2024 South Valley Ground Water District Annual Hydrology Report
February 15, 2025

Water year 2024 was similar to 2022 except the early season residual discharge from the good water year 2023 resulted in higher discharge in Silver Creek and the Little Wood River than occurred in 2022. Chart 1 shows how the discharge of the Big Wood River at Hailey in 2024 compared to prior years. The 2024 April – September discharge at Hailey was only slightly better than 2022 even though it followed the good water year of 2023 and 2022 followed the lowest discharge year in the past 20 years.

The 15 minute data used for near real time management during the irrigation season is shown in Chart 2. One of the challenges was the 30 cfs drop in Sportsman discharge that appeared to occur on August 5 due to a rating adjustment. The ratings at the other gages are checked more frequently and, hopefully, the rating at Sportsman can be updated more frequently in the future.

Chart 3 shows the daily discharge at the same 4 gages after rating adjustments were made and average daily discharge amounts were computed. As shown in Chart 4, the 4 day rolling average discharge at Gage 10 dropped below 32 cfs on August 24. The chart also shows the Gage 10 discharge was recovered by that date.

Part of the challenge of maintaining 32 cfs at Gage 10 is trying to develop a relationship between the Ragsdale gage on Silver Creek and Gage 10 on the Little Wood. The Water District upgraded the Ragsdale gage in 2024 to provide more reliable and accurate discharge data near the mouth of Silver Creek. In addition to the lag time between the 2 gages, the relationship changes with the Ragsdale discharge sometimes being larger than the Gage 10 discharge but other times the Ragsdale discharge is less than the Gage 10 discharge. A confounding factor may be water leaving the Upper Little Wood that is not measured until it reaches Gage 10. The SVGWD water users may want to consider a temporary gage on the Little Wood upstream of the confluence with Silver Creek to help determine if a meaningful relationship can be developed between the Ragsdale gage and Gage 10.

The SVGWD water users fallowed 1348 acres in 2024. Many of these acreages were carried forward from 2023, but there were some new acres added for the 2024 season.

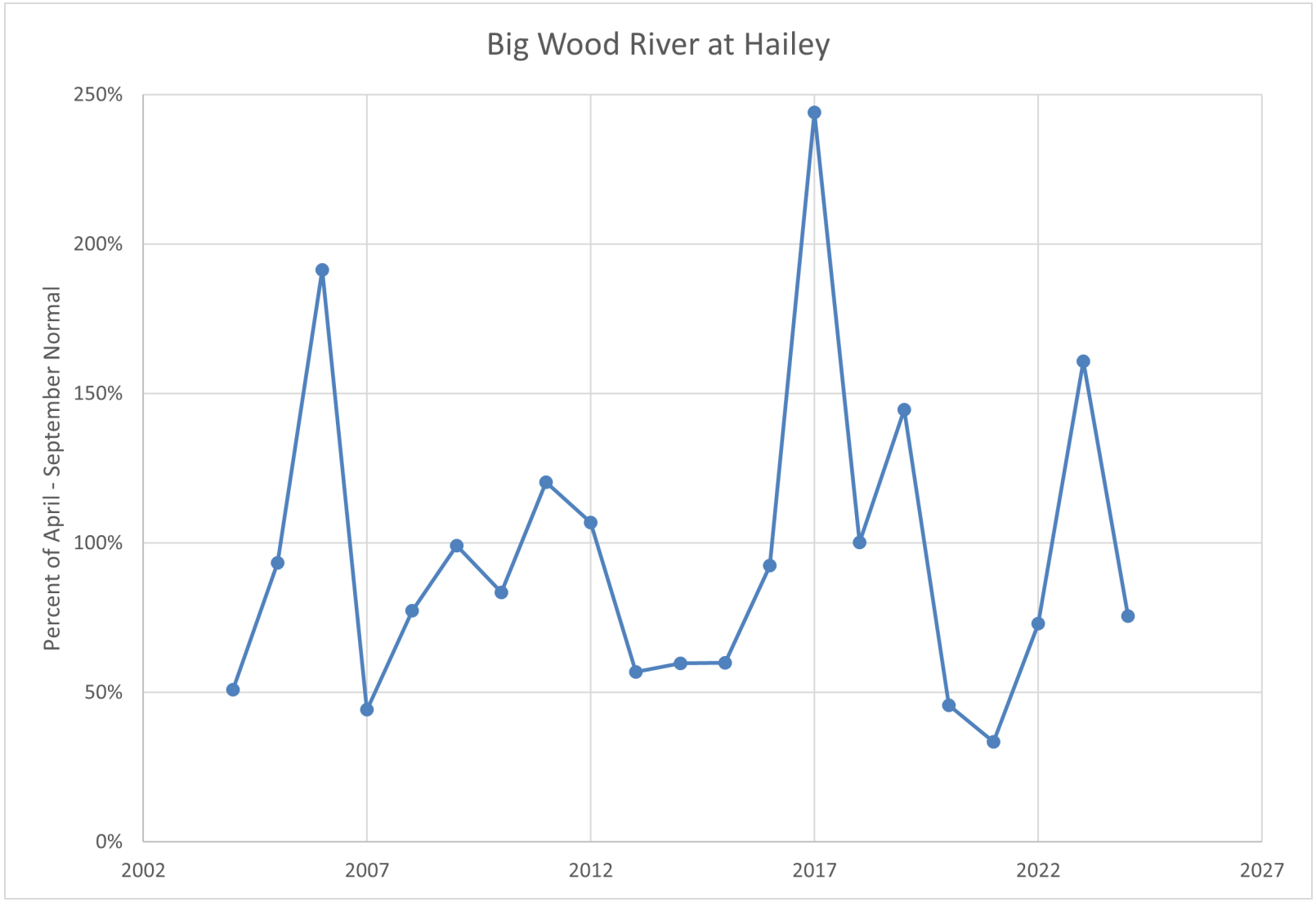
Big Wood River at Hailey
Percent of April - September Normal
250%
200%
150%
100%
50%
0%
2002
2007
2012
2017
2022
2027

Chart 1

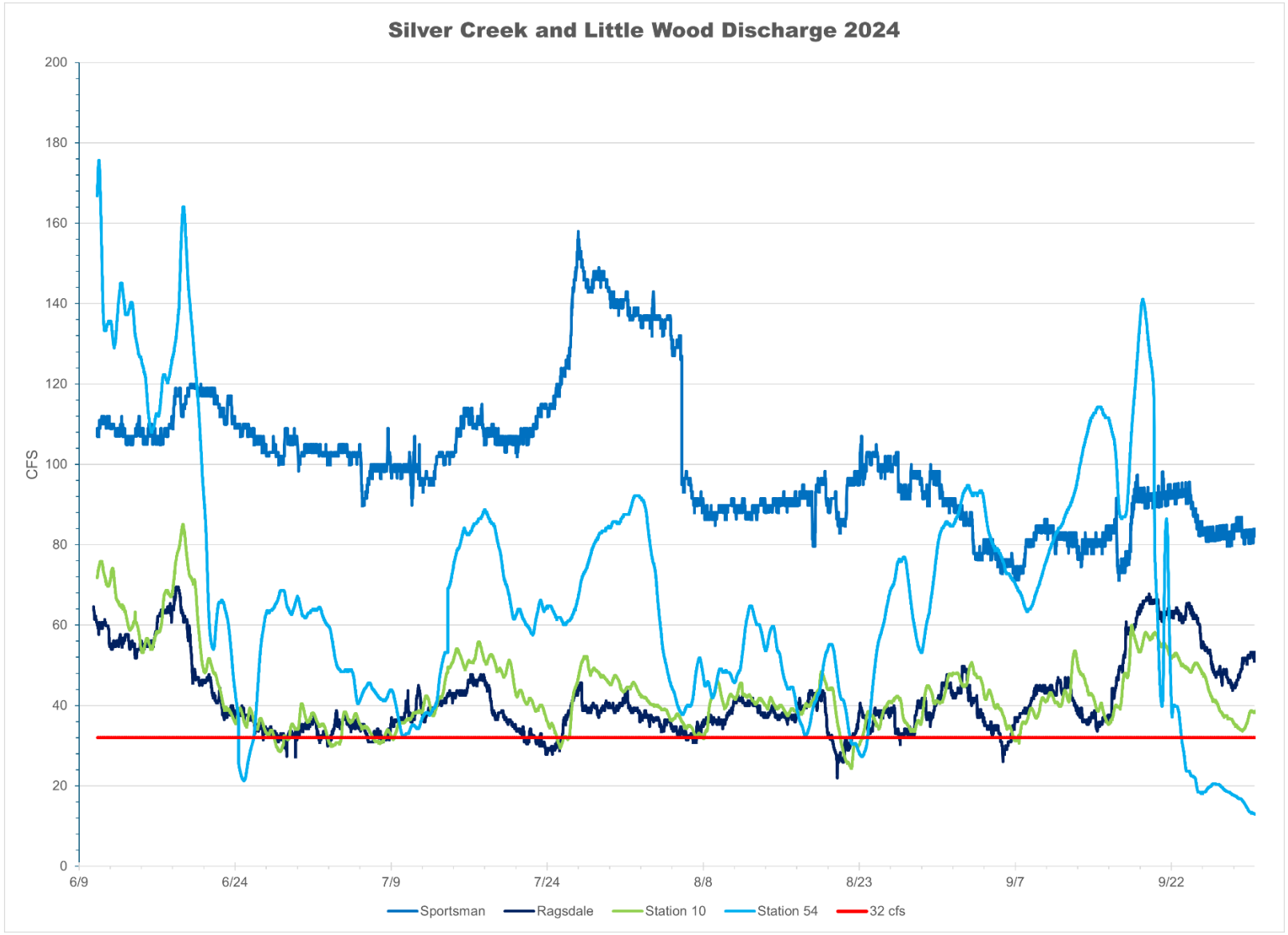
Silver Creek and Little Wood Discharge 2024
CFS
200
180
160
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
6/9
6/24
7/9
7/24
8/8
8/23
9/7
9/22
Sportsman
Ragsdale
Station 10
Station 54
32 cfs

Chart 2

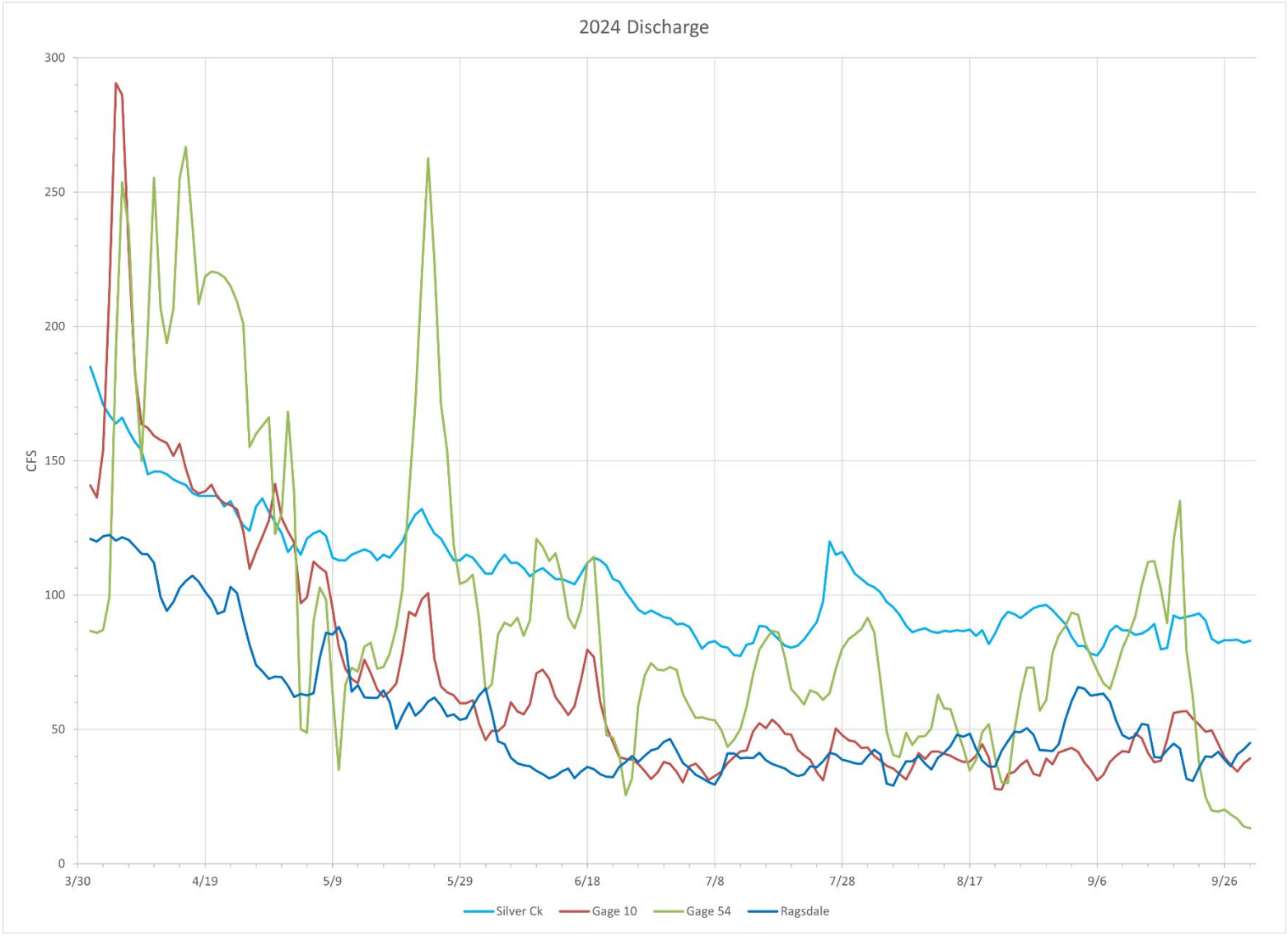
2024 Discharge
CFS
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
3/30
4/19
5/9
5/29
6/18
7/8
7/28
8/17
9/6
9/26
Silver Ck
Gage 10
Gage 54
Ragsdale

Chart 3

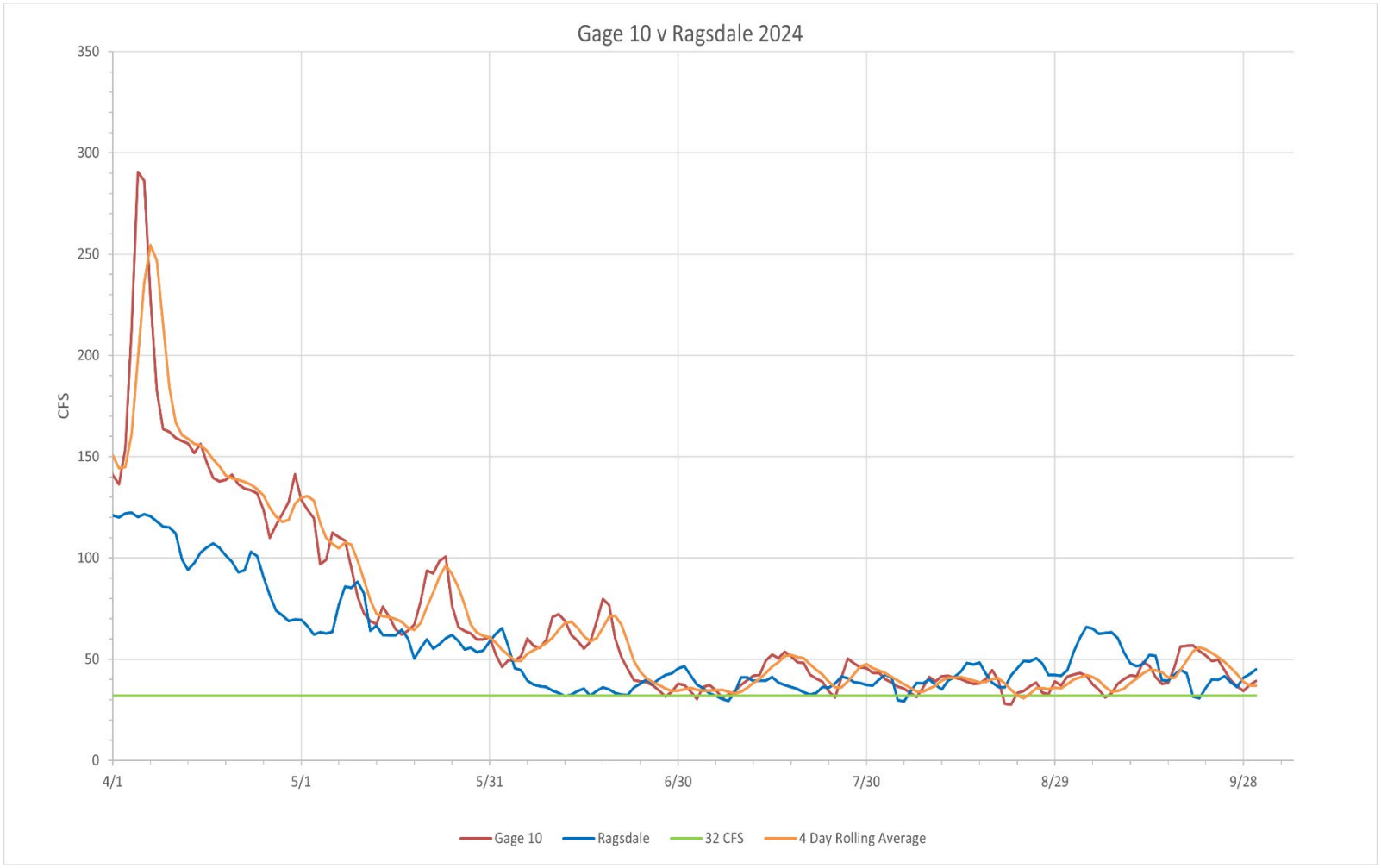
Gage 10 v Ragsdale 2024
CFS
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
4/1
5/1
5/31
6/30
7/30
8/29
9/28
Gage 10
Ragsdale
32 CFS
4 Day Rolling Average

Chart 4

South Valley Ground Water District

2024 Ground Water Use Report

February 4, 2025

The Ground Water Districts will annually report ground water-use reductions, when required, to IDWR by December 1. In 2024, ground water-use reductions were not required.

Data on volume of ground water-use was coordinated with the Water District 37 watermaster and was used to determine ground water-use in 2024. WD37 watermaster provided groundwater pumping volumes by WMIS to IDWR. The WMIS data was reviewed and compiled for the SVGWD total use in 2024.

Based on the best available data from WD37 WMIS the total pumping volume that occurred in the SVGWD was 17,467 AF.[1]

SVGWD complied with ground water irrigation Season of Use Limits. Groundwater users did not irrigate before May 1 or after September 15. With allowable exceptions of a September 30 turn-off for specific circumstances, contingent on use being within individual groundwater user's reduction targets.

[1] There may be further edits and corrections in the WMIS data. For the SVGWD WMIS summary there are two WMIS entries for the Heart Rock Ranch wells. WMIS #s: 1001214, 1001225 are removed from SVGWD total pumping data for 2024 as was done for the 2022 and 2023 data (per the notes and agreement with IDWR). IDWR and the Watermaster are determining if these two WMIS numbers should be in another reporting district (e.g. WD37). Currently, they are not being reported in any district.