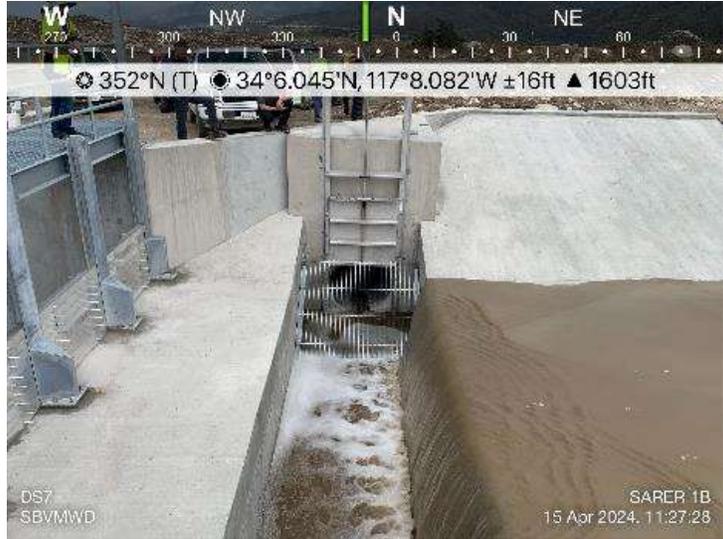
# CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS: MAIN CHANNEL



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# CONST. PROGRESS: STRUCTURES & PIPING



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# BEFORE CONSTRUCTION



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## WATER RECHARGE ACHIEVEMENTS

1. As of January 2024: Stormwater and Seven Oaks Dam releases began recharging new basins.
2. Additional recharge: 12,000–15,000 acre-feet captured.
3. Equivalent water rights from the State Water Project would cost: ~\$180M over 50 years.



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# DISCUSSION

1. June 2023 Groundbreaking Phase 1B
2. December 2023 Staff Site Visit
3. August 18, 2024: Tour of Phase 1B facilities for RPU Board members
4. February 20, 2025: Ribbon-cutting event.



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# JUNE 2023 GROUNDBREAKING PHASE 1B



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# DEC. 2023: STAFF SITE VISIT & CONSTRUCTION



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# AUGUST 2024: TOUR FOR BOARD MEMBERS



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# FEBRUARY 20, 2025: RIBBON CUTTING



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# FUTURE PHASE 1C

- 1. Intake structure improvements, projected cost: \$7.5M (Riverside’s share: \$1.62M)
- 2. Permits required: Federal 408 and 1602
- 3. Estimated construction start: Fiscal Year 2028

**Board approval required before Phase 1C begins.**



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# STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT



## Strategic Priority 4 – Environmental Stewardship

Goal 4.2 – Sustainably manage local water resources and maximize reliability



## Strategic Priority 6 – Infrastructure, Mobility & Connectivity

Goal 6.3 – Pursue funding opportunities for infrastructure development

### Cross-Cutting Threads



Community Trust



Equity



Fiscal Responsibility



Innovation



Sustainability & Resiliency



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# RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board of Public Utilities receive an update on the construction status of the Seven Oaks Dam Enhanced Recharge Project, Phase 1B.



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