

**From:** [M](#)  
**To:** [larrylack@comcast.net](mailto:larrylack@comcast.net); [opinion@marinij.com](mailto:opinion@marinij.com); [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Russell](#)  
**Subject:** Desalination  
**Date:** Thursday, October 21, 2021 9:59:11 AM

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I wonder sometimes why this paper continues to print letters critical of the MMWD and their refusal to consider desalination to solve the water problem. Mr. Lack is correct in his criticism of the water district but so where 100s of others over the years who support desalination. In a world of growing population including California, water will be needed more in 50 years.

But what we are fighting are the environmentalists who see the ocean as their god. It is sacred to them and to desalinate would be a sin against nature, and their sea god. But the district will never say this, it sounds goofy but for sure that is their reasoning. Come on guys at the IJ stop with the desalination letters. The district solves the problem. They charge us more for less use, put condition on how much we can use but continue to get their grand salaries. There ought to be a law saying as the water fees increase their salaries must decrease. I bet after a while desalination would look good to them. The board suffers no consequences either financial or otherwise so they don't need to do anything, and they don't.

Robert A. Casper, SR  
San Rafael, CA

**From:** [Ben Poole](#)  
**To:** [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)  
**Subject:** Richmond San Rafael Bridge Bike Lane  
**Date:** Thursday, October 21, 2021 8:47:18 PM

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Dear President Koehler and Board Members,

I'm an East Bay resident and commute twice a week to my job in San Francisco, in addition to weekend rides, across the Richmond San Rafael Bridge in the bike lane. Please keep the bike lane available to cyclists during water pipe construction and after. Car travel negative externalities are many and the bike lane is a way to avoid them and COVID.

Thanks for your consideration.

Cheers,  
Ben

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [FRED AND JEAN BERENSMEIER](#)  
**To:** [Jack Gibson](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Larry Russell](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Ben Horenstein](#)  
**Subject:** Water conservation - involve kids  
**Date:** Thursday, October 21, 2021 11:30:10 PM

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Dear Water Board,  
You have a tough job. Thanks for what you do. Below is a suggestion to help your efforts.

My family founded and teaches in Wilderness Way, an environmental education organization that has worked at all grade levels in two schools in the Lagunitas School Dist. during the last 20 years. We have learned that kids can be powerful teachers. We especially love working with 4th and 5th graders. They are smart and have good hearts. I regret that you will be unable to see our efforts on our website as it is being revised to reflect some changes as a result of the pandemic and surge.

Suggestion: Wilderness Way urges you to assign or hire a person to contact school districts and get classes involved in spreading your conservation message of saving water and providing water saving tips. Some examples:

MMWD Water Education Projects:

Teach the students to read meters, check billing records and chart the savings to see how their family fares. Compare results with other students.

Contests

**MMWD Water Conservation Contest**

The XX grade class that conserves the most water over a two month (or four month) period will receive \$xxx. for their class to be used as desired and decided by the students.

**MMWD Best Water Tips Contest**

The XX grade class that provides the Best Water Tips by "deadline" will receive \$xxx. for their class to be used as desired and decided by the students.

**MMWD Water Conservation Poster Contest**

High School Students. Best poster on water conservation will receive \$xxx. An annual event.

Publish results and photos of winners in the MMWD customer newsletter.

Sincerely,  
Jean Berensmeier  
Lagunitas

PS Glad you are moving ahead with the pipeline but it is not the best answer for the long term. You need to move ahead with desalination promptly.

**From:** [Chris H](#)  
**To:** [Cynthia Koehler](#)  
**Subject:** Marin County water shortage.  
**Date:** Friday, October 22, 2021 11:13:33 AM

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Hello,

I was reading about your water shortage in the news. It seems to me that the biggest wasters of water are the golf courses. Close the golf courses. I think people would rather have water to drink and fresh vegetables than hit a ball around.

Thank you,  
Christopher Hintz

## Phone Message

1. 10-22-2021 Scott Jenson

Mr. Jenson has no confidence in our proposed Emergency Intertie Project, because what will happen if there is no water from our partners to share with us the water? He supports permanent desalination.

**From:** [cashwalsh1](#)  
**To:** [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Jack Gibson](#)  
**Subject:** Water Saver Credit and more  
**Date:** Friday, October 22, 2021 9:09:08 AM

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Dear Marin Water's Board of Directors-  
Jack, Monty, Larry, Cynthia, Larry,

We have been long time customers and work very hard to conserve water.  
We recently and for the first time received the super water saver credit- why is this.  
The first time.

When I spoke with a rep. in your customer service dept. to ask why we have not received it before, her response was that it is random and the computer does the credit.

Some customers get it every month and others maybe every now and the.  
This makes no sense to me.

We feel you should reward (with a discount) people who are conserving, and it should not be some random computer thing.

I also wrote to the Ca. Governor, senator and congress person to ask them to  
Stop farmers/companies from using Californias' hard earned water to produce nuts, animals or other items  
That are sent over seas. Can you look into this as well, please? Why are we conserving- letting our plants die - so  
someone in another country can enjoy  
Food grown with our water.

I received back a generic climate change letter from Mrs. Feinstein- which was useless.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Tina & Brian Walsh  
170 Tamal Vista Drive,  
San Rafael, CA. 94901

**From:** [john torrey](#)  
**To:** [Ben Horenstein](#); [Paul Sellier](#); [Jack Gibson](#); [Monty Schmitt](#); [Larry Bragman](#); [Cynthia Koehler](#); [Larry Russell](#)  
**Subject:** Desalination his a Major Part of the Solution  
**Date:** Saturday, October 23, 2021 7:59:15 AM

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I participated in Thursday night's MMWD webinar on specific areas of concentration for solving Marin's water crisis: namely water sale contracts from Central Valley farmers that would feed into the bridge pipeline and desalination. What we learned is that water sales are very competitive and of course Valley communities have their own water needs to consider before sales to Marin County. About desalination what we heard is that there are a lot of downsides to desalination including cost, the environmental impacts of powering the plants, and the negative effects of brine discharge on the seawater environment. As well, there is a long lead time before plants become operational.

But that begs the question: what is the most reliable water supply solution? The answer of course is desalination. There have been many advances in lessening the bad effects of desalination over the years, including renewable energy for powering desalination plants and reducing the bad effects of brine discharge. As well, there have been improvements in desalination technology.

All things considered the best solution is to find leased desalination plants that could be brought online relatively shortly. Is Jacobs Engineering, MMWD's consultant, the only source for finding leased desal plants? No, of course not. BTW, Poseidon built the Carlsbad plant in San Diego and is building the one in Huntington Beach. Poseidon is aligned with IDE Technologies, a prominent Israeli company, and the Antioch plant is being built Shimmick Construction aligned with Obayashi a Japanese company.

MMWD needs to be much more aggressive in scoping the field of leased desal plants worldwide. If I were in their shoes I would be phoning and emailing sources and companies in the desalination field non-stop until we know who the players are in the leased desal field. Years ago I had a relationship with a Dutch dredging company in Saudi Arabia. The Dutch are, of course, the masters in dredging for obvious reasons- a lot of the country is below seawater level. The Dutch keep dredging equipment moored in different locations of the world, ready for any dredging job that pops up literally anywhere. MMWD needs to find out who can get us in touch with leased desal plants now.

Dealing with our critical water supply requires judgment. Trying to thread the needle with conservation and iffy water sale contracts is only part of the answer. Desalination is difficult but that doesn't mean it shouldn't be pursued and pursued aggressively.

**From:** [Jeff Koblick](#)  
**To:** [Cynthia Koehler](#)  
**Subject:** MMWD Board - Have you carefully evaluated the cost/benefits of raising Kent Lake and Alpine Lake Dams?  
**Date:** Sunday, October 24, 2021 12:07:01 PM

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Dear Cynthia,

Have you carefully evaluated the cost/benefits of raising Kent Lake and Alpine Lake Dams? My estimates indicate that will be by far the most cost effective solution to increasing MMWD capacity.

Both Dams are quite old and will need to be replaced/refurbished soon in any event.

Also, by raising the Dams you will not have to rely on buying water at ever increasing rates.

If you have evaluated, please share your cost/benefit analysis of raising Kent Lake and Alpine Lake Dams with the public

Thank you!

Jeff Koblick  
415-407-0022