

January 16, 2025

Below are several updates related to the GSA and implementation of SGMA;

1. At their January Board meeting, the Board set the annual groundwater allocations as follows: Precipitation yield 0.71 AF/acre, Sustainable yield 0.15 AF/acre, District allocated recharge 0.55 AF, acre for a total of 1.41 AF/acre.
2. In addition, the Board allocated 0.75 AF/acre of transitional credits. Please note that the Transitional credits are allocated for this year only and you should ensure you have enough groundwater credits in your account prior to making any planting decisions for the year. Contact the water department in the office if you want to review your account and estimate water usage for the year.
3. Landowners should have, or will be receiving soon requests from the GSA to register wells in order to have better data for tracking and managing subsidence. The deadline to submit well registration information is May 1. Landowners will not receive allocation of Transitional credits in their groundwater account until well registration data is received.
4. Transitional water fees will be set later this spring. Likely at the April Board meeting.
5. Here is a summary/reference guide to the GSA Rules and Operating Policies: [2025 Reference Guide](#)
6. Also a reminder to read the information below that was sent out on December 20. Here is a spreadsheet we developed to log groundwater usage if you would like to use it: [Well Extraction Report](#). We are still working with the SWRCB to get clarification on the ability of the GSA to report ET on behalf of the landowners, and our request for the landowners to be excluded from reporting and fees. In the meantime, landowners need to measure and record groundwater extractions, per the notices sent to you by the SWRCB.

Please be on the look out for continued updates.

Sincerely,

Eric Limas

General Manager

12/20/2024

LTRID/PIXID/TEAPOT DOME/VANDALIA landowners,

This is a reminder of the action that the SWRCB at the Tule Subbasin hearing on September 17 of this year.

You should have all received letters from the State Board with the measurement, reporting and fee requirements as a result of them placing the subbasin on probation in September. While we are working with the SWRCB staff to try and get exemption from those requirements, you should all be prepared to meet the requirements in case we are unsuccessful.

Here is a reminder of the actions taken by the Board:

- Placed the Tule Subbasin on probation – which means landowners are required to measure and report groundwater use annually to the State Board.
- The reporting period for the first year goes from January 1, 2025 through September 30, 2025, and Oct 1 through Sep 30 thereafter.
- Reports for the first year are due on February 1, 2026
- The State Board will then create invoices for the fees and send them to the landowners for payment back to the SWRCB.
- Fees are \$300 per well and \$20 per acre foot – paid to the State Board.
- There are 2 options for reporting: 1) by the GSA on a parcel basis (using ET) on behalf of the landowners (we have not received confirmation or approval for this, so be prepared for Option 2), or, 2) on a well basis (using a meter) by the landowner themselves. Once we get confirmation from the SWRCB on Option 1, we will be having landowner meetings to discuss the option and to allow landowners to sign up with the District if the landowner chooses Option 1.
- SWRCB staff is currently working with the Lower Tule and Pixley GSAs to finish reviewing the revised GSPs and bring a recommendation back to the State Board for exclusion of the reporting, fees and metering requirements. Unfortunately, they have yet to commit to a guaranteed schedule to get that done, and landowners must be prepared on January 1, 2025, to meet the SWRCB requirements in case we do not receive the exclusion.
- The Teapot Dome and Vandalia GSPs were approved by the GSAs and submitted to the State Board last week. We have requested exclusions based on the fact that we are sustainable already. However, it is likely to be well into next year before we hear back on those. So, Teapot and Vandalia landowners should be preparing to meet the measurement and fee payment requirements for the time being.

Again, until we get SWRCB approval that you do not have to report usage to them, you should all be preparing to do so.

Please be on the look out for continued updates.

