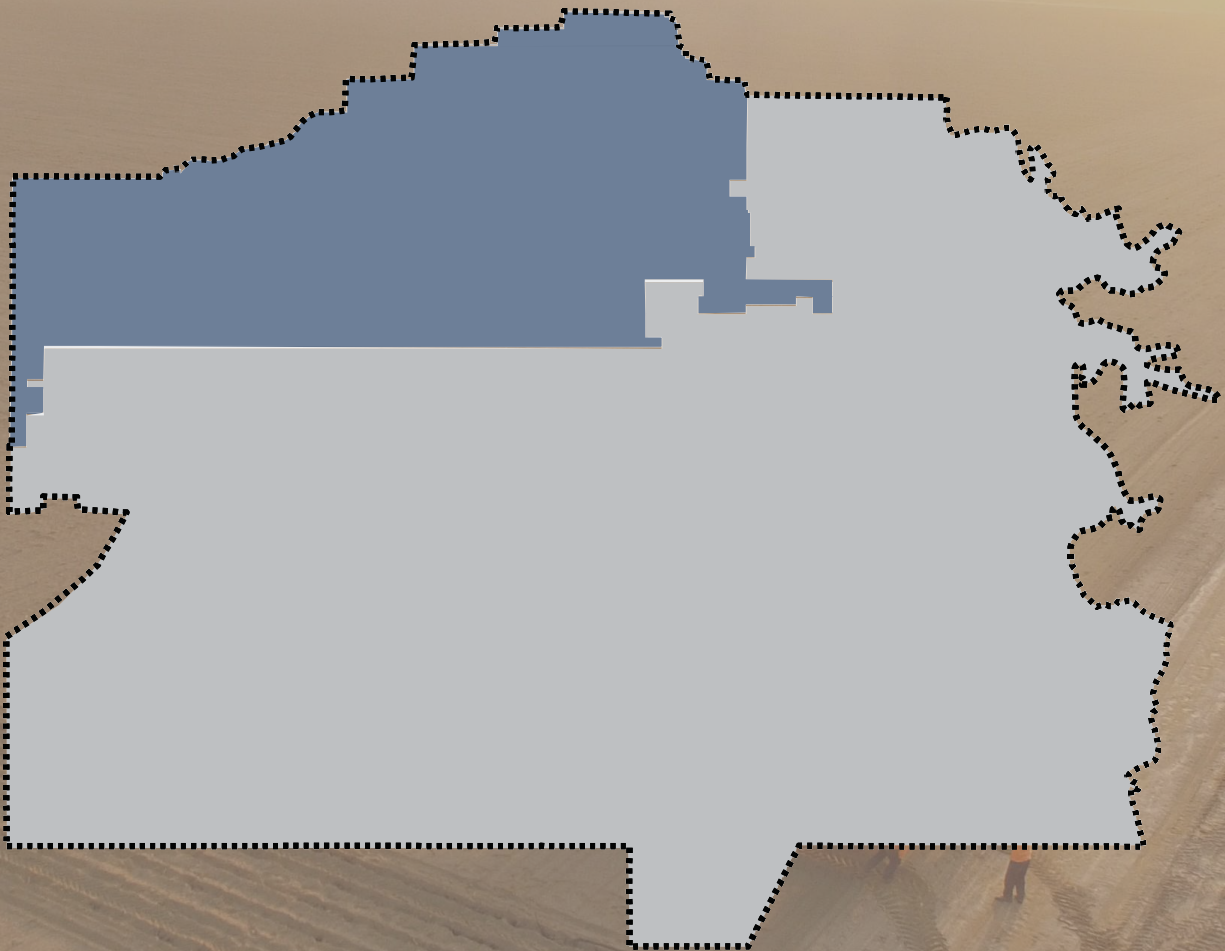


# LTRID GSA

## Rules and Operation Policies



A Summary of Policies Implemented by  
the GSA and how they Effect Landowners  
2025

# Groundwater Budget - 2025



2025 Groundwater Budget	AF/AC	Transferable
<b>Precipitation Yield</b> Average from 1991 on. Add each new year as it comes.	0.76	No
<b>Sustainable Yield</b> Natural TR/DC/WR losses and mountain block recharge	0.15	Yes
<b>District Allocated Groundwater Credits</b> Board will allocate each year. Based on long term average recharge.	0.94	Yes
<b>Landowner Developed Credits</b> Will differ by landowner.	0.00	Yes

**1.85 AF/AC TOTAL**

## Water Measurements & Metering

1. Using Satellite imagery to measure Evapotranspiration, the following equation is used to debit groundwater credits from Landowner accounts:

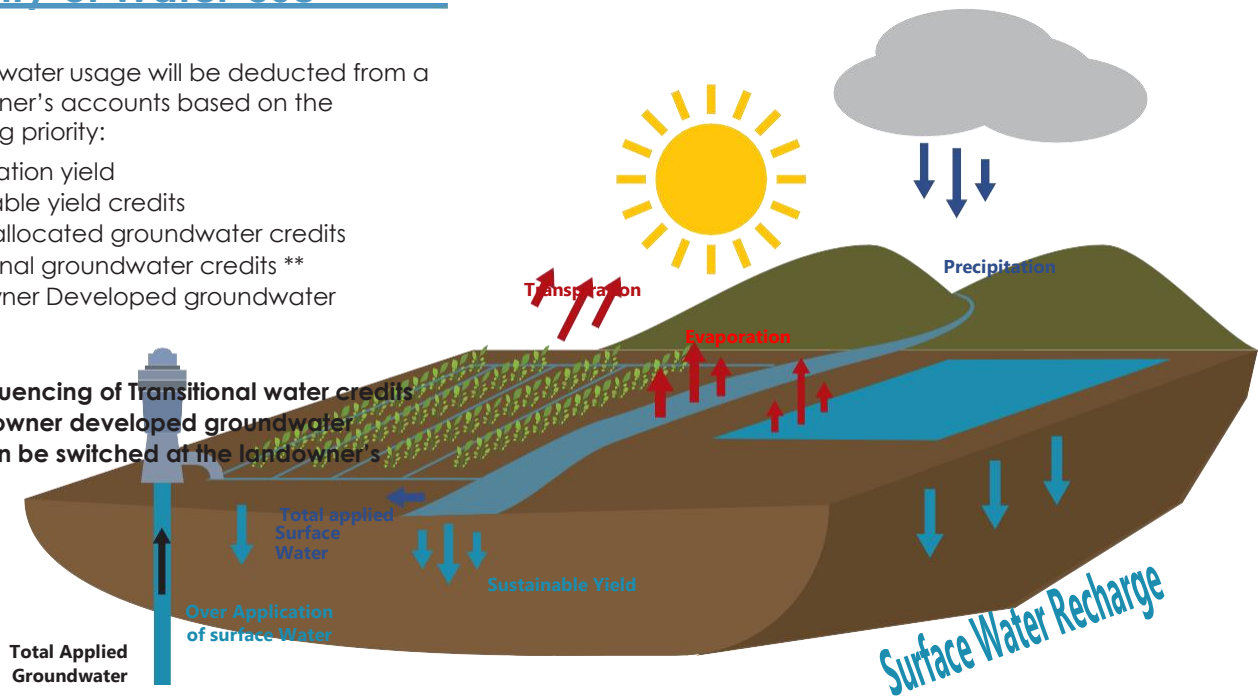
$$\bullet \text{ Total Crop Demand (Evapotranspiration or ET)} - \text{Total Applied Surface Water} = \text{Net Applied Groundwater}$$

### Priority of Water Use

Groundwater usage will be deducted from a landowner's accounts based on the following priority:

1. Precipitation yield
3. Sustainable yield credits
4. District allocated groundwater credits
5. Transitional groundwater credits \*\*
6. Landowner Developed groundwater credits\*\*

\*\* The sequencing of Transitional water credits and Landowner developed groundwater credits can be switched at the landowner's discretion.



# Policies for District Developed Groundwater Credits

## District Surface Water Recharge Credits

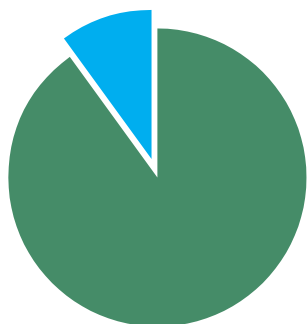
The native and imported surface water diverted for recharge by the District, along with seepage losses in District canals, will be tracked and accounted as groundwater recharge credits belonging to the District.

District recharge credits will not be allocated to the landowners until a determination is made by the GSA Board that minimum threshold amounts identified in the GSP have been met.

The District will allocate recharge credits proportionally to all landowners within the District based on assessed acres.

# Policies for Landowner Developed Groundwater Credits

## Landowner Groundwater Recharge/Banking Credits



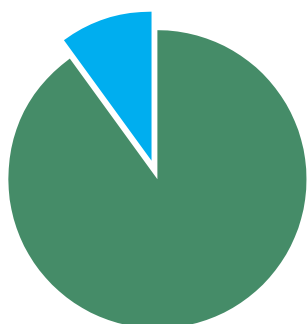
Landowners may purchase surface water from the District or use water available to the landowner through surface water allocations and/or water rights (i.e. Poplar Ditch share water) for banking in basins owned by the landowner. Credits generated from banking are allocated as follows:

- 90% credit of total surface water purchased/diverted allocated to landowner groundwater account; and
- 10% remaining with the GSA for the benefit of all landowners.

### All Landowner recharge activities must meet the following conditions:

1. The basin used for banking must be registered with the GSA and meet the minimum requirements set by the GSA.
2. Water diverted for banking will be metered by the GSA using a meter specified by the GSA at a dedicated District turnout.
3. The District has established the following priority order of water service and related canal capacities:
  - Deliveries for irrigation demand
  - District recharge/banking for the benefit of all landowners
  - Landowner recharge/banking

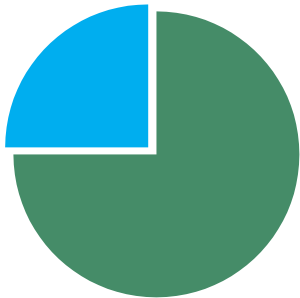
## Over-Application of Surface Water



Surface water above irrigation demand (as measured by ET) generates groundwater credits as follows:

- 90% credit of total surface water over-applied allocated to landowner groundwater account; and
- 10% remaining with the GSA for the benefit of all landowners.

## Landowner Use of District Owned Recharge Facilities



Landowners can use District owned recharge facilities to generate groundwater credits subject to the following criteria:

- Landowner provides water from available allocation, purchase or water rights
- Use of the recharge facility is subject to available capacity as determined by the District.

Groundwater credits from use of District owned recharge facilities are generated as follows:

- 75% credit allocated to the Landowner groundwater account; and
- 25% credit of surface water surplus allocated to the GSA for the benefit of all landowners.

## Water Imported into the GSA

Surface water brought into the GSA by a landowner will be tracked and accounted for by the GSA and applied to the landowner's water account according to the following procedures:

- Surface water brought into the GSA and credited to the landowner will be subject to a loss/reduction factor as determined by the District Board of Directors.
- Surface water brought into the GSA will be delivered to the landowner based upon canal capacity. No surface water delivery brought into the GSA will interrupt or interfere with scheduled allocations of the District's surface water supplies.
- Imported surface water may be used for groundwater recharge subject to the guidelines of the GSP.

## Historical Allocations

	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
	Af/acre	Af/acre	Af/acre	Af/acre	Af/acre
Precipitation Yield	0.77	0.77	0.76	0.75	0.76
Sustainable Yield	0.09	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15
District Allocated Credits	0.85	0.91	0.88	0.86	0.95
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.71</b>	<b>1.83</b>	<b>1.79</b>	<b>1.76</b>	<b>1.86</b>

# Policies for Transitional Water Credits

## Transitional Water Allocations

Groundwater extractions above basin wide sustainable yield will be phased out over the 20-year implementation period, per the guidelines of SGMA, as described in the GSP and consistent with the following criteria:

1. Use will be consistent with the policies established for avoiding the undesirable effects under SGMA;
2. Transitional water credits can be used only on landowner's properties within the GSA and cannot be transferred to other landowners.
3. Transitional water credits will be allocated annually based on assessed acres and will ramp down in 4 phases:
  - 2020-2024 (2 af/acre/year)
  - 2025-2029 (.75 af/acre/year)
  - 2030-2034 (.50af/acre/year)
  - 2035-2039 (0.25 af/acre/year)

**The Board will reevaluate transition allocation annually and adjust the allocation as needed to avoid undesirable results in SGMA Implementation.**

- A fee schedule for Transitional water allocations will be set annually by the Board.
- Water consumption beyond allocated limits (exceedance consumption) will result in consumption charges, penalties, and reduced allocation in the next allocation period.
- If a landowner has been determined to have consumed groundwater beyond the allowable limits, the landowner will be subject to enforcement, per Policy 8 of the GSA Rules and Regulations.

# Policies for Water Transfers

## Water transfers within the GSA

Landowners may transfer groundwater credits through direct sale or lease. The transferring of groundwater credits within the GSA are required to meet the following criteria:

- Written approval from the seller, describing the transferred amount to the buyer or lessee, must be provided to the District for approval in advance of the transfer occurring.
- Groundwater credits can only be transferred by a landowner that has a positive balance in their groundwater account. Deficit groundwater credit transferring is not allowed.
- A groundwater credit transfer is a one to one transfer within the GSA. The GSA also has a policy allowing limited transfers outside the GSA. Such transfers will be considered in coordination with other Tule Subbasin GSAs.

The GSA will keep an account of all transfers within the GSA Water Accounting Program. The sale or lease terms of groundwater credits is not subject to disclosure.



# Subsidence Management Plan

The GSA is monitored in zones to manage subsidence. There are triggers for actions based on percentages of cumulative subsidence relative to measurable objectives in the GSP. The most recently updated map with zones and percentages can be found on the LTRID SGMA website.

The Board will review subsidence levels quarterly and designate high-risk zones for further monitoring. All landowners in high-risk zones are required to register wells with the GSA and install meters on their wells. The Board will adopt an Early Action Plan in the High Risk Zones. If subsidence continues the Board will adopt a Corrective Subsidence Management Order and the following may occur:

- When at least 50% of allowable cumulative subsidence has been documented to have occurred: An investigation will take place to determine the cause of subsidence. Water accounting will be based on metered groundwater pumping, rather than ET, with no precipitation credits or transitional pumping credits allowed to be pumped from the lower aquifer. No transfers of groundwater credits into the affected area will be allowed. When surface water is available to the lands within the affected areas, it must be used first, prior to any groundwater pumping. No new wells in the deep aquifer to be approved for permitting.
- When at least 75% of allowable cumulative subsidence has been documented to have occurred: no groundwater pumping allowed from the lower aquifer in wells the data show are contributing to land subsidence
- When 100% of allowable cumulative subsidence has been documented to have occurred: no groundwater pumping allowed from wells the data show are contributing to land subsidence. To help the landowner mitigate or offset these impacts, the District will work with the landowners in these areas to take actions as described in Section 3.3.2 of this Policy.

## Policies for Enforcement of Plan Actions

Per Policy 8 of the Rules and Regulations, The GSA will take actions to enforce the Policies for violations, including, but not limited to the following;

- Failure to pay GSA assessments or groundwater consumption fees and fines
- Consumption of groundwater beyond allowable limits (exceedance consumption)

Landowners will be given the opportunity to correct any non-compliance issues. If not corrected, the GSA will take the necessary actions to enforce, up to and including seeking civil mandate orders through a court.

# GSP Overview

## Section 1. Introduction

## Section 2. Basin Setting

## Section 3. Sustainable Management Criteria

1. Outlines Sustainability Goals to avoid six undesirable results

## Section 4. Monitoring Networks & Monitoring Plan

## Section 5. Projects and Management Actions

1. GSA specific Rules,
2. Projects,
3. Implementation,
4. Enforcement

## Section 6. Plan Implementation

1. Schedule, costs, funding, reporting schedule and descriptions

## Section 7. References and Technical Studies

# Tule Subbasin Overview

1. LTRID GSA: 104,525 ac.

2. Eastern Tule GSA (ETGSA): 147,814.41 ac.

3. Pixley ID GSA: 69,803 ac.

4. Delano Earlimart GSA (DEID GSA): 64,134 ac.

5. Tri-County GSA: 61,575 ac.

6. Alpaugh GSA: 14,437 ac.

7. Tulare County GSA: 2,408 ac.

8. Vandalia Water District: 1,374.95 ac.

9. Tea Pot Dome Water District: 3,018.64 ac

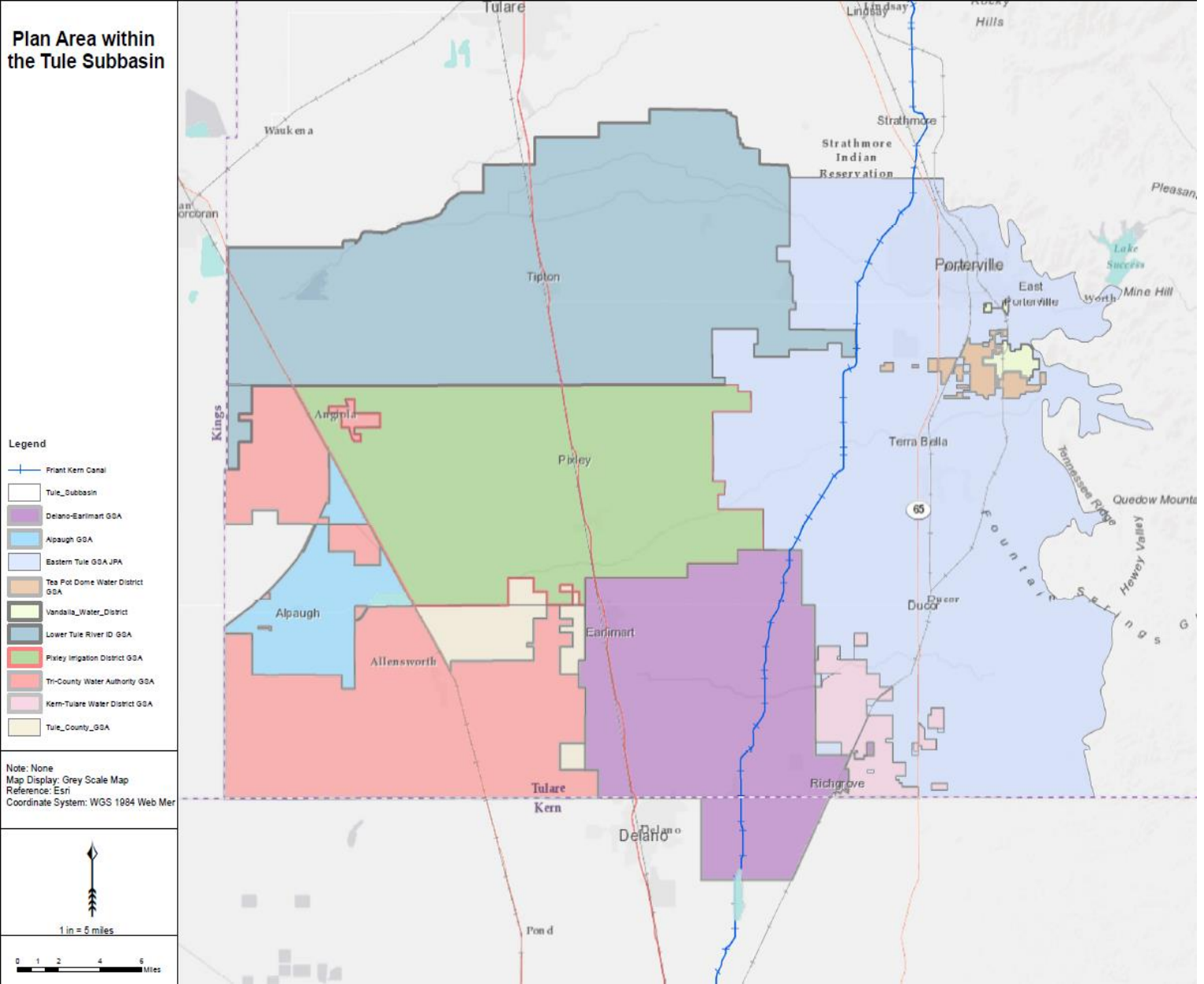
10. Kern Tulare Water District: 19,600 ac.

TOTAL Area: 488,690 ac.

Multiple GSA's with Multiple GSP's

Plans Must Be Coordinated – Otherwise, DWR can place basin in probationary status which could include the State Water Board determining use of surface water rights

**Plan Area within the Tule Subbasin**



**Regular Scheduled Groundwater Planning Commission Meetings held at 2:00 pm on the 4th Tuesday in the first month of every quarter**

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