

La Selva well shows potential

Test results on a new water well drilled by the Soquel Creek Water District on Sells Drive in La Selva Beach show it to be potentially the most productive well in the area.

District General Manager Bob Johnson said water board members were told Monday that the well is capable of producing 60 gallons of water for each foot of "drawdown" in the well. An average drawdown — a measure of a well's ability to produce water over a long period of time — is approximately 30 gallons per foot.

Johnson said the district is now designing the pump and motor for the well, and will install a pump capable of producing only about 500 gallons a minute because the demand isn't great enough in La Selva Beach to warrant a larger pump right now. Capacity can be increased in the future if the area's water demand grows.

Testing was being completed Tuesday on the Bonita Drive well, Johnson said, and preliminary results show that well produces 50 gallons for each foot of drawdown. When pumps are installed in that well, Johnson said, it will produce between 750 and 1,000 gallons per minute.

The Bonita and Sells Drive wells, part of a three-well, \$300,000 contract with Maggiora Bros. Drilling of Watsonville, have been drilled in the Aromas Red Sands formation and produce water that does not require any filtration before delivery to area homes.

A third well, already drilled on Rosedale Avenue near the water district's Soquel offices, produces 1,000 gallons per minute.