

NOTICE AND AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
FOR THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER GROUNDWATER BASIN

REGULAR MEETING WILL BE HELD
AT 10:00 A.M., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 2022

Remote participation available via ZOOM

Pursuant to AB361, Directors may participate in this meeting via teleconference.
The public can only participate via teleconference. There will be no public meeting location.

To access the meeting via telephone, please dial: 1-669-900-6833
And/or via the Web at: <http://join.zoom.us>

“Join a Meeting” - Meeting ID: 818 6849 2508 - Meeting Passcode: 180197

- You do NOT need to create a ZOOM account or login with email for meeting participation.
- If your device does not have a microphone or speakers, you can call in for audio with the phone number and Meeting ID listed above to listen and participate.
- In the interest of clear reception and efficient administration of the meeting, all persons participating remotely are respectfully requested to mute their line after logging or dialing-in and remain muted at all times unless speaking.

Video/Teleconference Meeting During Coronavirus (COVID-19) State of Emergency: As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, this meeting will be available via video/teleconference as recommended by Santa Barbara County Public Health and authorized by Government Code section 54953(e) (State Assembly Bill 361).

Important Notice Regarding Public Participation in Video/Teleconference Meeting: Those who wish to provide public comment on an Agenda Item, or who otherwise are making a presentation to the GSA Committee, may participate in the meeting using the remote access referenced above. **Those wishing to submit written comments instead, please submit any and all comments and materials to the GSA via electronic mail at bbuelow@syrwcd.com.** All submittals of written comments must be received by the GSA no later than **Friday, November 25, 2022**, and should indicate **“November 28, 2022 GSA Meeting”** in the subject line. To the extent practicable, public comments and materials received in advance pursuant to this timeframe will be read into the public record during the meeting. Public comments and materials not read into the record will become part of the post-meeting materials available to the public and posted on the SGMA website.

AGENDA OF REGULAR MEETING

- I. Call to Order and Roll Call
- II. Consider findings under Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution CMA-2021-001
- III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
- IV. Public Comment (Any member of the public may address the Committee relating to any non-agenda matter within the Committee’s jurisdiction. The total time for all public participation

shall not exceed fifteen minutes and the time allotted for each individual shall not exceed five minutes. No action will be taken by the Committee at this meeting on any public item.) *Staff recommends any potential new agenda items based on issues raised be held for discussion under Agenda Item “CMA GSA Committee requests and comments” for items to be included on the next Agenda.*

- V. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of August 22, 2022
- VI. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List
- VII. Review Grant Closure letter from DWR
- VIII. Review Request(s) for CMA GSA Written Verification under Executive Order N-7-22 for the following parcel(s):
 - o 099-210-065 Sea Smoke
 - o 137-090-068 Baker
- IX. Update and briefing on SGMA round 2 implementation grant funding opportunity and review and consider approval of CMA GSP implementation projects and management actions.
- X. Review and consider approving Resolution CMA 2022-003 authorizing the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District to submit a Proposition 68 Grant application for implementation of SGMA on behalf of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin.
- XI. Received correspondence from Santa Ynez Water Group
- XII. Next Regular CMA GSA Meeting, Monday, December 12, 2022 at 10:00 A.M.
- XIII. CMA GSA Committee requests and comments
- XIV. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted 72 hours prior to the scheduled special meeting at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California, and <https://www.santaynezwater.org> in accordance with Government Code Section 54954. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District at (805) 693-1156. Notification 24 hours prior to the meeting will enable the GSA to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]

MEETING MINUTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Central Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin August 22, 2022

A regular meeting of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for the Central Management Area (CMA) in the Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin was held on Monday, August 22, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. As a result of the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting occurred solely via video/teleconference as recommended by Santa Barbara County Public Health, as authorized by State Assembly Bill 361, and Resolution CMA-2021-001 (passed on 10/20/2021, reaffirmed 8/2/2022).

CMA GSA Committee Directors Present: Art Hibbits, John Sanchez (Acting Alternate), and Meighan Dietenhofer (Acting Alternate)

CMA GSA Committee Alternate Directors Present: Cynthia Allen

Member Agency Staff Present: Bill Buelow, Marliez Diaz, Rose Hess, Amber Thompson, and Matt Young

Others Present: Doug Circle, Larry Lahr, Dianna

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

CMA GSA Committee Chair Art Hibbits called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and asked Mr. Buelow to call roll. One CMA GSA Director and one Acting Alternate Director were present providing a quorum. In addition, two Alternate Directors were present.

II. Consider findings under Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution CMA-2021-001

Mr. Buelow explained that the reasonings for State Assembly Bill 361 and adoption of Resolution CMA-2021-001, passed on October 20, 2021, and reaffirmed on August 2, 2022, which authorized teleconference public meetings were still in effect. There was no discussion.

CMA GSA Acting Alternate Director John Sanchez made a MOTION to authorize continuing teleconference meetings under Resolution CMA-2021-001. GSA Director Art Hibbits seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

III. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

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No additions or deletions were made.

IV. Public Comment

There was no public comment. Mr. Buelow announced he received one public comment letter and recommended it be discussed under Agenda Item XI.

V. Review and consider approval of meeting minutes of May 23 and August 2, 2022

The minutes of the GSA Committee meetings on May 23 and August 2, 2022 were presented for GSA Committee approval. Discussion followed. The meeting dates in which Resolution CMA 2021-001 was reaffirmed were corrected in both sets of minutes.

CMA GSA Acting Alternate Director John Sanchez made a MOTION to approve the minutes of May 23 and August 2, 2022, as amended. GSA Director Art Hibbits seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VI. Review and consider approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List

The GSA Committee reviewed the financial reports of FY 2021-22 Periods 10 through 12 (through June 30, 2022) and the Warrant Lists for April, May, and June 2022. Ms. Thompson reported that the amount for check number 1053 should be corrected to be \$9,769.00 causing a revision in the total amount of checks for the quarter to be \$57,894.70 and total accounts payable for the quarter to be \$20,944.52. Discussion followed.

CMA GSA Acting Alternate Director John Sanchez made a MOTION to approve the financial reports and the April, May, and June 2022 Warrant Lists (Mechanics Bank Check Nos. 1053-1055 and Five Star Bank Check Nos. 2000-2003) totaling \$57,894.70, as amended. GSA Director Art Hibbits seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VII. Biennial Review of CMA GSA Conflict of Interest Code

The GSA Committee reviewed the CMA GSA Conflict of Interest Code. Discussion followed.

CMA GSA Acting Alternate Director John Sanchez made a MOTION to file the 2022 Local Agency Biennial Notice designating “no amendment is required” with the Santa Barbara County Clerk of the Board of Supervisors. GSA Committee GSA Director Art Hibbits seconded the motion. There was no discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VIII. Consider Approval of Final Documents for providing CMA GSA written verifications of new well permits under Executive Order N-7-22

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Mr. Buelow reported that member agency staff presented draft documents to the Committee at the last CMA GSA Committee meeting on August 2, 2022. The Committee reviewed the documents, conditionally adopted each of the draft documents, and directed staff to meet with the CMA Citizens Advisory Group for review and comment.

a. Comments from CMA Citizen Advisory Group

Mr. Larry Lahr reviewed the CMA Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) memorandum, dated August 12, 2022 regarding the CMA CAG review of draft documents created to comply with Executive Order N-7-22. Discussion followed.

Mr. Buelow left the meeting and Ms. Hess began moderating the meeting.

b. CMA Process and Criteria for Administering Written Verifications Per Executive Order Number-7-22

Ms. Hess presented CMA process and criteria for administering written verifications per Executive Order N-7-22. A process flow diagram is being created by staff as a pictorial way to present the same information. Discussion followed.

c. Indemnification Agreement

Ms. Hess presented Written Verification Indemnification Agreement. There was no discussion and no public comments received.

d. Reimbursement Agreement

Ms. Hess presented Deposit/Reimbursement Agreement for Review of Request for Written Verification. There was no discussion and no public comments received.

e. Well Permit Acknowledgement

Ms. Hess presented the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency Acknowledgement Form Request for Written Verification under Executive Order N-7-22. There was no discussion and no public comments received.

CMA GSA Acting Alternate Director John Sanchez made a MOTION to approve CMA process and criteria for administering written verifications per Executive Order N-7-22; Written Verification Indemnification Agreement; Deposit/Reimbursement Agreement for Review of Request for Written Verification; and Deposit/Reimbursement Agreement for Review of Request for Written Verification, all as presented. He requested that staff add a diagram flow chart to simplify following the process. GSA Committee GSA Director Art Hibbits seconded the motion. Further discussion followed and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

IX. Consider Resolution CMA-2022-002 Establishing Fee and Deposit for CMA GSA Well Verification as required by Executive Order N-7-22 (Under Water Code Section 10730)

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Ms. Hess reviewed the Resolution establishing a fee and deposit of \$1,200 which was prepared by Santa Barbara County counsel in coordination with the member agencies attorney group. The August 22, 2022 meeting was properly noticed in both the August 8, 2022 and August 15, 2022 editions of the Santa Barbara News Press. There was no discussion or public comment.

CMA GSA Acting Alternate Director John Sanchez made a MOTION to waive reading and adopt GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN RESOLUTION CMA-2022-002 RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FEE AND DEPOSIT FOR CMA GSA WELL VERIFICATION AS REQUIRED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER N-7-22. GSA Committee GSA Director Art Hibbits seconded the motion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

X. Consider Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District and City of Buellton develop contract with GSI Water Solutions to Evaluate Verification Requests

Mr. Young summarized the GSI Water Solutions Proposed Scope of Work for a time and materials contract. He reported that the work product will be a Technical Memo and will summarize the costs. Discussion followed. There was no public comment.

CMA GSA Acting Alternate Director John Sanchez made a MOTION requesting the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District and the City of Buellton, on behalf of the CMA GSA, develop and execute a multi-party contract with GSI Water Solutions to evaluate written verification requests. GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits seconded the motion. There was no discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

XI. Update on Governance for CMA GSA

Ms. Hess introduced a letter received from Santa Ynez Water Group, dated August 5, 2022, regarding governance of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin. Mr. Young explained contents of the letter. Mr. Larry Lahr, as a member of the Santa Ynez Water Group, provided public comment. Discussion followed.

XII. Consider Setting Regular Monthly CMA GSA Meetings Through End of 2022

Ms. Thompson reviewed the proposed monthly regular meeting schedule. Ms. Hess explained that the intent is for staff to cancel the additional meetings if there is nothing for Committee to address. Discussion followed. Mr. Young added that the EMA GSA voted to do the same.

CMA GSA Acting Alternate Director John Sanchez made a MOTION to schedule monthly regular meetings with an expectation that the additional meetings be cancelled if there is nothing for the Committee to address. GSA Committee Director Art Hibbits seconded the motion. There was no further discussion and it passed unanimously by roll call vote.

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XIII. Next Regular CMA GSA Meeting, Monday, September 26, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

The next scheduled regular CMA GSA meeting will be Monday, September 26, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

XIV. CMA GSA Committee requests and comments

There were no requests or comments.

XV. Adjournment

GSA Committee Chair Art Hibbits adjourned the meeting at 11:14 a.m.

Art Hibbits, Chairman

William J. Buelow, Secretary

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SYRWCD CMA
BALANCE SHEET
SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

Assets

Current Assets

Five Star Checking #5943	\$17,596.50	

TOTAL Current Assets		17,596.50

TOTAL Assets		\$17,596.50
		=====

Liabilities AND Equity

Current Liabilities

Deposits - Well Verification	1,200.00	

TOTAL Current Liabilities		1,200.00

TOTAL Liabilities		1,200.00

Net Position

Retained Earnings	32,373.47	
Retained Earnings-Current Year	(15,976.97)	

TOTAL Net Position		16,396.50

TOTAL Liabilities AND Equity		\$17,596.50
		=====

SYRWCD CMA
INCOME STATEMENT
FOR THE 3 PERIODS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2022

	QUARTER TO DATE		YEAR TO DATE	
	ACTUAL	PERCENT	ACTUAL	PERCENT
Revenue:				
Revenue				
Operating Assessments	\$15,897.44	99.9 %	15,897.44	99.9
Interest Income	9.41	.1	9.41	.1
TOTAL Revenue	15,906.85	100.0	15,906.85	100.0
TOTAL Revenue	15,906.85	100.0	15,906.85	100.0
Gross Profit	15,906.85	100.0	15,906.85	100.0
Expenses:				
Operating Expenses				
Outside Staff Support	300.00	1.9	300.00	1.9
Public Relations	163.20	1.0	163.20	1.0
TOTAL Operating Expenses	463.20	2.9	463.20	2.9
Consultants				
GSP-AEM Survey	29,543.37	185.7	29,543.37	185.7
Annual Report	1,877.25	11.8	1,877.25	11.8
TOTAL Consultants	31,420.62	197.5	31,420.62	197.5
TOTAL Expenses	31,883.82	200.4	31,883.82	200.4
Net Income from Operations	(15,976.97)	(100.4)	(15,976.97)	(100.4)
Earnings before Income Tax	(15,976.97)	(100.4)	(15,976.97)	(100.4)
Net Income (Loss)	\$(15,976.97)	(100.4)%	(15,976.97)	(100.4)

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE
CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA (CMA)
IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

JULY 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2004	07/13/22	Stetson Engineers	May 2022 Engineering Service (Annual Report & AEM Survey Work)	\$ 2,077.75
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 2,077.75

AUGUST 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
NONE				
MONTH TOTAL				\$ -

SEPTEMBER 2022 WARRANT LIST FOR COMMITTEE APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
2005	09/14/22	VOID	VOID - printing error	\$ -
2006	09/14/22	VOID	VOID - printing error	\$ -
2007	09/14/22	VOID	VOID - printing error	\$ -
2008	09/14/22	VOID	VOID - printing error	\$ -
2009	09/14/22	Onsite Computers	Office 365 Basic License (email) - cma@SantaYnezWater.org	\$ 72.00
2010	09/14/22	Santa Barbara News Press	Legal Notices of Aug. 22, 2022 Meeting to Establish Fee Publication dates: 8/8/22 and 8/15/2022	\$ 91.20
2011	09/14/22	Stetson Engineers	June and July 2022 Engineering Service (Annual Report Data Upload & AEM Survey Work)	\$ 29,342.87
2012	09/14/22	Valley Bookkeeping	2022 3rd Quarter Bookkeeping (July, August, September 2022)	\$ 300.00
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 29,806.07

TOTAL CHECKS THIS QUARTER: \$ 31,883.82

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001
(916) 653-5791



October 31, 2022

Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 719
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Subject: Grant Closure - Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, Santa Ynez River Valley Basin - GSPs Planning and Preparation, Agreement 4600012741, Grant Closure

Dear Bill Buelow:

This letter acknowledges that the CA Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released retention in the amount of \$129,599.99 for the subject grant agreement. Please provide us notice when you receive your retention payments.

This letter serves as notification that contractual obligations for the above referenced grant agreement between Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District and DWR have been fulfilled. Therefore, no further reporting for the grant is required by DWR.

Please be mindful that the Grantee is obligated to continue records retention as there is a potential for a post completion audit of the Grant.

Thank you for your interest in the 2017 Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Program and your effort to manage water resources in your area. If you have any questions, please contact Kelley List at kelley.list@water.ca.gov or (916) 902-7303.

Sincerely,

Carmel Brown

Carmel Brown, Manager
Financial Assistance Branch
Division of Regional Assistance

MEMORANDUM

Re: CMA GSA Staff Memo for Santa Ynez River Valley Basin Well Verification Process

On August 22, 2022, the Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA) Committee approved a document entitled *Process and Criteria for Administering Written Verifications* per Executive Order N-7-22 and established a fee and deposit to cover the costs of evaluating verification requests. Subsequently, two well verification requests have been submitted to the GSA, two for replacement wells (Sea Smoke and Baker), as shown on the attached table.

As part of its policy, the CMA GSA Committee delegated approval of verification requests for replacement wells to staff of the member agencies. Staff and the CMA GSA consultant (GSI Water Solutions) have reviewed the two replacement well requests (Sea Smoke and Baker), and staff is prepared to issue verification letters for each, included as part of this packet.

As stated in the *Process and Criteria for Administering Written Verifications* adopted by the CMA GSA Committee, an indicator of whether undesirable results exist is the actual or imminent exceedance of Minimum Thresholds as defined in the CMA Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). Because Minimum Thresholds are directly tied to prevailing groundwater conditions, the presence or absence of undesirable results is subject to change and will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. Precipitation in the CMA and basin wide has been significantly below average in all but two years since 2011. As a result of these prolonged dry conditions, water levels in most of the designated Representative Wells in the CMA have been declining, in some cases below Minimum Thresholds established in the CMA GSP. If the dry trend continues this winter, staff anticipates that more wells will likely fall below the Minimum Threshold, which may require a reevaluation of the process, criteria, and policy used by the CMA GSA in determining whether to issue written verifications for new wells, assuming Executive Order N-7-22 remains in place. Staff will continue to closely monitor water level trends in the CMA and report back to the Committee as additional information becomes available for use in publishing the Second Annual Report in April 2023.

CMA GSA - Summary of Well Verifications and Other Wells

<u>Date Received</u>	<u>APN</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Well Owner Name</u>	<u>Proj. Coordinator Name</u>	<u>Well Type</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Note</u>
9/26/2022	099-210-065	55 Mail Road, Lompoc, CA 93436	Julian Malone	Angel Reteria	River Well - Exempt from SGMA	Verification Issued/Expedited	2-10 AFY
10/4/2022	137-090-068	P.O. Box 66, Buellton, CA 93427	Joel Baker	Angel Reteria	Replacement Well	Verification Issued/Expedited	10 AFY



Review of Replacement Well Application in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Central Management Area (CMA) APN: 099-210-065 (WP WP0005301)

To: Santa Ynez River Valley CMA GSA Parties
From: Tim Nicely, PG, CHg and Andy Lapostol, GSI Water Solutions, Inc.
Date: November 19, 2022

This memorandum presents our review of an application to install a well within the Central Management Area (CMA). Our review was conducted on behalf of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). Under Paragraph 9 of Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-7-22 and the County Board of Supervisors Urgency Ordinance No. 5158 dated May 24, 2022, the County of Santa Barbara Department of Environmental Health Services shall not approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a medium or high-priority basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) without first obtaining written verification from the GSA that groundwater extraction by the proposed well¹

1. would not be "inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program" established by the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Plan) adopted by that GSA, and
2. would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by the Plan.

Paragraph 9 of Executive Order N-7-22 does not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

The application being reviewed is for the installation of a replacement 12-inch diameter irrigation supply well completed to a depth of 200 feet. The anticipated water production reported by the applicant is 2 - 10 acre-feet per year (AFY). This production exceeds the 2 AFY definition of an exempt well.

Based on information provided in the well permit application, the well owner intends to destroy a nearby well located on the same Assessor's Parcel Number 099-2100-065. No additional information regarding this nearby well was provided, but if it has historically pumped a similar volume of water compared to proposed production from the replacement well, then the new well may be considered a replacement well.

¹ New wells are those resulting in new or additional groundwater production from the Basin, or those resulting in new or additional production capacity. Replacement wells are those not resulting in new or additional groundwater production or production capacity in the Basin.

Summary of Findings

The proposed replacement well has the following properties:

- Well location:
 - The proposed well is located on Assessor's Parcel Number 099-210-065, at 55 Mail Road in Lompoc, California, which is within the Santa Ynez River Alluvium Subarea of the Central Management Area.
 - The Santa Ynez River Alluvium contains the underflow of the Santa Ynez River. As such, this water is not managed as groundwater as defined by SGMA and thus is not managed by the CMA GSA because such underflow constitutes subterranean water flowing in known and definite channels that is treated as surface water and subject to the jurisdiction of and regulation by SWRCB.
 - The parcel is located within Zone A of the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District.
- Proposed well construction information:
 - The proposed well be completed within the Santa Ynez River Alluvium, which is not a principal aquifer within the CMA.
 - The well will be used for irrigation purposes. The planned pumping rate of 500 gallons per minute for 8 hours per day equates to more than 200 AFY. However, the estimated use indicated on the application is only 2 - 10 AFY.
 - The proposed well depth is 200 feet, with perforations from 100 to 200 feet below ground surface.
- Based on the geologic setting at the site, the well would be completed within the Santa Ynez River Alluvium, which is not managed by the GSA.
- Assess groundwater conditions:
 - The well is not completed in a principal aquifer within the GSA and therefore, an assessment of the groundwater conditions in the area has not been conducted.
 - Based on the cumulative departure from mean annual precipitation², climatic conditions in the vicinity of the proposed well site have been predominantly dry since 2012.
- Would the well increase production within the CMA?
 - The proposed new well is not within the area managed by the GSA and would not increase production from a principal aquifer within the CMA. Likewise, the new well would not cause an exceedance of minimum thresholds or cause undesirable results measured at representative wells as defined in the GSP relative to the old well.
 - The replacement well is not within a principal aquifer and therefore would not contribute to significant and unreasonable conditions leading to undesirable results related to the sustainability indicators:
 - Chronic water level decline.

² Precipitation measured at the Santa Ynez Fire Station #32 (Santa Barbara County Station No. 218 gauge).

- Reduction of groundwater in storage
- Degradation of water quality
- Subsidence
- Depletion of interconnected surface water and impacts to GDEs

Summary

The proposed well is a replacement for the original well. Furthermore, the proposed well is not located within area managed by the CMA and therefore the planned production from the proposed replacement well would NOT be “inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program” established by the GSA and would NOT decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin based upon conditions observed at the present time.

In our opinion, the GSA should provide a written verification to the County of Santa Barbara Department of Environmental Health for this application.

Indemnification and Limitations of Liability

GSI Water Solutions does not warrant or guarantee that the new or replacement well will produce the expected amount of water nor that the GSA will not require that the extraction from the well be reduced in the future in accordance with its authority to manage the CMA within the sustainability goal.

GSI Water Solutions is not responsible for or otherwise liable for any costs, investments, lost revenue, or payments related to any groundwater well permitted or not permitted by the County, including well drilling costs, pumping fees, extraction limits, costs related to well failure, well deepening, increased maintenance, replacement, or operational costs.

The GSA’s issuance of a written verification and the County’s issuance of a well permit to Applicant does not guarantee the extraction of any specific amount of water now or in the future or any defined water level or water quality.



P.O. Box 719
3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101
Santa Ynez, California 93460

Telephone: (805) 693-1156
FAX: (805) 693-4607

SantaYnezWater.com

November 28, 2022

DRAFT

Via USPS and Email

Julian Malone, Director of Vineyard Operations
55 Mail Road
Lompoc, CA 93436

Santa Barbara County EHS
225 Camino del Remedio
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

RE: Written Verification Request for 099-210-065 and WP 0005301

Dear Mr. Malone:

The Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA) has reviewed the written verification request and well permit application for the above referenced property. Consideration by the CMA GSA was conducted in accordance with Paragraph 9 of Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-7-22, which provides that a permit shall not be approved for a new groundwater well or alteration of an existing well within a medium or high-priority basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) without first obtaining a certain written verification from the applicable GSA where the well is proposed to be located. The CMA GSA is the sole GSA for the Central Management Area of the Basin.

Based on information currently before the CMA GSA, including documentation and representations provided by the Applicant for the above-referenced well, the CMA GSA issues this written verification that groundwater extraction by the proposed well: 1) would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) adopted by the CMA GSA on January 3, 2022, and 2) would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the CMA, as provided in the CMA GSP. Information supporting the issuance of this written verification can be found in the attached technical memorandum prepared by GSI Water Solutions, Inc. Please be advised that nothing provided herein or in the attached analysis limits the CMA GSA's authority to regulate this well in accordance with SGMA and the CMA GSP.

Should you have any questions, please contact Bill Buelow of the CMA GSA at (805) 693-1156, ext. 403 or via email at cma@SantaYnezWater.org.

Sincerely,
Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Art Hibbits
Committee Chair



Review of Replacement Well Application in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Central Management Area (CMA) APN: 137-090-068 (WP 0005362)

To: Santa Ynez River Valley CMA GSA Parties
From: Tim Nicely, PG, CHg and Andy Lapostol, GSI Water Solutions, Inc.
Date: November 19, 2022

This memorandum presents our review of an application to install a well within the Central Management Area (CMA). Our review was conducted on behalf of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). Under Paragraph 9 of Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-7-22 and the County Board of Supervisors Urgency Ordinance No. 5158 dated May 24, 2022, the County of Santa Barbara Department of Environmental Health Services shall not approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a medium or high-priority basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) without first obtaining written verification from the GSA that groundwater extraction by the proposed well¹

1. would not be "inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program" established by the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (Plan) adopted by that GSA, and
2. would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by the Plan.

Paragraph 9 of Executive Order N-7-22 does not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

The application being reviewed is for the installation of a replacement 10-inch diameter irrigation supply well completed to a depth of 600 feet. The anticipated water production reported by the applicant is 10 acre-feet per year (AFY). This production exceeds the 2 AFY definition of an exempt well.

Based on information provided in the well permit application, the well owner intends to destroy a nearby well located on the adjacent Assessor's Parcel Number 137-090-067, which is discussed later. No additional information regarding this nearby well was provided, but if it has historically pumped a similar volume of water compared to proposed production in the replacement well, then the new well may be considered a replacement well.

¹ New wells are those resulting in new or additional groundwater production from the EMA portion of the Basin, or those resulting in new or additional production capacity. Replacement wells are those not resulting in new or additional groundwater production or production capacity in the EMA portion of the Basin.

Summary of Findings

The proposed replacement well has the following properties:

- Well location:
 - The proposed well is located on Assessor's Parcel Number 137-090-068, at 560 McMurray Road in Buellton, California, which is within the CMA. While the proposed well is located Santa Ynez River Alluvium Subarea of the CMA, the replacement well is not an alluvial well, but will extract water from the underlying Buellton Aquifer, which is managed by the GSA.
 - The parcel is located within the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, and covers 47.2 acres, zoned AG-1.
- Proposed well construction information:
 - The proposed well depth is 600 feet, with perforations from 300 to 600 feet below ground surface.
 - The well will be used for irrigation purposes on a 47.2-acre parcel. The planned pumping rate of 100 gallons per minute for 6 to 8 hours per day equates to 40 to 54 AFY. However, the estimated use indicated on the application is only 10 AFY.
 - The proposed well be completed within the Buellton Aquifer, which is the principal aquifer within the CMA.
 - Based on the geologic setting at the site, the well would be completed within the same Principal Aquifer (Buellton Aquifer) as the well it is intended to replace, which is managed by the GSA.
- Assess groundwater conditions:
 - The nearest representative monitoring well for the Buellton Aquifer is well 6N/31W-7F1 which is fewer than 300 feet southwest of the proposed well. The representative well is a deep well perforated in the Careaga formation that represents long-term conditions of the Buellton Aquifer.
 - The groundwater level in representative well -7F1 was at historical lows in 2016 (data are available from 1984 – present) but remained above the Minimum Threshold described in the CMA's Plan.
 - Based on the cumulative departure from mean annual precipitation², climatic conditions in the vicinity of the proposed well site and the EMA have been dry since 2012.
- Would the well increase production within the CMA?
 - The proposed well is of similar construction to the existing well on the adjacent property that the owner intends to destroy. If production from the existing well was similar to the proposed production from the replacement well, then the replacement well would not increase production from the Buellton Aquifer. Therefore, the replacement well would not cause an exceedance of minimum thresholds and cause undesirable results measured at representative wells as defined in the Plan relative to the old well.

² Precipitation measured at the Santa Ynez Fire Station #32 (Santa Barbara County Station No. 218 gauge).

- The replacement well would not contribute to significant and unreasonable conditions leading to undesirable results related to the sustainability indicators:
 - Chronic water level decline.
 - Reduction of groundwater in storage
 - Degradation of water quality
 - Subsidence
 - Depletion of interconnected surface water and impacts to GDEs
- While the production capacity of the original well is not known, the proposed well replaces the existing well and will irrigate the same area.
- The proposed use of the well is consistent with the proposed location and design capacity. Please note that our calculated production of 40 - 54 AFY is more than the anticipated water production of 10 AFY stated in the well permit application.
- The well the applicant proposes to destroy on Assessor's Parcel Number 137-090-067 is believed to be the CMA's representative well 6N/31W-7F1. We suggest that the proposed destruction of this well be reconsidered in order to maintain a continuity of the record of long-term groundwater conditions in the area. If it is determined by the CMA that the proposed replacement well adequately represents groundwater conditions in this portion of the CMA for the Buellton Aquifer, perhaps after an adequately long period to monitor water levels in both wells, the destruction of well 6N/31W-7F1 on parcel 137-090-067 may be acceptable.

Summary

Based on the planned production, the proposed well is a replacement for the original well. The planned production from the proposed replacement well would NOT be "inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program" established by the GSA and would NOT decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin based upon conditions observed at the present time. It may be necessary to limit production from this well in the future if the GSA finds that undesirable results as defined in the Plan are occurring in the basin.

In our opinion, the GSA should provide a written verification to the County of Santa Barbara Department of Environmental Health for this application.

Indemnification and Limitations of Liability

GSI Water Solutions does not warrant or guarantee that the new or replacement well will produce the expected amount of water nor that the GSA will not require that the extraction from the well be reduced in the future in accordance with its authority to manage the basin within the sustainability goal.

GSI is not responsible for or otherwise liable for any costs, investments, lost revenue, or payments related to any groundwater well permitted or not permitted by the County, including well drilling costs, pumping fees, extraction limits, costs related to well failure, well deepening, increased maintenance, replacement, or operational costs.

The GSA's issuance of a written verification and the County's issuance of a well permit to Applicant does not guarantee the extraction of any specific amount of water now or in the future or any defined water level or water quality.



P.O. Box 719
3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101
Santa Ynez, California 93460

Telephone: (805) 693-1156
FAX: (805) 693-4607

SantaYnezWater.com

November 28, 2022

DRAFT

Via USPS and Email

Joel Baker
P.O. Box 66
Buellton, CA 93427

Santa Barbara County EHS
225 Camino del Remedio
Santa Barbara, CA 93110

RE: Written Verification Request for 137-090-068 and WP 0005362

Dear Mr. Baker:

The Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA) has reviewed the written verification request and well permit application for the above referenced property. Consideration by the CMA GSA was conducted in accordance with Paragraph 9 of Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-7-22, which provides that a permit shall not be approved for a new groundwater well or alteration of an existing well within a medium or high-priority basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) without first obtaining a certain written verification from the applicable GSA where the well is proposed to be located. The CMA GSA is the sole GSA for the Central Management Area of the Basin.

Based on information currently before the CMA GSA, including documentation and representations provided by the Applicant for the above-referenced well, the CMA GSA issues this written verification that groundwater extraction by the proposed well: 1) would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) adopted by the CMA GSA on January 3, 2022, and 2) would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the CMA, as provided in the CMA GSP. Information supporting the issuance of this written verification can be found in the attached technical memorandum prepared by GSI Water Solutions, Inc. Please be advised that nothing provided herein or in the attached analysis limits the CMA GSA's authority to regulate this well in accordance with SGMA and the CMA GSP.

Should you have any questions, please contact Bill Buelow of the CMA GSA at (805) 693-1156, ext. 403 or via email at cma@SantaYnezWater.org.

Sincerely,
Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Art Hibbits
Committee Chair

Santa Ynez Basin SGM Grant Program Priority Projects

- Basin Metering Program
- Basin Rate Study
- 5-Yr Updates to GSPs/Annual Reporting/Response to DWR Comments
- Data Gap Filling

**CENTRAL MANAGMENT AREA
CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP
MEMORANDUM**

DATE: October 13, 2022

TO: CMA GSA Committee

FROM: CMA Citizen Advisory Group
Prepared by Sean Diggins

SUBJECT: Joint CAG Meeting with WMA CAG
Round 2, Proposition 68 Grant Funding Opportunities for GSP Implementation

CAG Attendees

CMA CAG Members in attendance: Deby Laranjo, Len Fleckenstein; Sean Diggins, and Larry Lahr

Introduction

The CMA CAG held a meeting together with the WMA CAG on October 13, 2022 via teleconference to discuss the Round 2 of Proposition 68 Grant Funding opportunities for the Basin, and specific projects that were a priority to the CAG.

Below is a summary of the CAG's comments.

CAG Comments:

Staff from the GSA presented a Grant overview which included application requirements, available funding, scoring criteria, and critical dates associated with submission and project completions. The CAG's comments on the general Grant included:

- What underrepresented communities should be sought for comments?
 - Two were identified during the meeting: Chumash Tribe and the City of Lompoc
- Will professional Grant writers be utilized for the application?
 - No, the District has inhouse writers with grant writing experience and a history of successfully receiving grants.

The GSA Staff presented a list of viable projects for grant funding.

The CAG's comments on the projects included:

- What projects will provide benefits to all three GSAs in the Basin?
 - Water Meters
 - Outreach
 - Rate Study

- The CAG suggested that if the district pursues funding to “close Data Gaps” don’t use the term “data gaps” because there will perpetually be research needed on the Basin. Data Gaps implies low quality research up to this point which isn’t an accurate representation of the work which has been done.
- The CAG expressed particular interest in pursuing the metering project.

Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Central Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

RESOLUTION CMA-2022-003

**RESOLUTION APPROVING SANTA YNEZ RIVER WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT ON BEHALF OF THE CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN TO MAKE AN APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES TO OBTAIN A GRANT UNDER THE 2021 SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT GRANT PROGRAM SGMA IMPLEMENTATION ROUND 2 GRANT PURSUANT TO THE CALIFORNIA DROUGHT, WATER, PARKS, CLIMATE, COASTAL PROTECTION, AND OUTDOOR ACCESS FOR ALL ACT OF 2018 (PROPOSITION 68) AND THE CALIFORNIA BUDGET ACT OF 2021, AND TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT TO RECEIVE A GRANT FOR THE PROJECT:
SGMA IMPLEMENTATION IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER BASIN**

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) requires that each groundwater basin in the state be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”), or multiple GSAs, and that such management be pursuant to an approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”), or multiple GSPs; and

WHEREAS, the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Central Management Area in the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (“CMA GSA”), formed by Memorandum of Agreement dated January 11, 2017 (“CMA MOA”), is the exclusive GSA for the Central Management Area of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Bulletin 118 Basin No. 3-015) (“Basin”); and

WHEREAS, the CMA MOA names the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (SYRWCD) as the point of contact to act on behalf of the CMA GSA as the Coordinating Agency with DWR; and

WHEREAS, the CMA GSA, together with the other two GSAs in the Basin, has entered into the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Coordination Agreement (“Coordination Agreement”), effective January 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the CMA GSA has approved a GSP; and

WHEREAS, SYRWCD, being the Coordinating Agency in the Basin, coordinated the development of and submitted three approved GSPs that are well coordinated and fully comply with GSP regulations and are approvable by DWR, one GSP for each of the Central, Eastern, and

Western Management Areas, and submitted a Coordination Agreement, as appropriate for the Basin, prior to January 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, funds are limited locally to implement the CMA GSP.

NOW, THEREFORE, the CMA GSA hereby resolves that the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District Board of Directors, on behalf of the CMA GSA, make an application to the California Department of Water Resources to obtain a grant under the 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program SGMA Implementation Round 2 Grant pursuant to the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access for All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) (Pub. Resource Code, § 80000 et seq.) and the California Budget Act of 2021 (Stats. 2021, ch. 240, § 80), and to enter into an agreement to receive a grant for the: **SGMA Implementation in the Santa Ynez River Basin.**

The CMA GSA hereby authorizes and directs the Plan Manager designated under the Coordination Agreement to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such application, and execute a grant agreement and any future amendments (if required), submit invoices, and submit any reporting requirements with the California Department of Water Resources.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the governing Committee of the CMA GSA on November 28, 2022 by the following roll call vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

ATTEST:

Art Hibbits, Chairman

William J. Buelow, Secretary

SANTA YNEZ WATER GROUP

3942 ROBLAR AVENUE
SANTA YNEZ, CALIFORNIA 93460

October 24, 2022

Eastern Management Area GSA
c/o J. Brett Marymee, Chair
P.O. Box 719
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Central Management Area GSA
c/o Art Hibbits, Acting Chair
P.O. Box 719
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Western Management Area GSA
c/o Chris Brooks, Chair
P.O. Box 719
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Re: Governance of Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin

Gentlemen:

On August 5, 2022, we wrote the Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency, the Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and the Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (collectively, the GSAs) regarding the future governance of the GSAs and the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin), as a whole. Specifically, we requested that the GSAs dedicate a position on their ultimate governing body to an agricultural landowner who relies on groundwater from within the Basin (Agricultural Representative). The purpose of this letter is to build on that initial request.

We appreciate the GSAs' consideration and support for this Agricultural Representative position thus far. As the GSAs continue to develop this requested position, we ask that the GSAs consider the following:

Qualifications¹

The Agricultural Representative should be an individual or a designated representative of an entity (1) owning land overlying the Basin farmed for a commercial agricultural business; and (2) producing groundwater from the Basin for use on that land.

Appointment²

The GSAs' ultimate governing body (Governing Body) should appoint the Agricultural Representative based on the recommendation of the Santa Ynez Water Group (Group). Upon request from the Governing Body, and as otherwise necessary, the Group would provide the Governing Body with a list of one or more qualified individuals. The Governing Body would then consider and appoint an individual from that list. If the Governing Body does not approve of the

¹ Support for this request is based on the following GSA: Mound Basin GSA

² Support for this request is based on the following GSAs: Mound Basin GSA; Fillmore & Piru Basins GSA

Eastern Management Area GSA
Central Management Area GSA
Western Management Area GSA
August 5, 2022
Page 2 of 2

Group's recommendation, then the Governing Body would request another list of recommendations from the Group until an appointment is made.

Term³

The Agricultural Representative should have a term of three years. There should not be a limit on the number of terms a qualified individual can serve as the Agricultural Representative.

These requests were developed after analyzing numerous other GSAs and groundwater management agencies (GMAs) throughout the State. Please refer to our August letter, enclosed, for a more detailed analysis of those other GSAs and GMAs.

Finally, if there is to be an Agricultural Representative on the Governing Body, we ask to participate in the GSAs' ongoing discussions regarding the Basin's governance. It could be helpful for any concerns of the Agricultural Representative to be resolved in the development process rather than after any organizational documents are finalized.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at 714-742-1444 or by e-mail at doug@circlevision.com.

Respectfully,



Douglas Circle, President

cc: EMA GSA Board of Directors
CMA GSA Board of Directors
WMA GSA Board of Directors
Kevin Walsh, General Manager, Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
William J. Buelow, PG, Groundwater Program Manager, Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District
Johannah Hartley, Counsel of the County of Santa Barbara
Dave Fleishman, Counsel for the City of Solvang
Steve Anderson, Counsel for the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District, ID No. 1
Brett Stroud, Counsel for the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District

³ Support for this request is based on the following GSAs: Mound Basin GSA; Fillmore & Piru Basins GSA; Upper Ventura Groundwater Agency