



STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, August 6, 2026, Convenes at 10:00 a.m.

<http://www.portervilleid.org> / 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

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-----AGENDA-----

Action items are listed in **bold**.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Roll Call

Flag Salute

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 Committee at this time. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to provide comments at the time the Committee considers the item. Any person addressing the Committee 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. Scheduled Meeting with State Board Member Nicole Morgan and Staff on July 16, 2026 (Update).

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. **Consider Approval of June 4, 2026, Stakeholder Committee Meeting Minutes (Action).**

5. POLICY DISCUSSION

- a. Committee Discussion on Proposed First Amended PID GSA Rules & Regulations.
- b. Committee Discussion on Proposed PID GSA Draft Project and Management Actions.

6. REPORTS

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

7. OTHER MATTERS

- a. Future discussion items.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

- a. Next Regular Stakeholder Committee Meeting - **Thursday, September 3, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.**

9. ADJOURNMENT

A person with a qualifying disability under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 may request the PIDGSA to provide a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in any public meeting. This assistance includes suitable alternative formats for agendas and agenda packets used in public meetings of the GSA Committee. Requests for such assistance and for agendas and packets should be made in person, by phone, fax, 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 Stakeholder Committee

Subject: CONSENT CALENDAR / Consider Approval of June 4, 2026, Stakeholder Committee Meeting Minutes (Action).

Submitted By: General Manager



**MINUTES OF THE
STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD JUNE 4, 2026**

At approximately 10:00 a.m. on June 4, 2026, at the Porterville Irrigation District Board Room, Chairman Brett McCowan called to order the meeting of the Stakeholder Committee of the Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("PIDGSA"). The meeting was also conducted remotely for members of the public.

Members Present: Brett McCowan Marvin Hughes
 Jason Guthrie Michael George
 Adam Mendoza Nick Gatti
 David Payne Robert Alvarez
 Michael DePaoli Bill Wallace
 Seth Bowser Armando Leal

Members Absent: Dyson Schneider
 Mathew Kidder

Others Present: Michael Knight, *GSA Manager*
 Sean Geivet, *District Manager*
 Jeff Row, *District Secretary-Treasurer*

List of signed-in attendees:

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Brett McCowan called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
Flag salute, Michael Knight.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Brett McCowan opened the floor for public comments. No public comments were received.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Information for GSAs and Reporters on Extraction Reports Due May 1, 2026. (Update)

The GSA Manager provided an update regarding groundwater extraction reporting requirements and the May 1, 2026 reporting deadline. Staff noted that PIDGSA continues to assist landowners and reporters with questions related to reporting obligations and coordination with the State Water Resources Control Board.

No formal action was taken.

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

- a. Consider Approval of May 7, 2026, Stakeholder Committee Meeting Minutes

The Committee considered approval of the May 7, 2026, Stakeholder Committee Meeting Minutes.

Action:

A motion was made by Stakeholder Committee Member Michael George, seconded by Stakeholder Committee Member Adam Mendoza, to approve the May 7, 2026, Stakeholder Committee Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion passed unanimously.

5. POLICY DISCUSSION

- a. Committee Discussion on Proposed Draft GSP / Coordination Agreement Cost-share MOU.

The GSA Manager presented the proposed Tule Subbasin Interim Cost Sharing Memorandum of Understanding for Committee discussion.

Staff explained that the Tule Subbasin GSAs continue to coordinate on Subbasin-wide efforts necessary to support SGMA compliance, including technical analyses, reporting, plan development, implementation activities, and coordination with the Department of Water Resources and State Water Resources Control Board.

Staff further explained that the proposed MOU is intended to establish an interim cost-sharing and administrative framework for approved Subbasin-wide activities through December 31, 2026. The agreement is intended to function as a funding and administrative mechanism and does not replace or supersede existing coordination

agreements unless expressly stated.

The Committee reviewed the proposed cost allocation structure, which is based on each GSA's proportional acreage within the Tule Subbasin. The total acreage used for the cost allocation is approximately 475,379.24 acres. PID GSA's acreage is identified as 15,497.36 acres, representing 3.26% of the Tule Subbasin acreage.

Staff also reviewed the proposed Unified GSP / Coordination Agreement budget summary. The draft budget identifies total estimated consultant costs of approximately \$1,437,299, or approximately \$3.02 per acre. Under the acreage-based allocation, PID GSA's estimated share is approximately \$46,855.95.

No formal action was taken on this item. No objection to proceed.

- b. Consider and Discuss Recommendations to Set a Mandatory Deadline for Well Registration for PID GSA BasinSafe Accounts.

The GSA Manager presented the proposed mandatory deadline for well registration within PID GSA BasinSafe accounts.

Staff explained that complete and accurate well registration is necessary for PID GSA to administer groundwater accounting, confirm account information, support extraction reporting, and improve the GSA's groundwater management data. Staff further noted that well registration information supports implementation of BasinSafe, groundwater allocations, metering requirements, and coordination with Subbasin-wide planning efforts.

The Committee discussed the importance of providing landowners with clear notice, sufficient time to comply, and assistance from PIDGSA staff as needed. Discussion also included the need to ensure that account information, well ownership, operator information, and parcel information are accurate before future reporting or enforcement steps are implemented.

No formal action was taken. However, the recommendation was to start an outreach as soon as possible, with a proposed deadline of September 1st, and the Committee did not oppose a penalty should the Board choose to implement it.

6. REPORTS

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

The GSA Manager provided a report on meetings conducted to facilitate Tule Subbasin Multi-GSA coordination and progress.

Staff summarized ongoing coordination among the Tule Subbasin GSAs related to the

Unified Groundwater Sustainability Plan, Coordination Agreement, consultant scopes of work, cost-sharing, State Water Resources Control Board coordination, groundwater quality, mitigation planning, subsidence-related technical work, and continued Subbasin-wide policy discussions.

No formal action was taken.

7. OTHER MATTERS

- a. Future discussion items.

The Committee discussed potential future agenda items, including continued review of the Unified GSP, well registration, BasinSafe implementation, extraction fee development, mitigation planning, groundwater accounting, the status of recharge water or the existence thereof, and continued stakeholder outreach.

No formal action was taken.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

- a. Next Regular Stakeholder Committee Meeting - Thursday, July 2, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Stakeholder Committee, Chairman Brett McCowan adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Knight, GSA General Manager

POLICY DISCUSSION

Staff Report to the Porterville Irrigation District GSA Stakeholder Committee

Subject: POLICY DISCUSSION / Committee Discussion on Proposed First Amended PID GSA Rules & Regulations.

Submitted By: General Manager

The PID GSA Board adopted the original Rules and Regulations on August 22, 2025. Following that action and the formation of the Stakeholder Committee, the Committee reviewed and provided comments on October 2, 2025. Stakeholder Committee discussed and continued implementation of the PID GSA groundwater accounting program. Staff and legal counsel have prepared redline revisions to clarify administrative and implementation items.

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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POLICY DISCUSSION

Staff Report to the Porterville Irrigation District GSA Stakeholder Committee

Subject: POLICY DISCUSSION / Committee Discussion on Proposed PID GSA Draft Project and Management Actions.

Submitted By: General Manager

The Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency is preparing Projects and Management Actions (PMA) to support implementation of the PID GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan and continued coordination with the Tule Subbasin GSAs.

The draft chapter identifies the PMAs intended to help PID GSA reduce groundwater overdraft, improve groundwater conditions, address land subsidence concerns, protect beneficial users, and support long-term sustainable groundwater management.

Based on the historical groundwater budget, average annual groundwater pumping within the PID Plan Area is estimated at approximately 23,700 acre-feet per year. This has contributed to an estimated average annual groundwater storage decline of approximately 2,200 acre-feet per year. The primary objective of the PMAs is to offset this historical overdraft and provide a reasonable margin of confidence in achieving sustainability.

This item is presented for Stakeholder Committee discussion. To avoid repetitive discussion, staff has summarized the PMAs by section and grouped similar actions where appropriate.

Section 5.1 - Tule Subbasin-Wide PMAs with PID GSA Participation

This section describes coordinated Subbasin-wide efforts in which PID GSA participates. These actions generally focus on shared monitoring, technical analysis, land subsidence management, mitigation planning, and data gap reduction.

The purpose of this section is to show that PID GSA is participating in coordinated Subbasin efforts where regional consistency is necessary, particularly for land subsidence, Friant-Kern Canal protection, drinking water well mitigation, and technical studies.

Section 5.1.1 - Friant-Kern Canal Land Subsidence Monitoring Plan

This PMA continues the land subsidence monitoring framework originally developed under ETGSA and now carried forward by participating GSAs. The monitoring program includes GPS surveys, extensometers, InSAR data, and groundwater level monitoring in the Upper and Lower Aquifers.

The purpose of this PMA is data collection and trend evaluation. It does not directly reduce pumping, but it provides the information needed to understand subsidence conditions and support future management decisions.

Estimated PID GSA cost participation for the Subbasin benchmark survey monitoring effort is approximately \$2,900.

Section 5.1.2 - Friant-Kern Canal Land Subsidence Management Plan

This PMA is a coordinated management framework currently being developed to address pumping-induced land subsidence near the Friant-Kern Canal. PID GSA will evaluate localized subsidence and metered pumping data to identify subsidence hotspots and develop targeted management actions.

This section is important because it connects monitoring data to actual management decisions. Potential actions may include pumping reductions, increased use of surface water, recharge, injection, agricultural land retirement, or other site-specific measures.

The initial phase is anticipated to be completed by the end of 2026, with benefits expected to begin in 2027. Estimated development cost is approximately \$200,000, with funding anticipated from PID GSA, cost-sharing among participating GSAs, grants, or other outside funding sources.

Section 5.1.3 - Southern Land Subsidence Study

This PMA is a technical study being conducted by Thomas Harder & Co. to evaluate the relationship between groundwater pumping and land subsidence in the southern portion of the Subbasin. The study is intended to help identify pumping areas contributing to subsidence and determine whether additional pumping restrictions may be necessary to protect critical infrastructure.

The study includes model refinement, additional water budget areas, use of actual well data, pumping scenarios, uncertainty analysis, and recommended sustainable management criteria.

The study began in 2026 and is expected to be completed by the end of December 2026. The estimated total cost is \$284,100, with PID GSA's share estimated at approximately \$11,000.

Section 5.1.4 - Friant-Kern Canal Land Subsidence Mitigation Plan

This PMA provides a framework for addressing subsidence impacts to the Friant-Kern Canal that may remain after management actions are implemented. The intent is to coordinate with Friant Water Authority and participating GSAs on baseline conditions, impact evaluation, mitigation measures, and funding mechanisms.

This PMA is separate from the management plan. The management plan is intended to avoid or minimize impacts, while the mitigation plan addresses what happens if impacts still occur.

The plan is anticipated to be substantially complete by the end of 2026. Estimated development cost is approximately \$200,000, with future mitigation implementation costs to be evaluated separately.

Section 5.1.5 - Tule Subbasin Mitigation Plan

This PMA establishes a Subbasin-wide framework for addressing impacts to drinking water wells, including private domestic wells, multi-use drinking water wells, state small water systems, and community water systems.

The plan includes a claims process, technical review, emergency and interim water supplies, well repair or replacement where appropriate, and coordination with partner organizations such as Self-Help Enterprises and the Tule Basin Water Foundation.

The plan applies to impacts occurring after January 1, 2015, and is intended to ensure that impacts related to GSA-authorized groundwater management activities are addressed in a structured and coordinated manner.

Planning-level program costs are estimated at approximately \$26 million over the GSP planning horizon, with annual costs of approximately \$2.5 million. PID GSA's reserve fund contribution is estimated at approximately \$336,200 annually.

Section 5.1.6 - Monitoring Network Data Gap Filling

This PMA proposes construction of one multi-completion monitoring well to address groundwater level and groundwater quality data gaps within the PID Plan Area and the Subbasin. The well is intended to improve understanding of aquifer conditions, subsidence relationships, groundwater quality, and critical head values.

The monitoring well is expected to be constructed before the end of 2027, depending on site selection and funding. The estimated cost is approximately \$482,000.

This PMA does not directly reduce groundwater pumping, but it strengthens the technical basis for future management decisions.

Section 5.2 - PID GSA-Specific PMAs

This section describes actions implemented directly by PID GSA to manage groundwater use within the PID Plan Area. These PMAs include regulatory, administrative, data management, recharge, surface water, land use, and forecasting tools.

The PID-specific PMAs are the primary tools available to PID GSA to manage groundwater demand, track use, improve data, increase recharge, and reduce the risk of undesirable results.

Section 5.2.1 - Groundwater Accounting and Allocation

This is the central demand management program for PID GSA. It uses BasinSafe to track water use and allocations at the parcel level. The program supports Sustainable Yield-based allocations, groundwater use tracking, carryover, transfers, groundwater credits, and compliance.

A key point in this section is that PID GSA eliminated transitional pumping beginning in WY2025. This accelerated the original ETGSA schedule by approximately ten years and reduced allowable pumping to the Sustainable Yield-based allocation.

This PMA is the primary mechanism for reducing pumping and addressing the estimated overdraft.

Section 5.2.2 - Well Registration

This PMA establishes the process for identifying and tracking groundwater wells within PID GSA. Well registration improves the accuracy of groundwater data, supports groundwater accounting, and helps PID GSA evaluate potential impacts to wells and surrounding groundwater conditions.

The draft notes that PID GSA anticipates revising its Rules and Regulations to require registration of all groundwater wells, not just wells in the FKC Land Subsidence Management Area or wells using meter measurement.

Section 5.2.3 - Well Metering Policy

This PMA establishes requirements for measuring and reporting groundwater extraction. Current rules require meters for active groundwater production wells within the FKC Land Subsidence Management Area and for users electing the meter measurement method.

The draft notes that PID GSA is considering future amendments to require meters for all wells within the PID Plan Area, with a potential exemption for de minimis uses if the well owner can demonstrate that pumping remains within the two-acre-foot annual limitation.

This PMA supports more accurate groundwater accounting, improved enforcement, and better understanding of pumping impacts.

Section 5.2.4 - Well Permit Application Review

This PMA establishes a process for PID GSA to review proposed new wells in coordination with Tulare County. PID GSA does not approve or deny well permits, but it may provide technical comments regarding groundwater conditions, risk to nearby wells, water quality, subsidence, and long-term sustainability.

This section is primarily a coordination and risk-review tool. It helps ensure applicants and Tulare County have groundwater information before new wells are constructed.

Section 5.2.5 - Fees and Incentives

This PMA provides the financial framework for supporting groundwater management and encouraging compliance with allocations. It includes groundwater extraction fees, assessments, penalties, and potential incentive mechanisms for conservation or recharge.

This section supports both funding and behavior change. Fees fund GSA implementation, while penalties and incentives are intended to discourage excess groundwater pumping and promote sustainable water use.

Section 5.2.6 - Managed Aquifer Recharge and Banking

This PMA covers intentional groundwater recharge and banking using available surface water supplies. Recharge may be implemented by landowners, PID, irrigation districts, or other agencies, and is tracked through the PID GSA accounting system.

This section focuses on increasing groundwater storage and improving water supply reliability. The effectiveness of this PMA depends heavily on surface water availability, recharge capacity, aquifer conditions, and landowner participation.

Section 5.2.7 - Surface Water Development

This PMA includes projects that expand access to surface water and reduce reliance on groundwater. The draft identifies the Southeast Service Area Lateral Project and the Northwest Service Area Pipeline Project as key examples.

These projects are intended to serve lands that have historically relied on groundwater and are expected to reduce pumping when surface water is available.

The Southeast Service Area Lateral Project is estimated at approximately \$6 million, and the Northwest Service Area Pipeline Project is estimated at approximately \$700,000. Surface water deliveries through both projects are expected to begin in 2027.

Section 5.2.8 - PID Recharge Basin Project

This PMA describes PID's acquisition of approximately 142 acres near the Friant-Kern Canal for permanent agricultural land retirement and future recharge basin development.

The existing groundwater pumping on the property is expected to be discontinued, reducing groundwater demand by approximately 500 acre-feet per year. PID intends to develop the property as a recharge basin by the end of 2029.

The project combines demand reduction and supply augmentation. Estimated project cost is approximately \$5 million.

Sections 5.2.9 through 5.2.11 - Additional Demand Reduction and Land Use Strategies

These sections address additional strategies, including in-lieu recharge, agricultural land fallowing, and agricultural land retirement.

These actions provide flexibility for PID GSA to reduce groundwater use over time. In-lieu recharge focuses on using available surface water instead of pumping groundwater. Fallowing and land retirement focus on voluntary reduction or removal of irrigated acreage where needed to achieve sustainability or address localized groundwater impacts.

These sections overlap in purpose; they can be discussed as voluntary demand reduction tools.

Section 5.2.12 - Sustainability Forecast Analysis

This PMA establishes a proactive forecasting tool to identify potential future minimum threshold exceedances before undesirable results occur.

The analysis uses groundwater level and land subsidence data to identify trends and determine whether existing PMAs are sufficient or whether additional management actions should be considered.

This section functions as an adaptive management trigger. It allows PID GSA to evaluate whether more action is needed before conditions reach a regulatory exceedance.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Stakeholder Committee review the draft Projects and Management Actions chapter, discuss the summarized PMAs by section, and provide comments or recommended revisions to staff before the chapter is presented to the PID GSA Board of Directors for consideration.

Link to Document:

[PID GSA Draft Project and Management Actions](#)