



Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Special Meeting Materials

August 8, 2023 | 6:00 p.m.

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Main Pump Station
7854 County Road 203, Orland, CA 95963

Remote Public Participation Option:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 263 511 438 685

Passcode: qyZAbB

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 323-676-6164,428337068#](#) United States, Los Angeles

Phone Conference ID: 428 337 068#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

[Learn More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

1. Call to Order

The Chair will call the meeting to order.

2. Roll Call

Staff will conduct roll call.

3. Period of Public Comment

Members of the public are encouraged to address the Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action will be taken on items under public comment.

4. Public Hearing: Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Property-Related Fee

The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) is establishing a long-term fee to fund the ongoing GSA administration, GSP implementation activities, and SGMA compliance and reporting requirements. The CSGSA contracted with Lohdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) to assist with the process. The CSGSA directed LSCE to follow the Proposition 218 process for establishing long-term fees with the following actions:

- 1) Approval of the CSGSA Fee Report at the June 15, 2023, CSGSA Meeting including recommended long-term fees.
- 2) Approval of Proposition 218 Notice for distribution to landowners in the CSGSA service area subject to fees at least 45-days prior to the public hearing.
- 3) Setting of public hearing for August 08, 2023, to receive protests prior to consideration of a proposed long-term fee.
- 4) Publishing of a Notice of Public Hearing twice in local newspaper prior to the public hearing.

The CSGSA approved proceeding with the Irrigated/Non-Irrigated Fee option to pursue long term CSGSA funding as reflected in the Final Fee Report approved by the Board on June 15, 2023. This option resulted in maximum fees for Non-Irrigated, Irrigated-Surface Water, and Irrigated-Groundwater user classes of \$0.93, \$6.14, and \$14.60 per acre per year respectively. The fees are calculated by allocating the total GSA costs by the total net assessable user class acreage in the Subbasin, excluding Federal and Tribal lands which are exempt from SGMA related fees, and State lands which are considered uncollectible for budget purposes. Because the Fee option is parcel based, the CSGSA is using the Proposition 218 fee mechanism consistent with Water Code Section 10730 and the associated public process to establish the fee. Proposition 218 requires notices to be sent to all landowners subject to the fee at least 45 days prior to CSGSA consideration of proposed fee approval. Proposition 218 Notices were mailed to all landowners subject to the proposed fee by June 19, 2023, providing for a 45-day notice period in advance of considering approval of proposed fees. The fees are subject to a majority protest vote whereby those receiving notices can submit written protest ballots voting against the proposed fees. If a majority protest vote is received, the CSGSA cannot approve the proposed fees.

The CSGSA provided the protest form in the Proposition 218 Notice sent to all landowners subject to the proposed fee and will count protests received at the CSGSA PO Box (as indicated in Notice) up until August 08, 2023, plus those protests received at this public hearing. If a majority protest is not received per the protest count at the end of the public hearing, the CSGSA Board may adopt the resolution certifying the majority protest process results and consider approving the proposed fees in a separate Board action.

The fee applied by the CSGSA may vary from year to year but will not exceed the user class fee maximum amounts per acre per year unless an increase in the fee is approved through a subsequent Proposition 218 proceeding. This proposed fee also provides landowners and properties with immediate SGMA compliance benefits and local representation. If the CSGSA is unable to operate, implement the GSP, and comply with SGMA, then the Corning Subbasin may be placed in a probationary status and landowners would be subject to regulation and oversight by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and would be subject to fees established by the SWRCB.

Recommendation: Conduct the scheduled August 08, 2023, public hearing included in the Proposition 218 Notice.

1. Open the public hearing.
2. Receive protests and public comments.
3. Close the public hearing.
4. Count all valid protests received by the CSGSA prior to and during the public hearing.

Attachments:

- Proposition 218 Notice
- Notice of Public Hearing – Proof of Publication

CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

NOTICE OF HEARING TO ADOPT PROPOSED FEE



For more information on your proposed fees, scan this QR code (available starting June 23, 2023).

Or go to: <https://felt.com/map/Corning-UserClasses-ee2rcfluTkCzfGG2oGv0WB?loc=39.6588,-122.1669,10.62z&share=1>

In compliance with California State Law, notice is hereby given that the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) will hold a public hearing on: August 8, 2023 at the GCID Pump Station Conference Room, 7854 County Road 203, Orland, CA 95963 at 6:00 PM to consider the adoption of a property related fee starting in Fiscal Year 2023-24 for CSGSA operations and implementation of the Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) required by the State of California pursuant to the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). A Spanish version of the Notice is available at <https://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/planning-community-development-services/water-resources/sustainable-groundwater-management-6>.

Notificación en Español:

Para leer este aviso en Español, visite el sitio web de CSGSA <https://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/planning-community-development-services/water-resources/sustainable-groundwater-management-6> o llame (916) 918-2020 para solicitar que se le envíe un aviso por correo o correo electrónico.

Background:

The CSGSA is a Groundwater Sustainability Agency formed through a Memorandum of Agreement to comply with the requirements of SGMA for that portion of the Corning Groundwater Subbasin underlying GLENN COUNTY, GLENN-COLUSA IRRIGATION DISTRICT, and MONROEVILLE WATER DISTRICT. The Corning Subbasin area is described in California Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118 (2020), Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin, Corning Subbasin, Number 5-021.51 which is classified as a High Priority Subbasin comprised of approximately 207,000 total acres, of which approximately 45,000 acres are within the CSGSA. As required by SGMA, the CSGSA adopted a GSP in 2022 in collaboration with the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District GSA and must now implement that GSP as required by law to prevent the State of California from intervening to manage the local groundwater basin and corresponding groundwater resources.

Basis of Proposed Fee:

To provide local groundwater management, sustainability, and SGMA compliance, the CSGSA must annually monitor and report groundwater conditions to the State, prepare required updates to the GSP, conduct required coordination among GSAs in the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin, and maintain GSA operations. GSA operations include but are not limited to legal, technical, and administration costs (including consultant services, insurance, office and outreach materials, and accounting).

The proposed fee is a property-related fee governed by Proposition 218 and the California Constitution. California Water Code Section 10730 provides authority for the CSGSA to impose Fees to support GSA administration, GSP implementation, and SGMA compliance. The CSGSA has reviewed the available options to fund the GSA and associated activities over the next five years as explained and documented in the June 2023 Proposition 218 Fee Report.

The service of local groundwater management provides each landowner with groundwater management, GSA administration, GSP implementation, and SGMA compliance including groundwater monitoring, preparation of annual reports, and regulatory compliance activities to ensure that the Corning Subbasin is sustainable over the long term, as required by SGMA. Each acre in the Corning Subbasin is required to be managed by a GSP and land within the Glenn County portion of the Subbasin will receive the local management services of the CSGSA. Ensuring sustainability will allow the CSGSA to maintain local control and avoid State intervention and operation of the Subbasin, which would result in State fees and reporting requirements on a basin-wide scale. If the State Water Resources Control Board intervenes in the CSGSA operations, it may impose annual fees ranging from \$100 per domestic well, to \$300 per agricultural well, plus up to \$55 per acre-foot of pumped water per well and require annual reporting of extractions to the State. For more information: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/gmp/docs/intervention/intervention_fs.pdf Implementing the proposed fee allows the GSA to provide groundwater management services and ensures a more tailored and locally managed option for managing the CSGSA while maintaining SGMA compliance for all landowners.

Proposed Property Fee:

The proposed per-acre fees fund the service of groundwater management including GSA operations and implementation of the GSP and compliance with SGMA. This fee is a per-acre fee that imposes a maximum fee based on each parcel’s classification. There are three proposed maximum fee rates as follows: \$0.93 per non-irrigated acre, \$6.14 per irrigated-surface water acre, and \$14.60 per irrigated-groundwater acre (in 2023 dollars, including inflation, for the subsequent four years). The proposed fee, if approved, will become effective for the 2023-24 fiscal year (beginning July 1, 2023), with the first payment due in December 2023 through the Glenn County property tax bill. **The actual amount of the fee will be set by Resolution of the CSGSA but cannot exceed the maximum per acre fee specified above, including the inflation factor, absent a subsequent Proposition 218 proceeding.**

Each parcel subject to the fee would only be charged one of these rates specified on the accompanying cover sheet. Parcels may be reclassified based on appropriate fee classification or consistency with GSA policy.

For more information, including the Fee Report summarizing the findings, please visit the CSGSA website at: <https://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/planning-community-development-services/water-resources/sustainable-groundwater-management-6>.

Public Hearing and Majority Protest:

Under the California State Constitution, owners of land subject to the proposed fee have the right to protest its adoption. If you have received this notice, one or more parcels under your ownership will be subject to the proposed fee. If the identified parcel has more than one record owner only one written protest will be counted. In the event of a majority protest, the fee will not be instituted.

Landowners desiring to protest the proposed CSGSA fee may send their written protest prior to the public hearing to: Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, PO BOX 1272, Hamilton City, CA 95951, or in person at the public hearing on August 8, 2023 at 6:00 PM, so long as the protest is received prior to the close of the public hearing. **Protests submitted by e-mail, fax, or other electronic means are not valid and will not be counted as a protest.**

There are multiple ways to obtain additional information about this topic:

- View more information online at <https://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/planning-community-development-services/water-resources/sustainable-groundwater-management-6>.
- Call the CSGSA at **(530) 934-6540**.
- The CSGSA Fee Report will be available for public review during normal business hours at 225 N. Tehama St., Willows, CA 95988.
- For more information about SGMA, see the California Department of Water Resources website: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management>

If you do not wish to protest the proposed CSGSA Fee, no action is needed.



CSGSA PROPOSITION 218 PROTEST FORM

To protest, complete and detach this portion of the Notice and mail to CSGSA, P.O. Box 1272, Hamilton City, CA 95951, OR submit in-person at the Public Hearing on August 8, 2023, 6:00 PM, GCID Pump Station Conference Room, 7854 County Road 203, Orland, CA 95963. All protests must include:

- Landowner(s) Printed Name(s): _____
- Assessor’s Parcel Number: _____
- Statement of Protest: _____

Under penalty of law, I affirm that I am the owner(s) or authorized representative of the owner of the above parcel.

- Valid Landowner Signature(s): _____

Each parcel is entitled to one protest. If a parcel has more than one owner, all must sign one protest form.

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

No. 4961

In the Matter of
Notice of Public Hearing

Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

re: consider adoption of property related fee

State of California)
County of Glenn) ss

The undersigned resident of the County of Glenn,
State of California, says:

That I am, and at all time herein mentioned was
a citizen of the United States and not a party to
nor interested in the above entitled matter; that I
am the principal clerk of the publisher of:

In the Matter of:

The Sacramento Valley Mirror

That said newspaper is one of general circulation
as defined by Section 6000 Government Code of
the State of California, Case No. 27,207 by the
Superior Court of the State of California, in and
for the County of Glenn, Case #02CV00614; that
said newspaper at all times herein mentioned was
published twice a week (on Wednesdays and
Saturdays) in the town of Willows and County of
Glenn; that the notice of which the annexed is a
true printed copy, was published in said news-
paper on the following days:

July 19, 26, 2023

I certify (or declare), under penalty of perjury, that
the foregoing is true and correct, at the County
of Glenn, Willows, California.

Date July 31, 2023
at Willows, California.



Donna Settle, Managing Editor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to Water Code section 10730(b)(2) and Government Code section 6066, notice is hereby given that the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) will hold a public hearing on **August 8, 2023** at 6:00 pm, or as soon thereafter as may be heard, at the GCID Pump Station Conference Room, 7854 County Road 203, Orland, CA 95963, to consider the adoption of a property related fee in the amount of \$0.93 per acre annually for the non-irrigated user class, \$6.14 per acre annually for the irrigated-surface water user class, and \$14.60 per acre annually for the irrigated-groundwater user class for the 2023-2024 Fiscal Year and the subsequent fiscal years to fund groundwater management including the operations of the CSGSA and implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014.

Information regarding the proposed fee is available online at <https://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/planning-community-development-services/water-resources/sustainable-groundwater-management-9>, by calling the CSGSA at (530) 934-6540, or by visiting the CSGSA office at 225 North Tehama Street, Willows, CA 95988.

7/19, 7/26

5. *Consider Adoption of Resolution Certifying the Results of a Proposition 218 Majority Protest Proceeding and Basis for Setting the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Operations Fee

The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) is establishing a long-term fee to fund the ongoing GSA administration, GSP implementation activities, and SGMA compliance and reporting requirements. The CSGSA contracted with Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) to assist with the process. The CSGSA directed LSCE to follow the Proposition 218 process for establishing long-term fees with the following actions:

- 1) Approval of the CSGSA Fee Report at the June 15, 2023, Committee Meeting including recommended long-term fees.
- 2) Approval of Proposition 218 Notice for distribution to landowners in the CSGSA service area subject to fees 45 days prior to the public hearing.
- 3) Setting of public hearing for August 08, 2023, to receive protests prior to consideration of a proposed long-term fee.
- 4) Publishing of Notice of Public Hearing in local newspaper prior to public hearing.

The CSGSA approved proceeding with the Irrigated/Non-Irrigated Fee option to pursue long term CSGSA funding as reflected in the Final Fee Report approved by the CSGSA on June 15, 2023. This option resulted in maximum fees of \$0.93, \$6.14, and \$14.60 per acre per year for parcels classified as Non-Irrigated, Irrigated-Surface Water, and Irrigated-Groundwater respectively, distributing the GSA revenue needs across the three user classes. The fee is calculated by allocating the total GSA costs to each user class based on total net assessable acreage in each user class, excluding Federal and Tribal lands which are exempt from SGMA related fees, and State lands which are considered uncollectible for budget purposes. Because the Irrigated/Non-irrigated Fee option is parcel based, the CSGSA is using the Proposition 218 fee mechanism consistent with Water Code Section 10730 and the associated public process to establish the fee. Proposition 218 requires notices to be sent to all landowners subject to the fee at least 45 days prior to the CSGSA consideration of proposed fee approval. Proposition 218 Notices were mailed to all landowners subject to the proposed fee by June 19, 2023, providing for a 45-day notice period in advance of considering approval of proposed fees. The fees are subject to a majority protest vote whereby those receiving notices can submit written protest ballots voting against the proposed fees. If a majority protest vote is received, the CSGSA cannot approve the proposed fees.

The CSGSA provided the protest form in the Proposition 218 Notice sent to all landowners subject to the proposed fee. During Item 4, LSCE will count protests received at the CSGSA PO Box (as indicated in Notice) up until August 08, 2023, plus those protests received at the public hearing. If a majority protest is not received per the protest count at the end of the public hearing, the CSGSA Committee may adopt the attached resolution certifying the

majority protest process results and consider approving the proposed fees in a separate CSGSA action.

The fees applied by the CSGSA may vary from year to year but will not exceed the maximum fee amounts per acre per year unless an increase in the fee is approved through a subsequent Proposition 218 proceeding. This proposed fee also provides landowners and properties with immediate SGMA compliance benefits and local representation. If the GSA is unable to operate, implement the GSP, and comply with SGMA, then the Corning Subbasin may be placed in a probationary status and landowners would be subject to regulation and oversight by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and would be subject to fees established by the SWRCB.

Recommendation: Approve the attached resolution certifying the CSGSA Majority Protest Process results.

Attachments:

- Resolution certifying the Corning Sub-basin Majority Protest Process results

CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-01

RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THE RESULTS OF A PROPOSITION 218 MAJORITY PROTEST PROCEEDING AND BASIS FOR SETTING THE CORNING SUB-BASIN GSA OPERATIONS FEE

WHEREAS the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) is authorized to establish an operations fee by Water Code Section 10730; and

WHEREAS Article XIID Section 6, the State of California's Constitution (Proposition 218) requires that public agencies place establishment of certain fees before voters in what is defined as a “majority protest” election and hearing; and,

WHEREAS on August 08, 2023, the CSGSA, in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 218 and Resolution No. 2023-01, held a properly noticed “Majority Protest” hearing regarding the CSGSA’s proposed “Operations Fee”; and,

WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 218, the CSGSA solicited landowner comment on the proposed Operations Fee before considering fee approval; and,

WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 218, the CSGSA accepted written protests regarding the proposed Operations Fee until the conclusion of the public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS OF THE CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY does hereby resolve, declare and order as follows:

- 1) The CSGSA Committee having reviewed the reported results of the written protests provided to it by its consultant, does hereby certify _____ written protests were submitted by affected landowners out of a possible number of 1,576.
- 2) Having reviewed the above results, the CSGSA Committee hereby certifies and affirms that there were not a sufficient number of written protests filed to reach the required “Majority Protest” threshold.
- 3) The maximum fees are hereby established as set forth in the CSGSA Proposition 218 Notice as follows: \$0.93 per acre per year for Non-Irrigated classified parcels, \$6.14 per acre per year for Irrigated-Surface Water classified parcels, and \$14.60 per acre per year for Irrigated-Groundwater classified parcels.
- 4) Therefore, in accordance with those certified results, the CSGSA Committee does hereby affirm that the Operations Fee may be adopted at this meeting as a subsequent action item on this meeting agenda.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Committee of Members of the CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY on this 8th day of August 2023.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

CERTIFICATE OF RESOLUTION

We, the undersigned, hereby certify as follows:

1. That we are the Chair and Secretary of the CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY; and
2. That the foregoing resolution, consisting of 2 pages, including this page, is a true and correct copy of a resolution of the Committee of Members of the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, passed at the meeting of the Committee of Members held on August 08, 2023, at the GCID Pump Station Conference Room, 7854 County Road 203, Orland, CA 95963.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have signed this certificate this 8th day of August 2023, at Orland, California.

Thomas Arnold, Chair of the Corning Sub-basin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Lisa Hunter, Secretary

6. *Consider Resolution to Adopt the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget

The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) has spent a significant amount of time reviewing and discussing future revenue needs projections to support the current fee project. Using the cost estimates provided in the 2023 CSGSA Fee Study, a draft 2023/2024 CSGSA Budget has been prepared for consideration. The budget includes categories consistent with the Glenn County template budget workpapers, and the budget has been consolidated into the workpapers that will be submitted to the County to ensure consistency with the County's Department of Finance requirements. The draft budget accounts for expected administrative costs and SGMA compliance costs over the next fiscal year. The total operational budget is \$352,884.

The 2023 CSGSA Fee Report states in Table 6-1, the fees necessary to cover the costs estimated in fiscal year 2023-2024 is \$0.92 per non-irrigated acre, \$6.11 per irrigated-surface water acre, and \$14.59 per irrigated-groundwater acre. Maximum fees are slightly higher at \$0.93, \$6.14, and \$14.60 respectively. Currently, the fee revenue is estimated at \$352,884, which represents the fiscal year 2023-2024 fee as stated in Table 6-1 multiplied by the respective acres per category as listed in Table 5-1 of the 2023 CSGSA Fee Report.

The Corning Subbasin has been recommended for funding through the Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant solicitation; however, the final awards are expected to be announced in October 2023 and contracting is not expected to be completed until November 2023-January 2024. While this and other grant funding opportunities will continue to be evaluated, given the uncertainty, the CSGSA should not assume the grant funding will be available for fiscal year 2023-2024.

The 2023/2024 CSGSA Budget Option 2 is attached showing a reduced budget that could be considered. The second option highlights areas of the budget that are different than Option 1, that account for lower revenue projections of 75% of the fee study estimates for 2023-2024 resulting in operational budget of \$265,085. Significant changes include a decrease in administration (contracted services), consulting services, supplies and materials, A-87 costs, contingency (overall), 5-year GSP updates, surface water-groundwater interaction, and GSA stakeholder coordination and outreach.

Staff recommends considering the options, make any necessary adjustments, and approve a Resolution to Adopt the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget.

Attachments:

- Draft Fiscal Year 2023/2024 CSGSA Budget (Option 1)
- CSGSA 2023/2024 Budget Workpaper to be submitted to County of Glenn (Option 1)
- Draft Fiscal Year 2023/2024 CSGSA Budget (Option 2)

- CSGSA 2023/2024 Budget Workpaper to be submitted to County of Glenn (Option 2)
- Resolution to Adopt the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Budget

Corning Sub-basin GSA Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget- Option 1

Revenues

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------------|
| Charges for Current Services | | |
| Special Assessment | \$ | 352,884 |
| Total Revenues | \$ | 352,884 |

Expenses

| | | |
|--|-----------|----------------|
| Administration | | |
| Professional Services | | |
| Administration- Contracted Services | \$ | 90,000 |
| Legal Services | \$ | 50,000 |
| Annual Audits | \$ | 10,000 |
| Consulting Services | \$ | 20,000 |
| Office Expenses | | |
| Supplies and Materials | \$ | 3,000 |
| Insurance | | |
| Insurance | \$ | 2,000 |
| Publications | | |
| Legal Notices | \$ | 1,000 |
| Other Charges | | |
| Accounting/County A-87 Costs | \$ | 5,000 |
| County Tax Roll Fee (Administrative Expense) | \$ | 4,000 |
| Contingency | | |
| Contingency | \$ | 15,686 |
| Administration Subtotal | \$ | 200,686 |
| SGMA Compliance | | |
| Professional Services | | |
| Annual Reporting | \$ | 14,850 |
| Five Year GSP Update (including modeling calibrations) | \$ | 37,500 |
| Surface water-groundwater interaction | \$ | 8,000 |
| GSA Stakeholder Coordination & Outreach | \$ | 20,000 |
| Data Management System Upgrades and Maintenance | \$ | 21,600 |
| Long Term Financial Planning /Fees | \$ | 18,000 |
| Grant Procurement | \$ | 10,000 |
| GSP Project Implementation and Monitoring | \$ | 15,000 |
| Contingency | | |
| Contingency | \$ | 7,248 |
| SGMA Compliance Subtotal | \$ | 152,198 |
| Total Expenses | \$ | 352,884 |
| Net (Revenue-Expenses) | \$ | - |

Draft 7/27/23

COUNTY OF GLENN
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BUDGET WORKPAPER
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-24

DEPARTMENT: **Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency**
 FUNCTION:
 ACTIVITY: N/A

| SIGNATURE: | 2021-22 ACTUAL | 2022-23 WORKING BUDGET | 2023-24 PROVIDED AMOUNTS | DISTRICT CHANGES | 2023-24 DISTRICT REQUESTS |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| REVENUES | | | | | |
| INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE | | | | | |
| 56200 OTHER GOVT AGENCIES | - | 120,000 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE | - | 120,000 | - | - | - |
| CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES | | | | | |
| 61152 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT | - | - | - | 352,884 | 352,884 |
| TOTAL CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES | - | - | - | 352,884 | 352,884 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | - | 120,000 | - | 352,884 | 352,884 |
| EXPENSES | | | | | |
| SERVICES & SUPPLIES | | | | | |
| 03150 INSURANCE | - | - | - | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| 03220 OFFICE EXPENSE | - | - | - | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| 03230 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES | - | 119,500 | - | 314,950 | 314,950 |
| 03240 PUBLICATIONS | - | 500 | - | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| TOTAL SERVICES & SUPPLIES | - | 120,000 | - | 320,950 | 320,950 |
| OTHER CHARGES | | | | | |
| 05700 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE | - | - | - | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| 05730 A-87 COST ALLOCATION | - | - | - | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| TOTAL OTHER CHARGES | - | - | - | 9,000 | 9,000 |
| CONTINGENCY | | | | | |
| 09900 CONTINGENCY | - | - | - | 22,934 | 22,934 |
| TOTAL CONTINGENCY | - | - | - | 22,934 | 22,934 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | - | 120,000 | - | 352,884 | 352,884 |
| NET COUNTY RETURN/(COST) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |

Corning Sub-basin GSA Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget- Option 2

Revenues

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Charges for Current Services | |
| Special Assessment | \$ 265,085 |
| Total Revenues | \$ 265,085 |

Expenses

| | |
|--|-------------------|
| Administration | |
| Professional Services | |
| Administration- Contracted Services | \$ 67,500 |
| Legal Services | \$ 50,000 |
| Annual Audits | \$ 10,000 |
| Consulting Services | \$ 10,000 |
| Office Expenses | |
| Supplies and Materials | \$ 1,500 |
| Insurance | |
| Insurance | \$ 2,000 |
| Publications | |
| Legal Notices | \$ 1,000 |
| Other Charges | |
| Accounting/County A-87 Costs | \$ - |
| County Tax Roll Fee (Administrative Expense) | \$ 4,000 |
| Contingency | |
| Contingency | \$ 9,250 |
| Administration Subtotal | \$ 155,250 |
| SGMA Compliance | |
| Professional Services | |
| Annual Reporting | \$ 14,850 |
| Five Year GSP Update (including modeling calibrations) | \$ 7,500 |
| Surface water-groundwater interaction | \$ 4,800 |
| GSA Stakeholder Coordination & Outreach | \$ 10,000 |
| Data Management System Upgrades and Maintenance | \$ 21,600 |
| Long Term Financial Planning /Fees | \$ 18,000 |
| Grant Procurement | \$ 10,000 |
| GSP Project Implementation and Monitoring | \$ 15,000 |
| Contingency | |
| Contingency | \$ 8,085 |
| SGMA Compliance Subtotal | \$ 109,835 |
| Total Expenses | \$ 265,085 |
| Net (Revenue-Expenses) | \$ - |

Draft 7/31/23

COUNTY OF GLENN
STATE OF CALIFORNIA
BUDGET WORKPAPER
FOR FISCAL YEAR 2023-24

DEPARTMENT: **Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

FUNCTION:

ACTIVITY: N/A

| SIGNATURE: | 2021-22 ACTUAL | 2022-23 WORKING BUDGET | 2023-24 PROVIDED AMOUNTS | DISTRICT CHANGES | 2023-24 DISTRICT REQUESTS |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| REVENUES | | | | | |
| INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE | | | | | |
| 56200 OTHER GOVT AGENCIES | - | 120,000 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVENUE | - | 120,000 | - | - | - |
| CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES | | | | | |
| 61152 SPECIAL ASSESSMENT | - | - | - | 265,085 | 265,085 |
| TOTAL CHARGES FOR CURRENT SERVICES | - | - | - | 265,085 | 265,085 |
| TOTAL REVENUES | - | 120,000 | - | 265,085 | 265,085 |
| EXPENSES | | | | | |
| SERVICES & SUPPLIES | | | | | |
| 03150 INSURANCE | - | - | - | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| 03220 OFFICE EXPENSE | - | - | - | 1,500 | 1,500 |
| 03230 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES | - | 119,500 | - | 239,250 | 239,250 |
| 03240 PUBLICATIONS | - | 500 | - | 1,000 | 1,000 |
| TOTAL SERVICES & SUPPLIES | - | 120,000 | - | 243,750 | 243,750 |
| OTHER CHARGES | | | | | |
| 05700 ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE | - | - | - | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| 05730 A-87 COST ALLOCATION | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTAL OTHER CHARGES | - | - | - | 4,000 | 4,000 |
| CONTINGENCY | | | | | |
| 09900 CONTINGENCY | - | - | - | 17,335 | 17,335 |
| TOTAL CONTINGENCY | - | - | - | 17,335 | 17,335 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | - | 120,000 | - | 265,085 | 265,085 |
| NET COUNTY RETURN/(COST) | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - | \$ - |

CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-02

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FISCAL YEAR 2023/2024 ANNUAL OPERATIONS BUDGET

WHEREAS the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) is authorized to establish an operations fee by Water Code Section 10730; and

WHEREAS Article XIII D Section 6, the State of California's Constitution (Proposition 218) requires that public agencies establish certain fees based on reasonable long term revenue projections to support GSA Administration and GSP implementation and SGMA compliance costs for the CSGSA; and,

WHEREAS on June 15, 2023, the CSGSA, in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 218 prepared and approved a 2023 Fee Report which included updated revenue projections over the FY23-24 through FY27-28 period that were reasonable and provide immediate benefit to those subject to the CSGSA's proposed "Operations Fees"; and,

WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 218, the CSGSA will base long term fees on reasonable updated revenue projections for funds that can only be used to support GSA Administration and GSP implementation and SGMA compliance costs and purposes; and,

WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 218, the CSGSA Committee will annually review the revenues and expenses of its budget and update long term fees as required to achieve SGMA compliance benefits for all landowners within the CSGSA service area.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS OF THE CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY does hereby resolve, declare and order as follows:

- 1) The CSGSA Committee has updated its long-term revenue projections which are reasonable to achieve SGMA compliance benefits for all landowners within the CSGSA service area.
- 2) Having reviewed the above results, the Committee hereby verifies that the FY2023-24 Annual Operations Budget is consistent with updated revenue projections included in the approved 2023 Fee Report.
- 3) Therefore, in accordance with Proposition 218 principles and consistent with updated revenue projections, the CSGSA does hereby approve the FY23-24 Annual Operations Budget.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Committee of Members of the CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY on this 8th day of August 2023.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

CERTIFICATE OF RESOLUTION

We, the undersigned, hereby certify as follows:

1. That we are the Chair and Secretary of the CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY; and
2. That the foregoing resolution, consisting of 2 pages, including this page, is a true and correct copy of a resolution of the Committee of Members of the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, passed at the meeting of the Committee of Members held on August 08, 2023, at the GCID Pump Station Conference Room, 7854 County Road 203, Orland, CA 95963 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have signed this certificate this 8th day of August 2023, at Orland, California.

_____ Thomas Arnold, Chair of the Corning Sub-basin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

_____ Lisa Hunter, Secretary

DRAFT

7. *Consider Resolution to Establish and Collect a Fee for the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Operations.

The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) is establishing a long-term fee to fund the ongoing GSA administration, GSP implementation activities, and SGMA compliance and reporting requirements. The CSGSA Committee has met the Proposition 218 requirements associated with approving a property-based fee through implementation of the following actions:

- 1) Approved the CSGSA Fee Report at the June 15, 2023, CSGSA Meeting including recommended long-term fees.
- 2) Distributed the Proposition 218 Notice to landowners in the CSGSA service area subject to fees 45 days prior to the public hearing.
- 3) Published a Notice of Public Hearing in the local newspaper prior to the public hearing.
- 4) Conducted a noticed public hearing and received and counted protests upon closing the public hearing.
- 5) Approved the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operations Budget to be funded by the fees.

The Committee has approved the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Operations Budget which will allow the CSGSA to achieve immediate SGMA compliance benefits for landowners subject to the fee. The CSGSA will be operating with a low-cost business model with contracted administrative support to oversee GSA operations, implementation of the GSP, and ensuring SGMA compliance for all landowners within the Subbasin. The CSGSA would be approving the Irrigated/Non-Irrigated Fee option to meet the long-term funding needs of the CSGSA as reflected in the Final Fee Report approved by the CSGSA Committee on June 15, 2023. The CSGSA plans to consider adjusting fees during subsequent Fiscal Years based on relevant information; for example, grant funds that offset eligible GSP implementation and SGMA compliance costs. It is anticipated that if DWR grant funding is awarded, the funding agreement would be in place by the first quarter of 2024. Grant reimbursements for eligible expenses can then begin to offset GSP implementation and SGMA compliance costs.

The CSGSA conducted public outreach as part of establishing a long-term fee including development of a Fact Sheet and Frequently Asked Questions document, conducted eight CSGSA meetings where the fee was discussed, and one special public workshops held during the fee development process. In addition, email notifications were provided to those who are signed up on the interested parties email list. The public outreach materials and information are available on the CSGSA website.

It is recommended that the CSGSA set the fee for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 to be consistent with the Annual Budget approved during Item 6. Budget Option 1 is based on the CSGSA Fee Report estimated needs for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 at \$0.92, \$6.11, and \$14.59 per acre per year for the Non-Irrigated, Irrigated-Surface Water, and Irrigated-Groundwater

user classes respectively. This is slightly lower than the allowable fee maximums per user class. Budget Option 2 is a reduced budget accounting for lower revenue projections of 75% of the fee study estimates for 2023-2024 at \$0.70, \$4.61, and \$10.95 per acre per year for the Non-Irrigated, Irrigated-Surface Water, and Irrigated-Groundwater user classes respectively.

The CSGSA Committee will review the annual revenues and expenses on a regular basis and can adjust fees as prudent if they do not exceed the maximum fees stated in the Proposition 218 Notices circulated to landowners subject to the fees. If a majority protest vote has not succeeded, the CSGSA can certify the majority protest process and approve the proposed fees.

The CSGSA will continue to evaluate fee options and update fees in the future as more information becomes known through the GSP implementation process. In addition, the CSGSA will continue to work to avoid and resolve legal challenges that can result in higher long-term fees for landowners. The fees will provide landowners and properties with immediate SGMA compliance benefits and local representation. If no GSA was formed or the GSA is not successful, the landowners would be subject to direct regulation and oversight by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and would be subject to fees established by the SWRCB.

Recommendation: Approve the proposed Operations Fees based on the following prior actions.

1. Approval of the Final Fee Report including recommended long-term fees and Proposition 218 Notices.
2. Certifying the CSGSA Proposition 218 Majority Protest process through approval of Resolution 2023-01.
3. Approving the FY23-24 WCGSA Operations Budget through approval of Resolution 2023-02.
4. Compliance with Proposition 218 requirements pertaining to property-based assessments.

Attachments:

- Resolution to establish and collect a fee for ongoing CSGSA Fiscal Year 2023-2024 operations.

CORNING SUB-BASIN SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-03

RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AND COLLECT A FEE FOR THE CORNING SUB-BASIN GSA OPERATIONS

WHEREAS the CORNING SUB-BASIN Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) is authorized to establish an operations fee by Water Code Section 10730; and

WHEREAS Article XIID Section 6, the State of California's Constitution (Proposition 218) requires that public agencies place establishment of certain fees before voters in what is defined as a “majority protest” election and hearing; and,

WHEREAS on August 08, 2023, the CSGSA, in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 218 and CSGSA Resolution No. 2023-01, held a properly noticed “Majority Protest” hearing regarding the CSGSA’s proposed “Operations Fee”; and,

WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 218, the CSGSA solicited landowner comment on the proposed Operations Fee; and,

WHEREAS in accordance with the provisions of Proposition 218, the CSGSA accepted written protests regarding the proposed Operations Fee until the conclusion of the public hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMMITTEE OF MEMBERS OF THE CORNING SUB-BASIN SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY does hereby resolve, declare and order as follows:

1) The CSGSA Committee has certified the results of the Proposition 218 Majority Protest process in accordance with approval of CSGSA Resolution No. 2023-01.

2) The CSGSA Committee has approved the FY23-24 Annual Operations Budget in accordance with approval of CSGSA Resolution No. 2023-02.

3) The CSGSA Committee hereby approves the maximum fees included in the Proposition 218 Notice as follows: \$0.93 per acre per year for Non-Irrigated classified parcels, \$6.14 per acre per year for Irrigated-Surface Water classified parcels, and \$14.60 per acre per year for Irrigated-Groundwater classified parcels.

3) The Committee hereby sets the CSGSA FY23-24 Operations Fees as follows: \$_____ per acre per year for Non-Irrigated classified parcels, \$_____ per acre per year for Irrigated-Surface Water classified parcels, and \$_____ per acre per year for Irrigated-Groundwater classified parcels.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Committee of Members of the CORNING SUB-BASIN SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY this 8th day of August 2023.

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

CERTIFICATE OF RESOLUTION

We, the undersigned, hereby certify as follows:

1. That we are the Chair and Secretary of the CORNING SUB-BASIN SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY; and
2. That the foregoing resolution, consisting of 2 pages, including this page, is a true and correct copy of a resolution of the Committee of Members of the CORNING SUB-BASIN SUBBASIN Groundwater Sustainability Agency, passed at the meeting of the Committee of Members held on August 08, 2023, at the GCID Pump Station Conference Room, 7854 County Road 203, Orland, CA 95963.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have signed this certificate this 8th day of August 2023, at Orland, California.

Thomas Arnold, Chair of the Corning Sub-basin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Lisa Hunter, Secretary

8. *Consideration Resolution Certifying the Validity of the Legal Process Used to Place Direct Assessments (Special Assessments) on the Secured Tax Roll to establish fees approved by the CSGSA Committee for FY23-24 on the August 10, 2023, County Tax Roll

The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) is establishing a fee to fund the ongoing GSA administration, GSP implementation activities, and SGMA compliance and reporting requirements. The CSGSA Committee has met the Proposition 218 and State Water Code requirements associated with approving a property-based fee to be implemented for the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 period. The proposed fee would be implemented through the Glenn County Department of Finance which requires the CSGSA to approve the attached resolution.

The resolution would authorize the Secretary of the CSGSA to serve as the authorized representative to complete or facilitate the completion and submittal of the required documentation and related files to the County Department of Finance in a timely manner upon approval of a CSGSA fee for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. The County Department of Finance requires submittal of Prop 218 Certification Form/Direct Charge Submission Form and associated submittals (including approval of the attached resolution) be submitted to their Office by the August 10, 2023, fee roll deadline. All new fees must complete the necessary documentation to establish new fees that are collecting revenues through the County property fee assessment process. Once fees are established, they may be amended at any time based on actions by the CSGSA Committee. The Secretary is authorized to facilitate implementation of the approved CSGSA fees for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 only.

Recommendation: Approve the proposed Glenn County Tax Roll resolution to establish fees approved by the CSGSA for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 on the August 10, 2023, County fee roll.

Attachments:

- Resolution to allow implementation of CSGSA FY23-24 fee on County tax roll

CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-04

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
CERTIFYING TO THE COUNTY OF GLENN THE VALIDITY OF THE LEGAL PROCESS USED TO PLACE
DIRECT ASSESSMENTS (SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS) ON THE SECURED TAX ROLL.**

WHEREAS, the notices and election for special assessment fees for the purpose of achieving compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 requirements to be included on the regular Glenn County secured property tax bill for property owners of the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) was completed on August 08, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the CSGSA is placing the special assessments on the Glenn County secured property tax bill for collection; and

WHEREAS, the CSGSA has complied with all laws pertaining to the levy of the special Assessments, including Proposition 218, to be collected per State Code 10730; and

WHEREAS, the assessment is being levied without regard to property valuation of the properties involved; and

WHEREAS, the CSGSA agrees that it shall be solely liable and responsible, and will defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County of Glenn, the Board of Supervisors, the Director of Finance, and its officers and employees from litigation over whether the requirements of Proposition 218 and other State laws were met with respect to such assessments. If any judgement is entered against any indemnified party as a result of not meeting the requirements of any State Law including Proposition 218 for such assessment, the CSGSA agrees that the County may offset the amount of any judgement paid by an indemnified party from any monies collected by the County of the District's behalf, including property taxes, special taxes, fees, or assessments; and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency that the list submitted with parcel numbers and amount are certified as being correct, the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Secretary is hereby authorized to sign any documents required and directed to submit the list to the Glenn County Department of Finance on behalf of the CSGSA for placement on the secured tax roll for collection

UPON MOTION OF THE CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY COMMITTEE MEMBER _____, SECONDED BY COMMITTEE MEMBER _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE OF THE CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD ON AUGUST 08, 2023, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

CERTIFICATE OF RESOLUTION

We, the undersigned, hereby certify as follows:

1. That we are the Chair and Secretary of the CORNING SUB-BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY; and
2. That the foregoing resolution, consisting of 3 pages, including this page, is a true and correct copy of a resolution of the Committee of Members of the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, passed at the meeting of the Committee of Members held on August 08, 2023, at the GCID Pump Station Conference Room, 7854 County Road 203, Orland, CA 95963.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have signed this certificate this 8th day of August 2023, at Orland, California.

_____ Thomas Arnold, Chair of the Corning Sub-basin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

_____ Lisa Hunter, Secretary

9. *Consider Approval of the Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Fee Policy

The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) is establishing a fee to fund the ongoing GSA administration, GSP implementation activities, and SGMA compliance and reporting requirements. The CSGSA Committee has decided on implementing a fee based on the Irrigated/Non-Irrigated fee structure which includes three distinct user classes as follows: Non-Irrigated classified parcels, Irrigated-Surface Water classified parcels, and Irrigated-Groundwater classified parcels. The CSGSA is establishing a Fee Policy to ensure that parcels are properly classified into one of the three user classes based on the parcel characteristics for equitable billing purposes. The Fee Policy will define the terms, user classes, process to request a change in parcel classification, and an appeal process.

The concept of the Fee Policy has been discussed over the course of the fee project. A draft Fee Policy was presented at the July 27, 2023 and again at the August 2, 2023 meeting with additional input provided by Counsel. There was a lengthy discussion on the draft policy and comments were provided back to the consultant team. A revised Fee Policy is attached for discussion and possible approval.

An additional concept has surfaced that could be included in Section 4 to include three open enrollment periods for submitting User Classification Change Requests.

Recommendation: Provide direction on the proposed CSGSA Fee Policy and approve with any additional input.

Attachments:

- CSGSA Fee Policy

SECTION 1 – INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

Introduction

The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA) is developing its long-term fees in 2023 to fund GSA Administration, GSP Implementation and SGMA compliance costs for the FY23-24 through FY27-28 period. The CSGSA is approving a new Irrigated/Non-Irrigated fee structure to achieve more equity for those subject to the fee. The CSGSA needs to develop an associated fee policy to ensure equitable billing for services received.

Purpose

This is a policy document developed by the CSGSA to implement the new Irrigated/NonIrrigated fee structure approved in 2023. The purpose of this policy is to ensure that each parcel subject to the fee is properly classified into the correct user class and charged the correct fee amount on a per acre and annual basis based on the unique user class fees. The policy recognizes that the manner in which each parcel is charged under the new fees needs to be clearly defined to ensure landowners understand the fee, to promote consistency in fee determination, and simplify any potential reclassification of parcels into the correct user class for accurate fee purposes.

Adopted Irrigated/Non-Irrigated Fees

The new 2023 CSGSA proposed fees include three user classes: Non-Irrigated, Irrigated-Surface Water, and Irrigated-Groundwater. Each fee has a unique per acre per year fee which reflects the respective benefit of CSGSA services. Appendix A includes the proposed resolution approving the new CSGSA 2023 fees.

SECTION 2 – USER CLASS DEFINITIONS

The CSGSA is developing its long-term fees in 2023 to recover adequate revenues to achieve SGMA compliance for all landowners in the service area. The three (3) distinct user classes are defined below.

Fee User Class Definitions

Non-Irrigated User Class: Includes parcels within the CSGSA service area that open space, natural habitat, vacant, dry land farmed or rangeland. Parcels included in this user class have no groundwater wells or wells used only for minimal domestic use on large parcels consisting of 15 acres or more.

Irrigated-Surface Water User Class: Includes parcels within the CSGSA service area that use surface water primarily which may include parcels within the surface water provider service area or have individual water rights or permits for surface water allocations directly from the Sacramento River, Stony Creek, or another source. Parcels that use surface water with groundwater in a supplemental fashion will be classified as irrigated-surface water users.

Irrigated-Groundwater User Class: Includes parcels within the CSGSA service area that use groundwater primarily and do not have access to or the right to use surface water supplies. These parcels will typically have a well(s) on the parcel, or a nearby parcel, serving as the primary source of water supply. Urban areas or residential areas that rely on groundwater for domestic supply are included in this category.

Other Definitions

Commented [LH1]: Should the irrigated definitions include a statement that fallow land that is generally in production on a regular rotation is considered irrigated?

Commented [LH2]: Will this also apply to parcels that have multiple user classes; for instance a 100 acre parcel has 60 acres correctly classified as irr-gw. The remaining 40 acres is dryland with home using minimal groundwater. Would the 40 acres of the 100 acre parcel qualify for non-irrigated classification?

County: Glenn County located in northern California.

CSGSA: The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

Landowner: The landowner of record for a parcel subject to the CSGSA fee based on County assessor parcel data.

Parcel address: The address of the property subject to the CSGSA fee based on County assessor parcel data.

Parcel Acreage: The total acreage of the parcel subject to the CSGSA fee based on County assessor parcel data. If there is more than one acreage figure for a parcel the CSGSA will generally base fees on the lower acreage figure or the acreage figure that most accurately represents the parcel acreage. Multiple sources of data will be referenced in order to verify use of accurate acreage data for assessing CSGSA fees.

Parcel Acreage For Boundary Parcels: For parcels with a portion of the land area within the CSGSA service area boundary, the net acreage of the parcel subject to the CSGSA fee located within the CSGSA boundary will be used for fee assessment purposes based on GIS calculations data.

SECTION 3 – CURRENT USER CLASSIFICATIONS

This section allows landowners subject to the fee to understand how their parcel(s) are classified under the new CSGSA Irrigated/Non-Irrigated 2023 fee structure with three (3) user classes. The CSGSA will make parcel level fee data easily available to landowners subject to the fee. CSGSA Service Area Boundary Appendix B includes the CSGSA service area boundary. Parcels with a portion of their acreage within the CSGSA boundary will only be assessed fees based on their acreage within the CSGSA service area boundary.

CSGSA Service Area Parcel User Class Delineations Appendix B includes a CSGSA service area parcel map indicating user class delineations based on the approved 2023 fees and associated definitions included in this draft policy document. Landowners may identify parcel classification by viewing this map which categorizes parcels based on the three (3) user classes included in the approved fees for the fee assessment process. The parcel map delineations will be updated based on changes in land use necessitating a change or to address any errors in initial classification. As parcel reclassifications are approved the user class map will be updated accordingly.

SECTION 4 – USER CLASSIFICATION CHANGE REQUEST

Landowners may request a change in user classification (and associated fee assessment) (User Classification Change Request) based on implementation of the new CSGSA Irrigated/Non-Irrigated fee structure approved in 2023 (see Appendix A). The purpose of this policy is to ensure that each parcel subject to the fee is properly classified into the correct user class and charged the correct fee amount on a per acre and annual basis based on the unique user class fees. The CSGSA recognizes category classification may need to be reviewed in limited circumstances.

Commented [LH3]: The policy should be clear on multiple user classes per parcel and how that will be handled.

Basis For User Classification Changes

Landowners may request reclassification of their parcel(s) under the new 2023 CSGSA fees based on the following circumstances: (1) parcel is classified improperly (not in correct user class); (2) parcel fee assessment amount is incorrect (based on acreage inaccuracy or incorrect user classification); or (3) parcel land use has changed requiring the parcel to be reclassified into a different user class. To request a User Classification Change, the landowner must fill out a User Classification Change Request form.

User Classification Change Request

The CSGSA may consider User Classification Change Requests after a landowner has submitted the respective form requesting a specific change. The CSGSA has the option of providing both electronic and manual forms. The information requested would include landowner name, parcel address, parcel user classification, and parcel acreage. A sample of potential draft manual and electronic forms are included in Appendix C. A User Classification Change Request must be submitted not more than 45 days from the County's issuance of the tax bills which includes the CSGSA property related fee. The CSGSA staff will review, and process User Classification Change Request within 15 business days of receiving the Request form. All Request forms received will be stored electronically for CSGSA records. Request forms may be submitted electronically or via handwritten form. Staff will review the Request form and the existing information related to the parcel at issue to determine whether reclassification is appropriate based on the definitions included in this Policy. Approved Change Requests will be signed and dated by authorized staff, provided to the requesting party, and kept in CSGSA records. If Change Requests are not approved, staff will provide the denial and indicate the reason denying the reclassification request to the requesting party. There are no Application fees levied by the CSGSA in processing these Applications.

SECTION 5 – USER CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PROCESS

Landowners who request a parcel user class reclassification under Section 4 of this policy who are denied the request, may appeal the decision to the CSGSA Committee. The Appeal must be submitted to the CSGSA Committee within 30 days of the date the denial by staff was issued. The Appeal must be written and include specific reasons the denial was improper based on the Classification Policy definitions and any supporting facts in support thereof. The CSGSA Committee will consider the appeal at the first Committee meeting that occurs at least 15 days after receiving the Appeal. If the staff determination is not supported by evidence, the CSGSA Committee may grant the Appeal and approve the User Classification Change Request; if the staff determination is supported and consistent with the Policy, the CSGSA Committee shall deny the Appeal.

Commented [LH4]: Would it be more clear to have a set date each year? Website says bills will be mailed on or before Nov. 1 each year. We could say the request must be submitted by Dec. 16.

Commented [LH5R4]: There are also questions on how this plays out if a change is granted. 1st installments are due Dec 10. Do they have to pay and be refunded? If it is early enough, we may be able to do a correction (need to better understand that process), but if they submit a request on Dec. 16, the 1st installment will already be paid. Should this process be addressed in the policy? If yes, it should also determine how far back the adjustment can be made (only the current year or past years also?)

10. Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Member Reports and Comments

Members of the CSGSA Committee are encouraged to share information, reports, comments, and suggest future agenda items. Action cannot be taken on matters brought up under this item.

11. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 24, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

12. Adjourn

The meeting will be adjourned.
