



Glenn Groundwater Authority,
Your Local Groundwater Management Agency

Information Meeting
Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
Implementation and Funding

March 21, 2019

Glenn Groundwater Authority



Member Agencies

County of Glenn

John Viegas
Alternate-Vince Minto

City of Orland

Bruce Roundy
Alternate-Pete Carr
2nd Alternate-Ed Vonasek

City of Willows

Gary Hansen
Alternate-Evan Markey

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District

John Amaro
Alternate-Thaddeus Bettner

Glide Water District

George Nerli
Alternate-Leslie Nerli
2nd Alternate- Michael Alves

Princeton-Codora-Glenn I.D. and Provident I.D.

Gary Enos
Alternate-Lance Boyd

Kanawha Water District

Randy Hansen
Alternate-Wade Danley

Orland-Artois Water District

Charles Schonauer
Alternate-Emil Cavagnolo
2nd Alternate-Andrea Jones

Sample Fee Comparison



100 acre irrigated parcel with one well in a probationary basin

- **SWRCB Fees: \$14,300**
 - 1 well = \$300
 - $3.5 \text{ AF/ac} = 350 \text{ AF} \times \$40 = \$14,000$
- **Estimated GGA Fee: \$175**
 - $100 \text{ Acres} \times \$1.75 = \$175$



Program



- 1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Overview**
- 2. Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) Background**
- 3. Financing SGMA Implementation**
 - GGA Activities and the Need for Funding
 - Proposition 218 Property Related Fee
- 4. SGMA Local Compliance and Potential State Intervention**

Comment Cards Available

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Overview

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SGMA: Who is Affected



Agriculture



Municipal



Industrial



Environmental



Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

- Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014
- **Groundwater Sustainability Agency(ies) (GSA) by June 30, 2017**
- **Groundwater Sustainability Plan(s) (GSP) by January 31, 2022**
- Yearly reporting and GSP Update every 5 years, demonstrating progress towards sustainability
- 20 years to achieve Sustainability – 2042
- **SGMA is a completely different program than the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program!**

SGMA Foundations



- 517 Groundwater Basins / Subbasins Statewide
- 109 Basins / Subbasins required to comply with SGMA
- Compliance based on basin prioritization as mandated by State Legislature in 2009.
- Prioritization variables include (but not limited to):
 - Population
 - Socioeconomics
 - Number of wells
 - Groundwater elevation

SGMA Foundations



- One or more GSAs must be formed per Basin / Subbasin
- A GSA may be formed by a single eligible agency or by legal agreement between two or more eligible agencies.
- Two or more GSAs must prepare a Coordination Agreement (a legal agreement) between them if preparing more than one GSP. (Water Code§10721, 10727)(b)(3), etc.)
- Counties represent / manage all groundwater conditions outside another managed area (Water Code§10724)

Undesirable Characteristics



Surface Water
Depletion



Reduction
of Storage



Degraded
Quality



Seawater
Intrusion



Land
Subsidence



Lowering
GW Levels

Beneficial Users



Beneficial Users (Water Code §10723.2)

- All Groundwater Users
- Holders of Overlying Rights (agriculture and domestic)
- Municipal Well Operators
- Public Water Systems
- Tribes
- Local Land Use Planning Agencies
- Counties
- Local Landowners
- Disadvantaged Communities
- Business
- Federal Government
- Environmental Users
- Surface Water Users (*if connection between surface and ground water*)

De Minimis Well Owners



- Pump less than 2 acre/feet per year for domestic purposes
- GSAs can include De Minimis in GSP
- GGA will seek to avoid impacts



Groundwater Sustainability Agency Eligibility

- **Eligible GSA entities set by SGMA**
- **Includes Local Public Agencies Responsible for:**
 - **Local Water Management**
 - **Water Supply**
 - **Land Use Authority**
- **For Example: Cities, Counties, Irrigation Districts**

GSA Roles and Responsibilities



- **Governance** – Glenn Groundwater Authority
- **Outreach/Engagement (Transparency)** with all beneficial users
- **Compliance** with local ordinances, state and federal laws and regulations, and similar
- **Funding** which may include one or more of the following: regulatory fees, property-related fees or assessments, local taxes, local general obligation bonds, contributions from member agencies, grants from other state or federal agencies

GSA Roles and Responsibilities



- **Authorities**

- Do anything “necessary and proper” to carry out SGMA’s purposes
- Adopt rules, regulations, ordinances and resolutions
- Use any other authority allowed to the GSA to apply and enforce SGMA requirements

GSA Roles and Responsibilities



- **Information Gathering**
- **Groundwater Extraction Oversight**
- **Property Acquisition and Management**
- **Enforcement**
 - Sue to collect delinquent fees, interest, or penalties or order extraction stopped until delinquent fees are paid
 - Pursue civil penalties for extraction exceedances
 - Pursue civil penalties for violations of SGMA-related rules, regulations, ordinances, or resolutions

GSA Roles and Responsibilities



- **Coordination**
 - with adjacent Subbasins and Counties (if applicable), and between Management Areas (if applicable)
- **Technical**
 - Access technical expertise
 - Conduct/oversee monitoring, data collection and reporting
 - Develop water budget and identify sustainable yield
 - Assess basin history and paths to sustainable management
 - Remediate or oversee remediation of polluted groundwater

GSA Roles and Responsibilities



- **Summary**
 - SGMA is the law.
 - Foundational change to groundwater management in California
 - SGMA allows for significant Local Control
 - SGMA has “Few Shalls...Many Mays...”
 - Shall...Create GSA
 - Shall...Prepare GSP
 - Shall...Do Public Engagement
 - GSAs are new, local government, **Regulating Agencies**

Glenn Groundwater
Authority
(GGA) Background



Glenn Groundwater Authority



- GGA Formation; 2 years, Guiding Principles
- GGA formed June 20, 2017 as mandated by SGMA
- GGA is the GSA-covering the Glenn County portion of the Colusa Subbasin
- GGA is currently an 8-member Joint Powers Authority Board

Glenn Groundwater Authority



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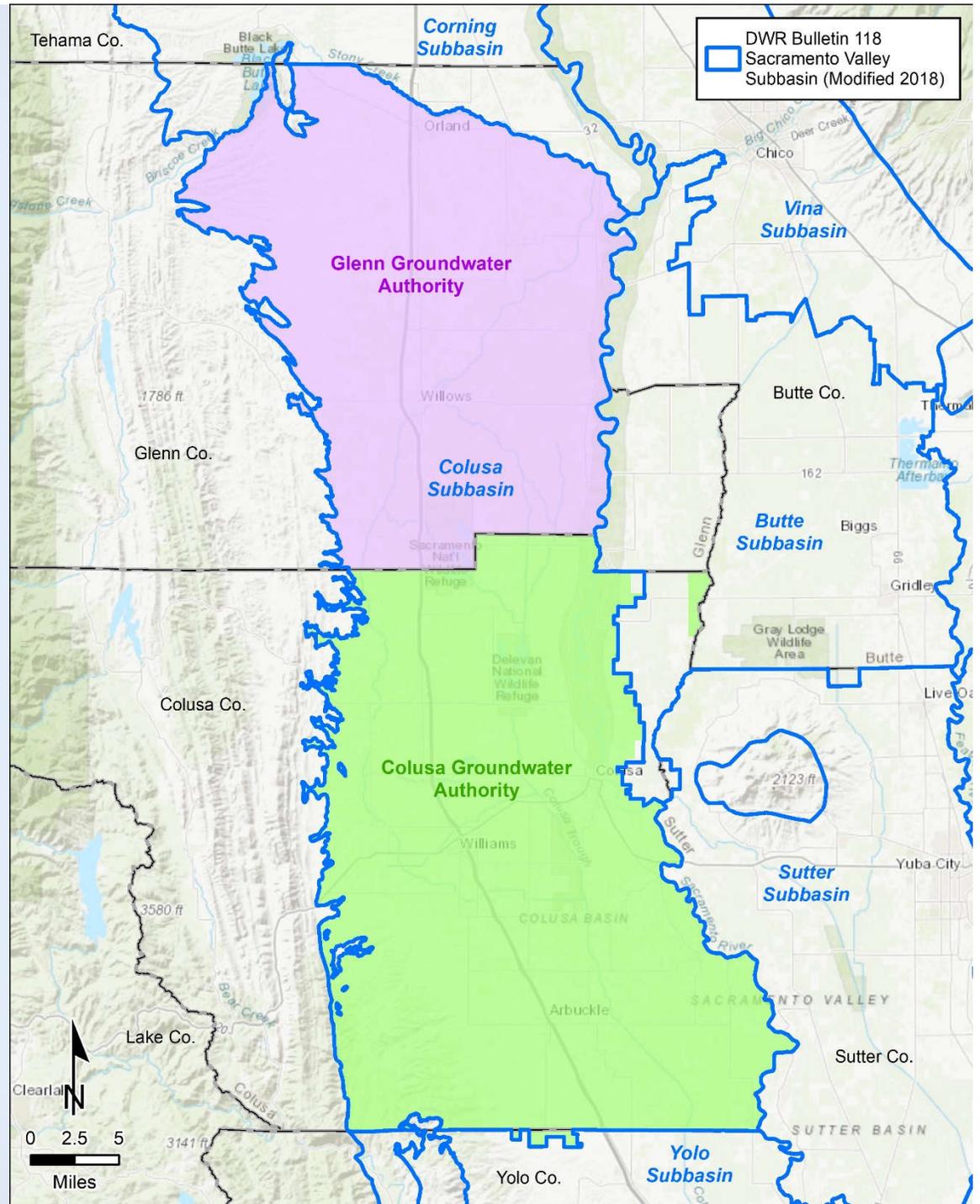
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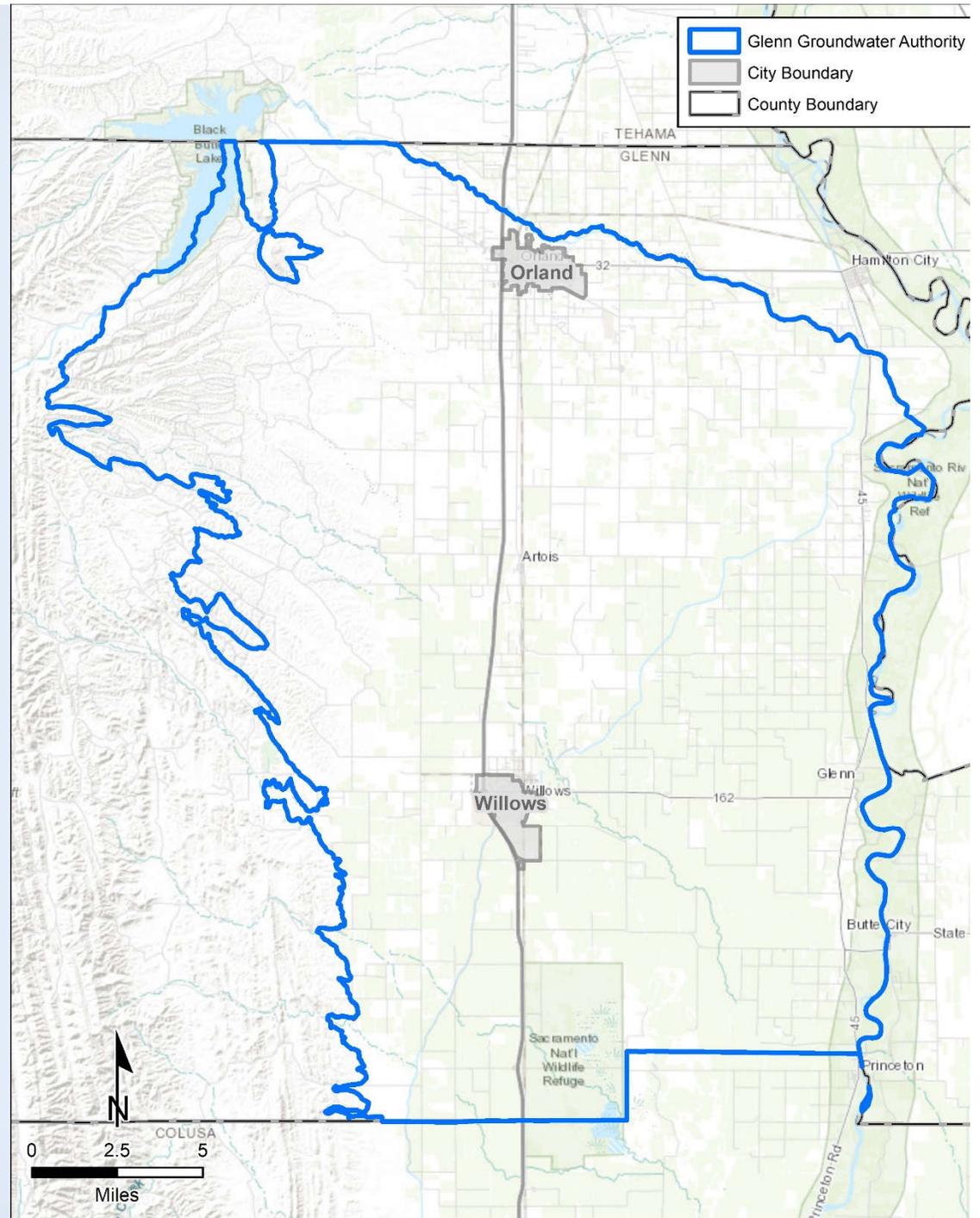
Orland-Artois Water District

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Colusa Subbasin Map



Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA) Map



GGA Activities



- Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Colusa Subbasin
 - Awarded \$1 million Prop 1 grant for GSP development
 - Consultants developing the required Basin Setting for GSP
- Coordinating with CGA on activities in the Colusa Subbasin
- Coordinating with GSAs in surrounding basins/counties
- Organizing public meetings and public outreach activities
- Developing long-term funding strategy for the GGA
- Maintain local control of Groundwater Management

Building on Existing Knowledge



- Monitoring Network Report
- Water Budget Report
- Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model Report
- Data Management System Report
- Groundwater Model Assessment and Software Recommendation Technical Memorandum
- Agricultural Water Management Plans
- Urban Water Management Plans/Water Quality Reports
- Member Agency studies

Building on Existing Knowledge

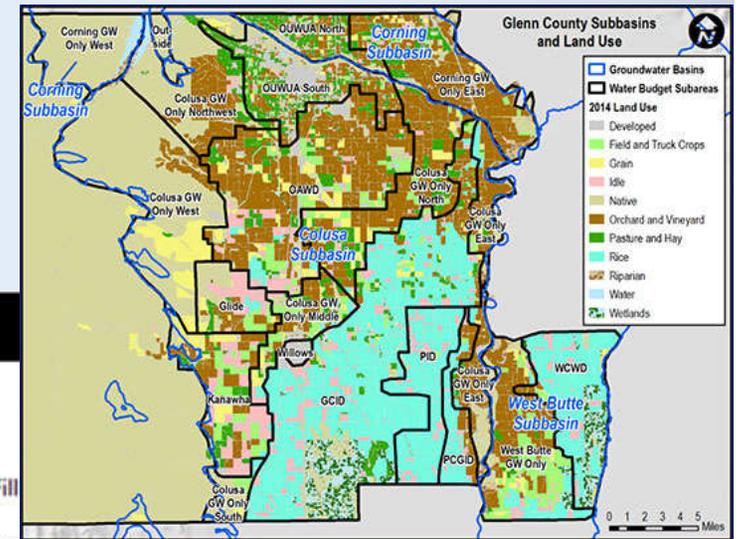


Colusa and Glenn County Data Management System Summary Report

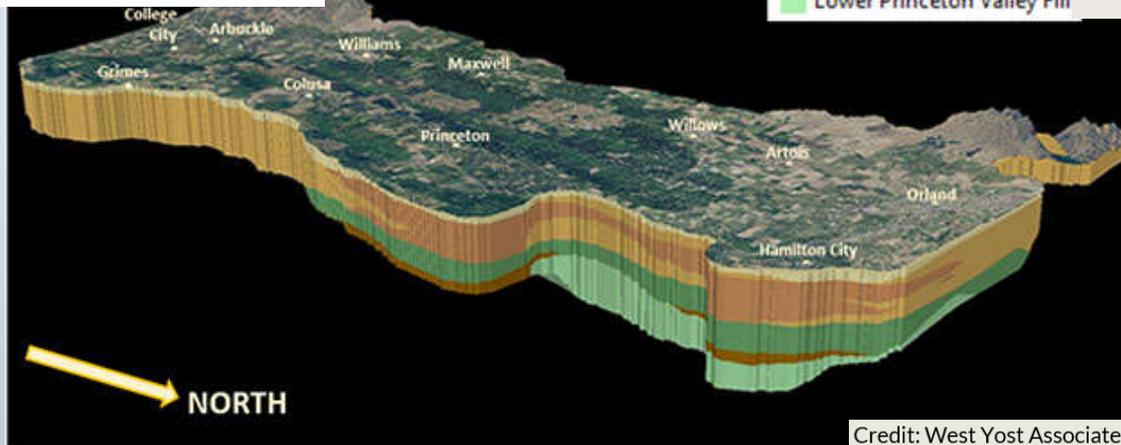
Prepared for the County of Colusa and County of Glenn

May 2018

DAVIDS ENGINEERING

Three small landscape photographs showing different views of agricultural and natural areas.

Credit: Davids Engineering, Inc.



Credit: West Yost Associates

Reports available on Glenn County website.

Financing SGMA Implementation

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GGA Activities and the Need for Funding

Financing SGMA



- GGA members working together, pooling resources to keep costs to a minimum
- GGA Member Agencies agreed to fund the JPA for the first two years (July, 2017 – June, 2019)
- Leveraging grant funding, Facilitation Support, and Technical Support services
- **Need for Long-term funding for day to day operations of the GGA:**
 - **Technical:** GSP development, technical studies, monitoring and data management, coordination and outreach efforts, implementation of the GSP, yearly reporting to DWR, Plan updates every five years
 - **O&M:** Staff, insurance, legal services, bookkeeping, office needs, etc.
- Fees are needed to comply with SGMA and fund the GSP development and implementation

Financing SGMA Implementation

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Proposition 218 Property Related Fee

Financing SGMA



Proposition 218 Property Related Fee Requirements

- GGA contracted with Provost and Pritchard Engineering to initiate a Proposition 218 Property Related Fee
- Consultants will complete a rate study to determine a fee structure based on GGA budget and acreages in the GGA's jurisdiction
- Amount of fee cannot exceed the reasonable cost of the activity to be funded
- Public information meetings in March – April
- A similar process is being done in the CGA portion of the Colusa Subbasin

Financing SGMA



Proposition 218 Property Related Fee Requirements

- Fees must be based on the reasonable cost of providing service
 - GGA's annual operating budget
- Fees must proportionally recover costs from ratepayers (i.e. no subsidies)
 - \$/acre fee
- Fees in the Prop 218 notice are the max fees that may be adopted
 - Board may lower fees without conducting another Prop 218 notice and hearing process

Financing SGMA



Who is Subject to Fees?

- All property owners have an overlying right and benefit from a healthy groundwater system
- Parcels within the boundaries of the Cities of Orland and Willows will be covered by fees paid by the cities on behalf of the landowners.
 - Saves money processing multiple property tax bills on small parcels
 - Landowners of city property are not included in the 218 Property Related Fee process

Financing SGMA



Feb-May 2019

May 2019

July 2019

December 2019



Proposed GGA Budget



OPERATING EXPENSES	Proposed 2019/20	Proposed 2020/21	Proposed 2021/22	Proposed 2022/23	Proposed 2023/24
Administration- Contracted County Services	\$120,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000	\$150,000
Program Administration Support			20,000	20,000	20,000
Legal Services	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000	80,000
Certified Public Accountant (Yearly Audits)	9,750	10,000	10,500	10,800	11,100
JPA Insurance	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
County Bookkeeper	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
GSP Development/Implementation	72,002	59,481	66,865	50,000	50,000
Long Term Funding Options	15,000			70,000	70,000
Professional Services	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000	35,000
Board Expenses	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Special Department Expenses	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	25,000
Legal Notices	1,000	1,000	1,200	1,000	1,000
Contingency 10%	37,000	37,000	40,000	45,000	45,000
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	\$403,552	\$406,281	\$437,365	\$495,600	\$495,900

Financing SGMA



Initial Estimate: Proposition 218 Property Related Fee Calculation

	Estimates
Budget	\$495,900
Acres	284,068
Fee (\$/acre)	\$1.75

- Pending outcome of fee study
- Pending GGA Board approval and budget review
- SGMA is a new program, many unknowns
 - Budget is the best estimate at this time
 - The fee cannot exceed the reasonable costs of the GGA activities
- This fee is for day to day operations of the GGA. Additional project-specific fees may also apply in the future.

Financing SGMA



What if the Prop 218 Effort Fails?

- If the GGA cannot be funded, local control may be lost and State Intervention could occur.
 - If a basin is not covered entirely by a GSA(s) and/or approved GSP, the State Water Resources Control Board assumes SGMA responsibilities.
- Lose local control of the groundwater resource.

SGMA Local Compliance and Potential State Intervention

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State Intervention



- **State Board intervention actions can include:**
 - Well Head fees
 - Volumetric fees (fee per acre-foot of water pumped)
 - Late fees (subject to backdating to 2017)
 - Mandatory extraction reporting including monthly pumping data
 - May require installation of meters on wells at owner's expense
 - Technical reporting and special studies at landowners' expense
 - Any corrective actions will likely result in pumping restrictions

State Intervention



SWRCB Fees, 2018

BASE FEE (per well)	\$300
Volumetric Fee (per AF)	
Unmanaged, metered	\$10/AF
Unmanaged, unmetered	\$25/AF
An unmanaged area is a part of a basin <u>not</u> within the management area of a GSA before July 1, 2017	
Probation	\$40/AF
If locals fail to form a GSA, fail to develop an adequate sustainability plan, or fail to implement the plan successfully, the Board may designate the entire basin probationary. The Board may require the use of a meter to measure extractions and reporting of additional information.	
Interim Plan	\$55/AF
If local agencies are unable to fix the deficiencies, the Board will develop an interim plan to directly manage groundwater extractions.	
De minimis (less than 2 AF/year)	\$100/well
Late Fee	25% per month

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/gmp/sgma.html

State Intervention



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Public Information Meetings



March 21

6-8pm

Glenn Success Square Conference Center
131 E Walker St
Orland, CA 95963

March 28

6-8pm

Willows City Council Chambers
201 N Lassen St
Willows, CA 95988

April 2

6-8pm

Ord Bend Community Hall
3241 Highway 45
Glenn, CA 95943



Thank You

Landowner input is essential to GSP development and SGMA planning and implementation.

Please visit the website or contact Staff to get on the contact list:

Lisa Hunter

Program Manager, Glenn Groundwater Authority

530-934-6501

GGA Website: <https://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/agriculture/water-resources/glenn-groundwater-authority>
