### Item 8





# Technical Support Services Application Staff Report

#### May 13, 2020

#### Background:

Department of Water Resources (DWR) provides technical assistance and guidance through their Technical Support Services (TSS) application process to support Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) in the development and implementation of their Groundwater Sustainability Plans. The Corning Subbasin TSS Coordinator, Sharla Stockton, submitted a general application on behalf of Corning Subbasin GSAs which was approved January 15, 2019. During phase two of the application process, staff conducted analysis for location selection to complete a TSS Well Service Request for one or more monitoring well installations in the Corning Subbasin.

#### **Technical Support Services Application Submitted:**

On April 23, 2020 a Technical Support Services Well Service Request application was submitted on behalf of the Corning Subbasin GSA, in close coordination with the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District GSA. Requested in the application was a multi-completion monitoring well installation, including real-time data collection equipment to support basin-wide efforts, enhance groundwater elevation monitoring, and fill data gaps. Technical aspects and project costs in the application are subject to change and/or any recommendations from Department of Water Resources Staff regarding well construction for this area. For location information see attached project area map.

The submittal of this application does not preclude the Corning Subbasin from submitting additional requests. It is expected an application will be submitted for one or more priority locations in the Tehama County portion of the subbasin.

#### **Collaboration & Coordination Efforts:**

The Corning Sub-basin GSA and the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District GSA are the two GSAs in the Corning Subbasin. There has been ongoing communication and coordination between the Corning Sub-basin GSA member agencies (County of Glenn and Glenn Colusa Irrigation District), Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District GSA staff, Northern Region Office Department of Water Resources staff, and the willing landowner. Staff has prioritized different areas throughout the Corning Subbasin among our partners. We have conducted cursory analysis with the consideration of historic groundwater elevation change data, water use data, current monitoring grid, well densities and neighboring GSA input etc. The Corning Sub-basin GSA held discussion and supported the Technical Support Services application process on March 25, 2020. In addition, all agencies have submitted supporting documentation regarding collaboration for the Technical Support Services application process.

#### Q/A

**Question:** At the previous Corning Sub-basin GSA meeting board members commented on the change of land ownership as it related to monitoring well installations, and requested clarification on what protects the GSA and ensures access to the monitoring well regardless of land ownership changes.

**Answer:** Staff contacted DWR and their general response was the Land Use Agreement Template provided by DWR is easy to execute (does not require easements) and GSAs are welcome to execute more binding agreements with the landowner if they see fit. Staff also received input regarding past county practices. Previously, County Counsel had indicated a desire to have easements recorded on property deeds and the task was completed by the Planning Department. To the best of our knowledge, the process was completed one time, and staff is unsure if any other easements were recorded.

## Project Area Map



The property location is generally north-west of the City of Orland. The parcel borders the Tehama/Glenn County line and is north of Stony Creek. The parcel indicated is very close to the Corning/Colusa subbasin boundary. Monitoring in this area will increase knowledge of dynamic groundwater flow conditions across subbasin boundaries and better characterize groundwater conditions with the resulting subsurface data and real-time data collection.

Staff Lead Contact: Sharla Stockton 530-934-6501 <u>sstockton@countyofglenn.net</u>