

MID-KINGS RIVER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
REGARDING A PROPOSED GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FEE

Page 1 of 2

The purpose of this Notice is to provide you with information about the public hearing being conducted by the Mid-Kings River Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MKRGSA or GSA) to consider adoption of a groundwater extraction fee within the GSA's jurisdiction in the Tulare Lake Subbasin, pursuant to Water Code Section 10730 and California Constitution, Article XIII C as follows:

**A public hearing is set for 1:00 p.m. on September 29, 2026,
at the Board of Supervisors Chambers, Kings County Government Center
1400 W Lacey Boulevard, Hanford, CA 93230.**

If you wish to comment on this matter, you are invited to do so at the public hearing.

Legal Authority

This fee is proposed pursuant to Water Code section 10730, which authorizes a groundwater sustainability agency to impose fees, including, but not limited to, permit fees and fees on groundwater extraction or other regulated activity, to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program, including, but not limited to, preparation, adoption, and amendment of a groundwater sustainability plan, and investigations, inspections, compliance assistance, enforcement, and program administration, including a prudent reserve. Water Code Section 10730(b)(1) requires that, prior to imposing or increasing a fee, a GSA must hold at least one public meeting, at which oral and written presentation may be made as part of the meeting.

Description and Purpose of the Fee

The proposed extraction fee will fund the administration of several mitigation programs intended to support the implementation of the GSA's adopted Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Tulare Lake Subbasin. Administering these programs will provide the benefit to groundwater users by supporting compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). These mitigation programs include a Well Mitigation Pilot Program, a Dry Well Mitigation Program, a Water Quality Mitigation Program, and Subsidence Mitigation.

Amount and Basis of the Proposed Fee

The annual proposed fee is calculated as set forth below. The complete supporting rate and cost of service documentation is available on the GSA's website. The Cost-of-Service Study evaluates the cost of administering and implementing SGMA, the beneficiaries of groundwater management activities, and the allocation of costs among groundwater users.

Year	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031
Cost Per Acre-Foot	\$9.23	\$19.24	\$17.84	\$10.57	\$7.41

Public Review Process

The GSA is committed to transparency and stakeholder engagement. Groundwater users and interested parties will have the opportunity to review the public data upon which the proposed fee is based, no later than September 8, 2026. These materials will be available on the GSA's website and at the GSA office. Written comments may be filed at any time prior to the public meeting. Comments can be mailed to the Mid-Kings River GSA (Kings County CDA) office, 1400 W. Lacey Blvd., Bldg #6, Hanford, CA 93230,

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Page 2 of 2

emailed to mkrghsa@co.kings.ca.us, or submitted via the online comment form at midkingsriverghsa.org/localfunding.

Public Outreach

Landowners are invited to learn more at an upcoming public workshop:

- **Workshop #1:** Monday, August 24th at 1:00 p.m. at the Hanford Civic Auditorium, 400 N Douty St., Hanford, CA 93230
- **Workshop #2:** Tuesday, August 25th at 5:30 p.m. at the Hanford Civic Auditorium, 400 N Douty St., Hanford, CA 93230

Workshops can be attended in-person or online. To find the information to join virtually, visit midkingsriverghsa.org/localfunding.

For more information, visit midkingsriverghsa.org/localfunding, call (559) 852-2670, or email mkrghsa@co.kings.ca.us.