DISTRICT BACKGROUND

The San Luis Rey Municipal Water District (MWD) underwrites activities in an unincorporated north county area to protect the water rights of property owners who are dependent on local groundwater. The MWD covers approximately 5 square miles between Interstate Highway 15 on the west and the Pala Indian Reservation on the east and generally bisected by the San Luis Rey River.

The San Luis Rey MWD was formed in 1958 to assist property owners who benefit from the water resources of the San Luis Rey River and the Pala and Bonsall Drainage Basins. The District funds legal activities to protect water and water storage rights of district landowners.

The District is not authorized to provide potable or untreated water service. The MWD has neither water-related infrastructure nor access to local or imported water resources. Landowners in the District rely on private wells. The area is developed primarily with agricultural uses and the only source of water for agricultural or domestic use is the San Luis Rey River and the groundwater basins, which the River supplies.

San Luis Rey MWD levied a property tax rate before the tax limitations of Proposition 13 were imposed; however, the increment of property tax revenue is insufficient to fund MWD services and the District Board has imposed a water availability charge to generate revenue.

LAFCO approved a sphere-of-influence for the San Luis Rey MWD in 1987 that is coterminous with the district boundary.

In 2014, the coterminous sphere was amended to smaller-than-district when the District’s 327-acre non-contiguous western segment was placed in Rainbow MWD’s sphere; and that portion (243± acres) of the Meadowood Project located in the District was annexed to Valley Center MWD and its sphere. Also, the 1,046-acre portion of the Gregory Canyon Landfill site that is not in a water or sewer service agency was designated a Special Study Area.

DISTRICT CHARACTERISTICS

Principal Act: Water Code Section § 71000 et seq.
Service: Groundwater protection
Population: 100 (2009 SANDAG)
District Area: 5.01 sq. miles
Sphere of Influence: Coterminous with District
Sphere Adopted: May 4, 1987
Sphere Affirmed: April 7, 2014
Sphere Amended: April 7, 2014
Governance: Elected 5-member Board of Directors
Board Meeting: 3rd Wednesday: 4:00 p.m.
11154 Highway 76
Fallbrook CA 92028

Revenue Sources: Property tax, water availability charge
Contact: sanluisreymwd.yahoo.com
5328 Highway 76
Fallbrook, CA 92028
714/730-7083

View Map: sdlafco.org/Webpages/agency_maps_links.htm

Update 5/7/14