



1 Jeanne M. Zolezzi - State Bar Number: 121282
HERUM CRABTREE SUNTAG
2 *A California Professional Corporation*
5757 Pacific Avenue, Suite 222
3 Stockton, CA 95207
Telephone: (209) 472-7700
4 Email: jzolezzi@herumcrabtree.com

Exempt from Filing Fees
Pursuant to Gov't Code §6103

5 Lindsay Nielson – State Bar Number: 66989
LAW OFFICES OF LINDSAY F. NIELSON
6 845 E. Santa Clara Street
Ventura, CA 93001
7 Telephone: (805) 658-0977
Facsimile: (805) 641-1771
8 Email: nielsonlaw@aol.com

9 Attorneys for Cross-Defendants
VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT and
10 MEINERS OAKS WATER DISTRICT

11 **SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**
12 **COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES – SPRING STREET COURTHOUSE**

13 SANTA BARBARA CHANNELKEEPER,)
14 a California non-profit corporation,)
15 Petitioner,)
16 vs.)
17 STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL)
BOARD, a California State Agency; CITY OF)
18 SAN BUENAVENTURA, a California)
municipal corporation,)
19 Respondents.)

Case No.: 19STCP01176
CROSS-DEFENDANTS' VENTURA RIVER
WATER DISTRICT AND MEINERS OAKS
WATER DISTRICT STATUS
CONFERENCE REPORT

Further Status Conference Hearing
Date: November 2, 2021
Time: 2:00 p.m.
Dept.: 10

Action Filed: September 19, 2014

20 _____)
21 CITY OF SAN BUENAVENTURA, a)
California municipal corporation,)
22 Cross-Complainant)
23 vs.)
24 DUNCAN ABBOTT, an individual, et al.)
25 Cross-Defendants.)
26 _____)
27 _____)

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28

We do not necessarily disagree with Casitas’ statement in the Casitas Report that:
To the extent that the Court is inclined to allow a broader exploration of cause and effect relationships between groundwater pumping and specific impacts on fish and habitat, it needs to allow parties to make additional expert designations given the clear expansion of the scope of trial in Phase 1.

However, that is not the case here. The proponents of the Phase I trial have not asked for, and would oppose, a Phase I trial that goes beyond a determination of boundaries and hydrologic connection; Districts and the City would vigorously oppose any consideration or determination of “a broader exploration of cause and effect relationships between groundwater pumping and specific impacts on fish and habitat” in the Phase I trial. Those issues may be addressed in the future in this action, if necessary, but not in the Phase I trial, which is a straightforward inquiry as to boundaries and connectivity of the Watershed, not an inquiry into the materiality of individual impacts to the Watershed or the cause and effect of individual pumpers and diverters.

DATED: October 29, 2021

HERUM CRABTREE SUNTAG
A California Professional Corporation



By:

JEANNE M. ZOLEZZI
Attorneys for Cross-Defendants
VENTURA RIVER WATER DISTRICT
and MEINERS OAKS WATER DISTRICT