



CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Board of Directors

Steve Jackson Chair, Cuyama Basin Water District
Arne Anselm Vice Chair, County of Ventura
Matthew Young Secretary, Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Cory Bantilan Treasurer, Santa Barbara County Water Agency
Derek Yurosek Cuyama Basin Water District
Deborah Williams Cuyama Community Services District

Brian Grant Cuyama Basin Water District
Kyle Richardson Cuyama Basin Water District
Jimmy Paulding County of San Luis Obispo
Katelyn Zenger County of Kern
Mark Ellsworth Cuyama Basin Water District

AGENDA

July 1, 2026

Agenda for a meeting of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors to be held on Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 2:00 PM at the Cuyama Valley Family Resource Center 4689 CA-166, New Cuyama, CA 93254. Participate via computer at: <https://shorturl.at/CEXif> or by going to Microsoft Teams, downloading the free application, then entering Meeting ID: 285 525 814 804 96 Passcode: fc2R8yg6 or enter or telephonically at (469) 480-3918 Phone Conference ID: 955 559 561#.

Teleconference Locations:

4689 CA-166 New Cuyama, CA 93254	1115 Truxtun Avenue, 5th Floor Bakersfield, CA 93301	1055 Monterey Street, Suite D430 San Luis Obispo, CA 93408	39 E 1st Street Eagar, AZ 85925
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The order in which agenda items are discussed may be changed to accommodate scheduling or other needs of the Board or Committee, the public, or meeting participants. Members of the public are encouraged to arrive at the commencement of the meeting to ensure that they are present for discussion of all items in which they are interested.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, to participate in this meeting, please contact Grace Bianchi at (559) 218-3482 by 4:00 p.m. on the Friday prior to this meeting. The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes per subject or topic.

1. Call to Order (Jackson) (1 min)
2. Roll Call (Bianchi) (1 min)
3. Pledge of Allegiance (Jackson) (1 min)
4. Meeting Protocols (Bianchi) (2 min)
5. Standing Advisory Committee Meeting Report (Kelly) (3 min)
6. **CONSENT AGENDA** (5 min)

Items listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and non-controversial by staff and will be approved by one motion if no member of the Board or public wishes to comment or ask questions. If comment or discussion is desired by anyone, the item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered in the listed sequence with an opportunity for any member of the public to address the Board concerning the item before action is taken.

- a. Approve May 6, 2026, Meeting Minutes
- b. Approve Payment of Bills for April and May 2026
- c. Approve Financial Reports for April and May 2026
- d. Approve Agreement with Landowners for CIMIS Station Ongoing Operations & Maintenance

- e. Approve Resolution No. 2026-01 Adopting Policies and Procedures for Award of Contracts and Delegation of Contracting Authority
- f. Approve Monitoring Network Contract with P&P for Water Year 2027
- g. Approval of Resolution No. 2026-02 Authorizing the Submission of Calendar Year 2020 and Fiscal Years 20-21, 21-22, 22-23, 23-24, 24-25, and 25-26 Delinquent Groundwater Extraction Fees to County Tax Collectors for Collection
- h. Approve First Amendment to Contract with Santa Barbara County for Collection of Special Taxes, Assessments, and Other Charges

7. **ACTION ITEMS**

All action items require a simple majority vote by default (50% of the vote). Items that require a super majority vote (75% of the weighted total) will be noted as such at the end of the item.

- a. Adopt Reserve Fund Policy (Blakslee/Collins) (30 min)
- b. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation
 - i. Update on Increased Water Use Assessment for Areas Outside the Central Management Area (Blakslee) (10 min)

8. **PUBLIC HEARING** – Consider Approval of Resolution No. 2026-03 Setting a Groundwater Extraction Fee for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and Authorize Invoicing of Landowners (Blakslee/Collins) [**Supermajority Vote Required**] (3:30 p.m.) (15 min)

9. **ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES**

- a. Executive Director Report (Blakslee) (5 min)
 - i. Update on Fiscal Year 26-27 Workplan and Schedule
- b. General Counsel Report (Collins) (5 min)

10. **TECHNICAL UPDATES**

- a. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities (Van Lienden) (5 min)
- b. April 2026 Groundwater Conditions Report (Van Lienden) (5 min)

11. **CLOSED SESSION**

- a. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (15 min)
Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1) Bolthouse Land Company, LLC, et al v. All Persons Claiming a Right to Extract or Store Groundwater in the Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin (BCV-21-101927)

- 12. Report of Ad Hoc Committees (1 min)
- 13. Directors' Forum (1 min)
- 14. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda (5 min)
- 15. Correspondence (1 min)
- 16. Adjourn (5:00 p.m.)

2026 CBGSA Board Ad Hoc Committees

<p>1 Finance</p>	<p>Ellsworth Grant Young</p>
<p>2 GSP Periodic Eval Review</p>	<p>Anselm Bantilan Jackson Williams Yurosek</p>
<p>3 Legal RFQ Review</p>	<p>Reely Richardson Zenger</p>
<p>4 Increased Water Use Analysis</p>	<p>Anselm Reely Yurosek</p>

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors Meeting

May 6, 2026

Draft Meeting Minutes

PRESENT:

Directors

Jackson, Steve– Chair
Anselm, Arne – Vice Chair
Bantilan, Cory – Treasurer
Young, Matthew – Secretary
Ellsworth, Mark
Grant, Brian
Reely, Blaine – Alternate
Richardson, Kyle
Williams, Debby
Yurosek, Derek
Zenger, Katelyn

Staff

Bianchi, Grace – Hallmark Group
Blakslee, Taylor –Executive Director, Hallmark Group
Collins, Claire – Legal Counsel, Hanson Bridgett
Metcalf, Nathan – Legal Counsel, Hanson Bridgett
Van Lienden, Brian – Woodard & Curran,

1. Call to Order

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Bianchi called roll (shown above) and informed Chair Jackson that there was a quorum of the Board.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of allegiance was led by Chair Jackson.

Mr. Blakslee noted a change to the agenda and stated that Closed Session would follow Item No. 10b.

4. Meeting Protocols

Ms. Bianchi provided an overview of the meeting protocols.

5. Introduction of New Legal Counsel

Legal Counsel Claire Collins introduced herself as new general counsel for the CBGSA and provided an overview of her background representing California water agencies, including groundwater sustainability agencies. Legal Counsel Nathan Metcalf introduced himself as adjudication counsel and summarized his experience with groundwater adjudications, probationary basins, surface water rights, and fisheries matters.

6. Standing Advisory Committee Meeting Report

Meeting Date: April 30, 2026

Submitted to the CBGSA Board of Directors on May 6, 2026

By Brenton Kelly, SAC Chair

The Standing Advisory Committee met at the Family Resource Center in a hybrid format, with three Committee Members present in person and one on the conference line, with three members absent. GSA Staff Taylor Blakeslee and Project Coordinator Grace Bianchi were present, and they were joined by Brian Van Lienden on the call. One stakeholder was in the room with many more on the video conference.

The SAC meeting lasted three hours with lots of discussion and review of GSP implementation. We approved the response to the DWR review of our new GSP and we took a high-level review of the 2026-2027 budget with a couple of recommendations.

The SAC was introduced to Nathan Metcalf of the Hanson Bridgett law firm, the new GSA counsel for the Adjudication, who gave an informative and appreciated update on the current Court actions. The final draft for a Minor Extractor (ME) Order is expected shortly. A list of approximately 480 property owners in the basin has been prepared to zero out any groundwater rights into the future. Many of these are in the Cuyama Community Services District. An opt-in form will be used to apply for Minor Extractor rights for almost 200 claimants who have successfully submitted paperwork in the case to access a 400 AFY ME pool that will not be subject to any further reductions or cutbacks unless the Sustainable Yield is determined to be smaller in the future.

During public comment on items not on the agenda, Vice Chair Joe Haslett was disappointed in the accessibility of the Form 700 financial disclosures, in compliance with AB 293, for CBGSA Board of Directors. The online searching tool provided on our website was of no use.

a) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on GSA Response to DWR's Additional Information Request Regarding their Review of the Amended 2025 GSP and Periodic Evaluation

Some general observations and recommendations include the following:

Important Descriptive Narrative: A clear and understandable description of the new process for determining Minimum Thresholds (MTs) is imperative. A majority of basinwide MTs were lowered by enough to eliminate all exceedances from the old plan, while allowing for worsening of the undesirable results of groundwater elevation declines and the loss of groundwater from storage. How is this protective of sensitive beneficial uses, such as

shallow domestic wells, small farms, and degraded wetland habitats?

Water Quality Migration Mitigation: DWR continues to take issue with how the GSP addresses issues of arsenic and nitrates in the basin. Staff is suggesting that monitoring for the movement or migration of these contaminants would allow for some mitigation measures that could be an alternative to setting Minimum Thresholds with Adaptive Management measures. What would effective migration tracking look like when current testing is done once every five years? How would the public be made aware of any impacts to domestic wells from potential migration trends?

Plan Implementation and Allocation: The current GSP allocations are only established to 2029, are not calculated for the full basin, and are not expected to reach the basinwide Sustainable Yield by themselves.

Water Year vs. Calendar Year: At the soonest convenient opportunity, likely in 2030, the landowners' annual water reporting timeline must be synced up with the model calculations timeline. For greater accuracy and consistency, the Water Year, from October 1 to September 31, should be used instead of the calendar year.

Along with the above comments and policy questions, the SAC generally approved the recommendation of the Technical Memorandum in response to DWR's review of the 2025 GSP and Periodic Review. A motion by Haslett was seconded by DeBranch and passed unanimously.

b) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Potential Areas of Overdraft Outside the Central Management Area

The Initial Assessment process to recognize areas of irrigated acreage outside of the CMA that may be contributing to basinwide overdraft is being employed for the first time, and it revealed the following observations from the Committee and Stakeholders:

Better Map Visuals: The request was made, not for the first time, for clearer landmarks to be included on maps, such as major roads and drainages, rather than just satellite view.

Overdraft Needs to be Defined: A clear and quantitative definition of overdraft outside the CMA is needed for this Initial Assessment. It was recognized that a single year-on-year comparison is not sufficient to describe a trend, and yet the 50-year model simulation is not better and does not accurately recognize potential overdraft. Specific conditions such as well depth, amount of irrigated acreage, seasonality, and land use changes must be part of this definition. An Initial Assessment must be followed by ground truthing.

Identify the Overdraft: If the Model suggests that some amount of pumping outside the CMA may be contributing to basinwide overdraft, then this process must identify and manage that contribution to the overdraft for sustainability. If, after ground truthing the Initial Assessment, long-term contribution to basinwide overdraft is not found, then the model estimates should be viewed with skepticism. It was felt that without strong

guardrails, growers could keep adding wells and irrigating new acres outside the CMA. If changes in land use cause rapid changes in groundwater elevations, this must be recognized and managed quickly. The Committee agrees with the next step of ground truthing the two parcels as indicated in the initial assessment summary, map on page 80 of the GSA packet.

c) Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget and Cash Flow

The SAC reviewed the draft budget and commented on some of the options, including the options for cost savings with the SAC. The SAC did not review the cash flow or fee options. The following comments were made by committee members and stakeholders:

Allocations vs. Adjudication: Some of the biggest price tag options are for model improvements for the purpose of developing allocations outside of the CMA. However, the Court is also determining basinwide allocations in the Adjudication. How much money must we spend on duplication of the Court's anticipated allocations?

Recalibration vs. Data Updating: Brian Van Lienden suggested that the cost to simply update recent data and recalibrate the Model would be approximately \$200,000. The cost of these Model Improvements is an additional optional amount of approximately \$600,000. Would this extra expense be of any benefit if the allocations are developed by the Court?

Collaboration and Cooperation with the Court: What is the process for providing this information to the Judge to assist in the Adjudication for the benefit of sustainability in the Basin as a whole? This \$1.8 million budget is raised from basin stakeholders for a public process that should be vigorously advocated for and represented to the Court, and yet technical analysis, pumping data, and the GSP have been under-represented to the Judge.

Cost Cutting at the SAC: The Committee understands the need for efficient use of our financial resources. Staff time is valuable and can be viewed as a finite resource. Although we highly value Hallmark's critical meeting facilitation, a three-hour limit to technical support staff can be accommodated without a problem. It was felt that a brief legal update, in person or written, of 15 minutes or less would be reasonable and helpful.

A motion to approve Option 5 in Attachment 2 with a brief legal update at the start of the meeting when appropriate. The motion was made by Joe Haslett and seconded by Jean Gillard and passed with one dissent from Brad DeBranch.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

7-9. Consent Agenda

Chair Jackson asked if any Directors wanted to move any of the consent items out to discuss in more detail.

MOTION

Director Yurosek made a motion to approve the consent agenda item nos. 7-9. The motion was seconded by Director Williams. A roll call vote was made and the motion passed unanimously.

- AYES: Anselm, Bantilan, Ellsworth, Grant, Jackson, Richardson, Reely, Williams, Young, Yurosek, Zenger
- NOES: None
- ABSTAIN: None
- ABSENT: None

ACTION ITEMS

10. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

a. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on GSA Response to DWR’s Additional Information Request Regarding their Review of the Amended 2025 GSP and Periodic Evaluation

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the Department of Water Resources’ (DWR) review of the amended 2025 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and Periodic Evaluation. He explained that DWR requested additional information regarding groundwater level sustainable management criteria, groundwater quality, subsidence, monitoring networks, plan implementation, and data reporting.

Mr. Van Lienden reviewed the draft technical memorandum responding to DWR’s comments and summarized each response category. He explained that staff provided additional information regarding minimum threshold methodologies, groundwater quality monitoring, nitrate and arsenic management, subsidence monitoring, representative monitoring wells, allocation implementation, and data reporting methods.

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the Department of Water Resource’s (DWR) review of the 2025 amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and Periodic Evaluation.

Mr. Van Lienden provided a presentation of the GSA response to each of DWR’s comments in their annual review of the GSP and Periodic Evaluation.

Director Grant asked whether the Cuyama Community Services District (CCSD) wells had experienced groundwater quality concerns related to nitrates or arsenic. Director Williams responded that arsenic concentrations at the wellhead periodically exceeded the maximum contaminant level but were reduced through treatment to compliant levels, while nitrates had not presented a concern at the district wells.

Mr. Blakslee explained that staff was not recommending establishment of nitrate-specific sustainable management criteria at this time, but instead proposed annual evaluation of nitrate migration trends and potential mitigation measures if significant changes occur.

Director Young stated that other agencies already operate domestic well testing programs and suggested the GSA continue utilizing existing monitoring resources.

Mr. Van Lienden explained that DWR has identified examples of other GSAs that established nitrate or arsenic thresholds, although staff believes the proposed approach remains appropriate for the basin.

SAC Chair Brenton Kelly provided the SAC report.

Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle asked whether DWR had reviewed the groundwater quality summaries included in the GSA annual reports and questioned whether DWR still considered the current approach insufficient.

Mr. Van Lienden responded that the GSA annually summarizes nitrate and arsenic data obtained from existing monitoring programs and includes those summaries within the annual report submitted to DWR.

Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle asked whether the GSA could further define what constitutes a “significant change” in nitrate concentrations.

Mr. Blakslee responded that staff preferred to maintain flexibility rather than tie the GSA to a fixed quantitative threshold at this time, but explained that significant migration toward domestic wells or new areas would warrant further review.

Director Young noted that Santa Barbara County Environmental Health offers a free domestic well testing program and suggested adding the information to the GSA website.

MOTION

Director Young moved to approve staff’s response to DWR comments. The motion was seconded by Director Yurosek. A roll call vote was made and the motion passed unanimously.

AYES:	Anselm, Bantilan, Ellsworth, Grant, Jackson, Richardson, Reely, Williams, Young, Yurosek, Zenger
NOES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

b. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Potential Areas of Overdraft Outside the Central Management Area

Mr. Blakslee reviewed prior Board direction regarding evaluation of potential increased groundwater use outside the Central Management Area (CMA). He explained that staff developed an annual assessment process using groundwater pumping changes, groundwater level changes, and land use and well permitting information to identify potential areas requiring further review.

Ms. Bianchi reviewed the groundwater pumping analysis, land use changes, and well pumping, comparing 2024 and 2025 reported pumping data. She noted that staff identified significant increases in groundwater pumping in two areas and staff recommends following

up with these landowners.

SAC Chair Brenton Kelly provided the SAC report.

Chair Jackson opened the floor for public comment.

Stakeholder Jane Wooster commented that groundwater level changes alone should not automatically trigger management concerns and requested additional information regarding representative wells, well depths, and surrounding land uses.

Stakeholder Kathleen March expressed concern that groundwater levels near the North Fork vineyard area appeared to be declining more rapidly than in portions of the CMA and urged the Board to take action. Mr. Blakslee responded that the GSA monitors representative wells in that area and continues reviewing the data through the annual reporting process.

Stakeholder Adam Lovgren asked how the GSA would determine whether future management actions or restrictions would apply to specific wells or broader areas. Mr. Blakslee responded that staff was not recommending pumping restrictions at this stage and explained that several additional technical review steps would occur before any future management recommendations.

Stakeholder Byron Albano commented that the assessment process should focus on identifying long-term overdraft conditions rather than reacting to short-term groundwater level changes.

Director Young stated that the Board may eventually need to require landowners to provide technical analyses demonstrating that groundwater use will not interfere with the basin's ability to achieve sustainability.

Director Ellsworth asked whether the proposed process is similar to the process previously used to establish the CMA. Mr. Blakslee responded that the approach follows a similar staged technical review process.

Director Yurosek recommended providing additional clarification regarding Step 3 of the detailed assessment process.

Director Grant commented that staff should continue gathering information before considering more restrictive management approaches.

Director Zenger stated that restricting pumping in isolated areas may not provide an efficient basin-wide solution.

MOTION

Director Grant moved to direct staff to proceed with Steps 1-3 of the detailed assessment and provide ongoing communication to the Board regarding the process. The motion was

seconded by Director Young. A roll call vote was made and the motion passed unanimously.

- AYES: Anselm, Bantilan, Ellsworth, Grant, Jackson, Richardson, Reely, Williams, Young, Yurosek, Zenger
- NOES: None
- ABSTAIN: None
- ABSENT: None

CLOSED SESSION

13. Closed Session - Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(d)(1)

a) Bolthouse Land Company, LLC, et al v. All Persons Claiming a Right to Extract or Store Groundwater in the Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin (BCV-21-101927)

Chair Jackson opened the floor for public comment.

Stakeholder Byron Albano expressed frustration regarding holding closed session in the middle of the meeting.

Stakeholder Adam Lovgren expressed concern regarding adjudication-related costs and duplication of work between the adjudication and GSA technical efforts.

-----*The board entered closed session at 3:34 p.m.*-----

Legal Counsel Claire Collins reported that no action was taken during closed session.

-----*The board resumed to regular session at 4:46 p.m.*-----

c. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on FY 2026-2027 Budget and Cash Flow

Mr. Blakslee presented the proposed FY 2026-2027 budget and cash flow projections, including recommendations from staff and the Budget Ad Hoc Committee. He reviewed operational costs, consultant services, adjudication-related expenses, optional technical projects, and estimated extraction fee projections needed to maintain a target ending cash balance of \$200,000.

Mr. Blakslee presented the proposed FY 2026-2027 budget and cash flow projections, including recommendations from staff and the Budget Ad Hoc Committee. He reviewed operational costs, consultant services, adjudication-related expenses, optional technical projects, and estimated extraction fee projections needed to maintain a target ending cash balance.

Director Grant recommended reducing public workshop costs and questioned whether optional model improvement projects should proceed during an active adjudication process.

Director Ellsworth asked whether the GSA could utilize Cal Poly irrigation efficiency and infiltration studies instead of conducting additional basin-specific studies. Mr. Van Lienden

responded that the proposed technical work would generate basin-specific information needed for future groundwater management decisions.

Stakeholder Jim Wegis commented that the Cuyama Conservation District is also conducting irrigation efficiency efforts.

Director Anselm asked whether more detailed land use data would become available through the adjudication process.

Chair Jackson asked whether the historical land use update would remain necessary for future model updates. Mr. Van Lienden responded that the historical land use update could potentially be deferred to a future fiscal year.

Mr. Blakslee reported proposed telemetry cost savings would equal approximately \$900 per quarter, resulting in a long-term payback period.

SAC Chair Kelly provided the SAC report on this item.

Stakeholder Teddie Kelly asked about the purpose of adjudication-related spending and questioned the GSA's litigation posture.

Stakeholder Kathleen March stated that adjudication filings are publicly available through the Superior Court and noted that the CBGSA had not filed substantive adjudication documents.

Stakeholder Jane Wooster asked whether historical land use information could later be used for allocation decisions. Mr. Blakslee responded that historical land use data had been used previously in development of groundwater allocations.

Stakeholder Adam Lovgren asked about the purpose and potential impacts of the irrigation efficiency budget item.

Stakeholder Lynn Carlisle asked whether the proposed budget would be funded through pumping fees. Mr. Blakslee responded that the budget would be funded through a combination of existing cash disbursements and extraction fee revenue.

Mr. Blakslee reviewed the cash flow projections and estimated extraction fee levels necessary to maintain a \$200,000 ending cash balance.

The Board discussed whether to include an adjudication contingency.

Director Young suggested including the contingency with a requirement that any notice to proceed return to the Board. Legal Counsel Collins stated that the Board could approve the amount as a flagged item within the budget and require subsequent Board approval before expenditure.

Director Zenger asked about the large increase in the annual land use surveys. She supports

includes incorporating SBCF investigation into the model.

MOTION

Director Yurosek moved to approve Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget with caveat that any expenditures under contingency must come back to board for 75% approval, with option 5 for SAC with legal update. The motion was seconded by Director Anselm. A roll call vote was made and the motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Anselm, Bantilan, Ellsworth, Grant, Jackson, Richardson, Reely, Williams, Young, Yurosek, Zenger
 NOES: None
 ABSTAIN: None
 ABSENT: None

d. Discuss and Take Appropriate Action on Consultant Task Orders for Fiscal Year 2026-2027

Mr. Blakslee reviewed consultant task orders for Hallmark Group and Woodard & Curran and noted the authorized amounts will match the approved FY 2026-2027 budget.

MOTION

Director Grant moved to approve Fiscal Year 2026-2027 task orders for the Hallmark Group and Woodard & Curran. The motion was seconded by Director Anselm. A roll call vote was made and the motion passed unanimously.

AYES: Anselm, Ellsworth, Grant, Jackson, Richardson, Reely, Williams, Young, Yurosek, Zenger
 NOES: Bantilan
 ABSTAIN: None
 ABSENT: None

REPORT ITEMS

11. Administrative Updates

a. Report of the Executive Director

i. Report on Final 2025 Basin-Wide Groundwater Use, 2025 CMA Allocation Compliance, and CMA Groundwater Allocation Exchanges

Ms. Bianchi reported that the final 2025 reported use and CMA allocation compliance are included in the packet.

b. Report of the General Counsel

Nothing to report.

12. Technical Updates

a. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities

Mr. Van Lienden noted that these updates are included in the board packet.

b. Update on Grant-Funded Projects

Mr. Van Lienden reported that the grant work was complete, the station installation work and all grant components had been completed, and DWR had released the retention payment.

13. Report of Ad Hoc Committees

Nothing to report.

14. Directors' Forum

Nothing to report.

15. Public comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Stakeholder Teddie Kelly asked about the public perception of the GSA orientation in the adjudication and questioned whether the judge was provided information on the fault investigation.

Stakeholder Byron Albano commented that the adjudication court determined one basin for legal purposes but left management areas and basin management issues for later phases. He expressed frustration with Board representation, the budget, and decisions requiring supermajority approval for adjudication-related legal spending.

Stakeholder Jane Wooster stated that there is a difference between what the judge decides and what the GSA decides. She commented that the CMA was based on model results showing two feet per year of decline over 50 years and questioned whether the model foundation reflected actual local measurements.

Stakeholder Karen Lewis commented on the allocation program and stated that there was no clear process for purchasing allocation, no available sellers, and uncertainty regarding how much water to purchase or how to avoid financial harm.

Stakeholder Adam Lovgren also commented on the allocation transfer program, stating that interested buyers do not know how to participate and that the program lacks structure. He stated that the issue is difficult for landowners with permanent crops, landowners who purchased property before the allocation program, and landowners who cannot attend long technical meetings or face language barriers.

Stakeholder Jim Wegis commented on Board representation and lack of Cuyama-local representation.

Stakeholder Alicia Taff requested waiver of late fees and penalties for the water account associated with 2225 Foothill Road in New Cuyama and requested permission to pay the outstanding principal balance in monthly installments. She stated that she did not receive notices from the landowner regarding water charges or reporting requirements, acted in good faith to comply once notified, installed a flow meter, and worked with staff to develop an accurate ET figure for mature jujube trees.

Chair Jackson and Mr. Blakslee stated that Ms. Taff's request would need to be addressed at a later Board meeting.

16. Correspondence

No correspondence was received.

17. Adjourn

Chair Jackson adjourned the meeting at 6:20 PM.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Chair: _____

ATTEST:

Secretary: _____

DRAFT



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 6b

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve Payment of Bills for April and May 2026

Recommended Motion

Approve payment of the bills for April and May 2026 in the amount of \$191,218.

Discussion

Consultant invoices for the months of April and May 2026 are summarized below for consideration of Board approval.

Expense	April	May	Totals
Hanson Bridgett – Legal Services	\$41,380	\$28,540	\$ 69,920
Woodard & Curran – Technical Services	\$41,711	\$25,488	\$ 67,199
Hallmark – Executive Director Services	\$22,679	\$13,507	\$ 36,186
Provost & Pritchard – Quarterly groundwater levels	\$13,107	\$0	\$ 13,107
Klein DeNatale Goldner – Legal Services	\$4,788	\$19	\$ 4,807
TOTALS	\$123,665	\$67,553	\$191,218



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 6c

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve Financial Reports for April and May 2026

Recommended Motion

Approve financial reports for April and May 2026.

Discussion

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's financial report for April 2026 is provided as **Attachment 1** and the financial report for May 2026 is provided as **Attachment 2**.

The reports include:

- Statement of Financial Position
- Receipts and Disbursements
- A/R Aging Summary
- A/P Aging Summary
- Statement of Operations with Budget Variance
- Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Operating Budget



Cuyama Basin GSA

Financial Statements

April 2026

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
Statement of Financial Position
As of April 30, 2026

	Apr 30, 26	Apr 30, 25	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
Chase - General Checking	620,782	1,622,741	-1,001,960	-62%
Total Checking/Savings	620,782	1,622,741	-1,001,960	-62%
Accounts Receivable				
Accounts Receivable	36,352	241,263	-204,911	-85%
Total Accounts Receivable	36,352	241,263	-204,911	-85%
Other Current Assets				
Grant Retention Receivable	760,000	554,810	205,190	37%
Total Other Current Assets	760,000	554,810	205,190	37%
Total Current Assets	1,417,134	2,418,815	-1,001,681	-41%
TOTAL ASSETS	1,417,134	2,418,815	-1,001,681	-41%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
Accounts Payable	287,956	361,147	-73,191	-20%
Total Accounts Payable	287,956	361,147	-73,191	-20%
Other Current Liabilities				
New/Repl Well Deposits	0	3,100	-3,100	-100%
Total Other Current Liabilities	0	3,100	-3,100	-100%
Total Current Liabilities	287,956	364,247	-76,291	-21%
Total Liabilities	287,956	364,247	-76,291	-21%
Equity				
Unrestricted Net Assets	2,022,095	2,346,115	-324,020	-14%
Net Income	-892,916	-291,548	-601,369	-206%
Total Equity	1,129,178	2,054,567	-925,389	-45%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,417,134	2,418,815	-1,001,681	-41%

CUYAMA BASIN GSA Receipts and Disbursements

As of April 30, 2026

Type	Date	Num	Name	Debit	Credit
Chase - General Checking					
Bill Pmt -Check	07/09/2025	1223	HGCPM, Inc.		41,881.43
Bill Pmt -Check	07/09/2025	1224	Klein DeNatale Goldner		34,078.41
Bill Pmt -Check	07/09/2025	1225	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		11,231.19
Bill Pmt -Check	07/09/2025	1226	Woodard & Curran Inc		86,576.03
Payment	07/18/2025	25335	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Yeguada Trujillo	165.25	
Payment	07/18/2025	542062	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Grimmway Enterprises, Inc	66,896.75	
Payment	07/18/2025	10608	Groundwater Extraction Fees:JHP Global, Inc	1,771.50	
Payment	07/18/2025	2616	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Tri-County Pistachios	5,450.00	
Payment	07/18/2025	53647	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Cuyama Dairy Farm	1,711.65	
Deposit	07/18/2025	*		13.20	
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1227	HGCPM, Inc.		33,724.66
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1228	Klein DeNatale Goldner		18,160.50
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1229	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		12,886.35
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1230	U.S. Geological Survey		13,150.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1231	Woodard & Curran Inc		73,258.46
Bill Pmt -Check	09/22/2025	1232	Campbell Scientific Inc.		20,267.35
Payment	09/24/2025	84963	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Duncan Family Farms	263.40	
Payment	10/22/2025	44177	Groundwater Extraction Fees:El Rancho Espanol	15.84	
Deposit	11/05/2025	*		602.07	
Payment	11/14/2025	864	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Lewis, David	246.64	
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1233	Daniells Phillips Vaughan & Bock		9,500.00
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1234	HGCPM, Inc.		54,312.10
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1235	Klein DeNatale Goldner		35,504.59
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1236	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		8,794.77
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1237	Woodard & Curran Inc		87,910.91
Deposit	11/25/2025	*		3.97	
Payment	12/10/2025	26727	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Yeguada Trujillo	4,791.38	
Bill Pmt -Check	12/16/2025	1238	U.S. Geological Survey		13,150.00
Payment	01/16/2026	2381	Cambell Scientific Inc	1,239.83	
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1239	Daniells Phillips Vaughan & Bock		1,000.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1240	HGCPM, Inc.		55,297.75
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1241	Klein DeNatale Goldner		28,598.91
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1242	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		18,537.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1243	Sunridge Nurseries, Inc		54,054.53
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1244	Woodard & Curran Inc		160,133.63
Payment	01/28/2026	1053	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Double H Farming, LLC	567.50	
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1245	CA Assoc of Mutual Water Companies		100.00
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1246	Cuyama Orchards, Inc		35,425.05
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1247	HGCPM, Inc.		40,458.71
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1248	Klein DeNatale Goldner		23,298.20
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1249	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		14,720.18
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1250	U.S. Geological Survey		13,150.00
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1251	Woodard & Curran Inc		127,930.00
Bill Pmt -Check	04/17/2026	1252	Insurica		23,613.00
Deposit	04/30/2026	*		1.97	
Total Chase - General Checking				83,740.95	1,150,703.71
TOTAL				83,740.95	1,150,703.71

*Miscellaneous deposits consist of interest income on GWE fees from Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

**CUYAMA BASIN GSA
A/R Aging Summary
As of April 30, 2026**

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
Groundwater Extraction Fees						
Taft, Alisha	0	2,174	0	0	0	2,174
Kern Ridge Growers, LLC	0	6,100	0	0	0	6,100
Sunrise Olive Ranch, LLC	0	26,703	0	0	0	26,703
Tri-County Pistachios	0	1,375	0	0	0	1,375
Total Groundwater Extraction Fees	<u>0</u>	<u>36,352</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>36,352</u>
TOTAL	<u>0</u>	<u>36,352</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>36,352</u>

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
A/P Aging Summary
As of April 30, 2026

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
Hanson Bridgett LLP	41,380	0	0	0	0	41,380
HGCPM, Inc.	22,679	18,328	0	19,741	0	60,748
Klein DeNatale Goldner	4,788	8,800	0	12,673	0	26,261
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group	13,107	238	0	1,230	0	14,574
U.S. Geological Survey	0	13,150	0	0	0	13,150
Woodard & Curran Inc	41,711	26,176	0	63,955	0	131,842
TOTAL	123,665	66,692	0	97,599	0	287,956

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
Statement of Operations with Budget Variance
 July 2025 through April 2026

	Jul '25 - Apr 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Direct Public Funds				
Groundwater Extraction Fees	191,540	180,000	11,540	106%
Grant Reimbursements	72,336	72,336	-0	100%
CMA Over-Pumping Penalties	28,078	0	28,078	100%
GWE Late Fees	2,087	0	2,087	100%
Total Direct Public Funds	294,041	252,336	41,705	117%
Other Income				
Interest Income	621	0	621	100%
Total Other Income	621	0	621	100%
Total Income	294,663	252,336	42,326	117%
Cost of Goods Sold				
Program Expenses				
Technical Consulting				
Adjudication Support	1,694	32,100	-30,406	5%
GSP Implementation - W&C	192,133	174,166	17,967	110%
Stakeholder Engagement	92,298	81,000	11,298	114%
Technical Support for DWR	0	8,334	-8,334	0%
Outreach	0	17,584	-17,584	0%
Grant Proposals	0	15,034	-15,034	0%
Grant Administration	29,966	30,000	-34	100%
Improve Basin Water Use Info	18,899	15,834	3,065	119%
Project & Mgmt Action Impl	7,260	0	7,260	100%
Fault Investigation	154,353	139,750	14,603	110%
Other Technical Tasks	51,871	78,800	-26,929	66%
Total Technical Consulting	548,474	592,602	-44,128	93%
Other Technical Consulting				
Monitoring Network	68,916	62,500	6,416	110%
Stream Gauge Maintenance (USGS)	39,450	39,900	-450	99%
CIMIS Station	114,693	69,400	45,293	165%
Total Other Technical Consulting	223,059	171,800	51,259	130%
Total Program Expenses	771,534	764,402	7,132	101%
Total COGS	771,534	764,402	7,132	101%
Gross Profit	-476,871	-512,066	35,195	93%
Expense				
General and Administrative				
Executive Director				
Board Meetings	96,164	113,900	-17,737	84%
Consult Mgmt and GSP Devel	68,127	41,670	26,457	163%
Financial Information Coor	28,888	39,000	-10,113	74%
Support for DWR/Public Comments	1,050	11,750	-10,700	9%
Funding - GWE Fees	5,190	8,000	-2,810	65%
CMA Policy and Allocations	1,425	24,500	-23,075	6%
Outreach	7,841	17,084	-9,243	46%
Adjudication Support	3,762	20,084	-16,323	19%
Water Use Enforcement	139	1,666	-1,527	8%
Travel and Direct Costs	4,055	0	4,055	100%
Total Executive Director	216,639	277,654	-61,015	78%

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
Statement of Operations with Budget Variance
 July 2025 through April 2026

	Jul '25 - Apr 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Other Administrative				
Legal	157,976	208,334	-50,358	76%
Insurance Policies	23,613	21,400	2,213	110%
Audit Fees	10,500	10,000	500	105%
Printing and Copying	3,807	4,200	-393	91%
Other Admin Expense	3,510	4,200	-690	84%
Contingency	0	16,666	-16,666	0%
Total Other Administrative	<u>199,407</u>	<u>264,800</u>	<u>-65,393</u>	<u>75%</u>
Total General and Administrative	<u>416,045</u>	<u>542,454</u>	<u>-126,409</u>	<u>77%</u>
Total Expense	<u>416,045</u>	<u>542,454</u>	<u>-126,409</u>	<u>77%</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-892,916</u>	<u>-1,054,520</u>	<u>161,603</u>	<u>85%</u>
Net Income	<u>-892,916</u>	<u>-1,054,520</u>	<u>161,603</u>	<u>85%</u>

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
FY 25/26 Budget
 July 2025 - June 2026

	Jul '25 - Jun 26
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Direct Public Funds	
Groundwater Extraction Fees	180,000
Grant Reimbursements	72,336
Total Direct Public Funds	252,336
Total Income	252,336
Cost of Goods Sold	
Program Expenses	
Technical Consulting	
Adjudication Support	38,500
GSP Implementation - W&C	209,000
Stakeholder Engagement	97,200
Technical Support for DWR	10,000
Outreach	21,100
Grant Proposals	45,100
Grant Administration	30,000
Improve Basin Water Use Info	19,000
Fault Investigation	167,700
Other Technical Tasks	94,400
Total Technical Consulting	732,000
Other Technical Consulting	
Monitoring Network	75,000
Stream Gauge Maintenance (USGS)	53,200
CIMIS Station	74,000
Total Other Technical Consulting	202,200
Total Program Expenses	934,200
Total COGS	934,200
Gross Profit	-681,864
Expense	
General and Administrative	
Executive Director	
Board Meetings	136,700
Consult Mgmt and GSP Devel	50,000
Financial Information Coor	46,800
Support for DWR/Public Comments	14,100
Funding - GWE Fees	12,000
CMA Policy and Allocations	24,500
Outreach	20,500
Adjudication Support	24,100
Water Use Enforcement	2,000
Total Executive Director	330,700
Other Administrative	
Legal	250,000
Insurance Policies	21,400
Audit Fees	10,000
Printing and Copying	5,000
Other Admin Expense	4,200
Contingency	20,000
Total Other Administrative	310,600
Total General and Administrative	641,300
Total Expense	641,300
Net Ordinary Income	-1,323,164
Net Income	-1,323,164



Cuyama Basin GSA

Financial Statements

May 2026

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
Statement of Financial Position
As of May 31, 2026

	May 31, 26	May 31, 25	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
Chase - General Checking	1,225,297	1,345,747	-120,450	-9%
Total Checking/Savings	1,225,297	1,345,747	-120,450	-9%
Accounts Receivable				
Accounts Receivable	27,546	421,778	-394,232	-94%
Total Accounts Receivable	27,546	421,778	-394,232	-94%
Other Current Assets				
Grant Retention Receivable	0	554,810	-554,810	-100%
Total Other Current Assets	0	554,810	-554,810	-100%
Total Current Assets	1,252,843	2,322,335	-1,069,492	-46%
TOTAL ASSETS	1,252,843	2,322,335	-1,069,492	-46%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
Accounts Payable	191,218	173,767	17,451	10%
Total Accounts Payable	191,218	173,767	17,451	10%
Other Current Liabilities				
New/Repl Well Deposits	0	3,100	-3,100	-100%
Deferred Revenue - GWE Fees	0	180,515	-180,515	-100%
Total Other Current Liabilities	0	183,615	-183,615	-100%
Total Current Liabilities	191,218	357,382	-166,165	-47%
Total Liabilities	191,218	357,382	-166,165	-47%
Equity				
Unrestricted Net Assets	2,022,095	2,346,115	-324,020	-14%
Net Income	-960,469	-381,162	-579,307	-152%
Total Equity	1,061,625	1,964,953	-903,327	-46%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	1,252,843	2,322,335	-1,069,492	-46%

CUYAMA BASIN GSA Receipts and Disbursements

As of May 30, 2026

Type	Date	Num	Name	Debit	Credit
Chase - General Checking					
Bill Pmt -Check	07/09/2025	1223	HGCPM, Inc.		41,881.43
Bill Pmt -Check	07/09/2025	1224	Klein DeNatale Goldner		34,078.41
Bill Pmt -Check	07/09/2025	1225	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		11,231.19
Bill Pmt -Check	07/09/2025	1226	Woodard & Curran Inc		86,576.03
Payment	07/18/2025	25335	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Yeguada Trujillo	165.25	
Payment	07/18/2025	542062	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Grimmway Enterprises, Inc	66,896.75	
Payment	07/18/2025	10608	Groundwater Extraction Fees:JHP Global, Inc	1,771.50	
Payment	07/18/2025	2616	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Tri-County Pistachios	5,450.00	
Payment	07/18/2025	53647	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Cuyama Dairy Farm	1,711.65	
Deposit	07/18/2025	*		13.20	
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1227	HGCPM, Inc.		33,724.66
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1228	Klein DeNatale Goldner		18,160.50
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1229	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		12,886.35
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1230	U.S. Geological Survey		13,150.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/05/2025	1231	Woodard & Curran Inc		73,258.46
Bill Pmt -Check	09/22/2025	1232	Campbell Scientific Inc.		20,267.35
Payment	09/24/2025	84963	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Duncan Family Farms	263.40	
Payment	10/22/2025	44177	Groundwater Extraction Fees:El Rancho Espanol	15.84	
Deposit	11/05/2025	*		602.07	
Payment	11/14/2025	864	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Lewis, David	246.64	
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1233	Daniells Phillips Vaughan & Bock		9,500.00
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1234	HGCPM, Inc.		54,312.10
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1235	Klein DeNatale Goldner		35,504.59
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1236	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		8,794.77
Bill Pmt -Check	11/18/2025	1237	Woodard & Curran Inc		87,910.91
Deposit	11/25/2025	*		3.97	
Payment	12/10/2025	26727	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Yeguada Trujillo	4,791.38	
Bill Pmt -Check	12/16/2025	1238	U.S. Geological Survey		13,150.00
Payment	01/16/2026	2381	Cambell Scientific Inc	1,239.83	
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1239	Daniells Phillips Vaughan & Bock		1,000.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1240	HGCPM, Inc.		55,297.75
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1241	Klein DeNatale Goldner		28,598.91
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1242	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		18,537.00
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1243	Sunridge Nurseries, Inc		54,054.53
Bill Pmt -Check	01/16/2026	1244	Woodard & Curran Inc		160,133.63
Payment	01/28/2026	1053	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Double H Farming, LLC	567.50	
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1245	CA Assoc of Mutual Water Companies		100.00
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1246	Cuyama Orchards, Inc		35,425.05
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1247	HGCPM, Inc.		40,458.71
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1248	Klein DeNatale Goldner		23,298.20
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1249	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		14,720.18
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1250	U.S. Geological Survey		13,150.00
Bill Pmt -Check	03/10/2026	1251	Woodard & Curran Inc		127,930.00
Bill Pmt -Check	04/17/2026	1252	Insurica		23,613.00
Deposit	04/30/2026	*		1.97	
Payment	05/04/2026	05-935158	Department of Water Resources	760,000.00	
Payment	05/04/2026	3035	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Taft, Alisha	1,330.56	
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2026	1253	HGCPM, Inc.		38,069.05
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2026	1254	Klein DeNatale Goldner		21,473.20
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2026	1255	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		1,467.54
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2026	1256	U.S. Geological Survey		13,150.00
Bill Pmt -Check	05/06/2026	1257	Woodard & Curran Inc		90,131.08
Payment	05/12/2026	2718	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Tri-County Pistachios	1,375.00	
Payment	05/12/2026	182044	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Kern Ridge Growers, LLC	6,100.40	
Deposit	05/28/2026	*		0.01	
Total Chase - General Checking				852,546.92	1,314,994.58
TOTAL				852,546.92	1,314,994.58

*Miscellaneous deposits consist of interest income on GWE fees from Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
A/R Aging Summary
As of May 31, 2026

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
Groundwater Extraction Fees						
Taft, Alisha	0	0	844	0	0	844
Sunrise Olive Ranch, LLC	0	0	26,703	0	0	26,703
Total Groundwater Extraction Fees	0	0	27,546	0	0	27,546
TOTAL	0	0	27,546	0	0	27,546

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
A/P Aging Summary
As of May 31, 2026

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
Hanson Bridgett LLP	28,540	0	41,380	0	0	69,920
HGCPM, Inc.	13,507	0	22,679	0	0	36,186
Klein DeNatale Goldner	19	0	4,788	0	0	4,807
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group	0	0	13,107	0	0	13,107
Woodard & Curran Inc	25,488	0	41,711	0	0	67,199
TOTAL	67,553	0	123,665	0	0	191,218

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
Statement of Operations with Budget Variance
July 2025 through May 2026

	Jul '25 - May 26	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Direct Public Funds				
Groundwater Extraction Fees	191,540	180,000	11,540	106%
Grant Reimbursements	72,336	72,336	-0	100%
CMA Over-Pumping Penalties	28,078	0	28,078	100%
GWE Late Fees	2,087	0	2,087	100%
Total Direct Public Funds	294,041	252,336	41,705	117%
Other Income				
Interest Income	621	0	621	100%
Total Other Income	621	0	621	100%
Total Income	294,663	252,336	42,326	117%
Cost of Goods Sold				
Program Expenses				
Technical Consulting				
Adjudication Support	1,694	35,300	-33,606	5%
GSP Implementation - W&C	200,713	191,583	9,130	105%
Stakeholder Engagement	106,948	89,100	17,848	120%
Technical Support for DWR	0	9,167	-9,167	0%
Outreach	0	19,342	-19,342	0%
Grant Proposals	0	30,067	-30,067	0%
Grant Administration	29,966	30,000	-34	100%
Improve Basin Water Use Info	18,899	17,417	1,482	109%
Project & Mgmt Action Impl	7,260	0	7,260	100%
Fault Investigation	156,611	153,725	2,886	102%
Other Technical Tasks	51,871	86,600	-34,729	60%
Total Technical Consulting	573,962	662,301	-88,339	87%
Other Technical Consulting				
Monitoring Network	68,916	68,750	166	100%
Stream Gauge Maintenance (USGS)	39,450	39,900	-450	99%
CIMIS Station	114,693	71,700	42,993	160%
Total Other Technical Consulting	223,059	180,350	42,709	124%
Total Program Expenses	797,021	842,651	-45,630	95%
Total COGS	797,021	842,651	-45,630	95%
Gross Profit	-502,358	-590,315	87,956	85%
Expense				
General and Administrative				
Executive Director				
Board Meetings	105,456	125,300	-19,844	84%
Consult Mgmt and GSP Devel	69,948	45,835	24,113	153%
Financial Information Coord	30,193	42,900	-12,708	70%
Support for DWR/Public Comments	1,050	12,925	-11,875	8%
Funding - GWE Fees	5,526	12,000	-6,474	46%
CMA Policy and Allocations	1,425	24,500	-23,075	6%
Outreach	8,388	18,792	-10,405	45%
Adjudication Support	3,762	22,092	-18,331	17%
Water Use Enforcement	278	1,833	-1,556	15%
Travel and Direct Costs	4,102	0	4,102	100%
Total Executive Director	230,126	306,177	-76,051	75%

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
Statement of Operations with Budget Variance
July 2025 through May 2026

	<u>Jul '25 - May 26</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>\$ Over Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Other Administrative				
Legal	186,516	229,167	-42,651	81%
Insurance Policies	23,613	21,400	2,213	110%
Audit Fees	10,500	10,000	500	105%
Printing and Copying	3,827	4,600	-773	83%
Other Admin Expense	3,529	4,200	-671	84%
Contingency	0	18,333	-18,333	0%
Total Other Administrative	<u>227,985</u>	<u>287,700</u>	<u>-59,715</u>	<u>79%</u>
Total General and Administrative	<u>458,111</u>	<u>593,877</u>	<u>-135,766</u>	<u>77%</u>
Total Expense	<u>458,111</u>	<u>593,877</u>	<u>-135,766</u>	<u>77%</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>-960,469</u>	<u>-1,184,192</u>	<u>223,722</u>	<u>81%</u>
Net Income	<u>-960,469</u>	<u>-1,184,192</u>	<u>223,722</u>	<u>81%</u>

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
FY 25/26 Budget
 July 2025 - June 2026

	Jul '25 - Jun 26
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Direct Public Funds	
Groundwater Extraction Fees	180,000
Grant Reimbursements	72,336
Total Direct Public Funds	252,336
Total Income	252,336
Cost of Goods Sold	
Program Expenses	
Technical Consulting	
Adjudication Support	38,500
GSP Implementation - W&C	209,000
Stakeholder Engagement	97,200
Technical Support for DWR	10,000
Outreach	21,100
Grant Proposals	45,100
Grant Administration	30,000
Improve Basin Water Use Info	19,000
Fault Investigation	167,700
Other Technical Tasks	94,400
Total Technical Consulting	732,000
Other Technical Consulting	
Monitoring Network	75,000
Stream Gauge Maintenance (USGS)	53,200
CIMIS Station	74,000
Total Other Technical Consulting	202,200
Total Program Expenses	934,200
Total COGS	934,200
Gross Profit	-681,864
Expense	
General and Administrative	
Executive Director	
Board Meetings	136,700
Consult Mgmt and GSP Devel	50,000
Financial Information Coor	46,800
Support for DWR/Public Comments	14,100
Funding - GWE Fees	12,000
CMA Policy and Allocations	24,500
Outreach	20,500
Adjudication Support	24,100
Water Use Enforcement	2,000
Total Executive Director	330,700
Other Administrative	
Legal	250,000
Insurance Policies	21,400
Audit Fees	10,000
Printing and Copying	5,000
Other Admin Expense	4,200
Contingency	20,000
Total Other Administrative	310,600
Total General and Administrative	641,300
Total Expense	641,300
Net Ordinary Income	-1,323,164
Net Income	-1,323,164



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 6d

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve Agreement with Landowners for CIMIS Station Ongoing Operations & Maintenance

Recommended Motion

Authorize the Executive Director to execute CIMIS Station Operation and Maintenance Agreements with participating landowners.

Discussion

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) received grant funding to support the installation of California Irrigation Management Information System (CIMIS) weather stations. These stations improve reference evapotranspiration (ET) estimates in the basin's groundwater model and expand spatial coverage of reference ET across the basin.

On November 4, 2024, the Board approved recommendations from the CIMIS Station Board Ad Hoc Committee, including funding initial and ongoing operation and maintenance costs related to CIMIS station installation, exempting water used to maintain the CIMIS area from groundwater extraction fees and groundwater allocation calculations, and developing maintenance agreements with participating landowners.

In July 2025, the Board approved the CIMIS station agreement between the Department of Water Resources (DWR), CBGSA, and the landowner to proceed with station installation. The Board also approved the landowner quotes from Sunridge Nurseries and Cuyama Orchards for ongoing operations and maintenance costs.

The proposed Operation and Maintenance Agreement (**Attachment 1**) establishes the ongoing responsibilities for participating landowners who host CIMIS stations on their property. These responsibilities include maintaining irrigated vegetation around the station, mowing and weeding, maintaining the flow meter, conducting routine inspections, and reporting equipment or site issues that may affect station operation. The agreement also provides a process for CBGSA to reimburse documented operation and maintenance costs.

Approval of the agreement supports continued operation of the CIMIS stations and helps ensure the stations provide reliable ET and weather data for groundwater sustainability planning and implementation.

CIMIS STATION OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT

This CIMIS Station Operation and Maintenance Agreement ("**Agreement**") is entered into as of _____, 2026 ("**Effective Date**") and is between the **Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA")**, and [**LANDOWNER NAME**] ("**Landowner**"). The GSA and Landowner are each a "Party" and collectively the "Parties."

A. The GSA was formed in 2017 under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Wat. Code, § 10720 et seq.) to develop and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("**GSP**") for the Cuyama Basin, with the goal of achieving groundwater sustainability by 2040.

B. The California Irrigation Management Information System ("**CIMIS**") is a network of automated weather stations used to measure reference evapotranspiration ("**ET**") and related meteorological data for irrigation management and groundwater sustainability planning. The GSA has entered into agreements with landowners and with the California Department of Water Resources ("**DWR**") to install and operate CIMIS stations at multiple sites throughout the Cuyama Basin.

C. Landowner owns real property within the Cuyama Basin as depicted in Exhibit A ("**Property**"). On December 2, 2025, the GSA, Landowner, and DWR entered into a *Revocable License Agreement for Installation of a California Irrigation Management Information System Station* ("**DWR License**"), under which Landowner granted DWR and the GSA access to a portion of the Property to install and operate a CIMIS station ("**CIMIS Station**"). A copy of the DWR License is attached as Exhibit B.

D. The DWR License required Landowner to prepare the Property for the CIMIS Station, including installing an irrigation system, flow meter, and electrical service ("**Setup Work**"). The GSA previously reimbursed Landowner for the costs of the Setup Work.

E. Since installation of the CIMIS Station, Landowner has performed, and continues to perform, ongoing operation and maintenance activities at the Property necessary for accurate operation of the CIMIS Station. The Parties intend by this Agreement to provide for the GSA to reimburse Landowner for those costs incurred to date and on an ongoing basis going forward.

The Parties therefore agree as follows:

1. TERM

1.1 This Agreement begins on the November 1, 2025 and continues for five years ("**Initial Term**"), then automatically renews annually unless either Party provides written notice of non-renewal at least 30 days before the end of the term.

Landowner may terminate this Agreement at any time with written notice to the GSA. If Landowner terminates for any reason during the Initial Term, then the GSA and DWR shall remove the CIMIS Station within 30 days of Landowner's written request at no cost to Landowner.

1.2 Either Party may terminate this Agreement on 30 days' written notice if the other Party materially breaches this Agreement and fails to cure that breach within the 30-day notice period. Upon any termination, the GSA shall pay all undisputed O&M Costs accrued through the termination date. The indemnification obligations in Section 5 survive termination.

2. ACCESS

2.1 The DWR License governs access to the Property for installation, operation, maintenance, and removal of the CIMIS Station.

2.2 Landowner shall not obstruct, damage, remove, or interfere with the CIMIS Station or related equipment.

3. LANDOWNER OBLIGATIONS

Landowner shall perform the following obligations throughout the term of this Agreement:

3.1 **Vegetation.** Landowner shall maintain irrigated green vegetation within a 300-foot radius of the CIMIS Station ("**Vegetation Area**") at all times. Landowner shall keep that vegetation mowed to a height of four to six inches (typically every two months) and shall keep vegetation clear directly under and around the CIMIS Station through periodic weeding.

3.2 **Flow Meter.** Landowner shall maintain the flow meter measuring water use for the Vegetation Area and shall provide meter readings to the GSA upon request.

3.3 **Monthly Inspections.** Landowner, or a person designated by Landowner and approved by the GSA, shall visit the CIMIS Station site monthly to perform routine local cooperators duties, including sensor cleaning, simple calibration checks using a hand-held calibration device and standard tools, and site condition inspections. Landowner shall promptly report to the GSA any equipment malfunction or site condition that may affect CIMIS Station operation.

3.4 **Breach and Cure.** If Landowner fails to perform any obligation under this Section, then the GSA may provide written notice to Landowner describing the failure. If Landowner fails to cure that failure within 30 days, then the GSA may perform the obligations Landowner failed to perform and deduct the reasonable costs of

that performance from the subsequent O&M reimbursement payments until those costs are fully recovered. The GSA's exercise of this right to cure does not waive any other right or remedy available to the GSA, including the right to terminate this Agreement.

3.5 Equipment Ownership. The CIMIS Station and all sensors, data transmission hardware, and ancillary components that DWR installed are and remain the property of the GSA. The irrigation system, flow meter, electrical service, and other improvements installed by Landowner as part of the Setup Work are and remain the property of Landowner, regardless of the source of funding for those improvements. Landowner shall not remove, encumber, or transfer any Setup Work improvement without the GSA's prior written consent while this Agreement is in effect.

4. PAYMENT OF COSTS AND WATER USE

4.1 O&M Costs. The GSA will reimburse Landowner for actual, documented operation and maintenance costs ("**O&M Costs**") incurred in connection with the CIMIS Station, including: (a) energy costs to irrigate the Vegetation Area; (b) mowing and weeding to maintain the required vegetation height; and (c) time for monthly local cooperators duties and hand-held tools (hand-held calibration device and standard tools). The GSA will reimburse Landowner for O&M Costs incurred from [DATE CIMIS STATION BECAME OPERATIONAL] through the Effective Date, and for all O&M Costs incurred on an ongoing basis, not to exceed the annual cost estimate described in Section 4.2.

4.2 Annual Cost Estimate. At least 30 days before the Effective Date and by January 15th thereafter, Landowner shall submit to the GSA a written annual cost estimate for anticipated O&M Costs for the upcoming year, itemized by cost category. The GSA will approve or reject the estimate, or propose modifications, within 30 days of receipt. If the GSA rejects or proposes modifications to the estimate, the Parties shall negotiate in good faith to reach agreement within 15 days. Landowner is not entitled to reimbursement for O&M Costs incurred in excess of the approved annual cost estimate without prior written approval from the GSA. The GSA's approval of an annual cost estimate does not constitute a waiver of the GSA's right to audit or dispute invoices.

4.3 Reimbursement Process. Landowner shall submit invoices no more than quarterly with reasonable supporting documentation. The GSA will pay undisputed invoices within 30 days. If O&M Costs in any year are expected to exceed Landowner's cost estimate, Landowner shall notify the GSA at least 30 days in advance. The Parties may adjust the cost estimate by written amendment.

4.4 Water Use Exemption. Water used to irrigate the Vegetation Area under this Agreement will not be subject to the GSA's groundwater extraction fee and will be excluded from calculations of Landowner's groundwater allocations under the GSP. Landowner shall report Vegetation Area water use separately using the flow meter under Section 3.2, in accordance with the GSA's reporting requirements.

5. INDEMNIFICATION

5.1 **GSA Indemnification.** The GSA shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Landowner and Landowner's officers, employees, and agents from any claims, damages, losses, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from: (a) the GSA's exercise of its rights under this Agreement; (b) the GSA's or its agents' entry onto the Property; or (c) the GSA's breach of this Agreement; except to the extent caused by Landowner's negligence, willful misconduct, or breach of this Agreement.

5.2 **Landowner Indemnification.** Landowner shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the GSA and the GSA's officers, employees, and agents from any claims, damages, losses, and expenses (including reasonable attorneys' fees) arising from: (a) Landowner's ownership or use of the Property; (b) Landowner's failure to perform the obligations in Section 3; or (c) Landowner's breach of this Agreement; except to the extent caused by the GSA's negligence, willful misconduct, or breach of this Agreement.

6. GENERAL PROVISIONS

6.1 **Entire Agreement.** This Agreement, including all Exhibits, is the entire agreement between the Parties regarding O&M Cost reimbursement and supersedes all prior negotiations and agreements on that subject. Amendments must be in writing and signed by both Parties. This Agreement supplements, but does not supersede the DWR License.

6.2 **Applicable Law.** This Agreement is governed by the laws of the State of California.

6.3 **Severability.** If any provision of this Agreement is unenforceable or invalid, that provision will be stricken and the remaining provisions will remain in full force.

6.4 **Notices.** All notices must be in writing and will be deemed given when delivered personally, sent by overnight courier, or sent by email with confirmation of transmission, addressed as follows:

If to GSA: 4900 California Ave, Tower B, Suite 210 Bakersfield, CA 93309
tblakslee@hgcpm.com

If to Landowner:

6.5 **Assignment; Property Transfer.** Neither Party may assign this Agreement without the other Party's prior written consent. Any assignment without that consent is void. If Landowner transfers ownership of the Property, Landowner shall notify the GSA in writing at least 30 days before closing. The GSA may, in its discretion, enter into a new agreement with the new owner.

6.6 **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be executed electronically and in counterparts, each of which is an original and all of which together constitute one instrument. Electronic signatures have the same effect as original signatures.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit A – Map Description of Property

Exhibit B – DWR Revocable License

Exhibit C – O&M Cost Estimate



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 6e

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve Resolution No. 2026-01 Adopting Policies and Procedures for Award of Contracts and Delegation of Contracting Authority

Recommended Motion

Approve Resolution No. 2026-01 Adopting Policies and Procedures for Award of Contracts and Delegation of Contracting Authority.

Discussion

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) currently lacks formal written policies governing procurement and contracting authority. Government Code section 54202 requires all local agencies to adopt written policies and procedures, including bidding requirements, for the purchase of equipment, services, and supplies. In addition, Article 7.6 of the Agency's Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement provides that all powers of the Board of Directors may be expressly delegated to the Executive Director by specific action of the Board.

Resolution No. 2026-01 adopts formal policies and procedures for award of contracts and delegates contracting authority to the Executive Director and is provided as Attachment 1 for consideration of approval.

**CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-01**

**ADOPTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR AWARD OF CONTRACTS AND
DELEGATION OF CONTRACTING AUTHORITY**

- A. The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("**Agency**") was formed in 2017 under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("**SGMA**") to develop and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("**GSP**") for the Cuyama Basin, with the purpose of achieving groundwater sustainability by 2040.
- B. The Agency's expenditures are primarily for professional services, consulting, and administration.
- C. The Board of Directors has determined that it is necessary to adopt procurement policies and a delegation of authority to facilitate operational efficiency.
- D. Government Code section 54202 requires all local agencies to adopt written policies and procedures, including bidding requirements, for the purchase of equipment, services, and supplies.
- E. Article 7.6 of the Agency's Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement provides that all powers of the Board of Directors may be expressly delegated to the Executive Director or others by specific action of the Board of Directors.

Therefore, the Board of Directors of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency RESOLVES as follows:

1. Delegation of Authority. The Board of Directors hereby delegates to the Executive Director the authority to enter into, execute, and administer contracts on behalf of the Agency within the limits and subject to the procedures set forth in this resolution. This delegation is made pursuant to Article 7.6 of the Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement and is intended to promote efficient administration of the Agency's operations. All authority not expressly delegated by this resolution is reserved to the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall report to the Board on the exercise of delegated authority as specified in this resolution.

2. Budget Appropriations

2.1 Annual Operations Budget. The "annual operations budget" contains a schedule of anticipated revenues and expenses needed for the Agency's daily operations, identified by account. Unless otherwise instructed by the Board of Directors, the Executive Director has authority to expend funds necessary for the ordinary, daily operation of the Agency as specified in the annual operations budget, subject to the procedures set forth in this resolution. The Executive Director shall present a bi-monthly report on the status of operations expenditures in relation to budget.

2.2 Non-Budgeted Expenditures. The Executive Director shall obtain prior Board authorization before expending more than \$10,000 for any non-budgeted item or project, except in an emergency. The Executive Director shall report any non-budgeted expenditure at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

3. Professional Services Contracts

3.1 General Procedures. Competitive bidding is not required for professional services contracts. However, whenever possible and prudent, the Executive Director shall obtain at least three competitive quotations before entering into a professional services contract. If three quotations are not obtained, the Executive Director shall document in writing the reasons therefor and retain such documentation in the Agency's contract file.

3.2 \$25,000 or less. The Executive Director is authorized to retain professional consultants where the cost of work is equal to or less than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000), but shall report on the award of that contract at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

3.3 Exceeding \$25,000. Professional services contracts with a cost exceeding Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) must be submitted to and approved by the Board of Directors prior to award. A written professional services agreement must be executed by the parties.

3.4 Amendment Authority. If a professional services contract is approved by the Board and subsequently requires amendment, the Executive Director may approve individual amendments that do not exceed ten percent (10%) of the original contract amount or Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000), whichever is greater, without returning to the Board for approval, provided that the total amended contract value remains within the approved budget. The Executive Director shall report that amendment at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

4. Procurement of Equipment and Supplies

4.1 \$15,000 or less. If the estimated cost of equipment or supplies is equal to or less than Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000), then the Executive Director is authorized to award the contract, but shall report on the award of that contract at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. To the extent possible, the Executive Director will obtain at least three competitive quotations before entering a contract.

4.2 Exceeding \$15,000. If the estimated cost of equipment or supplies exceeds Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000), then the contract must be submitted to and approved by the Board of Directors prior to award. To the extent possible, the Executive Director will obtain at least three written quotations and present them to the Board with a recommendation prior to award.

4.3 Emergency. In cases of emergency, the Executive Director is authorized to purchase supplies without formal bidding or prior Board approval, but shall report on the award of that emergency contract at the next meeting of the Board of Directors. If possible, the Executive Director shall seek the concurrence of the Board President prior to awarding any

emergency contract. For purposes of this section, “emergency purchases” are those procurements required to prevent the interruption, cessation, or significant reduction of necessary Agency services or to safeguard life, property, or the public health and welfare. Equipment is not included in this definition of emergency, and the procurement of equipment must be conducted in accordance with the procedures described above.

5. Construction Contracts and Materials. Given the Agency’s operational focus, construction contracts are expected to be rare, and therefore any construction contracts must be brought to the Board for consideration. Standards of Conduct in Procurements

5.1 Gratuities. Agency officials and employees shall not solicit, accept, or agree to accept any gratuity, gift, or any other thing of more than nominal value in connection with actual or potential procurement and contracting activities. “Nominal value” means a value of Fifty Dollars (\$50) or less for any one gift, or less than Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$250) for multiple gifts from a single source during a calendar year. These limits are intentionally more restrictive than the gift limits established under the Political Reform Act (Government Code sections 89500 et seq.) and are adopted to reflect the Agency’s commitment to the highest ethical standards in procurement. Failure to follow this standard is cause for disciplinary action.

5.2 Conflicts of Interest. Agency staff shall not be involved in any purchasing procedures or decisions (including participation in initiation, award, or administration of a contract) in which they have a real or apparent conflict of interest. A conflict of interest arises when a staff member is financially interested, directly or indirectly, in a person or firm that participates in the Agency’s procurement process or is awarded a contract. The standards for governing the determination as to whether that financial interest exists are set forth in Government Code sections 1090 et seq. and sections 87100 et seq. (the Political Reform Act). If there is a conflict of interest, then the staff member shall disclose that interest in writing to the Executive Director as soon as possible so that appropriate precautions may be taken.

5.3 Segmenting/Piecemealing. In determining the procedures that must be followed for obtaining competitive bids, the scope of the contract must be considered in its entirety. A contract must not be divided into smaller segments or procured in phases over time with the intent to eliminate the competitive bidding requirements set forth in this resolution. Nothing in this provision precludes the Agency from defining or phasing a project based on the need for a project, the priority for the project, or the funding available for a project.

6. Leases, Licenses, and Concessions. The Executive Director shall not enter into any lease or installment contract without prior Board authorization.

7. Waiver. These policies and procedures do not apply where the Board of Directors, in its discretion, determines that it is in the best interests of the Agency to proceed with an alternative method of procurement and waives certain requirements of this resolution for a particular contract or purchase. That finding must be made on the record at a Board meeting.

8. Rescission. Any prior resolutions of the Agency addressing procurement authority or delegation of contracting authority are hereby rescinded and superseded by this resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED on _____, 2026, upon motion by Director _____, seconded by Director _____, with the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Chair, Board of Directors
Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

ATTEST:

Secretary

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Agency Counsel



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 6f

FROM: Provost & Pritchard

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve Monitoring Network Contract with P&P for Water Year 2027

Recommendation

Approve groundwater level and water quality monitoring contract with Provost & Pritchard for Water Year 2027 for an amount not to exceed of \$80,000.

Discussion

Provost & Pritchard (P&P) was selected by the Board to monitor quarterly groundwater levels and water quality. A draft agreement with P&P to continue these services in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027 for an amount not to exceed \$80,000 is included as **Attachment 1**. The adopted FY 2026-2027 budget includes \$80,000 for this work.

PROVOST & PRITCHARD CONSULTING GROUP

455 W Fir Ave, Clovis, CA 93611 • (559) 449-2700
www.provostandpritchard.com

June 19, 2026

Taylor Blakslee
Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
4900 California Ave, Tower B, 2nd Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Subject: CBGSA – Groundwater Monitoring (WY 2027)

Dear Mr. Blakslee:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this proposal to provide consulting and monitoring services for the Cuyama Basin groundwater level monitoring network. This proposal discusses our understanding of the project, recommends a scope of services together with associated fees, deliverables, and approximate schedules, sets forth our assumptions and discusses other offered services that may be of interest as the project proceeds.

The dedicated and experienced team at Provost & Pritchard's Visalia and Bakersfield offices have extensive experience with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (**SGMA**), groundwater monitoring network development, groundwater level measurements, and coordinating with multiple agencies to unify efforts and accomplish varied goals.

Project Understanding

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (**CBGSA**) developed a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (**GSP**) as required by SGMA.

For the 2027 water year, the CBGSA would like to continue monitoring groundwater levels quarterly. The 2027 network anticipates an approximate total of 73 wells at 52 locations.

The network will be monitored quarterly during the months of October, January, April, and July. The monitoring schedules may be adjusted to access wells outside of rain events or surface water flows.

Scope of Services

Provost & Pritchard will continue to be in contact the CBGSA to prepare for the work and ensure all requirements will be met. Our scope of work for this proposal will be completed in two phases, described below.

Phase LVL: Groundwater Level Monitoring

1. Project Administration and Management
 - a. Provide consistent and available communications with CBGSA.
 - a. Track project deliverables, budget, and schedule.
2. Quarterly groundwater level measurements for up to 73 wells at approximately 52 locations. Approximately 23 of these wells are currently equipped with transducers.
 - a. Groundwater levels in excel format reporting groundwater surface elevation, reference point elevation, and depth to groundwater with measurement reference on a quarterly basis.
 - b. Groundwater quality measurements in excel format reporting electroconductivity and water temperature on a quarterly basis for a preselected list of transducer-equipped wells
3. Technical Memo
 - a. Summary memorandum to the CBGSA documenting work performed at the conclusion of the 12-month reporting period.

Deliverables:

- Signed access and monitoring agreement from landowners that require them.
- Technical memorandum summarizing work performed.
- Excel workbook includes date, time, location, groundwater level, water quality metrics for qualifying wells and pertinent notes for each measurement.
- Individual well dossier sheets for each well with measurements and pertinent notes for any newly added wells.

Phase QLT: Groundwater Quality Monitoring

1. Project Administration and Management
 - a. Provide consistent and available communications with CBGSA.
 - b. Track project deliverables, budget, and schedule.
2. Annual groundwater quality measurements for approximately 43 wells.
3. Obtain Landowner Agreements
 - a. Research missing contact information.
 - b. Request access from landowners/managers to sample wells.
 - c. Provide Access and Monitoring Agreements upon request and follow up.
4. Water quality measurements
 - a. Review any new wells for suitability.
 - b. Coordinate water quality testing with well owners.
 - c. Measure salinity as EC and TDS at each well. Measurement will be taken with a Horiba multimeter according to Standard Operating Procedures, including meter calibration, well purging, and applicable site condition notes.
 - d. Collect salinity as EC and TDS data at each well equipped with a transducer.
5. Data management and reporting
 - a. Compile water quality data and complete data quality assurance and control measures.

- b. Develop technical memorandum documenting work performed.
- c. Complete Excel workbook with EC and TDS results.
- d. Complete dossier sheets for each well.

Deliverables:

- Signed access and monitoring agreement from landowners that require them.
- Technical memorandum summarizing work performed.
- Excel workbook including date, time, location, EC, TDS, and pertinent notes for each measurement.
- Individual well dossier sheets for each well with measurements and pertinent notes.
- All analyses documents provided by the lab.

Professional Fees

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group will perform the services on a time and materials basis, in accordance with our Standard Fee Schedule in effect at the time services are rendered. For budgeting purposes, our preliminary estimate is that our fees will be **\$80,000**. Reimbursable expenses and professional fees are included in the estimate. These fees will be invoiced monthly as they are accrued, and our total fees, including reimbursable expenses, will not exceed our estimate without additional authorization.

Schedule

Provost & Pritchard is prepared to begin immediately upon authorization to proceed. Once we receive an executed copy of this Proposal along with the Consultant Services Agreement, and are authorized to proceed, we will work with the CBGSA to develop a mutually agreed upon schedule.

Assumptions

Phase LVL

- Survey by a CA State licensed surveyor is additional work and not included in the scope or fee estimate.
- Landowners are assumed to be amenable to monitoring and prompt in their communication. Landowners that require more than three (3) communication attempts to sign land access permissions and schedule a sample date are additional work and outside of the scope and fee estimate.
- Landowners are not required to be on premises for level measurements. Expecting field staff to communicate and meet discrete measurement appointments to allow landowner supervision is additional work, reduces the number of wells that can be measured within a day, and outside the scope of work and the fee estimate.
- Wells are in sufficient condition to be measured and modifications are not necessary.
- Additional wells for which landowner introductions and site information forms, and/or access agreement can be added for additional scope and fee.

Phase QLT

- If any of the proposed wells are not suitable for sampling, then upon CBGSA's prior approval, other wells can be added for additional scope and fee. Wells without pumps will be sampled with passive sampling equipment, if possible.
- Wells, equipped with transducers may require temporary removal of the transducer prior to sampling. The removal of transducers may be completed under a separate scope of work.
- Landowners are assumed to be amenable to sampling and prompt in their communication. Landowners that require more than three (3) communication attempts to sign land access permissions and schedule a sample date are additional work and outside of the scope and fee estimate.
- Landowners are not required to be on premises for well sampling if the well will be running. Expecting field staff to communicate and meet discrete sampling appointments to allow landowner supervision is additional work, reduces the number of wells that can be sampled within a day, and outside the scope of work and the fee estimate.
- Surveying (establishing elevations) will not be required for wells which are not included in the Groundwater Level Monitoring Network.
- Data is to be reported to Woodard & Curran via Excel spreadsheet.
- Wells are in sufficient condition to be sampled and modifications are not necessary.
- Well Completion Reports will not be needed at this time.
- Without Well Completion Reports, the volume of three well casings cannot be calculated. Therefore, a standard purge time and/or volume will be utilized, which will be based on purge requirements for similar water quality networks.
- Provost & Pritchard will not turn pumps on or off. The landowner or authorized manager will need to be present if a well is not in operation.
- Landowners will provide guidance regarding discharge locations for purged water.

Additional Services

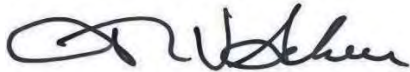
The following services are not included in this proposal. However, these and others can be provided at additional cost, either directly by Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group or through subconsultants, upon request.

- Data management system.
- Expansion of the CBGSA's monitoring network if the original wells are not sufficient.
- Licensed survey of ground surface elevation and well reference point elevation.

Terms and Conditions

In order to convey a clear understanding of our mutual responsibilities under this proposal, our standard Consultant Services Agreement of October 2, 2024, signed for the prior work on this project, is made part of this proposal. Please sign this proposal and return via email. If this proposal is acceptable, please sign the Consultant Services Agreement, and return a copy to our office. These documents will serve as our Notice to Proceed. This proposal is valid for 60 days from the date above
Respectfully,

Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group



Jon Vander Schuur QSD/QSP CPESC
Project Manager

Soo Ho Park, RCE 89361
Director of Operations

Terms and Conditions Accepted

By: Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Signature

Printed Name

Title

Date



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 6g

FROM: Taylor Blakslee / Claire Collins

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Approval of Resolution No. 2026-02 Authorizing the Collection of Delinquent Groundwater Extraction Fees by County Tax Collectors

Recommended Motion

Adopt Resolution No. 2026-02 Authorizing the Collection of Delinquent Groundwater Extraction Fees by County Tax Collectors

Discussion

The Board of Directors (Board) of Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) directed staff to identify, investigate, and resolve un-reported/un-paid groundwater extractors in the Cuyama Basin. Upon such investigation, staff identified one groundwater extractor who has not reported groundwater extractions nor paid groundwater extraction fees. Staff recommends adding these unpaid groundwater extraction fees to the County tax roll for collection, inclusive of late penalties. Resolution No. 2026-02 authorizes such action and is provided as **Attachment 1** for consideration of approval.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-02

A RESOLUTION OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
AUTHORIZING THE COLLECTION OF
DELINQUENT GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FEES
BY COUNTY TAX COLLECTORS

- A. On June 6, 2017, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (**CBGSA**) was formed as a joint powers authority by and between the Cuyama Basin Water District, the Cuyama Community Services District, the County of Kern, the County of San Luis Obispo, the County of Santa Barbara, the Santa Barbara County Water Agency, and the County of Ventura.
- B. On November 6, 2019, the CBGSA approved and adopted a groundwater extraction fee of \$19 per acre-foot for Calendar Year 2020 pursuant to Water Code section 10730.
- C. Pursuant to Water Code § 10730, CBGSA approved and adopted groundwater extraction fees at other rates for each successive fiscal year (**FY**) including FY 2020-2021, FY 2021, 2022, FY 2022-2023, FY 2023-2024, FY 2024-25, and FY 25-26.
- D. As of the date of this resolution, certain parcels within the CBGSA's boundary are delinquent in paying their respective groundwater extraction fees for Calendar Year 2020, FY 2020-2021, FY 2021, 2022, FY 2022-2023, FY 2023-2024, FY 2024-25, and FY 25-26, in a total delinquent amount of \$3,782.
- E. Water Code § 10730.6(d) authorizes a groundwater sustainability agency organized as a joint powers authority to collect any groundwater charge and any civil penalties and interest on the delinquent groundwater charge pursuant to the laws applicable to the entity designated pursuant to of the Government § 6509.
- F. Pursuant to Government Code § 6509, the CBGSA designated the Cuyama Basin Water District as the entity under which the authority's powers would be exercised with respect to collection of delinquent groundwater charges and any civil penalties and interest, and that District's powers are set forth in Water Code § 37212.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency RESOLVES as follows:

1. The delinquent groundwater extraction fees for Calendar Year 2020 and FY 2020-2021 through FY 2025-26 shall be collected pursuant to process set forth under Water Code § 37212, as described in more detail below.

2. The Executive Director, or his designee, shall:

2.1 prepare lists of the delinquent parcels in Kern County, San Luis Obispo County, Santa Barbara County, and Ventura County for which Calendar Year 2020 and FY 2020-2021 through FY 2025-26 groundwater extraction fees remain unpaid for more than 60 days on July 1;

2.2 certify that the lists are true and correct; and

2.3 transmit a copy of each list to the county auditor of the appropriate county along with a certified copy of this resolution.

3. The unpaid groundwater extraction fees shall be a lien on the parcel upon receipt of the list and resolution by the county auditor.

4. The unpaid groundwater extraction fees shall be collected at the same time and in the same manner as ordinary municipal *ad valorem* taxes, and shall be subject to the same penalties, and the same procedure and sale in case of delinquency as provided for those taxes.

5. The county shall deduct from the charges an amount sufficient to compensate the county for the costs incurred in collecting the delinquent groundwater extraction fees, following the same policies as applicable to similar collections with county *ad valorem* taxes. The remaining funds shall be remitted to the CBGSA.

6. The Executive Director or his designee is hereby authorized and directed to execute any forms or agreements with the appropriate county (if required), submit any supporting documents or other documents as requested by the county, and perform any other action as required by the county in collecting the delinquent Calendar Year 2020 and FY 2020-2021 through FY 2025-26 groundwater extraction fees.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED on July 1, 2026.

Steve Jackson, Board Chair

ATTEST:

Taylor Blakslee
Executive Director



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 6h

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve First Amendment to Contract with Santa Barbara County for Collection of Special Taxes, Assessments, and Other Charges

Recommended Motion

Approve First Amendment to Contract with Santa Barbara County for Collection of Special Taxes, Assessments, and Other Charges.

Discussion

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) has a contract with the County of Santa Barbara (County) to collect special taxes, assessments, and other charges through the County tax roll. Landowners who did not pay their groundwater extraction fees within the required timeframe have had those delinquent charges added to the County tax roll for collection.

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 26-86, raising the per-parcel billing and collection charge from One Dollar (\$1.00) to Two Dollars (\$2.00) and adding a new Twenty-Five Dollar (\$25.00) correction fee, with both charges subject to a future increase of up to One Dollar (\$1.00) annually upon County notice.

The First Amendment to the Contract, provided as **Attachment 1**, formalizes these fee changes and is presented for Board consideration and approval.

**FIRST AMENDMENT TO
CONTRACT FOR COLLECTION OF
SPECIAL TAXES, ASSESSMENTS AND OTHER CHARGES**

THIS FIRST AMENDMENT is entered into this _____ day of _____, 2026, by and between the **COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA** (hereinafter referred to as "COUNTY") and _____, a public agency, located in the County of Santa Barbara, State of California (hereinafter referred to as "PUBLIC AGENCY").

WHEREAS, COUNTY and PUBLIC AGENCY entered into a Contract for Collection of Special Taxes, Assessments and Other Charges (the "Contract");

WHEREAS, Section 7 of the Contract currently provides for a charge of One Dollar (\$1.00) per Assessor's parcel number for each special tax, assessment and other charge that is to be collected on the COUNTY tax rolls by COUNTY for PUBLIC AGENCY;

WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 26-86 increasing the amount charged for billing and collection activities to Two Dollars (\$2.00) per parcel to recover the costs of billing and collection activities, authorizing an additional correction charge of Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) for correction-related activities, and providing that such revenues shall be deposited into the County General Fund;

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the foregoing, COUNTY and PUBLIC AGENCY hereby agree as follows:

1. That the recitals set forth hereinabove are true and correct.
2. **Amendment** - Section 7 of the Contract is hereby amended in its entirety to read as follows:
PUBLIC AGENCY and COUNTY hereby agree that COUNTY may charge up to Two Dollars (\$2.00) per Assessor's parcel number for each special tax, assessment and other charge that is to be collected on the COUNTY tax rolls by COUNTY for PUBLIC AGENCY, all pursuant to Government Code Sections 29304, 50077, 51800 and 61115, and that COUNTY may collect such charge by adding it to each special tax, assessment and other charge on the COUNTY tax rolls to be collected for each parcel.

PUBLIC AGENCY and COUNTY further agree that COUNTY may charge an additional correction fee of up to Twenty-Five Dollars (\$25.00) for correction-related activities associated with special taxes, assessments and other charges, including but not limited to corrections involving multiple parcels or corrections requested after charges have been added to the tax roll or tax bills, and that COUNTY may recover such amounts from PUBLIC AGENCY or by such other means as may be permitted by law or agreement of the parties.

The billing/collection charge and correction charge authorized herein may be increased from time to time by COUNTY in an amount not-to-exceed One Dollar (\$1.00) annually if COUNTY determines that such increase is necessary to recover the cost of such services, consistent with authorization provided by resolution of the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors. COUNTY shall provide PUBLIC AGENCY with reasonable notice of any such increase prior to implementation, and no further amendment to this Contract shall be required for such adjustment.

- 3. **Effect of Amendment** - Except as expressly amended herein, all other terms and conditions of the Contract shall remain in full force and effect.
- 4. **Execution of Counterparts** - This Amendment may be executed in any number of counterparts and each of such counterparts shall for all purposes be deemed to be an original; and all such counterparts, or as many of them as the parties shall preserve undestroyed, shall together constitute one and the same instrument.
- 5. **Authority** - PUBLIC AGENCY and each person executing this Amendment on behalf of PUBLIC AGENCY warrant and represent that they have the power and authority to enter into this Amendment and that all formal requirements necessary or required by law in order to enter into this Amendment have been fully complied with.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, COUNTY and PUBLIC AGENCY have executed this Contract effective on the day and year first hereinabove set forth.

DATED: _____

BY: _____

TITLE: _____

DATED: _____

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

BY: _____

Auditor-Controller



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 7a

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group / Claire Collins, Hanson Bridgett

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Adopt Reserve Fund Policy

Recommended Motion

Adopt reserve fund policy.

Discussion

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's (CBGSA) Reserve Fund Policy (**Attachment 1**) formalizes the CBGSA's approach to maintaining financial reserves for long-term organizational stability. The policy ensures CBGSA can continue to carry out its responsibilities under SGMA and is prepared to deal with unexpected expenses or short-term revenue disruptions, without causing significant fluctuations in groundwater extraction fees.

Policy Overview

The policy establishes two reserve funds: an **Operating Reserve** to cover short-term cash flow gaps and day-to-day operational continuity, and an **Emergency Reserve** for unplanned, extraordinary expenses such as unanticipated legal proceedings, regulatory actions, or natural disasters affecting basin infrastructure (e.g. monitoring wells, CIMIS stations etc.). Both reserves are funded from excess groundwater extraction fee revenues and interest earnings, and may only be used for the reasonable costs of administering and implementing the GSP. Reserve fund levels will be reviewed and set annually as part of the budget process, with Board authorization required for any expenditures from the reserves.

Establishing Funding Targets

Funding level targets can be set as a percentage of the annual operating budget or as a fixed dollar amount. Staff recommend setting the operating reserve as a percentage of the budget since it is meant to cover cash flow gaps proportional to operations and setting the Emergency Reserve as a fixed dollar amount since emergency risks do not scale with the budget. The table below illustrates the recommended approach to setting amounts for the two proposed reserve funds.

Reserve Fund	Funding Type	Proposed Amount for FY 2026-2027	Notes
Operating	Percentage of Budget (20%)	\$300,000	20% of \$1,514,700 (2.5 months of operations) [rounded]
Emergency	Fixed Amount	\$200,000	Amount to repair, or replace GSA monitoring well or CIMIS station
TOTAL		\$500,000	

Impact to the Proposed Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Fee and Collection Strategy

Since the CBGSA is currently holding a large cash position of approximately \$1.6M due to the reimbursement of grant funds and release of the grant retention, staff has included the impacts of setting a reserve policy on the groundwater extraction fee for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 in the table below.

Option	FY 26-27 Fee	Revenue Generated	Beginning Cash + Rev	FY 26-27 Revenue Requirement	Reserve	Staff Recommendation
1	\$0.00	\$ -	\$1,600,000	\$1,514,700	\$85,300	
2	\$12.12	\$414,734	\$2,014,734	\$1,514,700	\$500,034	✓
3	\$20.00	\$684,380	\$2,284,380	\$1,514,700	\$769,680	✓

CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

RESERVE FUND POLICY

I. Purpose

Prudent financial planning and fiscal responsibility include anticipating and preparing for future funding requirements as well as unforeseen and unexpected events. The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) has established reserve funds for its long-term organizational and operational stability. These reserve funds enable the Agency to minimize significant fee fluctuations due to unforeseen and unexpected cash flow requirements and to ensure the Agency can carry out its mission under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), including the implementation and administration of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). Reserve fund accumulations may not cause groundwater extraction fees to exceed the reasonable cost of the regulatory activity or service for which such fees are imposed, consistent with Article XIII C and Article XIII D of the California Constitution.

This Reserve Fund Policy is intended to ensure that the Agency accumulates, manages, maintains, and uses certain financial resources only for specified purposes consistent with the Agency's budget and legal obligations.

II. Reserve Funds

The Agency's reserve funds are established, maintained, and set aside for specific, designated purposes and therefore are restricted in the way they can be used. The Agency may use reserve funds derived from groundwater extraction fees only for the reasonable costs of administering and implementing the GSP and carrying out the Agency's responsibilities under SGMA.

III. Specific Reserve Funds

The Agency maintains the following reserve funds [structured as two, but could combine into a single reserve]:

A. Operating Reserve

- Purpose. The Operating Reserve is to be used only to cover cash flow shortages caused by a short-term, unexpected disruption of anticipated revenue or when expenses become due before anticipated revenue to pay those expenses is received, and for day-to-day operational continuity.
- Funding Source. Excess groundwater extraction fee revenues over expenditures; interest earnings. Interest earned on reserve funds remains subject to the same use restrictions as the principal from which such interest is derived.
- Funding Level. It is the goal of the Agency to maintain the Operating Reserve at a minimum of _____% of the annual operating budget, adjusted annually when the budget is adopted [alternatively can set as a lump sum amount].
- Permissible Use. The Operating Reserve may be used for day-to-day, non-emergency expenditures including but not limited to: budget deficits; short-term cash flow management; groundwater extraction fee stabilization between fiscal years.

B. Emergency Reserve

- Purpose. The Emergency Reserve is to be used only to cover unplanned and extraordinary expenses that arise from events outside the normal course of operations, including but not limited to unanticipated legal proceedings, regulatory actions, natural disasters affecting the basin monitoring network or CIMIS stations, or other unforeseen events requiring an immediate Agency response not anticipated in the annual budget.
- Funding Source. Excess groundwater extraction fee revenues over expenditures; interest earnings; grants or reimbursements designated for emergency response. Interest earned on reserve funds remains subject to the same use restrictions as the principal from which such interest is derived.
- Funding Level. It is the goal of the Agency to maintain the Emergency Reserve at a minimum of _____% of the annual operating budget [or set as lump sum amount].
- Permissible Use. Unplanned emergency expenditures, emergency legal proceedings, extraordinary regulatory compliance costs, and other unforeseen expenses not anticipated in the annual budget. Funds may not be used for routine or anticipated operating costs.

IV. Management of Reserve Funds

The Board of Directors, in consultation with the Executive Director or designated administrative staff, is responsible for managing the reserve funds. The Board of Directors must authorize the expenditure of money from all of the Agency's reserve funds, except as otherwise provided in this Policy for emergencies. The Board shall annually review the balance of the reserve funds, work collaboratively with the Executive Director to ensure the accuracy of the annual financial report, and evaluate the goals and purposes of each reserve fund and recommend adjustments as may be necessary or desirable.

Transfers into or between reserve funds shall be approved by the Board during the annual budget process. Transfers outside of the annual budget process must be authorized by Board action. Reserve fund levels shall be reviewed and, if necessary, updated annually as part of the budget adoption process.

V. Oversight and Reporting

Reserve fund levels shall be monitored on an ongoing basis by the Agency's designated financial staff or consultant. Reporting on reserve fund balances shall be provided to the Board of Directors at least annually in connection with the budget process, and may be provided more frequently as the Board may direct. The Board of Directors may waive policy requirements under emergency circumstances by Board action.

VI. Annual Review

The Agency will review and update this Reserve Fund Policy at least annually during the budget process to ensure conformance with the Agency's strategic goals and legal obligations, and to comply with material changes in risk exposures, legal requirements, regulations, or standards. As part of each annual review, the Board of Directors will make an affirmative finding that reserve fund levels remain reasonably necessary and proportional to the costs of the Agency's regulatory program.

VII. Constitutional Compliance

The Agency will interpret and administer this Policy in conformance with Article XIII C and Article XIII D of the California Constitution. Nothing in this Policy authorizes the accumulation or expenditure of reserve funds in a manner that would cause groundwater extraction fees to exceed the reasonable cost of the regulatory activity for which they are imposed.

Adopted by the Board of Directors on [DATE]



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 7bi

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Update on Increased Water Use Assessment for Areas Outside the Central Management Area

Recommended Motion

Board direction requested.

Discussion

On July 9, 2025, the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability (CBGSA) Board directed staff to prepare a list of options to address new pumping outside the existing management areas. On November 5, 2025, staff provided an overview of the current water use management in the basin according to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and Board policy.

On January 14, 2026, staff presented the approach for annually evaluating potential increase in water use outside the CMA. The Board directed staff to proceed with the initial assessment to evaluate potential areas of overdraft outside the Central Management Area (CMA) and determine whether a more detailed analysis or potential management actions are warranted.

On May 6, 2026, staff presented an initial assessment, evaluating groundwater pumping, groundwater levels, and land use and well permitting to identify areas where increased use or changing conditions may warrant further review. The Board directed staff to proceed with Steps 1 through 3 of the detailed assessment process for the two areas with significant increases in reported groundwater use, with ongoing updates to the Board.

Staff has engaged in landowner outreach for both areas. For the Lockwood Valley Road area, staff contacted the landowner and are working with her to understand the cause of the increased use. For Salisbury Canyon area, staff have made numerous outreach attempts by phone, email, and through the parent company but have been unable to connect. Staff recommends the Board send a letter notifying the landowner of the investigation.



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 8

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group / Claire Collins, Hanson Bridgett

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Consider for Approval Resolution No. 2026-03 Setting a Groundwater Extraction Fee for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 and Authorize Invoicing of Landowners

Recommended Motion

Adopt Resolution No. 2026-03 establishing a groundwater extraction fee of \$___ per acre-foot [no greater than \$20 per acre-foot] and direct staff to invoice landowners.

Discussion

To fund the administration of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) and implementation of its Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), the CBGSA sets a groundwater extraction fee annually. Water Code 10730 directs the requirements for establishing the fee which include posting a report on the fee basis on the website 20 days ahead of a public meeting to consider adopting a fee and noticing the fee a local newspaper for two consecutive weeks. Staff developed the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Groundwater Extraction Fee Report which was reviewed by the Finance Ad hoc (Directors Ellsworth, Grant, and Young).

Resolution No. 2026-03 (provided as **Attachment 1**) contemplates a fee no greater than \$20 per acre-foot, however, the exact amount will be determined following Board direction on the proposed reserve policy which is agenda item no. 7a.

RESOLUTION NO. 2026-03**A RESOLUTION OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
SETTING ITS GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FEE AGAINST ALL
PERSONS OPERATING GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FACILITIES
WITHIN THE CUYAMA BASIN**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) are authorized to collect regulatory fees (Wat. Code, § 10730); and

WHEREAS, SGMA authorizes a GSA to impose fees and increase those fees to fund the cost of a groundwater sustainability program, including the preparation, adoption and amendment of a groundwater sustainability plan (GSP), and investigations, compliance assistance, enforcement, and program administration, including a prudent reserve; and

WHEREAS, the types of fees that can be imposed include fees on groundwater extraction; and

WHEREAS, on November 6, 2019, pursuant to Water Code section 10730, the Board of Directors (Board) of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) authorized the imposition of a \$19 per acre foot groundwater extraction fee; and

WHEREAS, on August 13, 2020, pursuant to Water Code section 10730, the Board authorized the increase of the existing \$19 per acre foot groundwater extraction fee to \$44 per acre foot; and

WHEREAS, on May 5, 2021, the Board authorized the reduction of the existing \$44 per acre foot groundwater extraction fee to \$39 per acre foot; and

WHEREAS, on May 4, 2022, the Board again authorized the reduction of the groundwater extraction fee to \$38 per acre foot; and

WHEREAS, on May 3, 2023, the Board again authorized the reduction of the groundwater extraction fee to \$12 per acre foot; and

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2024, the Board again authorized the reduction of the groundwater extraction fee to \$5 per acre foot; and

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2025, the Board again authorized the groundwater extraction fee to \$5 per acre foot; and

WHEREAS, the Agency has prepared and made available to the public a Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Groundwater Extraction Fee Report (Report), which is attached as **Exhibit A** and incorporated herein by reference; and

WHEREAS, the Agency gave notice concerning the proposed fee as follows:

1. By posting a notice on the Agency’s website at www.cuyamabasin.org.
2. By publishing a notice in The Santa Maria Times of the public fee hearing on June 11, 2026 and June 18, 2026.
3. The notices included: (i) the time and place of the hearing; (ii) a general explanation of the fee under consideration; and (iii) a statement that the data on which the fee is based is publicly available.
4. By posting the data upon which the fee is based in the form of the Report on the Agency’s website at www.cuyamabasin.org.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency that a groundwater extraction fee shall be set as follows:

1. A \$___ [no greater than \$20 per acre-foot] per acre foot groundwater extraction fee shall be set and levied on all groundwater extracted from within the Agency boundary. Commercial water users using 1.5 acre feet or less in a year per well and domestic water users using 2.0 acre feet or less in a year per well are deemed to be de minimis users and exempt from this fee.

2. The Report is approved and adopted, and Agency staff is directed to comply with its provisions.

3. The Board makes the following findings, based upon the testimony and evidence (including exhibits) presented at the public hearing on the fee reduction:

(a) Revenues derived from the groundwater extraction fee will not exceed the costs of Agency’s groundwater sustainability program.

(b) Revenues derived from the groundwater extraction fee shall not be used for any purpose other than that for which the groundwater extraction fee is imposed.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 1st day of July 2026.

Steve Jackson, Board Chair

ATTEST:

Taylor Blakslee
Executive Director



DRAFT

FY 2026-2027 GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION FEE REPORT

CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

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Exhibits:

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SECTION 1 – ACRONYMS

AF	Acre-feet
CBGSA	Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

SECTION 2 – DEFINITIONS

De Minimis User – Commercial

Uses 1.5 acre-feet or less in a year per well. De minimis users do not have to pay a fee.

De Minimis User – Domestic (Non-Commercial)

Uses 2 acre-feet or less in a year per well. De minimis users do not have to pay a fee.

SECTION 3 – CUYAMA BASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BACKGROUND

The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) was formed in 2017 under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) to develop and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). The purpose of the GSP is to achieve groundwater sustainability for the Cuyama Basin by 2040. The CBGSA is governed by an 11-member board with representatives from the four counties that intersect the Basin (Kern, Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, and Ventura), the Cuyama Community Services District, and the Cuyama Basin Water District.

SECTION 4 – ESTABLISHING A FEE

Water Code section 10730 authorizes Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to establish a groundwater extraction fee to fund, among other things, the costs of a groundwater management program, including administration of a GSP. The CBGSA has set the fee over the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 period and is based on (i) the CBGSA’s draft budget and cash flow for Fiscal Year 2026-2027; and (ii) 2025 water use.

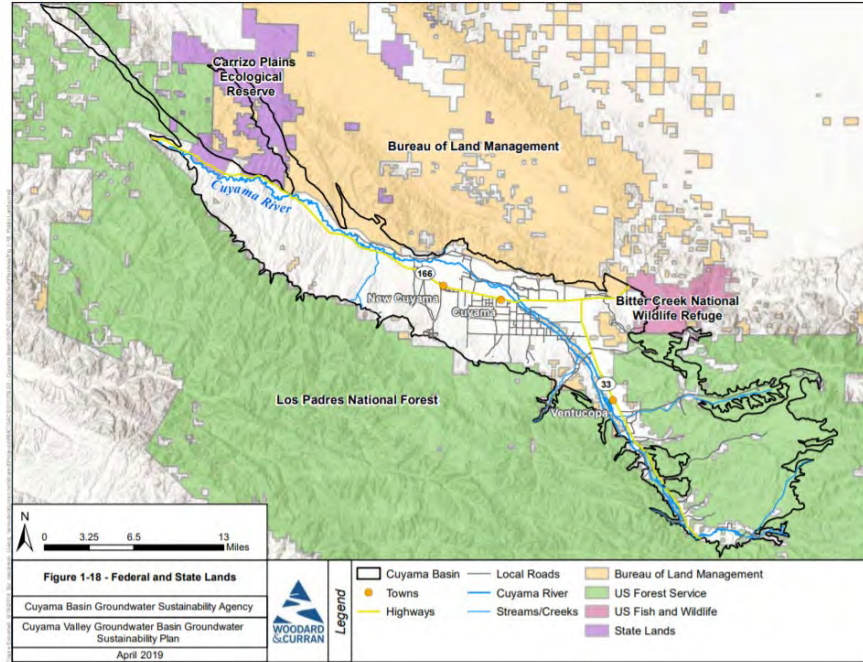
Section 4.1 – Definition of an “Extractor”

An extractor is defined as a pumper of groundwater within the Cuyama Basin groundwater basin boundary as defined by California Department of Water Resources’ Bulletin 118 (see Figure 1 below). The below groups are not considered extractors:

Exclusions:

- De minimis users – Wells that use 1.5 acre-feet or less per year for commercial purposes, or wells that use less than 2 acre-feet per year for residential purposes. De minimis users do not have to pay a fee, either because they are statutorily exempt (residential) or because the cost of collection exceeds the value of the fee (commercial).
- State and federal lands – Non-commercial water use on State and federal lands. Well use on State and federal lands do not have to pay a fee because there is no documented groundwater consumption on these lands.

FIGURE 1 – GROUNDWATER BASIN IN CUYAMA



Section 4.2 – Fee Basis

The proposed groundwater extraction fee is based on the CBGSA's fiscal year budget and cash flow. The budget and cash flow for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 was presented and adopted at the May 6, 2026 regular meeting of the CBGSA Board of Directors. The approved budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027 totals \$1,514,700 and is attached hereto as Exhibit "A."

Calendar year 2025 water use was based on self-reported water use from one of the following two sources:

- (1) Metered data, or
- (2) In the absence of metered data, consumptive water use estimates based on evapotranspiration crop factors developed by the Cal Poly Irrigation Training & Research Center (ITRC) as shown in Forms I and M included as Exhibit B which include a conversion factor to estimate the gross water use consistent with the metered data reporting methodology.

The 2025 reported basin-wide groundwater use totals 34,219 acre-feet.

Fee Recommendation

Based on (1) the Fiscal Year 2026-2027 budget and projected year end cash balance, and (2) user-reported 2025 water use data, the CBGSA recommends the basin-wide groundwater extraction fee be set at not greater than \$20 per acre-foot.

Section 5 – ADMINISTRATION OF FEE

Section 5.1 – Invoices

Invoices and instructions for payment will be sent to water users in July 2026 and will be based on the 2025 water use previously reported by Cuyama extractors. If payments are not received by the due date of August 30, 2026, a past due notice will be mailed in July 2026 and late penalties will apply (see section 6 below).

Section 5.2 – Schedule/Reporting period

The below schedule outlines the groundwater extraction fee process:

May 6, 2026	Fiscal Year Budget Adopted
July 1, 2026	Public Meeting to Establish a Fee
July 15, 2026	Invoices are Distributed
August 30, 2026	Payment Due Date
September 1, 2026	Late penalties assessed (10% and then 1% per month until fees placed on tax roll)

SECTION 6 – PENALTIES

Well owners will be charged a 10 percent penalty for any payments postmarked after the August 30, 2026 due date, and the principle and penalty will accrue interest at the rate of 1 percent per month from and after September 1, 2026 until payment is made in full by the landowner. Fees that remain unpaid will be placed on the tax roll.

Exhibit A
FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 BUDGET

DRAFT

Approved May 6, 2026

CBGSA FISCAL YEAR 2026-2027 BUDGET

CATEGORY	Adopted 2026-27 Budget
A HALLMARK GROUP	
1 CBGSA Board and SAC Meetings	\$ 111,700
2 GSP Implementation	\$ 55,000
3 Response to DWR on Amended GSP	\$ 6,875
4 Groundwater Extraction Fee and Allocation Management	
4.1 Annual Groundwater Extraction Reporting & Fee	\$ 14,100
4.2 CMA Groundwater Allocation Implementation & Management	\$ 9,400
5 Financial Information Coordination	\$ 40,000
6 Outreach	\$ 16,500
7 Adjudication Coordination/Support	\$ 15,100
Subtotal	\$ 268,675
B LEGAL	
1 General Legal Counsel	\$ 145,310
2 Adjudication Legal Counsel	\$ 184,140
Subtotal	\$ 329,450
C ADMIN	
1 Audit (FY 26-27)	\$ 12,000
2 Insurance (D&O, General Liability)	\$ 23,600
3 California Association of Mutual Water Co. Membership	\$ 200
4 2026 Updated Parcel Data	\$ 4,000
5 CIMIS Station (Annual O&M)	\$ 14,000
6 Mail house (Noticing)	\$ 6,000
7 Contingency	\$ 20,000
Subtotal	\$ 79,800
D WOODARD & CURRAN & TECHNICAL	
1 Stakeholder/Board and Outreach Engagement Support	
1.1 SAC meetings	\$ 21,525
1.2 Board meetings	\$ 47,205
1.3 Tech Forum calls	\$ 10,515
1.4 Public Workshops	\$ 5,000
1.5 General Outreach	\$ 9,700
1.6 Website Updates - Maintenance / Hosting	\$ 7,714
2 Model Improvements	
2.1 Incorporate SBCF Investigation Findings Into Model	\$ 63,360
3 GSP Implementation Support	
3.1 GSP Implementation Program Management	\$ 62,830
3.2 GW Levels and GWQ Monitoring Network Coordination and Data Mgmt	\$ 29,350
3.3 Support for CBGSA response to DWR and public comments on 2025 GSP	\$ 51,710
3.4 Support for Adaptive Management of Groundwater Levels	\$ 26,580
3.5 Prepare Annual Report for Cuyama Basin	\$ 55,580
3.6 Develop Approach for ISW Analysis	\$ 7,840
3.7 Assess Water Quality Data Collection Approach	\$ 7,260
4 Pumping Allocation and Water Use Analysis Support	
4.1 CMA: Allocation Exchange Support	\$ 1,490
4.2 CMA: Carryover Policy Support	\$ 1,730
4.3 Detailed Assessment of Increased Water Use	\$ 27,630
5 Improve Understanding of Basin Water Use	
5.1 Perform Annual Land Use Survey (Land IQ and Local Reporting)	\$ 48,245
5.2 Develop Opti DMS tool for local landowner use reporting and processing	\$ 14,290
6 As-Needed Technical Tasks	
6.1 Preparation of grant proposal	\$ 48,310
6.2 Support for DWR Technical Services (TSS)	\$ 10,760
7 Adjudication Support (if Required)	\$ 45,000
Subtotal	\$ 603,624
E OTHER TECHNICAL	
1 Quarterly GW Levels and Piezometer Monitoring (Contractor TBD)	\$ 50,000
2 Annual WQ Monitoring (Contractor TBD)	\$ 30,000
3 Annual Stream Gauge Maintenance (USGS)	\$ 53,200
Subtotal	\$ 133,200
F OTHER LEGAL	
1 Adjudication contingency (subpoenas, depositions, pleadings, etc.)***	\$ 100,000
TOTAL	\$ 1,514,700

Exhibit B
CROP FACTORS

DRAFT



Form M
MUNICIPAL & INDUSTRIAL
 WATER USE ESTIMATE WORKSHEET – 2025
 Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Name _____
 Billing Address _____
 Phone / Email _____

Instructions:

1. Calculate water use by inputting units used for municipal & industrial water use in column B (see Exhibit M-1 below to calculate units) for the appropriate corresponding water use categories found in column A.
 - a. Multiply units used (column C) by the water consumption factor in column D and input result in column E.
 - b. Total the gallons from column E and convert to acre-feet on row 13.

	A	B	C	D	E
	Type of Use	Water Use Location (APN, lat/long, or address)	Units Used	Water Consumption Factor (Gal)	Water Use (Gal)
1	Chicken Ranches		X	3,532	=
2	Livestock Drinking Water No. of cows, bulls and horses No. of stockers No. of sheep and goats		X	5,520 2,760 1,100	=
3	Hotels No. of rooms		X	46,000	=
4	Office Buildings; including Churches No. of offices		X	38,600	=
5	Restaurants Seating capacity		X	11,400	=
6	Service Stations No. of stations		X	350,000	=
7	Stores Sq ft of building		X	50	=
8	Trailer Court Avg no. of people		X	36,800	=
9	Elementary Schools No. of students x No. of school days		X	80	=
10	Junior & Senior High Schools, Colleges and Churches No. of students x No. of school days		X	160	=
11	Watered Land; non-ag No. of acres		X	5	=
12	Total Gallons (sum column D and/or E)				
13	Convert to Acre-feet (Row 12/325,850)				

Exhibit M-1 – Unit(s) Calculations

Unit Calculation

	Type of Use	Units Used
1	Chicken Ranches	Avg number of units of 100 chickens on hand for the reporting period.
2	Livestock Drinking Water	Average number of livestock on hand for the reporting period (drinking water only). Amounts derived from NDSU Extension Service report from July 2015 entitled "Livestock Water Requirements."
3	Hotels	Total number of rooms.
4	Office Buildings; including Churches	Total number of offices in building, or offices served.
5	Restaurants	Total number of seats including seats at the counter, chairs, stools, benches and patio seating.
6	Service Stations	Number of stations served.
7	Stores	Square feet of any store, supermarket or shop. Calculation includes employee, customer and maintenance water use.
8	Trailer Court	Average number of people in the trailer court.
9	Elementary Schools	Total number of students, faculty, custodians, and maintenance staff multiplied by the number of school days. If there was non-ag watered land input amount in row 11.
10	Junior & Senior High Schools and Churches	Total number of students, faculty, custodians, and maintenance staff multiplied by the number of school days. If there was non-ag watered land input amount in row 11. For churches, figure total hours and divide by 8 to determine number of "school days."
11	Watered Land; non-ag	All lands, ornamental plants, shrubs, etc., watered but not qualifying for agricultural rate.



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 9a

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Report of the Executive Director

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

An overview of consultant budget-to-actuals are provided as **Attachment 1**.

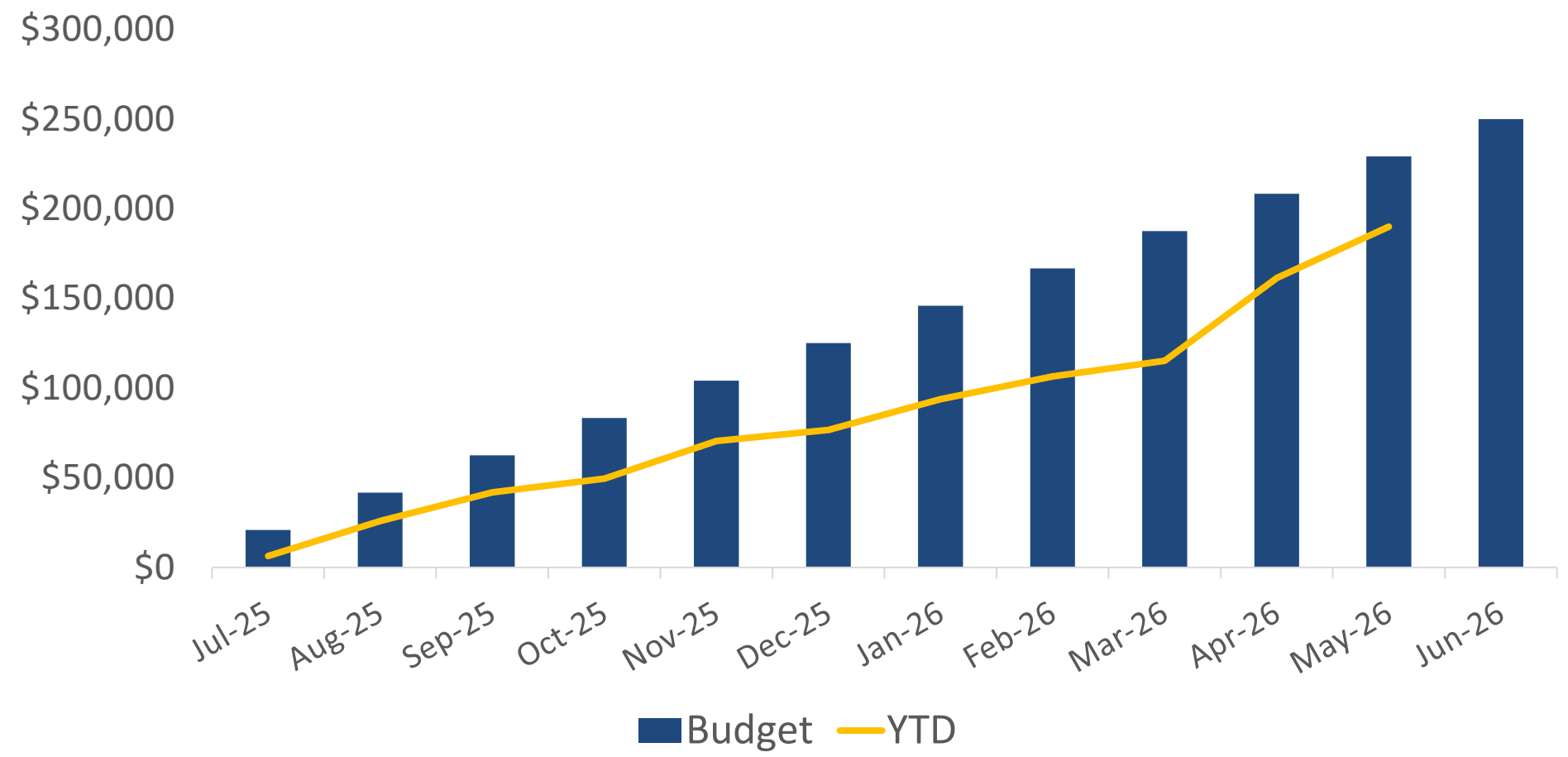
Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Financial Report

July 1, 2026

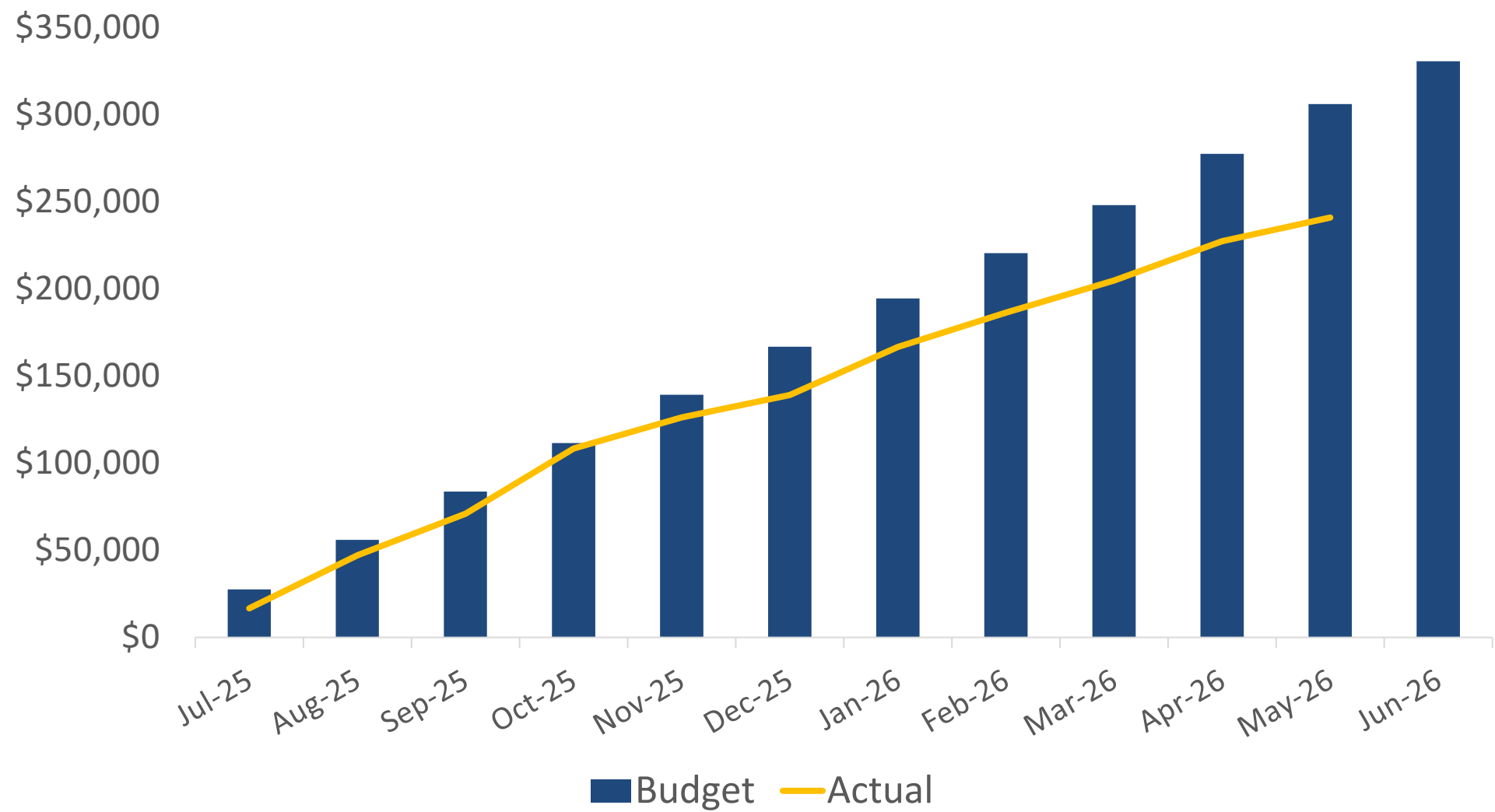
Legal Counsel – Budget-to-Actuals

FY 25/26



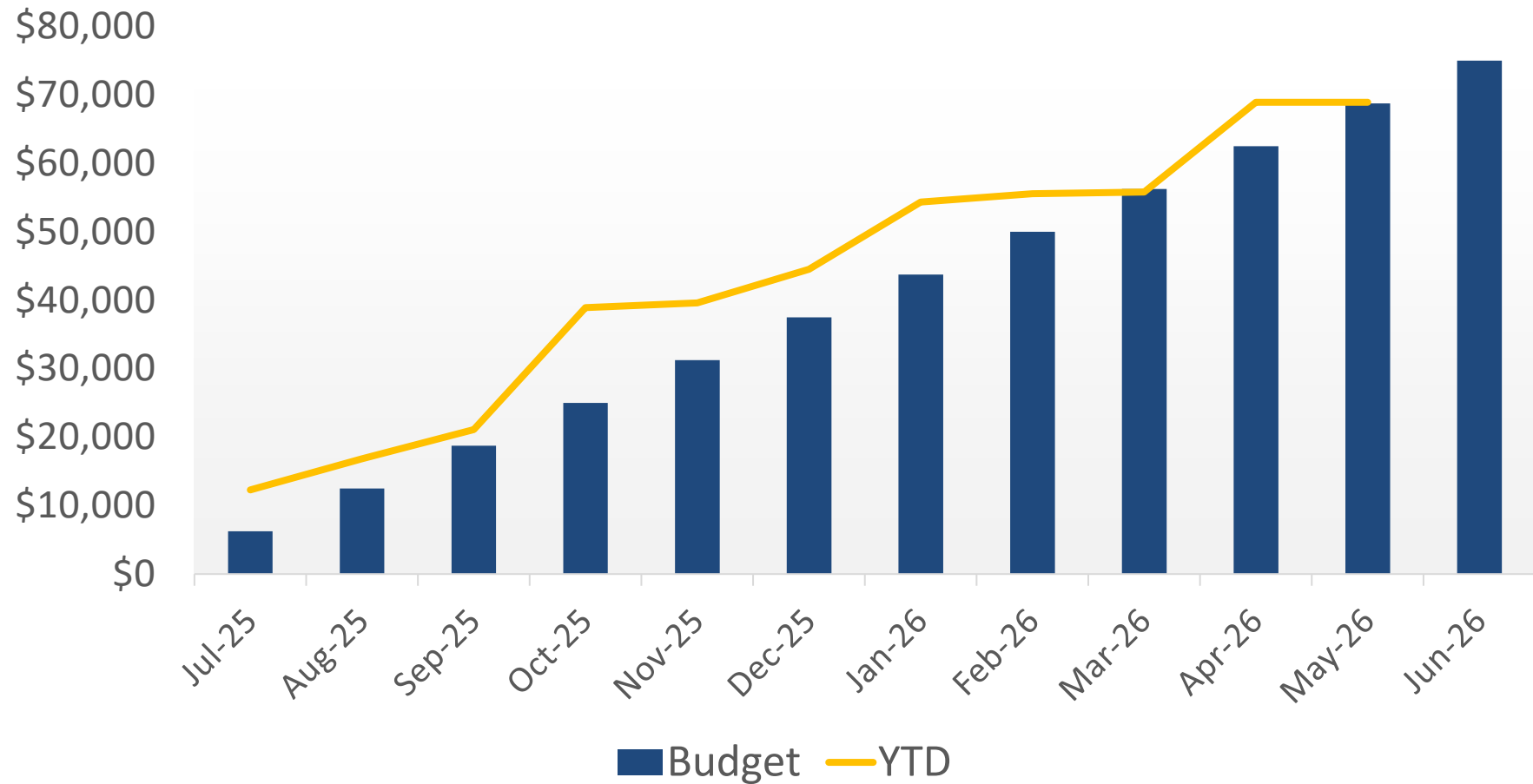
Hallmark Group – Budget-to-Actuals

FY 25/26



Provost & Pritchard – Budget-to-Actuals

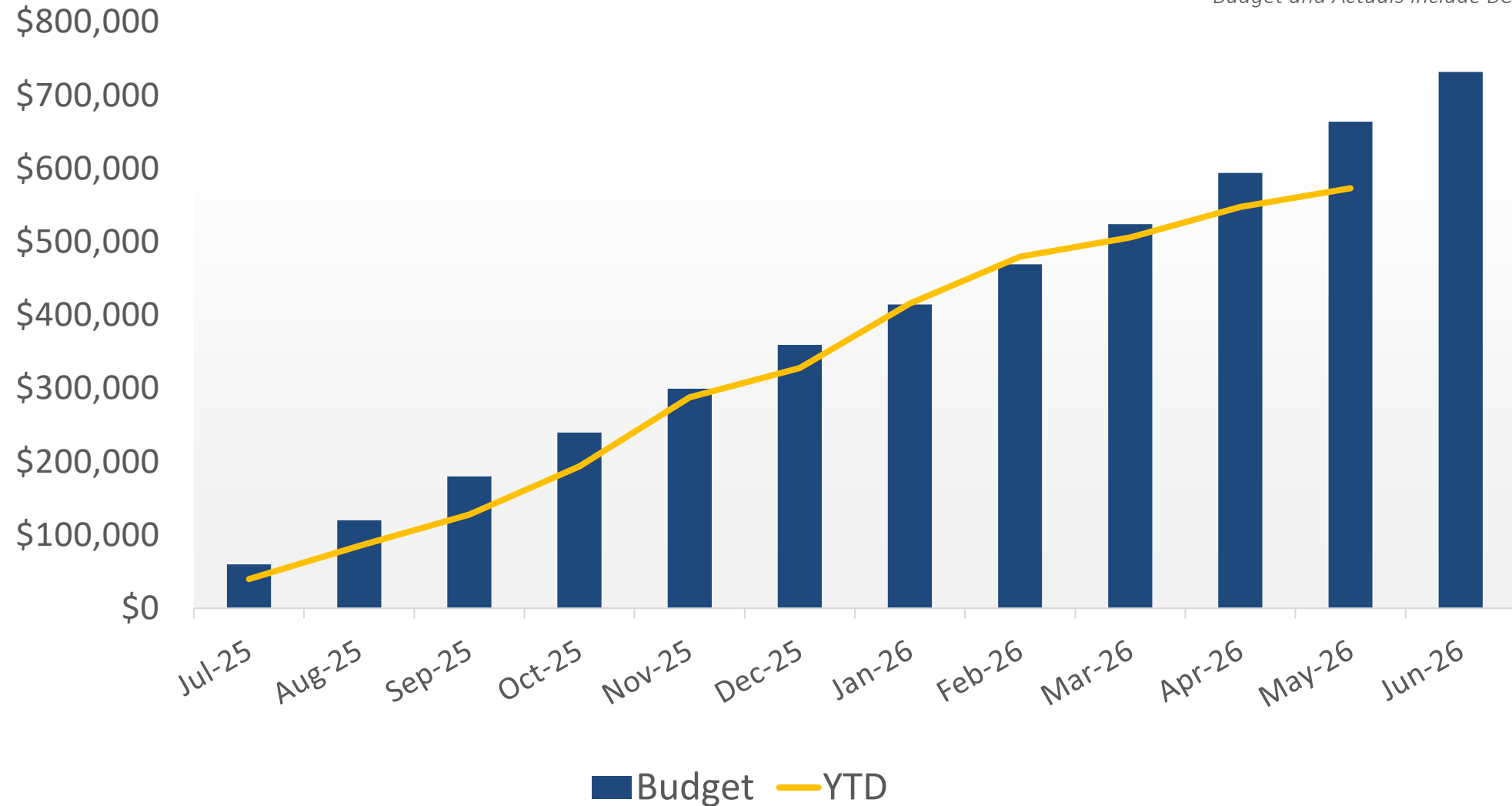
FY 25/26



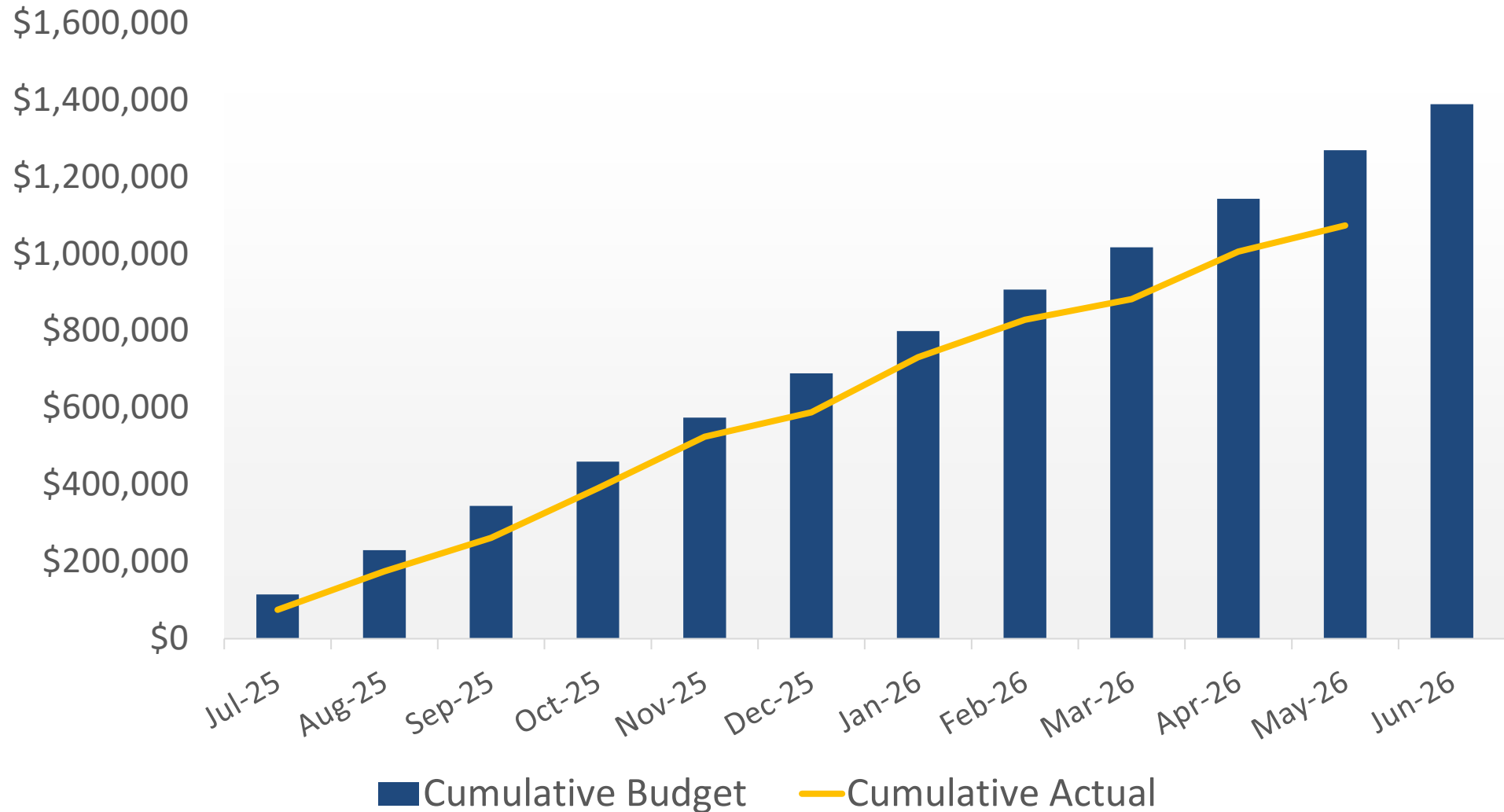
Woodard & Curran – Budget-to-Actuals

FY 25/26

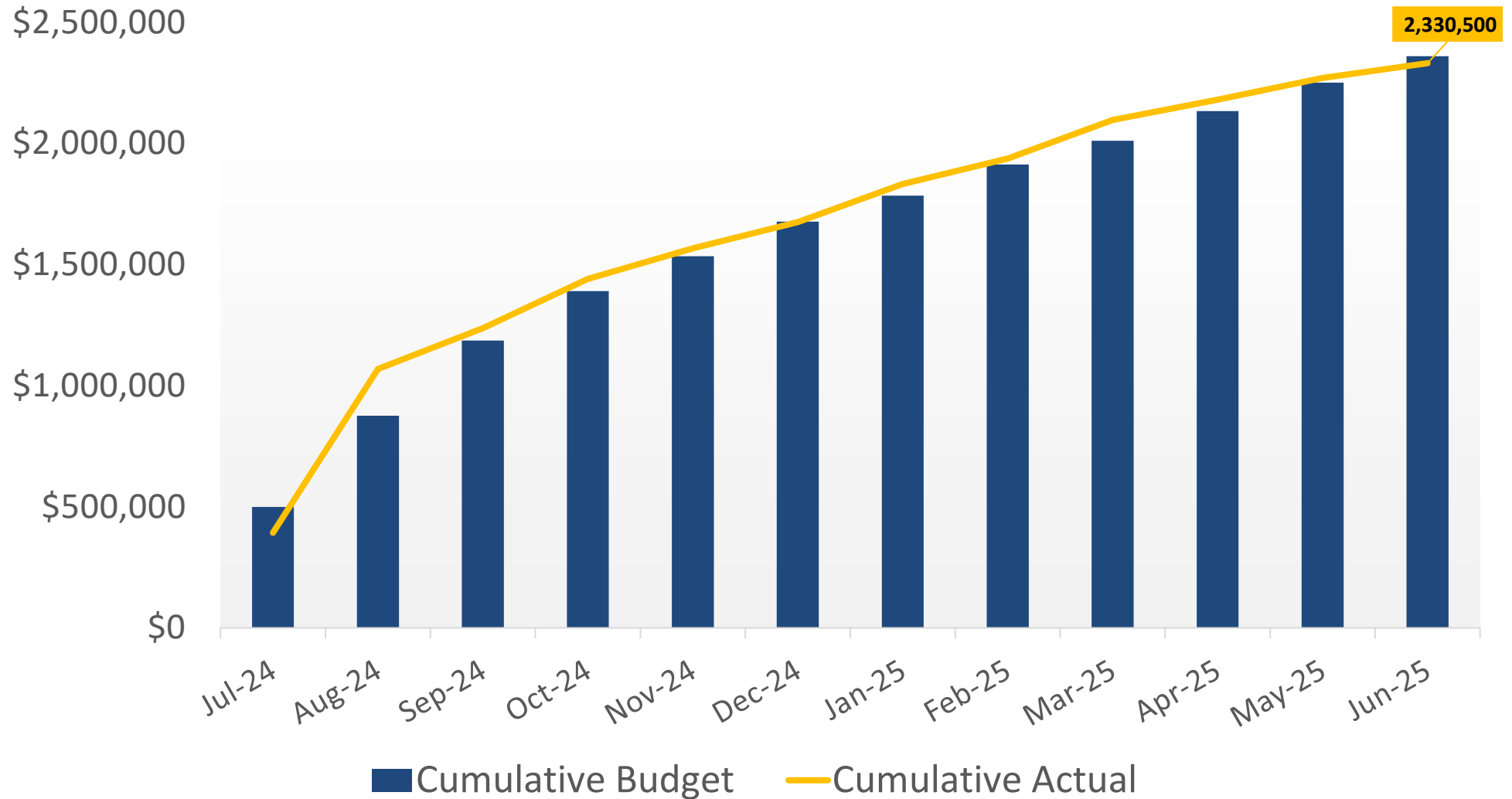
Budget and Actuals Include BC2 Environmental



CBGSA FY 25/26 – Budget-to-Actuals



CBGSA FY 24/25 – Budget-to-Actuals





TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 9ai

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Update on Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Workplan and Schedule

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

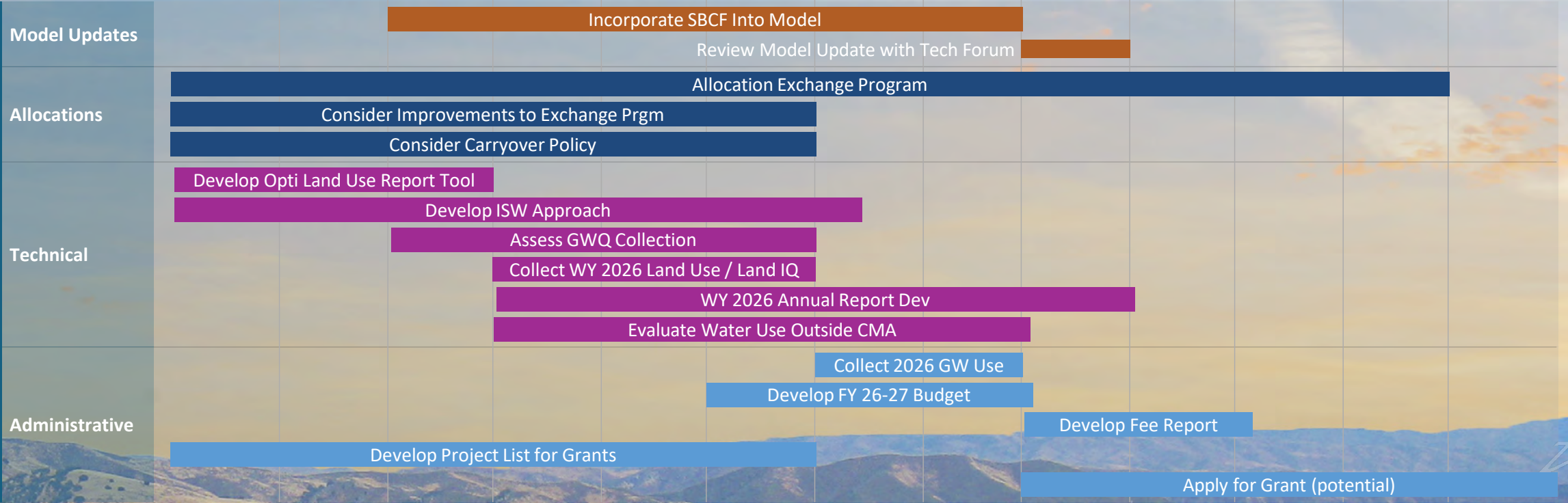
The draft Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Workplan, which reflects the adopted budget, and the schedule leading up to the 5-Year Groundwater Sustainability Plan Periodic Evaluation in 2030 are provided as **Attachment 1**.

FY 2026-2027 Schedule

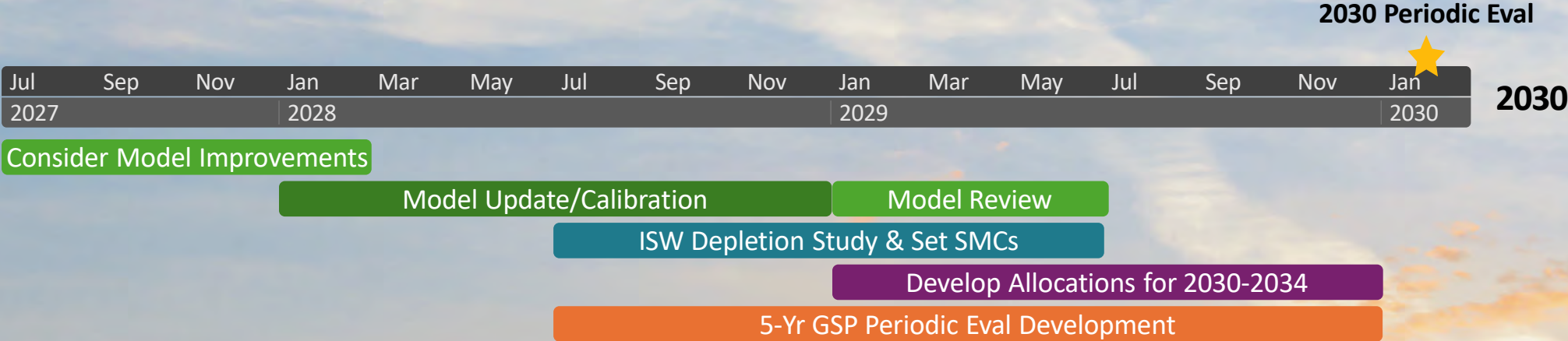


2027

Projects / Initiatives



Draft 2027-2029 Schedule





TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 10a

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) activities and consultant Woodard & Curran's (W&C) accomplishments are provided as **Attachment 1**.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities

Brian Van Lienden

June 25, 2026



May-Jun Accomplishments

- ✓ Prepared final technical memorandum with responses to DWR questions on 2025 GSP Update and submitted to DWR
- ✓ Participated in coordination meetings with DWR and Board ad-hoc committee
- ✓ Developed Groundwater Conditions report for April 2026
- ✓ Assisted with budget estimation for FY 2026-27
- ✓ Performed website and DMS updates and submitted GW levels data to DWR



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 10b

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: July 1, 2026

SUBJECT: April 2026 Groundwater Conditions Reports

Recommended Motion

None – information only.

Discussion

The quarterly Groundwater Conditions– Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin April 2026 report is summarized in **Attachment 1**. The detailed April 2026 Groundwater Conditions Report is provided as **Attachment 2**.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Quarterly Groundwater Conditions Report

Brian Van Lienden

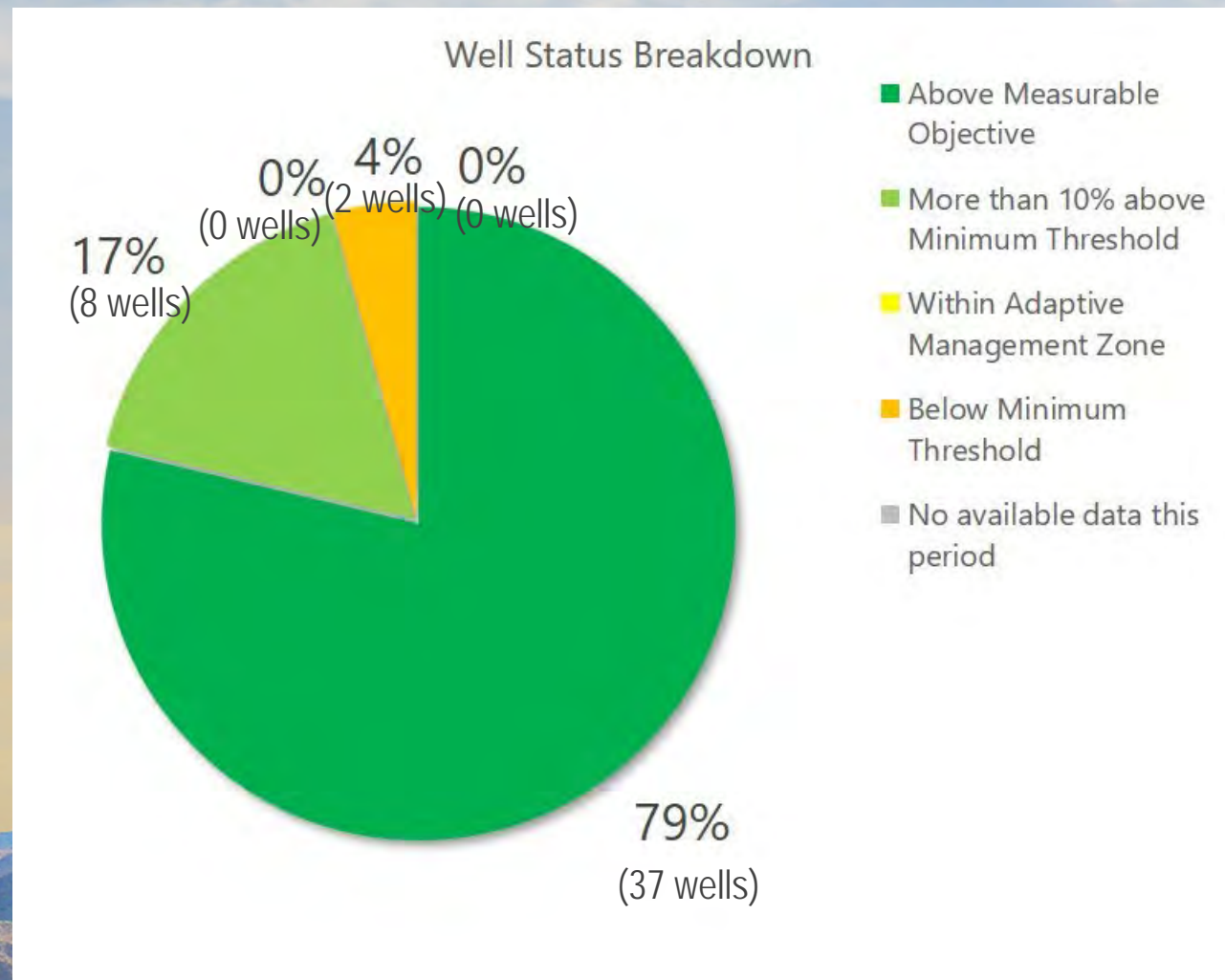


Groundwater Levels Monitoring Network – Summary of Current Conditions

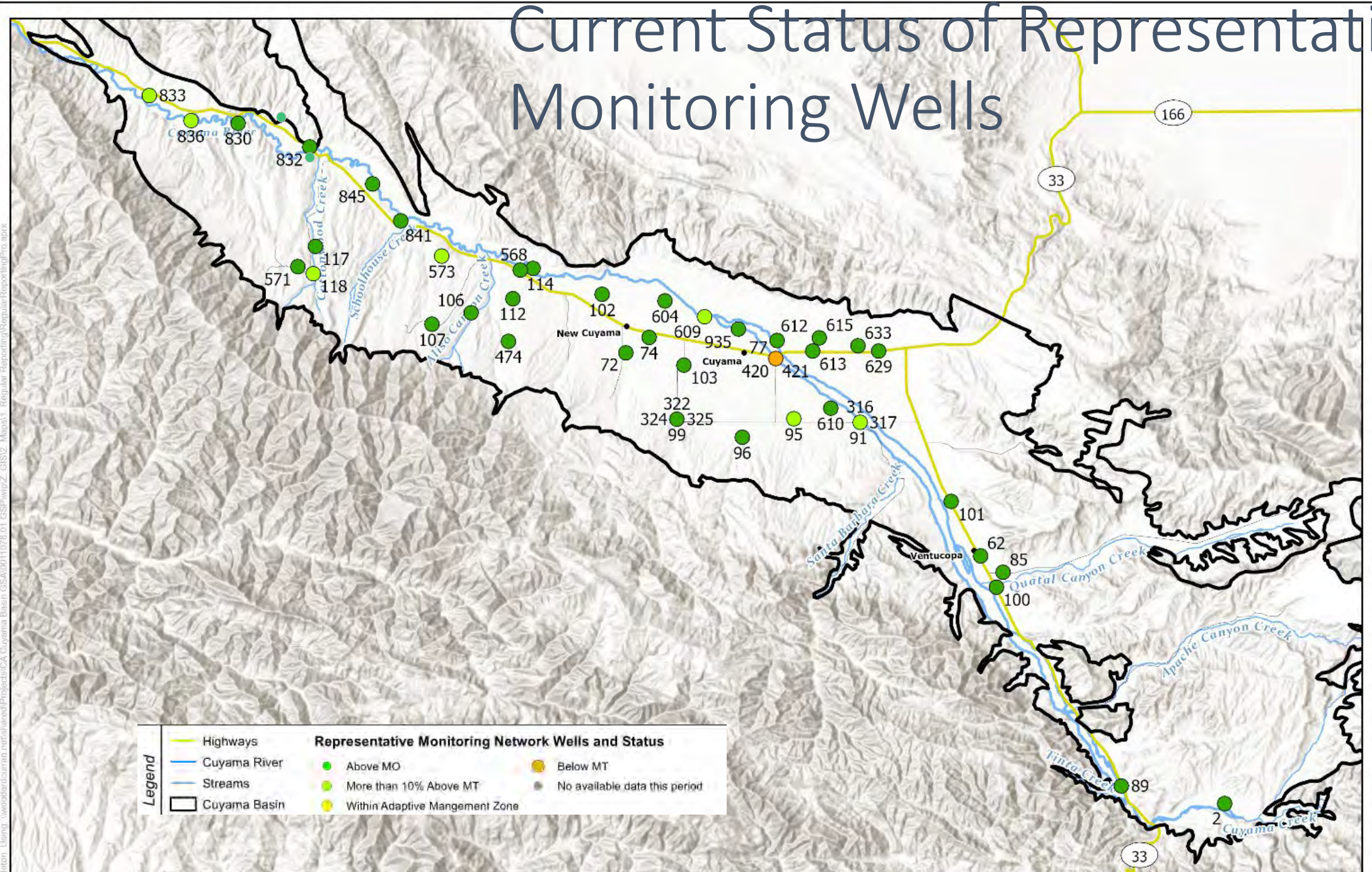
- Monitoring data from October 2025, January 2026 and April 2026 for representative wells is included in the Groundwater Conditions report
- 44 of 47 representative monitoring wells have a measurement this quarter
 - one well (830) was last measured in July 2024
 - two wells (841 & 845) were last measured in Jan 2026
- 2 wells are below the updated minimum threshold based on latest measurement

Summary of Groundwater Well Levels as Compared To Sustainability Criteria

- 2 wells are currently below the updated minimum threshold (MT)
 - 0 wells (0%) has been below the MT for at least 24 months
 - 2 wells dropped below the MT in April 2026
 - 0 wells moved above the MT in January 2026

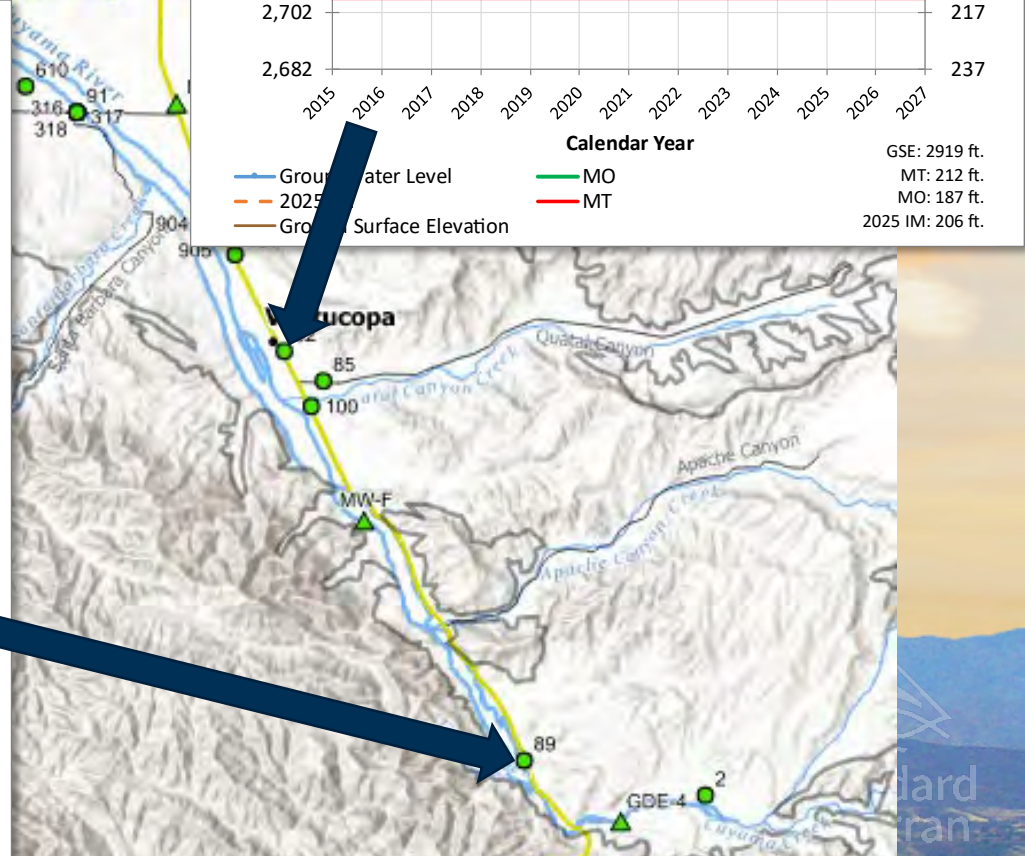
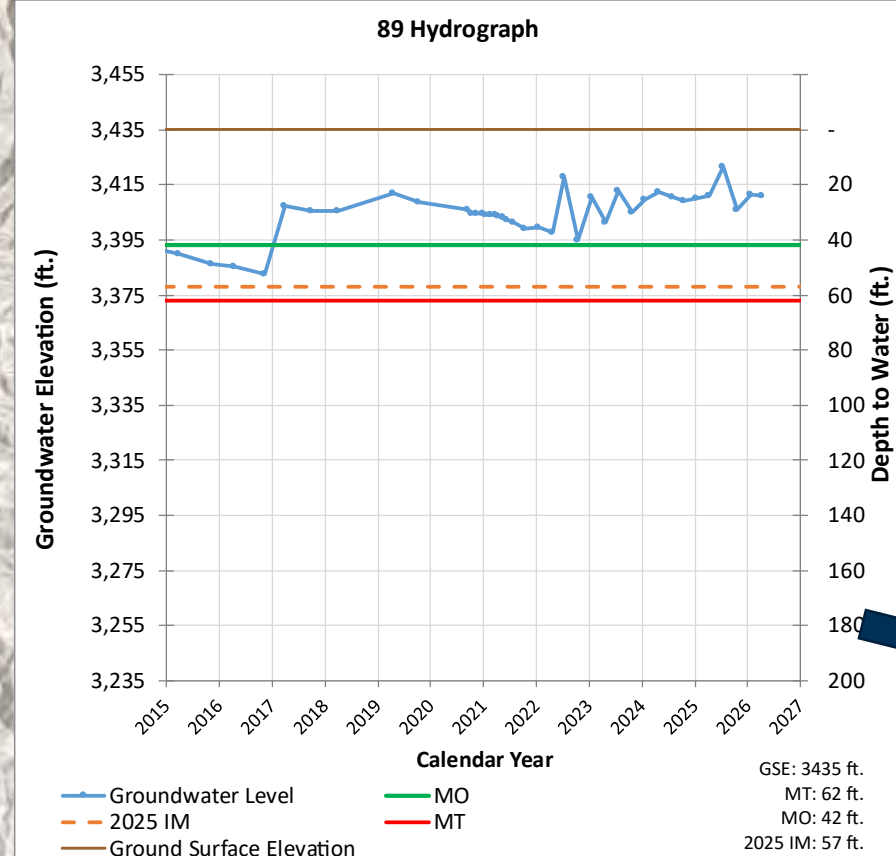
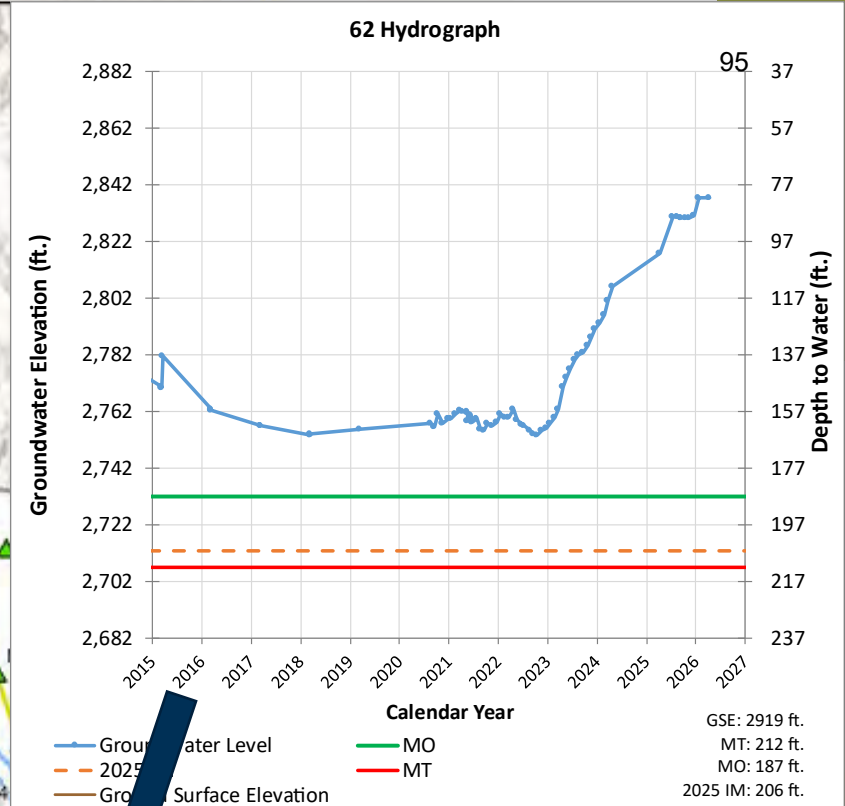
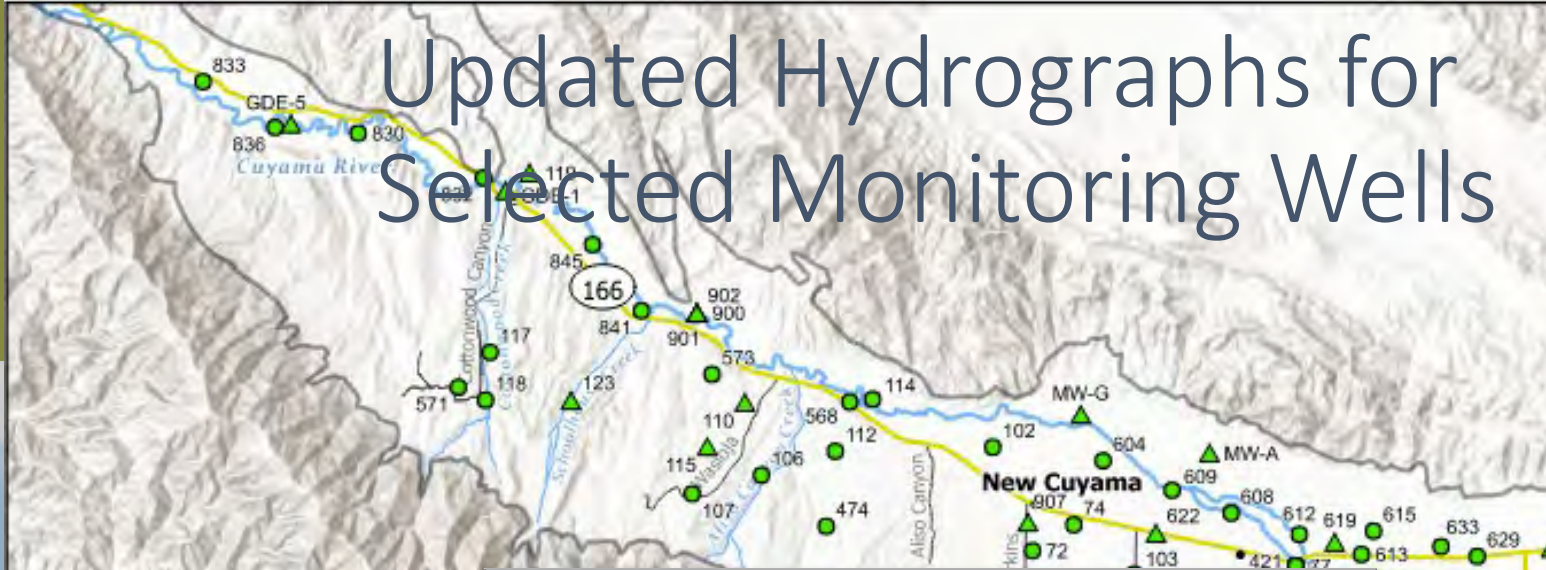


Current Status of Representative Monitoring Wells



Using ArcGIS Desktop 10.1.1.0176.01T.GIS/MapZ - Regular Reporting/RegularReportingPro.aprx

Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells

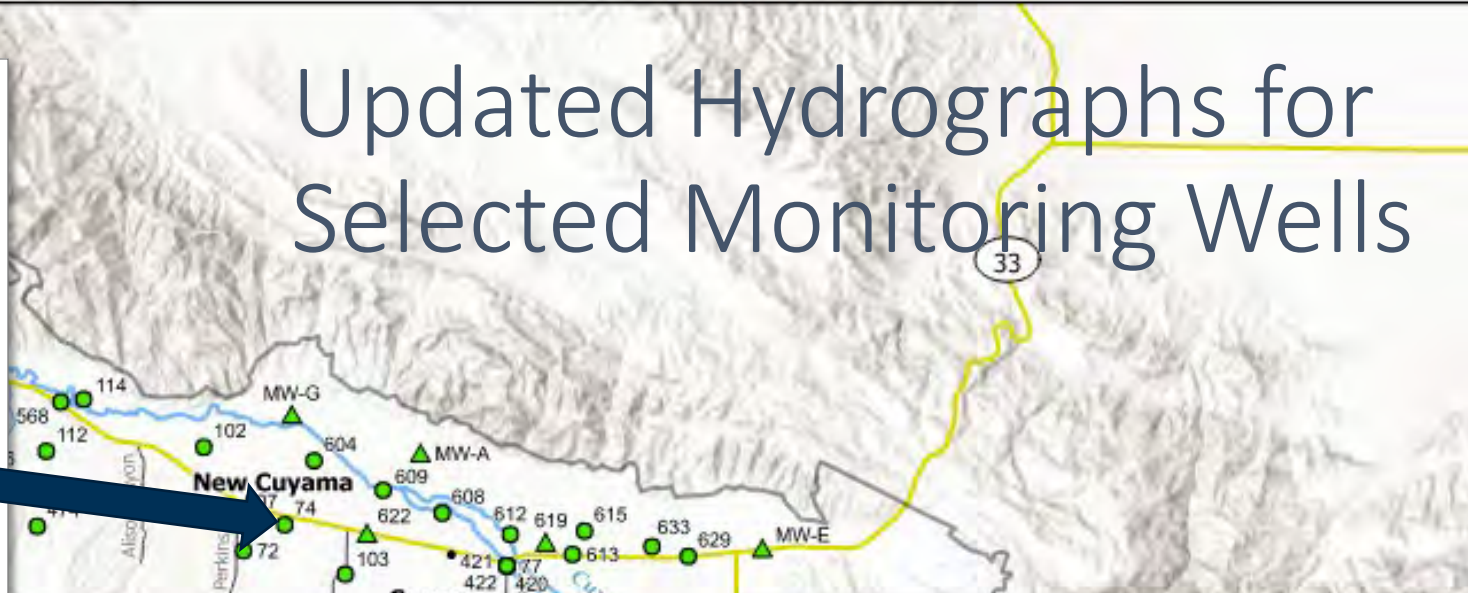
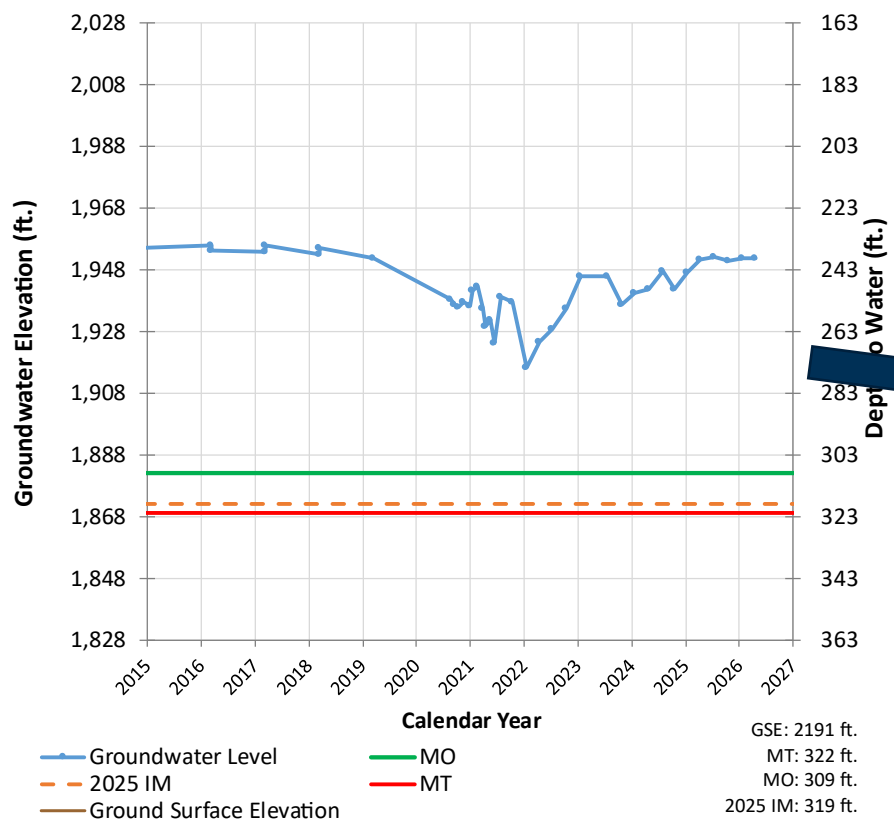


GSE: 2919 ft.
 MT: 212 ft.
 MO: 187 ft.
 2025 IM: 206 ft.

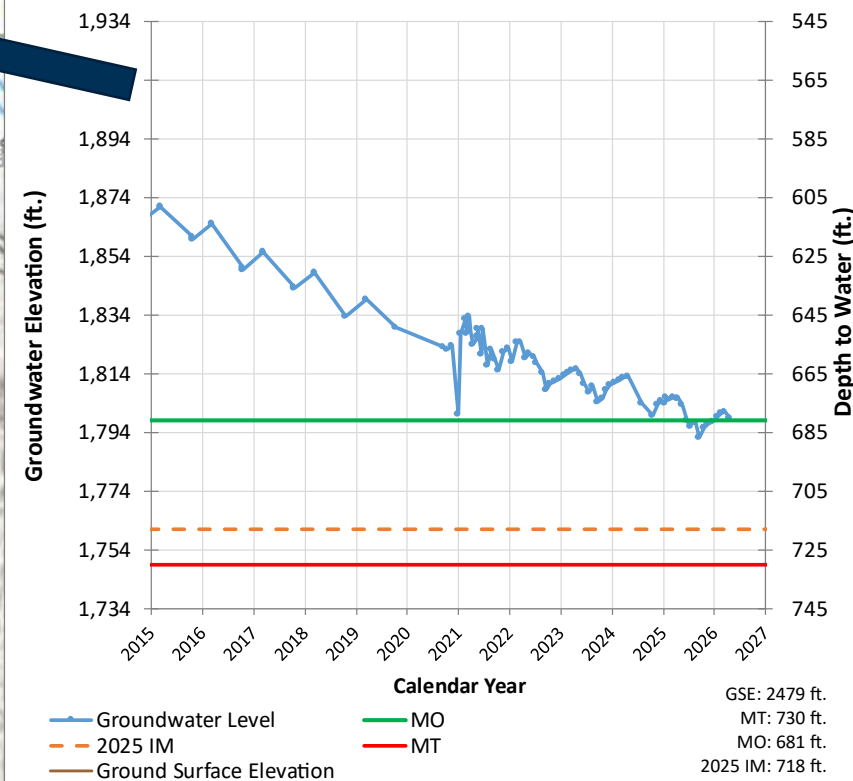
GSE: 3435 ft.
 MT: 62 ft.
 MO: 42 ft.
 2025 IM: 57 ft.

Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells

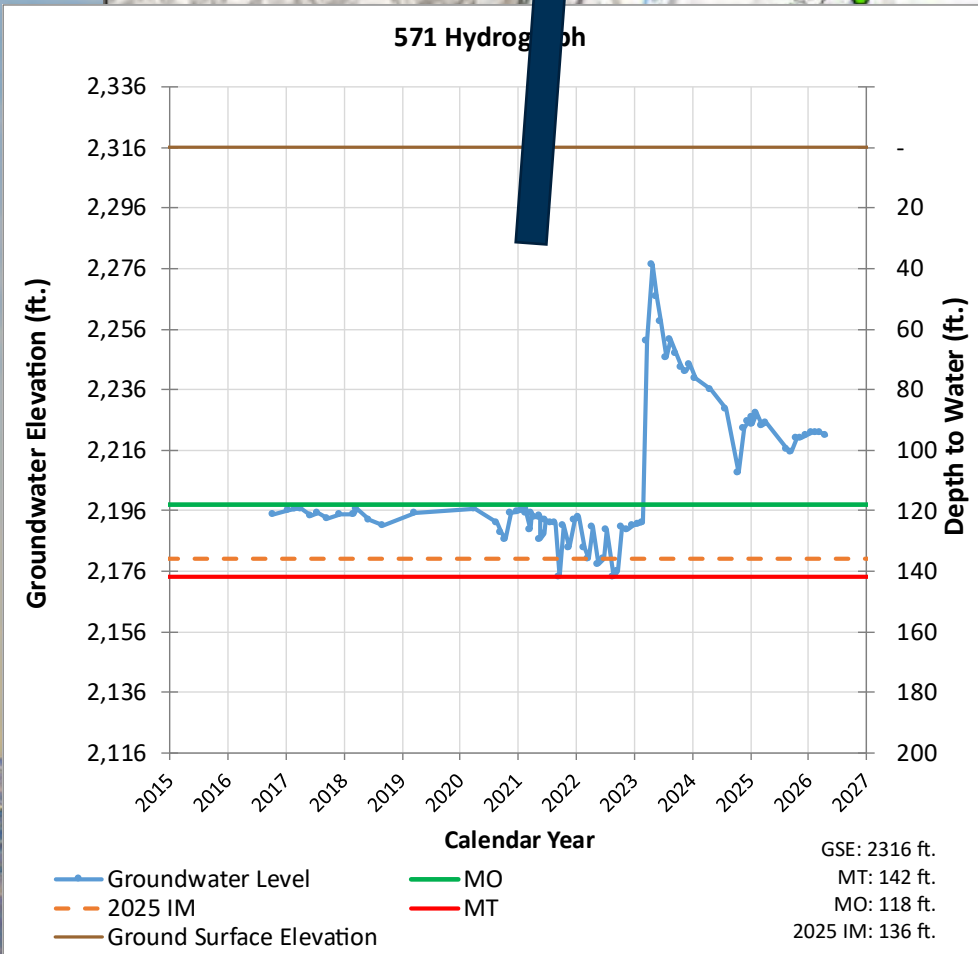
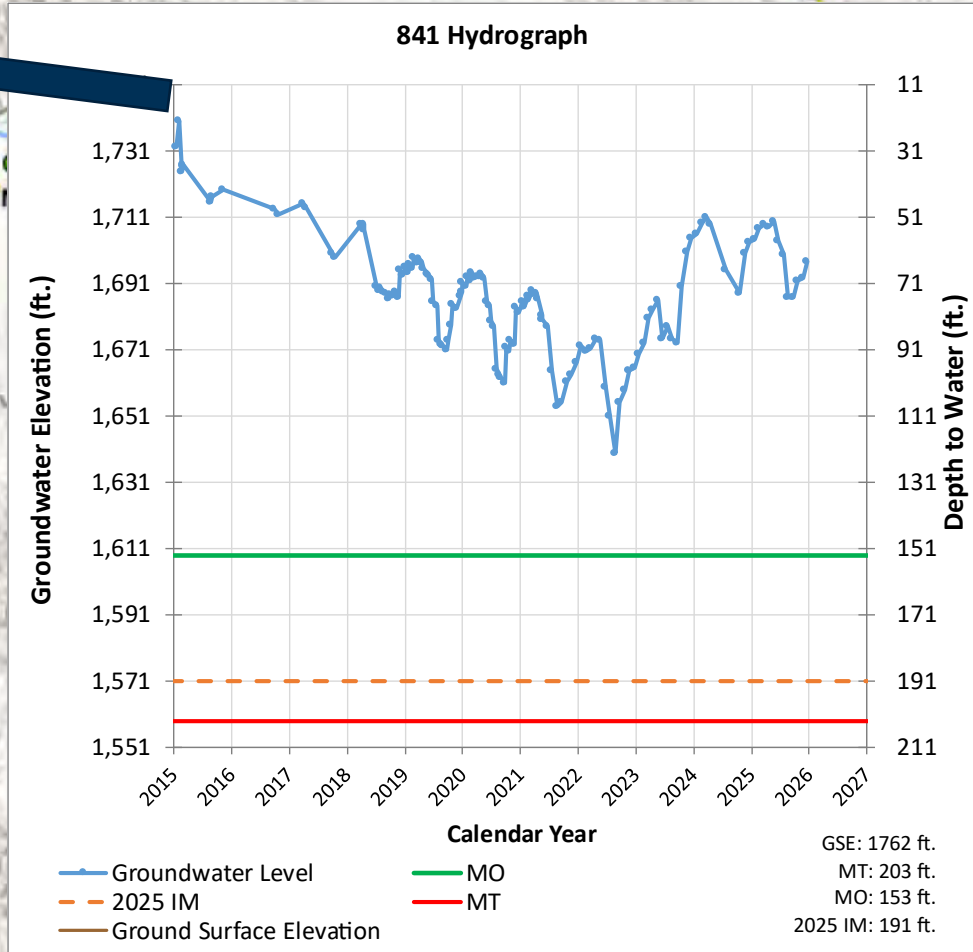
74 Hydrograph



91 Hydrograph



Updated Hydrographs for Selected Monitoring Wells





Groundwater Conditions Report: Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin

April 2026

Cuyama Basin
Groundwater
Sustainability
Agency

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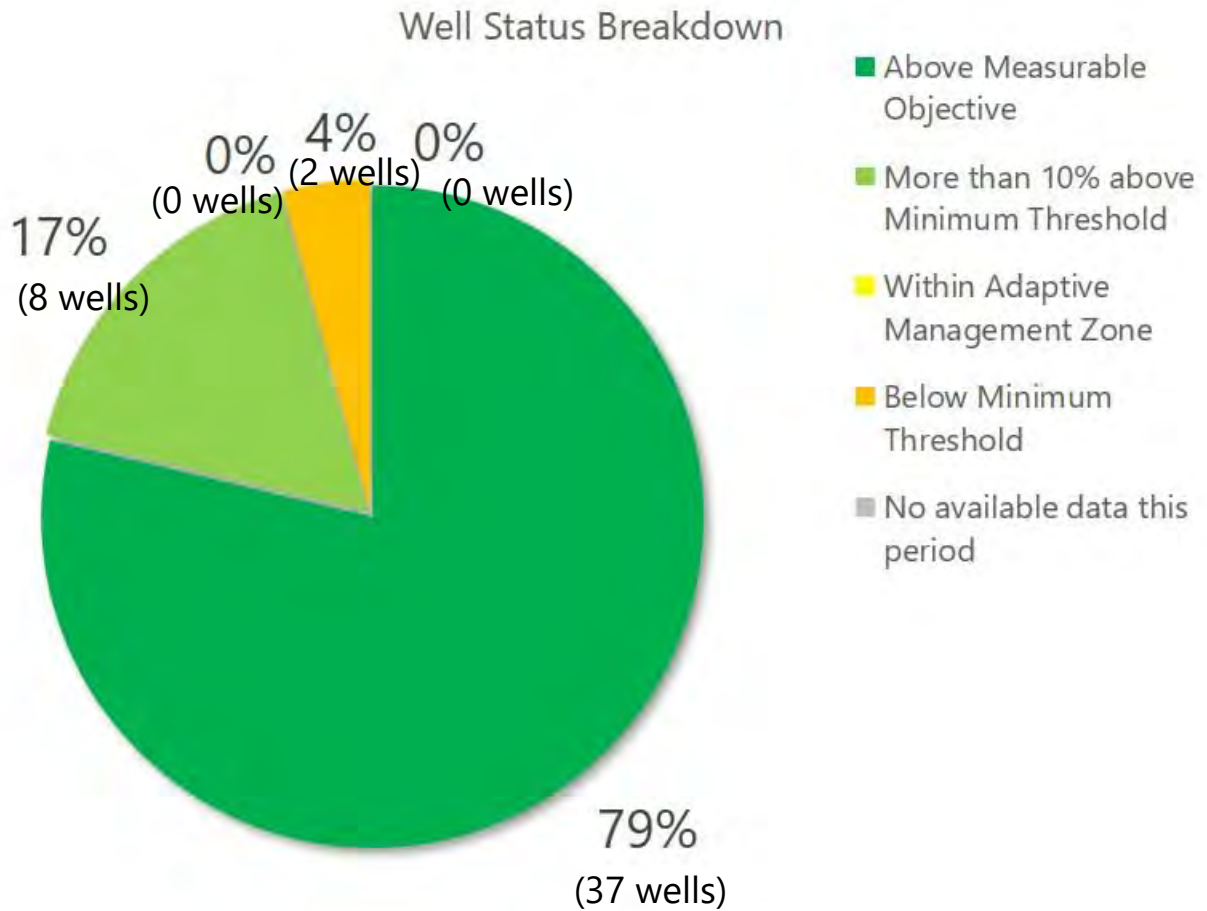
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1. INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to provide an update on the current groundwater level conditions in the Cuyama Valley Groundwater Basin. This work is completed by the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA), in compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

2. SUMMARY STATISTICS



There are currently two wells with groundwater levels exceeding the updated minimum thresholds. As outlined in the GSP, undesirable results for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels occurs, “when 30 percent of representative monitoring wells... fall below their minimum groundwater elevation threshold for two consecutive years.” (Cuyama GSP, pg. 3-2). Currently, 0% of representative monitoring wells (i.e. 0 wells) have exceeded the minimum threshold for 24 or more consecutive months.

3. CURRENT CONDITIONS

Table 1 includes the most recent groundwater level measurements taken in the Cuyama Basin from representative wells included in the Cuyama GSP Groundwater Level Monitoring Network, as well as the previous two measurements and the measurement from the same time period in the previous year. Table 2 includes all of the wells and their current status in relation to the thresholds applied to each well. This information is also shown on Figure 1.

All measurements are also incorporated into the Cuyama DMS, which may be accessed at <https://opti.woodardcurran.com/cuyama/login.php>.

Table 1: Recent Groundwater Levels for Representative Monitoring Network

Well	Region	Oct-25	Jan-26	Apr-26	Last Year		Elevation Change
		GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	Month/Year	
72	Central	2027	2044	2037	2025	Apr-25	12
74	Central	1951	1951	1952	1951	Apr-25	1
77	Central	1783	1793	1759	1777	Apr-25	-18
91	Central	1796	1800	1799	1806	Apr-25	-7
95	Central	1869	1869	1869	1868	Apr-25	1
96	Central	2268	2269	2267	2268	Apr-25	-1
99	Central	2195	2171	2196	2156	Apr-25	40
102	Central	1668	1769	1668	1669	Apr-25	-1
103	Central	2058	2061	2054	2057	Apr-25	-3
112	Central	2046	2046	2046	2046	Apr-25	0
114	Central	1880	1879	1881	1881	Apr-25	0
316	Central	1794	1798	1798	1805	Apr-25	-7
317	Central	1796	1800	1800	1806	Apr-25	-6
322	Central	2194	2165	2195	2152	Apr-25	43
324	Central	2198	2185	2200	2178	Apr-25	22
325	Central	2204	2196	2206	2194	Apr-25	12
420	Central	1782	1792	1760	1775	Apr-25	-15
421	Central	1781	1791	1778	1787	Apr-25	-9
474	Central	2236	2236	2235	2236	Apr-25	-1
568	Central	1875	1877	1878	1878	Apr-25	0

Well	Region	Oct-25	Jan-26	Apr-26	Last Year		Elevation Change
		GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	Month/Year	
604	Central	1655	1673	1640	1668	Apr-25	-28
935	Central	1777	1793	1764	1779	Apr-25	-15
609	Central	1748	1749	1689	1732	Apr-25	-43
610	Central	1795	1801	1798	1803	Apr-25	-5
612	Central	1831	1837	1801	1817	Apr-25	-16
613	Central	1821	1816	1814	1805	Apr-25	9
615	Central	1800	1803	1805	1797	Apr-25	8
629	Central	1823	1821	1812	1805	Apr-25	7
633	Central	1808	1844	1884	1798	Apr-25	86
62	Eastern	2830	2838	2838	2818	Apr-25	20
85	Eastern	2908	2908	2912	2910	Apr-25	2
100	Eastern	2919	2935	2938	2928	Apr-25	10
101	Eastern	2680	2687	2692	2678	Apr-25	14
841	Northwestern	1692	1703	-	1708	Apr-25	-
845	Northwestern	1632	1641	-	1642	Apr-25	-
2	Southeastern	3690	3701	3705	3697	Apr-25	8
89	Southeastern	3406	3411	3411	3411	Apr-25	0
106	Western	2177	2178	2178	2178	Apr-25	0
107	Western	2415	2414	2415	2418	Apr-25	-3
117	Western	1944	1966	1948	1945	Apr-25	3
118	Western	2213	2213	2214	2212	Apr-25	2

Well	Region	Oct-25	Jan-26	Apr-26	Last Year		Elevation Change
		GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	GWL (ft. msl)	Month/Year	
571	Western	2220	2222	2222	2226	Apr-25	-4
573	Western	2016	2016	2016	2016	Apr-25	0
830	Far-West Northwestern	-	-	-	-	-	-
832	Far-West Northwestern	1607	1606	1607	1608	Apr-25	-1
833	Far-West Northwestern	1430	1434	1438	1440	Apr-25	-2
836	Far-West Northwestern	1478	1479	1481	1480	Apr-25	1

Table 2: Well Status Related to Thresholds

Well	Region			Minimum Threshold	Within 10%	Measurable Objective	Well Depth	Status	Action Required?
		GWL (DTW)	Date		Minimum Threshold				
72	Central	132	4/15/2026	373	369	328	790	Above Measurable Objective	No
74	Central	240	4/16/2026	322	321	309	-	Above Measurable Objective	No
77	Central	524	4/16/2026	514	509	464	980	Below Minimum Threshold (1 month)	No
91	Central	680	4/17/2026	730	725	681	980	Above Measurable Objective	No
95	Central	588	4/17/2026	597	594	562	805	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
96	Central	341	4/16/2026	369	368	361	500	Above Measurable Objective	No
99	Central	308	4/16/2026	379	378	368	750	Above Measurable Objective	No
102	Central	375	4/17/2026	470	466	432	-	Above Measurable Objective	No
103	Central	232	4/15/2026	379	374	324	1030	Above Measurable Objective	No
112	Central	83	4/17/2026	102	102	100	441	Above Measurable Objective	No
114	Central	46	4/17/2026	58	58	56	58	Above Measurable Objective	No
316	Central	681	4/17/2026	731	726	682	830	Above Measurable Objective	No
317	Central	679	4/17/2026	700	695	650	700	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
322	Central	309	4/16/2026	387	386	378	850	Above Measurable Objective	No
324	Central	304	4/16/2026	365	364	353	560	Above Measurable Objective	No
325	Central	298	4/16/2026	331	330	323	380	Above Measurable Objective	No
420	Central	524	4/16/2026	514	509	464	780	Below Minimum Threshold (1 month)	No

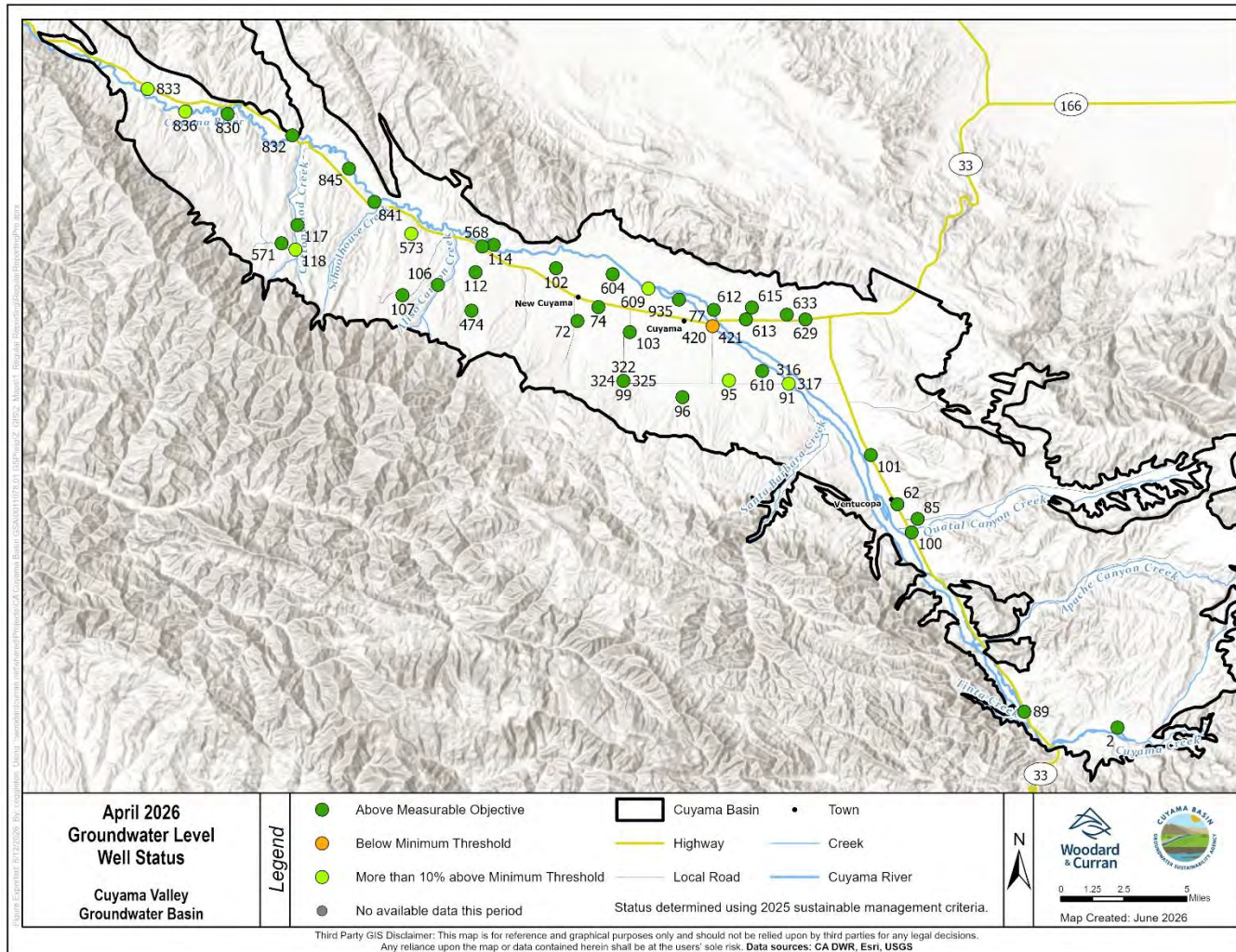


Well	Region			Minimum Threshold	Within 10%	Measurable Objective	Well Depth	Status	Action Required?
		GWL (DTW)	Date		Minimum Threshold				
421	Central	506	4/16/2026	514	509	466	620	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
474	Central	130	4/17/2026	197	195	178	213	Above Measurable Objective	No
568	Central	34	4/16/2026	47	47	46	188	Above Measurable Objective	No
604	Central	477	4/15/2026	544	540	505	924	Above Measurable Objective	No
935	Central	438	4/17/2026	504	501	475	745	Above Measurable Objective	No
609	Central	477	4/15/2026	499	495	462	970	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
610	Central	642	4/17/2026	673	670	643	780	Above Measurable Objective	No
612	Central	471	4/15/2026	513	511	490	1070	Above Measurable Objective	No
613	Central	513	4/15/2026	578	575	550	830	Above Measurable Objective	No
615	Central	518	4/15/2026	588	585	556	865	Above Measurable Objective	No
629	Central	567	4/15/2026	613	610	581	1000	Above Measurable Objective	No
633	Central	480	4/15/2026	605	600	551	1000	Above Measurable Objective	No
62	Eastern	81	4/15/2026	212	210	187	212	Above Measurable Objective	No
85	Eastern	136	4/15/2026	200	198	176	233	Above Measurable Objective	No
100	Eastern	70	4/15/2026	186	183	157	284	Above Measurable Objective	No
101	Eastern	56	4/15/2026	138	136	115	200	Above Measurable Objective	No
841	Northwestern	-	-	203	198	153	600	No available data this period (above MO in Jan 2026)	No
845	Northwestern	-	-	203	198	153	380	No available data this period (above MO in Jan 2026)	No
2	Southeastern	15	4/15/2026	52	50	35	73	Above Measurable Objective	No

Well	Region			Minimum Threshold	Within 10%	Measurable Objective	Well Depth	Status	Action Required?
		GWL (DTW)	Date		Minimum Threshold				
89	Southeastern	24	4/15/2026	62	60	42	125	Above Measurable Objective	No
106	Western	141	4/17/2026	164	163	152	228	Above Measurable Objective	No
107	Western	78	4/17/2026	122	120	103	200	Above Measurable Objective	No
117	Western	150	4/16/2026	163	162	154	212	Above Measurable Objective	No
118	Western	50	4/16/2026	72	69	42	500	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
571	Western	95	4/16/2026	142	140	118	280	Above Measurable Objective	No
573	Western	65	4/17/2026	93	88	42	404	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
830	Far-West Northwestern	-	-	63	63	60	77	No available data this period (above MO in July 2024)	No
832	Far-West Northwestern	33	4/16/2026	50	49	35	132	Above Measurable Objective	No
833	Far-West Northwestern	18	4/16/2026	48	44	10	504	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No
836	Far-West Northwestern	28	4/16/2026	49	45	10	325	More than 10% above Minimum Threshold	No

Note: Wells only count towards the identification of undesirable results if the level measurement is below the minimum threshold for 24 consecutive months.

Figure 1: Groundwater Level Representative Wells and Status in January 2026



4. HYDROGRAPHS

The following hydrographs provide an overview of conditions in each of the six areas threshold regions identified in the GSP.

Figure 2: Southeast Region – Well 89

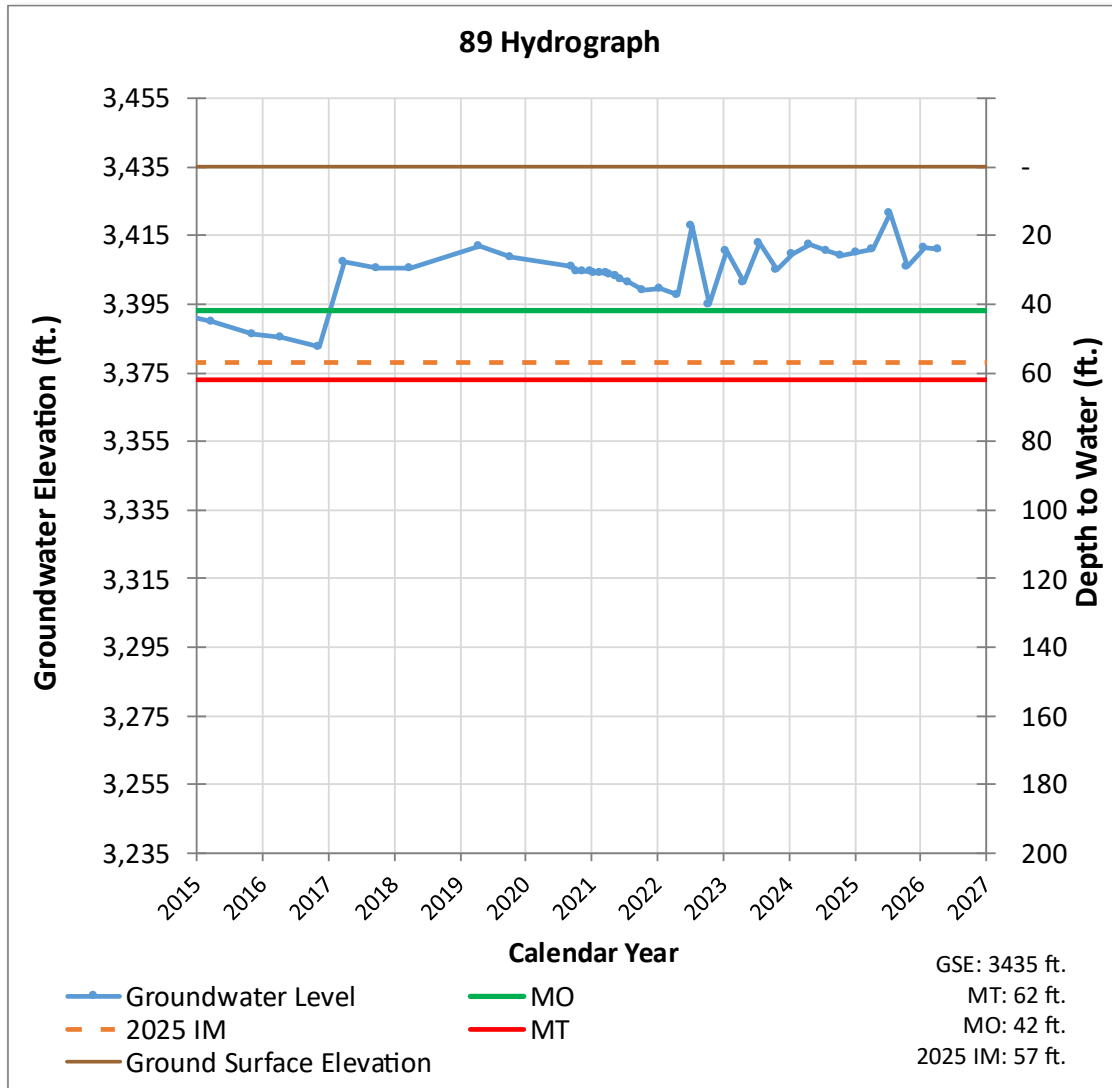


Figure 3: Eastern Region – Well 62

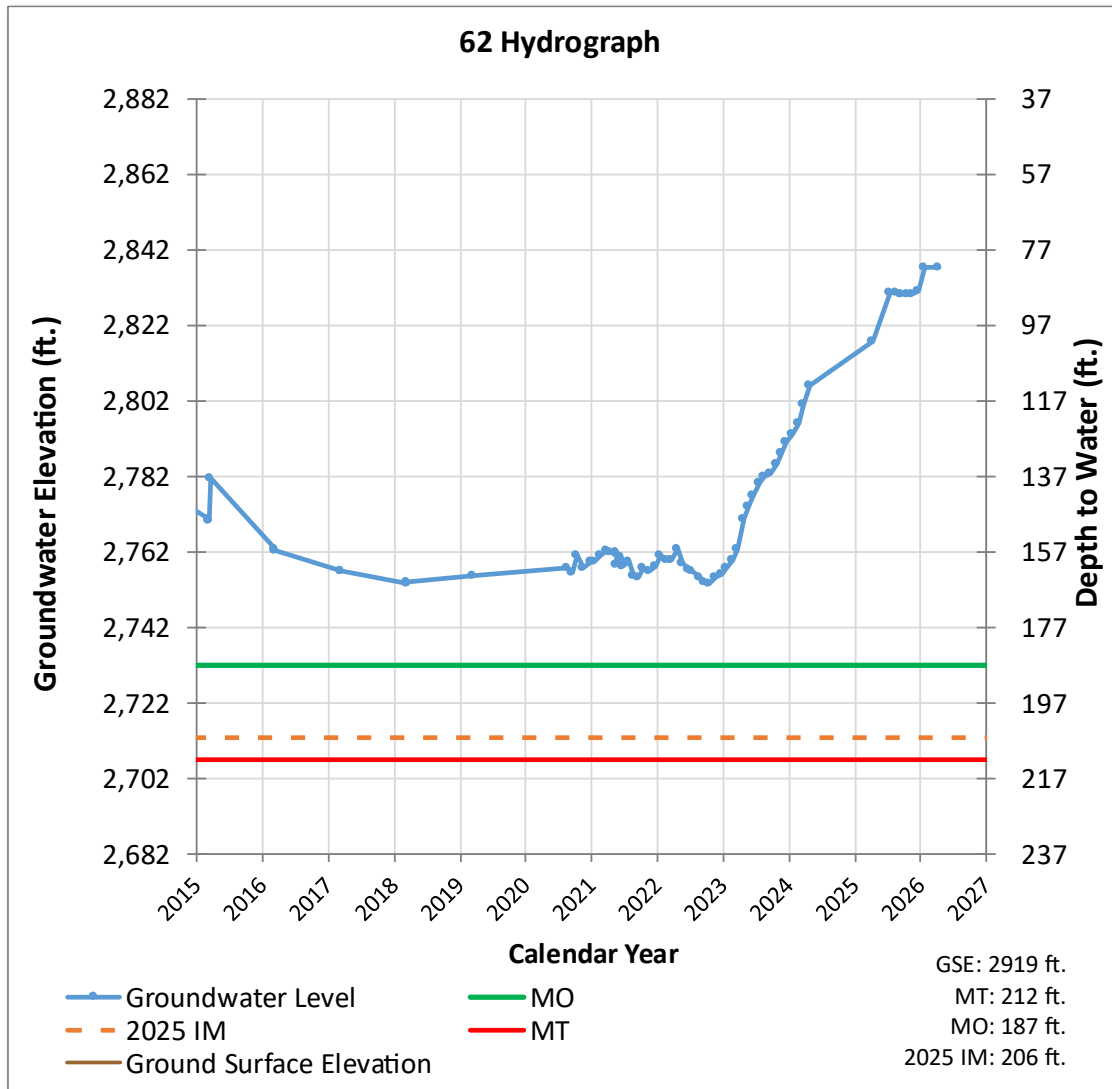


Figure 4: Central Region – Well 91

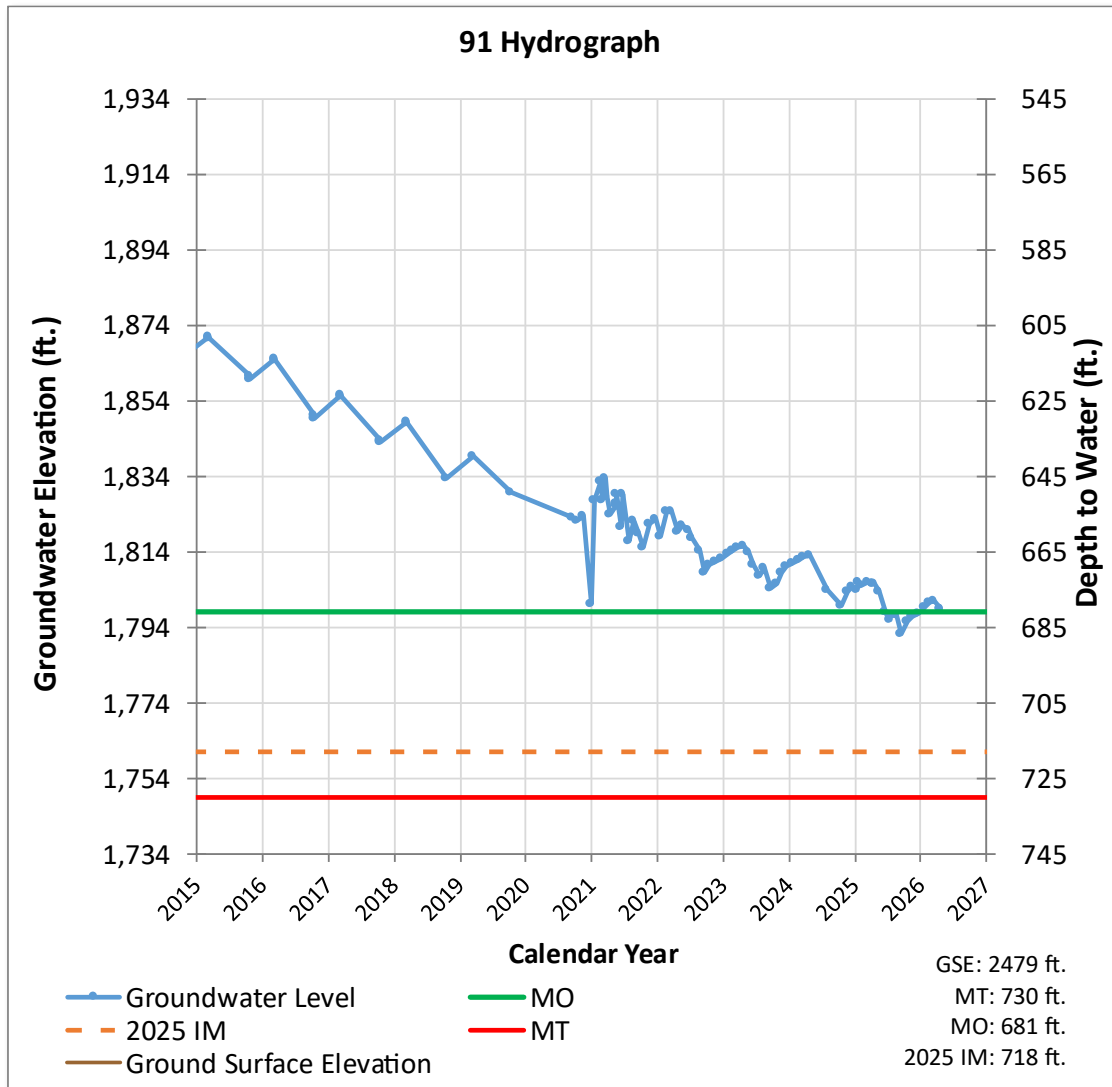


Figure 5: Central Region – Well 74

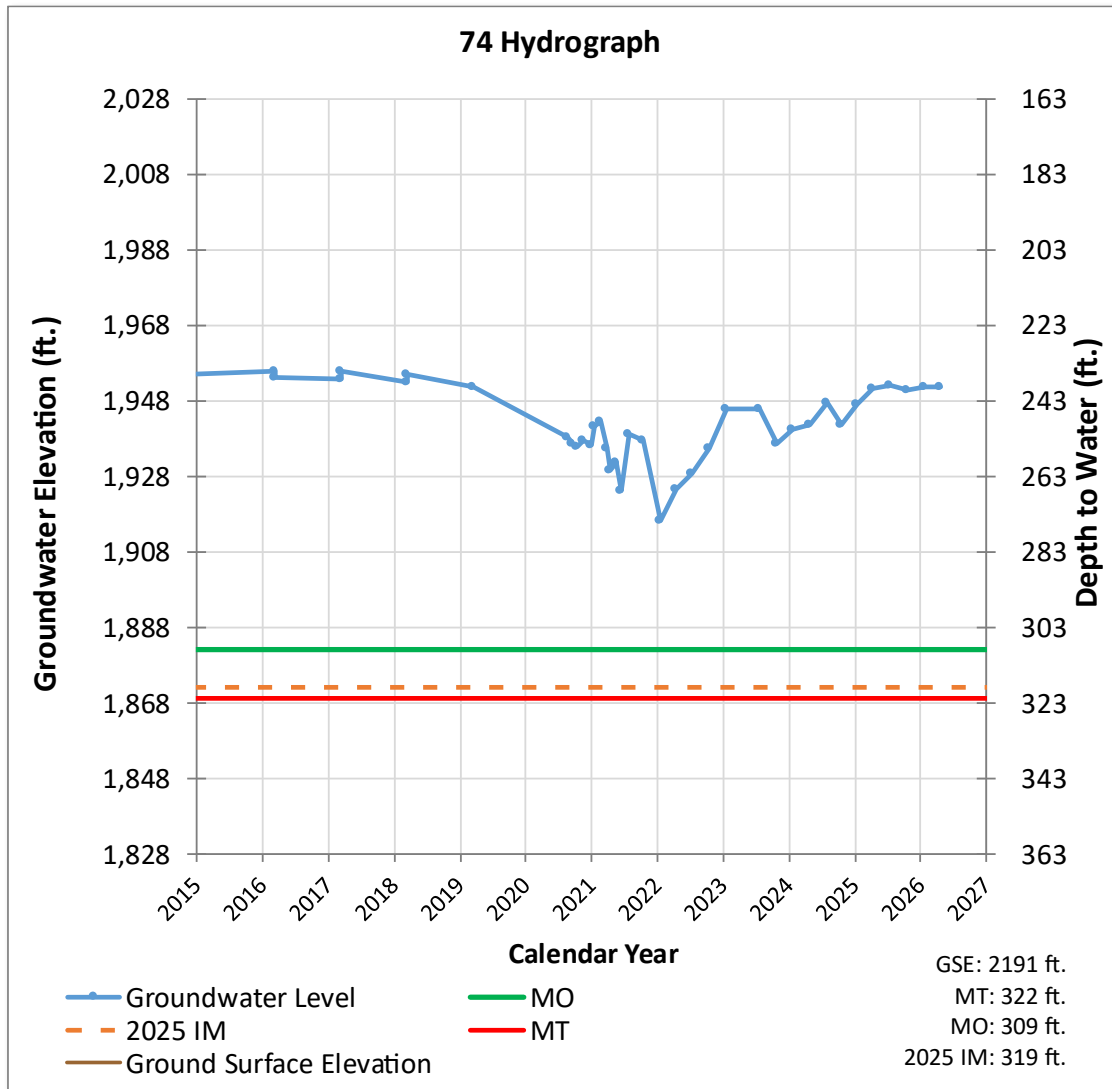


Figure 6: Western Region – Well 571

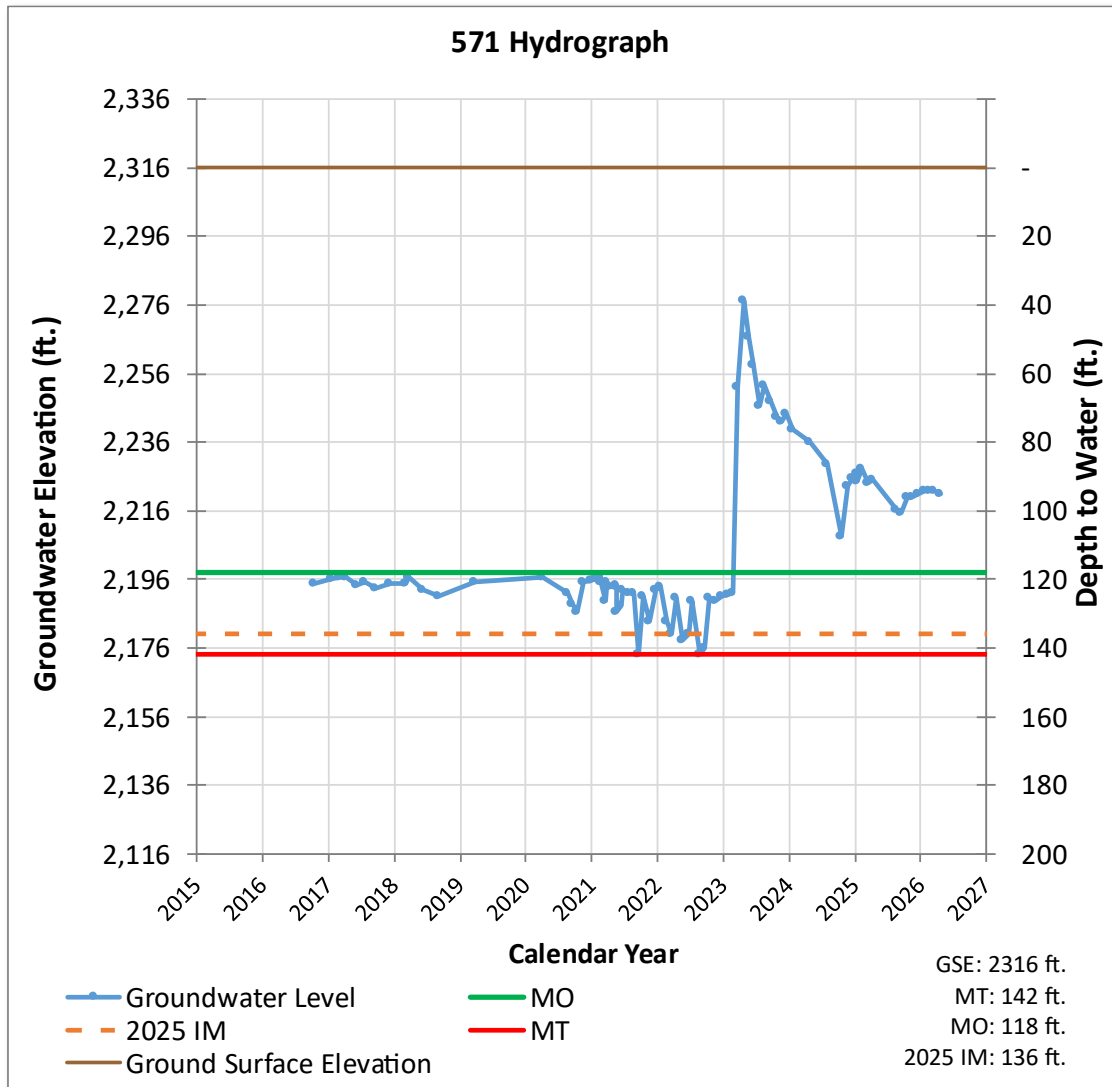
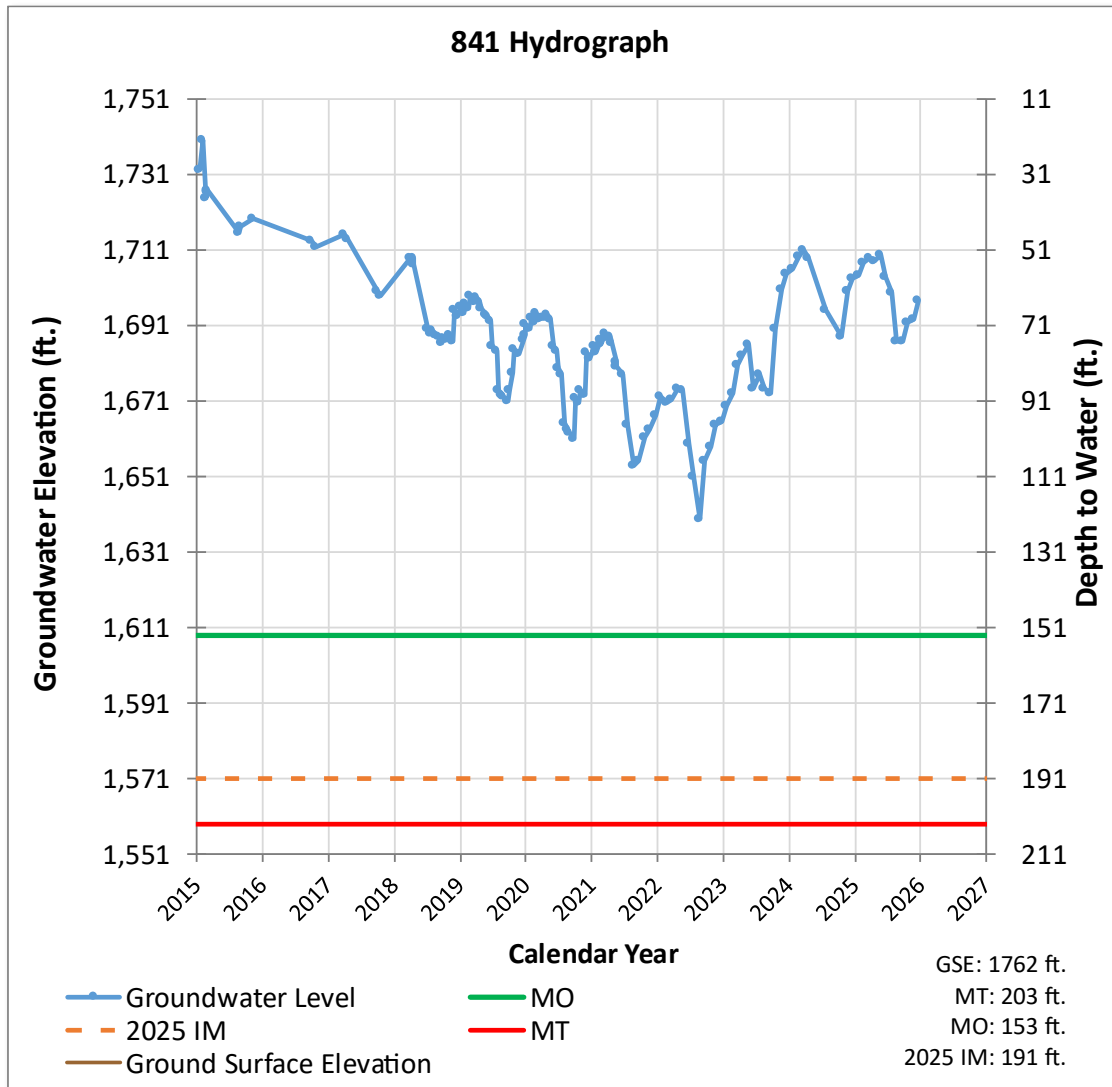


Figure 7: Northwestern Region – Well 841



5. MONITORING NETWORK UPDATES

As shown in Table 2, there are three wells with no measurement during the current monitoring period. These “no measurement codes” can have different causes as described below.

- Landowner changed and an access agreement has not been established with the current landowner:
 - Well 830, 841, & 845 [Note: Wells 841 and 845 have transducers installed so it expected that the data will be recoverable once and if monitoring agreements are established].



**Woodard
& Curran**

woodardcurran.com

From: Alisha Taff <alisha@justjubes.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 6, 2026 6:11 PM
To: Grace Bianchi; Taylor Blakslee
Subject: Request for CBGSA Board of Directors

Formal Request for Waiver of Late Fees and Request Permission remit water fees in Monthly Installments

To the Board of Directors:

My name is **Alisha Taff**, and I am one of the lessees at the property located at **2225 Foothill Road, New Cuyama**, where I cultivate organic jujube fruit. I respectfully request a waiver of the late fees and penalties that have accrued on the water account associated with this property and permission to remit the outstanding principal balance in monthly installments.

During my tenancy I did not receive timely notices or communications from the landowner, **Frank Suarez**, regarding water basin charges, reporting requirements, or the need for a flow meter. Mr. Suarez had entered into a partnership with a cannabis grower who leased the largest portion of the property to obtain cannabis permits and prepare the property for re-sale. I was not included in discussions concerning changes to water reporting requirements or fee responsibilities, and therefore had no notice of the new obligations.

The first notification I received was an email from the landowner in **January 2025**, which included reporting paperwork and a request that I pay the associated water fees and penalties. Upon receipt, I immediately contacted **Taylor Blakeslee** to begin addressing the matter and consulted extensively with **Amy Steinfeld**, counsel for the cannabis grower, to clarify the grower's status and relationship to the property. The cannabis grower subsequently withdrew from the partnership and ceased leasing the property.

Throughout 2025 I acted in good faith to comply with reporting requirements. At Ms. Steinfeld's recommendation, I purchased and installed a flow meter and maintained regular communication with Mr. Blakeslee and his office to develop accurate evapotranspiration (ET) figures for the cultivation of mature jujube trees. Because the process required sufficient data collection and iterative feedback, it took a substantial period to finalize the appropriate usage figures. During this time I repeatedly attempted to contact the property owner regarding the water requirements and any resulting fees; those attempts were unsuccessful. My lease explicitly states that I am not responsible for additional taxes or fees beyond those specified, which further supports my position that the late charges arose from circumstances outside my control.

Given that the delay in payment resulted from the landowner's failure to provide essential information in a timely manner and from circumstances beyond my control, I respectfully request that the Board waive the late fees and penalties assessed to the account. I further request permission to remit the outstanding principal balance in monthly installments.

I appreciate your consideration of this request

Alisha Taff
Rock Front Ranch Products LLC
805-303-1583

Just Jubes