



# Bear Valley Basin

## Groundwater Sustainability Agency

C/O City of Big Bear Lake, Department of Water

Attention: Reginald A. Lamson

PO Box 1929 Big Bear Lake, CA 92315

**DATE:** June 27, 2024  
**TO:** Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Reginald A. Lamson, Administrator  
**RE:** Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

In Fiscal Year 2025, the Bear Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (BVBGSA) will continue to pursue its primary mission to support interagency efforts to ensure sustainable water supplies in the Bear Valley. BVBGSA is a Joint Powers Authority made up of four member agencies (Big Bear Area Regional Wastewater Management Agency - BBARWA, Big Bear Municipal Water District - BBMWD, Big Bear City Community Services District - BBCCSD, and the City of Big Bear Lake, Department of Water and Power - BBLDWP). Two years of higher-than-average rainfall has bolstered ground water supplied in the Bear Valley; however, longer term concerns remain. The Replenish Big Bear project is identified in the Bear Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and remains a principal strategic objective of BVBGSA.

### **Bear Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

The Bear Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (the Plan) is a planning document to ensure sustainable water supplies in the Bear Valley Region and complies with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The Plan requires BVBGSA to prepare and submit an Annual Report to the California Department of Water Resources by April 1st of each year. The Annual Report is based on established hydraulic data models. The BVBGSA Budget for FY 2025 includes an appropriation of \$35,000 for the FY 2025 Annual Report.

### **Replenish Big Bear**

Replenish Big Bear (the Project) is a forward-looking water supply project expected to produce millions of gallons of clean water annually protecting the Bear Valley community's future water supplies. The clean water produced will be used to increase ground and lake water levels throughout the Valley and help support the area's unique and diverse fish and wildlife and bolster the community's recreation and tourism.

BBARWA continues to move the project through regulatory review, pursue grant funding and build alliances for cost sharing. To date BBARWA has been awarded grants in the amount of \$26,942,543 for the project. Member agencies have pledged \$1,400,000 (\$350,000 per agency) to the project and initially provided funding in the amount of \$1,233,532 (\$308,383 per agency) which has been reimbursed by the grants received.

# Fiscal Year 2025 Budget

## Revenues

Revenues are based on contributions from member agencies. Under the terms of the Joint Power Agreement member agencies contribute in equal proportions to cover all necessary operating expenses of the agency. Revenues are projected to equal budgeted expenses. Revenues expected for fiscal year 2025 are shown below:

Revenue Source	2023 Actual	2024 Projected	2025 Expected	\$ Change	% Change
<b>BBLDWP Contributions</b>	\$11,510	\$11,900	\$12,100	\$200	2%
<b>BBMWD Contributions</b>	11,510	11,900	12,100	200	2%
<b>BBARWA Contributions</b>	11,510	11,900	12,100	200	2%
<b>BBCCSD Contributions</b>	<u>11,510</u>	<u>11,900</u>	<u>12,100</u>	<u>200</u>	2%
<b>Total</b>	\$46,040	\$47,600	\$48,400	\$800	2%

## Expenses

Expenses consist primarily of administrative expenses to maintain agency operations and professional service costs for hydrology reporting. Fiscal year 2025 budgeted expenses are expected to decrease slightly by \$860 or 2% from the fiscal year 2024 budget. A detailed breakdown of expenses is shown below:

Expense Type	2023 Actual	2024 Budgeted	2024 Projected	2025 Approved	\$ Change	% Change
<b>Bank Charges</b>	\$3,220	4,100	4,100	4,200	100	2%
<b>Insurance</b>	1,800	2,000	1,800	2,000	0	0%
<b>Hydrology Services</b>	34,590	35,000	35,000	35,000	0	0%
<b>Audit Services</b>	4,260	4,400	3,380	4,400	0	0%
<b>Memberships</b>	600	800	820	900	100	13%
<b>Other</b>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>2,960</u>	<u>2,500</u>	<u>1,900</u>	<u>(1,060)</u>	(39%)
<b>Total</b>	\$46,170	\$49,260	\$47,600	\$48,400	(860)	(2%)

Bank charges, insurance and memberships costs are expected to increase slightly with general inflation. Hydrology services are expected to remain flat. BVBGSA uses the same audit firm as BBLDWP which is under a new contract starting in 2025. The new audit contract reflects cost increases of 26% which is presumed for BVBGSA. Other expenses combined office supplies, computers/software and advertising into one category. DWP previously paid for a QuickBooks subscription for accounting purposes that was not renewed since BBLDWP's accounting system can adequately handle all accounting functions required by BVBGSA without the need for a separate subscription resulting in a net decrease in other expenses.