

INTRODUCTION

Description of District

The Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Improvement District No. 1 was created in 1960 and operates under provisions of the California Water Conservation Law of 1931, Water Code Section 74000 et seq.

It was formed as an improvement district of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (the “Parent District”) for the purposes of furnishing water with the District.

The District includes the City of Solvang, communities of Los Olivos and Santa Ynez, intervening lands and property adjacent to Lake Cachuma in the Santa Ynez Valley. A map of the District is enclosed as Exhibit A.

A five-member board of directors, elected by divisions, governs the District. A General Manager is responsible for administrative functions.

District Services

This public agency provides retail water service. It currently serves approximately 2,220 municipal and industrial customers and approximately 117 agricultural customers.

Water supplied by the District is obtained primarily from the Cachuma Project with the remainder coming from other sources including District wells.

Detailed information about the District and its operations is enclosed as Exhibit B.

Other Governmental Agencies within the District

Local agencies that overlap the District include Cachuma Resource Conservation District, the Cities of Buellton and Solvang, County Service Area 32 (Unincorporated Law Enforcement), Oak Hill Cemetery District, Mosquito and Vector Management District of Santa Barbara County, Santa Barbara County Fire Protection District, Santa Ynez Community Services District and the Santa Ynez Water Conservation District.

This report is not a Municipal Service Review

While the matter has not been tested legally, the Commission has accepted the District position it is not a “special district” for purposes of LAFCO’s jurisdiction to regulate local governmental boundaries, nor does the District contribute annual financial support to the Commission as do independent special districts in Santa Barbara County.

RECOMMENDATION

Direct the staff to include this information with the studies of other local agencies in the Santa Ynez Valley.

**FOR A COPY OF EXHIBITS PLEASE CONTACT THE LAFCO
OFFICE. THEY WILL BE MAILED OR FAXED TO YOU.**