Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Monday, November 16, 2026
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Woodland Police Department

1000 Lincoln Ave, Woodland, CA 95695

The public may participate in the meeting remotely via Zoom using the following information:

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/7847507621

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 669 444 9171
Access Code: 784 750 7621

NOTICE TO PUBLIC

Public documents relating to any open session item listed on this agenda that are distributed to all or most of the members of the Board of Directors less than 72 hours before the meeting are available for public inspection in the customer service area of the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency's Administrative Office at 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland 95695. The full agenda packet can also be found on www.yologroundwater.org.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you have a disability and need a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in this meeting please contact YSGA office at (530) 662-3211. Requests must be made as early as possible, and at least one full business day before the start of the meeting.

All items on the agenda will be open for public comment before final action is taken. Speakers are requested to restrict comments to the item as it appears on the agenda and stay within a three-minute time limit. The Chair has the discretion of limiting the total time for an item. Comments may also be submitted via email to info@yolosga.org prior to the meeting or via teleconference chat during the meeting.

3:00 1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

3:02 2. ADDING ITEMS TO THE POSTED AGENDA -- In order to add an agenda item, it must fit into one of the following categories: a) A majority determination that an emergency (as designed by the Brown Act) exists; or b) A 4/5ths determination that the need to take action arose subsequent to the agenda being posted.

3:06 3. PUBLIC FORUM -- The Public may address the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Board of Directors on any item of interest not appearing on the agenda that is within the subject matter of the YSGA.

3:10 **4.** **CONSIDERATION: CONSENT ITEMS,** pages 3-31

a. Adopt 2027 Board of Directors Meeting Dates: 1/11, 3/15, 5/17, 7/19, 9/20, 11/15
b. Approve September 21, 2026 Regular Board of Directors Meeting Minutes, pages 6-11
c. Adopt Resolution No. 26.03 Establishing a Minimum Fee Amount for SGMA Fee Direct Billing, pages 12-15
d. Approve Contract Amendment for Hansford Economic Consulting, page 3
e. Approve Payment of Bills in Approved Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget, page 4
f. Receive Financial Statements, pages 16-27
g. Receive Minutes of Executive Committee Meetings: 9/11 and 10/14/26, pages 28-31

3:20 **5.** **DISCUSSION: 2027 BOARD OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**, pages 32-33

3:30 **6.** **PRESENTATION: REPORT OF THE CHAIR AND EXECUTIVE OFFICER**, pages 34-46
Executive Officer report on activities since last Board meeting

3:40 **7.** **CONSIDERATION: 5-YEAR WORK PLAN UPDATE,** pages 47-50

a. Update on Statement of Qualifications Solicitation
b. Approve Entering into Consultant Services Agreement, page 49

3:50 **8.** **PRESENTATION: 2027 DRAFT PERIODIC EVALUATION**, pages 51-84

4:10 **9.** **PRESENTATION: SGMA IMPLEMENTATION GRANT PROJECT UPDATES**, pages 85-87

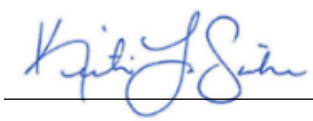
4:20 **10.** **CLOSED SESSION: CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

4:55 **11.** **MEMBERS' REPORTS AND FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** -- Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Members are invited to briefly report on current issues and recommended topics for future Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Board of Directors meetings.

5:00 **12.** **NEXT MEETING** – Regular meeting on January 11, 2027

5:00 **13.** **ADJOURNMENT**

Consideration of items not on the posted agenda includes items in the following categories: 1) majority determination that an emergency (as defined by the Brown Act) exists; or 2) a 4/5ths determination that the need to take action arose subsequent to posting of the agenda. I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing agenda was posted by November 13, 2026 and made available to the public during normal business hours at the following location: Woodland Police Department 1000 Lincoln Ave, Woodland, CA 95695 and YSGA's office at 34274 State Highway 16, Woodland 95695.



Kristin Sicke, Executive Officer

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2026 **AGENDA ITEM NO. 4**

SUBJECT: Consideration: Consent Items

INITIATED OR REQUESTED BY: [ ] BOARD [X] STAFF [ ] OTHER _____

[ ] INFORMATION

[X] ACTION: [X] MOTION [ ] RESOLUTION

ATTACHMENT [X] YES [ ] NO

BACKGROUND

a. *Adopt 2027 Board of Directors Meeting Dates: 1/11, 3/15, 5/17, 7/19, 9/20, 11/15*

b. *Approve the September 21 Regular YSGA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes*

Pursuant to Section 54957.5 of the Brown Act, copies of the draft minutes are available to the public at the Board meetings prior to their approval.

c. *Adopt Resolution No. 26.03 Establishing a Minimum Fee Amount for SGMA Fee Direct Billing*

The majority of Yolo Subbasin Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) fees are collected through the Yolo County property tax roll. For properties or entities that do not receive a property tax bill, the Executive Officer may issue a direct bill. In some cases, the administrative cost of issuing and collecting a direct bill may exceed the amount of revenue collected. Resolution No. 26.03 would establish a minimum fee amount of $100 for direct billing and authorize the Executive Officer to only process direct bills above that amount. Future Board approved adjustments to the SGMA fee would also be applied to the $100 threshold.

d. *Approve Contract Amendment for Hansford Economic Consulting*

YSGA staff are recommending a contract amendment from $156,000 to $160,000 for HEC to continue to support YSGA in preparing hand bill information, evaluating options for preparing for the May 2027 Board meeting and to consider the additional effort needed as the fee study process has evolved (efforts not in the original scope). The contract amendment will be funded by YSGA general fund.

e. *Approve Payment of Bills in Approved Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget*
Approve payment of bills listed in the table below. The *Professional Services Summary Table* provides an overview of all current YSGA contracts.

Company	Invoice #	Description	Work Period	Amount	Notes
Consero Solutions	2310	Professional Services	Oct. 2026	$3,752.50	
EKI Environment & Water	C60288.00-01	Professional Services	Oct. 2026	$2,559.00	
HEC	1040	Professional Services	Oct. 2026	$1,061.83	SGMA Grant Reimbursable
SEI	10262	Professional Services	Oct. 2026	$14,562.31	SGMA Grant Reimbursable
West Yost	2069510	Professional Services	Sept. 2026	$3,784.00	SGMA Grant Reimbursable
ACWA JPIA		2026-2027 Liability Contribution		$1,822.50	
Solano County Water Agency		2026/2027 Westside IRWM Dues		$21,500	

Professional Services Summary Table

Contractor	Services Provided	Contract Total	Contract Period	Expended to Date	As of	Funding Source
Consero Solutions	Outreach & Grant Funding Research	$6,000	Sept. 2026 – Dec. 2026	$4,652.50	10/31/2026	YSGA Funds
Davids Engineering	TAC Participation	$10,000	July 2025 – Feb. 2027	$8,168.75	9/30/2026	SGMA Grant
Downey Brand	Legal services	n/a	n/a			YSGA Funds
EKI Environment & Water	Technical Meeting Moderation	$3,200	Sept. 2026 – Oct. 2026	$2,559.00	10/31/2026	YSGA Funds
HEC (Hansford Economic Consulting)	Fee Study Professional Services	$156,000	July 2025 – Oct. 2026	$156,524.57	10/31/2026	SGMA Grant, YSGA Funds
INTERA Inc.	Addressing GSP Corrective Actions	$325,000	Sep. 2024 – Feb. 2027	$317,373.00	8/31/2026	SGMA Grant
Leafbird Consulting	Modeling & technical support	$173,024	Jan. 2024 – Feb. 2027	$125,254.50	10/31/2026	SGMA Grant
Leafbird Consulting	WaterSMART grant model improvements	$125,500	Nov. 2024 – Sep. 2026	$125,495.00	9/30/2026	USBR Grant
SEI	Modeling & technical support	$300,976	Jan. 2024 – Feb. 2027	$264,923.88	10/31/2026	SGMA Grant
SEI	WaterSMART grant model improvements	$174,500	Nov. 2024 – Sep. 2026	$175,290.73	9/30/2026	USBR Grant
WLS (Water and Land Solutions)	China Slough rehabilitation	$699,800	Jan. 2024 – Feb. 2027	$567,408.71	9/30/2026	SGMA Grant
Websoft Developers	Database management	$258,000	Feb. 2024 – Feb. 2027	$137,810	2/28/2026	SGMA Grant

Contractor	Services Provided	Contract Total	Contract Period	Expended to Date	As of	Funding Source
West Yost Associates	TAC Participation & Hungry Hollow support	$60,000	July 2025 – Feb. 2027	$57,277.60	9/30/2026	SGMA Grant
YCFC&WCD	Admin & tech services	$800,000	Jul. 2025 – Jun. 2026	$471,799.31	6/30/2026	YSGA Funds, USBR Funds, SGMA Grant

f. Receive Financial Statements

Receive financial statements for FY 2026-27: July 1 through November 10, 2026.

g. Receive Minutes of Executive Committee Meetings

Receive YSGA Executive Committee meetings minutes for September 11 and October 14, 2026.

RECOMMENDATION

a. Recommend adoption of the 2027 Board meeting dates.
b. Recommend adoption of September 21 Regular Board meeting minutes with any corrections.
c. Recommend adoption of Resolution No. 26.03 Establishing a Minimum Fee Amount for SGMA Fee Direct Billing
d. Recommend approval of payment of bills.
e. This agenda item is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.
f. This agenda item is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Meeting called to order at 3:04 p.m. by Carol Scianna, Chair. Executive Officer Sicke conducted a roll call and determined a quorum was present. The following Board members and alternates were in attendance:

- City of Davis: Bapu Vaitla
- City of Winters: Carol Scianna
- City of Woodland *(Item 4 – end)*: David Moreno
- Dunnigan Water District: Jordon Navarrot
- Reclamation District (RD) 108: Roger Cornwell, Jordon Navarrot
- RD 307: James Johas
- RD 537: Tom Ramos*
- RD 765: David Dickson, Jr.
- RD 1600: Michele Clark
- RD 2035: Jesse Clark
- Rumsey Water Users Association: Mica Bennett
- Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation: Marc Fawns
- Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District (YCFC&WCD): Tom Barth
- Colusa Drain MWC: Lynnel Pollock
- Yolo County Farm Bureau: Lee Smith
- Environmental Representative: Jeanette Wrysinski

Absent: City of West Sacramento, Esparto CSD, Madison CSD, RD 150, RD 730, RD 787, RD 999, Yolo County, UC Davis

**remote attendance, member was non-voting*

2. ADDING ITEMS TO THE POSTED AGENDA

There were no items to add to the agenda.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Ann Main addressed the Board about the concerned citizens group she is a member of and their desire to work with the YSGA to address their groundwater questions and concerns. Ann requested that the YSGA meet with the Concerned Citizens to review the workplan and issues that involve the YSGA. Ann also requested that the Concerned Citizens have representation in the Executive Committee and the Board of Supervisors meetings. Lastly, Ann asked how the concerns about converting ground that was previously unirrigated can be addressed by the Yolo County Flood Control & Water Conservation District.

David Long commented in support of the well moratorium and groundwater concerns in the North Yolo area.

Vicki Murphy expressed concerns about including rangelands in the adopted YSGA regulatory fee since they are actively recharging the basin.

4. Consideration: Consent Items

a) Approve June 20, 2026 Board Of Directors Meeting Minutes
b) Approve Payment Of Bills In Approved Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Budget
c) Receive Financial Statements
d) Receive Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting: 7/8 and 8/21/26
e) Approve Appointment of YSGA Representatives for 2x2 Ad Hoc Meetings to Facilitate Further Exchange of Information to be Reported Back to the YSGA Executive Committee and Yolo County Board of Supervisors
f) Approve Appointment of Kel Mitchel to the Hungry Hollow Groundwater Working Group

Action

Approve Items 4a and 4b as presented
Motion: RD108 (Cornwell)
Second: Colusa Drain MWC (Pollock)
Discussion: No further discussion.
Vote: Approved (roll call attached)

Action

Approve Item 4e as presented
Motion: Colusa Drain MWC (Pollock)
Second: Dunnigan Water District (Navarrot)
Discussion: No further discussion.
Vote: Approved (roll call attached)

Action

Approve Item 4f as presented
Motion: YCFC&WCD (Barth)
Second: Yolo County Farm Bureau (Smith)
Discussion: No further discussion.
Vote: Approved (roll call attached)

5. Presentation: Yolo LAFCo Municipal Services Review

JD Trebec, Yolo LAFCo, summarized the agency's recently adopted municipal services review (MSR) of the YSGA. The MSR recommended the YSGA continue to increase its website transparency score.

6. Presentation: Report of the Chair and Executive Officer

Kristin Sicke provided the following updates:

- YCFC&WCD is increasing staffing, including hiring 2 new interns, an Outreach & PR Specialist, and a Project Hydrogeologist, in support of the 5-year work plan.

- Groundwater levels are approximately one foot higher than this time last year, and 31 feet higher than this day in 2022.
- The Yolo County Board of Supervisors extended the existing moratorium on new agricultural wells. YSGA will continue to coordinate with the Board of Supervisors.
- Governor Newsom proclaimed a state of emergency this morning in anticipation of a strong El Niño this winter. His proclamation did not contain any permitting provisions for groundwater recharge.

7. Presentation: 2027 Draft Periodic Evaluation

Erik Cadaret summarized the 2027 Draft Periodic Evaluation to the Board. The draft will be released this week for public comment. The final document is on schedule to be adopted and submitted to the State by January 2027.

8. Presentation: SGMA Implementation Grant Projects Updates

Project leaders provided an update on grant funded projects including:

- The Hungry Hollow Groundwater Working Group is making progress on implementing projects
- YCFC&WCD is beginning outreach and preparation for recharge operations this coming winter.
- The City of Winters is working with Consero Solutions to develop a 3-year funding strategy for the top 3 projects identified by the feasibility studies.
- Dunnigan Water District is planning to install a reverse tile drain system for groundwater recharge this winter.
- Maddie Munson, Water and Land Solutions, presented the draft results of the feasibility study for the Yolo-Zamora area.

9. Presentation: City of Woodland Urban Limit Line Utility Extension (Measure Z)

Tom Barth, George Gough (Bayer Crop Science), and Eric Winje (Clark Pacific) provided information about Measure Z, which will be on the ballot for the City of Woodland this November. The Measure would allow Bayer and Clark Pacific to connect to the City's water and wastewater system.

10. Members' Reports and Future Agenda Items

YCFC&WCD and RD108 provided updates on the draft Bay-Delta Plan.

11. Next Meeting

November 16, 2026

12. Adjournment

Adjourned at 4:57 pm

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Sicke
Executive Officer, Board Secretary

	Agency	Name	Board/ Alternate	ATTENDANCE	VOTE - ITEM 4A-B	VOTE - ITEM 4E	VOTE - ITEM 4F
1	City of Davis	Bapu Vaitla	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Stan Gryczko	Alternate				
2	City of West Sacramento	Verna Sulpizio Hull	**Board**	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
3	City of Winters	Carol Scianna	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Jesse Loren	Alternate				
4	City of Woodland	David Moreno	**Board**	X *(Item 4-end)*	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Mayra Vega	Alternate				
5	Dunnigan Water District	David Schaad	**Board**				
		Jordon Navarrot	Alternate	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
6	Esparto CSD	Alex Lepley	**Board**	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
			Alternate				
7	Madison CSD	Leo Refsland	**Board**	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
8	RD 108	Roger Cornwell	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Jordon Navarrot	Alternate				
9	RD 150	Warren Bogle	**Board**	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
10	RD 307	James Johas	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
11	RD 537	Tom Ramos	**Board**	X*	Absent	Absent	Absent
12	RD 730	Geoff Klein	**Board**	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
13	RD 765	David Dickson, Jr.	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Doug Dickson, Sr.	Alternate				
14	RD 787	Dominic Bruno	**Board**	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
			Alternate				
15	RD 999	Tom Slater	**Board**	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
16	RD 1600	Michele Clark	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
17	RD 2035	Kyriakos Tsakopoulos	**Board**				
		Jesse Clark	Alternate	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
18	Rumsey Water Users Association	Mica Bennett	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Jonathan Flora	Alternate				
19	Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation	Marc Fawns	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Jim Etters	Alternate				
20	Yolo County	Mary Vixie Sandy	**Board**	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
		Angel Barajas	Alternate				
21	YCFC&WCD	Tom Barth	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Shane Tucker	Alternate				
22	UC Davis	Courtney Doss	**Board**	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
		Kelli O'Day	Alternate				
23	Cal Am Water -Dunnigan	Evan Jacobs	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
24	Colusa Drain MWC	Lynnel Pollock	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Jim Wallace	Alternate				
25	Yolo County Farm Bureau	Lee Smith	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye
		Miranda Driver	Alternate				
26	Environmental Rep.	Jeanette Wrysinski	**Board**	X	Aye	Aye	Aye

**remote attendance, member was non-voting*

***remote attendance, member provided just cause pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.8.*

	Agency	Name	Attendance
	OTHER YSGA STAFF:		
	Executive Officer	Kristin Sicke	X
	Legal Counsel	Rebecca Smith	X
	YSGA Staff	Erik Cadaret	X
	YSGA Staff	Sarah Leicht	X
	YSGA Staff	Nathan Fisher	X
	PUBLIC AND AGENCY STAFF:		
		Michael Miller	X
		Sawyer Kemmerly	X
		Daniel Goldman	X
		Alexandra Patzakis	X
		Linda Bell	X
		Maddie Munson	X
		Jim Barrettt	X
		Vicki Murphy	X
		David Long	X
		Benny Briggs	X
		George Gogh	X
		Ann Main	X
	Yolo LAFCo	JD Trebec	X
	RD 108	Paul Horta	X

RESOLUTION NO. 26.03

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE YOLO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER AGENCY ESTABLISHING A THRESHOLD FOR MINIMUM TOTAL BILLS TO BE ISSUED THROUGH THE DIRECT BILLING OF THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT FEE

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA") of 2014 provides groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) with the authority to impose and collect fees on all applicable properties to fund regulatory activities within a GSA's jurisdictional boundaries (Water Code 10730);

WHEREAS, the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency ("YSGA") is the exclusive GSA over the Yolo Subbasin and developed a Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP") covering the entire basin, which the Department of Water Resources approved on October 26, 2023;

WHEREAS, the YSGA Board of Directors approved a SGMA regulatory fee on May 18, 2026 as authorized by Water Code section 10730 to fund the costs of the YSGA's groundwater sustainability program;

WHEREAS, the majority of the SGMA fees are collected by the Auditor-Controller of the County of Yolo (some are collected in the County of Solano) and included in property tax bills;

WHEREAS, the Executive Officer of the YSGA is authorized to issue and collect direct bills of the SGMA fee for entities that do not receive a tax bill;

WHEREAS, the cost of collecting certain direct bills exceeds the revenue generated from those direct bills; and

WHEREAS, YSGA staff has determined that it costs approximately $100 to generate each hand bill and therefore billing for fees totaling less than that amount would result in a net loss of revenue to the YSGA.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Directors of the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency that:

1. The Executive Director of the YSGA, or their designee, is hereby authorized and directed to not issue direct bills of the SGMA fee where the total bill would be less than $100.

2. Any Board of Directors adopted fee adjusted that increases the SGMA fee in subsequent years shall be applied to the direct bill total fee threshold of $100 by an equal percentage or amount and hand bills in those future years of less than the escalated amount would not be issued to avoid a loss of revenue.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency on November 16, 2026 by the following vote:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

Signed by me after its passage this 16th day of November 2026.

_____
Carol Scianna, Chair

ATTEST:

_____
Kristin Sicke, Secretary

ATTACHMENT – WATER CODE 10730

Water Code - WAT
DIVISION 6. CONSERVATION, DEVELOPMENT, AND UTILIZATION OF STATE WATER RESOURCES [10000 - 12999]
(Heading of Division 6 amended by Stats. 1957, Ch. 1932.)
PART 2.74. Sustainable Groundwater Management [10720 - 10738]
(Part 2.74 added by Stats. 2014, Ch. 346, Sec. 3.)

CHAPTER 8. Financial Authority [10730 - 10731]
(Chapter 8 added by Stats. 2014, Ch. 347, Sec. 16.)

10730.

(a) A groundwater sustainability agency may impose fees, including, but not limited to, permit fees and fees on groundwater extraction or other regulated activity, to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program, including, but not limited to, preparation, adoption, and amendment of a groundwater sustainability plan, and investigations, inspections, compliance assistance, enforcement, and program administration, including a prudent reserve. A groundwater sustainability agency shall not impose a fee pursuant to this subdivision on a de minimis extractor unless the agency has regulated the users pursuant to this part.
(b) (1) Prior to imposing or increasing a fee, a groundwater sustainability agency shall hold at least one public meeting, at which oral or written presentations may be made as part of the meeting.
(2) Notice of the time and place of the meeting shall include a general explanation of the matter to be considered and a statement that the data required by this section is available. The notice shall be provided by publication pursuant to Section 6066 of the Government Code, by posting notice on the Internet Web site of the groundwater sustainability agency, and by mail to any interested party who files a written request with the agency for mailed notice of the meeting on new or increased fees. A written request for mailed notices shall be valid for one year from the date that the request is made and may be renewed by making a written request on or before April 1 of each year.
(3) At least 20 days prior to the meeting, the groundwater sustainability agency shall make available to the public data upon which the proposed fee is based.
(c) Any action by a groundwater sustainability agency to impose or increase a fee shall be taken only by ordinance or resolution.
(d) (1) As an alternative method for the collection of fees imposed pursuant to this section, a groundwater sustainability agency may adopt a resolution requesting collection of the fees in the same manner as ordinary municipal ad valorem taxes.
(2) A resolution described in paragraph (1) shall be adopted and furnished to the county auditor-controller and board of supervisors on or before August 1 of each year that the alternative collection of the fees is being requested. The resolution shall include a list of parcels and the

amount to be collected for each parcel.
(e) The power granted by this section is in addition to any powers a groundwater sustainability agency has under any other law.
(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 667, Sec. 2. (AB 939) Effective January 1, 2016.)

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Budget vs Actual
July 1 through November 10, 2026

11/10/2026
Accrual Basis

	Jul 1 - Nov 10, 26	Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
4120 · Property Assessment	0.00	1,600,000.00	0.0%
4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	3,500.00	4,500.00	77.78%
4800 · Grants Invoiced/Received			
4810 · YSGA	179,552.27	1,981,469.00	9.06%
Total 4800 · Grants Invoiced/Received	179,552.27	1,981,469.00	9.06%
4900 · Interest Income	3,142.62	12,000.00	26.19%
Total Income	186,194.89	3,597,969.00	5.18%
Gross Profit	186,194.89	3,597,969.00	5.18%
Expense			
5120 · Office Expenses	846.14	20,650.00	4.1%
5170 · Fee Administration	0.00	25,810.00	0.0%
5180 · County Fee Administration	0.00	25,810.00	0.0%
5210 · Annual Reports	0.00	68,450.00	0.0%
5300 · Insurance-General	1,471.87	3,100.00	47.48%
5310 · Groundwater Accounting	0.00	37,943.00	0.0%
5320 · Hydrogeologic Characterization	0.00	324,578.00	0.0%
5330 · Management Area Establishment			
5331 · Capay Valley MAC	0.00	10,146.00	0.0%
5332 · Central Yolo MAC	0.00	79,458.00	0.0%
5333 · Clarksburg MAC	0.00	13,999.00	0.0%
5334 · Dunnigan Hills MAC	0.00	27,279.00	0.0%
5335 · North Yolo MAC	0.00	37,973.00	0.0%
5336 · South Yolo MAC	0.00	27,361.00	0.0%
Total 5330 · Management Area Establishment	0.00	196,216.00	0.0%
5340 · Outreach and Coordination	0.00	92,153.00	0.0%
5350 · Water Supply Resilience	0.00	159,908.00	0.0%
5360 · Technical Support	0.00	37,170.00	0.0%
5500 · Membership Dues	21,500.00	25,810.00	83.3%
7000 · Admin. Expenses	0.00	61,950.00	0.0%
7200 · Consultant Services	10,107.75	0.00	100.0%
7300 · Legal Services	19,597.95	60,000.00	32.66%
7350 · Audit Services - Financial	0.00	12,390.00	0.0%
8100 · {A} Component Administration			
8101 · YSGA	768.75	0.00	100.0%
8102 · Pass-Thru	0.00	152,643.38	0.0%
Total 8100 · {A} Component Administration	768.75	152,643.38	0.5%
8110 · {B} Environmtl/Engineer/Design			

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Budget vs Actual
July 1 through November 10, 2026

11/10/2026
Accrual Basis

	Jul 1 - Nov 10, 26	Budget	% of Budget
8111 · YSGA	105,233.02	0.00	100.0%
8112 · Pass-Thru	0.00	976,613.30	0.0%
Total 8110 · {B} Environmtl/Engineer/Design	105,233.02	976,613.30	10.78%
8120 · {C} Construction/Implementation			
8121 · YSGA	358.75	0.00	100.0%
8122 · Pass-Thru	0.00	903,973.85	0.0%
Total 8120 · {C} Construction/Implementation	358.75	903,973.85	0.04%
8130 · {D} Monitoring/Assessment			
8132 · Pass-Thru	0.00	103,399.34	0.0%
Total 8130 · {D} Monitoring/Assessment	0.00	103,399.34	0.0%
8140 · {E} Engagement/Outreach			
8141 · YSGA	1,093.44	0.00	100.0%
8142 · Pass-Thru	0.00	150,322.43	0.0%
Total 8140 · {E} Engagement/Outreach	1,093.44	150,322.43	0.73%
8200 · WaterSmart Expenses			
8203 · Contractual	177,080.48	136,800.00	129.45%
Total 8200 · WaterSmart Expenses	177,080.48	136,800.00	129.45%
Total Expense	338,058.15	3,575,690.30	9.45%
Net Ordinary Income	-151,863.26	22,278.70	-681.65%
Net Income	**-151,863.26**	**22,278.70**	**-681.65%**

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Balance Sheet
As of November 10, 2026

11/10/2026
Accrual Basis

	Nov 10, 26
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	240,323.82
1010 · 1st Northern-Savings	27,387.82
1020 · Yolo County Treasury	913,240.16
Total Checking/Savings	1,180,951.80
Accounts Receivable	
1100 · Accounts Receivable	1,273,312.58
Total Accounts Receivable	1,273,312.58
Other Current Assets	
1150 · Prepaid Insurance	911.26
1151 · Prepaid Website Maintenance	780.00
Total Other Current Assets	1,691.26
Total Current Assets	2,455,955.64
Other Assets	
1500 · SGMA Grant Award Unused	2,286,952.30
Total Other Assets	2,286,952.30
TOTAL ASSETS	**4,742,907.94**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 · Accounts Payable	1,061,571.61
Total Accounts Payable	1,061,571.61
Total Current Liabilities	1,061,571.61
Total Liabilities	1,061,571.61
Equity	
3000 · Unassigned Fund Balance	-24,000.00
3010 · Nonspendable Fund Balance	1,272.00
3020 · Retained Earnings	1,544,975.29
3030 · Assigned Fund Balance	24,000.00
3100 · SGMA Fund Balance	
3101 · Grant Adminstration	19,043.42
3102 · YSGA GSP Implementation	365,184.30
3103 · YCFCWCD Winter Water Recharge	792,224.27
3104 · City of Winters Feasibility Stu	236,488.79
3105 · Yolo-Zamora Grndwtr Recharge Pi	284,149.49
3106 · Dunnigan Area Recharge Program	589,862.03
Total 3100 · SGMA Fund Balance	2,286,952.30

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Balance Sheet
As of November 10, 2026

11/10/2026
Accrual Basis

	Nov 10, 26
3200 · WaterSmart Fund Balance	
3201 · SWGA Model Improvement	-72,346.60
3202 · Policy Decision Actions	65,586.17
3203 · Seasonal Forecast Platform	6,760.43
Total 3200 · WaterSmart Fund Balance	0.00
Net Income	-151,863.26
Total Equity	3,681,336.33
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**4,742,907.94**

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Profit & Loss By Quarter
July 2026 through June 2027

11/10/2026
Accrual Basis

	Jul - Sep 26	Oct - Dec 26	Jan - Mar 27	Apr - Jun 27	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense					
Income					
4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	1,400.00	2,100.00	0.00	0.00	3,500.00
4800 · Grants Invoiced/Received					
4810 · YSGA	179,552.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	179,552.27
Total 4800 · Grants Invoiced/Received	179,552.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	179,552.27
4900 · Interest Income	3,142.43	0.19	0.00	0.00	3,142.62
Total Income	184,094.70	2,100.19	0.00	0.00	186,194.89
Gross Profit	184,094.70	2,100.19	0.00	0.00	186,194.89
Expense					
5120 · Office Expenses	846.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	846.14
5300 · Insurance-General	105.00	1,366.87	0.00	0.00	1,471.87
5500 · Membership Dues	0.00	21,500.00	0.00	0.00	21,500.00
5800 · Postage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7200 · Consultant Services	3,796.25	6,311.50	0.00	0.00	10,107.75
7300 · Legal Services	19,597.95	0.00	0.00	0.00	19,597.95
8100 · {A} Component Administration					
8101 · YSGA	768.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	768.75
Total 8100 · {A} Component Administration	768.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	768.75
8110 · {B} Environmtl/Engineer/Design					
8111 · YSGA	94,098.69	11,134.33	0.00	0.00	105,233.02
Total 8110 · {B} Environmtl/Engineer/Design	94,098.69	11,134.33	0.00	0.00	105,233.02
8120 · {C} Construction/Implementation					
8121 · YSGA	358.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	358.75
Total 8120 · {C} Construction/Implementation	358.75	0.00	0.00	0.00	358.75
8140 · {E} Engagement/Outreach					
8141 · YSGA	1,093.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,093.44
Total 8140 · {E} Engagement/Outreach	1,093.44	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,093.44
8200 · WaterSmart Expenses					
8203 · Contractual	163,080.48	14,000.00	0.00	0.00	177,080.48
Total 8200 · WaterSmart Expenses	163,080.48	14,000.00	0.00	0.00	177,080.48
Total Expense	283,745.45	54,312.70	0.00	0.00	338,058.15
Net Ordinary Income	-99,650.75	-52,212.51	0.00	0.00	-151,863.26
Net Income	**-99,650.75**	**-52,212.51**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**-151,863.26**

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Profit & Loss By Quarter
July 2026 through June 2027

11/10/2026
Accrual Basis

	Jul 26	Aug 26	Sep 26	Oct 26	TOTAL
Ordinary Income/Expense					
Income					
4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	350.00	0.00	1,050.00	2,100.00	3,500.00
4800 · Grants Invoiced/Received					
4810 · YSGA	37,685.08	21,701.54	120,165.65	0.00	179,552.27
Total 4800 · Grants Invoiced/Received	37,685.08	21,701.54	120,165.65	0.00	179,552.27
4900 · Interest Income	3,141.00	0.00	1.43	0.19	3,142.62
Total Income	41,176.08	21,701.54	121,217.08	2,100.19	186,194.89
Gross Profit	41,176.08	21,701.54	121,217.08	2,100.19	186,194.89
Expense					
5120 · Office Expenses	0.00	0.00	846.14	0.00	846.14
5300 · Insurance-General	0.00	0.00	105.00	1,366.87	1,471.87
5500 · Membership Dues	0.00	0.00	0.00	21,500.00	21,500.00
5800 · Postage	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7200 · Consultant Services	1,787.50	1,108.75	900.00	6,311.50	10,107.75
7300 · Legal Services	8,877.95	2,718.00	8,002.00	0.00	19,597.95
8100 · {A} Component Administration					
8101 · YSGA	205.00	563.75	0.00	0.00	768.75
Total 8100 · {A} Component Administration	205.00	563.75	0.00	0.00	768.75
8110 · {B} Environmtl/Engineer/Design					
8111 · YSGA	39,681.63	21,446.34	32,970.72	11,134.33	105,233.02
Total 8110 · {B} Environmtl/Engineer/Design	39,681.63	21,446.34	32,970.72	11,134.33	105,233.02
8120 · {C} Construction/Implementation					
8121 · YSGA	153.75	0.00	205.00	0.00	358.75
Total 8120 · {C} Construction/Implementation	153.75	0.00	205.00	0.00	358.75
8140 · {E} Engagement/Outreach					
8141 · YSGA	0.00	0.00	1,093.44	0.00	1,093.44
Total 8140 · {E} Engagement/Outreach	0.00	0.00	1,093.44	0.00	1,093.44
8200 · WaterSmart Expenses					
8203 · Contractual	32,897.05	21,701.54	108,481.89	14,000.00	177,080.48
Total 8200 · WaterSmart Expenses	32,897.05	21,701.54	108,481.89	14,000.00	177,080.48
Total Expense	83,602.88	47,538.38	152,604.19	54,312.70	338,058.15
Net Ordinary Income	-42,426.80	-25,836.84	-31,387.11	-52,212.51	-151,863.26
Net Income	**-42,426.80**	**-25,836.84**	**-31,387.11**	**-52,212.51**	**-151,863.26**

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency
Transaction List by Date
July 2026 through June 2027

11/10/2026

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Clr	Split	Amount
Jul '26 - Jun 27								
Deposit	07/01/2026			Q4 INTEREST ADJUST	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4900 · Interest Income	3,141.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/07/2026	610	Downey Brand LLP		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-3,597.00
Bill	07/07/2026	629228-1	Downey Brand LLP	Services Rendered through May 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		7300 · Legal Services	-1,579.00
Bill Pmt -Check	07/07/2026	611	Downey Brand LLP	Services Rendered through May 31, 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-1,579.00
Deposit	07/30/2026			Deposit	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	350.00
Bill	07/31/2026	2272	Consero Solutions	Professional Services performed in July 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		7200 · Consultant Services	-1,787.50
Bill	07/31/2026	1001	Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC	Services provided July 1 through July 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-1,995.00
Bill	07/31/2026	31	Leafbird Consulting, LLC	Costs for period July 1, 2026 - July 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-474.00
Bill	07/31/2026	21	Leafbird Consulting, LLC	Costs for period July 1, 2026 - July 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-10,850.00
Bill	07/31/2026	5390	Water & Land Solutions, LLC	Professional Services July 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-7,791.16
Bill	07/31/2026	07-26-304	INTERA Incorporated	Services for 7/01/2026 - 7/31/2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-794.50
Bill	07/31/2026	2068569	West Yost & Associates, Inc.	Professional Services from July 1, 2026 to August 7,	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-3,553.00
Bill	07/31/2026	10168	Stockholm Environment Institute, Inc.	Costs for period July 1 to July 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-22,047.05
Bill	07/31/2026	631007	Downey Brand LLP	Services Rendered through July 30, 2026 - Fair Ran	2000 · Accounts Payable		7300 · Legal Services	-784.00
Bill	07/31/2026	631006	Downey Brand LLP	Services Rendered through July 30, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		7300 · Legal Services	-6,502.00
Bill	07/31/2026	5393	Water & Land Solutions, LLC	Professional Services July 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-15,982.72
Invoice	07/31/2026	YSGA07-46	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Q3 WaterSmart Grant Staff Time	1100 · Accounts Receivable		-SPLIT-	32,897.05
Invoice	07/31/2026	YSGA07-47	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Q3 WaterSmart Grant Staff Time	1100 · Accounts Receivable		-SPLIT-	4,788.03
General Journal	07/31/2026	YSGA-01-50	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Adjust unused award balance after FINAL invoice su	1501 · WaterSmart Grant Award Unused		-SPLIT-	-32,897.05
General Journal	07/31/2026	YSGA-01-51	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Adjust unused award balance after FINAL invoice su	1501 · WaterSmart Grant Award Unused		-SPLIT-	-4,788.03
Deposit	07/31/2026			Deposit	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	-SPLIT-	37,685.08
Bill Pmt -Check	07/31/2026	634	ACWA/JPIA	FY 7/1/26 to 6/30/27 Cyber Liability Inv #001583 (Me	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-105.00
Bill	07/31/2026	632126	Downey Brand LLP	Services Rendered through July 30, 2026 - Fair Ran	2000 · Accounts Payable		7300 · Legal Services	-12.95
Bill	07/31/2026	TM INV-001092W	Springbrook	For Standard Professional services in July 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-9,450.00
Payment	08/03/2026	55-014990	Department of Water Resources		1200 · Undeposited Funds	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	627,543.27
Deposit	08/03/2026			Deposit	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	1200 · Undeposited Funds	627,543.27
Payment	08/03/2026	ASAP GRANT PAY 73939	U.S. Dept. of the Interior		1200 · Undeposited Funds	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	35,531.91
Payment	08/03/2026	ASAP GRANT PAY 73939	U.S. Dept. of the Interior		1200 · Undeposited Funds	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	24,599.93
Deposit	08/03/2026			Deposit	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	-SPLIT-	60,131.84
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	612	City of Winters {Vendor}	01/1/2026-03/31/2026 SGMA Implementation Grant	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-54,380.95
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	613	Consero Solutions	Professional Services performed in July 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-1,787.50
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	614	DAILY DEMOCRAT	1/4-Page Color Newspaper Ad	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-1,200.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	615	David's Engineering, Inc.	Professional Services from June 01, 2026 to June 3(	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-805.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	616	Downey Brand LLP		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-3,859.50
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	617	Dunnigan Water District {Vendor}	Yolo Subbasin GSP: Planning and Project Implemer	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-46,200.23
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	618	Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-4,205.90
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	619	INTERA Incorporated		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-48,370.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	620	Leafbird Consulting, LLC		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-11,324.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	621	Luhdorff & Scalmanini	Professional Services rendered through June 30, 20	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-2,800.00
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	622	Stockholm Environment Institute, Inc.	Costs for period June 1 to June 30, 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-27,131.91
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	623	Water & Land Solutions, LLC		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-29,273.16
Bill Pmt -Check	08/21/2026	624	Yolo County Flood Control & WCD		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-80,838.53
Payment	08/28/2026		Reclamation District 108		1200 · Undeposited Funds	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	18,957.49
Deposit	08/28/2026			Deposit	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	1200 · Undeposited Funds	18,957.49
Bill	08/31/2026	1013	Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC	Services provided August 1 through August 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-7,195.00
Bill	08/31/2026	22	Leafbird Consulting, LLC	Costs for period August 1, 2026 - August 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-5,862.50
Bill	08/31/2026	32	Leafbird Consulting, LLC	Costs for period August 1, 2026 - August 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-316.00

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Clr	Split	Amount
Bill	08/31/2026	2283	Consero Solutions	Professional Services performed in August 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		7200 · Consultant Services	-1,108.75
Invoice	08/31/2026	YSGA07-48	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Q3 WaterSmart Grant Staff Time	1100 · Accounts Receivable		-SPLIT-	21,701.54
Bill	08/31/2026	5443	Water & Land Solutions, LLC	Professional Services August 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-8,754.59
Bill	08/31/2026	632125	Downey Brand LLP	Services Rendered through August 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		7300 · Legal Services	-2,718.00
Bill	08/31/2026	10185	Stockholm Environment Institute, Inc.	Costs for period August 1 to August 30, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-15,839.04
Bill	08/31/2026	08-26-293	INTERA Incorporated	Services for 8/01/2026 - 8/30/2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-3,148.00
Bill	08/31/2026	2068929	West Yost & Associates, Inc.	Professional Services from August 8, 2026 to Septer	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-2,596.50
General Journal	08/31/2026	YSGA-01-51	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Adjust unused award balance after FINAL invoice su	1501 · WaterSmart Grant Award Unused		-SPLIT-	-21,701.54
General Journal	08/31/2026	YSGA-01-52	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Adjust unused award balance after FINAL invoice su	1501 · WaterSmart Grant Award Unused		-SPLIT-	-60,057.80
Payment	09/02/2026	ASAP GRANT PAY120576	U.S. Dept. of the Interior		1200 · Undeposited Funds	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	4,788.03
Payment	09/02/2026	ASAP GRANT PAY120575	U.S. Dept. of the Interior		1200 · Undeposited Funds	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	32,897.05
Bill Pmt -Check	09/10/2026	625	Consero Solutions	Professional Services performed in August 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-1,108.75
Bill Pmt -Check	09/10/2026	626	Downey Brand LLP		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-7,286.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/10/2026	627	Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC	Services provided August 1 through August 31, 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-7,195.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/10/2026	628	INTERA Incorporated	Services for 7/01/2026 - 7/31/2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking		2000 · Accounts Payable	-794.50
Bill Pmt -Check	09/10/2026	629	Leafbird Consulting, LLC		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-6,178.50
Bill Pmt -Check	09/10/2026	630	Springbrook		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking		2000 · Accounts Payable	-38,990.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/10/2026	631	Stockholm Environment Institute, Inc.	Costs for period July 1 to July 31, 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-22,047.05
Bill Pmt -Check	09/10/2026	632	Water & Land Solutions, LLC	Professional Services July 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-15,982.72
Bill Pmt -Check	09/10/2026	633	West Yost & Associates, Inc.		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-11,436.00
Deposit	09/11/2026			Deposit	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	350.00
Bill	09/17/2026	Cyber Liability	ACWA/JPIA	FY 7/1/26 to 6/30/27 Cyber Liability Inv #001583 (Me	2000 · Accounts Payable		5300 · Insurance-General	-105.00
Deposit	09/25/2026			Deposit	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	350.00
Deposit	09/25/2026			Deposit	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	350.00
Bill	09/25/2026	2821	PacSeis, Inc	2D Data: Field Tapes, Support, Profile	2000 · Accounts Payable		8203 · Contractual	-24,298.00
Bill	09/30/2026	YSGAExpenses	Yolo County Flood Control & WCD	EXPENSES 7/01/2026 to 9/30/2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-846.14
Deposit	09/30/2026			Interest	1010 · 1st Northern-Savings	√	4900 · Interest Income	1.43
Invoice	09/30/2026	YSGA07-49	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Q3 WaterSmart Grant Staff Time	1100 · Accounts Receivable		-SPLIT-	60,057.80
Bill	09/30/2026	1248.01-7818	David's Engineering, Inc.	Professional Services from July 01, 2026 to Sept 30,	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-1,960.00
Bill	09/30/2026	1024	Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC	Services provided Sept 1 through Sept 30, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-6,125.16
Bill	09/30/2026	23	Leafbird Consulting, LLC	Costs for period September 1, 2026 - September 30	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-5,582.50
Bill	09/30/2026	33	Leafbird Consulting, LLC	Costs for period September 1, 2026 - September 30	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-869.00
Bill	09/30/2026	P-02-197572-0	SEI Marketing, LLC	Professional Services - Prepay	2000 · Accounts Payable		8203 · Contractual	-30,177.30
Bill	09/30/2026	2297	Consero Solutions	Professional Services performed in September 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		7200 · Consultant Services	-900.00
Invoice	09/30/2026	YSGA07-50	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Q3 WaterSmart Grant Staff Time	1100 · Accounts Receivable		-SPLIT-	60,107.85
General Journal	09/30/2026	YSGA-01-52	U.S. Dept. of the Interior	Adjust unused award balance after FINAL invoice su	1501 · WaterSmart Grant Award Unused		-SPLIT-	-60,107.85
Bill	09/30/2026	10202	Stockholm Environment Institute, Inc.	Costs for the period September 1 to September 30, :	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-1,253.00
Bill	09/30/2026	10205	Stockholm Environment Institute, Inc.	Costs for period September 1 to September 30, 202	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-48,424.09
Bill	09/30/2026	5487	Water & Land Solutions, LLC	Professional Services September 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-20,278.00
Bill	09/30/2026	633753	Downey Brand LLP	Services Rendered through September 30, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		7300 · Legal Services	-8,002.00
Bill	09/30/2026	2069510	West Yost & Associates, Inc.	Professional Services from September 5, 2026 to Oc	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-3,784.00
Payment	10/01/2026	ASAP GRANT PAY 16663	U.S. Dept. of the Interior		1200 · Undeposited Funds	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	21,701.54
Deposit	10/01/2026			Deposit	1010 · 1st Northern-Savings		1200 · Undeposited Funds	21,701.54
Deposit	10/01/2026			Deposit	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	
Bill	10/01/2026	2827	ACWA/JPIA	Contribution for the 10/1/2026-2027 Program Year	2000 · Accounts Payable		-SPLIT-	-1,822.50
Deposit	10/02/2026			Deposit	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	350.00
Deposit	10/02/2026			Deposit	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	350.00
Payment	10/07/2026	174892	U.S. Dept. of the Interior		1200 · Undeposited Funds	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	60,057.80
Deposit	10/07/2026			Deposit	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	1200 · Undeposited Funds	60,057.80
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	635	Consero Solutions	Professional Services performed in September 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-900.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	636	David's Engineering, Inc.	Professional Services from July 01, 2026 to Sept 30,	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-1,960.00

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Account	Clr	Split	Amount
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	637	Downey Brand LLP		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-2,730.95
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	638	Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC	Services provided Sept 1 through Sept 30, 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-6,125.16
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	639	INTERA Incorporated	Services for 8/01/2026 - 8/30/2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-3,148.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	640	Leafbird Consulting, LLC		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-6,451.50
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	641	PacSeis, Inc	2D Data: Field Tapes, Support, Profile	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-24,298.00
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	642	SEI Marketing, LLC	Professional Services - Prepay	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-30,177.30
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	643	Stockholm Environment Institute, Inc.	Costs for period August 1 to August 30, 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-15,839.04
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	644	Water & Land Solutions, LLC	Professional Services August 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-8,754.59
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	645	West Yost & Associates, Inc.	Professional Services from August 8, 2026 to Septer	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-2,596.50
Bill Pmt -Check	10/14/2026	646	Yolo County Flood Control & WCD	EXPENSES 7/01/2026 to 9/30/2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	2000 · Accounts Payable	-846.14
Bill	10/14/2026	2941	Collier Geophysics	Yolo Seismic Reprocessing	2000 · Accounts Payable		8203 · Contractual	-14,000.00
Deposit	10/16/2026			Deposit	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	700.00
Bill	10/20/2026	IWMP BY 26/2027	Solano County Water Agency	PREPAYMENT OF OPERATING BUDGET FOR AD	2000 · Accounts Payable		5500 · Membership Dues	-21,500.00
Deposit	10/23/2026			Deposit	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	350.00
Payment	10/26/2026	ASAP/GRANT PAY YOLO	U.S. Dept. of the Interior		1200 · Undeposited Funds	√	1100 · Accounts Receivable	60,107.85
Deposit	10/26/2026			Deposit	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking	√	1200 · Undeposited Funds	60,107.85
Deposit	10/28/2026			Deposit	1020 · Yolo County Treasury	√	4700 · Well Permitting Regulatory Fees	350.00
Bill	10/31/2026	34	Leafbird Consulting, LLC	Costs for period October 1, 2026 - October 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-10,072.50
Deposit	10/31/2026			Interest	1010 · 1st Northern-Savings	√	4900 · Interest Income	0.19
Bill	10/31/2026	2310	Consero Solutions	Professional Services performed in October 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		7200 · Consultant Services	-3,752.50
Bill	10/31/2026	1040	Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC	Services provided Oct 1 through Oct 31, 2026	2000 · Accounts Payable		8111 · YSGA	-1,061.83
Bill	10/31/2026	C60288.00-01	EKI Environment & Water, Inc.	Water resources consulting services for October 1 th	2000 · Accounts Payable		7200 · Consultant Services	-2,559.00
Bill Pmt -Check	11/05/2026	647	Collier Geophysics	Yolo Seismic Reprocessing	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking		2000 · Accounts Payable	-14,000.00
Bill Pmt -Check	11/05/2026	648	Downey Brand LLP	Services Rendered through September 30, 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking		2000 · Accounts Payable	-8,002.00
Bill Pmt -Check	11/05/2026	649	Leafbird Consulting, LLC	Costs for period October 1, 2026 - October 31, 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking		2000 · Accounts Payable	-10,072.50
Bill Pmt -Check	11/05/2026	650	Solano County Water Agency	PREPAYMENT OF OPERATING BUDGET FOR AD	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking		2000 · Accounts Payable	-21,500.00
Bill Pmt -Check	11/05/2026	651	Stockholm Environment Institute, Inc.		1000 · 1st Northern-Checking		2000 · Accounts Payable	-49,677.09
Bill Pmt -Check	11/05/2026	652	Water & Land Solutions, LLC	Professional Services September 2026	1000 · 1st Northern-Checking		2000 · Accounts Payable	-20,278.00
Jul '26 - Jun 27								

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency

Open Invoices

11/10/2026

As of November 10, 2026

	Type	Date	Num	P. O. #	Name	Terms	Due Date	Aging	Open Balance
Department of Water Resources									
	Invoice	06/30/2026	YSGA07-41	FINAL	Department of Water Resources	Net 90	09/28/2026	43	1,273,312.58
Total Department of Water Resources									1,273,312.58
TOTAL									**1,273,312.58**

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency

A/P Aging Summary

11/10/2026

As of November 10, 2026

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
ACWA/JPIA	0.00	0.00	1,822.50	0.00	0.00	1,822.50
City of Winters {Vendor}	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	57,704.00	57,704.00
Consero Solutions	3,752.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,752.50
Dunnigan Water District {Vendor}	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	27,987.50	27,987.50
EKI Environment & Water, Inc.	2,559.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,559.00
Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC	1,061.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,061.83
Springbrook	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	9,450.00	9,450.00
West Yost & Associates, Inc.	0.00	0.00	3,784.00	0.00	0.00	3,784.00
Yolo County Flood Control & WCD	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	953,450.28	953,450.28
TOTAL	**7,373.33**	**0.00**	**5,606.50**	**0.00**	**1,048,591.78**	**1,061,571.61**

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency

11:06 AM

Upcoming Cash Requirements

11/10/2026

As of November 10, 2026

	Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Due Date	Aging	Open Balance
Current								
	Bill	10/31/2026	2310	Consero Solutions	Professional Services performed in October 2026	11/10/2026		3,752.50
	Bill	10/31/2026	1040	Hansford Economic Consulting, LLC	Services provided Oct 1 through Oct 31, 2026	11/10/2026		1,061.83
	Bill	10/31/2026	C60288.00-01	EKI Environment & Water, Inc.	Water resources consulting services for October 1 th	11/30/2026		2,559.00
Total Current								7,373.33
1 - 30								
Total 1 - 30								
31 - 60								
	Bill	10/01/2026	2827	ACWA/JPIA	Contribution for the 10/1/2026-2027 Program Year	10/01/2026	40	1,822.50
	Bill	09/30/2026	2069510	West Yost & Associates, Inc.	Professional Services from September 5, 2026 to Oc	10/10/2026	31	3,784.00
Total 31 - 60								5,606.50
61 - 90								
Total 61 - 90								
> 90								
	Bill	06/30/2026	FINAL 030126-063026	Dunnigan Water District {Vendor}	Yolo Subbasin GSP: Planning and Project Implemer	07/10/2026	123	27,987.50
	Bill	06/30/2026	FINAL 030126-063026	City of Winters {Vendor}	04/1/2026-06/30/2026 SGMA Implementation Grant	07/10/2026	123	57,704.00
	Bill	06/30/2026	2026.0715- Comp 1,2	Yolo County Flood Control & WCD	SGMA Grant Reimburseable Costs 04/01/2026-6/30	07/30/2026	103	47,641.83
	Bill	06/30/2026	2026.0715 WaterSmart	Yolo County Flood Control & WCD	Water Smart Grant Reimburseable Costs 4/01/2026	07/30/2026	103	4,788.03
	Bill	06/30/2026	2026.0717 Comp 3	Yolo County Flood Control & WCD	SGMA Grant Reimburseable Costs 4/01/2026-6/30/2	07/30/2026	103	898,758.99
	Bill	06/30/2026	2026.0715- Comp 5	Yolo County Flood Control & WCD	SGMA Grant Reimburseable Costs 4/01/2026-6/30/2	07/30/2026	103	2,261.43
	Bill	07/31/2026	TM INV-001092W	Springbrook	For Standard Professional services in July 2026	08/10/2026	92	9,450.00
Total > 90								1,048,591.78
TOTAL								**1,061,571.61**

YOLO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER AGENCY
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING

September 11, 2026 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Hosted at YCFC&WCD Headquarters
34274 State Highway 16, Woodland

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present: Carol Scianna, Lee Smith, Joel McCoy, Jordon Navarrot, Tom Barth
Staff Present: Kristin Sicke, Erik Cadaret, Nathan Fisher, Sarah Leicht

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Carol Scianna at 12:01 pm.

2. **Adding Items to the Posted Agenda:** Nothing to report.

3. **Public Comment**: Nothing to report.

4. **Administrative Items** (Sicke):
    a) Approve August 21, 2026 Meeting Minutes
    b) Approve Payments: Payments were provided with the agenda packet.
    c) Review FY 25/26 and Draft FY 25/26 Budgets: Kristin reviewed the draft budgets with the Committee and explained the reasons for variances in the FY 25/26 budget due to an extension of the SGMA Implementation Grant.
    d) Review Financials: 7/1 – 9/8/26: Financials were provided with the agenda packet.
    e) Approve Contracts for Consultant Services Support: Erik explained the basis for the requested contracts with Consero Solutions, Water & Land Solutions, West Yost, UC Davis, and EKI Environment & Water. The Committee discussed how best to track YCFC&WCD/YSGA staff capacity, workloads, and project time allocation. The Committee, Erik, and Kristin discussed the proposed meeting to discuss the YSGA's well permitting process and other groundwater sustainability questions and concerns.

    Director Barth moved to approve items a) and b) as presented, seconded by Director Smith and approved unanimously.

    Director Barth moved to approve item e) as presented, seconded by Director Smith and approved unanimously.

5. **Collaboration with Yolo County Related to Well Permits and Groundwater Sustainability Efforts**
    a. Review Draft Problem Statement – the Committee provided feedback and discussed reframing the document to better articulate the risks to sustainability
    b. Discuss representatives for potential 2x2 ad hoc meetings to facilitate further exchange of information to be reported back to the YSGA Executive Committee and Yolo County BOS

The Committee discussed the conversation held at the August 21 meeting with Supervisors Vixie Sandy and Barajas, brainstormed the risks to sustainability, and developed discussion points for the ad hoc 2x2 meeting with the Supervisors (to be scheduled).

Director Smith motioned to assign Directors Scianna and Barth as the YSGA representatives to the ad hoc 2x2 and Director Schaad as alternate, seconded by Director McCoy and approved unanimously.

6. YSGA Governance Structure

Kristin stated that there are no substantial updates on alternative governance structures, but staff are still working to develop proposals and schedule another meeting. Director Smith requested that Kristin send out a meeting placeholder for the governance committee to discuss the alternative structures in January 2027.

7. Other Updates & Future Executive Committee Agenda Items

Nothing to report.

8. Next Executive Committee Meeting Date: October 14, 2026

9. Adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Sicke
Executive Officer, Board Secretary

YOLO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER AGENCY
MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) MEETING
October 14, 2026 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Hosted at YCFC&WCD Headquarters
34274 State Highway 16, Woodland

ATTENDANCE

Committee Members Present: Carol Scianna, Lee Smith, Joel McCoy, Tom Barth
Staff Present: Kristin Sicke, Erik Cadaret, Nathan Fisher, Sarah Leicht, Stephen Akyereko
Public Present: Ann Main

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order by Carol Scianna at 12:01 pm.

2. **Adding Items to the Posted Agenda:** Nothing to report.

3. **Public Comment**: Nothing to report.

4. **Administrative Items** (Sicke):
    a) Approve September 11, 2026 Meeting Minutes
    b) Approve Payments: Payments were provided with the agenda packet.
    c) Review Financials: 9/9 – 10/9/26: Financials were provided with the agenda packet. At the November Board of Directors meeting, staff will provide financials with the new accounting codes to reflect the new fee structure.
    d) YSGA Fee Update: Landowners are beginning to receive property tax bills. The appeals process has reopened but none have been submitted yet. Erik and Kristin spoke with legal counsel about potential fee options for grazing land and/or the Clarksburg area. Further updates will be brought to the Executive Committee and Board of Directors.
    e) Approve Entering into an Agreement with ESA to Finalize WCR Database: Erik summarized the request to the Committee.

    Director Barth moved to approve items a) and b) as presented, seconded by Director McCoy and approved unanimously.

    Director Smith moved to approve item e) as presented, seconded by Director Barth and approved unanimously.

5. **Collaboration with Yolo County Related to Well Permits and Groundwater Sustainability Efforts**
    a. Review Draft Risks to Sustainability Statement
    b. Review Concerned Citizens Group's Request to Attend 2x2 Meetings with the County

Kristin reviewed the meeting last Thursday with Yolo County Ag Well Working Group to address questions about the well permitting process. The Committee reviewed the statements drafted by staff.

The Committee discussed the email forwarded by Kristin. The Committee decided that Directors Barth and Smith will participate in a meeting with the concerned citizens.

6. Other Updates & Future Executive Committee Agenda Items

Kristin reviewed upcoming meetings in Woodland and Winters that may be of interest. The Winters salmon festival is November 7.

7. Next Executive Committee Meeting Date: November 5, 2026

8. Adjourned at 1:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Kristin Sicke
Executive Officer, Board Secretary

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2026 **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

SUBJECT: Discussion: 2027 Board Officers and Committee Membership

INITIATED OR [ ] BOARD
REQUESTED BY: [X] STAFF
[ ] OTHER _____

[X] INFORMATION
[ ] ACTION: [ ] MOTION
[ ] RESOLUTION

ATTACHMENT [ ] YES [X] NO

BACKGROUND

Since the YSGA's formation in 2017, the Board of Directors has periodically selected officers to provide leadership, facilitate Board discussions, and support the administration and implementation of the YSGA responsibilities under SGMA.

History of Officer Selection

The YSGA held its inaugural Board meeting on June 19, 2017, at which time the Directors elected representatives to serve as Board Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. The Board subsequently established the Executive Committee at its September 18, 2017 meeting to assist with Agency administration, provide direction to the Executive Officer, address administrative matters, and help prepare and review Board agendas.

At the January 14, 2019 Board meeting, the Agency recommended maintaining consistency in the selection of Board Chair and Vice Chair with the Water Resources Association of Yolo County (WRA). At that time, Roger Cornwell (Reclamation District 787) and Jesse Loren (City of Winters) were selected to serve as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. This leadership arrangement continued through the development and submittal of the 2022 Yolo Subbasin GSP to DWR.

Following submittal of the 2022 Yolo Subbasin GSP and the transition toward implementation, the Executive Committee recommended a change in Board leadership. At the January 23, 2023 Board meeting, Directors approved the recommendation to appoint Yolo County Supervisor Gary Sandy as Chair and Lee Smith (Yolo County Farm Bureau) as Vice Chair. These appointments provided leadership during the initial transition into GSP implementation.

In November 2024, the Executive Committee again considered the selection of officers for the upcoming two-year term. The Committee recommended Carol Scianna (City of Winters) as Chair and David Schaad (Dunnigan Water District) as Vice Chair. The Board approved the recommendations at its November 18, 2024 meeting for the 2025–2026 term. Also at the November

2024 meeting, the Board adopted Policy Number 1100, establishing formal procedures for the election of Agency officers and the composition of the Executive Committee.

Section 1100.3 establishes the following requirements for officer elections:

- The Board of Directors shall elect officers in January and every two years thereafter.
- Elected officers serve at the pleasure of the Board and assume their positions at the January Board meeting for a two-year term, or until their successors are elected.
- The Chairperson and Vice Chairperson must be Directors of the Agency. The positions should consist of one rural and one urban representative.
- The Secretary and Treasurer positions may be filled by a Director or another individual.

Additionally, Section 1100.7 establishes that the Executive Committee shall consist of the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, one rural representative, one urban representative, and one at-large member. The Chair and Vice Chair nominate the Executive Committee members, and the Board designates the appointments. Executive Committee members serve two-year terms, or until their successors are elected.

Selection of Officers for the 2027–2028 Term

Consistent with Policy No. 1100, the YSGA Board will consider the election of officers for the 2027–2028 term at the January 2027 meeting.

As the Agency transitions to implementing the 2027 GSP Periodic Evaluation, coordinating with groundwater users and member agencies, and advancing projects and management actions throughout the Yolo Subbasin, the Chair and Vice Chair will continue to play an important role in providing leadership and direction to the Agency.

Staff would like to provide all Directors an opportunity to consider whether they have an interest in serving as Board Chair or Vice Chair for the upcoming term. Directors interested in serving are encouraged to communicate their interest to the Executive Officer so that the Executive Committee may consider potential leadership appointments and provide a recommendation to the full Board, as appropriate, in advance of the January election.

Additionally, Chair Scianna and Vice Chair Schaad would like to take an opportunity to appreciate the following Directors in providing their time and leadership in serving on the YSGA Board: Yolo County Supervisor Mary Vixie Sandy, City of Davis Councilmember Bapu Vaitla, and City of Woodland Councilmember Mayra Vega.

RECOMMENDATION

This item is intended to facilitate discussion and provide an opportunity for Directors to express interest in serving as Board officers for the 2027–2028 term. No formal action is requested at this time. The Board is anticipated to consider and elect officers at its January 2027 meeting.

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2026 **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

SUBJECT: Report of the Chair and Executive Officer

INITIATED OR [ ] BOARD [X] INFORMATION
REQUESTED BY: [X] STAFF [ ] ACTION: [ ] MOTION
[ ] OTHER _____ [ ] RESOLUTION

ATTACHMENT [X] YES [ ] NO

BACKGROUND

The YSGA Chair and Executive Officer will provide either an oral or written report on recent activities.

A written report from the YSGA Executive Officer is attached.

RECOMMENDATION

This agenda item is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.

Date: November 16, 2026

To: YSGA Board of Directors

From: Kristin Sicke, Executive Officer

Subject: Report of the Executive Officer

Recommendation

For informational purposes only. No Board action required.

Background

The following is an update to the Board of Directors of the YSGA on activities and issues related to the ongoing implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). This report should be considered as a summary document so that Board members and other interested parties can quickly read about the general activities taking place between YSGA Board meetings. Board members should feel free to contact me at any time for more detail or with ideas and/or questions that they might have regarding the program.

Since the September 21, 2026 meeting of the YSGA Board of Directors, the following activities have taken place.

Program Administration

Two meetings were held by the YSGA Executive Committee (EC) on October 14 and November 5. At the October 14 meeting, EC members Carol Scianna, Lee Smith, Joel McCoy (serving temporarily during Courtney Doss's maternity leave), and Tom Barth continued refining the draft risks to sustainability statement for use in framing discussions with the County Supervisors at upcoming 2x2 meetings. At the November 5 meeting, the EC reviewed the draft reserve policy, discussed the upcoming transition of Board officers and EC committee membership, and received an update on ongoing collaboration efforts with Yolo County Supervisors and staff. As approved by the YSGA Board of Directors, Carol Scianna and Tom Barth represented the YSGA in Ad Hoc 2x2 meetings with Yolo County Supervisors Mary Vixie Sandy and Angel Barajas on October 29 and November 13 to discuss the identified risks to groundwater sustainability. The next YSGA Executive Committee meeting is scheduled for December 15 from 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

YSGA staff continue to coordinate with stakeholders and to schedule and participate in community meetings for ensuring successful outreach during GSP implementation. Staff also continue to communicate with Solano Subbasin GSA, North American Subbasin, Sutter Subbasin, and Colusa Groundwater Authority on data/information sharing and project opportunities, as well as other GSAs and Counties on their well permitting activities.

The Yolo Groundwater website http://yologroundwater.org was updated as needed. A calendar of current events is posted to the website.

Program Implementation

- Public Outreach
    - Ongoing correspondence with concerned stakeholders to answer questions about SGMA implementation within the Yolo Subbasin.
    - Staff continued communicating with stakeholders to answer questions about the YSGA's regulatory fee, which was adopted at the May 2026 Board of Directors meeting. The interactive parcel map was updated to reflect approved corrections requests for non-irrigated cropped acres. The map enables

stakeholders to find properties of interest and view how the YSGA fee applies to their properties, and can be accessed here.
    - YSGA is pleased to announce that Stephen Akyereko has been hired as the new Outreach and Public Relations Specialist. Stephen joins us from DC Water, where he served as their Community Affairs Specialist. Stephen has hit the ground running and is excited to spread the word about progress being made towards maintaining groundwater sustainability within the Yolo Subbasin.
    - Stephen and Consero have developed a community engagement strategy and work plan. These documents clearly state YSGA's engagement principles: listening first, evidence-based, respectful and non-personal, accessible, and consistent.
    - The Community Engagement Strategy and Work Plan sets out to achieve four main goals for YSGA: increase transparency, educate about requirements and responsibilities, ensure accurate information, and highlight achievements.

- Projects and Management Actions
    - The YSGA's Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for Technical, Project Management, Grant Acquisition, and Outreach Services closed on June 29. YSGA staff have completed review of the submissions and developed a list of 15 qualified firms that will be used over the next three years to solicit bids for specific scopes of work described in the RFQ.
    - Coordinated with Yolo County in the well permitting process in accordance with the County's Ordinance #1579.
    - Received approved well permits and reviewed pending well permits from Yolo County's Environmental Health Division.
    - Continued implementation of projects funded by the SGMA Implementation Grant and completed work funded by the YSGA's WaterSMART Grant.
- Monitoring Network
    - Continued implementation of citizen science program for individual well monitoring.
    - Sent out mailers to landowners in data gap areas to solicit participation in the voluntary groundwater monitoring network in these areas. Thus far, three new wells have been added to the network: 08N01E02E500M, 08N01E04F500M, and 09N01E32C500M. More landowners have expressed interest and will be assigned well numbers over the coming months.
    - Updates to WRID have been completed. Users are being migrated and trained on the new system.
- Periodic Evaluation
    - YSGA staff have worked with INTERA to prepare a draft of the WY 2019 – WY 2024 GSP Periodic Evaluation, incorporating feedback from the YSGA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). On September 24, YSGA released the draft document for public review and opened a 45-day public comment period to solicit feedback. Ten commenters provided feedback on the draft Periodic Evaluation prior to the November 8 deadline.

Program Outreach

Staff participated in a number of meetings, workshops, and discussions related to SGMA and groundwater recharge and protection, which included the following:

1. Napa-Yolo-Solano Groundwater Coordination Meetings (September 22 and November 9; Sicke, Cadaret, and Akyereko)
2. Met with Yolo County Natural Resources staff and Teichert to discuss groundwater recharge opportunities at reclaimed gravel pits along Cache Creek (September 23; Cadaret, Fisher)
3. ACWA Projects of Statewide Significance Task Force Meeting (September 23; Sicke)

4. ACWA Board of Directors Workshop and Meeting (September 24-25; Sicke)
5. GRA Western Groundwater Congress (September 28-30; Cadaret)
6. California Water Plan 2028: Groundwater Recharge Working Group Meeting (October 1; Sicke)
7. Participated in Yolo County Ag Well Working Group Meeting (October 8; Sicke, Cadaret, Fisher)
8. Hosted YSGA Executive Committee Meetings (October 14 and November 5; Directors Schaad, Scianna, Smith, McCoy (filling in for Director Doss) and Barth; Sicke, Cadaret, Leicht, Fisher, and Akyereko)
9. NCWA Demand Management in the Sacramento Valley Workshop (October 15; Sicke, Cadaret)
10. Participated in CA Water Data Consortium's Critical Water Accounting Response meeting (October 15; Fisher)
11. DWR/NCWA Sacramento Valley Flood Diversion Recharge Events (October 20; Cadaret)
12. Met with the Concerned Citizens Group (October 22; Directors Barth and Smith; Akyereko)
13. Putah Creek Network Meeting (October 21; Sicke)
14. ACWA Region 1 Groundwater Event at Sonoma Water (October 28; Leicht, Fisher)
15. State Water Board Bay-Delta Plan Hearing (October 28-29; Sicke, Akyereko)
16. Coordination Meeting with Colusa Groundwater Authority to Discuss Yolo Subbasin GSP Periodic Evaluation (November 3; Cadaret)
17. Westside IRWM Coordinating Committee Meeting (November 4; Leicht)
18. ACWA Regions 2 and 4 Event at Putah Creek (November 4; Sicke, Akyereko)
19. Participated in DWR's Recharge Readiness Webinar Series (November 12; Fisher)

Other Items of Note

On October 27, Governor Newsom issues E.O. N-14-26 suspending statues, rules, regulations that fall within the jurisdiction of CNRA to expedite actions to prevent or mitigate impacts from flooding, landslides, mud and debris flows, or erosion. The E.O. specifically identifies actions related to the following items and suspended Section 1242.1 local plan of flood control element like E.O. N-16-25 did last year:

- Local efforts to repair levees, dams, and other flood management
- Management or removal of sediment, vegetation, or debris, to improve channel capacity
- Protection of bridges, sea walls, and other structures

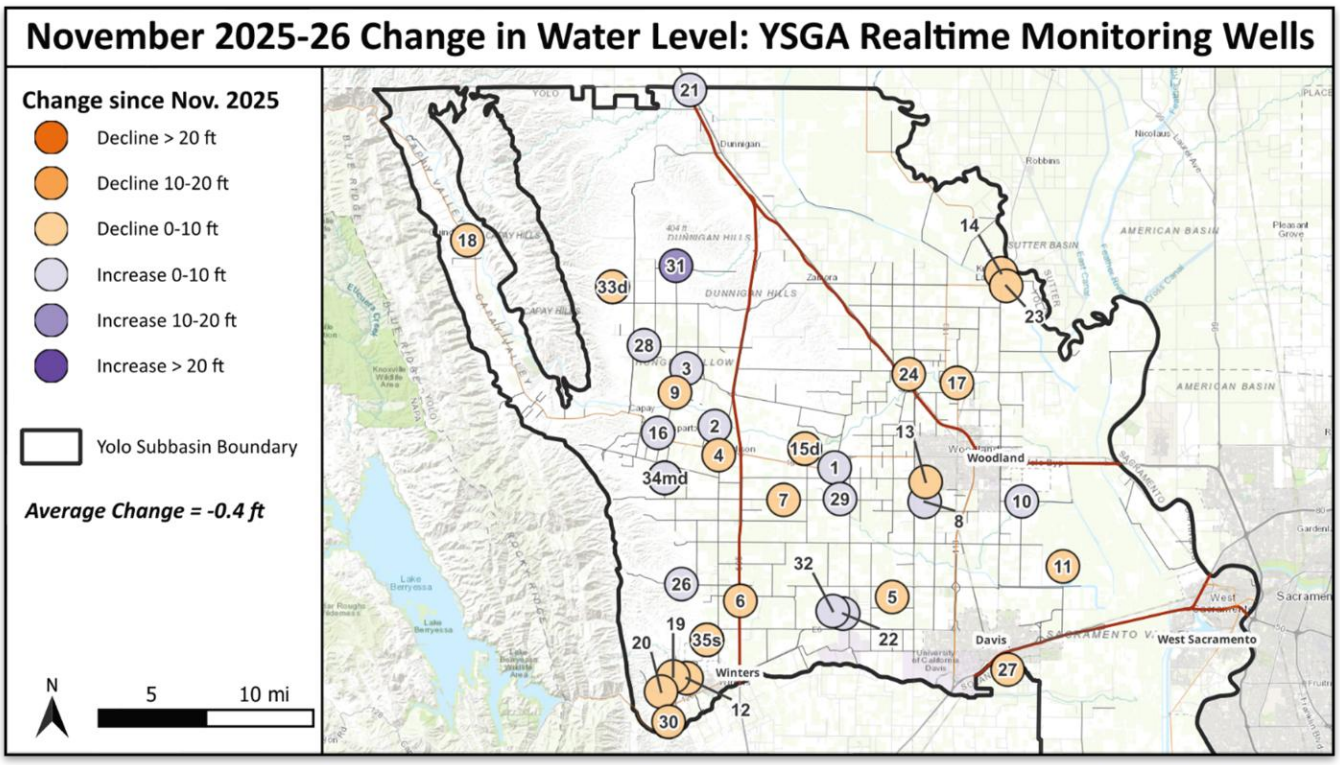
On October 29, the State Water Board adopted the final draft of Sacramento/Delta Update to the Bay-Delta Plan, which included a dual pathway framework: the Voluntary Agreement (Healthy Rivers and Landscapes) Pathway and the Regulatory Pathway (unimpaired flows for water rights not covered by the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Pathway). The YSGA provided public comment in support of the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program.

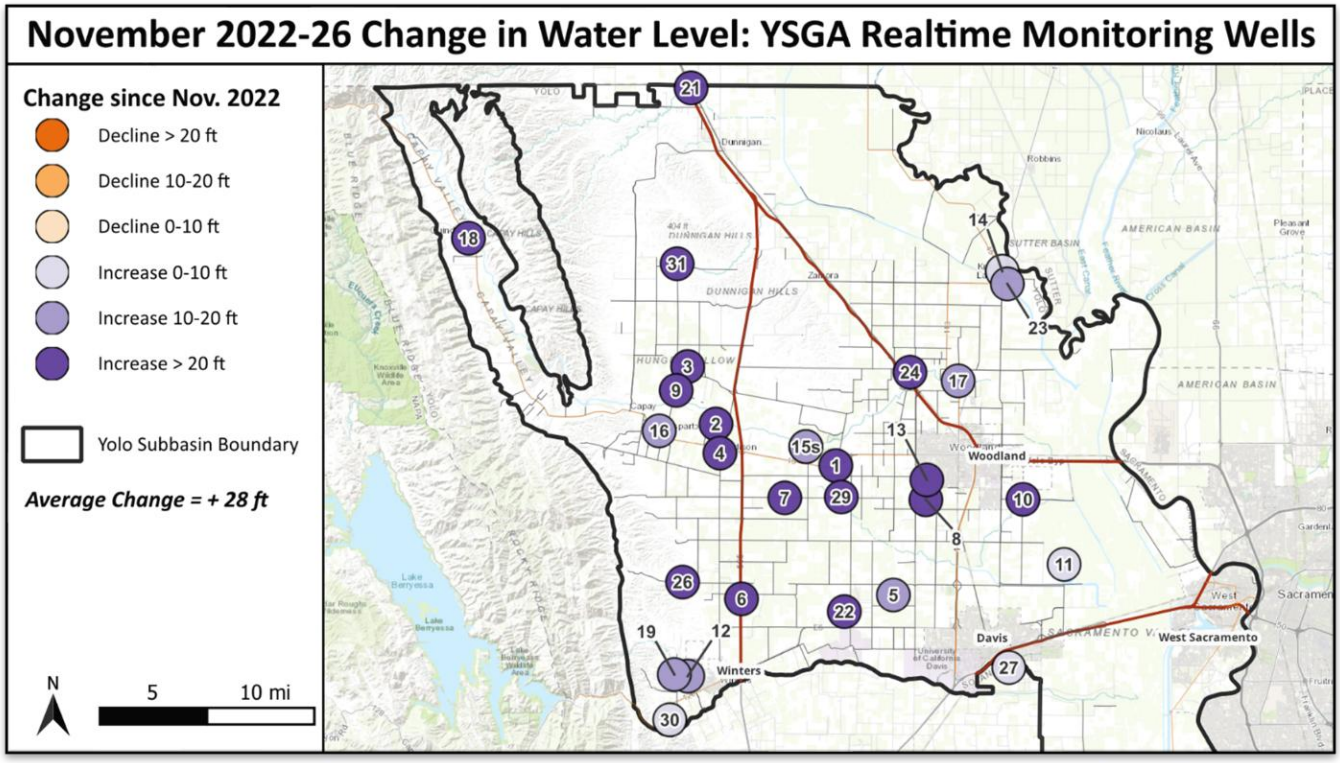
Current Groundwater Conditions

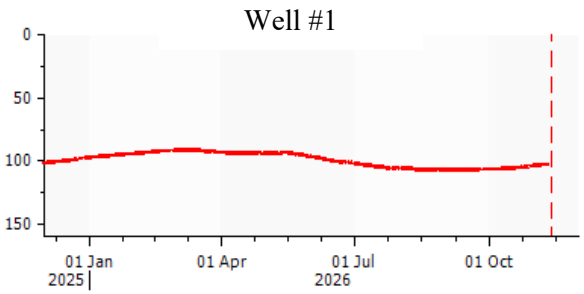
Groundwater levels are beginning to recover across the Subbasin as harvest season ends. Fall groundwater level measurements were collected at ~200 periodic monitoring wells at the end of September and beginning of October. Looking at the real-time monitoring network, this November's average water level is approximately the same as the average level at this time last year. When compared to 2022 elevations, this November's groundwater levels are on average 28 feet higher.

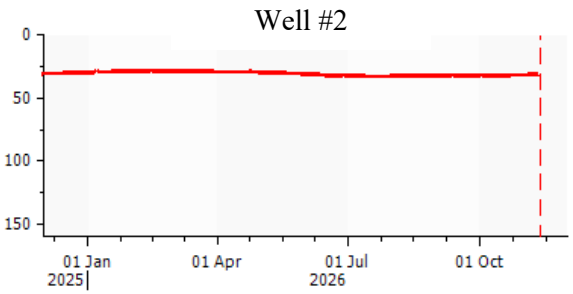
Included below are the following graphics that illustrate the current groundwater conditions and monitoring efforts:

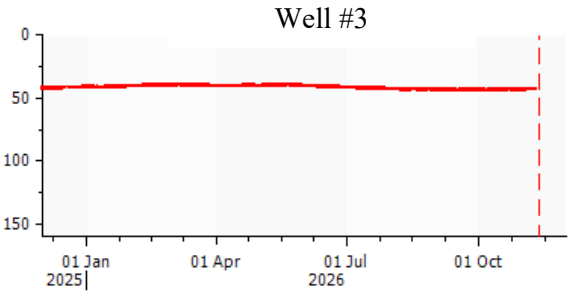
1. A map showing the change in water level between November 2025 and November 2026 for the 35 real-time monitoring stations.
2. A map showing the change in water level between November 2022 and November 2026 for the 35 real-time monitoring stations.
3. Tiled hydrographs of the real-time monitoring wells illustrating depth to water for the past year.
4. The fall 2026 hydrograph of average groundwater levels based on 62 monitored wells throughout the Yolo Subbasin (the Representative Monitoring Wells). These measurements are normally taken twice annually, once in the spring when groundwater levels are at their highest and again in the fall when groundwater levels are at their lowest.

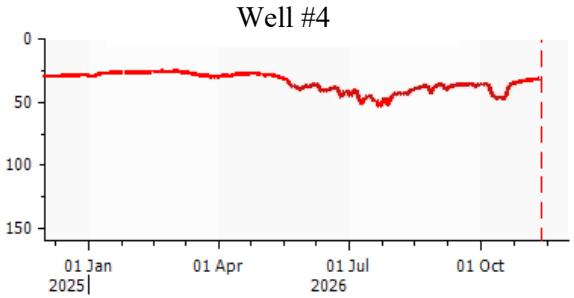

November 2025-26 Change in Water Level: YSGA Realtime Monitoring Wells
Change since Nov. 2025
Decline > 20 ft
Decline 10-20 ft
Decline 0-10 ft
Increase 0-10 ft
Increase 10-20 ft
Increase > 20 ft
Yolo Subbasin Boundary
Average Change = -0.4 ft
N
5
10 mi
Woodland
Davis
West Sacramento
Winters

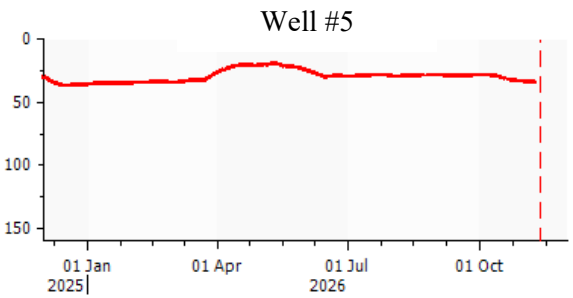

November 2022-26 Change in Water Level: YSGA Realtime Monitoring Wells
Change since Nov. 2022
Decline > 20 ft
Decline 10-20 ft
Decline 0-10 ft
Increase 0-10 ft
Increase 10-20 ft
Increase > 20 ft
Yolo Subbasin Boundary
Average Change = + 28 ft
N
5
10 mi
Woodland
Davis
West Sacramento
Winters

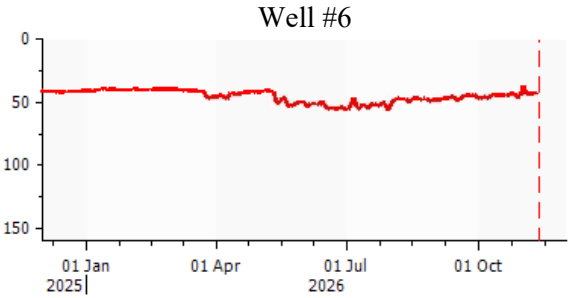

Well #1
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct

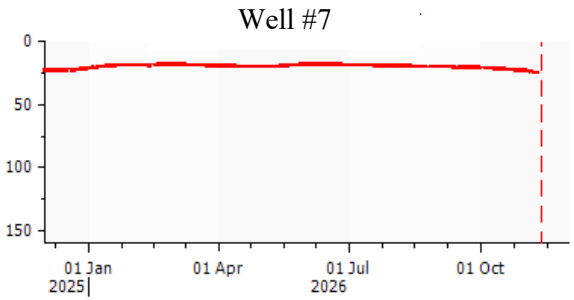

Well #2
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct

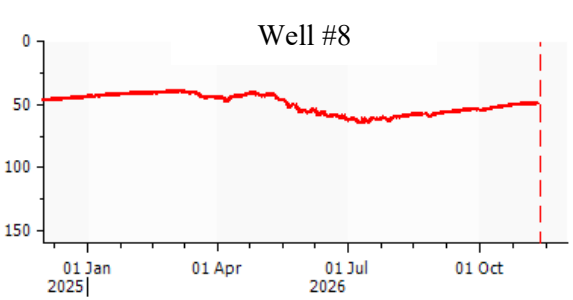

Well #3
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct

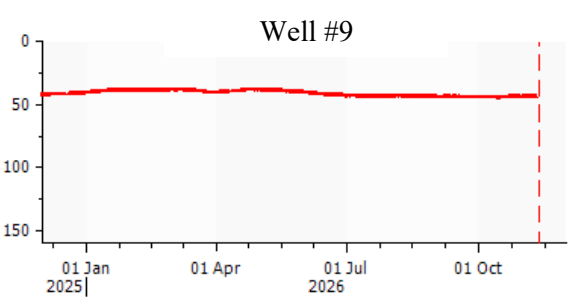

Well #4
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct

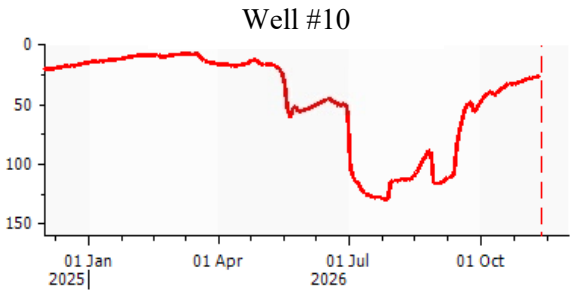

Well #5
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct

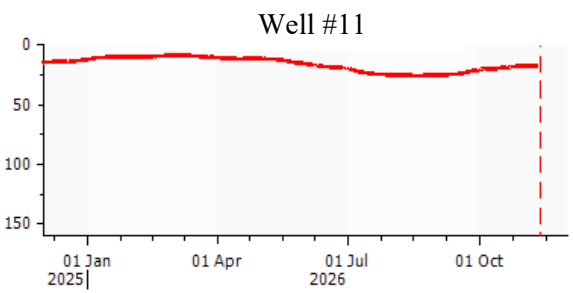

Well #6
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct

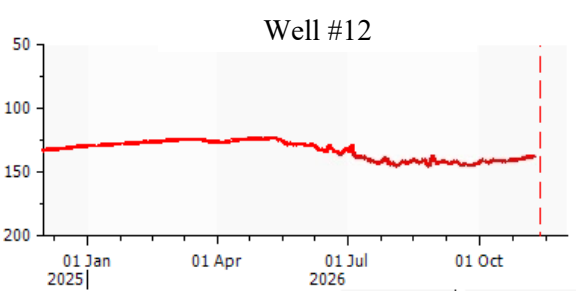

Well #7
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct


Well #8
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct

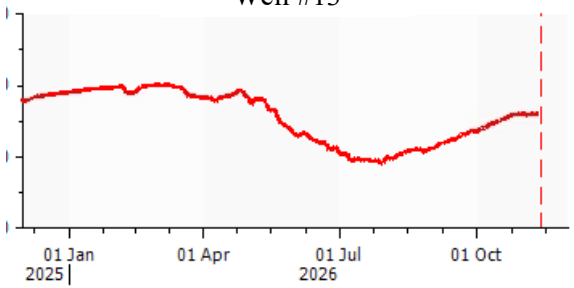

Well #9
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct


Well #10
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct

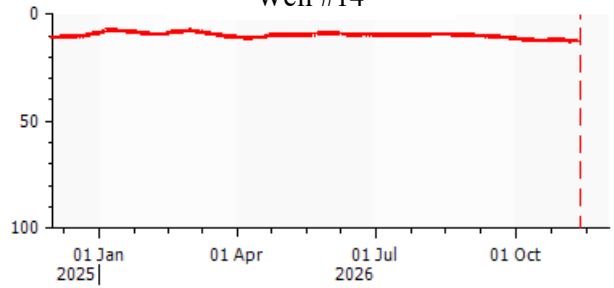

Well #11
0
50
100
150
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct


Well #12
50
100
150
200
01 Jan
2025
01 Apr
01 Jul
2026
01 Oct

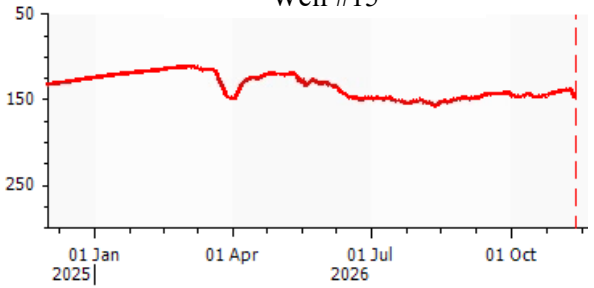
Well #13



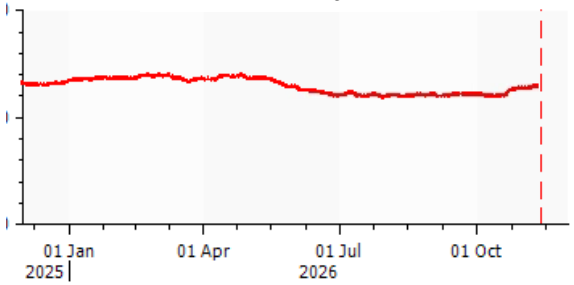
Well #14



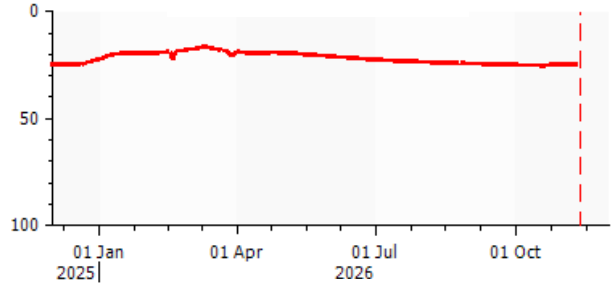
Well #15



Well #16



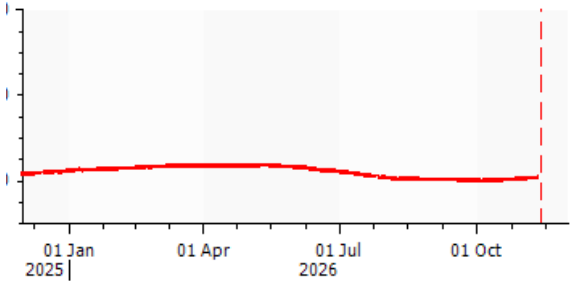
Well #17



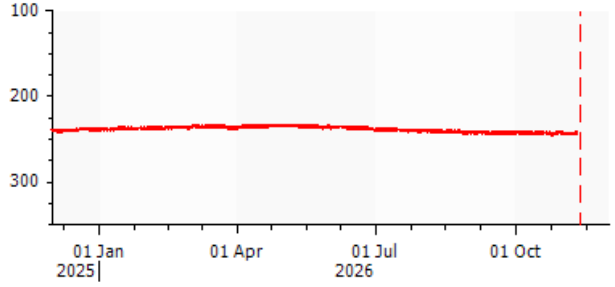
Well #18



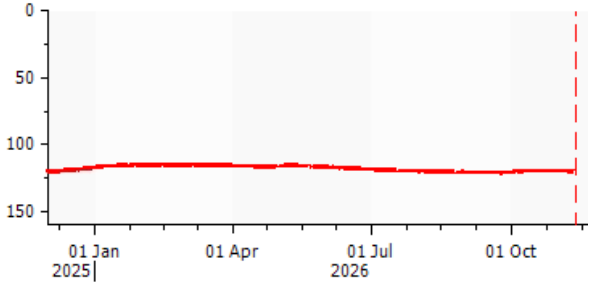
Well #19



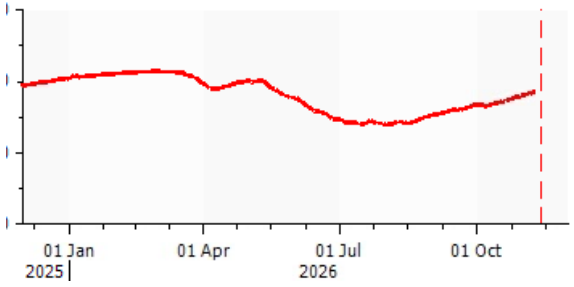
Well #20



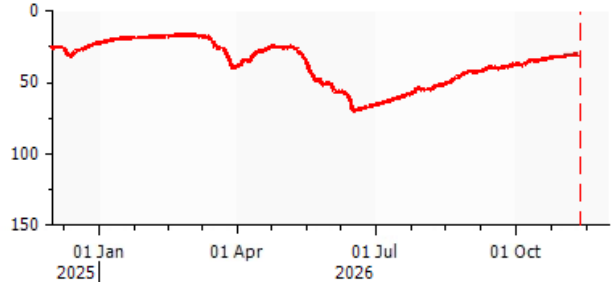
Well #21



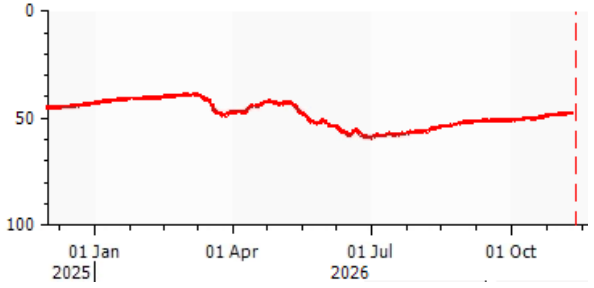
Well #22



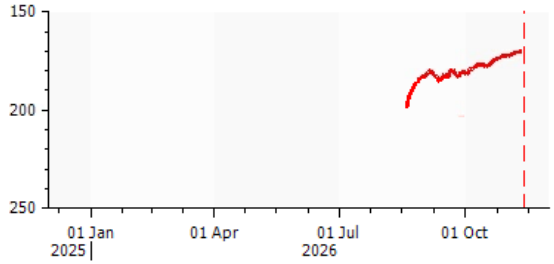
Well #23



Well #24



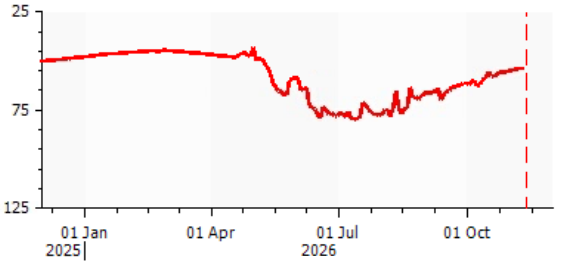
Well #25



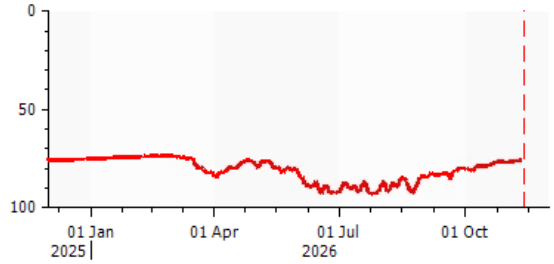
Well #26



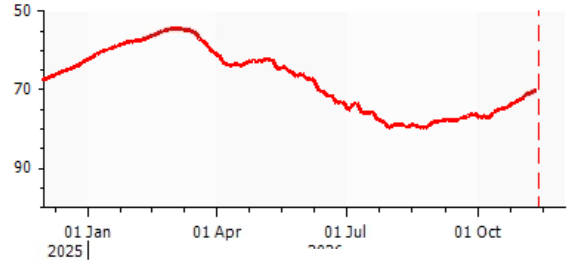
Well #27



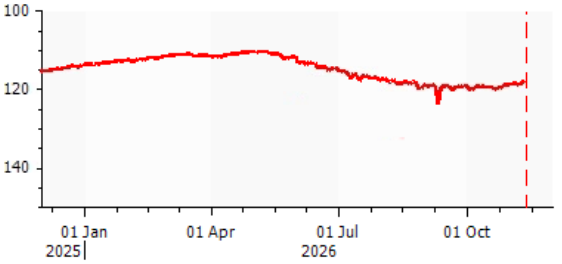
Well #28



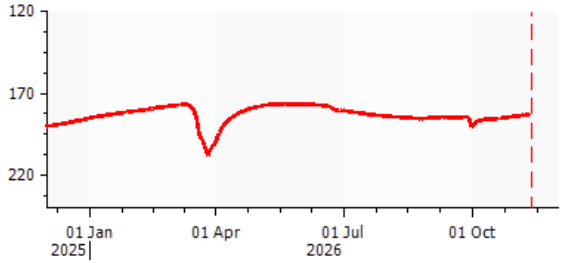
Well #29



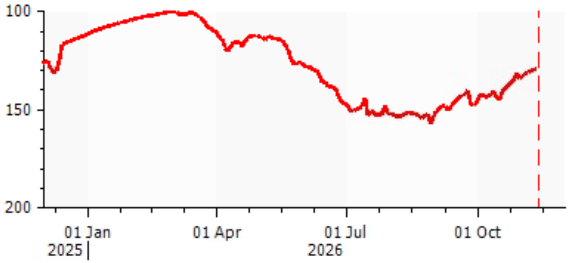
Well #30



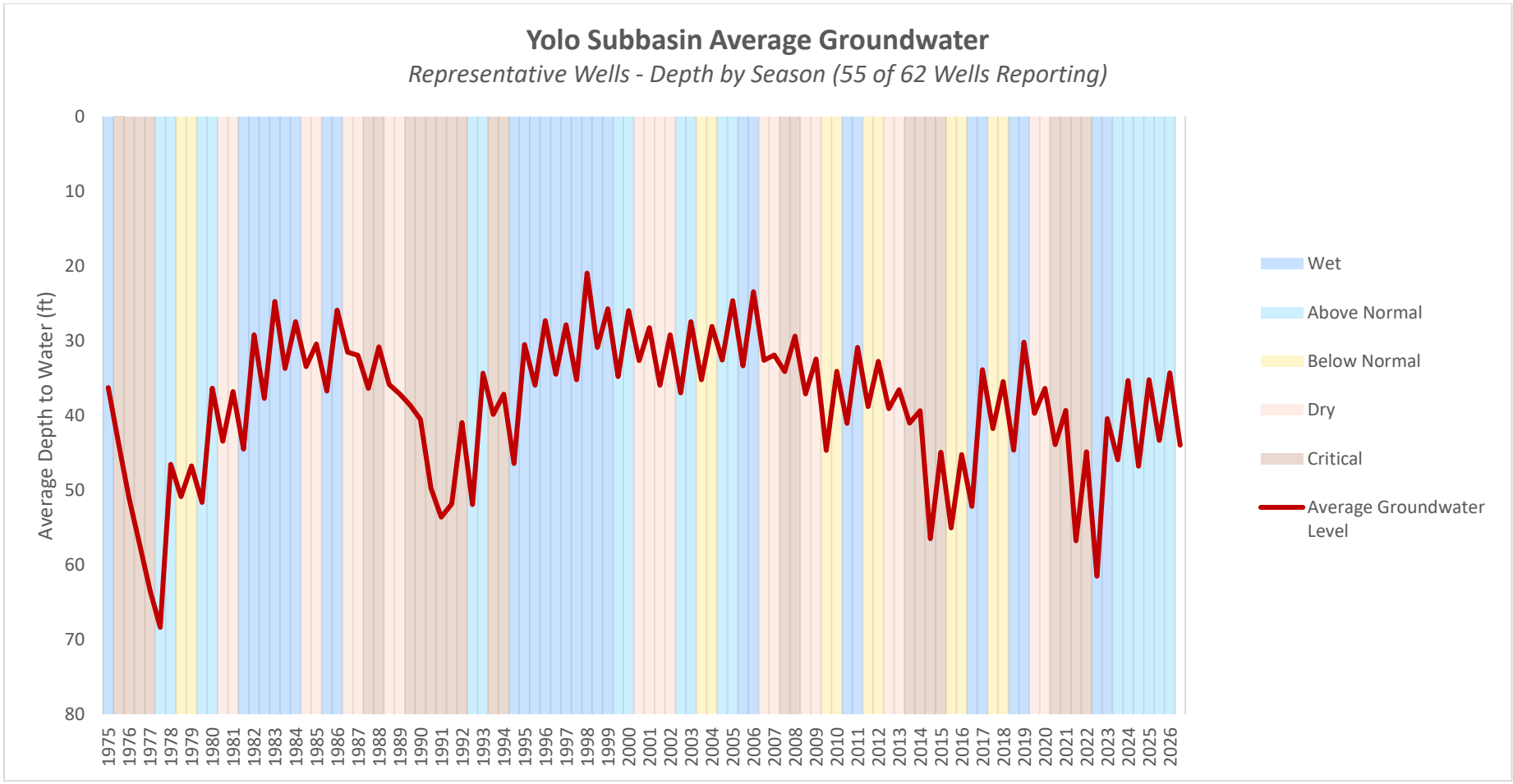
Well #31**



Well #32



***Well 31 is directly adjacent to an active agricultural well, so may show localized drawdown when that well is pumping.*

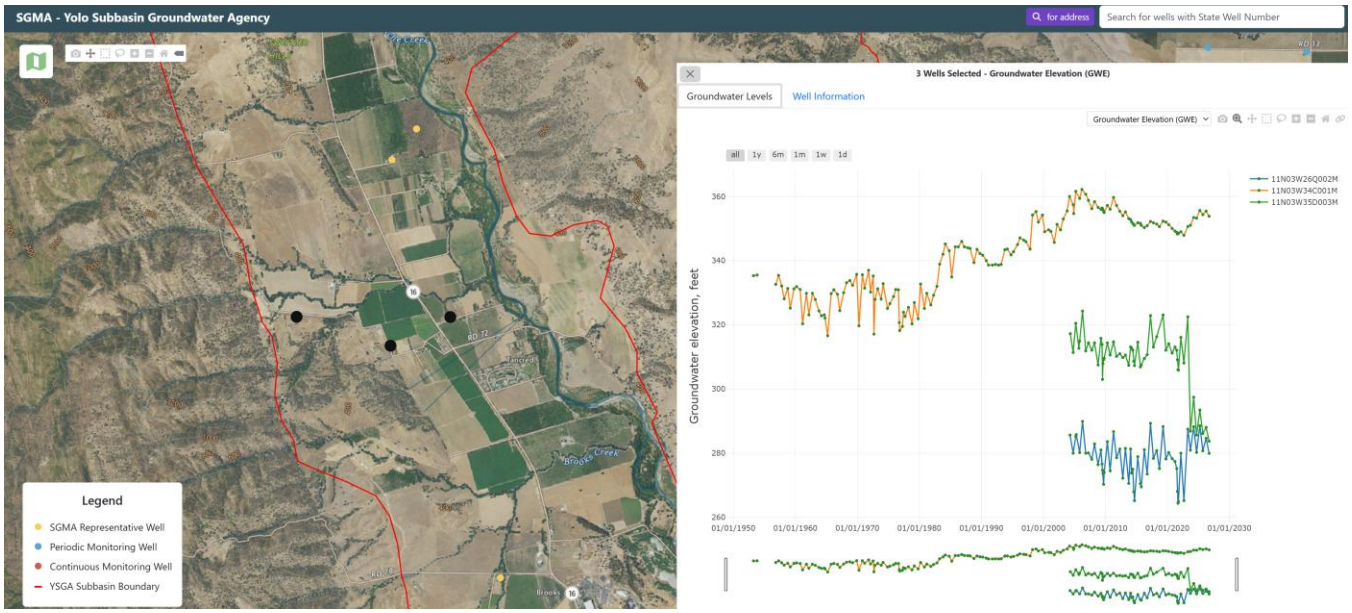


Fall 2025 Average Depth to Water ~ 43.35 feet
Fall 2026 Average Depth to Water ~ 43.98 feet

Yolo Groundwater Data Map – Please visit our website (https://sgma.yologroundwater.org/) to test out the new improvements! When selecting a well and pulling up the hydrograph, you can now toggle between Depth to Water and Groundwater Elevation. In addition, a "Well Information" tab has been added to provide basic information such as depth and perforated interval for each well.



Example of Depth to Water Representation for Three Monitoring Wells in Capay Valley. Outlined is the new well information tab and the toggle for groundwater elevation.



Groundwater Elevation hydrograph for the same three wells.

Well Permitting Update

In March 2024, YSGA adopted its Well Permit Review Procedures pursuant to Executive Orders (EOs) N-7-22 and N-3-23. The Well Permit Review Procedures were closely coordinated with Yolo County's well permit process in order to ensure consistency across both entities. On September 5, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-3-24, rescinding certain mandatory provisions of the prior EOs related to well permitting. On November 4, 2025, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors approved "Ordinance No. 1579 - An Ordinance of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors Amending Title 6, Chapter 8 of the Yolo County Code of Ordinances Regarding Well Permits" ("Ordinance No. 1579"). Ordinance No. 1579 codifies a majority of the well permitting procedures that were enacted under the prior Executive Orders, and so YSGA's basic permit review processes will not change.

On August 26, 2025, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors unanimously approved a 45-day moratorium on the approval of new ag water well permits on any parcel within the Focus Areas.

On October 7, 2025, the Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 1577, an urgency ordinance extending the temporary moratorium for up to an additional 10 months and 15 days (through August 25, 2026) to, among other things, allow time to better understand the impacts of land use changes, particularly the hardening of groundwater demand with increased conversion of land in the Focus Areas to perennial crops, on the sustainability of groundwater supplies.

Ordinance No. 1577 exempts certain wells from the moratorium, meaning well permits may be issued during the moratorium for wells falling within the following categories, provided they meet the additional well ordinance requirements: domestic wells producing less than two acre-feet per year, public supply system wells, monitoring wells, and minor alterations of production wells.

On November 4, 2025, the Board of Supervisors adopted amendments to Ordinance No. 1577, specifically Section 3.4, to add an additional exemption for certain replacement wells in the Focus Areas from the moratorium so that such replacement wells may be issued a permit while the moratorium is in effect, provided the replacement wells otherwise satisfy the applicable well ordinance requirements. To be considered a replacement well for purposes of the moratorium exemption, the well still needs to meet all of the following requirements:

- The replacement well has the same or smaller casing diameter and substantially similar (or deeper) casing depth, pump size/pump horsepower, and screen interval(s) to the existing well;
- The replacement well has a substantially similar or lower pumping capacity (gallons per minute or GPM) in comparison to the existing well;
- If records of the construction details, such as well depth and screen intervals are not available for a well being replaced, the applicant should make reasonable efforts to obtain the information through downhole investigative methods including tagging the total completed depth of the well or other methods;
- The existing well being replaced is destroyed under permit and as set forth in Section 6-8.1011 of the Yolo County Code of Ordinances;
- The replacement well will be located on the same legal parcel(s) irrigated by the existing well being replaced (i.e., the replacement well will be used to irrigate the same farmed area as the well being replaced); and
- The replacement well permit shall include conditions (1) while the moratorium is in effect, prohibiting certain crop conversions, as described below, within the area irrigated by the replacement well on or after the date Ordinance No. 1577 was adopted (October 7, 2025); and (2) requiring the applicant and property owner to comply with any post-issuance conditions that may be imposed to align the permit with requirements included in any ordinance adopted by the Board of Supervisors in connection with the moratorium review process, e.g., potential requirement to install a meter. The procedure for imposing post-

issuance conditions shall be included in any such ordinance. For purposes of the prohibition on crop conversions, the intent is to maintain the status quo while the moratorium is in place and protect against changes in types of agricultural crops that may increase or harden groundwater demands in the Focus Areas before completion of the studies contemplated in Ordinance No. 1577. Accordingly, the prohibition on crop conversions applies to changes in classifications of crops on lands served by the replacement well, such as converting dry farmed land to irrigated row or perennial crops or converting annual crops (e.g., tomatoes or corn) to perennial crops (e.g., almonds, walnuts, olives, pistachios, and grapes). For example, converting dry farmed land to irrigated row or perennial crops or converting annual crops (e.g., tomatoes or corn) to perennial crops (e.g., almonds, walnuts, olives, pistachios, and grapes) would be prohibited while the moratorium is in place. However, conversion of a crop to lower water demand crop classification, e.g., conversion from a perennial crop to an annual row crop would be permitted.

Replacement wells in these Focus Areas meeting the foregoing criteria, however, would still be subject to the well permit requirements already in place for new agricultural/irrigation wells per Urgency Ordinance No. 1569 and its successors (Urgency Ordinance No. 1578 and Ordinance No. 1579), including verification review required by the applicable GSA, well separation distance requirements, and submittal of well completion and well pumping capacity reports. In response to this change, YSGA staff have incorporated a small change to the Tier 1 Well Permit Review Form so that the applicant can indicate whether their application meets the criteria for a replacement well as defined by the County. This change was approved by the YSGA Executive Committee at their December 11 meeting.

The amended language for exemption replacement wells under Urgency Ordinance No. 1577 can be found in the County's November 4 Board meeting staff report with the following link (identified as Attachment A).

On August 26, The County Board of Supervisors approved Urgency Ordinance No. 1588, further extending the Agricultural Well Moratorium within the Focus Areas by an additional year. This moratorium will maintain the status quo established by the current moratorium through August 25, 2027, to enable the County to study and develop policies and regulations and implement other recommended actions for well permits within the Focus Areas.

Well permitting reviews by the YSGA between April 1, 2022 and November 13, 2026:

- 144 well permit applications have been transferred from YCEH for YSGA written verification
- 3 applications were revised to Domestic Wells
- 2 well permit applications were technically located in the Colusa or Solano Subbasins (outside of the Yolo Subbasin, but within the County boundaries)
- Of the 139 relevant well permit applications
  - ✓ 47 replacement well permits have received YSGA written verification
  - ✓ 68 new well permit applications have received YSGA written verification
  - ✓ 19 well permit applications are currently in the queue
    - 12 applications pending receipt of a completed form from the applicant
      - Of these, 7 are within the Focus Areas
    - 3 applications completed Tier 1 and did not pass. These now require a Tier 2 review.
    - 4 applications are on hold pending receipt of additional information
  - ✓ 5 applications were withdrawn

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2026 **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION: 5-Year Work Plan Update

INITIATED OR REQUESTED BY: [X] STAFF [ ] BOARD [ ] OTHER _____

[ ] INFORMATION
[X] ACTION: [X] MOTION [ ] RESOLUTION

ATTACHMENT [X] YES [ ] NO

BACKGROUND

YSGA Staff developed a 5-year budget associated with the adopted YSGA Proposition 26 fee (YSGA Fee). The YSGA adopted the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 budget in May 2026 for GSA Governance, GSP Administration required by SGMA, and implementation of Foundational Actions. The GSP Administration and Foundational Actions subtotals are provided below:

Annual Reports	$	68,450
2032 Periodic Evaluation [8]	$	-
2032 GSP Amendment [8]	$	-
Tier 1 - GSP Administration Subtotal	*$*	*68,450*
Groundwater Accounting [9]	$	37,943
Hydrogeologic Characterization & YSM [9]	$	324,578
Management Area Establishment [9]	$	196,440
Outreach & Coordination [9]	$	92,153
Water Supply Resilience [9]	$	159,908
Technical Support [9]	$	37,170
Tier 2 - Foundational Actions Subtotal	*$*	*848,190*

a) Update on Statement of Qualifications Solicitation and Selection

To advance work associated with the GSP Administration and Foundational Actions, the YSGA released a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) on June 1, 2026 for Technical, Project Management, Grant Acquisition, and Outreach Services. Statement of Qualifications (SOQ) proposals were due by June 29, 2026. A total of 16 SOQs, representing 21 firms, were received by the deadline.

YSGA staff reviewed and scored all 16 SOQs using the scoring rubric in Attachment A, which follows the evaluation criteria outlined in the RFQ. Each SOQ could receive a maximum of 100 points. After scoring, 15 of the 16 SOQs received 75 points or higher (see Table 1) and were advanced for further evaluation by category. The firms advanced for further consideration are:

1. Consero Solutions
2. Davids Engineering
3. ERA Economics
4. Environmental Science Associates (ESA)
5. Geosyntec Team
6. Hansford Economic Consulting
7. INTERA
8. Leafbird Consulting Team
9. Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers
10. Montgomery & Associates
11. Olsson Team
12. Websoft Developers
13. West Yost
14. Water & Land Solutions
15. Woodard & Curran

For each category and subcategory, staff carefully considered the firms that were advanced. Staff have developed draft recommendations identifying the most qualified firm(s) for each category and subcategory. Staff anticipate the following will occur for some categories/subcategories to best support YSGA staff ramp up work over the next 12 months:

- On-call contracts
- Competitive Request for Proposals
- Sole source contracts

On-call contracts will be awarded to firms that respond to task order requests by YSGA staff for specific categories/subcategories that are classified as “On-Call”.

YSGA staff anticipate releasing an RFP for some categories/subcategories, to invite a select number of firms to submit a proposal for specific projects that require additional information to make an appropriate selection. YSGA staff will evaluate project proposals based on a firm’s staff availability, cost, and approach to complete the task on time and budget.

Where the SOQ was sufficient to make the selection, YSGA will request proposals from firms that have been selected for specific categories/subcategories. YSGA staff will request the firm selected to provide a letter proposal (or full detailed proposal, dependent on task/project complexity) to complete the work.

Staff anticipate having the firm selection for each category finalized before the end of November and will provide an update to the Executive Committee in December and the Board of Directors in January.

b) Approve Entering into a Consultant Services Agreement

Hydrogeologic Characterization and Yolo Subbasin Model: Well Completion Report Database Completion

YSGA staff worked with Environmental Science Associates (ESA) to develop an AI-enabled workflow to reduce cost and time to extract data from well completion reports that are available from DWR's Online System for Well Completion Reports (OSWCR). In addition, YSGA interns have improved the geolocation of WCRs from this dataset, geolocating 5,900 WCRs with greater accuracy that are within the Yolo Subbasin (there are ~11,000 in the Yolo Subbasin and ~17,100 within the County boundary).

To accelerate this work and prepare for ongoing updates to the Yolo Subbasin Well Completion Reports (WCR) and integration with WRID, YSGA staff selected ESA and their subconsultant, Olsson, to provide a proposal that will support the YSGA in finalizing the WCR database by June 2027. This work is critically important to the anticipated work to update the hydrogeologic conceptual model for the Yolo Subbasin. The hydrogeologic conceptual model update is foundational to the YSGA's 5-year Work Plan and future GSP implementation. YSGA staff worked with ESA and Olsson to develop a scope of work and schedule for finalizing the WCR database. The total budget for the project is approximately $175,000 (ESA: $85,000; Olsson: $90,000) and is within the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 Budget. For context, in working with ESA and the YSGA interns, the YSGA will save hundreds of thousands of dollars and hours, and the data and information will continue to advance the YSGA towards sustainable groundwater management.

RECOMMENDATION

a. This agenda item is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.
b. YSGA staff recommend approval of entering into a consultant services agreement with ESA and Olsson for finalizing the WCR database.

Table 1. SOQ Evaluation Rubric and Scores

Firm	Experience & Competence (50 pts) • Relevance and depth of experience in the specific services/tasks the firm is proposing • Strength of proposed team (PM and key staff qualifications, resumes, certifications, expertise) • Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with agency staff and other consultants • Similarity of past projects	YSGA Preference Criteria (15 pts) • Local experience or knowledge of Yolo County groundwater conditions • Demonstrated use/development of open-source code/tools/software & AI to improve efficiency	References (10 pts) • Minimum of 3 relevant public agency references (only 1 from YSGA member agency allowed) • Strength of recommendations for similar work • Relevance of past projects to proposed services	Fee Schedule (10 pts) • Clarity, completeness, and competitiveness of billing rates for proposed personnel • Transparency regarding any subcontractors or additional costs	Quallity of SOQ (10 pts) • Completeness of all required elements (Cover Letter, Qualifications, Team, Fee Schedule, Conflicts, References) • Clarity, organization, and professionalism of the SOQ • Adherence to 30-page suggested limit (excluding appendices) • Overall responsiveness to RFQ requirements and understanding of YSGA needs	Conflicts and Sample Agreement Terms (5 pts) • Explicit acceptance of standard terms (or clear identification of exceptions with rationale) • Disclosure and approach to addressing potential conflicts of interest	Total	Notes
Consero Solutions	47	10	10	10	9	3	**89**	Qualifications are strong for categories submitted both within and outside of Yolo County. Proposal was clear and easy to follow, however, was silent on open source tools and AI as well as acceptance of agreement. **Recommend considering Consero Solutions for D, E, and G categories against other firms who also submitted for those categories.**
Davids Engineering	45	10	10	10	9	3	**87**	Qualifications are strong for categories proposed. Proposal was clear on which RFQ categories they are responding too. **Recommend considering Davids Engineering for A.1, A.2, B, C, F, and G categories against other firms who also submitted for those categories.**
ERA Economics	50	10	10	10	7	3	**90**	Qualifications are strong for categories submitted both within and outside of Yolo County and have years of experience specifically working for agricultural/water clients. Proposal was silent on open source tools and AI as well as acceptance of agreement. **Recommend considerationg ERA Ecomomics for A, B, and G categories against other firms who also submitted for those categories.**
ESA	46	15	10	10	8	5	**94**	Qualifications are strong for categories submitted. Proposal addressed all requirements. Firm proposed leading on B and playing a collaborative and supportive role on the other categories where their strengths may compliment other consultants being consdiered. **Recommend considering ESA for categories A, B, C, D, E, F, and G against other firms who also submited for those categories.**
Geosyntec Team	44	5	10	8	8	3	**78**	Qualifications are good for categories submitted; very strong qualifications for HCM on sequence stratigraphy. Specifically offers Proposition 218 fee services. Proposal was silent on if team members have local experience and acceptance of sample agreement. It was also ambigious to map staff and rates for Geosyntec team. **Recommend considering Geosyntec team for Categories A, B, C, D, E, F, and G against othe firms who also submitted for those categories.**
Hansford Team	47	10	10	10	5	3	**85**	Qualifications are strong for fee study and economic benefit analysis work with GIS and outreach associated support. Specifically offers Proposition 26 and 218 fee services. Proposal was silent on acceptance of sample agreement and AI tools. **Recommend considering Geosyntec team for Categories A, D, and G against othe firms who also submitted for those categories.**
Hydroquakes	35	5	10	10	7	3	**70**	Qualifications are more modeling and analysis/automation than subsidence. Description of current GSP model is silent on WEAP being the primary model integrated with MODFLOW. Proposal does not explicitly call out the scope of work categories as names in RFQ, but does call out the specific subtasks that fall within certain categories. Proposal also silent on sample agreement acceptance requirement. **Do not recommend Hydroquakes for consideration since score was < 75 overall.**
INTERA	42	15	10	10	8	3	**88**	Qualifications are strong for certain categories submitted. However, how years of experience was quantified for several team members was inconsistent with industry standard. Proposal was silent on acceptance of sample agreement. **Recommend considering Intera for categories A, C, F and G.**
Leadbird Team	33	15	10	10	8	3	**79**	Proposal clearly calls out specific categories and tasks they are applying for. Geared more towards watershed management which in certain areas may be valuable, in particular Dunnigan Hills & Capay Valley. **Recommend considering Leafbird for categories A, B, C, D, E, F, and G.**
Ludhorff & Scalmanini	45	10	10	10	8	3	**86**	Well rounded team experience across many aspects groundwater. Proposal silent on smaple agreement acceptance requirement. **Recommend considering Ludhorff for categories A, B, C, D, F, and G.**
Montgomery	45	15	10	10	7	3	**90**	Offers Leapfrog modeling and has mining division within company which is attractive for HCM support. Did not explicitely call out acceptance of sample agreement. **Recommend considering Montgomery for categories A, B, C, and G.**
Olsson Team	47	15	10	10	9	5	**96**	Clearly called out "full agency ownership and no vendor lock-in". Competitive rates compared to others. Integrater of tools across multiple disciplines. **Recommend considering Olsson team for categories A, B, C, E, and G.**
Websoft	40	10	10	10	6	5	**81**	Qualifications are strong for data and database management. Experience working with clients within and outside of Yolo County. Proposal lacks resumes and doesn't elaborate on open source tools or AI experience. It also does not explicitly call out the scope of work categories as names in RFQ, but does call out the specific subtasks that fall within certain categories. **Recommend considering Websoft for categories A.1 and G categories against other firms who also submitted for those categories.**
West Yost	46	15	10	10	9	5	**95**	Qualifications are strong for categories proposed. Clearly emphasized the importance of collaboration and provide YSGA capacity/flexibility as focus of proposing on all categories. This aligns with intent of RFQ. **Recommend considering West Yost for categories A, B, C, D, E, F, and G against other firms who also submitted for those categories.**
Water Land Solutions	46	10	10	10	7	3	**86**	Qualifications are strong for categories. Proposal is silent on acceptance of sample agreement. Proposal doesn't elaborate on open source tools or AI experience. RFQ categories are called out clearly. **Recommend considering WLS for categories D, E, and F against other firms who also submitted for those categories.**
Woodard & Curran	46	15	10	8	8	5	**92**	Very well written and concise. Only missing clarity was on proposed team being mapped to rate schedule. Qualificiations are strong for categories proposed. **Recommend considering W&C for categories A, C, D, E, F, and G against other firms who also submitted for those categories.**

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2026 **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8**

SUBJECT: Presentation: 2027 Draft Periodic Evaluation

INITIATED OR REQUESTED BY: [ ] BOARD [X] STAFF [ ] OTHER _____

[X] INFORMATION
[ ] ACTION: [ ] MOTION [ ] RESOLUTION

ATTACHMENT [X] YES [ ] NO

BACKGROUND

YSGA staff and INTERA have prepared a draft of the Water Year 2019 through Water Year 2024 GSP Periodic Evaluation, incorporating feedback from the YSGA Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). On September 24, YSGA released the draft document for public review and opened a 45-day public comment period to solicit feedback. Ten commenters provided feedback on the draft Periodic Evaluation prior to the November 8 deadline.

YSGA staff will provide a verbal update summarizing the comments received (which are still under review by YSGA staff) on the draft 2027 Periodic Evaluation and next steps to be completed before the final document is adopted and submitted to the Department of Water Resources in advance of the January 31, 2027 deadline.

The public comments received on the draft 2027 Periodic Evaluation are included as an attachment.

RECOMMENDATION

This agenda item is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.

Greg Aitken

1007 Ohlone Street
Davis, CA 95618

Nov 8, 2026

RE: Comments on the Yolo Subbasin GSP 2027 Periodic Evaluation

To: Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Board and staff:

I'm a retired hydrogeologist who recently moved to Davis from Oregon, and I'm new to the Yolo Subbasin SGMA process. Over my career, including work as a groundwater management coordinator in Oregon's Upper Willamette Basin, I've found that the hardest part of groundwater management usually isn't the science. It's helping the people who depend on the aquifer understand what the science means for them, helping them understand how they can play a role in groundwater resource improvement, and making sure their local knowledge feeds back into the plan.

My comments focus on that connection: public engagement, and making the technical findings understandable to the people they affect. Section C adds a few technical comments, each with a plain-language note on why I think it may matter to residents. I am impressed with the work YSGA and its technical team have put into this evaluation and into responding to DWR's recommended corrective actions.

A. Public engagement and stakeholder involvement

SGMA asks GSAs to consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater and to encourage the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population. YSGA's 2022 Communication and Engagement Plan adopts those goals. These comments suggest that the PE should report on them and suggest practical next steps.

1. Make the technical findings accessible. The PE is a 180-page technical document, and terms like minimum thresholds, undesirable results and critical head put its key findings out of reach for many residents. A two- to four-page plain-language summary, ideally also in Spanish, would help a great deal. It could answer the questions residents actually ask:

- Are groundwater levels in my area recovering?
- Could my well go dry in the next drought, and what help is available if it does?
- Is the ground sinking near me, and does it matter?
- What is YSGA doing in my area, and how can I be involved?

The well impact analysis in Table 4 is especially valuable here. A simple map or lookup showing whether a well owner's area has wells at risk would turn a technical table into something people can act on.

2. Report on the 2022 Communication and Engagement Plan. The Plan set clear goals for implementation: involve disadvantaged communities and tribal stakeholders, hold meetings near those communities, address language and access barriers, document responses to public input, and periodically review what is working. Section 8 of the PE mostly lists meetings and doesn't report against these goals. A short progress summary would strengthen it. Simple measures would do: meeting attendance, comments received, and the size of the interested persons list.

3. Disadvantaged communities, small water systems and language access. The PE doesn't mention disadvantaged communities or Spanish-language outreach. Yet the well impact analysis in Table 4 estimates that about 149 domestic wells could be affected at the minimum thresholds. I'd suggest describing what outreach has happened, and what is planned, in places like Knights Landing, Madison, Esparto and Zamora and with small water systems. Translated fact sheets and one or two meetings in those communities would go a long way.

4. Domestic well owners. Domestic well owners are the most exposed in dry years and the least likely to attend Board meetings. I'd suggest:

- direct mailers to well owners in the Focus Areas
- a simple way to report a well problem, which would also give YSGA the local data it needs
- a target date for the Domestic Well Impact Mitigation Program, which is still listed as "Planning" (p. 109)

5. Meeting access. Since 2023, Board meetings have been held in Woodland. The 2022 Plan lists venues in Esparto, Winters, Rumsey, Zamora and Davis, and recognizes that online-only and in-person-only meetings each exclude some people. Rotating some meetings to outlying communities, and offering a call-in option or posting recordings, would follow through on the Plan.

6. Show how comments were used. Section 8.1 lists the comment letters received since 2022 but explains how only a few were addressed. A response-to-comments table for this draft, and ideally for the earlier letters, would show commenters that their input mattered. The 2022 Plan commits to documenting responses to public input.

7. Build on what's working. The Hungry Hollow Groundwater Working Group, the Yolo–Zamora landowner workshops and the Citizen Science well-measuring program are good models. The Citizen Science program also delivers on the 2022 Plan's call for residents to take part in monitoring . I'd suggest YSGA:

- extend working groups to other Focus Areas, such as Capay Valley and Dunnigan Hills
- share Citizen Science results back with participants and on the public data site

8. Update the Communication and Engagement Plan. Some of the Plan's messages no longer seem to fit current conditions. For example, it tells well owners to expect "little to no change" (Appendix B, p. 30), but there are now Focus Areas and tiered well permit review. An updated plan with specific outreach goals for 2027–2032 would set up the next Periodic Evaluation well.

B. Where engagement and the technical work overlap

9. Identifying critical infrastructure for subsidence. The PE relies on outreach, including "MA Public Advisory Committees," to identify critical infrastructure over the next five years. The meeting record shows these committees only being discussed in 2022 , and no committee meetings are listed. It would be helpful to state whether they exist, who serves on them, and on what schedule the infrastructure list will be developed. The subsidence limits depend on that list.

10. Beneficial users of streams. DWR asked YSGA to prioritize working with agencies and interested parties to understand who may be affected by pumping-induced stream depletion. Table 16 is a good start, but it appears to be compiled by YSGA rather than drawn from those users. I'd suggest naming the outreach steps planned for each stream reach. I'd also suggest not leaning on the absence of complaints during 2020–22 as evidence of no impact, since ecosystems and many rural users don't file reports.

11. Tribal and environmental input. The PE notes data sharing with Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation and environmental outreach led by Audubon and TNC, with a memo expected by the end of 2026. I'd suggest describing how tribal and environmental input will shape the revised criteria for streams and groundwater-dependent ecosystems, beyond data sharing.

C. Technical comments, with plain-language notes

Water quality (Section 3.4)

12. Subbasin-wide trigger. The proposed water quality undesirable result is based on a Subbasin-wide share of wells, around 50 percent. Table 6 reports a Subbasin-wide three-year average TDS of roughly 426–472 mg/L, which can mask problems at individual wells. The PE also acknowledges on page 33 that "some MAs have limited RMW coverage". I'd suggest a management-area-based trigger, with a persistence requirement, alongside the Subbasin-wide one.

In plain terms: salinity is being tracked mainly through Subbasin-wide averages, which can hide a rising problem in one area until it's widespread.

13. Salinity monitoring gaps. The water quality wells in Capay Valley, South Yolo and Clarksburg are sampled for nitrate (and in Clarksburg, arsenic and chromium) but not TDS, and Dunnigan Hills has none. Several wells with TDS have only one to three samples. Adding TDS sampling in those areas would make the criteria workable. The PE notes the data sparsity itself.

In plain terms: four of the six management areas have no salinity tracking at all.

14. "Due to groundwater extraction." The undesirable result applies only to degradation caused by groundwater extraction per SGMA. With current data, that cause will be hard to show or rule out. I'd suggest describing how YSGA would make that determination, and what it would do while the cause is being sorted out.

15. Early warning and a response plan now. Rather than waiting for the 2032 evaluation, I'd suggest defining an early-warning level and the first response steps now, such as more frequent sampling, outreach to nearby well owners, and a review of nearby pumping.

16. Explain the thresholds. It would help to explain how the TDS thresholds protect irrigation and domestic users, and to support the statement that TDS serves as a proxy for other constituents.

Groundwater levels (Section 3.1)

17. Impacts to domestic wells. Table 4 estimates that about 149 domestic wells could be dewatered or impaired at the minimum thresholds, including 31 of 188 in Capay Valley and 16 of 77 in Dunnigan Hills. The undesirable result still requires exceedances in two or more management areas, despite DWR's concern about localized impacts and the roughly 30 dry-well reports in 2021–22. I'd suggest stating plainly what happens when one management area, or a cluster of domestic wells, is affected.

In plain terms: a well owner in Capay Valley could lose their well while the Subbasin as a whole is still officially "sustainable."

18. Thresholds and subsidence. The PE acknowledges that some groundwater-level thresholds sit below estimated critical heads, so they "cannot presently be demonstrated to prevent all subsidence". I'd suggest naming those wells and saying when the thresholds will be reconciled.

Land subsidence (Section 3.5)

19. The cumulative limit. The revised criteria allow up to 2 feet of subsidence from 2022 to 2042 in North Yolo, Central Yolo and Dunnigan Hills, while critical infrastructure is still to be identified. Please explain how 2 feet was chosen, and commit to revisiting it once the infrastructure list exists. Canals, well casings and local drainage may tolerate much less than levees.

In plain terms: the plan would allow up to about 2 feet of sinking by 2042, before anyone has decided which canals, levees or wells can tolerate that.

20. Known local hot spots. The PE identifies Hungry Hollow and Yolo–Zamora as having localized overdraft and elevated subsidence, but the undesirable result requires exceedances in

three or more management areas. These two areas are natural places to apply the adaptive management the PE describes, with closer InSAR review or local benchmarks.

Interconnected surface water (Section 3.6)

21. Monitoring along Cache Creek. The PE says the current monitoring wells "may be insufficient" from about I-505 east, and that data collection has been inconsistent. A schedule for adding near-stream wells or stream gages there would make the deferred evaluation more credible.

Monitoring network and conceptual model (Sections 5.1 and 6.1)

22. Wells with unknown construction. About half of the groundwater-level wells in Table 21 have no screen-depth data, and many are irrigation or domestic wells. I'd suggest prioritizing video logs, or replacing them with dedicated monitoring wells like the new multi-completion wells on the west side. The PE also notes coverage gaps in Dunnigan Hills, South Yolo and Clarksburg, and Clarksburg still has no groundwater-level threshold.

In plain terms: for about half the monitoring wells, we don't know which depth of the aquifer the water level represents.

23. Use the AEM survey for water quality too. The PE plans to use the 2023 AEM survey mainly for geology and recharge siting. The same resistivity data might help flag deeper zones of more mineralized water, which would help fill the salinity gaps noted above.

Closing

I'd welcome the chance to help as a volunteer, for example by reviewing plain-language materials, helping explain technical findings at community or working-group meetings, or supporting the Citizen Science program. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Greg Aitken, PG (CA #5324) Davis, California

Phone: 541-868-4286

Email: greg.aitken@comcast.net

To: YSGA Board and Staff
From: Concerned Citizens
Re: General Comment, Yolo Subbasin GSP 2027 Periodic Evaluation Covering Water Years 2019 - 2024
November 8th 2026

Thank you for the opportunity to review the *Draft Periodic Evaluation Covering WY 2019 - 2024*. We appreciate the technical expertise and analysis that YSGA brings to the Yolo Subbasin. We also recognize the financial and practical challenges faced by YSGA and sincerely appreciate the time and resources that have been devoted to discussions with Yolo County community members concerned about proactive long-term water planning. Finally, we also recognize that a great deal of work has occurred since the document was written and that it only covers activities through 2024.

Our comments highlight the following five areas of concern:
1. Developing a strategy for the worst water years
2. The need for a proactive approach to dry wells
3. Addressing localized issues in the Subbasin
4. Clarity around conjunctive use
5. Crop conversion, land use and historically unirrigated lands

1. **Developing a strategy for the worst water years**
As outlined in the Periodic Evaluation, although there were severe impacts from drought during WY 2019 - 2024, none of them rose to the level of undesirable results, as defined by YSGA. Three dry years (one critical) bracketed by wet years on either side resulted in reduced surface water deliveries in 2021, increased groundwater pumping and no water deliveries in 2022. As reported in the Periodic Evaluation, crop fallowing resulted in an overall reduction in irrigated land of about 10,000 acres in 2021 and 25,000 acres in 2022. There were also six exceedances at RMWs in 2022.

Like YSGA, we are relieved that groundwater levels at most RMWs rose in wet WY 2023, but droughts are not an anomaly in California and they are becoming more frequent as a result of climate change. Everyone in the state has a role to play in preparing for droughts, but at our local level, YSGA is well equipped to lead in those preparations. Impacts from dry years 2021-2022 illustrate the need to develop a strategy for addressing droughts.

Despite significant efforts to improve groundwater conditions through projects and management actions, there is little or no discussion in the Periodic Evaluation of strategic land fallowing or the development of a groundwater extraction allocation system. This seems to us to be a significant oversight and a missed opportunity to develop robust demand management programs now before another emergency strikes. The current lack of a demand management program must be rectified.

2. **The need for a proactive approach to dry wells**

According to the updated well analysis described in the Periodic Evaluation, 200 wells would be potentially impacted at MTs. The Periodic Evaluation further reports that between 2021 and 2022, 30 dry wells were reported, all of which landowners had to replace with costly new, deeper wells. Dry agricultural wells are significantly underreported, partially because the state-level reporting system is not designed for them. The DWR Dry Well Reporting System is only meant for domestic wells, most people do not know about it, the County does not forward reports of dry wells to DWR, and most dry agricultural wells are not reported at all. That 30 wells were reported dry during 2021 and 2022 may be a symptom of more widespread problems.

We believe that the issue of dry wells deserves additional proactive planning. Perhaps based on the recent 2021-2022 drought experience, and with additional information from the updated dry well analysis that was done for Periodic Evaluation, certain groundwater levels could act as triggers for action. When water levels are seen to be dropping below the trigger levels, agricultural irrigators could be asked to reduce their extraction.

3. **Addressing localized issues in the Subbasin**
Addressing localized issues in sensitive areas is a challenge for GSAs in many subbasins across California. YSGA has made impressive strides in this regard, beyond what many other GSAs have achieved. We applaud that, and encourage continued creativity and resources to address the issues that are pointed out in the Periodic Evaluation, for example in the “hillslope areas” where limited groundwater recovery was observed after the 2021-2022 dry years. Also described in the Periodic Evaluation were issues in the Dunnigan Hills where all of the three monitoring wells reported on showed negative variance from Measurable Objectives, in fact one of them was 64 feet below.

For the Yolo Subbasin GSP, DWR asked, in their corrective actions, why local exceedances within just one management area are not considered an undesirable result. Variations on this question were repeated in the corrective actions for interconnected surface water, subsidence and chronic lowering of groundwater levels, requiring YSGA to make changes in their undesirable result definitions.

In response to the corrective action for the definition of undesirable results for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels, the following sentence was added: “While localized or short-term exceedances do not automatically trigger a subbasin-wide undesirable result, they may warrant adaptive management actions and implementation of projects to protect beneficial uses and users and prevent subbasin-wide impacts over time” (our emphasis).

On page 33, following the introduction of the new definition, we find the following: “Minimum threshold exceedances within a single MA may reflect localized conditions or may not provide sufficient spatial coverage to represent conditions across the Subbasin. Requiring exceedances in two or more MAs provides an interim measure for identifying a Subbasin-wide undesirable result” (our emphasis). With this sentence and in the careful qualifications in the changes to the definition, YSGA is saying that the goal is to manage the entire Subbasin and thus localized

conditions in just one MA cannot rise to the level of an undesirable result but should be addressed with localized projects and actions.

In order to emphasize that local actions are the correct approach, the document continues: "Such exceedances will be evaluated by the applicable GSA and Management Area Committee to assess their extent, cause, and potential effects and to determine whether additional monitoring or management actions are warranted." But by November 2026, we know of no Management Area Committees that have been created. Even the Hungry Hollow Working Group (which is not a Management Area), which has been meeting regularly, does not have the authority or power to carry out the assessments indicated by the Periodic Evaluation. If a Management Area Committee deemed that additional monitoring and management actions were warranted, it is unclear how agreement would be reached as to next steps and timelines.

We recognize that the concept of Management Area Committees is ambitious and will require resources and skilled collaborative facilitation. We endorse this concept, but urge YSGA to give the Management Area Committees some authority and to stand them up as soon as possible.

4. **Clarity around conjunctive use**

One of the four Subbasin sustainability goals is to: "Maintain surface water flows and quality to support conjunctive use programs…" (p. 3). Several of the described PMAs will extend surface water to new areas throughout the subbasin "to allow conjunctive use and groundwater recharge". MA2 will coordinate groundwater management and monitoring in the Subbasin to "enable a collaborative, conjunctive decision-making process. This includes evaluating well permit applications and working with Yolo County on the well permitting process" (p. 108, our emphasis).

The mention of new well permits as part of MA2 and other PMAs raises a significant concern that instead of using recharge, off-stream storage and canal system modernization to store groundwater for future droughts and replenishment of the aquifer, YSGA will be building new surface water connections to parcels without a history of groundwater pumping. In those areas, farming landowners will need well permits so that they can pump groundwater during droughts. Although these farmers will be able to practice coordinated management of their surface and groundwater resources, this will not achieve the goal of improving aquifer sustainability since it will enable additional groundwater extractions. The resulting increase in demand for groundwater is especially pronounced during drought conditions, when surface water is unavailable. Without a detailed hydrological report and YSGA analysis for such projects, it is impossible to assess whether additional groundwater demand will adversely affect basin groundwater levels.

Unfortunately, this approach, given legitimacy with the label of "conjunctive use" appears to be a drive for continued expansion of Water District reach and in our view is not compatible with the goal of sustainability. Once sustainability has been achieved and water supplies are abundant, perhaps then expansion of agriculture into new lands can be evaluated. We urge YSGA to limit new surface water connections to parcels that have a previous history of groundwater pumping.

5. **Crop conversion, land use and historically unirrigated lands**
On p. 168, the Periodic Evaluation states: “YSGA has been coordinating closely with the County on concerns related to crop conversion on land that was did not (*sic*) historically rely on groundwater or surface water for irrigation for crops. The County’s General Plan considers a conversion of land to be a change from agricultural land use to a non-agricultural or urban land use. If the County decides to proceed with updates to its General Plan policies that dictate crop conversion, YSGA staff intend to be proactive in providing feedback on proposed changes to the General Plan so that it aligns with SGMA and YSGA efforts to maintain sustainable groundwater resources within the subbasin.“

The commitment to provide input into future general plan updates is documented in ongoing MA10. This commitment is of particular interest to Concerned Citizens since we believe that there should be limits on new groundwater extractions on previously unirrigated parcels and perhaps the best way to investigate potential approaches will be in discussions with County planning staff and the Board of Supervisors during the next General Plan update. We appreciate YSGA commitment to providing feedback on General Plan updates, and hope to engage in additional discussions on this subject in future. We urge YSGA to develop a more robust agenda in regard to changes in land use on historically unirrigated land.

In summary:
1.The current lack of a demand management program must be rectified.
2. A more proactive approach to prevention of dry wells in droughts is needed.
3. Management Area Committees should be created as soon as possible and given sufficient authority to provide input on localized issues.
4. We urge YSGA to limit new surface water connections to parcels that have a previous history of groundwater pumping.
5. In order to live up to commitments in the Periodic Evaluation, a proactive agenda is needed to prevent opening previously unirrigated land to new surface and groundwater irrigation.

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment on the *Yolo Subbasin GSP 2027 Periodic Evaluation*.

Signed:
Alessa Johns
Annie Main
Barbara Gemmel Herron
Brigitte Uhlmann
Carine Hines
David Runsten
Elizabeth Lasensky
Eric Steinberg
Frances E. Dolan

Jackie Lundy
Janet Mercurio
Jay Lee Tuil
Jennifer Butler
John Fawcett
Judith Redmond
Marguerite and Neal Fleming
Maura Metz
Nerissa Sintetos
Paul Muller
Rachael and David Long
Ricardo Amon
Rick Johnston
Tarin Breuner
Ted Magallanes
Thomas Nelson
Tobin Barth
Ty Hammerness
Wyatt Cline
Zach Main

To: YSGA Board and Staff
From: Annie Main
Re: General Comment, Yolo Subbasin GSP 2027 Periodic Evaluation Covering Water Years 2019 - 2024
DATE November 8, 2026

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Periodic Evaluation Covering 2019 - 2024. It is clear from the GSP the deep technical expertise and analysis that the YSGA has brought to the Yolo Subbasin, and I appreciate the dedication involved in this effort. I recognize that this is a work in progress, and with each Periodic Evaluation there will be adjustment made to improve the GSP and the YSGA's ability to reach Groundwater Sustainability goals set forth by SGMA. As a concerned citizen that lives in the Hungry Hollow, I also want to acknowledge and appreciate the time and resources that have been dedicated to meetings and discussions with our community members, looking for solutions for a proactive long term water plan.

GENERAL SUMMARY

Taking into consideration the time dedicated to understanding the technical data of the GSP which was significant, and with a requirement for the YSGA to open up the Periodic Evaluation for public comment; I hope these comments, perspectives, and constructive evaluation are considered helpful as to what I see as necessary for the updating of the GSP. The following is a summary of my concerns, which then is further explored within the Specific Comments.

PURPOSE OF THE PERIODIC EVALUATION AND THE CONCEPT OF CONJUNCTIVE USE–The basic definition of Conjunctive use of water is a strategy to deliver surface water or alternative water supplies to landowners who normally pump groundwater. In-lieu or switching to surface water, from groundwater extractions allows the groundwater basin to naturally recharge and recover over time is an excellent management concept. Making sure to take into consideration the movement of water and potential changing water quality is important, but another major concern is using this management practice ultimately will allow areas in the Subbasin that have not been previously irrigated to create new demand for water extractions and this is significant during the years where surface water is limited or nonexistent. The GSP needs to consider how the GSA has authority to limit movement of surface water and to not increase groundwater extraction in historically non-irrigated land in the Focus Areas and the Hydrogeological Constrained Areas.

NEW INFORMATION COLLECTED-In the section New Information Collected; there is no reference to the water deficits that have been established in multiple areas of the basin. This information may have come after the 2024 end of the periodic review, yet there are Management Actions summary with projects completed after the 2024 date. This fact of water deficits although not good news to report, would seem very important to Subbasin characterization to note that there are documented localized water deficits in the Focus Areas in this evaluation.

GSP DEFINITION OF UNDESIRABLE RESULTS -The basic premise of the GSP is describing the health of the Subbasin and the implementation of defending groundwater suitability. Per SGMA this is being defined by the total undesirable result standards that the GSP has set. The GSP states reasons for setting 50% of two management areas to trigger an undesirable result were because there are insufficient monitoring wells in some of the management area. This is problematic with only 62 Representative Monitoring Wells that are used in the Evaluation to represent the entire Subbasin. Is the other the Periodic Monitoring Well data incorporated into the evaluation of the health of the Subbasin in this report? Taking into consideration that the GSP is the sacred roadmap to the sustainability groundwater management plan for the GSA, and that the plan dictates the actions of the GSA, the GSP should directly and clearly define trigger points that initiates a necessary management implementation, and give the GSA authoritative actions to protect the Subbasin. I did not see this in this evaluation. It would seem that the first goal of the GSA is to expand the monitoring wells so the entire Subbasin has a more complete representation for management decision.

DEGRADED WATER QUALITY –There is a concern about what appears to be a lack of commitment in tracking water quality in the Subbasin. The YSGA and the YFCWCD are using surface water and conjunctive use as a major part of their recharge management projects, so understanding water quality with movement and relocation of water would be a top priority. Having sufficient data of existing water quality is essential for understanding if the surface water and groundwater are degrading existing water quality or not, even with naturally occurring Constituents of Concern with surface water movement. It would seem a high priority would be to have more representative water quality data.

LAND SUBSIDENCE -Yolo County has a history of subsidence in localized areas and to wait for 25% of a management area to be the triggers for corrective actions to take place means that major regional drainage features will have already experienced permanent structural and environmental damages.

SURFACE WATER SUPPLY UNCERTAINTY-The YSGA is heavily advocating and relying on the use of surface water and conjunctive use for many of the management projects to reach sustainability goals. In the light of potential uncertainty with implementation of the proposed California State Water Board Bay-Delta Plan, it would seem prudent for this GSP Periodic review to incorporate a voluntary drought allocation plan, and a demand management action plan. Waiting for the 2032 review to include options for demand management and allocations could possibly bring devastating results.

CHALLENGES NOT PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED-CROP CONVERSION-It is clear that the YSGA has shown that the Overlying Landowners right which says landowners has a reasonable use of groundwater beneath their property is the legal obstacle to denying new well verification. The YSGA stated that they intend to be proactive in providing feedback or as a participant in aligning their efforts to maintain sustainable groundwater resources within the Subbasin with the County. Finding solutions that can align with the County General Plan and finding solutions within the GSA roles and authority, the GSP should address how limits on groundwater extraction from historically non-irrigated land in Focus Areas and Hydrogeological Constrained Areas.

CONCLUSIONS-My recommendation is that this Periodic Evaluation update to the GSP should include more explicit details of how the GSA is going to begin to resolve the trends that the Subbasin is experiencing now, specifically to manage groundwater extractions during impaired flow years, we cannot wait another five years.

SPECIFIC COMMENTS

1.2 Purpose of the Periodic Evaluation

This Period Evaluation meets the five-year assessment requirement of the GSP Emergency Regulations §356.4, Periodic Evaluation by Agency, and assesses the GSP implementation period for Water Years (WYs) 2019 through 2024. The purpose of this Periodic Evaluation is to provide an update to DWR, interested parties, and the public on changing conditions in the Yolo Subbasin and the progress the YSGA has made on implementing the Yolo Subbasin GSP. This Periodic Evaluation assesses the progress made toward maintaining the Subbasin sustainability goals, such as this goal:

- Maintain surface water flows and quality to support conjunctive use programs in the Subbasin that promote increased groundwater levels and improved water quality.

YSGA has used conjunctive use to justify issuance of groundwater pumping verification letters for newly irrigated land in an overdrafted basin by using a mechanism called “supplemental recharge.” In this scenario, the YCFCWCD brings in a new surface water supply (such as floodwaters or imported canal water) to explicitly offset the new demand and ensure that the new pumping does not worsen the baseline overdraft.

COMMENT- If a management project or new well permit introduces new groundwater demand on previously non-irrigated land (i.e., during drought periods) without a verified, equal or zero offset from recharge, it will result in a net increase in pumping and a net drop in groundwater levels. In localized areas within the Focus Areas that are experiencing water deficits, it is necessary to stop allowing new historic non irrigated land from creating a new water extraction ultimately adding to the deficit.

SUGGESTIONS-Conjunctive Use is specifically defined to use surface water to augment historically **dependent** irrigation on groundwater.

1. Evaluate YCFCWCD and YSGA conjunctive use policy to require conjunctive use to only parcels that have previous history of groundwater pumping for irrigation.
2. For YSGA verification it is required that if surface water uses are described as conditions for new well permits, and then there is the authority to enforce the use of surface water.
3. Change YCFCWCD boundary to not include historic non irrigated land.

3.1 Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels

DWR has recommended corrective actions generally focus on the following:

(1) Provide rationale/justification for requiring two or more management areas to define undesirable results for groundwater levels, land subsidence, and interconnected surface water.
The GSP currently defines undesirable results for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels over the entire Subbasin as the following: *An undesirable result occurs when the minimum threshold criteria are exceeded in 51% or more of representative monitoring wells in two Mas, over two consecutive seasons.*

COMMENT:
Extending Undesirable Results-In reviewing the GSP there are two more undesirable results that need to be acknowledged and transparent in our analysis. The first and foremost additional undesirable result is how the Yolo Subbasin GSP was written to ensure that there will not be the undesirable result for *DWR's State Intervention*. The second additional undesirable result is that the sole purpose of the GSP is to ensure that the Yolo Subbasin designated by DWR as a Subbasin that as a non-critically overdrafted, high-priority basin *does not become classified as a "critical overdraft*" tier. The reason for pointing out the additional two undesirable results is that the GSP should have contents that support with guidelines and set trigger points for putting in place authoretive management parameters so that neither of these additional two undesirable results occurs to make sure that the basin does not reach the definition of critically overdrafted.

3.1.3 2022 GSP Definition of Undesirable Results

The Definition of Measurement of Undesirable Results will occur when the majority of the basin is in critical overdraft. This low bar for undesirable results will not protect wells in localized areas that are seeing lowering of water levels. This bar protects the first undesirable result (stated above) keeping the GSA from State intervention, but it does not protect localized problems. DWR is suggesting that the Yolo GSP criteria should reduce down to 51% of 1 management area. The GSP is the sacred roadmap to the sustainability groundwater management plan for the GSA. This current GSP dictates the actions of the GSA to address minimum thresholds that are intended to protect the GSA from State intervention. This strategy sabotages the effectiveness of the GSP of building a plan to protect the Subbasin for sustainability. With the criteria of representative monitoring wells in two MA's to exceed minimum thresholds it also means that the GSA can state "we are in good condition for the entire subbasin", when in actuality that statement does not reflect localized issues, and totally generalizes the overall Subbasin condition and does not give a true representation of the real situation, specifically in the defined "Areas of Special Concern" in the GSP which are now set boundaries by the YSGA as the Focus Areas."

Proactive Management Actions: Every year that passes without enforceable demand management, through groundwater pumping allocations, well permitting controls, or land use measures that prevent further perennial conversion on historic non-irrigated dryland parcels, adds more acre-feet to the cumulative storage deficit, deepens the cone of depression in the Tehama Formation, and increases the risk of irreversible aquifer compaction. The moratorium extension, the YSGA allocation framework, and the zoning amendments are not alternatives to recharge; they are the demand-side complements without which the recharge projects cannot achieve the sustainability outcomes SGMA requires, and without which localized declining aquifers will continue to deteriorate while the recharge program remains in development and as we wait for the 2032 revised GSP.

Proactive adaptive management actions need actual trigger points set to make sure that undesirable results for groundwater levels, land subsidence, and interconnected surface water are being addressed before actually becoming a problematic situation that will cause severe water decline, reduction in aquifer storage, infrastructure damage due to subsidence and degradation of water quality. There needs to be a clearly defined trigger point that initiates a necessary management implementation, along with a time component for when an undesirable result will occur.

3.1.4 DWR Recommended Corrective Actions for Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels

c*. Describe how the selection of minimum thresholds of groundwater levels will avoid undesirable results for other sustainability indicators.*

COMMENT- The current undesirable results definition neglect localized issues. To facilitate achieving sustainable management, the GSA needs to provide details on these conditions specifically in focus areas where the YSGA determined water decline such as Dunnigan and northern Yolo, Zamora, Hungry Hollow and Winters. The practical implication is that *inaction* by waiting for 51% of two management areas — or with the continued approval of new wells — will likely increase the net overdraft, expand the cone of depression, and risk permanent, irreversible damage to the deep aquifer's storage capacity.

SUGGESTIONS- the following are examples of what trigger points could include.

1. Trigger Point of _af deficit there will be goals of meeting water budget balance
    a. Project Management actions are implemented
2. Trigger Point _af deficit
    a. Project Management actions are implemented
    b. Volunteer demand management polices set in place
3. Trigger Point _af deficit
    a. Project Management actions are implemented
    b. If Volunteer demand management polices set in place, but now must set potential enforceable demand management, through groundwater pumping allocations.
    c. Pause on new wells surrounding the localized focus areas be approved and implemented until deficit is reduced to balanced water budget.

3.1.5 Approach to Address Recommended Corrective Actions for Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels

c*. Describe how the selection of minimum thresholds of groundwater levels will avoid undesirable results for other sustainability indicators*

Minimum threshold (MT): is the exceedeance of historic depth to water at that well. MTs for groundwater levels are designed to indicate the groundwater elevation at which a depletion of water supply at a given location may lead to undesirable results (§354.28.(c)(1)). The GSP establishes MTs at each RMW based on historic groundwater elevations, with historic being defined as pre-2016 values.

Protective Threshold (PT)-The GSP outlines the impacts of lowering groundwater levels on user types as a protective threshold for each well: 30 feet above the total well depth or the bottom of well perforations, depending on available well data. The protective threshold is a general groundwater level that, when exceeded, may render a well inoperable under lowering groundwater conditions. The protective threshold is not an MT but indicates the point at which supply from an individual well is at risk (i.e. vulnerable to being inoperable).

Comment: In addressing the corrective actions of Minimum Threshold (MT) and how the GSP is going to address chronic lowering of groundwater levels with, it appears that the GSP introduced a new concept of Protective Thresholds (PT). The GSP is using the PT standard for all wells, not just domestic wells and that brings a question about wells that are screened throughout the well casing. Most pumps, many domestic wells and more so with Ag Irrigation, Public supply, Industrial wells do not have pumps set in the bottom of the well. Most of these wells are set much higher than 30' from the bottom of the well, so the pump can be far above the PT, yet with water level decline the pump will fail when it experiences the dewatered zone ***thus creating an undesirable result.*** And once the 30’ PT is reached the consequence is a dry well, again creating an undesirable result and the need to new to drill a replacement well at the landowner’s expense.

Setting protective thresholds could be a way to determine a potential undesirable result but it could be based by well type or on actual pump settings where they are known. Wells that fall into either the Vulnerable or Unprotected categories are flagged as “impacted,” meaning they are at higher risk of becoming inoperable under current MTs. This classification helps identify the wells with localized risk to beneficial users, particularly domestic well owners. But still the question remains, what is the Recommended Corrective Actions for Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels with using the MT or the PT?

SUGGESTIONS: Proactive adaptive management actions, or trigger points should be set to make sure that undesirable results are being addressed before actually becoming a fact.

1. During a drought, domestic wells that are flagged as at risk (i.e. vulnerable to being inoperable) should have a special high priority monitoring system, so that the GSA and the landowner will know how at risk their wells are.
2. Trigger point are set when domestic wells that are flagged as at risk (i.e. vulnerable to being inoperable) reach early warning levels (50% between MO & MY for 2 consecutive fall measurements
    a. Volunteer demand management of that localized area have polices set in place to mitigate water level lowering
3. Trigger Point where a wells that are flagged as at risk (i.e. vulnerable to being inoperable) levels close to the 30' protective threshold-
    a. Drought allocations are set in place for surrounding high capacity ag wells to mitigate water level lowering in the domestic wells
4. In the areas where wells are categorized or flagged as at risk (i.e. vulnerable to being inoperable) new wells must be required to:
    a. Production wells are not permitted to screen at the domestic screen levels to give potential less impact from neighboring wells.

3.1.7.1 Revised Definition of Undesirable Results for Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels

Management Area Committees-In the revised GSP it states that minimum threshold exceedances will be evaluated by the applicable GSA and Management Area Committee to assess their extent, cause, and potential effects and to determine whether additional monitoring or management actions are warranted. The RMW coverage will be addressed through the Management Area Committees, with appropriate monitoring-network improvements and any resulting revisions to the undesirable-result criteria documented in a future Plan Amendment.

COMMENT-These management area committees currently do not exist. In 2025 a Hungry Hollow Charter was created, which is the closest management area committee and it states: "The Working Group is an advisory body that supports the work of the YSGA. In the charter it states: It is not a committee of the YSGA Board of Directors, and does not have the authority to bind YSGA to any particular course of action". Considering that the GSP does not address localized issues in the Undesirable Results, these committees are the place for the GSA and landowners to address these issues. Yet these committees are appointed by the YSGA Board, they have no authority, or power by the landowners. Without guidelines, some localized authority and trigger points set, these are absolutely empty solutions.

SUGGESTION-The GSP needs to address localize problems, especially with concern to the pathway for a management area to have a clear proactive manner that protects localized issues from becoming problematic.

3.4 Degraded Water Quality

As described in Section 3.4.4, DWR's Recommended Corrective Action 2 requested the following:

a) Revise the definition of undesirable results for degraded groundwater quality …

b) The GSA should revise the GSP to provide the rationale to support their approach that TDS is the only quality constituent that requires the establishment of sustainable management criteria…

The GSP states "The GSA's role under SGMA is to monitor and preserve existing water quality conditions for long-term groundwater sustainability. YSGA may consider developing an exceedance plan and mitigation policy, should additional sustainable management criteria (SMC) be established, to guide the GSA's response to water-quality SMC exceedances. However, if opportunities arise to improve water quality, the GSA may pursue aspirational goals (my addition of definition: working toward big, long-term dreams or "stretch goals" that push well beyond your current limits, skills, or resources) to reduce concentrations of identified Constituents of Concern (COCs) where feasible.

3.4.3 2022 GSP Definition of Undesirable Results

The point at which water quality is degraded to the extent of causing significant and unreasonable impacts from groundwater management actions in the Yolo Subbasin, that affect the reasonable and beneficial use of, and access to, groundwater by overlying users.

An undesirable result occurs when the minimum threshold criteria is exceeded in 50 percent or more of representative monitoring wells monitored for total dissolved solids.

COMMENT-The overall conclusion is that there is a huge lack of sufficient data to detect trends, particularly for boron, arsenic, and TDS. The descriptions used "*may consider*", "*if opportunities arise*" and "*may purse aspirational goals*" gives an impression that the YSGA is not committed to filing data gaps unless convenient. Taking into consideration that the YSGA and the YFCWCD are using surface water and conjunctive use as a major part of their recharge management projects, understanding water quality with movement and relocation of water would be a top priority. Taking into consideration that the Undesirable Result for Water Quality is 50% of two management areas, with that low bar when undesirable results are reached with exceedances, it will be at a point that will be very difficult to correct and repair.

If you have very limited data of existing water quality, the base line for degradation in existing water quality will be unknown. Even with naturally occurring Constituents of Concern with surface water movement, there can be degradation directly linked to planed implementation activities, such as managed aquifer recharge.

Suggestion-Creating a program of increasing water quality data set is essential before using surface water as a sustainable groundwater management plan. As a first step, existing monitoring wells including the periodic monitoring wells should be tested for water quality annually.

3.5 Land Subsidence

3.5.3 2022 GSP Definition of Undesirable Results

The GSP currently defines undesirable results for land subsidence over the entire Subbasin as the following:
The point at which the rate and total amount of subsidence in the Subbasin cause significant and unreasonable impacts to surface land uses or critical infrastructure.
An undesirable result occurs when the minimum threshold value is exceeded over 25 percent of the management or sub-management areas in three (3) or more management or sub-management areas in the same reporting year.

While subsidence is often associated with declining groundwater levels, the GSP relies on studies that show subsidence in the Subbasin has occurred at a steady rate, even during periods when groundwater levels were stable or increasing.

3.5.4 DWR Recommended Corrective Actions for Land Subsidence

RECOMMENDED CORRECTIVE A CTION 3- Revise the proposed sustainable management criteria for land subsidence as follows:

b. *Revise the operational definition of undesirable results to consider localized instances of subsidence and how they would be determined to be significant and unreasonable. This should include describing how minimum thresholds being exceeded in multiple management areas or a quarter of one management area does not constitute an undesirable result…*
c. *Include a cumulative metric for land subsidence in the definition of the minimum threshold (such as 0.5 foot of land subsidence within a five-year period, or the maximum cumulative subsidence amount a specific structure can withstand)…*
d. *Revise the measurable objective and interim milestones for land subsidence to a value that achieves the sustainability goal for the basin within 20 years of Plan implementation and reflects sustainable management of the groundwater…*

COMMENT - *Historical Timeline & Sinking Rates from <u>Zamora to Davis</u>*

• From 1930s–1960s there was widespread reliance on groundwater aquifers for farming triggered regional overdrafts. Early U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) evaluations indicated that between 1935 and 1964, the agricultural strip stretching from Zamora down to Davis sank between 0.2 and 0.9 feet. From USGS
• In the 1970s Acceleration there was heavy pumping led to severe localized overdrafts. By 1973, studies showed the area just east of Zamora had lost more than 2 full feet of elevation. From California Water Library
• GPS Monitoring Era (1999–2005): Yolo County established a formal GPS Subsidence Network to track changes every three years. The 2002 survey tracked a 7-centimeter (nearly 3-inch) drop near Zamora over just three years. By 2005, the

data confirmed that the area near the Zamora extensometer station (ZAMX) had dropped a total of 12 to 15 centimeters (roughly 6 inches) in a six-year window, cementing it as the county's primary subsidence hotspot. From YSGA
• "The history of land subsidence in the Zamora area of northern Yolo County, California, is tied directly to intense groundwater pumping for agriculture, resulting in some of the most significant land sinking in the Sacramento Valley" From YSGA

Infrastructure & Flood Impacts
Because Zamora sits adjacent to major regional drainage features, historical subsidence has permanently warped local topography, causing structural and environmental vulnerabilities:
• Levee Degradation: Sinking has compromised flood barriers. Sections of the levees along nearby Cache Creek have dropped up to 4 feet below their original design elevation. From American Legal Publishing
• Colusa Basin Drain Flooding: The lowering of the land surface has significantly aggravated drainage capacity issues and heightened the seasonal risk of flooding. from the Colusa Basin Drain.
•Irreversible storage loss from subsidence is already occurring: The compaction of deep clay layers under reduced aquifer pressure permanently destroys storage capacity that cannot be recovered regardless of future recharge. Evidence of land subsidence has already been documented in the Zamora-Knights Landing corridor. Every year that chronic overdraft continues in the deeper Tehama Formation without demand management increases the risk that the cumulative storage loss will include an irreversible component, making the long-term situation worse even if a robust recharge program is eventually implemented.

SUGGESTION-the minimum threshold of 25% over 3 management areas does not address what is happening in the Subbasin with subsidence that has been occurring for decades in localized areas. This needs to be addressed beyond recharge projects, or waiting for 25% of 3 management areas. Identify areas and create trigger points, should be set for cumulative and annual subsidence to stop subsidence within the localized areas.
1. Trigger point _ft/yr of subsidence- Management projects and volunteer demand management are implemented
2. Trigger point _ft/yr subsidence-demand management is implemented
3. Trigger point beyond _ft/yr of subsidence new wells (expect for replacement wells) the YSGA does not approve well verifications.

3.5.5 Approach to Address Recommended Corrective Actions for Land Subsidence
To address the first recommended corrective action (a), YSGA will rely primarily on public outreach and input from interested parties over the next five years

COMMENT: Depending on the public to contact the YSGA as to subsidence or pump lowering or dry wells will not give a full appraisal of the issues.

SUGGESTION- A defined process to solicit public outreach should be created.

5.3.1 Surface Water Supply Uncertainty
The implementation of the proposed California State Water Board Bay-Delta Plan update through its primary regulatory pathway introduces notable surface water supply uncertainty for water users due to its reliance on a percentage-based unimpaired flow requirement. Under this approach, water right holders not participating in the alternative pathway must generally maintain 55% of unimpaired flows (with an adaptive range of 45 – 65%, potentially lowered to 35 – 45% in drier conditions based on water supply adjustments), calculated as a proportion of the estimated natural flow absent human alterations like dams or diversions.

This may also force the YSGA to move to a groundwater extraction allocation system specifically to manage groundwater extractions during 55% unimpaired flow years. In this scenario, there will be significant economic burdens felt by small to large landowners and agricultural operations that may need to take land out of agricultural production causing significant depreciation of land values. The YSGA is monitoring the situation closely and will be ready to adapt in either scenario.

COMMENT-This “unanticipated” situation brings forth the history of the decline of the southern San Joaquin Valley which stemmed from a severe, structural shortage of surface water deliveries from the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta and local rivers, forcing farmers and communities into massive groundwater overdraft.

SUGGESTION-The YSGA is heavily advocating and relying on the use of surface water and conjunctive use for many of the management projects to reach sustainability goals. In the light of this uncertainty with the potential implementation of the proposed California State Water Board Bay-Delta Plan, it would seem prudent for this GSP Periodic review to incorporate a voluntary drought allocation plan, and a demand management action plan. Waiting for the 2032 review to include options for demand management and allocations could possibly bring devastating results.

9.2 Challenges Not Previously Discussed

The YSGA has been coordinating closely with the County on concerns related to crop conversion on land that was not historically rely on groundwater or surface water for irrigation for crops. The County’s General Plan considers a conversion of land to be a change from agricultural land use to a non-agricultural or urban land use. If the County decides to proceed with updates to its General Plan policies that dictate crop conversion, YSGA staff intends to be proactive in providing feedback on proposed changes to the General Plan so that it aligns with SGMA and YSGA efforts to maintain sustainable groundwater resources within the subbasin.

COMMENTS-It is clear that the YSGA has shown that the Overlying Landowners right which says they have a reasonable use of groundwater beneath their property is the legal obstacle to denying new well verification. SGMA now requires that right to be exercised within a ***sustainability framework***. Although it is the County’s role to determine whether zoning amendments are needed now, or whether the information gathered during the moratorium should inform a future General Plan update, the question is what can the YSGA do to uphold their decree to protect groundwater sustainability within those limitations now? The YSGA needs to consider how they can use their authority to create limits on groundwater extraction from historically non-irrigated land in Focus Areas and Hydrogeological Constrained Areas.

SUGGESTIONS

1. Have a limitation to where groundwater is being pumped from an already irrigated parcel to support new agricultural development on a parcel that has not historically been irrigated.
2. Consider voluntary demand management allocations that would discourage permanent orchard plantings on previously non-irrigated land.
3. In localized areas within the focus area where there is a defined water deficit, establish a reasonable annual pumping volume (acre-feet/year) to avoid negative impacts to the groundwater sustainability.
4. Consider Drought allocation in historic non irrigated land within the focus area
    a. Non irrigated allocation is _af/year
    b. During drought on historically non-irrigated land _ac/year.
    c. In the focus areas on irrigated land where there is an existing water deficit during drought on irrigated land _af/year.

CONCLUSIONS

DEFERRING GSP AMENDMENTS-In much of the Evaluation it appears that corrective actions are being punted to the next GSP update in 2032. That is a long time before including into the GSP trigger points set, or definitive guidelines for the GSA to be able to use their given authoritative actions such as demand management, restricting extractions or allocations to address water deceits, or lack of RMW, and the lack of data for Water Quality. I would recommend updating this GSP to include more explicit details of how the GSA is going to begin to resolve the trends that we are experiencing in the Subbasin today. With Climate Change, with increasing perennial planting creating more water demand, with the uncertainty of future external influences that may force the YSGA to move to a groundwater extraction allocation system specifically to manage groundwater extractions during unimpaired flow years, we cannot wait another five years.

Thank you,
Annie Main

November 8, 2026

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YSGA),
Attn: Executive Officer, Board of Directors, and Staff
34274 State Highway 16,
Woodland, CA 95695

Re: Public Comment on the Draft 2027 Periodic Evaluation of the Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (released September 23, 2026): Deferral of the GSP amendment, representative monitoring wells, and the well impact analysis

I object to the YSGA's decision not to amend the GSP with this Periodic Evaluation and to defer the amendment to 2032. I also ask the YSGA to resolve the missing screened-interval data for the Subbasin's representative monitoring wells and to correct the well impact analysis. Without these changes, the YSGA cannot fully respond to the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Recommended Corrective Action 1 on groundwater levels.

Objection to deferring the GSP amendment

The Draft proposes a revised undesirable result definition but adopts no amendment, deferring plan changes to a 2032 amendment (Draft, Sections 1.2 and 3.1.7). I ask the Board to reconsider, for four reasons.

1. **DWR's corrective actions date from 2023.** DWR approved the GSP on October 26, 2023, and recommended that corrective actions be implemented before the 2027 update. Deferring to 2032 leaves them unresolved nine years after approval.
2. **The revised definition has no effect until adopted.** Until the GSP is amended, the 2022 undesirable result definition, which DWR asked the YSGA to revise, remains the operative standard.
3. **Harm has already occurred.** YSGA received 30 verified dry-well reports in 2021–2022 (Draft, Section 3.1.2). Another drought before 2032 would be evaluated under the same criteria that did not register that harm.
4. **The monitoring gap persists.** Deferral means sustainability determinations through at least 2032 will rest on a network in which 29 of 62 representative wells have unknown screened intervals[1].

If a full amendment cannot be completed in 2027, I ask the Board to adopt at least the revised undesirable result definition now, with a dated schedule for the remaining changes.

[1] October 8, 2026 meeting and YSGA presentation of an overview of groundwater conditions. The 29 of 62 RMWs that lack information on well screen intervals was based upon my recollection of a YSGA Table that was presented that summarizing RMWs well construction characteristics. A meeting summary was provided in an October 15, 2026 from April Meneghetti to the meeting attendees.

The representative monitoring network has not been shown to be representative

A representative groundwater monitoring (RMW) network should reflect the Subbasin's hydrogeology, both laterally and vertically. Where management areas are established, the GSP regulations require enough monitoring sites in each to evaluate conditions specific to that area (23 CCR §354.34(d)). The YSGA cited this requirement in its own 2020 network design presentations.

Laterally, the GSP divides the Subbasin into six management areas (Capay Valley, Central Yolo, Clarksburg, Dunnigan Hills, North Yolo, and South Yolo), drawn on administrative boundaries and on geologic, aquifer, and topographic characteristics (GSP, Section 2.4). The network does not follow that structure. Dunnigan Hills, which carries the larger of the two deficits in the Hungry Hollow White Paper, has 3 representative wells; South Yolo has 4; Clarksburg has none. In the 2020 management area workshops, Capay Valley participants asked that the network add shallow, upper-aquifer wells.

Vertically, the GSP, citing a 2004 Luhdorff & Scalmanini report, divides the aquifer system of alluvium and upper Tehama Formation into three zones (GSP, Section 2.1.3): a shallow zone from the surface to 220 feet below ground surface, mostly alluvium; an intermediate zone from 220 to 600 feet, entirely within the upper Tehama Formation; and a deep zone from 600 to 1,500 feet. Aquifer properties also vary widely among the layers (GSP, Section 2.1.3.4 and Table 2-1). Many domestic wells are completed in the shallow zone, so a decline there can go undetected at a representative well screened deeper or across zones. The Draft does not report which of these zones each representative well monitors, or evaluate thresholds by zone.

Of the 62 representative monitoring wells used to set minimum thresholds (MTs) and measurable objectives (MOs) for groundwater levels, 29 (47%) have unknown screened intervals. For those wells, the GSP cannot say which part of the aquifer system is being measured. This compounds the lateral and vertical gaps: the network cannot reliably show where, or at what depth, a decline is occurring.

This matters because the Subbasin's aquifer system is layered. For example, local data from the Davis area show the deep aquifer responding differently from the shallow and intermediate zones, with deep levels declining roughly 3 to 5 feet per year since 2000 (Yolo County hydrogeologic report). A well with an unknown or long screen may blend these zones, so it can stay above its MT while one layer is falling.

The self-referencing approach (each well's MT and MO drawn from its own record) does not solve this. It confirms that a well's reading has changed, but not which water users or resources are affected.

It is acknowledged that SGMA does not require a well in every zone of every area. It does require a network that can evaluate conditions in each management area, from wells whose construction is known. The minimum thresholds, the undesirable result test, the well impact analysis, and the tracking of the Hungry Hollow projects against the 6,600 acre-foot-per-year deficit all rest on this network. Building further corrective actions on it risks reporting progress that has not occurred, or missing harm in an area or zone the network does not see. Network corrections should proceed alongside the projects and be completed before thresholds are next reset.

The Draft's responses to DWR's comments

Each of the Draft's responses to Recommended Corrective Action 1 depends on knowing which aquifer zone each representative well measures.

1. **Significant and unreasonable effects (1a).** The Draft defines these effects through a well impact analysis that compares private wells' construction against an MT surface interpolated from the representative wells. That comparison is valid only if the representative wells measure the zone the private wells draw from, which cannot be confirmed for the 29 unknown-screen wells. The analysis has further flaws that relate to the Drafts “protective threshold”, described in the next section.
2. **Undesirable result definition (1b).** The Draft justifies requiring exceedances in two management areas by noting that the representative network is unevenly distributed. That is an argument for fixing the network, not for a less protective definition. Dunnigan Hills has only 3 representative wells, South Yolo 4, and Clarksburg none.
3. **Other indicators (1c).** The Draft concedes that some groundwater-level MTs are below estimated critical heads, so the MTs alone cannot be shown to prevent subsidence. It defers the interconnected surface water evaluation to a future Periodic Evaluation. Both demonstrations require zone-specific water levels, which the unknown-screen wells cannot provide.

Flaws in the well impact analysis

The Draft sets a protective threshold 30 feet above each well's total depth or bottom of perforations, and treats a well as impacted only when the MT is below that level (Draft, Section 3.1.5). This understates impacts in four ways.

1. **Pump setting is ignored.** A well becomes inoperable when the pumping water level reaches the pump intake, not when it nears the bottom of the well. Most well pumps are set well above the well casing bottom. The Draft itself notes that during the drought, owners had to lower their pumps or drill new wells, and the Hungry Hollow White Paper reports landowner accounts of lowered pumps and dry wells beginning in 2021. Lowering a pump is a cost to beneficial users that the analysis must consider and count.
2. **Multiple screened intervals are ignored.** Many wells are completed with several screened intervals, and a well's production rate depends on flow from all of them. As upper screens dewater, specific capacity drops and drawdown increases at the same pumping rate. A well with 30 feet of saturated screen remaining (the Draft’s protective threshold) may not sustain its design yield.
3. **Pumping drawdown is ignored.** MTs are based on fall water levels, which approximate static conditions. A pump sees the static level minus drawdown, which can be tens of feet. Summer pumping-season lows are also typically below fall levels.
4. **The method is not validated.** The Draft does not test whether its method would have flagged the 30 wells verified dry in 2021–2022, given the water levels that actually occurred.

For these reasons, the Draft's finding that only 5% of wells are potentially impacted likely understates the risk, particularly for domestic wells.

Localized overdraft omitted from Section 2- NEW INFORMATION COLLECTED

The YSGA's Hungry Hollow Project Implementation White Paper, released September 23, 2026, the same day as the Draft, uses the Subbasin model to estimate the 2014–2024 groundwater storage deficit in two model catchments: about 2,260 acre-feet per year in Hungry Hollow and about 4,308 in Dunnigan

Hills (White Paper, Section 5.7, Table 5). The Working Group adopted the combined figure, approximately 6,600 acre-feet per year, as the offset target for projects to stabilize and raise groundwater levels.

The deficit is also worsening. In Hungry Hollow, the average annual storage loss grows from about 139 acre-feet per year over 1970–2024 to 2,260 over 2014–2024; in Dunnigan Hills, from about 1,280 to 4,308. The White Paper attributes part of this to a hardening of demand: tree crop acreage grew 319% between 2008 and 2024, and demand that must be met during droughts rose by up to 25% (Sections 5.6 and 5.8.3).

This is significant new information, and the YSGA had it when the Draft was released. Yet Table 1 of the Draft describes the Hungry Hollow work only as an ongoing study whose white paper is anticipated before the end of 2026, marks it "No" for plan amendment, and does not mention the deficit. The Executive Summary states that the Subbasin did not experience overdraft, a basin-wide conclusion that does not disclose a quantified, worsening deficit in specific areas.

GSP Emergency Regulations §356.4(f) require the Periodic Evaluation to describe significant new information and state whether it warrants changes to the basin setting, measurable objectives, minimum thresholds, or undesirable result criteria. The deficit bears on each of these:

- **Undesirable results.** DWR warned that the current definition may neglect localized issues. A chronic deficit confined to two Focus Areas cannot register under a rule requiring exceedances in two or more management areas.
- **Minimum thresholds and measurable objectives.** The Draft's own data show persistent declines in these areas. In Dunnigan Hills, one representative well's 5-year fall average is about 64 feet below its measurable objective, and another about 30 feet below. The Draft attributes persistent hillslope exceedances to localized issues likely to be addressed by targeted projects.
- **Basin setting and water budget.** A known, growing deficit of this size belongs in the water budget, and reported separately for the affected areas rather than absorbed into a basin-wide balance.

The White Paper also proposes a response: six voluntary projects with a combined planning-level benefit of about 11,000 acre-feet per year (range 5,400–21,800). This is exactly the kind of project information the Periodic Evaluation should report, and it raises questions the Draft should answer:

- **Readiness.** Only the on-farm recharge and Oat Creek projects are proposed for near-term pilots. The other four still need scope, schedule, design, permitting, and funding, over a phased period of three or more years.
- **Benefit type.** Direct recharge projects total about 4,400 acre-feet per year, below the 6,600 target. The rest comes from in-lieu recharge through conjunctive use (about 3,300) and reduced applied water through land management (about 3,100), both of which depend on surface water availability and voluntary participation.
- **Inconsistent estimates.** The White Paper's own modeled low scenario for 2016–2024 offsets about 4,600 acre-feet per year (Table 7), below both the target and the stated low end of 5,400. Several of the project benefits drop in dry years, when the deficit is greatest.
- **No enforceable backstop.** All six projects are voluntary, and demand management is limited to voluntary pumping reduction during droughts.

I ask that the final Periodic Evaluation:

1. Add the 6,600 acre-foot-per-year deficit to Table 1 as significant new information.
2. State, as §356.4(f) requires, whether the deficit warrants changes to the MTs, MOs, or undesirable result criteria, and explain the conclusion.
3. Report the water budget for the Hungry Hollow and Dunnigan Hills Focus Areas separately.
4. Include the six prioritized projects in Section 4, Status of Projects and Management Actions, identifying for each whether it is ready or conceptual, its expected recharge volume, funding, and schedule.
5. Set a date by which the portfolio is expected to offset the deficit, with interim checkpoints measured against water levels in the Focus Areas.
6. Describe contingency actions, including demand management, if recharge falls toward the low end of the estimated range or projects are delayed.
7. Reconcile the deficit with the finding that the Subbasin did not experience overdraft.

Requested actions

1. **Amend the GSP with the 2027 Periodic Evaluation.** At minimum, adopt the revised undesirable result definition now and publish a dated schedule for the remaining changes.
2. **Evaluate the network against §354.34(d).** For each management area and aquifer zone, report the number of representative wells, identify gaps, and set a dated schedule to fill them.
3. **Investigate the 29 unknown-screen wells.** Search well completion reports, run downhole video or geophysical logs to establish screened intervals.
4. **Replace wells that cannot be resolved.** Use nearby wells with known construction, the three new multi-completion wells, or the wells added to the network since 2022. Keep the old records as supporting data.
5. **Assign every representative well to an aquifer zone.** Publish a table listing each well's screened interval, aquifer zone, management area, MT, and MO.
6. **Report results by aquifer zone.** Evaluate MT exceedances separately for shallow and deeper zones, so a decline in one zone is not masked by stable readings in another.
7. **Revise the well impact analysis.** Use pump setting depths from contractor records, permits, dry-well reports, or an owner survey, and test a range where unknown. Compare MTs against pumping water levels, estimating drawdown from well completion report test data. Account for all screened intervals, and count pump lowering as an impact.
8. **Validate the analysis against the 30 dry-well reports.** Publish whether the method flags those wells under the water levels that occurred, and revise it if not.
9. **Interim reporting.** Until these steps are complete, flag unknown-screen wells in annual reports and show their results separately.

Closing

I support the YSGA's work toward sustainability and recognize that SGMA expects data gaps to be closed over time. But DWR's corrective actions have been pending since 2023, and the 2027 Periodic Evaluation is the point to act on them rather than defer them.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my comments.

John Fawcett, PE
6263 Strathgordon Lane, Winters, CA 95694
Jfaw73@yahoo.com

Sources

- Yolo Subbasin GSP Draft 2027 Periodic Evaluation (September 23, 2026)
- Hungry Hollow Project Implementation White Paper (September 23, 2026)
- Yolo Subbasin GSP Receives Approval from DWR
- Yolo County hydrogeologic report (Davis area)
- Adopted Yolo Subbasin GSP (January 24, 2022)
- YSGA Working Group presentation on sustainable management criteria and monitoring network (September 10, 2020)
- YSGA Working Group presentation summarizing management area workshops (March 9, 2021)

Comments on the Yolo Subbasin 2027 GSP Periodic Evaluation (Draft)
Rachael and David Long, DH Long Farming

1. This report hides local impacts of drought by averaging subsidence and well levels over space and time, leading to underestimates of harm and a lack of water security in overdrafted areas, like Zamora where we live and farm. How can we correct a problem if it's perceived as not existing from blending data? (Re: Executive Summary, "Undesirable results did not occur for any applicable sustainability indicator').

    a. YSGA judges sinking by averaging it over 5 years. A bad drought year gets blended in with normal years, so it looks small. YSGA 3-year averages clearly show drought impacts (Table 11, page 57). In 2020–22, east central Yolo sank faster than its allowed limit across 30.6% of its area, which is more than the 25% which is supposed to raise a flag. North Yolo sank 0.12 ft a year, above its 0.098 limit. In the 5-year averages (Table 10, page 56), both problems disappear. In 2022 alone, some spots along canals, levees and roads sank about half a foot (Table 12, page 61). Sinking that year was 2 to 4 times faster than the 9-year average (page 63).

    b. YSGA averages both ways. Why? For water levels, YSGA says the drought dragged the average down and made things look worse than they really are (page 11). For sinking, YSGA relies on the same kind of average to say things are fine.

    c. The YSGSP Executive Summary states there was no overdraft. The body of the report admits "temporally variable localized overdraft" in Yolo-Zamora and the upland areas (pages 107, 127, 137). Critical overdraft areas should be mentioned in the executive summary.

    d. Subsidence rates are labeled as "less than measurement error" (0.066 ft). That's a single measurement and ignores decadal sinking. For instance, in north Yolo, the max allowed rate per year of subsidence is 0.098. In water years 2020-2024, the rate was 0.082 ft/yr. Over 5 years, that's 0.4 feet of subsidence. Over decades it could be a lot more.

2. The only evidence of no damage (or harm) that YSGA presents is that nobody reported any (page 58). Harm needs to be on the record in Section 3.5.2, "Impacts to Beneficial Uses and Users." This then will feed into the 2032 plan rewrite for DWR.

    a. We reported harm to our small water system in Zamora, Dunnigan Hills where we live and farm, yet this was not documented by YSGA. We lost water twice at our

house (2013 and again in 2020). We lowered our pump both times; we cannot go any lower. A second small domestic well on our property dropped 60-ft in the past 20-years and has not recovered (it used to be 40-ft to groundwater, now it's 107-ft). All 3 Dunnigan Hills monitoring wells were below their target level every year from 2019 to 2024 (page 13). RMW 260 is about 64 ft below its target (page 13). That matches our well's 60-ft drop. There were 30 verified dry wells in 2021–22 (page 17).

b. There are about 30 homes in our neighborhood, and many neighbors are experiencing similar problems with costly well repairs. One lost water around 2022 and had to drill a new well.

c. Small water systems (e.g. domestic wells) are identified as local and regional protected resources (3.5.6.1 YSGA report and Senate Bill 552). Domestic well failures in the Dunnigan Hills need to be recognized and addressed in the Executive Summary. SB 552 states, "All counties must develop a County Drought Resilience Plan to evaluate risks and propose interim and long-term solutions for state small water systems and private domestic wells within their jurisdiction".

d. "We didn't receive reports" is used twice in the report as evidence of no harm from subsidence. Did landowners have a way to report subsidence damage? YSGA needs to send out yearly surveys to landowners to capture local subsidence issues as well as problems with domestic and ag wells. Start an annual landowner survey or online reporting form in 2027 (not 2029).

e. There needs to be a metric in place for landowners to monitor subsidence issues. Examples could include watching for structural cracking or localized sinking or watching for protrusion (every fall, measure how far the casing sticks up above its pad and take a photo).

3. Ag wells need to be included on the list of critical infrastructure impacts, along with canals, pipelines, levees, roads, small water systems and public municipal supply wells (pages 60 & 166). Regulations require the GSA to identify the "land uses and property interests" affected by subsidence (23 CCR 354.28(c)(5)(A)). Water Code 10723.2 also names agricultural users and domestic well owners as interests the GSA must consider. YSGA's own draft defines critical infrastructure as "any infrastructure, land use, or property interest" whose damage would substantially harm users (page 60). Extend the domestic well mitigation program to cover subsidence damage and ag wells.

a. We need protection for our ag wells from subsidence. Our family's 20-yr old ag well failed in 2021, in the middle of the 2020–22 subsidence spike, and we had to drill a new well. It sits in the subsidence zone. Dunnigan Hills and North Yolo sank up to about 1.3 ft since 2015 (Table 13, page 65 of the YSGA report). Figure 1 below documents damage to multiple wells in the Zamora area from subsidence from 1999-2008 (Borchers and Carpenter 2014).

a. Subsidence limits (pages 72–73). The proposal allows 2 more feet of subsidence by 2042, on top of up to ~1.3 ft already. An undesirable result requires exceedances in 3 or more management areas, and only three areas are actually sinking (Dunnigan Hills, North Yolo, Central Yolo). So all three would have to exceed in the same year. Local exceedances only count if they damage "critical infrastructure," which is why getting wells on the list matters most (3.5.6.1 YSGA report, Table 12).

b. SGMA's regulations cover property interests, YSGA's own draft defines critical infrastructure to include property interests, and YSGA itself proposed tracking subsidence impacts to wells back in 2021. Ag and domestic wells belong on the list (3.5.6.1 YSGA report, Table 12)

4. The YSGP Periodic Evaluation needs to reference Larochelle's 2026 study documenting subsidence and harm in the Sacramento Valley despite well water recovery as well as Borchers and Carpenter (2014) documenting the impact of subsidence on well destruction in Yolo County for the following reasons:

    a. Groundwater levels show recovery, yet subsidence is still occurring indicating damage to our aquifers that needs to be addressed. Larochelle 2026 study found the 2021 shift was lasting, with clay layers expected to keep compacting for years. This is a data point for predicting future conditions. The real damage is storage lost for good (less water banked for the next drought), plus damaged casings. Groundwater levels can recover while storage capacity lost to compaction does not.

    b. In the SGMA fee structure outreach meetings there was agreement that YSGA would collaborate with other agencies, pooling data and resources, to help with accountability and costs of managing the YSAG program. Including this paper documents collaboration.

    c. Big droughts are exactly what the YSGA plan must manage. The draft plan itself warns that new state flow rules could cut surface water further and push more pumping (pages 130–131), and it models a "dry extreme warming" future (page 136). More severe impacts are coming. We need to be prepared.

d. Citation: Larochelle, S., et al. Abrupt transition to irreversible damage in the overdrafted Sacramento Valley aquifer system." Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 123.31 (2026): e2526041123.

e. Citation: Borchers, J. W., & Carpenter, M. 2014. *Land subsidence from groundwater use in California* (Full Report of Findings). Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers for the California Water Foundation. https://cawaterlibrary.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/1397858208-SUBSIDENCEFULLREPORT_FINAL.pdf

5. More discussion is needed about groundwater sustainability issues related to dryland farm ground being converted to irrigated agriculture in Yolo County for the following reasons:

    a. YSGA states, "YSGA staff intend to be proactive in providing feedback on proposed changes to the Yolo County's General Plan" (on converting dryland farmland to irrigated land). YSGA needs to define the feedback in the report to ensure accountability and input on the need for developing priorities for protecting groundwater in sensitive areas like ours. We need water security to live and farm in rural Yolo County.

    b. YSGA should report how much previously unirrigated land in Dunnigan Hills and the Focus Areas has been put under irrigation since 2015. YSGA has the land-use data; Table 20 only shows totals. YSGA needs to look at the Google Earth timelapse for the area, land use change is insane.

    a. YSGA should recommend that the County review dryland-to-irrigated conversions in Focus Areas.

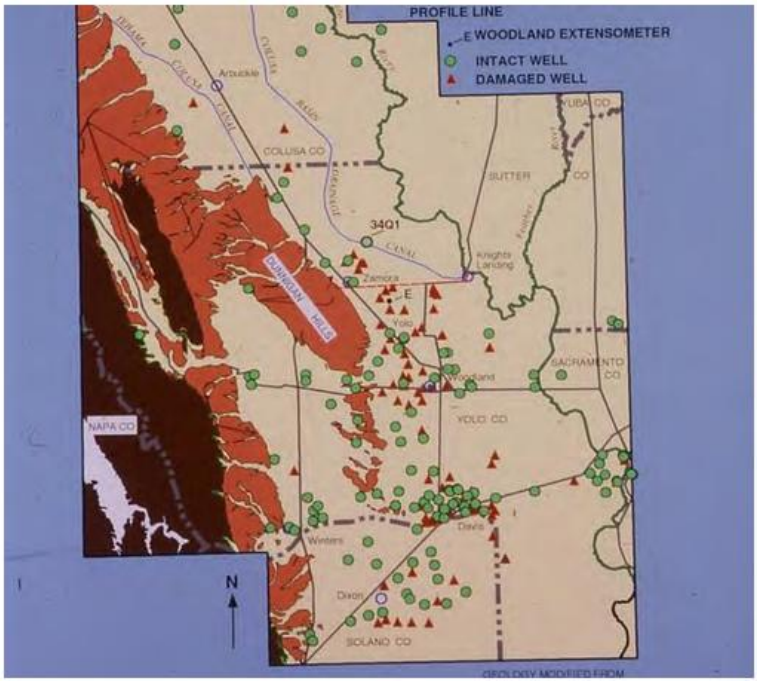
    b. Our house well went dry after 7 new ag wells went in within 1-2 miles of our home in the past 20 years where dryland was converted to irrigated land. More domestic and ag well failures are going to occur with continued groundwater extraction in our area of Zamora.

    c. Right now, in the Dunnigan Hills near where we live, about 1,000 acres of olive orchards are being planted in a historically dryland farming area and more acres are planned. Water is available from Yolo Flood 7 out of 10 years. The other 3 years will have to rely on groundwater. This needs to stop as groundwater

pumping is currently impacting protected resources in our area with small water systems going dry.

6. Re: Section 9.2, YSGA funding structure: This section needs to be updated to reflect the new Fee schedule and Parcel tax assessment on 'beneficiaries'. The costs to 'beneficiaries' is substantial. There needs to be better transparency and accountability for oversight for the new YSGA budget. There needs to be an annual public report of fee revenue and spending. YSGA also needs to add information to the report on how to better outreach to 'beneficiaries'. For example, developing local ag water user networks in rural areas to help oversee projects implemented in our watershed that benefit farmers.

Figure 1. Intact wells and wells damaged by land subsidence, Yolo County, from 1999 to 2008 (Borchers and Carpenter 2014). Data show casings crushed by vertical compression. During the 77 drought, drillers report casings "snapping like matchsticks in our area of Zamora.



Comment from Alexander Liesegang:

I agree with the NOT super long comments made by the Concerned Citizens - local farmers and residents.

Comment from Judith Blum:

Thank you for allowing the public to supply comic on the annual exam examination.

I greatly appreciate the Concerned Citizens letter to the Board and I would like to add my support to their findings and concerns for the future groundwater management in our region.

Sincerely,

Judith Blum, UCD alumni , Sausage Davis Ca resident since 1965

Comment from Scott Steward:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Periodic Evaluation

I refer to the Memo sent to the YSGA Board and Staff. I want to highlight certain language in that memo to raise 5 points the Concerned Citizens raised about sustainable water management.

These comments are excerpts from the Concerned Citizens Memo, emphasizing what I read as most important to a person whose children want to see sustained arable land in this region for generations to come.

1. Developing a strategy for the worst water years
   Droughts are not an anomaly in California, and they are becoming more frequent because of climate change.
   The current lack of a demand management program must be rectified.
2. The need for a proactive approach to dry wells
   That 30 wells were reported dry during 2021 and 2022 may be a symptom of more widespread problems. They are the canary in the coal mine, and they are not rigorously documented
3. Addressing localized issues in the Subbasin (Excessive Use) needs localized committees with power to stop activity that is not consistent with sustainable water use.
   From the memo: In order to emphasize that local actions are the correct approach, the document continues: “Such exceedances will be evaluated by the applicable GSA and Management Area Committee to assess their extent, cause, and potential effects and to determine whether additional monitoring or management actions are warranted."

There is no such Management Area Committee in place or suggested by the YSGA, just the admission "localized conditions...cannot rise to the level of an undesirable result. "

4. Clarity around conjunctive use
   It is my opinion, and one that is shared by folks outside the YSGA, that Governance of the Management of Conjunctive Use (surface water management and sales) is incompatible with the management of new well permits.
   Incompatibility is not addressed, and the YSGA plans for "MA2 will coordinate groundwater management and monitoring in the Subbasin to enable a collaborative, conjunctive decision-making process. This includes evaluating well permit applications and working with Yolo County on the well permitting process (p. 108)."
   Tragically, this approach, which gives unfounded legitimacy to the label of conjunctive use, appears to drive continued expansion of Water District reach (dollars) and, in the view of the memo authors and my own, is not compatible with the goal of sustainability.
   Only once sustainability has been achieved and water supplies are abundant can expansion of agriculture into new lands be evaluated. We urge YSGA to limit new surface water connections to parcels with a history of groundwater pumping.
5. Crop conversion, land use and historically unirrigated lands
   I agree with the memo authors that there should be limits on new groundwater extractions on previously unirrigated parcels, and that the best way to investigate potential approaches is through discussions with County planning staff and the Board of Supervisors during the next General Plan update. Until then, wells on previously unirrigated land should not proceed without meeting the strictest criteria, which is only possible after addressing the lack of localized Management Area Committees, as mentioned in Item 3.

Comment from Jackie Lundy:

Dear YSGA Board of Directors,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Periodic Evaluation Covering WY 2019-2024. During this time period there have been significant changes in groundwater demand in Yolo County. This has created substantial concerns in local rural populations. The YSGA and the County have responded by developing the concept of focus areas. I greatly appreciate this work which has led to more analysis of issues in the focus areas.

This work has set the base for discussions, but it needs to go much further. My concern stems from personally experiencing undesirable groundwater trends on my farm in the Plainfield Ridge Focus Area. Additionally, I have observed similar events in other focus areas such as Hungry Hollow, West Winters, and Yolo-Zamora.

The large almond and olive orchard wells that have been approved to move into our communities come with no restrictions on their high-volume wells. These wells cause extreme concern because of their pumping capacity impacts on neighboring wells. The latest ag well, in my community, was put in just 50 yards from the corner of my 40-acre farm. Also, this ag well is just 1,600 ft from three newly replaced domestic wells, including mine.

Currently, there are no proactive steps by YSGA to protect domestic wells from impacts from ag wells or during drought conditions. Such events are assured given our history. Developing methods to protect domestic wells must be started now before the next drought. SB 552 requires the protection of domestic.

Measures to comply with this legislation must be enacted to prevent damage to domestic wells from nearby ag wells before drought conditions. Proactive measures to reduce the possibility of wells going dry need to be ready and in place immediately. These measures need to include demand management of high-volume ag wells in focus areas with rural residents and domestic wells. Producer who own or manage these wells must be given advance notice that their wells may have restrictions on how much they can pump during drought conditions. Domestic well owners need to have a 'hot line' they can call, if they are experiencing low water volume, in order to have ag wells reduce their pumping.

YSGA's reluctance to find ways to reduce our extreme concerns resulted in the current moratorium. When propose to deny or restrict well permits in focus areas, or to institute any kind of demand management, we are told that this can't be done because the YSGA might get sued. So, if this is YSGA position and will not deny any ag well permits and won't install an allocation system, how are you ever going to achieve your mandated goals of sustainable groundwater use?

Jackie Lundy

Lomita Farm 34245 Corcoran Hill Lane Davis, CA 95616

Comment from Ben King:

Hi Kristin,

Here are some general comments and citations regarding the relationship between elevated Cr(VI) levels and groundwater recharge/irrigation.

The Yolo Subbasin has some of the highest observations of Cr(VI) contamination in groundwater. According to Jean Morrison serpentine parent material soil sediments distributed by Cache and Putah Creeks has been the source for transport of Cr(III) which has transported to higher Ph subsoils where Cr(VI) has formed and contaminated groundwater. The extreme potential for Cr(VI) contamination was found to occur at the Superfund Site at UC Davis where naturally occurring Cr(III) combined with sludge and resulted in Cr(VI) levels above 500 ug/L. USGS GAMA studies have shown high Cr(VI) levels on Putah Creek and Cache Creek and both the public supply systems for Woodland and Davis had high Cr(VI) levels before converting to surface water. Both Winters and Dunnigan are now treating contaminated groundwater.

My concern is that groundwater recharge projects could lead to Cr(VI) contamination and the comment is that there should be test wells near recharge sites to observe if this is the case.

There are three relevant Cites, the Mills Paper, the UC Davis Report on the observations from the Superfund Cite and the Morrison Paper which discusses the serpentine soil parent material.

Here are some quotes from the 2011 Mills Paper:

“Although Cr(VI) in these vadose zone soils and sediments was only a very small fraction of the total solid phase Cr, they are a potentially important source for Cr(VI) to groundwater. Enhanced groundwater recharge through the vadose zone due to irrigation could carry Cr(VI) from the vadose zone to the groundwater”

(p. 1488, abstract)

“Chromium(VI) generated in the vadose zone is likely susceptible to leaching to groundwater. Irrigation in the Great Valley has substantially increased groundwater recharge through the vadose zone relative to atmospheric precipitation alone.”

(pp. 1498-1499)

“Thus, increased leaching of soils and vadose zone sediments due to irrigation could exacerbate natural Cr(VI) groundwater enrichment.”

(p. 1499, Conclusions)

Citations:

Mills, C.T., Morrison, J.M., Goldhaber, M.B., and Ellefsen, K.J., 2011. Chromium(VI) generation in vadose zone soils and alluvial sediments of the southwestern Sacramento Valley, California: A potential source of geogenic Cr(VI) to groundwater. Applied Geochemistry 26, 1488-1501. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeochem.2011.05.023Fell, A., 2010.

Groundwater Cleanup at Superfund Site. UC Davis, February 5, 2010.Morrison, J.M., Goldhaber, M.B., Mills, C.T., Breit, G.N., Hooper, R.L., Holloway, J.M., Diehl, S.F., and Ranville, J.F., 2015.

Weathering and transport of chromium and nickel from serpentinite in the Coast Range ophiolite to the Sacramento Valley, California, USA. Morrison et. al Applied Geochemistry 61, 72-86. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.apgeochem.2015.05.018

Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda Report

MEETING DATE: November 16, 2026 **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

SUBJECT: SGMA Implementation Grant Projects Update

INITIATED OR REQUESTED BY: [X] STAFF [ ] BOARD [ ] OTHER _____

[X] INFORMATION [ ] ACTION: [ ] MOTION [ ] RESOLUTION

ATTACHMENT [ ] YES [X] NO

BACKGROUND

YSGA staff and project proponents will provide a presentation updating the Board on the progress of projects included in the SGMA Implementation Grant.

Component 1: GSA Administration

This is anticipated to be completed by March 31, 2027 when the final grant reports, invoices, etc. are due.

Component 2: GSP Implementation

To date, YSGA and its consultants have completed and invoiced DWR for the following work:

- GSP annual reports (WY 2022 through WY 2025)
- YSGA Proposition 26 fee study
- GPS subsidence survey
- Website interface updates

YSGA and its consultants are currently working to complete the following by February 28, 2027:

- 2027 GSP periodic evaluation (which includes the ISW Approach; currently DRAFT)
- GSP model enhancement TM (in progress)
- Hungry Hollow implementation white paper (which includes the water budget summary; still working on including the on-farm pilot project guidance attachment; currently DRAFT)
- GDE survey results TM (in progress)

YSGA staff continue to support the Hungry Hollow Groundwater Working Group to advance projects in the area.

Component 3: YCFC&WCD Winter Groundwater Recharge Program

To date, YCFC&WCD (District) and its consultants/contractors have completed and invoiced DWR for the following work:

- Long-term winter water right application
- On-farm winter water recharge pilot landowner agreements, flooded field and automation gates photos and information

District and its consultants/contractors are currently working to complete the following by February 28, 2027:

- Monitoring and assessment plan (draft)
- Annual report of on-farm recharge activities (in progress)
- Long-term farm field recharge guide (in progress)
- Workshop presentation materials and presentations related to outreach (in progress)

The District has plans to complete multiple recharge associated infrastructure upgrades, recharge permitting CEQA work, and on-farm recharge pilot related projects over the next few months by February 28, 2027.

Component 4: City of Winters Feasibility Studies

The City of Winters and its consultants are currently working to complete the following by February 28, 2027:

- Recycled Water Feasibility Study
- Surface Water Feasibility Study

The project team is currently in the process of writing both studies and plans to complete each document by February 28, 2027.

Component 5: Yolo Zamora Recharge Pilot Project

To date, the YSGA and its consultants have completed and invoiced DWR for the following work:

- 10% canal system improvement design
- Water availability analysis and feasibility study
- China Slough rehabilitation (CEQA, no challenges letter, final Lake & Streambed Alternation permit)
- Outreach meetings & workshop materials

YSGA and its consultants are currently working to complete the following by February 28, 2027:

- China Slough rehabilitation (100 % design)
- Final construction report for District recharge related upgrades
- Pilot project summary report

- Water conservation estimates

YSGA has plans to complete the 100% design, final construction report, pilot project summary, and water conservation estimates by over the next few months by February 28, 2027.

Component 6: Dunnigan Area Recharge Project

To date, Dunnigan Water District and its consultants/contractors have completed and invoiced DWR for the following work:

Planning and Design

- Completed CEQA and Permitting
- Advanced SCNY Region analysis and modeling
- Advanced Basis of Design Report & Recharge Operations Manual

Infrastructure

- Installed three stream gauges
- Installed one Reverse Tile Drain System
- Installed one Recharge Basin

Dunnigan Water District and its consultants are currently working to complete the following by February 28, 2027:

- Conceptual-level designs
- Design report and Recharge Operations Manual
- Reverse Tile Drain System
- Stream gages – rating
- Soil moisture sensors
- TM summarizing baseline conditions and recharge benefits
- Outreach materials

RECOMMENDATION

This agenda item is for informational purposes only. No Board action is required.