

# PORTERVILLE

IRRIGATION DISTRICT



## **BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Thursday, April 16, 2026, Convenes at 2:00 p.m.

<http://www.portervilleid.org> / [PIDGSA@ocsnet.net](mailto:PIDGSA@ocsnet.net)

22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, CA 93257

Web Meeting Attendance Available for Interested Parties:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84319138554>

Meeting ID: 843 1913 8554

Passcode: Hu9n5p

One tap mobile

+16694449171,,6707587901#,,,,\*478530# US

+17207072699,,6707587901#,,,,\*478530# US

## -----**AGENDA**-----

Action items are listed in **bold**.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Roll Call

Flag Salute

All items on this agenda, whether or not expressly listed for action, may be deliberated upon and may be subject to action by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may consider agenda items in any order. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection at the Porterville Irrigation District, 22086 Avenue 160, Porterville, CA 93257, during regular business hours.

### **2. PUBLIC COMMENT**

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the Board at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to provide

comments at the time the Board considers the item. Any person addressing the Board will be limited to a maximum of three (3) minutes, or at the Chairman's discretion. At all times, please state your name for the record.

### **3. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. Ongoing efforts for the transition from ETGSA to PID GSA.
- b. Information for GSAs and Reporters on Extraction Reports Due May 1, 2026.
- c. State Water Board Draft Resolution for Exclusion of Small Pumpers in the Tule Subbasin from extraction reporting.
- d. State Water Board Draft Resolution Denying Groundwater Agencies' Exclusion Request.

### **4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. **Consideration and Approval of March 20, 2026, GSA Board Minutes (Action).**

### **5. ADMINISTRATION**

- a. **Consider and Approve Participation in Tule Subbasin Domestic Well Mitigation Reserve Fund. (Action)**
- b. **Consider and Provide Board Direction in Tule Subbasin Participation in One GSP Effort. (Action)**
- c. **Consider and Approve preliminary GSA Budget and Start the 218 Process for Groundwater Extraction Fee. (Action)**
- d. **Consider and Approve Mandatory Deadline for Well Registration for PID GSA Basinsafe Accounts. (Action).**

### **6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

- a. Report on April 2, 2026, Stakeholder Committee Meeting.
- b. Tule Subbasin Managers Meeting April 7, 2026 Meeting.
- c. Tule Subbasin Policy Group Report from April 6, 2026, Meeting.
- d. Tule Subbasin GWQ Technical Group April 10, 2026 Meeting.
- e. Tule Subbasin Land Subsidence Technical Working Group April 16, 2026, Meeting.

### **7. CLOSED SESSION:**

1. Government Code Section 54956.9(d)(4) – Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation – Initiation of Litigation: One (1) case.

### **8. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:**

- a. Report Action Taken in Closed Session Required by Government Code 54957.1

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE**

- a. Next Regular Meeting – Thursday, May 21, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

**10. ADJOURNMENT**

A person with a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 may request that the PIDGSA provide a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in any public meeting. Such assistance includes appropriate alternative formats for the agendas and agenda packets used for any public meetings of the GSA. Requests for such assistance and for agendas and agenda packets shall be made in person, by telephone, facsimile, or written correspondence to the General Manager of the Porterville Irrigation District GSA at (559) 782-6321, at least 48 hours before a public meeting.

**Agenda Item 3**

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Staff Report to the Porterville Irrigation District GSA Board of Directors**

Subject: ANNOUNCEMENT / Documents to be shared.

Submitted By: General Manager

## State Water Resources Control Board

March 10, 2026

Correspondence ID: «#####-###-0-#####»

«Name»

«Address»

«City», «State» «Zip»

**EXAMPLE**

### Groundwater Extraction Reporting Requirements Under The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

You can contact us to request information in your language:

ਆਪਣੀ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿੱਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Makipag-ugnayan sa amin para humiling ng impormasyon sa iyong wika.

اتصل بنا لطلب معلومات بلغتك.

Entre em contato conosco para solicitar informações no seu idioma.

[bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm](https://bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm) | [LanguageServices@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:LanguageServices@waterboards.ca.gov)

### Why Did You Receive This Letter?

You received this letter because you own a groundwater well in the Tule Subbasin. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) designated the Tule Subbasin as "probationary" pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) on September 17, 2024. Consequently, certain groundwater extractors (people who pump groundwater) in this subbasin are required to submit their annual groundwater extraction reports to the State Water Board by **May 1, 2026**. Some extractors may also need to pay a fee. The information below describes how these requirements apply to you.

### Do These Requirements Apply to You?

The requirements **do not** apply to you if you meet any of the exemptions below:

- You do not own any groundwater wells in the Tule Subbasin.
- You do not own or do not have legal responsibility for the property or any properties you were contacted about. For example, if you rent a property, you are not responsible for reporting; the owner of the property is responsible for submitting an annual report.
- You are a *de minimis* extractor, meaning you pump no more than two acre-feet (approximately 650,000 gallons) per year for domestic (household) purposes only.
- You extract groundwater only within the boundaries of Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) or Kern-Tulare Water District GSA and you comply with your GSA's groundwater management requirements. Identify your GSA here [bit.ly/my-gsa](https://bit.ly/my-gsa).
- Potential Exclusion: You extract 20 acre-feet or less per year cumulatively from all wells you own in the Tule Subbasin. This potential exclusion and the threshold for its application will be considered for adoption by the Board at its April 7, 2026, public meeting. Visit [bit.ly/sgma-tule](https://bit.ly/sgma-tule) for updates on the Board's decision.

You can also see the flow chart on the last page of this letter to understand if the requirements apply to you.

If any of the exemptions above apply to you, refer to the "What to Do If You Are Exempt" section below. If you do not qualify for any of these exemptions, **the groundwater reporting requirements apply to you**. Refer to the "What to Do If You Are **Not** Exempt" section below for further details.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The reporting obligations discussed in this letter are distinct from any obligations imposed on you by your local Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

### **What to Do If You Are Exempt (Requirements Do Not Apply)**

If you are exempt from these reporting requirements, you should notify the Board by visiting our Groundwater Extraction Annual Reporting System (GEARS) at [the Board's reporting site](#) before May 1, 2026. Once you notify the Board, we will remove you from this mailing list. If you do not notify the Board, we may assume the reporting requirements apply to you and will contact you again.

### **What to Do If You Are Not Exempt (Reporting Requirements Apply)**

If you are **not** exempt from these reporting requirements, you are required to:

- Step 1 - Track your monthly groundwater extractions (pumping),
- Step 2 - Once a year, report how much you pumped to the State Water Board, and
- Step 3 - Pay an annual groundwater fee to the Board (unless your fees are waived, see below for further details).

#### **Step 1 - Tracking Your Groundwater Extractions**

If you are not exempt from groundwater extraction reporting requirements, you are required to track your groundwater pumping from the Tule Subbasin that occurred between **January 1, and December 31, 2025**. The document titled “Options for Measuring Extraction Volumes” outlines ways you can measure your groundwater pumping: [bit.ly/measure-extractions](http://bit.ly/measure-extractions).

#### **Special Requirements for Large Groundwater Extractors**

If you extract **more than 500 acre-feet of groundwater per year** from the Tule Subbasin, beginning March 1, 2025, you were required to measure your extractions using certified flow meters or one of the alternative methods identified in the State Water Board’s probationary designation resolution. Visit [bit.ly/sgma-tule](http://bit.ly/sgma-tule) to learn more about this requirement.

#### **Step 2 - Submit Your Annual Groundwater Extraction Report**

You must submit an annual groundwater extraction report to the State Water Board by **May 1, 2026**, for the period of **January 1, 2025 through December 30, 2025**.

#### **System for Reporting**

Submit all groundwater extraction reports through the Board’s Groundwater Extraction Annual Reporting System (GEARS): [reporting system](#). You will need a Correspondence ID to create a GEARS account. You may have received Correspondence ID(s) that were mailed to you in 2024. Those Correspondence ID(s) should work interchangeably with the Correspondence ID in this letter. Your Correspondence ID is: «#####-###-0-#####».

#### **Required Information**

Groundwater extraction reports must include the following information:

- Well owner information
- Well location, pumping capacity, and the year pumping began
- Where the groundwater is being used and the purpose of use
- Monthly groundwater extraction volumes for January through December of 2025

The “Groundwater Extraction Annual Reporting User Guide” provides additional information about reporting groundwater extractions in GEARS: [bit.ly/GEARS-Resources](http://bit.ly/GEARS-Resources).

#### **Step 3 – Pay Annual Fees**

You are required to pay an annual groundwater extraction report filing fee unless one or more of the following apply:

- You are exempt from the groundwater extraction reporting requirements described above.
- You receive a fee waiver (see below).
- The subbasin exits probation.

You may still be responsible for partial-year fees if the subbasin exits probation midyear.

After submitting your annual groundwater extraction report, you will receive a separate fee invoice in the mail. Fees are due thirty days after the State Water Board issues an invoice. As illustrated in the table below, the fees currently include an annual base fee and a volumetric rate per acre-foot of groundwater extracted. Please note that these fees are subject to change.

An automatic late fee will be applied if you fail to submit your annual groundwater extraction reports by May 1, 2026. Should you miss this deadline, the State Water Board may conduct an investigation to determine your groundwater extraction volumes and other necessary information. The investigation would occur at your expense. Additional details regarding the current extraction fee schedule can be found on our website: [bit.ly/sgma-reporting](https://bit.ly/sgma-reporting).

Fee Category (more than one may apply)	Current Fee Amount	Applicable Parties
Annual Base Fee	\$300 per well	All <i>non-exempt</i> groundwater extractors required to report extractions
Volumetric Rate	\$20 per acre-foot of groundwater pumped	
Late Fee	25% of total fee amount per month late	<i>Non-exempt</i> extractors who do not file reports by the due date

### You May Not Have to Pay Fees

The State Water Board may waive extraction fees, upon request, for certain extractors.<sup>1</sup> Groundwater extractors may qualify for a fee waiver if they meet **any** of the following criteria:

1. You qualify as a low-income resident:
  - a. Your household income is 200 percent or less of the federal poverty level. For more details, visit [U.S. Department of Health and Human Services](https://www.hhs.gov/); **or**
  - b. You are enrolled in a qualified income-based public assistance program.
2. You are a public water system or state small water system serving a disadvantaged community where the primary purpose providing water is for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes.
3. You are a public school.

To qualify for a fee waiver, you must submit your annual groundwater extraction report by May 1, 2026. When you submit your report, GEARS will provide a link to the SGMA Fee Waiver Request Form. To expedite your request, submit the form by May 8, 2026. Fee waiver requests must be submitted no more than 30 days after the fee is due. More information on fee waivers is available at: [bit.ly/sgma-reporting](https://bit.ly/sgma-reporting).

### Future Extraction Reports

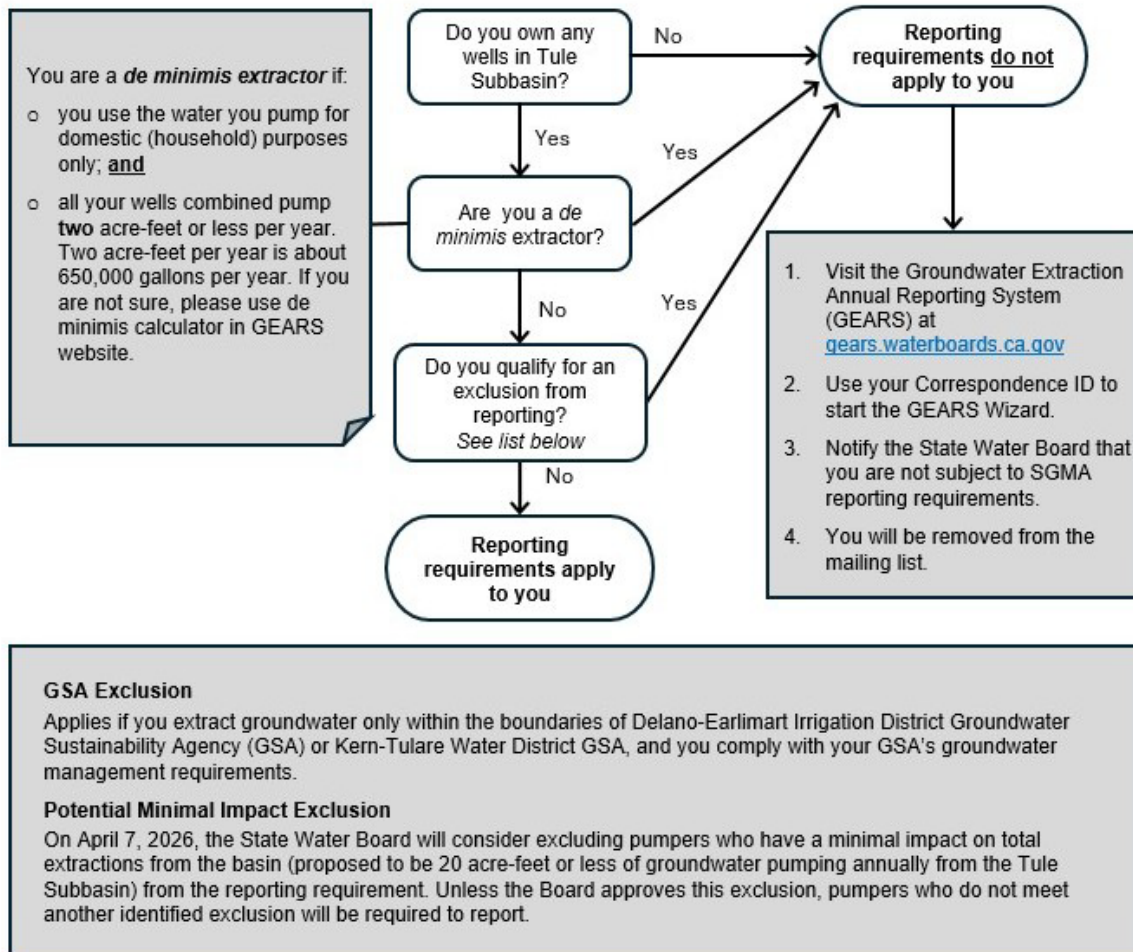
Extraction reports must be submitted annually while the Tule Subbasin is in probation. If the subbasin is in probation for only a portion of a year, you will only need to report your extractions for that portion of the year; reporting will not be required for extractions that

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<sup>1</sup> Pursuant to the California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 1044, a waiver request must be submitted to the Board within 30 days of when the fee is due for the waiver to apply to that billing and must be supported by adequate substantiation that the waiver applies.

occur after the State Water Board determines that the Tule Subbasin GSAs can manage the subbasin sustainably and ends the subbasin’s probationary status. The May 1, 2026, reporting deadline is specific to 2026. In subsequent years, extraction reports must be submitted by February 1 every year for the preceding water year.<sup>2</sup>

“Do These Requirements Apply to Me?” Flow Chart



**Need more help or have questions?**

For more information about SGMA and the State Water Board’s role, visit the Water Board’s SGMA website at [Water Board online](#) or refer to the “Groundwater Extractors and State Intervention Under SGMA FAQ”: [bit.ly/SGMA-pumper-FAQ](http://bit.ly/SGMA-pumper-FAQ).

Sign up for SGMA Groundwater Extraction Reporting and Fees and SGMA Groundwater Management email updates at [bit.ly/SWRCB-email-subscriptions](http://bit.ly/SWRCB-email-subscriptions) (under State Water Board General Interests).

Visit [bit.ly/GEARS-Resources](http://bit.ly/GEARS-Resources) for GEARs reporting resources and events.

Email us at [sgma@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:sgma@waterboards.ca.gov) or call us at (916) 322-6508.

**This notice is regarding Assessor’s Parcel Number(s) (APN):**

«APN»

<sup>2</sup> “Water year” means the 12-month period from October 1 through the following September 30.



# Options for Measuring Groundwater Extraction Volumes

## Background

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires extractors in unmanaged areas or basins designated as probationary by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to file groundwater extraction reports with the State Water Board. Extraction reports must include monthly extraction volumes for the preceding water year. SGMA requires that extraction volumes be measured by a device or method satisfactory to the State Water Board.<sup>1</sup>

This document provides options for measuring extraction volumes. The first section describes measurement methods. For details on reporting requirements, unmanaged areas, and probationary basins, visit the State Intervention webpage (<https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sgma/intervention.html>).

## Options for Measuring Extraction Volumes

The State Water Board has identified two approaches that have reasonable accuracy for measuring extraction volumes. Other possible approaches are discussed on the next pages.

### Totalizing Flow Meter

A totalizing flow meter is permanently attached to the well and tracks the cumulative volume of water extracted from a well, similar to the odometer in a car. This is the most robust and automated method for measuring groundwater extractions. A flow meter can be installed by individuals experienced in installation, calibration, and general functionality of totalizing flow meters. A flow meter must meet the requirements of California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 1042 in order to be used for reporting purposes.

According to the State Water Board's SGMA reporting regulations to qualify as a "meter" used to measure groundwater extractions from the well for purposes of the State Water Board's SGMA reporting regulations, a measurement device must be installed, maintained, operated, inspected, and monitored to ensure accuracy; readily accessible for reading, inspection, testing, repair and replacement; and reasonably accessible and available for inspection by an authorized representative of the State Water Board upon request.

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<sup>1</sup> Water Code section 5203, et seq.

The meter must be equipped with a totalizer that:

1. Records the total volume of groundwater extracted from the well.
2. Measures volume in units of acre-feet, cubic feet, or gallons (as seen on the readout device).
3. Uses a sufficient number of digits or multipliers to prevent rollover or inaccurate readings.
4. Is incapable of moving backwards from its totalized value or otherwise deviating from its actual value without obvious and apparent signs of tampering.

Additionally, the meter must be permanently attached to the well discharge pipe between the point of extraction and the point of delivery with no intervening diversions or obstructions that interfere with flow accuracy and must be calibrated to an accuracy of within five (5) percent by volume. It is common for flow meter sensors to deviate from their factory calibration (drift) upon installation or over time for a variety of reasons including sensor contamination, aging, and fouling. Drift is a phenomenon that is poorly understood and may happen at any time. Therefore, flow meters must be calibrated by a qualified individual upon installation and at least once every five years thereafter, or more frequently if necessary to ensure accuracy is maintained. Proof of calibration must also be submitted from the time the totalizing flow meter is installed, and every five years thereafter.

## Run Time Method

For wells without a totalizing flow meter, extraction volumes may be estimated with the following equation:

**Extraction volume = Run time × Flow rate**

- **Run time** is the amount of time the well pump is on.
- **Flow rate** is the amount of water produced by the well over a period of time, such as gallons per minute (GPM) or cubic feet per second (CFS).

The State Water Board has identified two ways to determine the run time of a pump:

- **Hour meter** (also known as a pump run time meter) is permanently attached to the pump motor and tracks the cumulative amount of time the pump is running, similar to a car's odometer.
- **Manual records** may be used for wells that are not equipped with an hour meter, the extractor can keep a written record of the time the pump switched on and off.

The State Water Board has identified three ways to determine the **flow rate** of a well:

- **Flow meter** tracks the flow rate of a well, similar to a car's speedometer.
- **Pump efficiency test** measures various aspects of a pump's operation, including flow rate. Pump tests may be available from pump dealers, public utilities, or independent companies. Often, a pump test is conducted when the pump is first installed.
- **Pump curve** may be used if a flow meter is not installed and recent pump test data are not available, flow rate can be estimated with a pump curve from the manufacturer and the pump lift or suction lift (height that the respective pump can lift water to the surface of the well).

Because a well's flow rate can fluctuate due to changes in groundwater levels, throughout the water year, the State Water Board recommends that extractors measure flow rate on a monthly or seasonal basis and use the most representative flow rate value for each month when estimating monthly extraction volumes.

## Other Approaches

There may be other approaches for measuring or estimating extraction volumes. If an extractor chooses to use a different approach, the device or method must be satisfactory to the State Water Board pursuant to Water Code section 5203, subdivision (e). The State Water Board will evaluate each approach on a case-by-case basis.

Extractors need to ensure their selected approach is measuring or estimating the actual volume of water extracted from the well. This includes water losses, such as deep percolation, offsite surface runoff, and conveyance leakage between the well and the place of use. Other factors that may arise to interfere with measuring actual volumes should be noted and addressed when reporting to the State Water Board, so compliance with reporting regulations can be evaluated. Extractors also need to consider the accuracy of the chosen approach, because approaches with low accuracy may not be acceptable. Other methods of measuring groundwater extraction that may be within the accuracy standards set forth by SGMA include the following:

### Extraction Volume

Methods that combine the use of a singular well's power consumption, the well's respective pump curve, and computer-based algorithms to estimate extraction volumes may be permissible on a case-by-case basis. However, the State Water Board does not identify power consumption alone as a method to estimate extraction volumes when used independently. This is because applying average pump efficiency and energy consumption values to individual pumps without considering factors that can affect pump efficiency typically produces inaccurate estimates of the volume of water extracted from the well.

### Evapotranspiration

The use of satellite-based or Actual Evapotranspiration (ETa) may be an appropriate approach for estimating groundwater extractions, and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. In general, Evapotranspiration (ET) is the sum of all processes by which water moves from the land surface to the atmosphere by both evaporation and transpiration. ETa is especially useful for estimating groundwater extractions for agriculture irrigated solely with groundwater. However, in regions where both groundwater and surface water are used, ETa models use known surface water availability and apportion the remaining water demand to groundwater pumping.

The State Water Board has identified two methods to estimate groundwater extractions for reporting purposes:

- **Self-Estimate** - Estimates of ETa for irrigated parcels are publicly available through OpenET.<sup>2</sup> The remotely sensed estimates of ETa can then be used to estimate groundwater pumping. If groundwater users decide to use ETa or crop water demand as a proxy to estimate groundwater extraction, water users will be required to submit the methodology, volume of surface water used for irrigation, precipitation amounts for the associated parcels, and, if applicable, the volume of groundwater pumped for export or other uses not captured by ETa (e.g., animal/human consumption, irrigation in greenhouses, processing and manufacturing facilities, and maintaining environmental flows). The allowable use of self-estimates of groundwater through OpenET will be determined on a case-by-case basis using specific considerations which include but are not limited to whether 1) groundwater is extracted for uses not captured by evapotranspiration, 2) sufficient details about crop irrigation and irrigation efficiency are provided, and 3) contributions of precipitation and other sources of consumptive use are known and accounted for.
- **Explore 3rd party options** - Some extractors already use 3rd party products for automated water use and ETa data. These include data subscription services that can be purchased and can provide automated water use and extraction data using remote sensing data (ETa, among others). Staff will evaluate these options and approaches on a case-by-case basis to ensure that the methods are reasonably accurate for estimating the volume of extracted groundwater.

It is the responsibility of the extractor to provide adequate explanation and documentation of the chosen approach in the groundwater extraction report and maintain adequate measurement records. Inadequate explanations, documentation, or records may not be accepted by the State Water Board.

## CONTACT US

For more information or if you have questions, please contact the State Water Board's Office of Sustainable Groundwater Management.

Phone: 916-322-6508

Email: [SGMA@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:SGMA@waterboards.ca.gov)

Website: <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sgma/>

The information included in this document is non-binding and for advisory purposes only.

Last Updated: January 2026

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<sup>2</sup> <https://etdata.org>

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-0011**

**EXCLUSION OF SMALL PUMPERS IN THE TULE SUBBASIN FROM THE  
REQUIREMENT FOR REPORTING IN BASINS DESIGNATED PROBATIONARY  
PURSUANT TO THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT**

**WHEREAS:**

1. Groundwater provides a significant portion of California's water supply, making up more than one-half of the water used by Californians in drought years when other sources are unavailable. When properly managed, groundwater resources provide for communities, farms, and the environment and help protect against prolonged dry periods and climate change, preserving water supplies for existing and potential beneficial uses. However, excessive groundwater extraction can cause long-term overdraft, failed wells, deteriorated water quality, environmental damage, and irreversible land subsidence that damages infrastructure and diminishes the capacity of aquifers to store water for the future, all of which can have substantial economic impacts. Additionally, failure to manage groundwater to prevent long-term overdraft can potentially infringe on rights to or use of groundwater or interconnected surface water.
2. In 2014, the State of California enacted Assembly Bill 1739, and Senate Bills 1168 and 1319, collectively referred to as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SGMA's intent is to ensure the proper and sustainable management of groundwater resources in California.
3. SGMA authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to designate groundwater basins as probationary. Most persons who extract groundwater from a basin the Board has designated probationary must report their extractions to the Board and pay an associated filing fee to the Board.
4. SGMA authorizes the State Water Board to exclude a class or category of extractions from the requirement for reporting that applies to probationary groundwater basins if those extractions are likely to have a minimal impact on basin withdrawals. Persons excluded from the requirement for reporting are also excluded from the requirement to pay the associated filing fee.

5. The State Water Board designated the Tule Subbasin as probationary after a public hearing on September 17, 2024 ([Resolution No. 2024-0030](#)). The probationary designation took effect on October 3, 2024.
6. Staff evaluated the potential scope and impacts of excluding extractions of 20 acre-feet per year (AFY) or less from reporting and fee requirements in the Tule Subbasin. Using 2022 evapotranspiration data as a proxy, staff's analysis indicates that approximately 49% of water users consume less than 20 AFY, accounting for 1% of total water use in the subbasin. If all of this use is attributed to groundwater pumping, it would represent approximately 2% of total groundwater pumped from the Tule subbasin in 2022.
7. Based on the staff evaluation, it is reasonable to conclude that persons extracting no more than 20 acre-feet annually have a minimal impact on Tule subbasin withdrawals and recommends that the State Water Board exclude such persons from the requirement for reporting that applies to this probationary basin.
8. Subsidence impacts have interfered with the integrity and capacity of the Friant-Kern Canal and there is uncertainty regarding the cumulative contribution of small amounts of pumping in the vicinity of the Friant-Kern Canal to subsidence impacts. Accordingly, staff recommends that the Board not extend the proposed minimal impact exclusion to persons who extract groundwater from the Tule Subbasin from wells located within two miles of the Friant-Kern Canal, meaning that the probationary reporting requirement will continue to apply to such persons.
9. The State Water Board recognizes that near-term SGMA implementation has the potential to result in substantial economic impacts in overdrafted basins. The State Water Board further recognizes that the goal of SGMA is sustainable groundwater management that will ensure the long-term viability of groundwater resources for future use by communities, farms, businesses, and the environment.
10. The State Water Board has a duty to consider adverse impacts groundwater extraction would have on public trust resources and to protect public trust resources where feasible.
11. The State Water Board recognizes the established Human Right to Water policy of the state that every human being has the right to safe, clean,

affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes.

12. The State Water Board is committed to upholding California's human right to water and making racial equity, diversity, inclusion, and environmental justice a central consideration in the Board's decision.
  
13. The State Water Board has reviewed and considered the staff recommendation and supporting data and considered public comments and testimony, and proposes that in the Tule Subbasin extractions by individuals who extract no more than 20 acre-feet of groundwater annually and do not extract groundwater within two miles of the Friant-Kern Canal should be excluded from the reporting requirement.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Finds that groundwater extractions in the Tule Subbasin by persons who individually extract a total of no more than 20 acre-feet annually and do not extract groundwater from wells located within two miles of the Friant-Kern Canal are likely to have a minimal impact on withdrawals from the Subbasin and are not expected to adversely impact public trust resources.
  
2. Pursuant to subdivision (c) of Water Code section 10735.2, excludes, as a class, persons who extract a total of no more than 20 acre-feet annually from the Tule Subbasin and do not extract groundwater from wells located within two miles away from the Friant-Kern Canal from the requirement for reporting extractions and paying fees that is imposed by Part 5.2 (commencing with Section 5200) of Division 2 of the California Water Code. For purposes of this exclusion, eligibility for each reporting period shall be based on a pumper's extractions during the water year (October 1 of each year to September 30 of the following year) in which the majority of the reporting period falls.
  
3. Directs staff to provide notice in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act before presenting a resolution rescinding this exclusion or reducing the class of excluded persons to the Board for consideration and potential approval at a regular Board meeting if available information indicates that groundwater extractions in the Tule Subbasin by persons who extract a total of no more than 20 acre-feet annually are resulting in more than a minimal impact on basin withdrawals.

4. Directs staff to provide notice in accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act before presenting a resolution expanding the class of excluded persons to the Board for consideration and potential approval if available information indicates that groundwater extractions in the Tule Subbasin by persons who extract more than 20 acre-feet annually are likely to have a minimal impact on basin withdrawals or that small amounts of pumping from wells located within two miles of the Friant-Kern Canal are not substantially contributed to subsidence impacting the Canal.

### CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on April 7, 2026.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel  
Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo  
Board Member Sean Maguire  
Board Member Laurel Firestone  
Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Courtney Tyler  
Clerk to the Board

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## State Water Resources Control Board

### **Notice of Board Meeting and Opportunity to Comment Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Consideration of a Proposed Resolution Denying Requests for Exclusion from Probationary Reporting and Fees to Eight Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the Tule Subbasin**

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) is seeking comments from the public on the Review of Requests for Exclusion from Probationary Reporting and Fees for the Tule groundwater subbasin, a probationary subbasin under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The report outlines staff's assessment of requests from eight groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) to be considered for exclusions from probationary reporting and fee requirements and recommends that the Board not grant any of the exclusion requests.

The State Water Board will consider the exclusion requests and the staff recommendation at its regularly scheduled Board Meeting on April 21, 2026. Additional information on the exclusion recommendations is provided below. The Board may take action consistent with the staff recommendation or take other action regarding the reporting and fee requirement in the Tule Subbasin.

The Board will also hear updates from staff on possible next steps for interim plan development for the basin.

### **Participation Options**

#### Review the Available Documents

Review the available documents through the links below. Physical copies of the documents may be mailed to you upon request by contacting staff as described below.

Tule Subbasin Exclusion Report (covering Lower Tule River Irrigation District, Pixley Irrigation District, Porterville Irrigation District, Saucelito Irrigation District, Terra Bella Irrigation District, Tri-County Water Authority, Tea Pot Dome Water District, and Vandalia Irrigation District GSAs):

- [Full Report](#)

Draft Resolution Denying Requests for Exclusion from Probationary Reporting and Fees to Eight GSAs in the Tule Subbasin

- [Draft Resolution](#)

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### Attend the Board Meeting

A Board Meeting agenda including the Board Workshop will be available 10 days before the meeting at [www.waterboards.ca.gov](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov).

- Participate in person to observe or provide a comment:  
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
- Submit an online speaker card if you wish to provide a public comment at the Board meeting in person or remotely: [bit.ly/speaker-card-form](http://bit.ly/speaker-card-form). The form accepts responses a few days prior to the Board meeting. The Board Clerk will provide instructions to join Zoom in advance of the meeting. For more information about participating remotely at a Board meeting, please visit [bit.ly/providingcomments](http://bit.ly/providingcomments).
- For those who only wish to watch the meeting, the webcast remains available at either [youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport](https://youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport) or [video.calepa.ca.gov](http://video.calepa.ca.gov) (closed captioning available) and should be used UNLESS you intend to comment.

### Submit Written Comments

Written comments on the Tule Subbasin Exclusion Reports must be received by **12:00pm (noon) on April 20, 2026**. Comments received after this time and date may not be considered.

Please email your written comments in PDF format to [SGMA-Tule@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:SGMA-Tule@waterboards.ca.gov) and include “**Comments – Tule Subbasin**” the subject line. You may also mail, or hand deliver your written comments to the following address:

State Water Resources Control Board  
Attention: Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board  
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 (by mail)  
1001 I Street, 24<sup>th</sup> Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)

### Language Services

This meeting will be offered in English. To request translation of a written document, interpretation services in another language for the meeting, or sign language services please use one of the following options 10 business days before the meeting (April 7, 2026), if possible:

- Submit an online request: [bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm](http://bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm)
- Call (916) 341-5254
- Email [languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov)

Contact us to request information in your language.

Contáctenos para solicitar información en su idioma.

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귀하의 언어로 작성된 정보를 요청하려면 저희에게 문의하십시오.

ਆਪਣੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਭ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧ ਕਰੋ।

Makipag-ugnayan sa amin para humiling ng impormasyon sa iyong wika.

请联系我们，以您的语言获取相关信息。

### **Accessibility & Reasonable Accommodations**

Users of a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or the teletype (TTY) voice line at (800) 735-2922. Any person who requires reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should email [contact@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:contact@waterboards.ca.gov) or call (916) 341-5254, 10 business days prior to the meeting, or as soon as possible. Learn more about accessibility within Zoom at [www.zoom.com/en/accessibility](http://www.zoom.com/en/accessibility).

### **Building and Parking Information**

- Directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>.
- Visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance on 10th Street.
- Please allow 5 to 10 minutes to receive security clearance.

### **Background**

The State Water Board designated the Tule subbasin as probationary under SGMA on September 17, 2024. Most groundwater pumpers in the Tule subbasin are required to report their groundwater extractions by May 1, 2026, and pay fees to the Board.

After the probationary designation, eight Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Tule subbasin requested to be considered for exclusions from reporting and fees. Board staff evaluated these requests and does not recommend exclusions for any of the eight GSAs.

Board staff will provide an overview of the GSAs' requests for exclusions, staff's proposed recommendations regarding the requests to the Board, and possible next steps for developing an interim plan for the subbasin. The Board may take action based on the staff recommendation or may take other action regarding the reporting and fee requirement in the Tule Subbasin at the Board meeting. If the Board grants an exclusion for a GSA, groundwater pumpers within that GSA's boundaries would not need to report extractions and pay fees to the State Water Board for groundwater extractions.

### **Stay Informed**

Subscribe to the SGMA Groundwater Management list to receive email notifications: [bit.ly/sgma-updates](http://bit.ly/sgma-updates)

Enter your email address and password, and then select the submit button. If this is your first time subscribing to a Water Boards email subscription list, you will have to register and create a password.

Any person interested in receiving additional information about State Water Board SGMA activities, including any change to the date, time, or meeting location in this public notice, should subscribe to the email distribution list.

**Contact Information**

- Program contact: [sgma@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:sgma@waterboards.ca.gov) or 916-322-6508
- Website: [www.waterboards.ca.gov/sgma](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sgma)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date                      March 19, 2026

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Courtney Tyler  
Clerk to the Board

# DRAFT

## STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2026-

### DENYING REQUESTS FOR EXCLUSION FROM PROBATIONARY REPORTING AND FEES TO EIGHT GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCIES IN THE TULE SUBBASIN

#### WHEREAS:

1. Groundwater provides a significant portion of California's water supply, making up more than one-half of the water used by Californians in drought years when other sources are unavailable. When properly managed, groundwater resources provide for communities, farms, and the environment and help protect against prolonged dry periods and climate change, preserving water supplies for existing and potential beneficial uses. However, excessive groundwater extraction can cause long-term overdraft, failed wells, deteriorated water quality, environmental damage, and irreversible land subsidence that damages infrastructure and diminishes the capacity of aquifers to store water for the future, all of which can have substantial economic impacts. Additionally, failure to manage groundwater to prevent long-term overdraft can potentially infringe on rights to or use of groundwater or interconnected surface water.
2. In 2014, the State of California enacted Assembly Bill 1739, and Senate Bills 1168 and 1319, collectively referred to as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SGMA's intent is to ensure the proper and sustainable management of groundwater resources in California.
3. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) recognizes that the goal of SGMA is sustainable groundwater management that will ensure the long-term viability of groundwater resources for future use by communities, farms, businesses, and the environment and to prevent groundwater pumping from causing undesirable results including significant and unreasonable depletions of groundwater supplies, degraded water quality, and land subsidence.
4. SGMA authorizes the State Water Board to designate groundwater basins as probationary. Most persons who extract groundwater from a basin the Board has designated probationary must report their extractions to the Board and pay an associated filing fee to the Board.
5. When deficiencies that resulted in a probationary designation of a basin are not corrected within the specified period of time (one year for the Tule

# DRAFT

Subbasin) the State Water Board may develop and, after notice and hearing, adopt an interim plan for the basin.

6. SGMA authorizes the State Water Board to exclude a class or category of extractions from the requirement for reporting that applies to probationary groundwater basins if those extractions are subject to a local plan or program that adequately manages groundwater in the portion of the basin to which that plan or program applies, and provides the State Water Board with discretion to determine what constitutes adequate management for the purposes of an exclusion from reporting and whether to apply an exclusion from reporting to adequately managed extractions. Persons excluded from the requirement for reporting are also excluded from the requirement to pay the associated filing fee.
7. The State Water Board designated the Tule Subbasin as probationary after a public hearing on September 17, 2024 ([Resolution No. 2024-0030](#)). The probationary designation took effect on October 3, 2024.
8. The Lower Tule River Irrigation District groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) (Lower Tule), Pixley Irrigation District GSA (Pixley), Tri-County Water Authority GSA (Tri-County), Tea Pot Dome Water District GSA (Tea Pot Dome), Terra Bella Irrigation District GSA (Terra Bella), Porterville Irrigation District GSA (Porterville), Saucelito Irrigation District GSA (Saucelito), and Vandalia Water District GSA (Vandalia) are among the GSAs that manage groundwater in the Tule Subbasin.
9. In September 2025, Lower Tule, Pixley, Tri-County, Tea Pot Dome, Terra Bella, Porterville, Saucelito, and Vandalia each submitted requests to the State Water Board to be excluded from the reporting requirement and information in support of the requests for exclusion. In December 2025, Board staff requested that the GSAs provide additional information to assist staff's evaluation of the exclusion requests and each GSA provided additional information. Staff capacity for engagement with GSAs was reduced while conducting the review of the exclusion requests.
10. The State Water Board acknowledges and appreciates the improvements Lower Tule, Pixley, Tri-County, Tea Pot Dome, Terra Bella, Porterville, Saucelito, and Vandalia have made to their approaches to groundwater management but continues to have concerns regarding management by those GSAs and the effect of granting reporting and fee exclusions on sustainability in the Tule Subbasin.

# DRAFT

11. State Water Board staff reviewed the information provided and considered it in context of subbasin-wide management, concerns related to each GSA's management, and how management and implementation impact the subbasin's path to sustainability. Staff prepared a Tule Subbasin Exclusion Report that concludes that while Lower Tule, Pixley, Tri-County, Tea Pot Dome, Terra Bella, Porterville, Saucelito, and Vandalia have made improvements to their groundwater management, the information provided by the GSAs does not appear to demonstrate adequate management by those GSAs and staff therefore does not recommend that pumpers within those GSAs be excluded from the reporting requirement. The staff report documents the issues for each GSA.
12. Based on its review and consideration, the State Water Board does not propose to apply exclusions from the reporting requirement to extractions in areas managed by Lower Tule, Pixley, Tri-County, Tea Pot Dome, Terra Bella, Porterville, Saucelito, or Vandalia.
13. The State Water Board has reviewed and considered the staff recommendation and supporting data and considered public comments and testimony.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Determines that exclusions from the reporting requirement for Lower Tule, Pixley, Tri-County, Tea Pot Dome, Terra Bella, Porterville, Saucelito, or Vandalia are not granted for Water Year 2025-2026 and Water Year 2026-2027.
2. Directs staff to prioritize providing technical feedback to the GSAs in order to assist the GSAs in resolving deficiencies in their groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) development and implementation.
3. Nothing in this resolution precludes the Tule Subbasin GSAs from submitting revised GSPs to the State Water Board for consideration of whether plan deficiencies are resolved sufficient for the subbasin to exit probation.
4. Nothing in this resolution precludes the Tule Subbasin GSAs from implementing existing and future GSPs to address undesirable results.

# **D R A F T**

## **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on April 21, 2026

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Courtney Tyler  
Clerk to the Board

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

**Staff Report to the Porterville Irrigation District GSA Board of Directors**

Subject: CONSENT CALENDAR / Consideration and approval of March 20, 2026, GSA Board Minutes (Action).

Submitted By: General Manager

# PORTERVILLE

IRRIGATION DISTRICT



## MINUTES OF THE GSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING HELD MARCH 20, 2026

At approximately 10:00 a.m. on March 20, 2026, at the Porterville Irrigation District, Board Room, President Eric Borba called to order the meeting of the Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“PIDGSA”). The meeting was also conducted remotely for members of the public.

Members Present: Eric Borba, David Gisler  
Timothy Witzel Brett McCowan

Members Absent: None

Others Present: Michael Knight, *GSA Manager*  
Sean Geivet, *District Manager*  
Aubrey Mauritsen, *District Legal Counsel*  
Nick Keller, *District Engineer*  
Jeff Row, *District Secretary-Treasurer*

List of signed-in attendees:

Terry Schuler Blake Wallace  
Robert Alvarez Douglas Jackson  
Roger Everett Matt Kidder  
David Payne Jason Guthrie  
Seth Bowser

Additional members of the public were present in person and via Zoom.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

President Eric Borba called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Flag salute: Michael Knight

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

President Borba opened the floor for public comment. No public comments were received.

## 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Ongoing efforts for the transition from ETGSA to PID GSA.

The GSA Manager provided an update on ongoing coordination efforts for the transition from the Eastern Tule Groundwater Sustainability Agency (ETGSA) to the Porterville Irrigation District GSA.

- b. Information for GSAs and Reporters on Extraction Reports Due May 1, 2026.

The GSA Manager reviewed recent State Water Resources Control Board correspondence concerning groundwater extraction reporting requirements under SGMA and discussed upcoming reporting deadlines, GEARS resources, and informational webinars available to GSAs and reporters.

## 4. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. Consideration and Approval of February 17, 2026, GSA Board Minutes.

Action: Motion by Director Witzel, seconded by Director McCowan, to approve the GSA Minutes of February 17, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

## 5. ADMINISTRATION

- a. Consider and Approve the Draft PID Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model provided by Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers.
- b. Consider and Approve Draft PID Water Budget provided by Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers.

Action: Motion by Director McCowan, seconded by Director Witzel, to bring back at a later date to be determined, with efforts moving forward with a single GSP and Tule Subbasin coordination for Items a and b. Motion carried unanimously.

- c. Consider and Approve a Draft Resolution of the Board Continuing Groundwater Management Program.

The Board considered a draft resolution continuing the groundwater management program on an interim basis while PID GSA completes development of its updated Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Staff explained that adoption of the resolution would allow PID GSA to continue implementing the ETGSA 2024 Amended GSP and related Tule Subbasin coordination framework, as applicable within PID's jurisdictional boundaries, until PID adopts its own updated GSP. Staff stated that this action is intended to provide administrative and regulatory continuity during the transition period.

Action: Motion by Director McCowan, seconded by Director Witzel, to approve Draft Resolution of the PID GSA Board Continuing Groundwater Management Program, during which time the PID GSA will work to finalize an updated GSP. Motion carried unanimously.

#### REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- a. Stakeholder Committee – March 20, 2026. The meeting was canceled.
- b. Tule Subbasin GWQ Technical Group March 13, 2026 Meeting.

The GSA Manager summarized the discussion from the Tule Subbasin Managers Group meeting, including:

- Coordination among GSAs regarding a single GSP
  - Ongoing consultant coordination
  - Development of regional monitoring programs
  - Updates related to State Water Resources Control Board engagement
- c. Tule Subbasin Policy Group Report from March 9, 2026, Meeting.

Board members reported on recent Policy Group meetings, including discussions on:

- Land subsidence monitoring and mitigation strategies
  - Regional groundwater modeling coordination
  - Coordination among GSAs regarding a single GSP
- d. Tule Subbasin Land Subsidence Technical Working Group March 17, 2026, Meeting.

A report was provided regarding the March 17, 2026, Land Subsidence Technical Working Group meeting, including regional monitoring and coordination efforts related to subsidence and infrastructure protection.

#### 6. CLOSED SESSION:

a. Closed Session Pursuant to:

1. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT/EMPLOYMENT (Gov. Code § 54957(b)(1)) – Discussion with the Board for the employment of an Administrative Assistant I to serve the GSA.

#### 7. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS: No Report.

b. Report Action Taken in Closed Session Required by Government Code 54957.1

There was no reportable action pursuant to Government Code Section 54957.1.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting of the Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors is scheduled for Thursday, April 16, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, President Borba adjourned the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Michael Knight, GSA General Manager

ADMINISTRATION

Staff Report to the Porterville Irrigation District GSA Board of Directors

Subject: ADMINISTRATION / Consider and Approve Participation in Tule Subbasin Domestic Well Mitigation Reserve Fund. (Action)

Submitted By: General Manager

At the recent Tule Subbasin Policy Ad hoc meeting, one of the primary discussion items was the implementation of the proposed **Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program** and, specifically, the structure and funding of the **Mitigation Reserve Fund**. The discussion began with the process for claim review and approval, and then moved to the practical and policy considerations associated with reserving mitigation funding identified in the 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plans.

As previously discussed at the Subbasin level, the Mitigation Reserve Fund concept was generally supported as an important measure to demonstrate to the State Water Resources Control Board that the GSAs in the Tule Subbasin would have readily available funding to respond to drinking water well impacts associated with groundwater management. This funding structure was intended to support the argument that potential impacts could be addressed quickly and effectively, thereby reducing the likelihood that such impacts would be considered significant and unmitigated.

Based on the undesirable result quantification criteria included in the 2024 GSPs, the Subbasin-wide reserve fund amounts proposed are as follows:

- **Impacted Domestic Wells from Declining Groundwater Levels: \$3,344,800**
- **Impacted Domestic Wells from Degraded Groundwater Quality: \$500,000**
- **Total Proposed Reserve Fund: \$3,844,800**

The Policy Ad-hoc Group generally supported assigning each GSA an initial prorated contribution based on the number of anticipated impacted domestic wells located within its jurisdictional boundary. However, the group did not reach consensus on whether those funds should be pooled into a single Subbasin-wide reserve account or maintained separately by each GSA within its own accounts.

## **Discussion**

### **1. Reserve Fund Purpose**

The proposed reserve fund is intended to ensure that mitigation resources are available if domestic drinking water wells are impacted by groundwater conditions associated with sustainable groundwater management. A reserve fund would allow a GSA or group of GSAs to respond quickly to verified claims and provide emergency or full mitigation measures without delay.

From a regulatory perspective, a readily available mitigation reserve may strengthen the Subbasin's ability to demonstrate that its sustainability criteria are supported by an actionable mitigation mechanism. This is particularly important where the State has emphasized that claim review and attribution should be conducted objectively and consistently.

## **2. Subbasin-Wide Reserve Fund vs. Individual GSA Reserve Accounts**

Two implementation structures were discussed by the Policy Ad-hoc Group.

### **Subbasin-Wide Reserve Fund**

Under this option, each GSA would contribute its prorated share into one common reserve account administered on a Subbasin-wide basis. Supporters of this structure noted that a centralized reserve may:

- Promote consistency in claim handling and mitigation response,
- Provide a more uniform approach to claim attribution,
- Demonstrate coordinated Subbasin action to the State, and
- Improve the ability to respond promptly where impacts occur.

### **Individual GSA Reserve Accounts**

Under this option, each GSA would maintain mitigation funds equal to or greater than its assigned amount within its own reserve or budget accounts. Supporters of this option noted that:

- Some GSAs have already acted proactively to reduce domestic well vulnerability,
- Some GSAs have relatively few domestic wells and therefore may be reluctant to subsidize impacts elsewhere,
- It preserves local control over budgeting and expenditures, and
- It may better align responsibility with local conditions and local management actions.

## **3. Funding Basis if a Subbasin-Wide Account is Supported**

If the Committee recommends participation in a Subbasin-wide reserve fund, the next policy question is the amount of the initial contribution.

Two approaches were presented:

### **Option A – Full Mitigation Funding Basis**

This option would fund the full estimated mitigation cost using:

- **\$90,400 per impacted domestic well** for groundwater level impacts, and
- **\$2,500 per impacted domestic well** for groundwater quality impacts.

Under this option, Porterville ID's initial contribution would be **\$336,200**.

### **Option B – Interim/Emergency Mitigation Funding Basis**

This option would require the Subbasin-wide reserve to cover at minimum:

- **\$17,900 per impacted domestic well** for emergency and interim water supply costs associated with declining groundwater levels, and
- **\$2,500 per impacted domestic well** for degraded groundwater quality impacts.

Under this option, Porterville ID's initial contribution would be **\$118,700**, with the balance of any full mitigation obligation to remain reserved within the individual GSA's own accounts.

#### **4. Basis for Porterville ID's Initial Contribution**

The attached Subbasin analysis estimates PID's prorated share based on anticipated impacts within its boundary using the following assumptions:

- **Groundwater Level Impacts:** 20% of impacted wells at the model-generated upper aquifer minimum threshold surface
- **Groundwater Quality Impacts:** 12.5% of total domestic wells within each GSA boundary

For Porterville ID, the analysis identifies:

- **3 impacted wells** for groundwater level reserve contribution calculations
- **26 impacted wells** for groundwater quality reserve contribution calculations
- **Full mitigation total: \$336,200**
- **Interim mitigation total: \$118,700**

#### **PID GSA Considerations**

As the Stakeholder Committee evaluates this matter, the following policy considerations may be relevant:

First, PID GSA should consider whether participation in a Subbasin-wide reserve fund materially improves claim administration, consistency, and regulatory defensibility. A common reserve may present a stronger coordinated framework to outside agencies, but it may also reduce local control over fund use.

Second, PID GSA should consider the degree to which its own domestic well risk profile justifies either a pooled or siloed funding approach. Because PID has a measurable estimated contribution under either option, the Committee may wish to weigh both fairness and practical program administration.

Third, if a centralized reserve is supported, the Committee should consider whether an initial contribution based on **interim mitigation** is a more reasonable and cost-conscious starting point than immediate full mitigation capitalization. The interim option reduces the immediate funding burden while still demonstrating the availability of emergency response funds.

Finally, the Committee should consider how any reserve commitment would be incorporated into future PID GSA budgeting, financial reserves, and implementation planning.

## Committee Direction Requested

Staff requests that the Stakeholder Committee discuss the reserve fund structure and provide direction on the following:

1. Should PID GSA support a **Subbasin-wide Drinking Water Well Mitigation Reserve Fund account**?
2. If so, should the initial PID GSA contribution be based on:
  - o **Full mitigation cost**; or
  - o **Interim/emergency mitigation cost only**?
3. If not, should PID GSA maintain mitigation funds in an amount equal to or greater than its assigned share within its own PID GSA reserve accounts?

## Suggested Stakeholder Committee Recommendation

Following discussion, the Stakeholder Committee may consider recommending one of the following to the PID GSA Board:

**Option 1:** Recommend that PID GSA support participation in a Subbasin-wide reserve fund using the **full mitigation contribution basis**.

**Option 2:** Recommend that PID GSA support participation in a Subbasin-wide reserve fund using the **interim mitigation contribution basis**, with any remaining full mitigation obligation reserved locally if necessary.

**Option 3:** Recommend that PID GSA **not participate in a pooled Subbasin reserve account** and instead maintain its assigned reserve amount within PID GSA's own accounts.

Potential fiscal impact to PID GSA based on the Subbasin reserve analysis is estimated as follows:

- **Full Mitigation Contribution: \$336,200**
- **Interim Mitigation Contribution: \$118,700**

Any final funding commitment would be subject to the Board's direction and to incorporation into the PID GSA budget or reserve structure.

## Recommendation

Review the Tule Subbasin Drinking Water Well Mitigation Reserve Fund framework and provide a recommendation to the PID GSA Board regarding:

1. Whether PID GSA should support participation in a **Subbasin-wide Mitigation Reserve Fund account**, or
2. Whether PID GSA should maintain its **proportionate mitigation reserve within its own PID GSA budget and accounts**, and

3. If a Subbasin-wide fund is supported, whether the initial contribution basis should be:
  - o **Full mitigation cost**, or
  - o **Emergency/interim mitigation cost only**, with the remaining mitigation obligation reserved at the individual GSA level.

The reserve fund analysis provided to the Subbasin identifies Porterville ID’s estimated initial contribution at **\$336,200 under a full mitigation approach** and **\$118,700 under an interim mitigation approach**.

**Table 2 - Tule Subbasin Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program Reserve Fund**  
**Groundwater Quality Impacts**

GSA	# of Domestic Wells	12.5% Impacted <sup>1</sup>	GWQ Reserve Fund Initial Contribution (Full Mitigation)
			<i>Cost per Well</i> \$2,500
Alpaugh	6	1	\$ 2,500
Delano-Earlimart ID	76	10	\$ 25,000
Lower Tule River ID	269	34	\$ 85,000
Kern Tulare WD	5	1	\$ 2,500
Pixley ID	179	23	\$ 57,500
TCWA	51	7	\$ 17,500
Vandalia WD	16	2	\$ 5,000
Tea Pot Dome WD	45	6	\$ 15,000
Saucelito	28	4	\$ 10,000
Porterville ID	207	26	\$ 65,000
Terra Bella ID	26	4	\$ 10,000
Tule East	652	82	\$ 205,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1560</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>\$ 500,000</b>

1: 12.5% Impacted Domestic Wells tied to Undesirable Result Criteria for Degraded Groundwater Quality

**Table 1 - Tule Subbasin Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program Reserve Fund**  
**Groundwater Level Impacts**

GSA	# of Impacted Wells @ Minimum Threshold	20% of Impacted @ Minimum Threshold <sup>1</sup>	GWL Reserve Fund Initial Contribution	
			(Full Mitigation)	(Interim Mitigation)
			<i>Cost per Well</i>	
			\$ 90,400	\$ 17,900
Alpaugh	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
Delano-Earlimart ID	7	2	\$ 180,800	\$ 35,800
Lower Tule River ID	47	10	\$ 904,000	\$ 179,000
Kern Tulare WD	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
Pixley ID	44	9	\$ 813,600	\$ 161,100
TCWA	10	2	\$ 180,800	\$ 35,800
Vandalia WD	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
Tea Pot Dome WD	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
Saucelito ID	4	1	\$ 90,400	\$ 17,900
Porterville ID	12	3	\$ 271,200	\$ 53,700
Terra Bella ID	0	0	\$ -	\$ -
Tule East	49	10	\$ 904,000	\$ 179,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>173</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>\$ 3,344,800</b>	<b>\$ 662,300</b>

<sup>1</sup>: 20% Impacted Wells tied to Undesirable Result Definition for Declining Groundwater Levels

**Table 3 - Tule Subbasin Drinking Water Well Mitigation Program Reserve Fund  
GSA Contributions  
Groundwater Level & Groundwater Quality Impacts**

<b>GSA</b>	<b>Full Mitigation<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Interim Mitigation<sup>2</sup></b>
Alpaugh	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Delano-Earlimart ID	\$ 205,800	\$ 60,800
Lower Tule River ID	\$ 989,000	\$ 264,000
Kern Tulare WD	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500
Pixley ID	\$ 871,100	\$ 218,600
TCWA	\$ 198,300	\$ 53,300
Vandalia WD	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
Tea Pot Dome WD	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000
Saucelito	\$ 100,400	\$ 27,900
Porterville ID	\$ 336,200	\$ 118,700
Terra Bella ID	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000
Tule East	\$ 1,109,000	\$ 384,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 3,844,800</b>	<b>\$ 1,162,300</b>

*1: Full mitigation includes \$90,400 at 20% of impacted well from declining groundwater levels at Minimum Threshold & \$2,500 at 12.5% of wells impacted from degraded groundwater quality*

*2: Interim mitigation includes \$17,900 at 20% of impacted well from declining groundwater levels at Minimum Threshold & \$2,500 at 12.5% of wells impacted from degraded groundwater quality*

ADMINISTRATION

Staff Report to the Porterville Irrigation District GSA Board of Directors

Subject: ADMINISTRATION / Consider and Approve preliminary GSA Budget and Start the 218 Process for Groundwater Extraction Fee. (Action)

Submitted By: General Manager

# PORTERVILLE IRRIGATION DISTRICT GSA PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET FOR EXTRACTION FEE

	BUDGET	Fixed	Variable	Breakdown for Water Rate	Acer FT Cost
Income					
Extraction Fee - District Users	\$ 680,412.60	\$ -	\$ 680,412.60		
	<b>\$ 680,413</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 680,413</b>		
Expenses					
Payroll - Gross Wages (A&G)	\$ 191,870.00	\$ -	\$ 191,870.00	admin	\$14.11
Payroll Tax (A&G)	\$ 15,349.60	\$ -	\$ 15,349.60	admin	\$1.13
Pension Expense (A&G)	\$ 22,300.00	\$ -	\$ 22,300.00	admin	\$1.64
Health Insurance (A&G)	\$ 45,582.00	\$ -	\$ 45,582.00	admin	\$3.35
Dental Insurance (A&G)	\$ 1,536.00	\$ -	\$ 1,536.00	admin	\$0.11
Vision Insurance (A&G)	\$ 525.00	\$ -	\$ 525.00	admin	\$0.04
Employee Training (A&G)	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 250.00	admin	\$0.02
Supplies - General (A&G)	\$ 2,500.00	\$ -	\$ 2,500.00	admin	\$0.18
Computer Expenses (A&G)	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00	computer	\$3.68
Engineering Services (A&G)	\$ 275,000.00	\$ -	\$ 275,000.00	engineering/consult	\$20.22
Legal Expenses (A&G)	\$ 75,000.00	\$ -	\$ 75,000.00	legal	\$5.51
Meeting Expense (A&G)	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ 500.00	admin	\$0.04
<b>TOTAL Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 680,413</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 680,413</b>		

**NET REVENUE**

<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
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Basis of Groundwater Extraction Cost:	\$ 50.00
	\$ 680,413
	\$44.62
	13,600 (Irrigated acres w/o City)
	15,250 (Irrigated acres with City)
	\$50.03