

EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT



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eastsidewaterdistrict.com

EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT E-NEWS OCTOBER 2026

FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

At the October 15, 2026, Joint Eastside Water District / Ballico Cortez Water District board meeting, we discussed:

❖ Projects:

- Approximately **8,000 acre-feet** of Replenishment Water has been used by landowners in EWD and Ballico Cortez Water District to date.
- The Monte Vista Recharge pond has taken approximately **180 acre-feet**.
- Davids Engineering is working on the **100%** design of the EARI Pipeline Project to deliver TID Replenishment Water to Sand Creek and Mustang Creek areas from the TID Main Canal to help address the groundwater water levels in ETSGSA. The Environmental document has been prepared. (*information below*)
- Landowners bids for several projects for Replenishment Water were reviewed and discussed. ____ was/were approved.
- **A Project interest Form** for Sand Creek and Mustang Creek Landowners is available at <https://www.eastsidewaterdistrict.com>.

❖ Merced Irrigation District

- To date landowners have taken all of its purchased **1,700 acre-feet** of water.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION

The Eastside Water District (EWD), as the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), in partnership with the Turlock Irrigation District (TID) and the East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETSGSA), has prepared an Initial Study (IS) with the intent to adopt a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) for the Eastside Aquifer Restoration Initiative (EARI) Project.

PUBLIC REVIEW PERIOD: The IS/MND is being circulated for public review and comment for a period of 30 days, beginning Tuesday October 13, 2026, and Thursday November 12, 2026. Written comments should be submitted and received no later than 5:00 P.M, Pacific Standard Time, on November 12, 2026. Written comments should be sent to:

Sarah Woolf, General Manager

Eastside Water District

731 East Yosemite Avenue, Suite B #147

Merced, California 95340

Comments and questions may also be emailed to: kareneastsidewater@att.net

Hardcopies of the IS/MND have been delivered to the following public libraries:

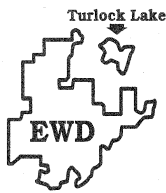
Turlock Public Library - 550 N Minaret Ave, Turlock CA 95380

Stanislaus County Library - 1500 I St, Modesto, CA 95354

Merced County Library - 2100 O St, Merced, CA 95340

An electronic copy is also posted on the EWD website at: <https://eastsidewaterdistrict.com/>

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER IS/MND: The EWD Board of Directors will consider the IS/MND for adoption at a regularly scheduled EWD Board meeting. The anticipated Board meeting date is December 17, 2026, at 9:00 AM. The meeting will take place at Cortez Hall, 12937 North Cortez Avenue, Turlock, CA. 95380.



EASTSIDE WATER DISTRICT



Important Dates and Upcoming Meetings

ETS GSA Board Meeting

October 22, 9:00 am.
Cortez Hall

ETS GSA TAC Meeting

November 10, 12:00 p.m.
Turlock Irrigation District

Veteran's Day

November 11

EWD Board Meeting

November 19, 9:00 am
Cortez Hall

ETS GSA Board Meeting

November 19, 11:00 am
Cortez Hall

Coming in November

Mustang and Sand Creek Landowner Meeting

Topics to include:
EARI Pipeline Project
El Niño Preparation

Stay informed! The board members encouraged landowners in Eastside Water District to attend the ETS GSA board meetings regularly and provide input. Find out more about the GSA at <https://www.turlockgroundwater.org>

If you want to receive agendas for Eastside Water District and the ETS GSA and other updates, email Karen Whipp at kareneastsidewater@att.net. to be added to our email list. Be sure to visit the EWD website at eastsidewaterdistrict.com for additional information.

