

**GLENN COUNTY
WATER ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Glenn County Department of Agriculture
720 North Colusa St., Willows, CA 95988
Phone: 530.934.6501 FAX: 530.934.6503
Email: wateradv@countyofglenn.net
Website: <http://www.glenncountywater.org/>

AGENDA

MEETING DATE: Thursday, July 21, 2016
TIME: 10:30 A.M.
PLACE: Glenn County Department of Agriculture
720 North Colusa Street
Willows, CA 95988

I. INTRODUCTIONS:

Water Advisory Committee Members:

David Alves	Central River Irrigation Districts
Terry Bressler	East County Reclamation and Irrigation Districts
Ted Trimble	East County Reclamation and Irrigation Districts
John Amaro	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
Larry Domenighini	Glenn County Farm Bureau
Ken Sullivan	Orland Unit Water Users Association
Bruce Roundy	Resource Conservation District
Mike Vereschagin	Tehama Colusa Canal Authority Districts
Mike Alves	Tehama Colusa Canal Authority Districts
Mark Lohse	At-Large Private Pumpers (Agricultural/Municipal/Industrial)
Rob Vlach	At-Large Private Pumpers (Agricultural/Municipal/Industrial)
Darin Titus	At-Large Private Pumpers (Agricultural/Municipal/Industrial)
Del Reimers	At-Large Private Pumpers (Agricultural/Municipal/Industrial)

Technical Advisory Committee Members:

Lance Boyd	At-Large, South Area
Erin Smith	Department of Water Resources
Allan Fulton	UC Cooperative Extension
Matt Gomes	Glenn County Planning and Public Works
Kevin Backus	Glenn County Environmental Health
Ben Pennock	At-Large, Central Area
Marcie Skelton	Glenn County Department of Agriculture
Anjanette Shadley	At-Large, East Area
John Brooks	At-Large, North Area
Leigh McDaniel	Board of Supervisors (ex-officio)

II. AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Public Comment:

Any person wanting to address the Water Advisory Committee on any item NOT ON TODAY'S AGENDA may do so at this time. Please limit your comments to three (3) minutes. The Water Advisory Committee will not be making decisions or determinations on items brought up during Public Comment.

B. Discussion and/or Action Items:

1. Letter to Board of Supervisors-At the May 24, 2016 meeting, the WAC directed the TAC to draft a letter to the Board of Supervisors for WAC consideration using the following statement as a guideline: *The WAC cannot recommend that the well moratorium be continued based on lack of sound data/science and further studies are needed to be done to gather data by a third party consultant and funding is needed to complete these studies.* A second draft was requested at the June 12, 2016 meeting.
 - a) Provide comment and consider approving letter (POSSIBLE ACTION)

III. NEXT MEETINGS:

The next WAC meeting has not been scheduled.

The next TAC meeting has not been scheduled.

IV. ADJOURN:

Any documents related to agenda items that are made available to the Water Advisory Committee before the meeting shall be available for review during regular business hours at 720 North Colusa Street, Willows, California, 95988.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance or accommodations to participate in this meeting, please contact Lisa Hunter at the Glenn County Department of Agriculture at 530-934-6501. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Glenn County Water Advisory Committee to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. (28 CFR 35.101-35.164 ADA Title II.)



Water Advisory Committee

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July 21, 2016

Dear Board Members:

The WAC recommends that the Board of Supervisors not extend the well permit moratorium as it currently stands due to a lack of science and supporting data. The WAC and TAC members have held numerous meetings to discuss the groundwater conditions in Glenn County and what actions should be taken to guarantee sustainable groundwater conditions for all parties within the County. We have the following concerns and recommendations for the Glenn County Board of Supervisors:

1. The committee recommends the well permit moratorium not be extended due to a lack of science and supporting data to support such actions.
2. Groundwater conditions vary widely within the County and a one size fits all approach will not work for well construction criteria such as sealing wells at various levels. In some areas this will lead to the inability to find a usable source of groundwater.
3. Work on updating the current BMOs should be continued as planned. This process could be helped by consultant review and recommendations.
4. The WAC and TAC recommend that funding is made available by the County to fund a consulting firm to complete a county-wide water budget (water balance) and additional work to provide credible science to support groundwater management actions. This could eliminate the appearance of politics and emotion driving groundwater management decisions. Items of importance are listed below:
 - County-wide water budget (water balance)—approximately \$130,000 to be covered by a variety of sources including a portion covered under a grant administered by the County's Agricultural Department and additional funding from the County and other participating agencies. A water budget is fundamental in providing useful recommendations regarding well permitting and BMO revisions. Furthermore, a detailed water budget is also essential in moving the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act discussions forward, including the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and Plans.
 - Items from the Preliminary Plan for Groundwater and Coordinated Water Management (2003, incorporated into Ordinance 1237 in August 2012)
 - Formulate countywide water management goals
 - Perform water needs analysis (initially completed in 2007, due for an update)
 - Prepare water delivery and distribution infrastructure map (initially completed in 2007)
 - Determine groundwater utilization opportunities and constraints
 - Complete comprehensive groundwater monitoring program (initially completed in 2007, currently updating BMO revisions)
 - Formulate potential projects (ongoing)

Comment [LH1]: The recommendation regarding the well permit application could fit here if you think it is appropriate.



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- (Formulate) evaluate water transfer guidelines (completed 2012, incorporated into Ord. 1237)
- Formulate drought preparedness plan
- Formulate public information and education program (ongoing)
- Prepare Groundwater and Coordinated Water Management Plan
- Items from the Report on Groundwater Level Declines in Western Glenn County (May 2014)
 - Groundwater/Surface Water Modeling and Water Budget (Prop 1 grant beginning July 2016 will start this process, also see County-wide water budget listed above)
 - Cost study analysis
 - Recharge activities
 - Surface water use
 - Coordination, Outreach, and Education (ongoing)
 - Mapping (initial mapping completed; this task is ongoing)
 - Basin Management Objectives (this task is ongoing)
 - County Governance Options (Portions of this task have been reviewed/discussed/implemented. This task requires further engagement.)

Thank you in advance for your careful consideration of these recommendations.

Sincerely,

Rob Vlach
WAC Chairman

Comment [LH2]: Or Glenn County WAC and TAC

Attachments:
Preliminary Plan for Groundwater and Coordinated Water Management
Report on Groundwater Level Declines in Western Glenn County



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July 12~~21~~, 2016

Dear Board Members:

The WAC ~~has made significant progress regarding Basin Management Objective (BMO) revisions~~ recommends that the Board of Supervisors not extend the well permit moratorium as it currently stands due to a lack of science and supporting data. The WAC and TAC members have held numerous meetings to discuss the groundwater conditions in Glenn County and what actions should be taken to guarantee sustainable groundwater conditions for all parties within the County. We have the following concerns and recommendations for the Glenn County Board of Supervisors:

1. The committee recommends the well permit moratorium not be extended due to a lack of science and supporting data to support such actions.
2. Groundwater conditions vary widely within the County and a one size fits all approach will not work for well construction criteria such as sealing wells at various levels. In some areas this will lead to the inability to find a usable source of groundwater.
3. Work on updating the well permitting current BMOs should be continued as planned. This process could be helped by consultant review and recommendations.
4. The WAC is requesting and TAC recommend that funding is made available by the County to fund a consulting firm to complete a county-wide water budget (water balance) and additional data analysis. work to provide credible science to support groundwater management actions. This could eliminate the appearance of politics and emotion driving groundwater management decisions. Items of importance are listed below:

Comment [LH1]: The recommendation regarding the well permit application could fit here if you think it is appropriate.

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~~Groundwater ordinance 1237, adopted August 7, 2012, included the Preliminary Plan for Groundwater Management (Preliminary Plan), developed by the consulting firm Wood Rodgers with guidance from the WAC and the County. Several tasks included in the Preliminary Plan have been completed, but several tasks remain. Additional resources are needed to complete the analysis requested by the Board. Please see the attached report and summary.~~

~~The WAC also developed a Report on Declining Groundwater Levels in Western Glenn County and an Action List that was approved by the Board of Supervisors in May 2014. Progress has been made toward completing these tasks, but ultimately, many of the items outlined require additional funds to complete. The report and Action List are attached.~~

- County-wide water budget (water balance)—approximately \$130,000 to be covered by a variety of sources including a portion covered under a grant administered by the County's Agricultural Department and additional funding from the County and other participating agencies. A water budget is fundamental in providing useful recommendations regarding well permitting and BMO

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revisions. Furthermore, a detailed water budget is also essential in moving the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act discussions forward, including the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and Plans. ~~There is an opportunity to cost share with other agencies; therefore we are requesting the County participate in the funding a third-party consultant to work on this project.~~

The items of most critical need are:

- Items from the Preliminary Plan for Groundwater and Coordinated Water Management (2003, incorporated into Ordinance 1237 in August 2012)
 - Formulate countywide water management goals
 - Perform water needs analysis (initially completed in 2007, due for an update)
 - Prepare water delivery and distribution infrastructure map (initially completed in 2007)
 - Determine groundwater utilization opportunities and constraints
 - Complete comprehensive groundwater monitoring program (initially completed in 2007, currently updating BMO revisions)
 - Formulate potential projects (ongoing)
 - (Formulate) evaluate water transfer guidelines (completed 2012, incorporated into Ord. 1237)
 - Formulate drought preparedness plan
 - Formulate public information and education program (ongoing)
 - Prepare Groundwater and Coordinated Water Management Plan
- Items from the Report on Groundwater Level Declines in Western Glenn County (May 2014)
 - Groundwater/Surface Water Modeling and Water Budget (Prop 1 grant beginning July 2016 will start this process, also see County-wide water budget (water balance) — approximately \$130,000 listed above)
- Funding for coordination and outreach programs (Enter \$ amount)
 - We would also encourage the Board of Supervisors to add resources to the County's Cost study analysis
 - Recharge activities
 - Surface water program to use
 - Coordination, Outreach, and Education (ongoing)
 - Mapping (initial mapping completed; this task is ongoing)
 - Basin Management Objectives (this task is ongoing)
 - County Governance Options (Portions of this task have been reviewed/discussed/implemented. This task requires further assist engagement.)

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Thank you in advance for your careful consideration of these efforts—recommendations.



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We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Rob Vlach
WAC Chairman

Comment [LH2]: Or Glenn County WAC and TAC

Attachments:

[Preliminary Plan for Groundwater and Coordinated Water Management](#)

[Report on Groundwater Level Declines in Western Glenn County](#)

DRAFT