



### **SPECIAL BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

Tuesday, August 11, 2026, Convenes at 10:30 a.m.

Or immediately following the Porterville Irrigation District Meeting

<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

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### **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. Status of Prop 218 Extraction Fee Public Outreach.
- b. Report Back on Meeting with State Board Member Nicole Morgan and Staff on July 16, 2026 (Update).
- c. Notice from the State Water Board Regarding GEARS Reporting Annual Fee Invoice Mailing for Tule Subbasin.

**4. CONSENT CALENDAR**

- a. **Consideration and Approval of July 14, 2026, GSA Special Board Meeting Minutes (Action).**

**5. ADMINISTRATION**

- a. **Consideration and Approval of First Amended Rules and Regulations. (Action)**

**6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

- a. Provide a report to Board Members on meetings conducted to facilitate the Tule Subbasin Multi-GSA efforts and progress.

**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, August 20, 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.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

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

Subject: CONSENT CALENDAR / Consideration and approval of July 14, 2026, GSA Special Board Minutes (Action).

Submitted By: General Manager



**MINUTES OF THE  
SPECIAL GSA BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
MEETING HELD JULY 14, 2026**

At approximately 10:30 p.m. on July 14, 2026, at the Porterville Irrigation District Board Room, President Eric Borba called to order the Special 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  
                               Brett McCowan

Members Absent:     Timothy Witzel

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 | Bill Morgan  |
| Mike George   | Adam Mendoza |
| Alan Lombardi |              |

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 10:30 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. Status of Prop 218 Extraction Fee Public Outreach.

The GSA General Manager provided an update regarding public outreach for the proposed 2026 PID GSA groundwater extraction fee.

Staff reported that Proposition 218 notices were being mailed to affected property owners and posted through the District's public-notice process. The notices identified a proposed fee based on the PID GSA 2026 budget, Native Sustainable Yield, and the acreage within the PID GSA boundary. The public hearing remained scheduled for August 20, 2026, at 2:00 p.m.

Staff also discussed ongoing efforts to provide information and respond to questions from landowners regarding the proposed fee, calculation methodology, protest procedures, and public-hearing process.

### b. Scheduled Meeting with State Board Member Nicole Morgan and Staff on July 16, 2026.

The GSA General Manager reported that representatives of PID GSA and the other Tule Subbasin GSAs were scheduled to meet with State Water Resources Control Board Member Nicole Morgan and Board staff on July 16, 2026.

Staff explained that the meeting was intended to establish a shared understanding of the actions necessary for the Tule Subbasin to achieve groundwater sustainability and potentially exit probationary status. The Tule Subbasin representatives intended to present the improved coordination structure, ongoing technical work, management activities, and progress toward preparation of a Multi-GSA Single Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

## 4. CONSENT CALENDAR

### a. Consideration and Approval of June 9, 2026, GSA Special Board Meeting Minutes (Action).

The Board considered approval of the June 9, 2026, GSA Board Meeting Minutes.

Action: Motion by Director McCowan, seconded by Vice President Gisler, to approve the GSA Board Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

5. ADMINISTRATION

- a. There were no administration items presented for discussion or action.

6. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- a. Provide a report to Committee Members on meetings conducted to facilitate the Tule Subbasin Multi-GSA efforts and progress.

The GSA General Manager provided a report regarding recent meetings and activities undertaken to facilitate coordinated Tule Subbasin Multi-GSA efforts.

Staff reported that PID GSA continued to compile records requested by the State Water Resources Control Board concerning surface water diverted to underground storage and extractions of legally stored surface water. The requested information was originally due July 1, 2026. PID GSA requested additional time to review available records, including information inherited from Eastern Tule GSA, and to submit information that was as complete and accurate as reasonably possible.

Staff also summarized progress on development of the Tule Subbasin Multi-GSA Single Groundwater Sustainability Plan. Current technical work included:

- Updating the basin setting and groundwater budgets;
- Revising the groundwater-flow model;
- Evaluating land subsidence and critical-head conditions;
- Developing groundwater-pumping attribution scenarios;
- Coordinating regarding impacts to the Friant-Kern Canal;
- Updating groundwater-quality and monitoring programs;
- Developing drinking-water well mitigation measures;
- Reviewing Projects and Management Actions; and
- Developing coordinated Sustainable Management Criteria.

7. CLOSED SESSION: The Board did not convene into closed session.

The Board adjourned to Closed Session pursuant to:

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

8. CLOSED SESSION ITEMS:

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

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

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

9. NEXT MEETING DATE

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

Action: Motion by Director McCowan, seconded by Vice President Gisler, to cancel the regularly scheduled GSA Board Meeting for July 16, 2026, at 2:00 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

10. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, President Borba adjourned the meeting at 11:10 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 / Consideration and Approval of First Amended Rules and Regulations. (Action).

Submitted By: General Manager

On August 22, 2025, the Board adopted the Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (PID GSA) Rules and Regulations establishing the framework for groundwater accounting, sustainable yield allocations, reporting requirements, enforcement, and administration of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

Since adoption, staff has continued implementation of the groundwater accounting program and has worked with legal counsel, technical consultants, and the Stakeholder Committee to identify provisions requiring clarification based on practical application, implementation experience, and continued development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

The proposed First Amendment does not substantially change the intent of the adopted Rules and Regulations. Rather, it clarifies implementation procedures, updates technical language, and incorporates additional administrative provisions necessary to improve operation of the groundwater accounting system.

**Recommendation**

Receive the staff presentation, discuss the proposed First Amendment to the Rules and Regulations, and provide direction to staff regarding adoption of the amended Rules and Regulations.

# RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE PORTERVILLE IRRIGATION DISTRICT GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Adopted August 22, 2025

First Amended [date]

Jeff Row, Secretary  
Porterville Irrigation  
District GSA

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## **Article I. General**

### **Section 1.01 Purpose**

These rules and regulations are established by the Board of Directors of the Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (PID GSA) in order to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater within the PID GSA.

### **Section 1.02 Authority**

Division 6 Conservation, Development and Utilization of State Water Resources Part 2.74, Chapter 5, Section 10725.2 expressly states as follows:

“A groundwater sustainability agency may adopt rules, regulations, ordinances, and resolutions for the purpose of this part, in compliance with any procedural requirements applicable to the adoption of a rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution by the groundwater sustainability agency.”

### **Section 1.03 Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

Pursuant to Division 6 Conservation, Development and Utilization of State Water Resources Part 2.74, Chapter 5, Section 10725, a groundwater sustainability agency may exercise the powers described in Chapter 5 provided the groundwater sustainability agency adopts and submits a groundwater sustainability plan to the Department of Water Resources. These rules and regulations are designed to implement the provisions of the PID GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), and may be amended at any time if necessary to achieve consistency with the groundwater sustainability plan and steps needed to achieve sustainability.

### **Section 1.04 Definitions**

“De minimis” means a person who extracts, for domestic purposes, two acre-feet or less per year, as defined in SGMA.

“Determination Date” means the date upon which various recommendations are presented to the Board from the Land Subsidence Management and Monitoring Committee regarding land subsidence levels.

“PID GSA” means Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

“PID GSA GSP” means the PID GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan required to be developed and submitted to the Department of Water Resources pursuant to Division 6 Conservation, Development and Utilization of State Water Resources Part 2.74, Chapter 5, Section 10727, *et al.*

“PID GSA Technical Group” means the PID GSA’s Consulting Engineer, the Tule Subbasin’s designated Hydrogeologist, and the PID GSA’s designated Agronomist.

“Groundwater Credits” means the carryover of Sustainable Yield as described in Section 4.03(c)(i)(1).

“LSMC” means Land Subsidence Monitoring and Management Committee.

“Operator” means an authorized representative of an owner.

“Owner” means fee title owner of land within the PID GSA boundaries.

“SGMA” means the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, pursuant to Division 6 Conservation, Development and Utilization of State Water Resources Part 2.74, Chapter 5, Section 10720, *et seq.*

“Water year” means the 12-month period October 1, for any given year through September 30, of the following year. The water year is designated by the calendar year in which it ends and which includes 9 of the 12 months. Thus, the year ending September 30, 1999 is called the "1999" water year.

### **Section 1.05 Effective Date and Changes**

These rules and regulations shall become effective upon adoption and may be added to, amended and/or repealed at any time by resolution of the Board of Directors of the PID GSA and such additions, amendments, and/or repeals shall become effective upon their adoptions or as otherwise specified by the Board of Directors.

### **Section 1.06 Actions Against the PID GSA**

Nothing contained in these rules and regulations shall constitute a waiver by the PID GSA or estop the PID GSA from asserting any defenses or immunities from liability as provided in law, including, but not limited to, those provided in Division 3.6 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

### **Section 1.07 Rights of Access**

The PID GSA staff and/or others authorized by the PID GSA’s General Manager shall notify and request consent from the owner of any land prior to their entry. Any such entry must be for the sole and exclusive purpose of conducting PID GSA business.

### **Section 1.08 Severability of Provisions**

If any provision of these rules and regulations, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of these rules and regulations, and the application of its provisions to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

## **Article II. Groundwater Monitoring**

### **Section 2.01 Well Registration**

#### **(a) Registration Requirement**

Any new groundwater extraction facilities permitted after January 31, 2020, ~~excluding de minimis extractions,~~ shall be registered with the PID GSA within 30 days of the completion of drilling activities. In addition, any owner selecting to use meters to report groundwater use, shall register with the PID GSA. The owner of an extraction facility shall register the extraction facility and provide, in

full, the information required to complete the form provided by the PID GSA that includes the following:

- i. Name and address of the operator(s).
- ii. Name and address of the owner(s) of the land upon which the extraction facility is located.
- iii. Well Driller Log and Completion Report. If not available, a description of the equipment associated with the extraction facility, including pump size (horsepower), estimated depth of the well casing and size of the well casing.
- iv. Location, parcel number and state well number of the water extraction facility.

#### **(b) Registration Fee**

An administrative fee shall be paid to the PID GSA, in an amount determined by the PID GSA board of directors, for each groundwater extraction facility registered with the PID GSA to cover the nominal administrative costs of the registration process.

#### **(c) Change in Owner or Operator**

The name of the owner of each extraction facility, the Tulare County Assessor's Parcel Number (APN) on which the facility is located, along with the names of all operators for each registered extraction facility shall be reported to the PID GSA within 60 days upon any change of ownership or operators, together with such other information required by the General Manager.

### **Section 2.02 Consumed Groundwater Use Measurement**

This Section outlines two methodologies for measuring or estimating groundwater extraction by each owner: (1) information provided from flowmeters which have been connected to the relevant well or extraction facility continuously for the preceding period or (2) evapotranspiration information obtained via satellite technology. Subject to Section 3.05 below, and except as otherwise provided in this Section, each owner shall have the option to select the methodology used for measuring or estimating the owner's groundwater extraction unless the owner is diverting groundwater and surface water which in such event, owner may only utilize the methodology outlined for evapotranspiration.

If the owner does not (1) communicate an election to use flowmeters to the PID GSA by October 1 of each water year; and (2) provide all relevant information needed for the PID GSA to verify measurements from each flowmeter 30 days from the end of the prior month, then the PID GSA will default to utilize the evapotranspiration data to determine groundwater consumption for that period. If the owner desires to change his or her election after October 1, he or she may do so by presenting such request to the General Manager who then shall present for approval to the Board of Directors. And owner may only opt to change his or her election once annually.

#### **(a) Criteria for Using Meters**

If the owner selects using a meter on a well to report groundwater use, the following criteria and information shall be provided to the PID GSA:

- i. Manufacturer and Model of flowmeter;
- ii. Date Flow Meter Installed;
- iii. Diameter of Pipe and Size of Flow Meter;
- iv. Identification of who installed flowmeter and calibrated flowmeter per manufacturer specifications;
- v. Inspection records will be required to submit to PID GSA per schedule outlined in the manufacturer specifications.
- vi. Pictures to identify flowmeter installed correctly (e.g. adequate straight pipe sections before and after the flowmeter);
- vii. Type of crop, age of crop (if perennial), single/double/triple crop (if annual), irrigation methodology (e.g. flood, drip, sprinkler) for the irrigated acres serviced by the water from the flow meter; and
- viii. If multiple flowmeters on a farm, a map identifying the locations of the various flowmeters and lands serviced collectively by these flowmeters.

Additionally, the owner of the flowmeter will allow access to staff from the PID GSA to physically inspect the flowmeter, if needed.

For each month following an election under this subsection, the owner shall report to the PID GSA, no later than 30 days following the last day of the month, the quantity of groundwater extracted at each parcel for which the election is made, as measured by the flowmeter(s). Failure to timely report the quantity of groundwater extraction to the PID GSA, in accordance with this section, for any parcel to which the election applies for any month shall be deemed a withdrawal of the election as to those parcels for those months, in which case groundwater extraction shall be measured for those parcels for those months in accordance with the evapotranspiration method described in subsection (b) below.

### **(b) Criteria for Using Evapotranspiration Method**

Groundwater extraction shall be measured according to the evapotranspiration method described in this subsection for any parcels to which a valid election under subsection (a) above has not been made, or for which that election is deemed withdrawn in accordance with subsection (a).

Crop evapotranspiration (ET) is estimated using remote sensing data from LandSAT satellites. The satellite data is entered into a model, which is used to estimate the ET rate and ET spatial distribution of an area in any given time period. When appropriately calibrated to land-based ET and/or climate stations and validated with crop surveys, the satellite-based model provides an estimate of crop ET (i.e. consumptive use).

## **Article III. Groundwater Accounting/Data Management System**

### **Section 3.01 Authority**

Division 6 Conservation, Development and Utilization of State Water Resources Part 2.74, Chapter 5, Section 10726.4, expressly authorizes a groundwater sustainability agency to establish accounting rules to allow unused groundwater extraction allocations to be carried over and transferred.

### **Section 3.02 Online Water Accounting Database**

The PID GSA shall establish an online database for owners to account for total water use within the PID GSA. Owners may allow operators access and control of their account(s).

### **Section 3.03 Meter Measurement Categories of Water**

The online database described in Section 3.02 shall account for water through the following five categories:

- a) Direct Diversions of Surface Water. As described in Section 3.05, an owner's account may be credited or debited with surface water.
- b) Native Sustainable Yield Allocation. As described in Section 4.03(a) below, Native Sustainable Yield may be credited to an owner's account. Transfers of Native Sustainable Yield, as described in Section 4.03(c)(i)(2) below may be debited from an owner's account.
- c) Groundwater Credits. As described in Section 4.03(c)(i)(1) below, an owner's account may be credited or debited with groundwater credits.
- d) Surface Water Recharge Credits and Debits. As described in 3.07, an owner's account may be credited or debited with groundwater recharge or banking activities. Transfers will be recognized by the GSA when authorized by the applicable surface water entity.
- e) Recycled Water. An Owner's account may be credited or debited with recycled water. Prior to a debit or credit proper documentation must be provided and approved by PID GSA staff.

### **Section 3.04 Evapotranspiration Categories of Water**

The online database described in Section 3.02 shall account for water through the following six categories:

- a) Precipitation. As described in Section 4.03(b) below, Precipitation may be credited to an Owner's account.
- b) Direct Diversions of Surface Water. As described in Section 3.06, an owner's account may be credited or debited with surface water.
- c) Native Sustainable Yield Allocation. As described in Section 4.03(b) below, Native Sustainable Yield may be credited to an owner's account. Transfers of Native Sustainable Yield, as described in Section 4.03(c)(i)(2) below may be debited from an owner's account.
- d) Groundwater Credits. As described in Section 4.03(c)(i) below, an owner's account may be credited or debited with groundwater credits.
- e) Surface Water Recharge Credits and Debits. As described in 3.07, an owner's account may be credited or debited with groundwater recharge or banking activities. Transfers will be

recognized by the GSA when authorized by the applicable surface water entity.

- f) Recycled Water. An Owner's account may be credited or debited with recycled water. Prior to a debit or credit proper documentation must be provided and approved by PID GSA staff.

### **Section 3.~~04~~05 Priority of Use**

Each owner with multiple categories of credits under these rules and regulations shall have the power to elect which of such credits are to be prioritized to be debited or transferred in connection with such consumption, except for Precipitation. Owners may elect to modify the default priorities, which shall be completed no later than thirty (30) days prior to the end of each quarter. If the owner or operator does not elect the priority of allocations to be debited, the default priority will follow in order of Section 3.~~03~~04 (a)-(e).

### **Section 3.~~05~~06 Net Groundwater Consumptive Use Reporting and Debiting**

#### **(a) Amount of New Groundwater Consumptive Use**

The amount of net groundwater consumptive use will be calculated monthly, within 30 days of the end of the prior month, using either Meter Measurement in Section 2.02 or Evapotranspiration Measurement as described in Section 2.03. If a landowner does not elect to use the Meter Measurement requirement in Section 2.02 within 30 days of the start of the water year, then the method used will be evapotranspiration as described in Section 2.03.

In the event that a watercourse, including but not limited to canals, ditches, or riparian areas, is located within the boundaries of a parcel, the area of such watercourse shall not be evaluated for any consumed use of groundwater.

#### **(b) Appeal Process**

Within thirty (30) days of notification of the net consumed groundwater use, any owner may protest the amount or the method. The written protest must be submitted to the General Manager at the PID GSA's Main Office.

The General Manager shall investigate matters related to the protest, may consult with the PID GSA Technical Group, and may present any relevant information, along with any recommendation, to the Board within sixty (60) days of receipt of the protest. The Board shall act on the written protest and supporting documentation within sixty (60) days of receipt of all relevant information, including the possibility of authorizing a separate methodology not identified in these Rules and Regulations.

### **Section 3.~~06~~07 Surface Water Reporting**

Any owner within the PID GSA which utilizes surface water shall cause to be reported from the applicable surface water entity, the diversion of surface water to direct irrigation.

### **Section 3.~~07~~08 Groundwater Recharge and Banking Reporting**

An owner within the PID GSA which is performing recharge or groundwater banking activities shall report, or cause to be reported, the diversion of surface water to underground storage to the PID GSA. Prior to crediting or debiting the owner's account, the PID GSA shall ensure the request is consistent with any applicable groundwater banking or recharge policy, including but not limited to, Article VI. The PID GSA acknowledges that several special districts, organized and existing under the laws of the State of California for the purpose of facilitating the beneficial use of the waters of the State, operate within PID GSA's boundaries. Several such districts have adopted and implemented groundwater banking and recharge policies in order to facilitate the underground storage and beneficial use of surface water. PID GSA shall honor the groundwater banking and recharge policies of all such entities within its jurisdictional boundaries.

## **Article IV. Allocation of Water**

### **Section 4.01 Purpose**

Consistent with Division 6 Conservation, Development and Utilization of State Water Resources Part 2.74, Chapter 5, Section 10726, the purpose of this Article is to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater within the PID GSA jurisdictional area and Tule Subbasin, and to fulfill the legislative goals and policies of SGMA. Nothing in this Article shall be used to determine or alter water rights. Division 6 Conservation, Development and Utilization of State Water Resources Part 2.74, Chapter 5. Section 10726.4 provides in part a Groundwater Sustainability Agency has authority to control groundwater extractions by regulating, limiting or suspending extractions.

### **Section 4.02 Determination of Allocations**

Each year by October 1, or as soon as reasonably practical, the General Manager shall determine the allocations available for use within the PID GSA based on PID GSA Technical Group's data and calculations regarding whether the PID GSA GSP's Minimum Thresholds or Measurable Objectives require allocation adjustments. In providing such data and calculations to the General Manager, the PID GSA Technical Group shall use the methodologies and calculations defined in this Article 4.

### **Section 4.03 Sustainable Yield Allocation**

#### **(a) Groundwater Extraction Sustainable Yield Allocation**

For Owner's electing to use Meter Measurement for purposes of measuring groundwater use as described in Section 2.02 above, each year, the General Manager shall establish a Groundwater Extraction Sustainable Yield allocation for each agricultural assessor's parcel within the PID GSA. The allocation for each owner shall be calculated as follows and shall be titled "Native Sustainable Yield":

1. Sustainable Yield for the Tule Subbasin shall be calculated using the groundwater extraction methodology as agreed upon in the Tule Subbasin Coordination Agreement, incorporated herein by reference. The Tule Subbasin Sustainable Yield estimate will be developed using a calibrated groundwater flow model of the Tule Subbasin.\* As agreed

upon in the Coordination Agreement, the Groundwater Extraction Sustainable Yield Allocation shall include in the return flow from precipitation.

*\*As additional data becomes available and as projects, monitoring, and management actions are implemented, the groundwater flow model used to estimate the Sustainable Yield of the Tule Subbasin will be updated and the Native Sustainable Yield may be adjusted to reflect the new data. Additionally, the allocation of the total available Sustainable Yield according to gross assessor parcel acreage may be revised as the PID GSA develops additional historical use data and allocation methodologies beyond gross acreage.*

### **(b) Evapotranspiration Sustainable Yield Allocation**

For Owner's electing to use the Evapotranspiration Measurement for purposes of measuring groundwater use as described in Section 2.03 above, each year, the General Manager shall establish a Sustainable Yield allocation for each agricultural assessor's parcel within the PID GSA. The allocation for each owner shall be calculated as follows:

1. Sustainable Yield for the Tule Subbasin shall first be calculated using methodologies as agreed upon in the Tule Subbasin Coordination Agreement, incorporated herein by reference. As described therein, the Tule Subbasin Sustainable Yield estimate will be developed using a calibrated groundwater flow model of the Tule Subbasin.\*

Sustainable Yield allocated to the PID GSA shall be comprised of the following two components:

- (A) Native Sustainable Yield is calculated as the long-term average natural channel loss water within the Tule River, Porter Slough, Deer Creek, and White River channels and the calculated underflow from the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The volume is determined by utilizing the data provided in the Tule Subbasin Water Budget within the Tule Subbasin Setting attached to the Coordination Agreement. The PID GSA will determine its portion of the Tule Subbasin Native Sustainable Yield by multiplying the GSA's proportionate acreage of the Tule Subbasin multiplied by the total Native Sustainable Yield of the Tule Subbasin.
- (B) Total Precipitation ~~is calculated as the long-term average total precipitation for the entire PID GSA jurisdictional area. The long-term average is based on precipitation data collected from calibrated weather stations within and adjacent to the PID GSA, interpolated to lands within PID GSA. Each year the Total Precipitation long-term average is updated with prior year actual total precipitation measured~~ is the actual precipitation to have occurred within the Water Year allocation year, to be calculated and reported one calendar month after the actual rainfall occurs based on the nearest Land IQ monitoring field station.
2. The PID GSA's total available Sustainable Yield shall be the sum of the PID GSA's portion of the Tule Subbasin Native Sustainable Yield and total precipitation within the PID GSA.
3. Each parcel within the PID GSA will receive allocations in the amount equal to the gross assessor parcel acreage multiplied by the per acre allocation established in Section 4.03(a)(2).

*\*As additional data becomes available and as projects, monitoring, and management actions are implemented, the groundwater flow model used to estimate the Sustainable Yield of the Tule Subbasin will be updated and the Native Sustainable Yield may be adjusted to reflect the new data. Additionally, the allocation of the total available Sustainable Yield according to gross assessor parcel acreage may be revised as the PID GSA develops additional historical use data and allocation methodologies beyond gross acreage.*

### **(c) Carryover and Transfers**

#### *(i) Sustainable Yield Allocation*

##### *a. Carryover of Sustainable Yield*

If an owner uses less than his or her total Native Sustainable Yield allocation in a given year, the difference between the allocation amount for that year and the amount of groundwater used and/or transferred for that year shall be carried over to the next year. Portions of Native Sustainable Yield allocation successfully carried over from the previous year shall be credited to the owner's account as groundwater credits.

If the carryover amount for the year in question continues to remain unused as a groundwater credit, it may be carried over on a five-year rolling basis. The impact of the total quantity of water used in any five-year period shall be consistent with the provisions of the PID GSA GSP.

An Owner is not allowed to carryover Total Precipitation.

*Example:*

*Native Sustainable Yield (NSY) Allocation*

*Water Year 2021*

*Unused portion of 2021 NSY allocation → groundwater credit → may be carried over until the end of Water Year 2026.*

*Water Year 2022*

*Unused portion of 2022 NSY allocation → groundwater credit → may be carried over until the end of Water Year 2027.*

##### *b. Transfer of Sustainable Yield*

An owner may transfer all or a portion of the Native Sustainable Yield component of his or her Sustainable Yield allocation at any time, provided that the transfer satisfies conditions 1 through 4. Transferred Native Sustainable Yield shall be credited to the transferee's account as groundwater credits.

1. The proposed transferee will put the allocation to use within the Tule Subbasin;
2. If outside the PID GSA boundaries, the proposed transferee will put the allocation to use within the boundaries of a groundwater sustainability agency which permits the transfer

- of its own groundwater allocations to water users within the PID GSA;
3. The transfer agreement is memorialized in writing, using a form provided by the PID GSA; and
  4. Both the PID GSA and the groundwater sustainability agency of the transferee are informed of the parties to the transfer and the quantity transferred.

The PID GSA Technical Advisory Group shall establish an annual limitation on the total amount of allowable allocations outside the PID GSA boundaries based on water year. Requests for transfers shall be received beginning on October 1. Transfers shall be accepted on a first come, first serve basis. Until such time as the PID GSA Technical Advisory Group establishes the annual limitation, no transfers will be allowed outside of the PID GSA boundary.

Groundwater credits derived from the transfer of Native Sustainable Yield may be carried over for five years.

An Owner is not allowed to transfer Total Precipitation.

No action shall occur on any proposed transfer unless all past due assessments, interest and penalties owed to the PID GSA by either transferee or transferor have been paid prior to the date that the proposed transfer is submitted to the General Manager.

*Example:*

*Native Sustainable Yield (NSY) Transfer*

*Water Year 2021*

*Unused portion of 2021 NSY allocation transferred to a separate Owner on October 1, 2023 → groundwater credit → may be carried over until the end over Water Year 2028.*

#### **(d) Community Lands**

Lands designated as Community served lands by the PID GSA within the Greater Tule Management Area shall be managed pursuant to the Community Management Areas pursuant to Section 4.06.

#### **(e) Opt-Out**

An owner who has received a Sustainable Yield Allocation pursuant to Section 4.03(a) of these Rules and Regulations and who is in good standing with the PID GSA may elect to opt out of the PID GSA Rules and Regulations for the subsequent water year by submitting a request to the PID GSA no later than September 1. Should the owner wish to participate in the future, at that time, all current assessments, fees, interest, and penalties will be paid prior to participation. An owner is not allocated any water during the period in which he or she has chosen to opt out and will not be allocated any prior year's allocation upon choosing to opt in.

#### **(f) Watercourse(s)**

In the event that a watercourse, including but not limited to canals, ditches, or riparian areas, is located within the boundaries of a parcel, the area of such watercourse shall not receive any allocation of groundwater.

**(g) Enforcement**

The following actions shall occur if an Owner is in violation of this Section.

For each acre-foot extracted in violation of the restrictions set forth herein, the Owner shall be liable for the maximum penalty rate allowed pursuant to SGMA.

The quantity of water extracted in violation of the restrictions set forth herein shall be deducted from the Owner's allocation account the following year(s). If the Owner's penalty allocation account is depleted, further enforcement actions may be taken by the PID GSA.

An Owner shall not be entitled to utilize any existing allocations while the Owner is out of compliance with this Section. All water extracted while the Owner is out of compliance will result in the imposition of maximum penalties for such consumption.

**Section 4.05 Land Subsidence Management Area**

**(a) Purpose**

The Board intends to approve a Land Subsidence Management Plan within a defined area along the Friant Kern Canal. The current boundaries of the Land Subsidence Management Area are attached hereto as Exhibit A.

**(b) Meters**

Any wells within the boundary of the Land Subsidence Management Area will require a meter and reporting of the data monthly to the PID GSA staff.

Meters must comply with requirements stated in Section 2.02(a). Owners may request waivers from the metering requirement. Such waiver(s) may be approved if any of the following conditions apply:

- a. The applicable well is used solely for domestic needs; or
- b. Owner's household income is less than twice the federal poverty level (for a family of four in 2023, household income is less than \$60,000 per year); or
- c. Owner is enrolled in a qualified public assistance program; or
- d. Owner represents a public water system serving water for domestic use; or
- e. Owner provides sufficient documentation that the applicable well is pumping at a depth less than 600 feet below ground.

Owners may appeal to the Board of Directors any denied waiver as provided in Section 4.07.

### **(c) Management Actions**

*To be determined*

### **(d) Enforcement**

The following actions shall occur if an Owner is in violation of this Section. For each acre-foot extracted in violation of the restrictions set forth herein, the Owner shall be liable for the maximum penalty rate allowed pursuant to SGMA. An Owner shall not be entitled to utilize any existing allocations while the Owner is out of compliance with this Section. All water consumed while the Owner is out of compliance will result in the imposition of additional penalties.

## **Section 4.06 Community Management Areas**

*(a) To be determined*

## **Section 4.07 Appeal Process**

### **(a) Notification of Allocations and Extraction Limits**

The General Manager shall provide written notice to each owner and if requested, the operator, of the groundwater allocations described in this Article 4.

### **(b) Protest of Allocations and Extraction Limits**

Within thirty (30) days of the date identified in the written notification described in Section 4.07(a), an owner may protest the extraction allocations and extraction limits identified in the notification. The written protest must be submitted to the General Manager at the PID GSA's Main Office.

The General Manager shall investigate matters related to the protest, may consult with the PID GSA Technical group, and may present any relevant information, along with any recommendation, to the Board within sixty (60) days of receipt of the protest. The Board shall act on the written appeal and supporting documentation within 120 days of receipt of the recommendation and information provided by the General Manager.

## **Section 4.08 Emergency Ordinances**

Nothing in this Article shall prevent the PID GSA, in the event of an emergency, from enacting emergency regulations or ordinances.

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# **Article V. Fees & Penalties**

## **Section 5.01 Penalties**

### **(a) Penalty for Excess Use**

If any owner within the PID GSA exceeds his or her Sustainable Yield allocation, he or she shall be liable for penalties as follows: (1) liability rate in an amount to be determined annually by the Board, for each acre-foot extracted.

### **(b) SGMA Penalties**

Any owner, operator or other person who violates the provisions of these rules and regulations is subject to the criminal and civil sanctions set forth in SGMA.

### **(c) Civil Remedies**

Upon the failure of any person to comply with any provision of these rules and regulations, the PID GSA may petition the Superior Court for a temporary restraining order, preliminary or permanent injunction, or such other equitable relief as may be appropriate. The right to petition for injunctive relief is an additional right to those, which may be provided elsewhere in these rules and regulations or otherwise allowed by law. The PID GSA may petition the Superior Court to recover any sums due to the PID GSA.

## **Section 5.02 Groundwater Extraction Fees**

The Board may propose fees, including groundwater extraction fees, consistent with Division 6 Conservation, Development and Utilization of State Water Resources Part 2.74, Chapter 5, Section 10730 through 10730.6, and the California Constitution. The owner shall pay to the PID GSA all Groundwater Extraction Fees within 30 days of the date of any invoice submitted by the PID GSA.

~~De Minimis Extractors. No extraction fees shall be charged to any de minimis extractor.~~

## **Section 5.03 Real Property Assessments**

The Board may propose land-based assessments consistent with Division 6 Conservation, Development and Utilization of State Water Resources Part 2.74, Chapter 5, Section 10730, and the California Constitution. The owner shall pay to the PID GSA all assessments within 30 days of the date of any invoice submitted by the PID GSA.

## **Section 5.04 Notification and Appeal of Penalties**

### **(a) Protest of Penalty Determination**

Within 30 days of the date identified in any invoice submitted by the PID GSA an owner may appeal a penalty determination in writing. Owner must still submit payment within thirty (30) days of the invoice. The written appeal must be submitted to the General Manager, at the PID GSA's Main Office.

The General Manager shall investigate matters related to the appeal, and may present any relevant information, along with any recommendation, to the Board within sixty (60) days of receipt of the

appeal. The Board shall act upon the written appeal and supporting documentation within 120 days of receipt of all relevant information.

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ADMINISTRATION

Staff Report to the Porterville Irrigation District GSA Board of Directors

Subject: REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES / Provide a report to Board Members on meetings conducted to facilitate the Tule Subbasin Multi-GSA efforts and progress.

Submitted By: General Manager

This report provides an update on recent Tule Subbasin coordination meetings, technical working group activities, policy discussions, and preparation. The ongoing work supports development of the Tule Subbasin Multi-GSA Single Groundwater Sustainability Plan and the implementation of coordinated measures intended to achieve groundwater sustainability and address identified State Water Board concerns.

**Period: July 8 - August 6, 2026**

**July 8 - Tule Groundwater Quality Technical Working Group**

**Key Topics:** State Board comments on Attachment 5; undesirable results; domestic well protection.

- Conducted an expedited review of State Board comments regarding the Tule Subbasin Groundwater Quality approach.
- Discussed revisions to the undesirable-result methodology and representative monitoring network.
- Simplified indicator-constituent sampling triggers to provide a more defensible and implementable monitoring approach.
- Technical team continued preparation of an updated response matrix and revised groundwater-quality materials for future State Board consultation.

**July 9 - Tule Subbasin Southern Land Subsidence Study Area TWG**

**Key Topics:** Groundwater model calibration; critical head; attribution scenarios.

- Groundwater model calibration continued using PEST, with initial calibration runs underway.
- Two approaches to establishing critical head surfaces remain under development: an interpolated approach and a physically informed statistical approach.
- Key policy questions remain regarding the appropriate historical baseline for attribution and the relationship between pumping locations and observed subsidence.

**July 10 - Tule Groundwater Quality TWG**

**Key Topics:** Groundwater quality SMCs; domestic wells; mitigation funding.

- Continued development of groundwater-quality undesirable-result criteria and the representative monitoring network.
- Domestic well mitigation capacity and funding assumptions were reviewed.
- Coordination between the GSAs and Tule Basin Water Foundation remains necessary to establish a documented mitigation/testing framework acceptable to the State Board.

### **July 14 - PID GSA Board Meeting**

**Key Topics:** 2026 extraction fee; State Board coordination; well registration.

- Public hearing for the proposed 2026 GSA extraction fee scheduled for **August 20 at 2:00 p.m.**
- Proposed GSA budget totals approximately **\$785,343**, resulting in a calculated fee of approximately **\$50.67 per .15 extracted**.
- State Board records request concerning surface water stored underground and subsequent extractions remained underway.
- Well registration implementation continued, with registration through BasinSafe required.

### **Major Regulatory and Tule Subbasin Developments**

### **July 16 - State Water Board / Tule Subbasin Executive Coordination Meeting**

**Key Topics:** Tule probation; State Interim Plan; Friant-Kern Canal pumping restrictions; local-control pathway.

This was the most consequential meeting of the reporting period.

- State Water Board staff stated that **subsidence remains the central concern** and that current GSP deficiencies and deteriorating conditions are driving development of an Interim Plan.
- Staff described a potential **Phase 1 Interim Plan focused on the Friant-Kern Canal**, including a groundwater pumping moratorium within an approximately two-mile corridor around the canal. The State presentation identified exceptions associated with human health and safety.
- The proposed accelerated State schedule contemplates release of a draft Phase 1 Interim Plan in **January 2027**, notice to pumpers in February, a final draft in March, and a State Board adoption hearing in April.
- State staff indicated that the Interim Plan has fewer management tools than GSAs and would therefore rely heavily on pumping restrictions.
- Importantly, State staff confirmed there remains an opportunity for the GSAs to develop **locally adopted restrictions or an alternative management program** capable of avoiding or replacing portions of the State's proposed approach.
- State staff emphasized that any local alternative must demonstrate aggressive implementation, coordinated action, measurable results, and accountability.
- The State requested a formal coordination schedule describing future technical meetings, materials to be submitted, technical representatives attending, and whether verbal or

written feedback is requested.

- The Subbasin committed to increased coordination and development of a unified approach.

**PID Significance:** The meeting substantially increased the urgency of establishing a coordinated local subsidence-management program. Maintaining local control will depend heavily on the Subbasin demonstrating credible implementation before the State's proposed Phase 1 Interim Plan advances.

## **July 20 - Tule Subbasin Policy Coordination Group**

**Key Topics:** State Board response; Friant-Kern Canal corrective action; unified approach.

- Policy representatives reviewed the July 16 meeting and agreed to develop a coordinated Friant-Kern Canal Land Subsidence Management Strategy rather than relying on independent GSA approaches.
- The goal is to submit sufficient local management actions before State adoption of a Friant-Kern Canal Interim Plan.
- Policy discussions focused on defining significant and unreasonable impacts, determining whether management should apply to specific reaches or the entire canal corridor, and establishing appropriate mitigation and attribution standards.
- The group continued emphasizing a unified Subbasin message and coordinated technical engagement with State staff.

## **July 31 - DWR Tule Basin Subsidence Meeting**

**Key Topics:** DWR Subsidence BMP; critical head; monitoring; Sustainable Management Criteria.

- DWR reviewed its Subsidence Best Management Practices with the Tule Subbasin and emphasized that groundwater-level and subsidence monitoring should be sufficiently dense to understand the cause, rate, and extent of subsidence.
- DWR identified monthly or more frequent groundwater-level monitoring as a best practice, particularly to capture seasonal lows when groundwater elevations may fall below critical head.
- DWR emphasized establishment of critical head as an important tool for relating groundwater-level management to subsidence.
- DWR also emphasized that minimum thresholds should protect critical infrastructure and that, where infrastructure is damaged, even a single threshold exceedance could potentially constitute an undesirable result.
- Tule presented its existing subsidence framework, including infrastructure vulnerability, subsidence minimum thresholds, groundwater-level SMCs, and ongoing evaluation of critical head.
- Current monitoring shows that subsidence conditions vary significantly across the Subbasin; several representative sites remain near or above established subsidence-rate trajectories and therefore require continued attention.

**PID Significance:** DWR's feedback reinforces the need for PID and the Subbasin to connect

pumping restrictions and groundwater management directly to groundwater elevations, critical head, and measurable subsidence response rather than relying solely on basin-wide allocation quantities.

### **August 3 - Tule Subbasin Policy Coordination Group**

**Key Topics:** Friant-Kern Canal Urgency Plan; pumping caps; well registration; monitoring and mitigation.

- State Board, DWR, and Friant discussions have increasingly pointed toward the need for **one coordinated Friant-Kern Canal management approach**.
- The proposed Land Subsidence Urgency Plan is intended to establish management actions less restrictive than the State's proposed blanket pumping moratorium while still producing an equivalent protective outcome.
- Measures under consideration include:
  - coordinated pumping caps;
  - mandatory well registration and meter reporting;
  - expanded groundwater-level and subsidence monitoring;
  - groundwater-level recovery targets;
  - funded mitigation commitments; and
  - enforcement/backstop measures if subsidence continues.
- Policy questions remain regarding a two- versus three-mile managed corridor, pumping depth restrictions, treatment of sustainable-yield and recharge credits, groundwater-credit transfers, and increasingly restrictive management triggers. These remain discussion items and have not yet been adopted.
- The group also discussed aggressive implementation timelines and the need for support from both Friant Water Authority and State Board staff.

### **August 4 - Tule Subbasin Managers Meeting**

**Key Topics:** State coordination schedule; Unified GSP; Friant-Kern Canal Urgency Plan.

- Managers reviewed the July 31 DWR meeting, August 3 Policy Group direction, and development of the formal SWRCB technical coordination schedule.
- Continued work on the **Unified Tule Subbasin GSP**, including funding and fiscal-agent procedures.
- Lower Tule is expected to serve as fiscal agent for the Unified Plan effort, with quarterly calls for funds and monthly financial reporting.
- Managers continued review of the Friant-Kern Canal policy questions, including well registration, metering, pumping caps, management-area boundaries, critical-head evaluation, groundwater credits, and potential depth-specific pumping restrictions.
- Technical Working Groups continue parallel work on Basin Setting, monitoring, land subsidence, groundwater quality, Projects and Management Actions, and other components of the Unified GSP.

## Current Direction / Items to Watch

The most important issues for the Board going forward:

- **Friant-Kern Canal:** The Subbasin is attempting to develop a locally controlled Land Subsidence Urgency Plan before the State proceeds with its proposed Phase 1 pumping moratorium.
- **Early implementation:** Well registration, metering, increased monitoring, pumping limits, and enforcement mechanisms are being evaluated for implementation ahead of completion of the Unified GSP.
- **Critical head:** Technical work is increasingly focused on establishing the groundwater elevations necessary to prevent additional inelastic subsidence.
- **State coordination:** A formal technical coordination process is being established so major portions of the new GSP can receive State Board staff review as they are developed rather than waiting for the completed plan.
- **Unified GSP:** The Tule GSAs have moved toward a much more coordinated planning structure, with Policy, Managers, and Technical Working Groups feeding into a unified plan.
- **Schedule:** The current coordination schedule targets State review of the Drinking Water Well Mitigation Plan beginning in September 2026; review of the Friant-Kern Canal Urgency Plan in November; implementation of the Tule-FKC plan in January 2027; and completion/adoption of the Unified GSP during summer 2027.

## Overall Assessment

The principal change over the last 30 days is that discussions have moved from **general GSP correction and State coordination into an implementation-driven regulatory timeline**. The State's proposed Friant-Kern Canal pumping moratorium creates a near-term deadline for the Tule GSAs. At the same time, State Board staff have indicated that a credible, coordinated, and aggressively implemented local alternative could provide a pathway to maintain local control.

For PID, the priority should therefore remain active participation in development of the **Friant-Kern Canal Urgency Plan**, while ensuring that any pumping restrictions, critical-head criteria, or subsidence attribution methods ultimately imposed on PID are technically supported and appropriately account for aquifer depth, pumping location, groundwater conditions, and actual contribution to subsidence.