

Hungry Hollow Groundwater Working Group Charter

Approved by the YSGA Board of Directors on September 16, 2025

I. Purpose

The Hungry Hollow Groundwater Working Group (Working Group) will help Yolo Subbasin Groundwater Agency (YSGA) collaboratively facilitate a forum of landowners and other interested parties¹ to support groundwater sustainability in the Hungry Hollow region. This collaboration includes helping to develop projects and management actions that landowners, YSGA, and interested parties can collectively implement, as well as recommending priority projects and management actions to the YSGA Board of Directors (YSGA Board).

II. Goals

The Working Group goals are:

- Achieve sustainable groundwater management in Hungry Hollow by maintaining or enhancing groundwater quantity and quality through the implementation of projects and management actions to support beneficial uses and users.
- Bring together interested parties in a collaborative, voluntary process to enhance and protect human economic activities and groundwater resources, promote stewardship through community outreach and education, support cooperative planning and implementation of projects, and respect public and private property rights.

III. Working Group Composition and Terms

1. The Working Group will have 11 voting members, each of whom the YSGA Board will appoint. The YSGA Board will appoint 10 Hungry Hollow landowners as Working Group members. (See Attachment A for a map of Hungry Hollow.) Landowners may choose to designate someone to participate on their behalf. The YSGA Executive Officer will be the 11th voting member and Chair of the Working Group.
2. To ensure the development of a collaborative Working Group whose members represent different areas of Hungry Hollow and a diversity of experience, the Working Group members will include representatives from the Hungry Hollow West and/or East areas (Attachment A) for each of the following categories:
 - Small landowner (non-irrigated lands) in Hungry Hollow West and/or East, defined as an individual landowner who owns less than 100 acres and primarily uses the

¹ The term “interested parties” refers to existing landowners, growers, and residents in Hungry Hollow as defined by the Working Group member categories listed in III.2.

land for non-irrigated land purposes (e.g. a rural residential landowner who does not farm).

- Small landowner (irrigated lands) in Hungry Hollow West and/or East, defined as an individual landowner who owns less than 100 acres and primarily uses the land for irrigated land purposes (e.g. rural residential landowner who farms).
- Large landowner (non-irrigated lands) in Hungry Hollow West and/or East, defined as an individual landowner that owns greater than 100 acres and primarily uses the land for non-irrigated purposes.
- Large landowner (irrigated lands) in Hungry Hollow West and/or East, defined as an individual landowner who owns greater than 100 acres and primarily uses the land for irrigated purposes.
- A grower or grazer who leases land in Hungry Hollow West and/or East, defined as a grower or grazer who leases land and manages, farms, or grazes land.

Representatives from the same family or business entity may not serve on the Working Group at the same time. Working Group members also may be private individuals and are not required to be members of the governing body of the YSGA or any of its member agencies

3. To ensure all landowners have an equal opportunity to serve on the Working Group, YSGA will request individuals complete an application on or before the designated application deadline. To facilitate full transparency and fairness, YSGA will engage in the following steps to appoint Working Group members:
 - YSGA will provide all applications for public review after receipt.
 - The YSGA will publicly post the proposed appointments in advance of the meeting at which the appointment will be considered, consistent with the Brown Act.
 - The YSGA Board will appoint Working Group members by majority vote at a public meeting of the YSGA Board.
 - YSGA will consider public comments in advance of the meeting or in person during the Board meeting.
4. While the YSGA believes the Working Group is necessary to collaboratively reach agreement on priority projects and management actions to meet the Working Group's goals, the Working Group is an advisory body that provides feedback and supports the work of the YSGA. The Working Group is not a committee of the YSGA Board and does not have the authority to bind YSGA to any particular action.
5. The initially appointed Working Group members will serve from the date the YSGA Board appoints each member through at least April 2026.

6. Once appointed, Working Group members will continue to serve until the YSGA Board designates their successors, until such member's resignation or removal (i.e. for lack of attendance or disruptive behavior), or until the YSGA Board no longer chooses to allocate staff time and resources to support the Working Group.
7. Robust participation is essential to the success of this collaboration. Working Group members are expected to attend at least two thirds of the scheduled meetings. Members who are unable to meet this participation requirement may be removed and replaced by the YSGA Board.

IV. Responsibilities

The Working Group is an advisory body intended to help develop and recommend projects and management actions that landowners and interested parties can collectively implement in the Hungry Hollow area. The Working Group functions alongside the YSGA's other staff work and outreach activities to provide feedback and support to the YSGA Board's decision-making process.

The Working Group will support and provide feedback on the efforts of the YSGA through the following:

1. Review and provide localized feedback on information related to groundwater conditions in Hungry Hollow in support of YSGA's sustainability efforts. This will involve:
 - a. Supplying water level measurements from individual properties to YSGA
 - b. Helping to solicit water level measurements in surrounding areas
 - c. Reviewing and providing local feedback and observations on groundwater conditions in Hungry Hollow, including groundwater levels, groundwater storage conditions, groundwater quality, land subsidence, and depletion of interconnected surface water.
 - d. Using local knowledge to generate suggestions for ways to improve the monitoring network in Hungry Hollow
 - e. Identifying and providing supplemental information related to local groundwater conditions, such as dry wells
2. Collaborate in YSGA's development of groundwater sustainability projects and management actions that are consistent with the Yolo Subbasin GSP in Hungry Hollow, including:
 - a. Participating in the development and selection of an initial list of potential projects and management actions for the implementation of the GSP sustainability goals in the Hungry Hollow region.

- b. Following selection of projects or management actions by YSGA, advising on supporting materials (descriptions, preliminary schedules, budgets, work plans, community engagement strategies).
 - c. Supporting and providing feedback on applications to available funding sources for implementation of projects and management actions, as well as identifying opportunities for sustainable funding for ongoing groundwater sustainability work.
- 3. Provide recommendations for new groundwater sustainability projects and management actions to the YSGA Executive Officer for consideration.

V. Meeting Attendance, Duration, and Frequency

- 1. The YSGA Executive Officer, or their designee, will organize and facilitate all meetings. YSGA will invite Hungry Hollow landowners who have expressed interest in participating in the group via email.
- 2. The Working Group will meet at least bimonthly for between one to two hours. Non-members of the Working Group are welcome to attend meetings but do not vote. The Working Group may organize meetings for Working Group members only.
- 3. YSGA shall develop and distribute the meeting agenda and materials through electronic transmission in advance of the meeting.
- 4. Working Group members may participate in meetings by conference call or video conference, providing all people participating in meetings can hear each other and the venue has appropriate hybrid meeting capabilities.
- 5. YSGA will prepare and distribute meeting summaries in time to include in the next meeting agenda for Working Group approval.
- 6. The YSGA will provide all Hungry Hollow landowners interested in Working Group decisions with updates on the decision-making process to allow adequate time for informal gatherings of landowners without YSGA support, which may result in additional input into the collaborative Working Group process.

VI. Decision Making and Dispute Resolution Processes

- 1. A quorum is a majority of Working Group members (six members).

2. The Working Group will strive to reach consensus but may approve a recommendation to the YSGA Board through a majority vote of Working Group members at the meeting.
3. Each Working Group member has one vote.
4. Working Group members vote as individuals.
5. Working Group members may not vote by proxy.
6. If conflicts arise, Working Group members agree to address concerns respectfully and directly.
7. If the final vote is not a consensus, the YSGA Executive Officer will provide a summary of all alternative views to the YSGA Board for consideration.
8. In the event of a tie vote, the Working Group will table the action for a later meeting to provide more time to gain greater consensus to either approve or decline the proposed action. The Executive Officer will vote last and not be considered in a tie vote determination.
9. If conflicts arise, the YSGA Executive Officer will facilitate a dispute resolution process, including a private discussion with involved parties or a mediated conversation during a scheduled Working Group meeting if needed.
10. If the Working Group cannot reach resolution, the YSGA Executive Officer may recommend support from an impartial facilitator (if funding is available) to support development of solutions.

VII. Amendments

1. The YSGA Board will approve the Working Group charter in consultation with YSGA staff, who will seek feedback on the draft charter from landowners and other Hungry Hollow interested parties.
2. The YSGA Board may amend the charter at any time and will seek feedback on any amendments from the Working Group.

3. The Working Group may recommend changes to the charter, but all changes are subject to YSGA Board approval.
4. Amendments shall take effect immediately unless otherwise specified.

Hungry Hollow Working Group Land Use

