



CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY SPECIAL STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Committee Members

Brenton Kelly (Chair)
Brad DeBranch (Vice Chair)
Louise Draucker

Jake Furstenfeld
Joe Haslett
Roberta Jaffe

Mike Post
Vacant
Vacant

AGENDA

August 13, 2020

Agenda for a meeting of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Standing Advisory Committee to be held on Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 3:00 PM. ***Due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and resulting suspension of certain components of the Brown Act per Executive Order Nos. N-25-20 and N-29-20, this meeting will be a remote-only meeting.*** To hear the session live call +1 (571) 317-3122, 530644397# or logon to <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/530644397> to view meeting materials.

The order in which agenda items are discussed may be changed to accommodate scheduling or other needs of the Committee, the public or meeting participants. Public comments should be emailed to Taylor Blakslee at tblakslee@hgcpm.com by close of business on Wednesday, August 12 to assist in facilitating this remote meeting, but they may also be provided at the meeting.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Update on SAC Membership
5. Approval of Minutes
6. Groundwater Sustainability Plan
 - a. Update on Monitoring Network Implementation
 - b. Update on Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network
 - c. Review Information Sheet for New Well Owners
 - d. Update on Indirect Economic Report
 - e. Update on Model Refinement
7. Groundwater Sustainability Agency
 - a. Report of the Executive Director
 - b. Board of Directors Agenda Review
 - c. Report of the General Counsel
8. Items for Upcoming Sessions

9. Committee Forum

10. Public comment for items not on the Agenda

At this time, the public may address the Committee on any item not appearing on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee.

11. Correspondence

12. Adjourn

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Special Standing Advisory Committee Meeting

June 25, 2020

Draft Meetings Minutes

PRESENT:

Kelly, Brenton – Chair
DeBranch, Brad – Vice Chair
Draucker, Louise
Furstenfeld, Jake
Haslett, Joe
Jaffe, Roberta
Post, Mike

ABSENT:

None

1. Call to Order

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) Chair Brenton Kelly called the SAC to order at 3:01 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Hallmark Group Project Coordinator Taylor Blakslee called roll of the Committee (shown above).

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was led by Chair Kelly.

Committee member Haslett arrived at 3:03 p.m.

4. Update on SAC Membership

Chair Kelly informed the meeting attendees that the SAC had two recent resignations and is actively looking for replacement committee members from the Hispanic community. He requested and encouraged recommendations from the Committee members.

5. Approval of Minutes

Chair Kelly opened the floor for comments on the April 30, 2020 CBGSA SAC meeting minutes.

Committee member Furstenfeld arrived at 3:06 p.m.

MOTION

Committee member Roberta Jaffe made a motion to adopt the April 30, 2020 CBGSA SAC meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by committee member Draucker. A roll call vote was made and passed.

AYES: Committee Members DeBranch, Draucker, Furstenfeld, Haslett, Jaffe, Kelly, Post
 NOES: None
 ABSTAIN: None
 ABSENT: None

6. Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Mr. Van Lienden provided an update on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) activities including the schedule and May 2020 accomplishments, which is included in the SAC packet.

a. Update on Monitoring Network Implementation

Woodard & Curran (W&C) Technical Project Manager Brian Van Lienden provided a brief update on the implementation of the monitoring network. He said they will be using the data collected by Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group (P&P) to upload into the Data Management System (DMS) and reporting information to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

Committee member Haslett commented that irrigation season in the Cuyama valley is a majority of the year regardless of crop and Committee member Louise Draucker agreed.

Committee Member Haslett asked if W&C was able to contact Spanish Ranch regarding potential monitoring. Mr. Van Lienden replied they had but determined that this location was not the best candidate for a stream gauge.

b. Report on Coordination with Counties

CBGSA Executive Director Jim Beck provided an update on the meetings with the Cuyama Basin counties (Kern, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura). The main topics discussed during the meetings were the monitoring network, notification of new well permits, county ordinances, and integration with county planning efforts. Mr. Beck thanked the County staff members for their time to have these meetings with the CBGSA staff.

Mr. Beck reported that the counties believe it would be helpful to develop a document notifying new well drillers of the presence of the GSA and possible restrictions and fees with respect to drilling new or additional wells. Mr. Beck recommended that staff develop the document to accompany these instances with potential new well drillers.

Committee member Jaffe commented that the GSA has the authority to review new well permits before they are authorized and notify new well owners. She believes this is very important in the GSA's consideration of the implementation of new wells. Mr. Beck said staff will discuss the review of new wells prior to approval with Santa Barbara County.

Chair Kelly asked if Ventura County intends to continue groundwater monitoring. Mr. Blakslee reported that Kern County is not currently monitoring in the Cuyama area, Santa Barbara County will be transitioning their monitoring to the GSA, and San Luis Obispo County and Ventura County are currently monitoring. He said there is an overlap with a well in Ventura County since they plan to

continue monitoring.

Grapevine Capitals Ray Shady said he agrees with the importance of exchange between the Counties and the GSA. In regard to the Paso Robles area, he said there is not currently a restriction on new wells; however, there is a restriction on the amount of new acreage with crops. He mentioned that the GSA should focus on surface use and water consumption rather than new wells.

Cuyama Valley Family Resource Center's Executive Director Lynn Carlisle said the potential new wells drilled in under-irrigated lands have the potential to change the water model and allocation plan. She asked if the GSA could have oversight of well permits. Mr. Beck replied that the GSA cannot dictate land use but can regulate water use and allocation.

Committee member Mike Post said he believes the groundwater extraction fees is a driving point for those who would like to pump water and drill new wells.

Mr. Beck said staff will follow up with Counties to approve and address issues regarding new well permitting and noticing.

c. Report on Public Comments to DWR

Mr. Beck provided a summary of the public comments received on the Cuyama Basin GSA Groundwater Sustainability Plan that was submitted to DWR on January 28, 2020 and is included in the SAC packet.

7. Groundwater Sustainability Agency

a. Report of the Executive Director

Nothing to report.

b. Board of Directors Agenda Review

Nothing to report.

c. Report of the General Counsel

Nothing to report.

8. Items for Upcoming Sessions

Nothing to report.

9. Committee Forum

Nothing to report.

10. Public comment for items not on the Agenda

Nothing to report.

11. Correspondence

Nothing to report.

12. Adjourn

Chair Kelly adjourned the meeting at 3:58 p.m.

Minutes approved by the Standing Advisory Committee of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
the 27 day of August 2020.

STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE
CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Chair: _____

ATTEST:

Vice Chair: _____

DRAFT



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 6

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: August 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Issue

Update on the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) consultant Woodard & Curran's (W&C) GSP update is provided as Attachment 1.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update

August 13, 2020

July Accomplishments

- ✓ Performed field validation/data collection for groundwater levels monitoring
- ✓ Commenced field validation for Category 1 transducer wells
- ✓ Worked with USGS on Ventucopa streamflow gage installation
- ✓ Responded to DWR questions on GSP information



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 6a

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: August 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Update on Monitoring Network Implementation

Issue

Update on the monitoring network implementation.

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

An update on Cuyama basin monitoring network components is provided as Attachment 1.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Monitoring Network Implementation

August 13, 2020



Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Groundwater Levels Monitoring

August 13, 2020

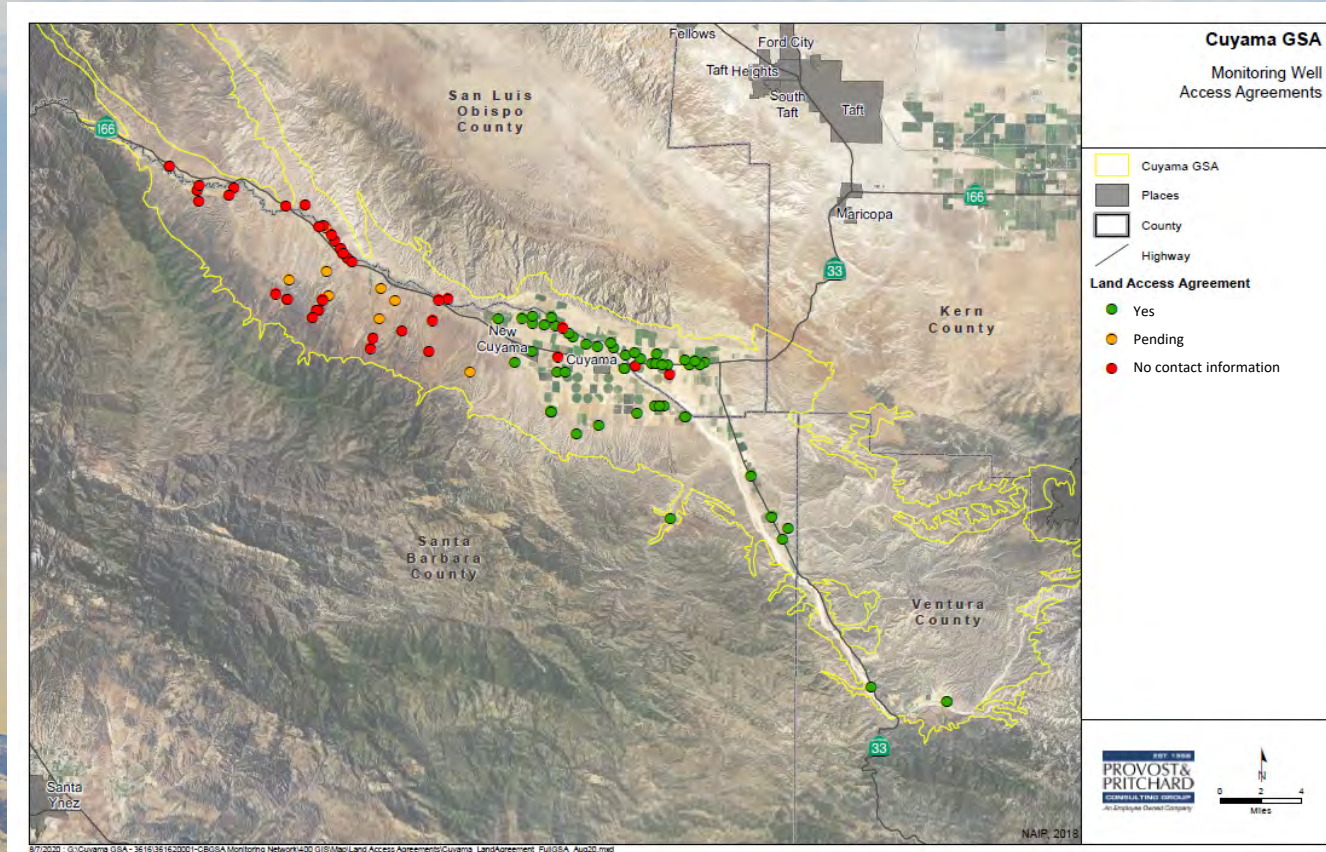


Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network Implementation – Status Update

- Manual monitoring of existing wells (100 wells)
 - Board approved selection of Provost & Pritchard in May
 - P&P is currently conducting well validation/data collection
 - Confirmation for 56 wells
 - Expecting to add 9 additional wells
 - 29 wells not yet confirmed
 - Collection of monthly levels to begin August 17, 2020
- Between now and March 2021, we will evaluate options for monitoring network modifications, including:
 - Manual measurement vs instrumenting
 - Monitoring well density and data gaps

Monitoring Well Information Sheet				
Local Well ID	Smith #1	State Well Number	11W25515A01	
Well Depth (ft)	400	Casing Material	Steel	
Screen Top	200	Date Constructed	2/15/1978	
Screen Bot	400	Casing Diameter	6"	
Latitude	38.97913	Date Surveyed	4/6/1995	
Longitude	-121.17269	Well Type	Industrial	
RP Elev	108.5	Well Completion Report	5555555	
GS Elev	107.00			
Well Owner	Name	Joe Smith	Email	joes@smith.com
Information	Phone	555-555-5555	Address	5555 Fifth Street, Wasco, CA 95555
Well Monitoring	Name	Joe Smith	Email	joes@smith.com
Contact Point	Phone	555-555-5555	Address	5555 Fifth Street, Wasco, CA 95555
	Depth to Water	50 feet		
Initial Measurement	Groundwater Surface Elevation	58.5 Feet		
Location Description: In the Town of Wasco. Two block north of Highway 43 on eastside of F Street.				
Map:				
Site Photos: 				
RP location				

Status of Well Permission



Groundwater Levels Management Triggers Included in the GSP

- **Identification of Undesirable Results (3.2.1):**

The result is considered to occur during GSP implementation when 30 percent of representative monitoring wells (i.e. 18 of 60 wells) fall below their minimum groundwater elevation thresholds for two consecutive years

- **Adaptive Management (7.6):**

If the Basin is within the Margin of Operational Flexibility, but trending toward Undesirable Results, and within 10 percent of the Minimum Threshold: CBGSA will investigate the cause and determine appropriate actions.

Groundwater Levels Management Triggers Included in the GSP

- Partial monitoring over the last few years indicates groundwater levels have exceeded or are close to exceeding minimum thresholds for some wells. No action is currently recommended, but staff is tracking this as we implement the monitoring network.
- Staff will develop and present representative well criteria update report at the November 2020 Board meeting.

Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network Implementation – Status Update

17

- Installation of new wells by DWR Technical Support Services
 - Application for 3 new wells was approved by DWR
 - Currently working with DWR to finalize permits and agreements
- Installation of transducers with DWR Category 1 grant funding
 - Documentation was reviewed and approved by DWR
 - Well validation/landowner agreement process is underway

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Other Cuyama Basin Monitoring

June 25, 2020



Groundwater Quality Monitoring Network Implementation – FY 2020-21

19

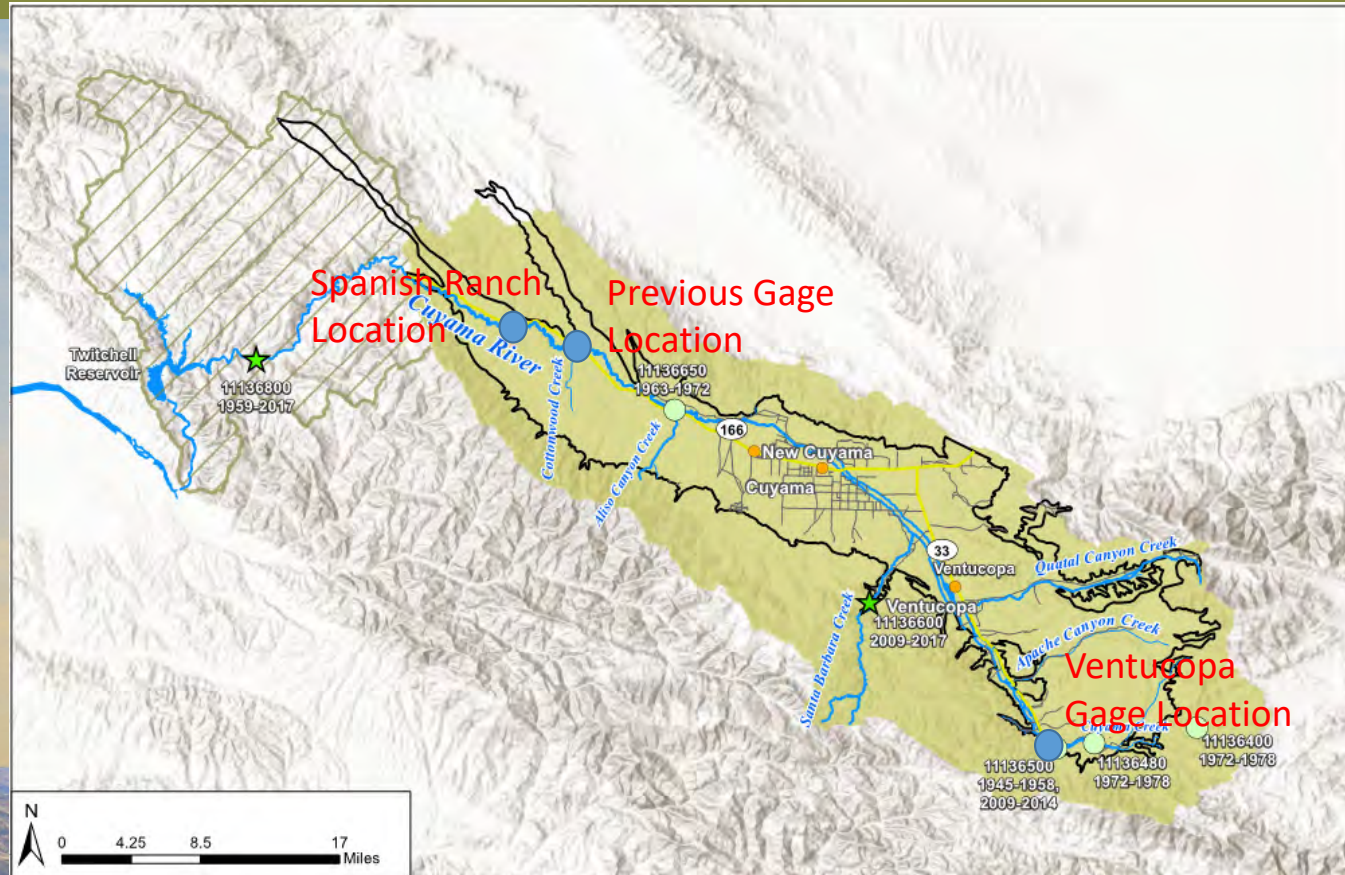
- GSP monitoring plan calls for TDS monitoring at 64 wells
- Staff has requested a quote from Provost & Pritchard to perform field validation and data collection at these wells
- A single TDS measurement to be taken at each well during setup.
- Between now and March 2021, we will evaluate options for monitoring network modifications, including:
 - Manual measurement vs instrumenting
 - Monitoring well density and data gaps

Monitoring Network Budget Considerations

- FY 2021-22 Budget
 - Refinement of groundwater level network size and measurement frequency
 - Refinement of water quality network size
- Future expenditures
 - Discussion of improving monitoring network to fulfill DWR regulations wells with budget ad hoc

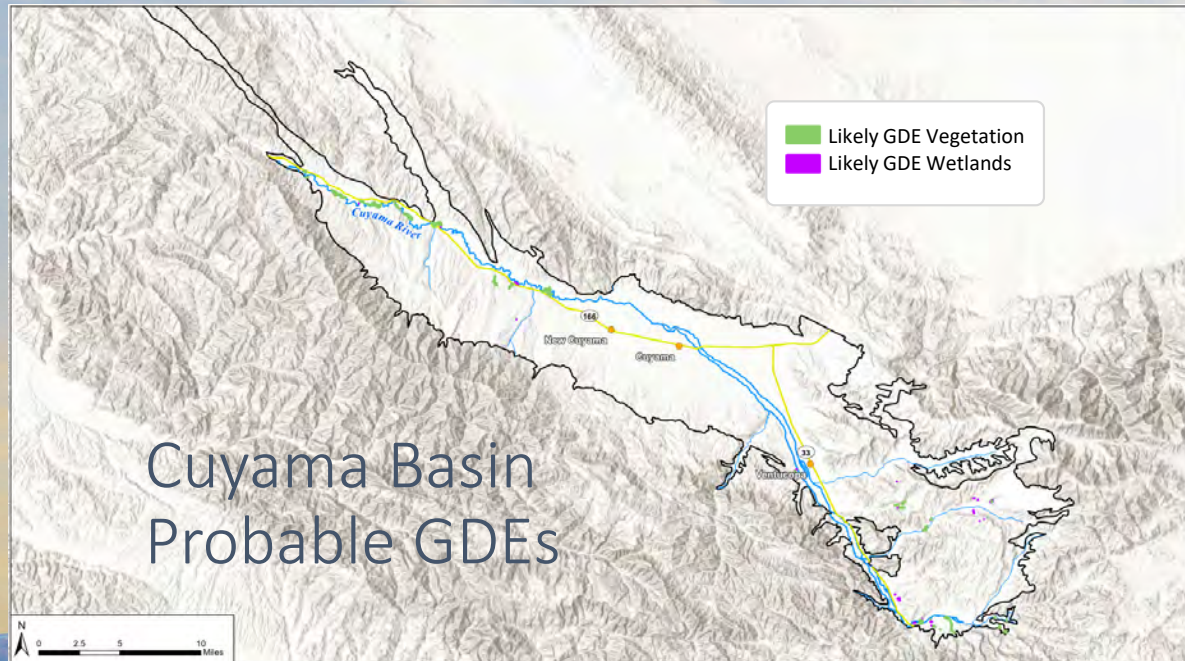
Stream Gage Implementation – FY 2020-21

- 2 new streamflow gages will be installed by USGS using Category 1 grant funding from DWR
- Ventucopa location is moving forward
- Downstream location approved by Board has traffic safety concerns per USGS
 - Spanish Ranch location under consideration as a replacement



GDE Monitoring Implementation – FY 2020-21

- GSP recommended installing piezometers near GDE locations
- Ad hoc committee to identify proposed piezometer locations beginning in Nov 2020
- Piezometer installation would occur in FY 2021-22





TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 6b

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: August 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Update on Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network

Issue

Update on groundwater levels monitoring network.

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

Provost & Pritchard continues to validate wells for the groundwater levels monitoring network and will begin taking monthly levels late August 2020.

Once levels are collected, staff will provide updates on the results of the full network but will provide hydrographs for six of those wells at Board meetings. An example of the hydrographs is provided as Attachment 1.

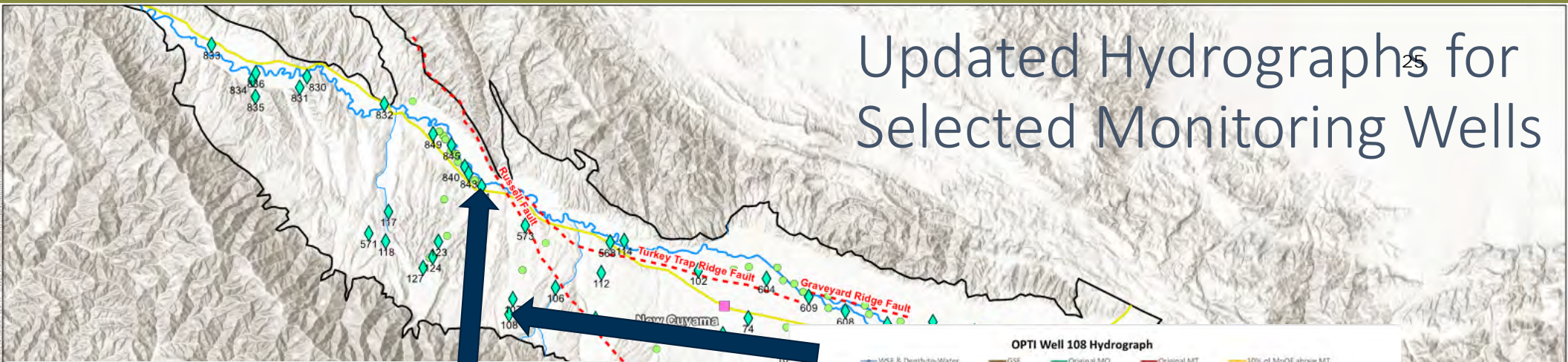
Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network

August 13, 2020



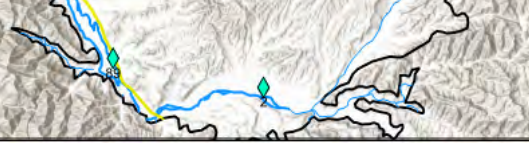
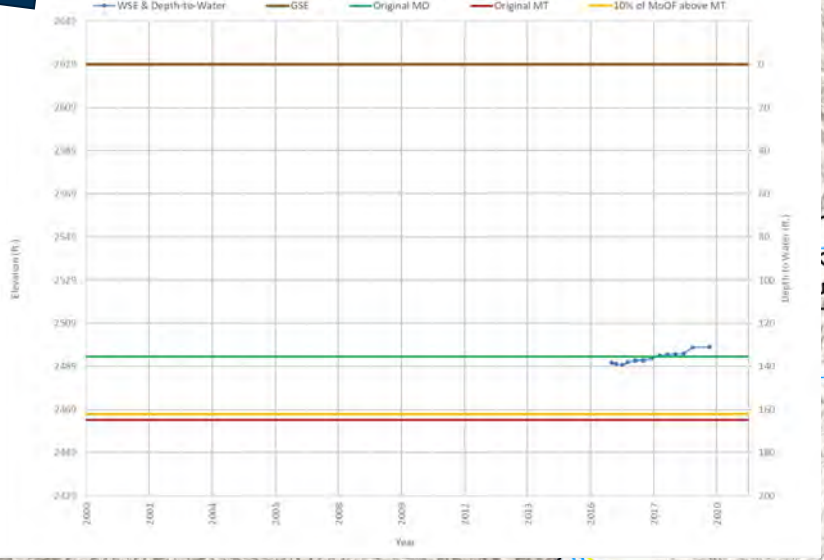
Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells



OPTI Well 841 Hydrograph

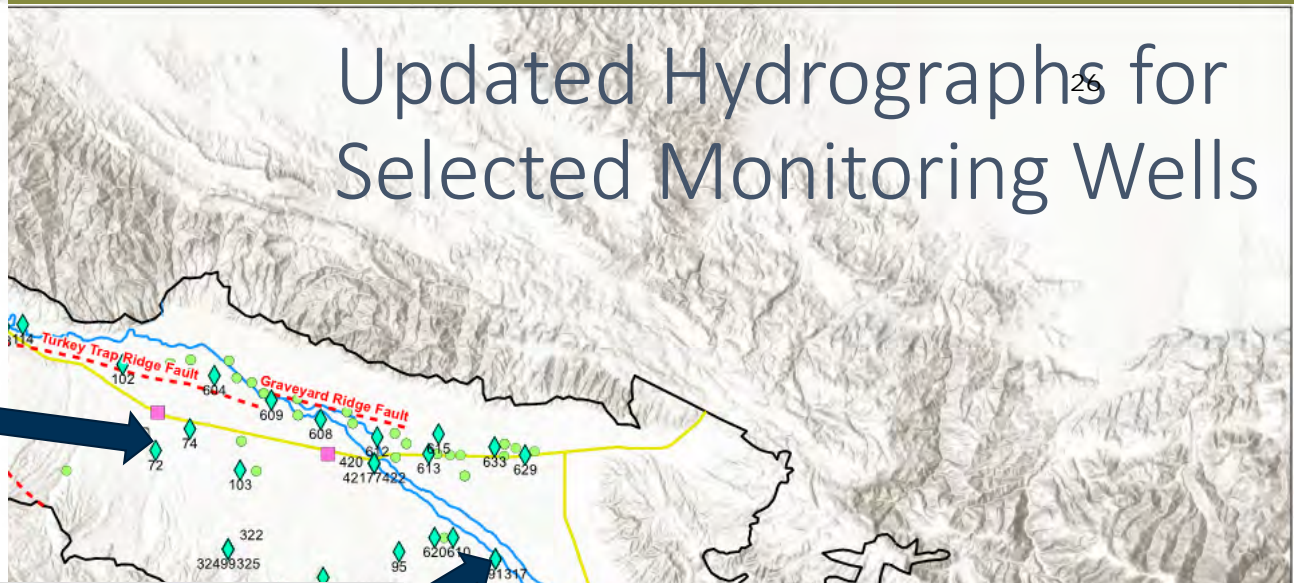
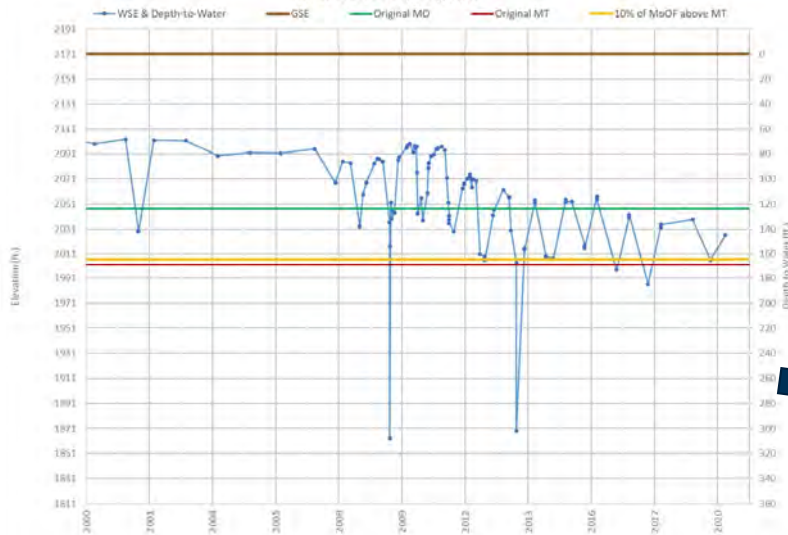


OPTI Well 108 Hydrograph

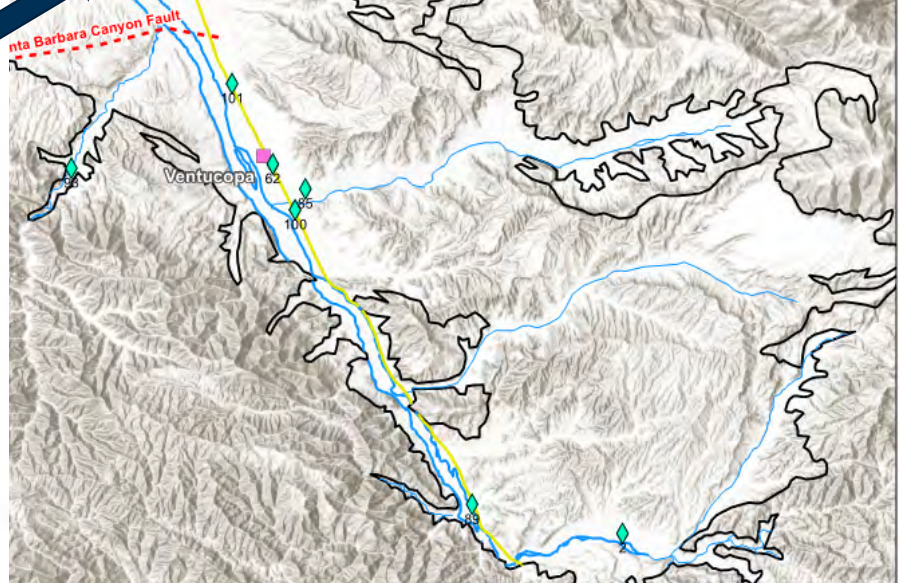
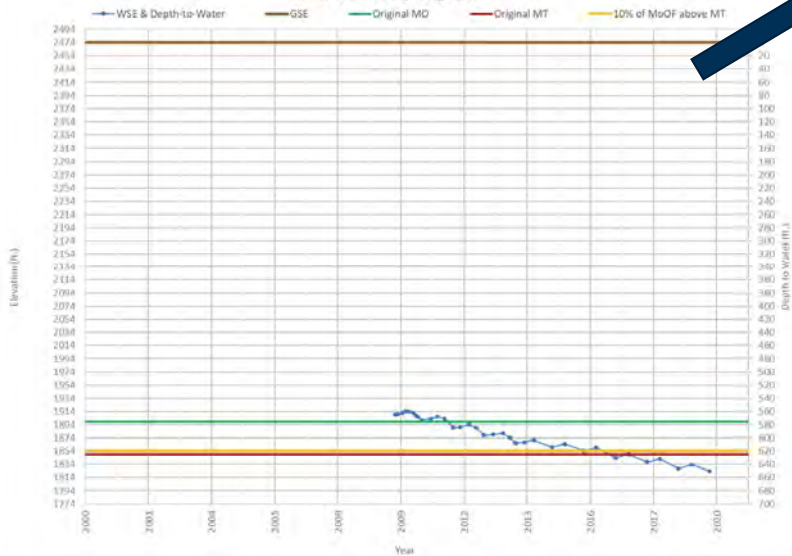


Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells

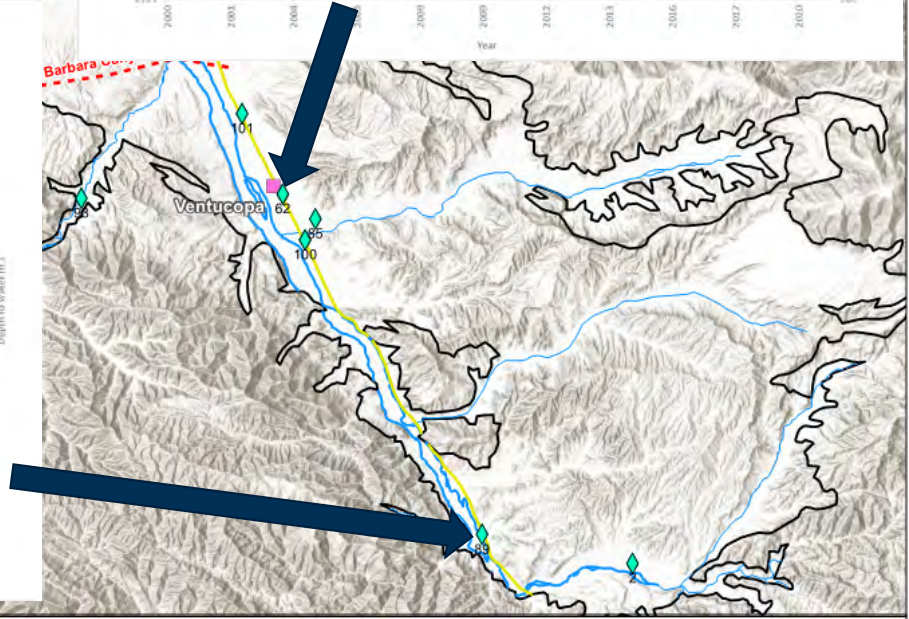
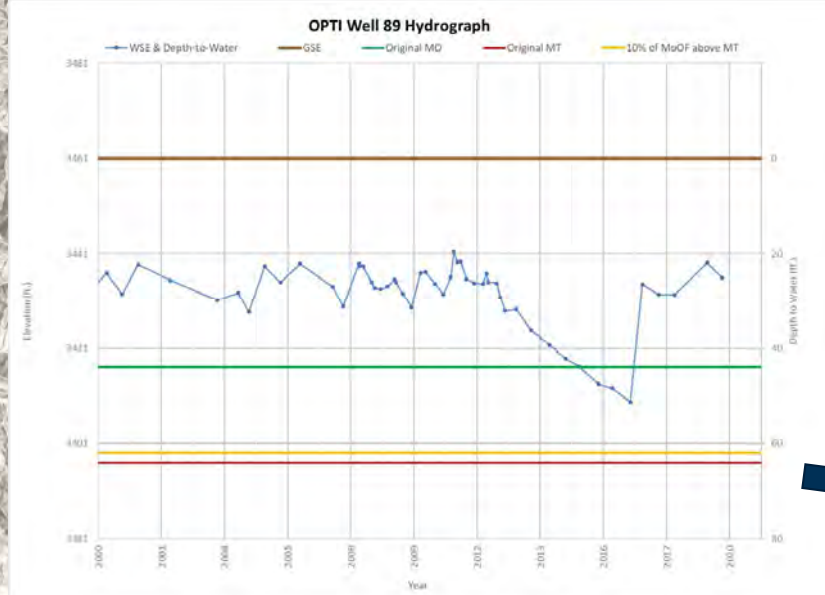
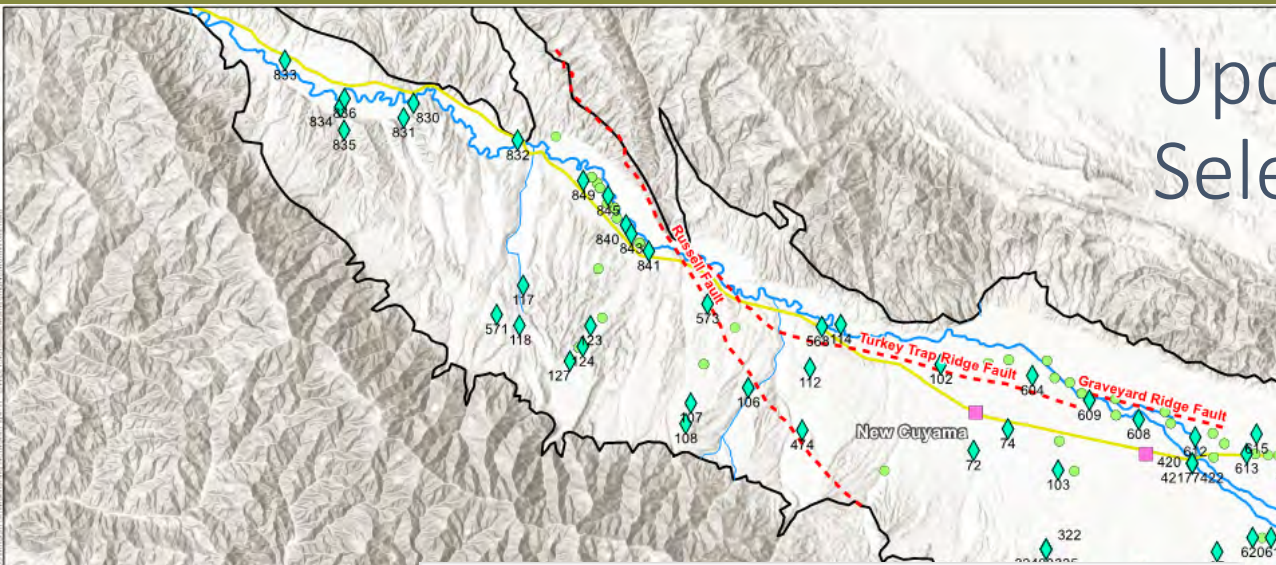
OPTI Well 72 Hydrograph



OPTI Well 91 Hydrograph



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TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 6c

FROM: Jim Beck, Executive Director and Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: August 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Review Information Sheet for New Well Owners

Issue

Review informational sheet for new well owners within the Cuyama basin.

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

To ensure new well owners in Cuyama are familiar with groundwater management in the basin and assist with county efforts in processing new well permits in Cuyama, on June 25, 2020, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) directed staff to develop a flyer outlining potential pumping restrictions and fees in the Cuyama Basin.

The draft information sheet for new wells owners within the Cuyama basin is provided as Attachment 1.



INFORMATION SHEET FOR NEW LANDOWNERS / NEW WELL OWNERS IN THE CUYAMA BASIN

PUMPING RESTRICTIONS

- Pumping restrictions are currently only planned in the central portion of the basin Management Area (MA) and its boundary will be defined during fiscal year 21-22. See page 2 for a preliminary map of the MA boundary.
- The MA boundary is determined by a model that calculates areas that experience a groundwater level decline of more than 2 feet per year over a 50-year period.
- Therefore, areas not currently in an MA could become subject to pumping restrictions if water use in an area meets the MA criteria. Development of MA policies are planned to occur during fiscal year 21-22.
- For landowners in the MA, pumping restrictions are set to *begin* in **2023** (5% of the deficit) and *peak* in **2038** (roughly 6.5% per year until 2039).

GROUNDWATER

EXTRACTION FEES

- To fund the ongoing administration and implementation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency has established a groundwater extraction fee.
- Fees are administered annually and cover the fiscal year budget.
- The Fiscal Year 2020-2021 fee is **\$44** per acre-foot of water.
- Visit cuyamabasin.org to view the fee report.

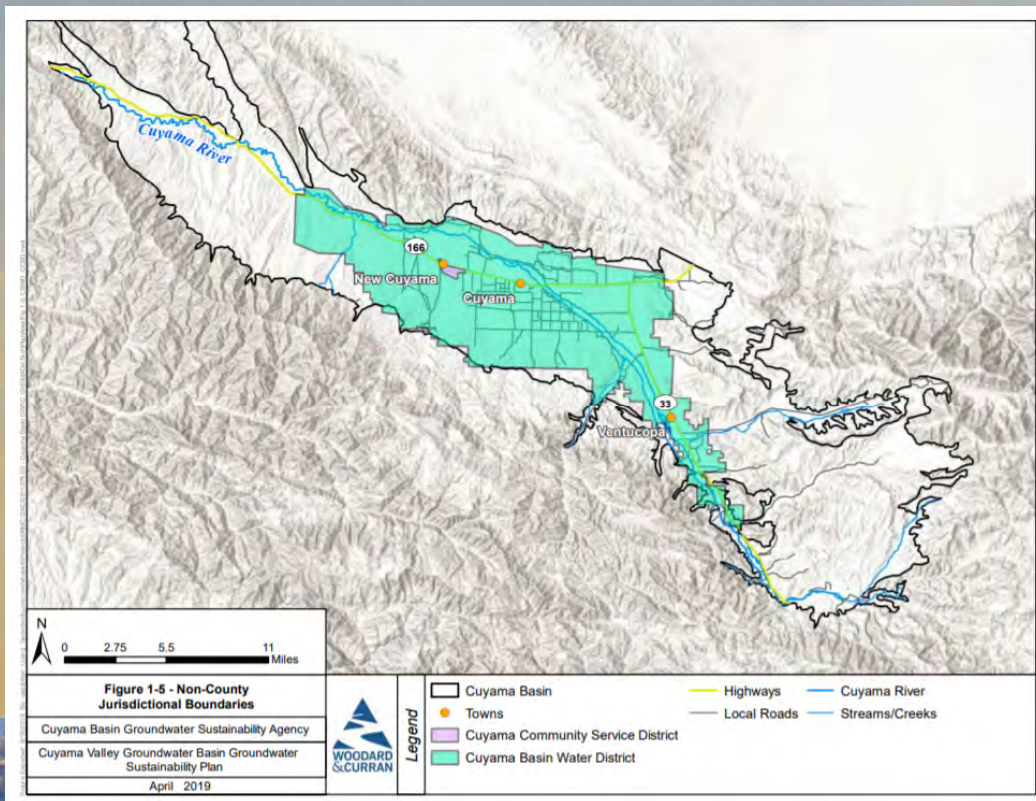
ABOUT THE CBGSA

- Governed by an 11-member Board with representatives from Kern, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura counties, the Cuyama Basin Water District, and the Cuyama Community Services District (see map on page 2).
- Advised by a 7-member Standing Advisory Committee
- Board meetings typically occur every other month on the first Wednesday of the month at 4 p.m. and SAC meeting occur the preceding Thursday at 4 p.m.
- Visit cuyamabasin.org for more info.

For more information, please visit cuyamabasin.org.

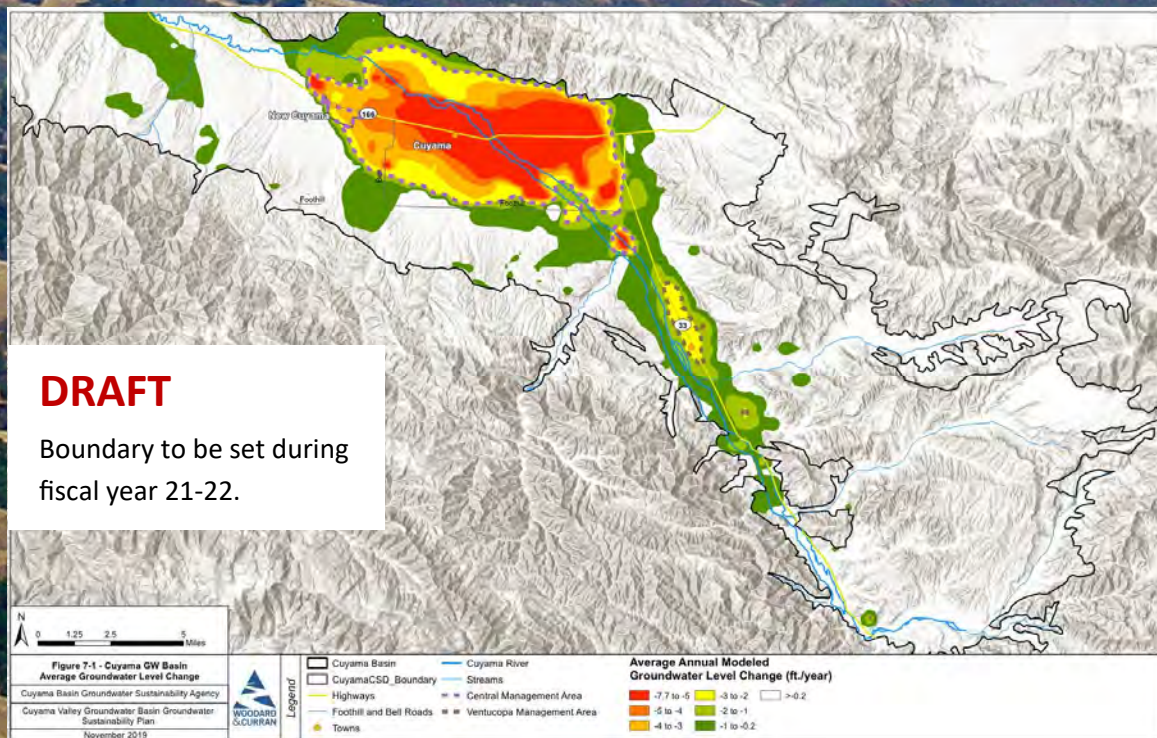
For questions, please contact Taylor Blakslee at (661) 477-3385 or tblakslee@hgcpm.com

NON-COUNTY JURISDICTIONS IN THE CUYAMA BASIN



- The Cuyama Basin Water District (CBWD) is represented on the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors.
- The CBWD is funded by a tiered acreage-based assessment and these fees are separate from the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency groundwater extraction fees.

PRELIMINARY MANAGEMENT AREA BOUNDARY



DRAFT

Boundary to be set during fiscal year 21-22.



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 6d

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: August 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Update on Indirect Economic Report

Issue

Update on the indirect economic report.

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

An update on the indirect economic report is provided as Attachment 1.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Indirect Economic Analysis

August 13, 2020



Update on Indirect Economic Analysis

- ERA Economics has commenced an indirect and induced economic analysis of the Cuyama Basin
- Builds on direct economic analysis performed last year
- Economic analysis is funded by DWR Prop 68 grant
- Analysis will be completed by Dec 2020



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 6e

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: August 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Update on Model Refinement

Issue

Update on the model refinement.

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

An update on the model refinement is provided as Attachment 1.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Model Refinement

August 13, 2020



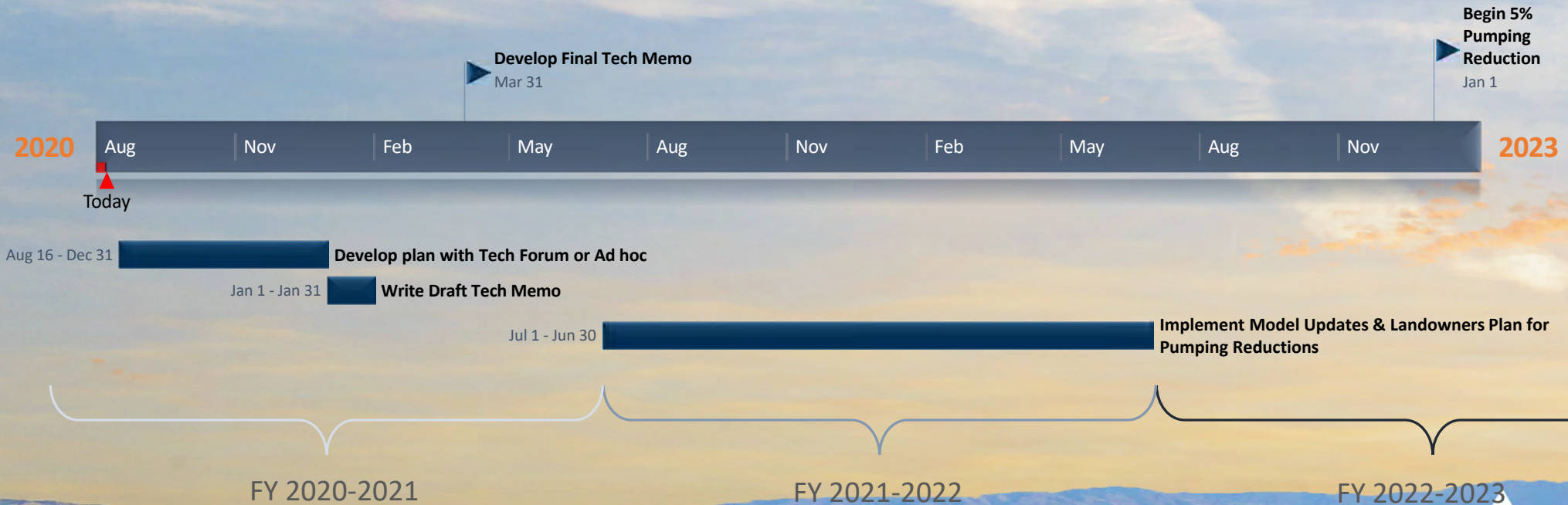
Update on Model Refinement

- Woodard & Curran FY 2020-21 Task Order includes a task to develop a strategy for update and refinement of the Cuyama Basin numerical model
 - Updates would be performed during FY 2021-22
 - Completed 6-months prior to pumping reductions beginning in 2023 as specified in the GSP
- Potential applications of Cuyama Basin numerical model:
 - Guide/refine implementation of Management Area pumping reductions
 - Assessment of potential water supply actions identified in GSP
 - Water budget reporting in Annual Report
 - Update water budgets in 2025 GSP Update

Update on Model Refinement

- Potential model refinements:
 - Additional hydrogeological conceptualization
 - Improved streamflow record collection
 - Improved representation of small watersheds
 - Update of land use
 - Refinement of groundwater pumping estimates
 - Incorporating monitoring network data into model calibration

Update on Model Refinement - Schedule



Update on Model Refinement

- Tasks for development of model refinement strategy
 - Collect and analyze additional data
 - **Board direction needed:** Coordination meetings with technical reviewers representing Basin stakeholders.
 1. Discussion with technical forum
 2. Discussion with Board ad hoc and presentation at Board
 3. Combination of 1 and 2
 - Development of a tech memo outlining the refinement strategy (to be completed by March 2021)
- Tech Memo will be used as basis for FY 2021-22 CBGSA budgeting



TO: Standing Advisory Committee
Agenda Item No. 7b

FROM: Jim Beck, Executive Director

DATE: August 13, 2020

SUBJECT: Board of Directors Agenda Review

Issue

Review of the August 13, 2020 Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Special Joint Board of Directors and Standing Advisory Committee meeting agenda.

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

The August 13, 2020 Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Special Joint Board of Directors and Standing Advisory Committee meeting agenda is provided as Attachment 1 for review.



SPECIAL JOINT CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STANDING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Board of Directors

Derek Yurosek Chair, Cuyama Basin Water District
Lynn Compton Vice Chair, County of San Luis Obispo
Das Williams Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Cory Bantilan Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Glenn Shephard County of Ventura
Zack Scrivner County of Kern

Paul Chounet Cuyama Community Services District
George Cappello Cuyama Basin Water District
Byron Albano Cuyama Basin Water District
Jane Wooster Cuyama Basin Water District
Tom Bracken Cuyama Basin Water District

Standing Advisory Committee

Brenton Kelly Chair
Brad DeBranch Vice Chair
Louise Draucker
Jake Furstenfeld

Joe Haslett
Roberta Jaffe
Mike Post

AGENDA

AUGUST 13, 2020

Agenda for a meeting of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors to be held on Thursday, August 13, 2020 at 4:00 PM. ***Due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions and resulting suspension of certain components of the Brown Act per Executive Order Nos. N-25-20 and N-29-20, this meeting will be a remote-only meeting.*** To hear the session live call (571) 317-3122, 530-644-397 or logon to <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/530644397> to view meeting materials.

The order in which agenda items are discussed may be changed to accommodate scheduling or other needs of the Committee, the public or meeting participants. Public comments should be emailed to Taylor Blakslee at tblakslee@hgcpm.com by close of business on Wednesday, August 12, 2020 to assist in facilitating this remote meeting, but may still be provided at the meeting.

1. Call to Order (Yurosek) (1 min)
2. Roll Call (Blakslee) (1 min)
3. Pledge of Allegiance (Yurosek) (1 min)
4. Approval of Minutes (Yurosek) (3 min)

MOTION

- a. June 25, 2020 – Special Board Meeting

Verbal

5. Standing Advisory Committee Meeting Report (Kelly) (3 min)
6. Groundwater Sustainability Plan

- Memo a. Discussion on FY 20-21 Groundwater Extraction Fee (Beck) (15 min)
- Memo b. Discussion on Long-Term Funding Policy (Beck) (15 min)
- Memo c. Update on Model Refinement (Van Lienden/Beck) (15 min)
- Memo d. Update on Monitoring Network Implementation (Van Lienden) (10 min)
- Memo e. Update on Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network (Van Lienden) (5 min)
- Memo f. Execute Coordination Agreement with the USGS (Van Lienden) (5 min)
- Memo g. Update on Indirect Economic Report (Van Lienden) (5 min)
- MOTION** h. Approve DWR Technical Support Services Agreements (Blakslee) (5 min)
- Memo i. Review Information Sheet for New Well Owners (Blakslee/Beck) (10 min)
7. Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- Verbal a. Report of the Executive Director (Beck) (3 min)
- Memo b. Progress & Next Steps (Beck) (3 min)
- Verbal c. Report of the General Counsel (Hughes) (2 min)
8. Financial Report
- Memo a. Financial Management Overview (Blakslee/Beck) (3 min)
- Memo b. Financial Report (Blakslee) (3 min)
- MOTION** c. Payment of Bills (Blakslee) (3 min)
9. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee (3 min)
10. Directors' Forum (3 min)
11. Public comment for items not on the Agenda (5 min)
- At this time, the public may address the Board on any item not appearing on the agenda that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Board.*
12. Correspondence (3 min)
13. Public Hearing – Groundwater Extraction Fee (6:00 p.m.) (20 min)
- MOTION/Res** 14. Set a Groundwater Extraction Fee for Fiscal Year 2020-21 and Authorize Invoicing of Landowners (Beck) (15 min)
15. Adjourn (6:35 p.m.; estimate pending hearing duration)