

Wyandotte Creek

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY

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CITY OF OROVILLE • THERMALITO WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT • COUNTY OF BUTTE

Wyandotte Creek Advisory Committee (WAC)

October 5, 2023, 9:00 am-11:00 am

Meeting Location:

Butte County Human Resources East Training Room
3 County Center Drive, Oroville

MEETING AGENDA

- 1. Roll Call**
- 2. Business from the Floor**

The public and WAC members will have an opportunity to comment on items not on the agenda and that are relevant to the WAC. Committee members and Management Committee staff are not required to respond to any issues raised during the public comment period. Commenters are asked to respect differing perspectives and to keep remarks within three minutes.
- 3. *Approval of Meeting Summary for the 5/4/2023 WAC Meeting** (Chris Heindell, Thermalito Water and Sewer District)
- 4. *User Classification and Appeal Process Discussion** (Kamie Loeser, Butte County)
- 5. *Update on the Approach to Implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Funded Projects** (Christina Buck, Butte County)
- 6. *Update on Annual Report Timeline and Approaches** (Christina Buck, Butte County)
- 7. Management Committee Update**
- 8. Committee Members Wishing to Address Items not Listed on the Agenda** (The WAC is prohibited by state law from taking action on any item presented if it is not listed on the agenda.)
- 9. Adjournment**

The Committee will adjourn to their next meeting, anticipated in 2024.



Wyandotte Creek Advisory Committee (WAC)

May 4, 2023, 9:00am-11:00am

In-Person Meeting Location:

Thermalito Water and Sewer District
410 Grand Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965

WAC MEETING SUMMARY

1. ROLL CALL

Present in person: Loni Lind, Kristen McKillop, Darin Williams, Nicole Johansson (arrived during item 4 at 9:15 am)

Member Agency Staff Present: Chris Heindell, Thermalito Water and Sewer District and Christina Buck, Kamie Loeser and Kelly Peterson, Butte County

2. BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR

None

3. Approval of Meeting Summary for the 11/3/22 WAC Meeting

The meeting summary was approved by consensus.

4. Presentation and Overview of the 2022 Annual Report (Kelly Peterson, Butte County and Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers)

Butte County and L&S staff presented the 2022 Annual report detailing groundwater monitoring, extractions, groundwater storage changes, and water quality updates.

5. Update on the Wyandotte Creek GSA Long-Term Funding Project (Kamie Loeser, Butte County and Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers)

Butte County and L&S staff presented the proposed 2023 GSA budgets. The two proposed budgets consisted of one with grant funding awarded and one without.

Discussions regarding the long-term funding options included different approaches to acre-based fees ranging from tiered approaches to a flat fee.

6. Management Committee Update (Informational)

None

7. Committee Members Wishing to Address Items not Listed on the Agenda

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None

8. **Adjournment**

The Committee will adjourn to their next meeting, October 5, 2023.

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- Appendix B** – Service Area User Class Parcel Map
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- Appendix D** – User Classification Appeal Application
- Appendix E** – Interactive Parcel Map to Assist Landowners

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

Introduction

The Wyandotte Creek Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Wyandotte Creek GSA) is updating its long-term fees in 2023 to fund GSA Administration, GSP Implementation and SGMA compliance costs for the FY23-24 through FY27-28 period. The Wyandotte Creek GSA is approving a new Irrigated/Non-Irrigated fee structure to achieve more equity for those subject to the fee. The Wyandotte Creek GSA needs to develop an associated fee policy to ensure equitable billing for services received.

Purpose

This is a policy document developed by the Wyandotte Creek GSA to implement the new Irrigated/Non-Irrigated fee structure approved in 2023. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that each parcel subject to the fee is properly classified into the correct user class and charged the correct fee amount on a per acre and annual basis based on the unique user class fees. The policy recognizes that the manner in which each parcel is charged under the new fees needs to be flexible to ensure billing equity for landowners and to accommodate changes in land use that necessitate reclassification of parcels into the correct user class for accurate fee assessment purposes.

Adopted Irrigated/Non-Irrigated Fees

The new 2023 Wyandotte Creek GSA fees are included in the resolution approving the fees indicating that there are three user classes subject to the fee. The three user classes are Non-Irrigated, Irrigated-Surface Water, and Irrigated-Groundwater each with a unique per acre per year fee amount. Appendix A includes the resolution approving the new Wyandotte Creek GSA 2023 fees.

SECTION 2 – USER CLASS DEFINITIONS

The Wyandotte Creek GSA is updating its long-term fees in 2023 to recover adequate revenues to achieve Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) compliance for all landowners in the service area. The new fee has three (3) distinct user classes with definitions summarized below. Definitions may be updated or refined as needed for accurate fee assessment purposes.

Fee User Class Definitions

Non-Irrigated User Class: Includes parcels within the Wyandotte Creek GSA service area that are considered open space, natural habitat, vacant, dry land farmed or rangeland. Parcels included in this user class have very low or no groundwater use. This may include parcels located within surface water service area boundaries.

Irrigated-Surface Water User Class: Includes parcels within the Wyandotte Creek GSA service area that primarily use surface water, which may include parcels within a surface water provider service area, such as Thermalito Water and Sewer District (TWSD), South Feather Water and Power Agency (SFWPA), California Water Service (Cal Water) or have individual water rights or permits for surface water allocations directly from a creek, stream, or another source. Parcels that use surface water in combination with groundwater in a supplemental fashion will be classified as irrigated-surface water users. Also includes urban areas that use surface water primarily.

Irrigated-Groundwater User Class: Includes parcels within the Wyandotte Creek GSA service area that use groundwater and do not have access to or the right to use surface water supplies. These parcels will typically have a well(s) on the parcel serving as the primary source of water supply. Also includes urban or developed areas that use groundwater, such as a small community water system.

Other Definitions

County: Butte County located in northern California.

Wyandotte Creek GSA: The Wyandotte Creek Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

Landowner: The landowner of record for a parcel subject to the Wyandotte Creek GSA fee based on County assessor parcel data.

Parcel address: The address of the property subject to the Wyandotte Creek GSA fee based on County assessor parcel data.

Parcel Acreage: The total acreage of the parcel subject to the Wyandotte Creek GSA fee based on County assessor parcel data. If there is more than one acreage figure for a parcel the Wyandotte Creek GSA will generally base fees on the lower acreage figure or the acreage figure that most accurately represents the parcel acreage. Multiple sources of data will be referenced in order to verify use of accurate acreage data for assessing Wyandotte Creek GSA fees.

Parcel Acreage For Boundary Parcels: For parcels that overlay the Wyandotte Creek GSA service area boundary, the net acreage of the parcel subject to the Wyandotte Creek GSA fee located within the Wyandotte Creek GSA boundary will be used for fee assessment purposes based on County assessor data.

DRAFT

SECTION 3 – CURRENT USER CLASSIFICATIONS

This section allows landowners subject to the fee to see how their parcel(s) was classified under the new Wyandotte Creek GSA Irrigated/Non-Irrigated 2023 fee structure with three (3) user classes. The Wyandotte Creek GSA will make parcel level fee data easily available to landowners subject to the fee.

Wyandotte Creek GSA Service Area Boundary

Appendix B includes the Wyandotte Creek GSA service area boundary. Parcels with a portion of their acreage within the Wyandotte Creek GSA boundary will only be assessed fees based on their acreage within the Wyandotte Creek GSA service area boundary.

Wyandotte Creek GSA Service Area Parcel User Class Delineations

Appendix B includes a Wyandotte Creek GSA service area parcel map indicating user class delineations based on the approved 2023 fees and associated definitions included in this draft policy document. Landowners can see how their parcel was classified from viewing this map which indicates how parcels were classified based on the three (3) user classes included in the approved fees for the fee assessment process.

The parcel map delineations will be updated periodically based on changes in user class definitions and/or changes in land use necessitating a change in user class for a given parcel for equitable fee assessment purposes.

SECTION 4 – USER CLASSIFICATION CHANGE REQUEST

Landowners will have the option of requesting a change in user classification (and associated fee assessment) based on implementation of the Wyandotte Creek GSA Irrigated/Non-Irrigated fee structure approved in 2023 (see Appendix A). The purpose of this policy is to ensure that each parcel subject to the fee is properly classified into the correct user class and charged the correct fee amount on a per acre and annual basis based on the unique user class fees.

The Wyandotte Creek GSA recognizes that under the new fee policy landowners need to be provided with the opportunity to change their user classification in the event of the following:

1. they are classified in the incorrect user class,
2. are being assessed fees based on incorrect acreages,
3. and/or need to change their user classification based on changes in land use at the parcel level.

The policy recognizes there needs to be flexibility for landowners subject to the 2023 fee structure to ensure fee assessment equity and to accommodate changes in land use that necessitate parcel reclassification into the correct user class for accurate fee assessment purposes.

Basis For User Classification Changes

Each parcel was classified into the appropriate user class based on available information at the time the fees were approved. The fees included separate fees for each of the three user classes subject to the fee. The three user classes are:

1. Non-Irrigated,
2. Irrigated-Surface Water, and
3. Irrigated-Groundwater

Each user classification has its own unique per acre per year fee. Appendix A includes the resolution approving the new 2023 fees.

Landowners can request reclassification of their parcel(s) under the new 2023 Wyandotte Creek GSA fees based on the following circumstances:

1. parcel is classified improperly (not in correct user class);
2. parcel fee assessment amount is incorrect (based on acreage inaccuracy or incorrect user classification); or
3. parcel land use has changed requiring the parcel to be reclassified into a different user class.
4. **TO BE ADDED – OTHER?**

To facilitate a landowner User Classification Change request the Wyandotte Creek GSA is providing an application for landowners to complete to process these requests.

User Classification Change Application

The Wyandotte Creek GSA can process changes in fee user classifications by accepting an Application from landowners requesting a specific change. The Wyandotte Creek GSA has the

option of providing both electronic and manual form entry versions to accommodate those completing applications. A sample of the manual and electronic application forms are included in **Appendix C (TO BE ADDED)**.

The Wyandotte Creek GSA will review and process Applications received within **XX** business days of receiving the Application. All Applications received will be stored electronically for Wyandotte Creek GSA records.

Current and proposed user class information will be verified by Wyandotte Creek GSA staff before a final determination is rendered. Approved Applications will be signed and dated by authorized staff and kept in Wyandotte Creek GSA records. If Applications are not approved, staff will indicate the reason denying the reclassification request. There will be no Application fee levied by the Wyandotte Creek GSA in processing these Applications.

TO BE ADDED – TIMING AND UPDATES TO THE ASSESSOR’S TAX ROLL.

SECTION 5 – USER CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PROCESS

Landowners who request a parcel user class reclassification under Section 4 of this policy who are denied the request, may appeal the decision.

Appeals Process

TO BE ADDED

- Form (Appendix D)
- Assigned staff and timelines for review of and response to appeal
- Identify when appeals go to Board for decision
- Refund or credit process

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APPENDICES

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Appendix A
Adopted Fees

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Appendix B
Service Area User Class Parcel Map

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Appendix C
User Class Change Request Application

DRAFT

Appendix D
User Classification Appeal Application

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Appendix E
Interactive Parcel Map to Assist Landowners

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Example Fee Appeal Processes and Forms

Groundwater Sustainability Regulatory Fee

APPEAL FORM

If you wish to appeal the fee for your property(ies), including the number of Irrigated Acres upon which the Agricultural Fee is charged, or the number of Connections upon which the Connection Fee is charged, you must first pay the fee and attach your receipt to the completed appeal form.

Then using this form, set forth the basis upon which the appeal is made. The appeal will be considered timely filed if, 1) the form is postmarked, United States first class mail to SVBGSA, P.O. Box 1350, Carmel Valley, CA 93924, or 2) delivered by email to the General Manager [at meyersd@svbgsa.org](mailto:meyersd@svbgsa.org) and copied to morenor@svbgsa.org and clerk@svbgsa.org

Within thirty days of receiving the appeal, the General Manager will contact the appellant to discuss the basis of the appeal. The General Manager is authorized to grant the appeal, in whole or in part, or deny the appeal. The determination shall be made no later than fifteen (15) days following the discussion and shall be in writing and delivered to the Person in the same manner as the filing of the appeal.

If the Person who filed the appeal is dissatisfied with the determination of the General Manager, the Person may file an appeal to the Executive Committee within fifteen (15) days of delivery of the determination, following the procedures for filing of an appeal as set forth in Resolution 2019-03. The appeal will be placed on the agenda for the next available Executive Committee meeting occurring not less than fifteen (15) days following the filing of the appeal. The Executive Committee shall receive evidence, and hear from the appellant and staff regarding the merits of the appeal. The Executive Committee is authorized to grant the appeal in whole or in part, or deny the appeal. The determination of the Executive Committee shall be memorialized in a minute order of the Committee and shall be final, with no further appeal to the full Board of Directors.

Updated 5/9/2022

OHWD Groundwater Sustainability Regulatory Fee Corrections and Appeals

Corrections to and appeals of the Groundwater Management Fee shall be administered as follows:

- **Review of Land Use Data:** District staff and/or consultants shall perform an annual review of the data sets identified in the 2021 Groundwater Fee Study, and shall update the fee levy to be submitted to the County as appropriate. Persons who have data corrections to provide in advance of the fee levy may provide that information for review and inclusion by staff no later than April 30th of each fiscal year.
- **Contest of Fee:** After the Fee has been levied in any fiscal year, should a Person wish to contest the number of Irrigated Acres upon which the Fee is charged in that year shall first be required to pay the Fee as charged.
- **Time to File:** Following payment of the Fee, and no later than April 30th of the fiscal year the contested Fee's levy, the landowner paying the Fee may file an appeal of that levy, on a form approved by the General Manager, setting forth the basis upon which the appeal is made. The appeal will be considered timely filed if, within the time allowed, 1) the form is postmarked, United States first class mail, 2) delivered to the General Manager or Clerk of the Board of Directors by electronic mail, or 3) personally delivered to the General Manager.
- **Initial Review:** Within thirty (30) days after the appeal is received by the District, the General Manager shall review the appeal and is authorized to schedule a meeting with the person filing the appeal. The General Manager is authorized to grant the appeal, in whole or in part, or deny the appeal. A determination shall be made within the later of forty- five (45) days of the date of the appeal, or fifteen (15) days following the meeting, and shall be in writing and delivered to the Person in the same manner as the filing of the appeal.
- **Appeal to the Board of Directors:** If the person or entity who filed the appeal is dissatisfied with the determination of the General Manager, they may file an appeal to the Board of Directors within fifteen (15) days of delivery of the General Manager's determination, setting out in writing the information supporting the appeal. The appeal will be placed on the agenda for the next available Board meeting for review and consideration. The Board shall receive evidence, and hear from the appellant and staff regarding the merits of the appeal. The determination of the Board shall be memorialized in writing, and shall be final.
- **Refund of Fees:** If, as a result of the appeal process, the Board or General Manager determines that the Fee was levied in error, the appellant shall be entitled to a credit or refund of the erroneously paid amount, which shall be processed

Phase 1 Funding Mechanism – Fee Appeal Process

Purpose: This appeal process is intended to allow irrigated landowners to reduce or remove their Phase 1 Funding Mechanism fee if either condition is relevant:

1. The parcel was miscategorized by the Merced County Assessor as “irrigated”
2. Less than 75% of the gross parcel area is irrigated.

Condition 1: Miscategorized as “irrigated”

1. Process
 - a. Landowner
 - i. Complete available appeal form and provide maps and other data as necessary.
 - ii. Provide documentation that the original fee has been paid
 - b. MSGSA
 - i. Staff reviews the appeal form and submitted data and is authorized to render a decision.
 1. Use other tools to check accuracy (e.g. Google Earth historical images, crop reports, etc.)
 - ii. Upon decision:
 1. If approved, staff will notify the landowner of approval and require signature attesting to change and MSGSA-imposed conditions. Staff will process a refund of the fee amount appealed upon confirmation that the original fee has been paid and received.
 2. If denied, staff will notify the landowner of denial and indicate landowner may appeal decision to the MSGSA Board in writing.
 - iii. Staff will notify Woodard and Curran (for future tracking)
2. Conditions placed on parcel by MSGSA
 - a. The parcel may not be eligible for a groundwater allocation expected to be established by the MSGSA by the end of Water Year 2025, recognizing that the future allocation policy may or may not include opportunities to opt-in non-irrigated acreage.
 - b. The landowner agrees to properly destroy all irrigation wells determined by MSGSA staff as necessary to be destroyed within the timeline determined by MSGSA and not pump groundwater for irrigation (domestic wells would be allowed as a use on the parcel)

Condition 2: Irrigating less than 75% of APN Gross Acres

1. Process
 - a. Landowner
 - i. Complete available appeal form and provide maps and other data as necessary.
 - ii. Provide documentation that the original fee has been paid
 - b. MSGSA
 - i. Staff reviews the appeal form and submitted data and is authorized to render a decision.
 1. Use other tools to check accuracy (e.g. Google Earth historical images, crop reports, etc.)
 2. Measure irrigated acres (including turnarounds, etc.)
 - ii. Upon decision:
 1. If approved, staff will adjust the fee to the determined irrigated acres rounded up to the closest 5% increment (e.g. 62% of Gross Area being irrigated would be rounded to 65% for purpose of calculating the fee), and notify the landowner and require signature attesting to change and MSGSA-imposed conditions. Staff will process a refund of the fee amount appealed upon confirmation that the original fee has been paid and received.
 2. If denied, staff will notify the landowner of denial and indicate landowner may appeal decision to the MSGSA Board in writing.
 - iii. Staff will notify Woodard Curran (for future tracking)
2. Conditions placed on parcel by MSGSA
 - a. The parcel may not be eligible for a portion of a groundwater allocation expected to be established by the MSGSA by the end of Water Year 2025, (e.g. a “transition” allocation would be limited to just the irrigated acres), recognizing that the future allocation policy may include opportunities to re-establish irrigated acreage quantities.
 - b. The landowner agrees to not expand irrigated acreage on the subject parcel beyond the irrigated acreage value determined through this process.



Phase 1 Funding Mechanism Land Owner Fee Appeal Form

This form is intended to allow irrigated landowners within the Merced Subbasin GSA (MSGSA) to reduce or remove their Phase 1 Funding Mechanism Land Owner Fee if either condition applies (select one):

The land use of the parcel was miscategorized by the Merced County Assessor as “irrigated”

Less than 75% of the gross parcel area is irrigated

Assessor Parcel Number (APN): _____

Acreage of Parcel: _____

Acreage of Parcel Irrigated: _____

Has the Phase 1 Fee been paid for this parcel? _____

I hereby affirm that the information submitted with this form is accurate, true and representative of site conditions.

Owner Printed Name Owner Signature Date

Telephone Number Email Address

Provide a map showing the location of all wells on the parcel as well as any supporting documentation (ex. well permits, meter data, photos, etc.)

Note: Depending on the site-condition selected above, the MSGSA may place conditions on the above referenced parcel that could deem the parcel ineligible for a portion of a groundwater allocation expected to be established by the MSGSA, by the end of Water Year 2025. Details regarding potential conditions placed on the above referenced parcel will be provided to the appellant in writing upon approval of the appeal by MSGSA staff.

Resolution No. 017

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (CGSA)
ADOPTING AN APPEAL PROCESS FOR THE FEE FOR OPERATION AND
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS OF THE CGSA**

WHEREAS, the Sustainability Groundwater Management Act of 2014, Water Code sections 10720-10737.8, (“SGMA”) was signed into law on September 16, 2014; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency (the “CGSA”) was formed through a Joint Powers Authority Agreement between the Carpinteria Valley Water District, County of Santa Barbara Water Agency, City of Carpinteria, and County of Ventura to manage the sustainability of the groundwater basin identified as the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin; and

WHEREAS, the CGSA is the exclusive GSA for the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin approved by the California Department of Water Resources; and

WHEREAS, at a regularly scheduled meeting on June 29, 2022, after duly noticed public hearings on June 8 and June 22, 2022, the Board of Directors of the CGSA (the “Board”) adopted **Resolution No. 11** for the purpose of charging a fee pursuant to section 10730 of the Water Code to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program (the “GSA Fee”); and

WHEREAS, the GSA Fee is based upon the Board’s consideration of the report entitled “2022 GSA Fee Study, Dated June 10, 2022” prepared by Raftelis Consulting, along with testimony and evidence received from CGSA’s staff and the public in both oral and written form; and

WHEREAS, at the several hearings conducted in consideration of the GSA Fee and the manner of its imposition, members of the public encouraged the Board to adopt an appeals process for Property Owners to contest the validity or calculation of the GSA Fee, and the Board finds that adoption of such an administrative appeal process would be appropriate to ensure the CGSA has a reasonable opportunity to address factual and legal concerns associated with the imposition of the GSA Fee; and

WHEREAS, the Board desires, through the passage of this Resolution, to adopt such an appeal process.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors for the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency hereby resolves as follows:

1. The Board hereby finds the facts set forth in the Recitals to this Resolution are true and correct and establish the factual basis for the CGSA’s adoption of this Resolution and incorporates those Recitals by reference.

2. The appeal process for disputes raised by Property Owners subject to the GSA Fee is as follows:

2.1 Should a Property Owner wish to contest the legal basis for the GSA Fee, number of acres subject to the GSA Fee, or otherwise challenge the calculation of the GSA fee, the Property Owner shall first be required to timely pay the assessed GSA Fee as charged by the CGSA under protest.

2.2 Within thirty (30) days following payment of the GSA Fee, the Property Owner can file an appeal with the CGSA, on a form approved by the Executive Director (template attached as Exhibit 1), setting forth the basis upon which the appeal is made, and timely filing of an administrative appeal in the manner described below shall be a prerequisite to required exhaustion of administrative remedies by the Property Owner. An appeal by a Property Owner will be considered timely filed if, on or before the 30th day following payment of the GSA Fee by the Property Owner, 1) the appeal form is mailed via first class *mail to the CGSA Executive Director¹, and postmarked on or before the 30th day after payment; 2) delivered to the CGSA Executive Director by electronic mail at Bob@cvwd.net, or 3) personally delivered to the CGSA Executive Director at the following address 1301 Santa Ynez Ave, Carpinteria CA 93013.

2.3 Potential grounds for appeal may include: (a) the Property Owner's self certification—see attached Exhibit 1 for template appeal form—that the parcels in question do not receive water service from the Carpinteria Valley Water District (CVWD), and are not pumping or diverting any water on or from lands overlying the CGB (or lands adjacent thereto)²; (b) that the amount of acres subject to the fee was not properly calculated by CGSA; (c) other legal arguments why the CGSA Fee is not lawful or improperly applied to the Property Owner. The appeal shall include any evidence the Property Owner wishes the CGSA to consider and shall provide CGSA with an email address for future correspondence related to the appeal.

2.4 Within thirty (30) days of filing the appeal, the Executive Director shall meet with the Property Owner to discuss the basis and possible resolution of the appeal. The Executive Director shall receive any additional evidence regarding to the merits of the appeal if the Property Owner desires to provide additional evidence. The Executive Director is authorized by the Board herein to grant the appeal, in whole or in part, or deny the appeal. The determination by the Executive

¹ Appeals mailed to the Executive Director shall be sent to the following address:
1301 Santa Ynez Ave. Carpinteria CA 93013

² Self certification of non-use of CGB groundwater by a Property Owner, on a parcel subject to the GSA Fee but not currently receiving water service from CVWD, shall ordinarily be a sufficient basis for granting of an appeal, unless the Executive Director determines that that the Property Owner's activities on the property have reasonable potential to cause or contribute to undesirable results within the CGB.

Director shall be made no later than fifteen (15) days following the meeting with the Property Owner, and shall be in writing and delivered to the Property Owner via electronic mail. If the Executive Director does not respond to the appeal within 15 days, then the appeal shall be deemed to have been denied by the Executive Director. A Property Owner shall have the right to seek further appellate review, as described in Section 2.3, upon denial by the Executive Director.

2.3 If the Property Owner who timely filed the appeal with the Executive Director is dissatisfied with the determination of the Executive Director, the Property Owner may file an appeal with the CGSA Board within fifteen (15) days of delivery of the Executive Director's determination (or from the date upon which the appeal is deemed denied), Appeals of the Executive Director's decision shall be delivered via email to the Clerk of the Board, CGSA, at the following email address: Bob@cvwd.net.

2.4 Timely appeals from the Executive Director's determination will be placed on the agenda for a Board meeting occurring no more than sixty (60) days from CGSA's receipt of the appeal to the Board. The Board shall receive evidence and hear from the appellant and staff regarding the merits of the appeal. The Board is authorized to grant the appeal, in whole or in part, or deny the appeal, in its sole discretion. The determination of the Board shall be memorialized in the minutes of the Board meeting and shall be final, with no further appeal to the Board or the CGSA, unless and until a different CGSA Fee is adopted.

2.5 CGSA reserves the right to rescind any relief provided per this appeal process where it determines that the information provided by the Property Owner filing the appeal was not accurate.

[CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE]

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the GSA on the 9th day of November, 2022, by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Holcombe, Stendell, Johnson, Roberts and Van Wingerden
NAYES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

DocuSigned by:
Case Van Wingerden
FFD90590DA5143B...

Case Van Wingerden, Chairperson

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:
Robert McDonald
83E956653F66424...

Robert Mc Donald, Secretary

I self-certify, and in good faith swear and assert under oath, that the information contained herein is true to the best of my knowledge, after making reasonable inquiry. I further understand that waiver or reduction of the GSA Fee as a result of this appeal is entirely contingent upon the accuracy of information provided with this appeal.

Signature of Appellant _____

Date of Appeal Submission to CGSA _____



SANTA ROSA PLAIN
GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Groundwater Sustainability Fee Appeals Form

The purpose of this form is to inform the Groundwater Sustainability Agency of an interest to appeal a groundwater sustainability fee charged to a qualifying parcel. This form must be submitted in conjunction with a completed GUIDE survey (see below for survey link). Please provide any additional information to support consideration of an appeal. No fee is charged for filing an appeal.

First Name _____

Last Name _____

Email Address _____

Phone Number _____

Mailing Address _____

Parcel Identification (APN or parcel address) _____

Have you filled out a GUIDE survey? Yes No

If you have not filled out a GUIDE survey, please fill out a GUIDE survey prior to submitting the appeal. The GUIDE survey is accessible at www.santarosagroundwater.org/user. If needed, a paper copy of the GUIDE survey can be requested at info@santarosaplaingroundwater.org or (707) 243-8555.

Description of Appeal

Supporting Materials: Please attach any relevant supporting materials (bills for a public water system, well logs or abandonment documentation, County or other jurisdictional correspondence, photos, etc.).

Certification: By signing below, I certify that I am the property owner/grantor or lessee/grantee or an Authorized Agent for the parcel, and that each and all the statements herein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the Groundwater Sustainability Agency may delay start or temporarily hold the appeals process at any time should they deem additional information necessary.

Signature _____

Date _____

Please send completed appeals form and supporting materials to info@santarosaplaingroundwater.org or mail them to Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Sustainability Agency, 2235 Mercury Way, Suite 105, Santa Rosa, CA 95407.



Approach to Implementation of SGM Grant Program Funded Projects

Christina Buck
 Wyandotte Creek GSA Board
 October 5, 2023

Wyandotte Creek- Draft Award

#	Component Name	Task #	Task Title	Budget	Budget Category
1	Grant Administration		Grant Administration	\$ 200,000	
2	GSP Implementation, Outreach, and Inter-basin Coordination Activities			\$ 1,175,000	Total
		1	Conduct a Fee Study for Long-term Financing of the Wyandotte Creek GSA	\$ 100,000	b
		2	Prepare Annual Reports (2022, 2023, 2024, 2025)		d
		3	Response to DWR GSP Determination		d
		4	Develop Approach for Interconnected Surface Water Sustainable Management Criteria (ISW SMC)		d
		5	Five-Year GSP Evaluation Report		d
		6	Update Butte Basin Groundwater Model (BBGM)		d
		7	Data Management System (DMS) Enhancements		d
		8	Inter-basin Coordination - Conducting Joint Analysis and Evaluation of GSPs	\$ 1,005,000	d
		9	Outreach and Education Program		e
		10	Inter-basin Coordination	\$ 70,000	e
3	Regional Conjunctive Use Project			\$ 400,000	Total
		1	Intra-Basin Water Exchange Feasibility Study: Planning and Feasibility		b
		2	Agricultural Surface Water Supplies Feasibility Study: Planning and Feasibility		b
		3	Agricultural Irrigation Efficiency Piloting Program: Planning and Feasibility	\$ 280,000	b
		4	Agricultural Irrigation Efficiency Pilot Program	\$ 100,000	c
		5	Grower Education and Outreach	\$ 20,000	e
4	Monitoring Network Enhancements			\$ 1,433,750	Total
		1	Landowner Access Agreement/Site Access		b
		2	Multi-Completion Monitoring Wells Planning		b
		3	Shallow Wells and Stream Gages Planning	\$ 70,000	b
		4	Multi-Completion Monitoring Wells Installation		c
		5	Shallow Wells and Stream Gages Installation	\$ 1,200,000	c
		6	GDE Biological Field Surveys		d
		7	Create Community Monitoring Plan and Equip Volunteer Wells with Monitoring Equipment		d
		8	Community Monitoring Data and Visualization	\$ 118,750	d
		9	Community Monitoring Program Engagement and Education		e
		10	Inter-basin Coordination	\$ 45,000	e
5	Thermalito Water Treatment Plant Capacity Upgrade			\$ 2,318,534	Total
		1	Construction		c
				\$ 5,527,284	TOTAL AWARD

Proposed Projects

1. GSP Data Gaps and Refinements
 2. Outreach Program
 3. Regional Conjunctive Use Project
 4. Interbasin Coordination and Modeling
 5. Data Management System (DMS) Enhancements
 6. Fee Study and Annual Reports
-
- Wyd Crk
GSA
- Dept. of
Water &
Resource
Conservation

GSA Projects

Project Title	Tasks	Budget	Project Total
GSP Data Gaps and Refinements	Develop Approach for Interconnected Surface Water SMC	\$ 200,000	
	Five-Year GSP Evaluation Report	\$ 175,000	
	Landowner Access Agreement/Site Access		
	Multi-Completion Monitoring Wells Planning		
	Shallow Wells and Stream Gages Planning	\$ 70,000	
	Multi-Completion Monitoring Wells Installation		
	Shallow Wells and Stream Gages Installation	\$ 1,200,000	
	Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Biological Field Surveys		
	Create Community Monitoring Plan and Equip Volunteer Wells with Monitoring Equipment		
	Community Monitoring Data and Visualization	\$ 118,750	
Community Monitoring Program Engagement and Education			
Inter-basin Coordination- Monitoring Network	\$ 45,000	\$ 1,808,750	
Outreach Program	Outreach and Education Program		
	Inter-basin Coordination	\$ 70,000	
	Grower Education and Outreach	\$ 20,000	\$ 90,000
Regional Conjunctive Use Project	Intra-Basin Water Exchange Feasibility Study: Planning and Feasibility		
	Agricultural Surface Water Supplies Feasibility Study: Planning and Feasibility		
	Agricultural Irrigation Efficiency Piloting Program: Planning and Feasibility	\$ 280,000	
	Agricultural Irrigation Efficiency Pilot Program	\$ 100,000	\$ 380,000
	Sub-Total		\$ 2,278,750

Butte County Projects

As a member agency and partner with the GSA, Butte County will implement these projects. The projects will be managed by Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation Staff.

1. Inter-basin Coordination and Modeling - for Vina and Wyandotte Creek (\$490K)
2. Data Management System Enhancements (\$125K)
3. Annual Reporting – existing contract with Luhdorff & Scalmanini (LSCE) (\$155K)
4. Fee Study – existing contract with LSCE (\$100K)

1. Inter-basin Coordination and Modeling

Sac River- Inter-basin Coordination - Conducting Joint Analysis and Evaluation of GSPs	190,000	
Feather R- Inter-basin Coordination - Conducting Joint Analysis and Evaluation of GSPs	200,000	
Update Butte Basin Groundwater Model (BBGM)	100,000	
Stakeholder Outreach	xxxx	\$ 490,000

Note: Wvd Creek grant share is \$250,000

Proposed GSA Subrecipient Agreement with Butte County

- Specifies the tasks/deliverables within the DWR Grant Agreement that will be implemented by Butte County. It outlines the associated budget, deliverables, and schedule of those projects.

Agreement to Include:

1. Project Management and Grant Administration (\$200K)
2. Technical Assistance to support GSP Updates (\$100K)
3. Inter-basin Coordination and Modeling (\$250K)
4. Data Management System Enhancements (\$125)
5. Annual Reporting and Fee Study (\$155K and \$100K)

Total Agreement Amount: \$930,000

Subrecipient Agreement with Thermalito Water and Sewer District (TWSD)

- Project: TWSD Plant Capacity Upgrade (\$2.318M)

The Work Ahead

Phase 1: Next 4-6 months

- Establish Grant Agreement with DWR (GSA<->DWR)
- Establish Subrecipient agreements
- Release Request for Qualifications/Proposals (RFQs/RFPs), establish/coordinate selection committees, select consultants, and execute contracts

Phase 2: Early 2024 thru Spring 2026

- Ongoing project management (coordinate with consultant/Management Committee/WAC/Board, project outreach, grant reporting/invoicing)

Butte County will manage the grant and provide project management (funded by the grant) on behalf of the GSA

Butte, Vina and Wyandotte Creek Subbasins Annual Report Timeline (updated 9/25/23)

Month/Year	Date	Action	Status/Notes
August 2023	8/28/23	Butte County Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) mtg. to understand / comment on Annual Report methodology (water use est. incl. native veg., land use analysis)	Completed All Subbasin Managers invited
September-December 2023		Consultant works on 2023 Annual Report content	
January 2024	1/10/24 1-3 pm	Butte County TAC mtg. (HR Training Room East, Oroville) to review draft technical content (maps/tables/figures)	Public meeting – all are welcome
Feb. 2024		Draft reports distributed to all 3 Subbasin’s Management Committee members and TAC	Review and bring comments to next TAC mtg.
Late Feb. 2024	2/26/24 1-3 pm	Butte County TAC mtg. HR Training Room East, Oroville to discuss review of the draft reports	Public meeting – all are welcome
March 2024	3/7/24	Butte County to provide Wyandotte Creek Advisory Committee presentation of report contents as informational item	Meeting dates subject to change
	3/27/24	County to provide Vina Stakeholder Advisory Committee presentation of report contents as informational item	
	TBD	Butte County to provide Butte Subbasin Managers presentation of report contents as informational item	
April 2024	4/1/24	Annual Report Submittal deadline to DWR	
	4/10/24	Consultants present to Vina GSA Board	Meeting date subject to change
	4/25/24	Consultants present to Wyandotte Creek GSA Board	Meeting date subject to change
	TBD	Consultants present to Butte Advisory Board	Meeting date TBD
May 2024	TBD	County presents County’s Annual Groundwater Status Report to Board of Supervisors (synthesis of all three Annual Reports)	