



STAKEHOLDER COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, October 1, 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. Notice from the State Water Board Regarding GEARS Reporting Annual Fee Invoice Mailing for Tule Subbasin.
- b. Status of Extraction Fee

4. CONSENT CALENDAR

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

5. POLICY DISCUSSION

- a. Committee Discussion on Draft Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
- b. Committee Discussion on Proposed Components of a Friant Kern Canal Management Plan.

6. REPORTS

- a. Report out to the Stakeholder Committee discussion from August 6, 2026 (We did not have a quorum).
- b. Provide a report to Committee Members on meetings conducted to facilitate the Tule Subbasin Multi-GAS efforts and progress.

7. OTHER MATTERS

- a. Future discussion items.

8. NEXT MEETING DATE

- a. Next Regular Stakeholder Committee Meeting - **Thursday, November 5, 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 Armondo 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 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 Draft Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Submitted By: General Manager

The Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (PID GSA) has completed preparation of its Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the PID portion of the Tule Subbasin. Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers prepared the August 2026 Draft GSP, which relies primarily on the technical framework established by the 2024 Tule Subbasin Coordination Agreement while incorporating PID-specific information, projects, management actions, and implementation activities.

The Draft GSP establishes the framework by which PID GSA will manage groundwater within its approximately 15,500-acre Plan Area and coordinate with the other GSAs within the Tule Subbasin.

The Draft GSP is scheduled to be presented to the PID GSA Board of Directors at its next meeting on October 13, 2026, for consideration, approval, and adoption. The Stakeholder Committee's review therefore provides stakeholders an opportunity to review the proposed management framework, identify any remaining concerns or requested clarifications, and recommend the GSP to the Board before it considers it.

DRAFT GSP OVERVIEW

The Draft GSP establishes the technical and management framework necessary to implement SGMA within the PID GSA. Major components include the Plan Area and Basin Setting, Water Budget, Sustainable Management Criteria, Monitoring Networks, Projects and Management Actions, and Plan Implementation.

The GSP establishes Sustainable Management Criteria addressing applicable sustainability indicators, including groundwater levels, groundwater storage, groundwater quality, land subsidence, and interconnected surface water.

Of particular importance to PID groundwater users is Chapter 5 - Projects and Management Actions. The GSP identifies 18 PMAs, including coordinated Tule Subbasin activities and PID-specific programs.

For purposes of Stakeholder Committee review, the principal management components can be summarized as follows:

Management Area	Draft GSP Provisions	Primary GSP Reference
Groundwater Accounting & Allocation	Parcel-level groundwater accounting and Sustainable Yield-based allocation framework	§5.2.1
Well Registration & Metering	Well inventory, extraction measurement and reporting	§5.2.2-5.2.3
Well Permit Review	PID technical review of proposed wells	§5.2.4
Fees & Incentives	Financial mechanisms supporting allocation compliance and GSP implementation	§5.2.5
Recharge & Banking	Managed aquifer recharge and groundwater banking	§5.2.6
Surface-Water Development	Expansion of surface-water delivery to reduce groundwater dependence	§5.2.7
PID Recharge Basin	Development of PID's proposed recharge facility	§5.2.8
In-Lieu Recharge	Increased surface-water use in place of groundwater pumping	§5.2.9
Fallowing & Land Retirement	Potential demand-reduction management tools	§5.2.10-5.2.11
Sustainability Forecast	Forward-looking evaluation of potential sustainability concerns	§5.2.12
FKC Subsidence Management	Monitoring, management, study and mitigation associated with Friant-Kern Canal subsidence	§5.1.1-5.1.4

KEY CONSIDERATIONS FOR STAKEHOLDER REVIEW

Staff recommends that the Committee focus its final review on the overall management framework rather than attempting to resolve every future implementation detail.

Groundwater Accounting and Allocation. Section 5.2.1 establishes groundwater accounting and allocation as PID's primary demand-management mechanism. The program utilizes BasinSafe to track groundwater use at the parcel level and establishes allocations based upon Tule Subbasin Sustainable Yield.

Land Subsidence and the Friant-Kern Canal. Sections 5.1.1 through 5.1.4 establish coordinated monitoring, management, study, and mitigation activities related to land subsidence and protecting the Friant-Kern Canal. The FKC Land Subsidence Management Plan remains under development and is intended to use measured subsidence, groundwater levels, and pumping information to develop targeted management responses.

Recharge and Surface-Water Development. Sections 5.2.6 through 5.2.9 provide multiple supply-side management tools, including managed aquifer recharge and banking, surface-water development, the PID Recharge Basin Project, and in-lieu recharge. These measures are intended to increase groundwater storage and reduce reliance on groundwater pumping.

Demand Management. The GSP also retains additional management tools, including fees and incentives, agricultural fallowing, and agricultural land retirement. These programs provide additional options where groundwater conditions warrant further demand reduction.

Adaptive Management. Section 5.2.12 establishes a Sustainability Forecast Analysis intended to identify potential future sustainability concerns and evaluate whether existing PMAs are sufficient to avoid Minimum Threshold exceedances and undesirable results. This provides PID with a mechanism to evaluate and refine management actions as conditions change.

IMPLEMENTATION FOLLOWING GSP ADOPTION

Approval of the GSP establishes PID's overall groundwater sustainability framework. Implementation will continue through PID's existing Rules and Regulations, individual PMAs, subsequent Board-approved policies and programs, monitoring activities, annual reporting, and periodic GSP evaluations.

Chapter 6 provides the implementation framework, including estimated costs, funding sources, implementation schedules, annual reporting, and periodic evaluations.

The Draft GSP therefore should not be viewed as requiring every future implementation decision to be made at the time of GSP adoption. Several programs identified in the GSP contemplate additional technical development, coordination, stakeholder review, or Board action as implementation proceeds.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

Staff recommends that the Stakeholder Committee:

1. Receive a presentation and review the Draft Porterville Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP);
2. Provide any final comments or recommended revisions for consideration prior to presentation of the GSP to the PID GSA Board of Directors; and
3. Recommend that the PID GSA Board of Directors consider approval and adoption of the GSP at its next scheduled meeting, subject to consideration of comments received from the Stakeholder Committee and any final technical or administrative revisions.

Reports

Staff Report to the Porterville Irrigation District GSA Stakeholder Committee

Subject: Reports / Provide a report to Committee Members on meetings conducted to facilitate the Tule Subbasin Multi-GAS efforts and progress.

Submitted By: General Manager

Meetings and Discussion:

Sep. 1 - Special Tule Managers Meeting

- FKC urgency plan was elevated as a top priority; the updated model was expected in October/November, with an empirical pumping-versus-subsidence analysis proposed as an interim check.
- Basin-wide items were identified for coordinated scope: domestic-well mitigation, allocation framework, data-gap plan, exceedance response, and subsidence management.
- Managers and technical teams agreed tighter coordination was needed before policy-level decisions.

Sep. 14 - Basin Setting TWG: Single GSP

- High-level agreement was reached on the 2024 Coordination Agreement approach: native yield distributed equally across the subbasin; recharge from preexisting water rights allocated to the GSA where it was recharged.
- Updated model results, PMAs, critical-head analysis, and subsidence risk were still needed before final figures.
- Well/aquifer assignment and recharge credits across GSAs remained unresolved.

Sep. 14 - Tule Subbasin Policy Group

- The group described five coordinated priorities: allocation framework, drinking-water-well mitigation, exceedance/action plan, data-gap analysis, and land-subsidence management.
- The mitigation plan included four tracks: dry-well mitigation, community-water-system technical assistance, small-system financial assistance, and degraded-water-quality response.
- The FKC urgency plan was set up as a two-step process: analytical work for the immediate plan, followed by numerical-model work.
- The goal was to have an urgency plan before January, with implementation targeted by April.

Sep. 17 - SLSSA Technical Working Group

- Water-budget projections repeat 1999–2025 hydrology forward; GSAs were asked to supply future recharge and water-supply project assumptions.
- Calibration was still underway, including reconciliation of LandIQ estimates with metered pumping data.
- The group supported expanding the SLSSA work into a subbasin-wide land-subsidence and allowable-pumping analysis.
- Calibration results were targeted for Oct. 15, with Oct. 29 as a fallback.

Sep. 17 - Multi-GSA GSP Weekly Update

- Basin Setting was working toward finalizing sustainable-yield terms and group.
- EKI was scheduling one-on-one PMA meetings and needed GSA confirmation of data inputs for 1D modeling.
- The mitigation plan had been submitted to State Board staff; the Sep. 30 meeting was confirmed.
- October call-for-funds planning was underway, with invoices still incomplete.

Sep. 23 - PID GSP Meeting

- The group discussed an interim FKC plan intended to avoid a moratorium before the unified GSP is complete.
- PID concerns centered on recognizing stored/recharged surface water; a fixed annual recharge extraction cap.
- PID allocation and groundwater-accounting materials under ongoing review.

Sep. 25 - FKC Management Plan Discussion

- PID will not participate in a plan that fails to account for surface-water recharge and recovery.
- The discussion focused on separating lower-aquifer pumping from recovered surface water and using well-depth/subsidence mapping to support management decisions.
- Possible recharge-policy changes included expiration, leave-behind provisions, and transfer restrictions.

Sep. 28 - Tule Subbasin Policy Group

- The updated groundwater-flow model was identified as the critical path for forecasted water budgets and sustainable yield.
- Sustainable Management Criteria work had not started; it was dependent on 1D modeling and critical-head analysis.
- The group discussed a subbasin-wide mitigation concept and the need for something in place by January to avoid an interim plan.

Sep. 28 - Tule GWQ Technical Working Group

- The State Board presentation was prepared around the mitigation plan, four program tracks, claims structure, funding, and the plan's role in the GSP.
- Written State Board feedback was requested two weeks after the Sep. 30 meeting.
- Remaining implementation items included the Mitigation Advisory Committee, third-party qualified professional, project coordinator, reserve-fund policy, GSA MOU, agreements with Self-Help and Tule Basin Water Foundation, and outreach.
- Domestic-well notification near RMS exceedances remains a priority, including notice and timing of notice related to the attribution analysis.

Single GSP status

Current status: active development, with the mitigation plan moving first and the core technical package still dependent on model work.

1. **Progress:** The sustainable-yield approach has high-level alignment, and the mitigation plan is ready for State Board discussion on **September 30, 2026**.
2. **Critical path:** Updated groundwater-flow model, forecasted water budgets, sustainable management criteria, critical-head analysis, PMA consolidation, and the FKC/land-subsidence management approach.
3. **Near-term path:** State Board feedback on mitigation; refinement of Attachment 5; public workshop/comment process; then plan adoption and implementation agreements.
4. **Main risk:** FKC urgency-plan timing and whether management rules recognize recovered surface water.