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

November 4, 2026

Agenda for a meeting of the Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors to be held on Wednesday, November 4, 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	10500 NE 8th St, Suite 1550 Bellevue, WA 98004	15701 Hwy 178 Bakersfield, CA 93306	676 Orlando Dr Cambria, CA 93428

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 September 2, 2026, Meeting Minutes
   b. Approve Payment of Bills for August and September 2026
   c. Approve Financial Reports for August and September 2026
   d. Adopt 2027 Meeting Calendar

7. **ACTION ITEMS**
   All action items require a simple majority vote by default (50% + 1 of the weighted 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. Update on Increased Water Use Assessment for Areas Outside the Central Management Area (Blakslee / Van Lienden) (30 min)

   b. Adopt the Amended Allocation Exchange Policy (Blakslee/Bianchi) (15 min)

   c. Direction on Penalty Fee Structure (Blakslee/Bianchi) (20 min)

   d. Direction on Variance Pool Concept (Blakslee) (20 min)

   e. Update on Groundwater Quality Data Collection Approach (Blakslee/Bianchi) (10 min)

   f. Update on Adaptive Management (Blakslee/Bianchi) (15 min)

   g. Update on Priority Projects for Grant Opportunities (Blakslee/Van Lienden) (30 min)

8. **ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES**

   a. Executive Director Report (Blakslee) (5 min)

   b. General Counsel Report (Collins) (5 min)

9. **TECHNICAL UPDATES**

   a. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities (Van Lienden) (5 min)

10. **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)

11. Report of Ad Hoc Committees (1 min)

12. Directors' Forum (1 min)

13. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda (5 min)

14. Correspondence (1 min)

15. Adjourn (4:15 p.m.)

2026 Ad Hoc Committees

1	**Finance**	Ellsworth Grant Young
2	**GSP Periodic Eval Review**	Anselm Bantilan Jackson Williams Yurosek
3	**Legal RFQ Review**	Reely Richardson Zenger
4	**Increased Water Use Analysis**	Anselm Reely Yurosek
5	**Allocation Exchange Pilot Improvements**	Young Yurosek Stakeholder Tristan Zannon
6	**Carryover Policy**	Anselm Grant Jackson

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Board of Directors Meeting

September 2, 2026

Draft Meeting Minutes

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

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.

4. **Meeting Protocols**
   Ms. Bianchi provided an overview of the meeting protocols.

5. **Standing Advisory Committee Meeting Report**
   Standing Advisory Committee Report Meeting Date: August 27th, 2026

DRAFT

The Standing Advisory Committee met at the Family Resource Center in a hybrid format, with four Committee Members present in-person and three on the conference line. GSA Staff Taylor Blakeslee was present, and Project Coordinator Grace Bianchi was joined by Brian Van Lienden and Nathan Metcalf on the call. Four stakeholders were in the room with more than a dozen stakeholders who were online for the video conference. The meeting lasted a little over 3 hours.

Legal counsel Nathan Metcalf gave a brief update on the following developments in the Adjudication:

- *A list was posted with names and parcels who failed to file an Answer to the suit and subsequently had their groundwater rights zeroed out.*
- *A trial date has been set for next May 2027*
- *Mediation is underway with a status hearing in September*
- *All parties to the suit are required to have an account on CaseAnywhere for service*
- *A Minor Extractor Order was signed for anyone who pumps 5 afy or less, they must file an opt-in form by September 26, 2026, and must get a flow meter if pumping 2 afy or more.*

As a point of public comment Joe Hasseltt asked whose responsibility is it that the form 700 conflict of interest forms are complete and comprehensive for the sake of transparency and identifying any conflict of interest among the GSA Board members. Taylor confirmed that Hallmark was responsible for the filing but takes no responsibility for the content.

Small Farmer Dave Lewis took this opportunity to protest the allocation policy. He maintains that it is flawed and has been from the beginning. No exception to the historical use determination is inequitable for smaller and newcomer farms and is the source of the problem that will crush farms like his.

Chair Kelly had agendized an update and discussion of the recent 65 page report titled Managing Groundwater with Small Farms in Mind: Risks, Barriers, and Opportunities of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

The report was developed in partnership by the University of California Small Farms Network and Community Alliance with Family Farmers and is based on three years of statewide outreach, surveys, focus groups, and document review with small-scale farmers across California's priority groundwater basins including the Cuyama basin. This report argues that the widespread loss of small farms should be understood as an emerging "seventh undesirable result of SGMA" — one that arises not only from overdraft itself, but from how groundwater management is designed and Implemented.

Chair Kelly recognised the relevant considerations and recommendations in the sections addressing; GSA Board Composition on page 32, Financing GSA Activities on page 35, Groundwater Markets on page 37, Allocation Methodology on page 50, and Adjudications on page 54. Chair Kelly encouraged the reading of the report and has included a summary of highlights and takeaways from the report in the correspondences section of this GSA Packet.

7,a,i. Update on Assessment of Increased Water Use for Areas Outside the Central Management Area

The committee agreed with staff recommendation to proceed with modeling the increased pumping in the two areas of concern

7,a,ii Direction on Improvements to the Allocation Exchange Program

After the staff's presentation we took comments on each of the seven points of the ad hoc recommendation.

#1. Establishing a list of Sellers:

- *The SAC generally supported a staff-maintained seller list.*
- *Committee Member Jaffe recommended that anyone participating as a seller be required to be on the list, rather than opting in, for transparency.*
- *Committee Member DeBranch emphasized that participation in the program is voluntary. He mentioned he is aware of a couple of Districts that have a live online bulletin board that reflects all transactions in real time.*
- *Stakeholder Gliessman expressed a need for regulating where exchanged allocations are moving the pumping from and to within the Basin, to avoid possibly increasing pumping in sensitive areas.*

#2. Allocation Exchange Deadline:

- *The SAC generally supported the ad hoc recommendation allowing trades of a landowner's unused prior-year allocation through mid-February of the following year, before staff reports annual water use to the Board in March.*
- *Chair Kelly appreciated this as an abbreviated carryover policy. Allowing exchanges after the calendar year when unused allocations, and extra water needs are known, before final reporting for the previous year.*

#3. Farming Units Sign off:

- *Committee Member Jaffe expressed concern that requiring all farming units to sign off on exchange could limit some farming units from participating in the exchange. This would create 2 systems one for farming units and one for the exchange. Noted examples seen in other basins (e.g., Fox Canyon).*
- *Chair Kelly agreed, based on Derek Yurosek's previous comments, this requirement is likely to be prohibitive for Bolthouse, at least, to participate until property rights are resolved through the ongoing adjudication, necessitating a viable solution until then. He expressed concern for this particular issue as it was considered the downfall of the Fox Canyon Policy, as quoted below.*

#4. Stakeholder Representation in Exchange Policy Development:

- *Stakeholder Dave Lewis asked how the ad hoc committee was formed and who selects the stakeholder participant? Mr. Blakslee responded that the Board Chair appoints ad hoc committees, including the stakeholder, and that ad hoc recommendations are not final decisions but are brought to the SAC and Board for further input.*

#5. Variance Pool

- *Committee Member Jaffe claimed that this was the heart of the matter. She stated that a variance pool is essential to keep small pumpers viable, citing prior analysis showing landowners pumping less than 100 acre-feet have minimal impact on groundwater levels. Without access to a variance pool, or reconsideration of the allocation methodology, these small farms will go out of business and be lost from our community.*
- *Committee Member Haslett agreed and recommended the Board establish a fixed variance pool volume. He felt that an adequate volume of a viable pool would be less than the amount of water wasted running off the over-irrigated fields seen every day in the CMA.*

- *Chair Kelly was encouraged by the recognition by the Judge that 2-3% of the Sustainable Yield can be considered an immaterial amount of water with regard to the rights of larger pumpers in the Basin.*

#6. Small Farmers and Ranchers Network Letter:

- *Mr. Blakslee stated that the ad hoc felt the concerns raised in the letter were already addressed through the other policy points discussed.*
- *Committee Member Jaffe agreed that the key components of the letter were reflected in the recommendations presented. Appreciation was given for the time and effort put into considering some of the components of the SFAR letter.*

#7. Additional Program Improvements (Penalty Fee Tiers):

- *In favor of considering penalty fee tiers: Jaffe, Kelly, Caufield, Kelly, Haslett, Lewis*
- *Don't reconsider: DeBranch, Gaillard*
- *Committee Member Caufield suggested a hybrid that had both % and volume tiers to accommodate smaller pumpers and flow meter accuracy.*

Chair Kelly read the following water market quotes from the CAFF report called: Managing Groundwater with Small Farms in Mind:

Of particular concern is the capacity of large-scale operations farming across multiple, noncontiguous parcels to aggregate their allocations, and report all pumping together instead of specifically where groundwater extraction occurred. Small farmers may not wield sufficient market power, allowing more powerful entities to dominate the trading program and control how allocations are used.

Preventing negative impacts requires both structural protections — such as inclusive governance, annual evaluations of the market, and transparent decision making — alongside practical investments in accurate accounting systems, reliable data, and long-term funding for enforcement.

The Fox Canyon example demonstrates that even with significant financial and institutional support, groundwater markets face persistent challenges around accurate accounting, preventing market power abuse, ensuring transparency, and avoiding unintended increases in pumping.

GSAs must design markets that do not worsen inequities or push small-scale farmers out of business. They should ensure that large-scale pumpers are not able to combine allocations across noncontiguous parcels. Establish non tradable allocations for small-scale farmers. Cap trade volumes per entity and require blind trades through third party administrators to prevent market power concentration, as proposed by the California Water Commission.

7,a,iii. Direction on Implementing a Carryover Policy for Areas Subject to Allocations

Committee Member Gaillard noted that under a sustainable-yield-only carryover approach, illustrated in the packet, very little water would be available to carry over, and questioned the need for further work on the policy.

Committee Member Jaffe commented that too much remains uncertain due to the pending adjudication to implement carryover at this time, and that the six-week allocation exchange window functions as an incentive for the sale of unused allocations in the interim.

The SAC agreed with the ad hoc recommendation not to implement a carryover policy for 2027.

7.a.iv. Direction on Adaptive Management

Committee Member Jaffe asked what could/would be done about the exceedance in the CMA wells? Staff suggested that the investigation will determine if any beneficial users are negatively
impacted, and if not, then no action may be needed, and that soon the allocations should stop the declining groundwater elevation trends.
The Committee was generally in support of staff proceeding to investigate the wells in exceedance of their minimum thresholds.

9.b. July 2026 Groundwater Conditions Report

The committee was concerned about the multi-completion wells 77, 420, and 421 that were below their minimum thresholds and the trend was showing it will continue to decline. Well 107 and Well 573 have unusual groundwater elevation declines without any apparent land use changes. These need to be ground truthed.
Stakeholder Jane Wooster noted that the decline at Well 573 warranted further investigation, because the property's water use had not changed. She claims that this well has been steady at 70 feet deep for over 75 years and is for cattle water only.

CONSENT AGENDA

6. 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. 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

7. ACTION ITEMS

a. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

i. Update on Assessment of Increased Water Use for Areas Outside the Central Management Area

Mr. Blakslee provided a brief background on the assessment of increased water use outside the Central Management Area (CMA) and provided an update on coordination with the two landowners in areas identified in the analysis. He reported that staff will run a model scenario to determine impacts of increased used on groundwater levels.

Mr. Van Lienden reviewed the proposed modeling approach for the two areas identified (Anderson Development and JR Investments).

Chair Jackson asked how Anderson Development would be managed if modeling

indicates a groundwater decline exceeding two feet per year. Mr. Blakslee and Mr. Van Lienden said the model results would inform options for the Board's later policy decision.

Director Young asked whether JR Investments is still pumping at its reported rate in 2026 and requested follow-up on monthly use. Mr. Blakslee agreed to contact the landowner and explained that the model will first assess the effects of the previously reported peak pumping.

SAC Chair Brenton Kelly provided the SAC feedback on this item.

There were no public comments on this item.

ii. Direction on Improvements to the Allocation Exchange Program

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the existing allocation exchange policy and background on potential improvements to the program. He reported that an ad hoc (Directors Young, Yurosek, and Stakeholder Tristan Zannon) met to review stakeholder feedback and reviewed ad hoc recommendations.

Stakeholder Tristan Zannon questioned the requirement that every participant in a farming unit sign an exchange, given that allocations are already tracked by participant. He said the requirement hinders sales by farming units.

Director Young suggested using a fixed volume of excess pumping, rather than a percentage of each landowner's allocation, to determine the penalty tier.

SAC Chair Brenton Kelly provide the SAC feedback on this agenda item.

Director Grant asked about the staff time required to manage the contact list. Mr. Blakslee responded that it will be minimal staff time since there are few landowners.

Stakeholder Jane Wooster questioned whether unresolved water rights concerns discourage landowners from selling unused allocations.

Stakeholder Joe Haslett asked about penalties for overpumping multiple years in a row. Mr. Blakslee responded that if a landowner opts in to pay overpumping penalties instead of participating in allocation exchange, the over pumped amount is subtracted from the following year's allocations.

MOTION

Director Zenger moved to direct staff to develop an opt-in seller list, revise the allocation exceedance policy deadline, and agendize future board item to review the penalty fee structure. The motion was seconded by Director Bantilan. 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

iii. Direction on Implementing a Carryover Policy for Areas Subject to Allocations

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of carryover policy and reviewed policies in other basins. He reported that the ad hoc committee recommended considering carryover after adjudication is implemented.

SAC Chair Kelly provided the SAC report for this item.

Director Young asked whether adjudication judgments typically address carryover. Director Anselm described a rolling average used elsewhere, Director Yurosek discussed the Antelope Valley approach, and Legal Counsel Metcalf said carryover provisions are common in adjudications.

Chair Jackson said two other basin policies he helped develop allowed the sustainable yield portion to be carried over for a limited period.

Stakeholder Tristan Zannon said a carryover policy is important to permanent crops because growers need flexibility across years.

MOTION

Director Bantilan moved the ad hoc recommendation to consider carryover once adjudication is implemented. 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

iv. Direction on Adaptive Management

Mr. Blakslee reviewed the adaptive management procedures and reported that three completions at one monitoring site and another well were below minimum thresholds, while one well was within the adaptive management zone. Staff requested direction to investigate conditions and contact landowners under the adopted procedures.

Stakeholder Jane Wooster noted that well 573 has no change in use, however, the measurement was taken in the afternoon as opposed to early in the morning as past measurements.

Director Ellsworth asked whether field crews record measurement conditions and follow repeat measurement protocols. Mr. Blakslee said staff would confirm the procedures with the field crew.

REPORT ITEMS

8. Administrative Updates

a. Report of the Executive Director

Nothing to report.

b. Report of the General Counsel

Legal Counsel Collins corrected her earlier explanation of the consent agenda resolution: the closed session disclosure provision applies to elected members communicating with their elected member agency boards, rather than all appointed representatives. She said the provision concerns member agency liability and related legal advice; Directors indicated the clarification did not change their votes.

9. Technical Updates

a. Update on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Activities

Mr. Van Lienden briefly reported on July and August activities, which are included in the board packet.

b. July 2026 Groundwater Conditions Report

Mr. Van Lienden provided an overview of the July 2026 Groundwater Conditions.

Stakeholder Kathleen March asked about groundwater level declines near North Fork Vineyards and whether staff would take action. Mr. Van Lienden said current levels remain above the applicable minimum thresholds.

CLOSED SESSION

10. 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)

The board went into closed session at 3:40 p.m. and returned at 3:47 p.m. Legal Counsel Collins reported that no action required disclosure under the Brown Act.

11. Report of Ad Hoc Committees

Nothing to report.

12. Directors' Forum

Nothing to report.

13. Public comment for Items Not on the Agenda

14. Correspondence

15. Adjourn

Chair Jackson adjourned the meeting at 3:49 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: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve Payment of Bills for August and September 2026

Recommended Motion

Approve payment of the bills for August and September 2026 in the amount of $208,875.

Discussion

Consultant invoices for the months of August and September 2026 are summarized below for consideration of Board approval.

Expense	August	September	Totals
Woodard & Curran – Technical Services	$57,199	$34,070	$ 91,269
Hanson Bridgett – Legal Services	$27,138	$21,621	$48,758
Hallmark Group – Executive Director Services	$20,752	$22,550	$ 43,302
Provost & Pritchard – Quarterly groundwater levels	$1,528	$10,868	$ 12,396
U.S. Geological Survey – Stream gauges	$0	$13,150	$ 13,150
TOTALS	$106,617	$102,259	$208,875

TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 6c

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve Financial Reports for August and September 2026

Recommended Motion
Approve financial reports for August and September 2026

Discussion
The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency's financial report for August 2026 is provided as **Attachment 1** and the financial report for September 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 2026/2027 Operating Budget

Cuyama Basin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Financial Statements
August 2026

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

	Aug 31, 26	Aug 31, 25	$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
Chase - General Checking	1,238,496	1,589,986	-351,489	-22%
Total Checking/Savings	1,238,496	1,589,986	-351,489	-22%
Accounts Receivable				
Accounts Receivable	31,202	1,047	30,155	2,879%
Total Accounts Receivable	31,202	1,047	30,155	2,879%
Other Current Assets				
Grant Retention Receivable	0	687,664	-687,664	-100%
Total Other Current Assets	0	687,664	-687,664	-100%
Total Current Assets	1,269,698	2,278,697	-1,008,999	-44%
TOTAL ASSETS	**1,269,698**	**2,278,697**	**-1,008,999**	**-44%**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
Accounts Payable	285,524	255,994	29,530	12%
Total Accounts Payable	285,524	255,994	29,530	12%
Total Current Liabilities	285,524	255,994	29,530	12%
Total Liabilities	285,524	255,994	29,530	12%
Equity				
Unrestricted Net Assets	976,891	2,022,095	-1,045,204	-52%
Net Income	7,283	608	6,675	1,097%
Total Equity	984,175	2,022,703	-1,038,528	-51%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**1,269,698**	**2,278,697**	**-1,008,999**	**-44%**

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
Receipts and Disbursements
As of August 31, 2026

Type	Date	Num	Name	Debit	Credit
Chase - General Checking					
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1258	Hanson Bridgett LLP		69,919.53
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1259	HGCPM, Inc.		36,185.99
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1260	Klein DeNatale Goldner		4,806.80
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1261	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		13,106.63
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1262	Woodard & Curran Inc		67,198.75
Payment	08/03/2026	2321	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Nanette Suarez	3,782.25	
Payment	08/03/2026	3826	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Harrington Farms	1,202.40	
Payment	08/03/2026	573595	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Grimmway Enterprises, Inc	58,644.60	
Payment	08/03/2026	29115	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Yeguada Trujillo	663.24	
Payment	08/06/2026	406	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Lucky Dog Ranch, LLC	2,295.60	
Payment	08/06/2026	65415	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Feinstein Investments	6,479.70	
Payment	08/06/2026	00521	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Anderson Development	1,399.98	
Payment	08/06/2026	2748	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Tri-County Pistachios	5,995.38	
Payment	08/06/2026	44476	Groundwater Extraction Fees:El Rancho Espanol	23.76	
Payment	08/06/2026	0000005108	Groundwater Extraction Fees:CCSH Farms	746.40	
Payment	08/31/2026	564964	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Bolthouse Land Co, LLC	56,721.84	
Payment	08/31/2026	564964	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Belden Family Trust	2,464.44	
Payment	08/31/2026	564964	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Lear Real Estate Ent LLC	2,577.90	
Payment	08/31/2026	1033	Groundwater Extraction Fees:M&A Family Farms	191.22	
Payment	08/31/2026	1079	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Double H Farming, LLC	712.20	
Payment	08/31/2026	4762	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Sunrise Olive Ranch, LLC	12,360.18	
Payment	08/31/2026	183330	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Kern Ridge Growers, LLC	17,743.74	
Payment	08/31/2026	13166	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Cuyama Community Srvcs Dist	1,053.24	
Payment	08/31/2026	54278	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Hoekstra Family Trust	1,803.54	
Payment	08/31/2026	931639091	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Buck, Ann	697.20	
Payment	08/31/2026	517064	Groundwater Extraction Fees:E & B Natural Resources Mgmt Corp	155.94	
Total Chase - General Checking				177,714.75	191,217.70
TOTAL				**177,714.75**	**191,217.70**

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

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
Groundwater Extraction Fees						
Rancho Cuyama No. 2, LLC	0	0	5,531	0	0	5,531
Duncan Family Farms	0	0	27	0	0	27
Bosma and Ricci	0	0	159	0	0	159
Apache Canyon Ranch, Inc	0	0	2,081	0	0	2,081
Cheng, Ceferino	0	0	847	0	0	847
Cuyama Orchards, Inc	0	0	5,839	0	0	5,839
JHP Global, Inc	0	0	2,226	0	0	2,226
Karam Pistachio Farm	0	0	3,547	0	0	3,547
Lewis, David	0	0	215	0	0	215
Highlands Vineyards SB LLC	0	0	4,375	0	0	4,375
Sunridge Nurseries, Inc	0	0	2,728	0	0	2,728
The Ranch	0	0	111	0	0	111
Triangle E. Farms	0	0	3,517	0	0	3,517
Total Groundwater Extraction Fees	0	0	31,202	0	0	31,202
TOTAL	**0**	**0**	**31,202**	**0**	**0**	**31,202**

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

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
Hanson Bridgett LLP	27,138	0	15,773	21,344	0	64,255
HGCPM, Inc.	20,752	0	18,584	19,681	0	59,017
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group	1,528	0	10,260	1,231	910	13,929
U.S. Geological Survey	0	0	0	13,150	0	13,150
Woodard & Curran Inc	57,199	0	46,618	31,356	0	135,173
TOTAL	**106,616**	**0**	**91,235**	**86,763**	**910**	**285,524**

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

	Jul - Aug 26	Budget	$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Direct Public Funds				
Groundwater Extraction Fees	205,134	205,000	134	100%
Total Direct Public Funds	205,134	205,000	134	100%
Total Income	205,134	205,000	134	100%
Cost of Goods Sold				
Program Expenses				
Technical Consulting				
Pumping & Water Use Analysis	3,630	5,150	-1,520	70%
Adjudication Support	0	7,500	-7,500	0%
GSP Implementation - W&C	28,183	40,190	-12,008	70%
Basin Model Refinement	48,231	30,000	18,231	161%
Stakeholder Engagement	12,903	16,940	-4,037	76%
Improve Basin Water Use Info	10,870	10,424	446	104%
Other Technical Tasks	0	9,840	-9,840	0%
Total Technical Consulting	103,817	120,044	-16,228	86%
Other Technical Consulting				
Monitoring Network	11,788	13,340	-1,552	88%
CIMIS Station	0	2,340	-2,340	0%
Total Other Technical Consulting	11,788	15,680	-3,892	75%
Total Program Expenses	115,604	135,724	-20,120	85%
Total COGS	115,604	135,724	-20,120	85%
Gross Profit	89,530	69,276	20,254	129%
Expense				
General and Administrative				
Executive Director				
Board Meetings	19,471	18,620	851	105%
Consult Mgmt and GSP Devel	13,269	9,160	4,109	145%
Financial Information Coor	2,928	6,680	-3,753	44%
Support for DWR/Public Comments	0	1,150	-1,150	0%
Funding - GWE Fees	3,160	3,920	-760	81%
Outreach	278	2,750	-2,473	10%
Adjudication Support	0	2,520	-2,520	0%
Travel and Direct Costs	231	0	231	100%
Total Executive Director	39,336	44,800	-5,464	88%
Other Administrative				
Legal				
General Counsel	22,726	24,220	-1,495	94%
Adjudication Matters	20,185	30,690	-10,505	66%
Adjudication Contingency	0	16,670	-16,670	0%
Total Legal	42,911	71,580	-28,670	60%
Printing and Copying	0	1,000	-1,000	0%
Other Admin Expense	0	651	-651	0%
Contingency	0	3,340	-3,340	0%
Total Other Administrative	42,911	76,571	-33,661	56%
Total General and Administrative	82,247	121,371	-39,124	68%
Total Expense	82,247	121,371	-39,124	68%
Net Ordinary Income	7,283	-52,095	59,378	-14%
Net Income	**7,283**	**-52,095**	**59,378**	**-14%**

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
FY 26/27 Budget
July 2026 - June 2027

	Jul '26 - Jun 27
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Direct Public Funds	
Groundwater Extraction Fees	205,000
Total Direct Public Funds	205,000
Total Income	205,000
Cost of Goods Sold	
Program Expenses	
Technical Consulting	
Pumping & Water Use Analysis	30,850
Adjudication Support	45,000
GSP Implementation - W&C	241,150
Basin Model Refinement	63,360
Stakeholder Engagement	101,659
Improve Basin Water Use Info	62,535
Other Technical Tasks	59,070
Total Technical Consulting	603,624
Other Technical Consulting	
Monitoring Network	80,000
Stream Gauge Maintenance (USGS)	53,200
CIMIS Station	14,000
Total Other Technical Consulting	147,200
Total Program Expenses	750,824
Total COGS	750,824
Gross Profit	-545,824
Expense	
General and Administrative	
Executive Director	
Board Meetings	111,700
Consult Mgmt and GSP Devel	55,000
Financial Information Coor	40,000
Support for DWR/Public Comments	6,875
Funding - GWE Fees	23,500
Outreach	16,500
Adjudication Support	15,100
Total Executive Director	268,675
Other Administrative	
Legal	
General Counsel	145,310
Adjudication Matters	184,140
Adjudication Contingency	100,000
Total Legal	429,450
Insurance Policies	23,600
Audit Fees	12,000
Printing and Copying	6,000
Other Admin Expense	4,151
Contingency	20,000
Total Other Administrative	495,201
Total General and Administrative	763,876
Total Expense	763,876
Net Ordinary Income	-1,309,700
Net Income	**-1,309,700**

Cuyama Basin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Financial Statements
September 2026

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

	Sep 30, 26	Sep 30, 25	$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Checking/Savings				
Chase - General Checking	1,068,006	1,418,802	-350,796	-25%
Total Checking/Savings	1,068,006	1,418,802	-350,796	-25%
Accounts Receivable				
Accounts Receivable	25,905	800	25,105	3,139%
Total Accounts Receivable	25,905	800	25,105	3,139%
Other Current Assets				
Grant Retention Receivable	0	712,313	-712,313	-100%
Total Other Current Assets	0	712,313	-712,313	-100%
Total Current Assets	1,093,911	2,131,915	-1,038,004	-49%
TOTAL ASSETS	**1,093,911**	**2,131,915**	**-1,038,004**	**-49%**
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Liabilities				
Current Liabilities				
Accounts Payable				
Accounts Payable	208,875	207,672	1,203	1%
Total Accounts Payable	208,875	207,672	1,203	1%
Total Current Liabilities	208,875	207,672	1,203	1%
Total Liabilities	208,875	207,672	1,203	1%
Equity				
Unrestricted Net Assets	976,891	2,022,095	-1,045,204	-52%
Net Income	-91,856	-97,852	5,996	6%
Total Equity	885,035	1,924,242	-1,039,207	-54%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	**1,093,911**	**2,131,915**	**-1,038,004**	**-49%**

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
Receipts and Disbursements
As of September 30, 2026

Type	Date	Num	Name	Debit	Credit
Chase - General Checking					
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1258	Hanson Bridgett LLP		69,919.53
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1259	HGCPM, Inc.		36,185.99
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1260	Klein DeNatale Goldner		4,806.80
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1261	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		13,106.63
Bill Pmt -Check	07/02/2026	1262	Woodard & Curran Inc		67,198.75
Payment	08/03/2026	2321	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Nanette Suarez	3,782.25	
Payment	08/03/2026	3826	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Harrington Farms	1,202.40	
Payment	08/03/2026	573595	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Grimmway Enterprises, Inc	58,644.60	
Payment	08/03/2026	29115	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Yeguada Trujillo	663.24	
Payment	08/06/2026	406	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Lucky Dog Ranch, LLC	2,295.60	
Payment	08/06/2026	65415	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Feinstein Investments	6,479.70	
Payment	08/06/2026	00521	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Anderson Development	1,399.98	
Payment	08/06/2026	2748	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Tri-County Pistachios	5,995.38	
Payment	08/06/2026	44476	Groundwater Extraction Fees:El Rancho Espanol	23.76	
Payment	08/06/2026	0000005108	Groundwater Extraction Fees:CCSH Farms	746.40	
Payment	08/31/2026	564964	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Bolthouse Land Co, LLC	56,721.84	
Payment	08/31/2026	564964	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Belden Family Trust	2,464.44	
Payment	08/31/2026	564964	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Lear Real Estate Ent LLC	2,577.90	
Payment	08/31/2026	1033	Groundwater Extraction Fees:M&A Family Farms	191.22	
Payment	08/31/2026	1079	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Double H Farming, LLC	712.20	
Payment	08/31/2026	4762	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Sunrise Olive Ranch, LLC	12,360.18	
Payment	08/31/2026	183330	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Kern Ridge Growers, LLC	17,743.74	
Payment	08/31/2026	13166	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Cuyama Community Srvcs Dist	1,053.24	
Payment	08/31/2026	54278	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Hoekstra Family Trust	1,803.54	
Payment	08/31/2026	931639091	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Buck, Ann	697.20	
Payment	08/31/2026	517064	Groundwater Extraction Fees:E & B Natural Resources Mgmt Corp	155.94	
Bill Pmt -Check	09/02/2026	1263	Hanson Bridgett LLP		37,117.33
Bill Pmt -Check	09/02/2026	1264	HGCPM, Inc.		38,265.12
Bill Pmt -Check	09/02/2026	1265	Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group		12,401.24
Bill Pmt -Check	09/02/2026	1266	U.S. Geological Survey		13,150.00
Bill Pmt -Check	09/02/2026	1267	Woodard & Curran Inc		77,974.00
Payment	09/11/2026	112266	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Sunridge Nurseries, Inc	2,727.72	
Payment	09/11/2026	554	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Bosma and Ricci	159.06	
Payment	09/11/2026	1028	Groundwater Extraction Fees:Rancho Cuyama No. 2, LLC	5,530.68	
Total Chase - General Checking				186,132.21	370,125.39
TOTAL				**186,132.21**	**370,125.39**

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

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
Groundwater Extraction Fees						
Accrued Late Fees	3,120	0	0	0	0	3,120
Duncan Family Farms	0	0	0	27	0	27
Apache Canyon Ranch, Inc	0	0	0	2,081	0	2,081
Cheng, Ceferino	0	0	0	847	0	847
Cuyama Orchards, Inc	0	0	0	5,839	0	5,839
JHP Global, Inc	0	0	0	2,226	0	2,226
Karam Pistachio Farm	0	0	0	3,547	0	3,547
Lewis, David	0	0	0	215	0	215
Highlands Vineyards SB LLC	0	0	0	4,375	0	4,375
The Ranch	0	0	0	111	0	111
Triangle E. Farms	0	0	0	3,517	0	3,517
Total Groundwater Extraction Fees	3,120	0	0	22,784	0	25,905
TOTAL	**3,120**	**0**	**0**	**22,784**	**0**	**25,905**

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

	Current	1 - 30	31 - 60	61 - 90	> 90	TOTAL
Hanson Bridgett LLP	21,621	27,138	0	0	0	48,758
HGCPM, Inc.	22,550	20,752	0	0	0	43,302
Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group	10,868	1,528	0	0	0	12,396
U.S. Geological Survey	13,150	0	0	0	0	13,150
Woodard & Curran Inc	34,070	57,199	0	0	0	91,269
TOTAL	**102,259**	**106,616**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**208,875**

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

	Jul - Sep 26	Budget	$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
Direct Public Funds				
Groundwater Extraction Fees	205,134	205,000	134	100%
GWE Late Fees	3,120	0	3,120	100%
Total Direct Public Funds	208,254	205,000	3,254	102%
Total Income	208,254	205,000	3,254	102%
Cost of Goods Sold				
Program Expenses				
Technical Consulting				
Pumping & Water Use Analysis	16,429	7,720	8,709	213%
Adjudication Support	0	11,250	-11,250	0%
GSP Implementation - W&C	41,299	60,286	-18,987	69%
Basin Model Refinement	50,824	40,000	10,824	127%
Stakeholder Engagement	16,798	25,411	-8,613	66%
Improve Basin Water Use Info	12,538	15,636	-3,099	80%
Other Technical Tasks	0	14,760	-14,760	0%
Total Technical Consulting	137,887	175,063	-37,177	79%
Other Technical Consulting				
Monitoring Network	22,656	20,010	2,646	113%
Stream Gauge Maintenance (USGS)	13,150	13,300	-150	99%
CIMIS Station	0	3,510	-3,510	0%
Total Other Technical Consulting	35,806	36,820	-1,014	97%
Total Program Expenses	173,693	211,883	-38,190	82%
Total COGS	173,693	211,883	-38,190	82%
Gross Profit	34,562	-6,883	41,445	-502%
Expense				
General and Administrative				
Executive Director				
Board Meetings	28,411	27,930	481	102%
Consult Mgmt and GSP Devel	18,499	13,740	4,759	135%
Financial Information Coor	9,209	10,020	-811	92%
Support for DWR/Public Comments	0	1,725	-1,725	0%
Funding - GWE Fees	5,103	5,880	-778	87%
Outreach	370	4,125	-3,755	9%
Adjudication Support	0	3,780	-3,780	0%
Travel and Direct Costs	295	0	295	100%
Total Executive Director	61,886	67,200	-5,314	92%
Other Administrative				
Legal				
General Counsel	28,846	36,330	-7,484	79%
Adjudication Matters	35,685	46,035	-10,350	78%
Adjudication Contingency	0	25,005	-25,005	0%
Total Legal	64,531	107,370	-42,839	60%

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

	Jul - Sep 26	Budget	$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Audit Fees	0	5,000	-5,000	0%
Printing and Copying	0	1,500	-1,500	0%
Other Admin Expense	0	981	-981	0%
Contingency	0	5,010	-5,010	0%
Total Other Administrative	64,531	119,861	-55,330	54%
Total General and Administrative	126,418	187,061	-60,643	68%
Total Expense	126,418	187,061	-60,643	68%
Net Ordinary Income	-91,856	-193,944	102,088	47%
Net Income	**-91,856**	**-193,944**	**102,088**	**47%**

CUYAMA BASIN GSA
FY 26/27 Budget
July 2026 - June 2027

	Jul '26 - Jun 27
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
Direct Public Funds	
Groundwater Extraction Fees	205,000
Total Direct Public Funds	205,000
Total Income	205,000
Cost of Goods Sold	
Program Expenses	
Technical Consulting	
Pumping & Water Use Analysis	30,850
Adjudication Support	45,000
GSP Implementation - W&C	241,150
Basin Model Refinement	63,360
Stakeholder Engagement	101,659
Improve Basin Water Use Info	62,535
Other Technical Tasks	59,070
Total Technical Consulting	603,624
Other Technical Consulting	
Monitoring Network	80,000
Stream Gauge Maintenance (USGS)	53,200
CIMIS Station	14,000
Total Other Technical Consulting	147,200
Total Program Expenses	750,824
Total COGS	750,824
Gross Profit	-545,824
Expense	
General and Administrative	
Executive Director	
Board Meetings	111,700
Consult Mgmt and GSP Devel	55,000
Financial Information Coor	40,000
Support for DWR/Public Comments	6,875
Funding - GWE Fees	23,500
Outreach	16,500
Adjudication Support	15,100
Total Executive Director	268,675
Other Administrative	
Legal	
General Counsel	145,310
Adjudication Matters	184,140
Adjudication Contingency	100,000
Total Legal	429,450
Insurance Policies	23,600
Audit Fees	12,000
Printing and Copying	6,000
Other Admin Expense	4,151
Contingency	20,000
Total Other Administrative	495,201
Total General and Administrative	763,876
Total Expense	763,876
Net Ordinary Income	-1,309,700
Net Income	**-1,309,700**

TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 6d

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Approval of 2027 Meeting Schedule

Recommended Motion

Approve the 2027 Cuyama Basin GSA Board of Directors and Standing Advisory Committee meetings schedule.

Discussion

The proposed Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) Board of Directors and Standing Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting calendar for 2027 is provided as **Attachment 1** for consideration of approval.

Staff are looking for feedback on the July SAC/Board meeting date, which is currently proposed for July 1st and July 7th.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
2027 Meeting Calendar

BOD SAC Holiday

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	**7**	8	9
10	11	12	**13**	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	**25**	26	27
28						

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	**3**	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	**29**	30	

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	**5**	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	**7**	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	**26**	27	28
29	30	31				

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	**28**	29	30
31						

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	**3**	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 7a

FROM: Taylor Blakslee

DATE: November 4, 2026

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

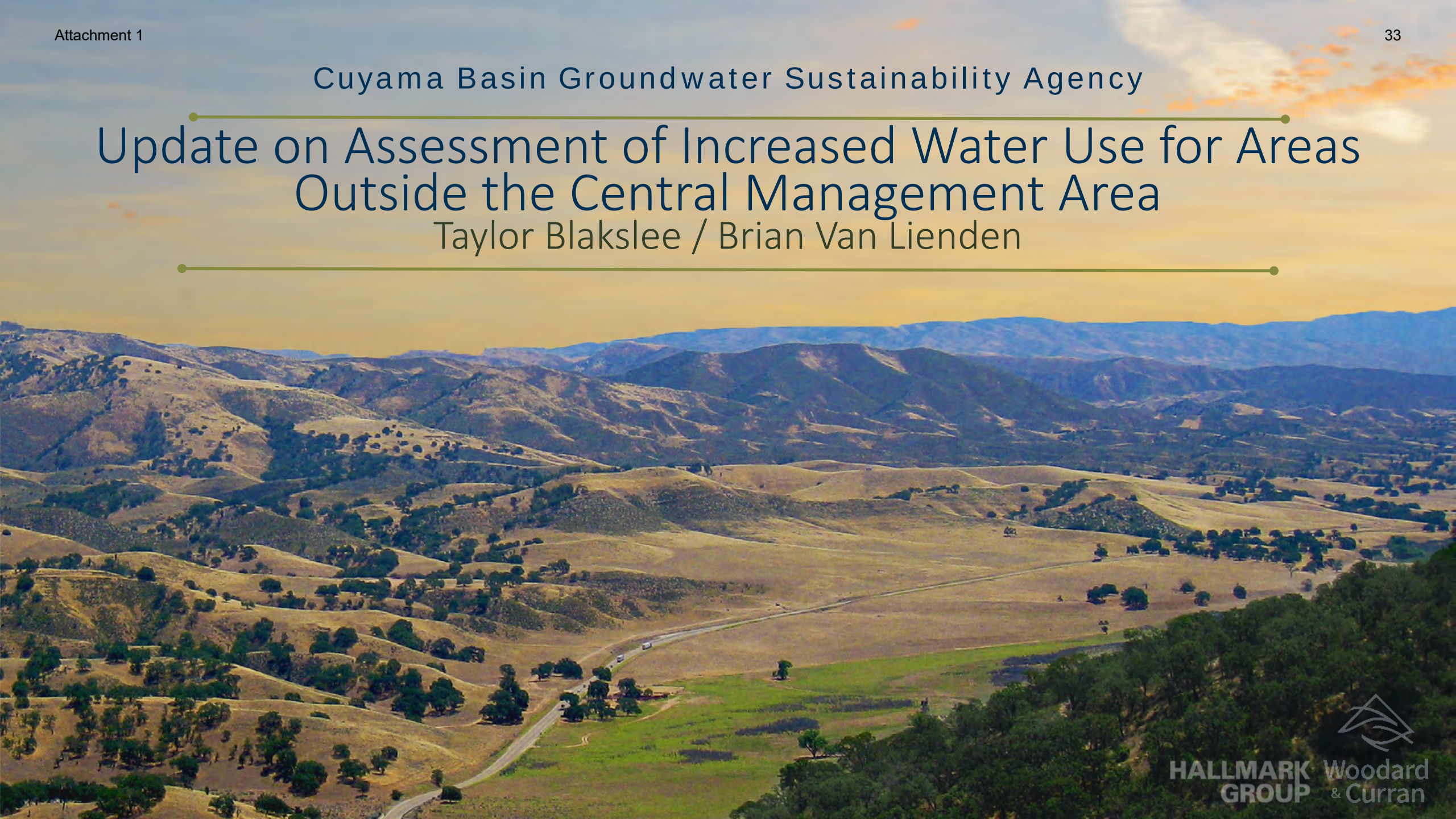
Recommended Motion
Board feedback requested.

Discussion
An update on increased water use assessment for areas outside the Central Management Area is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

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

Taylor Blakslee / Brian Van Lienden



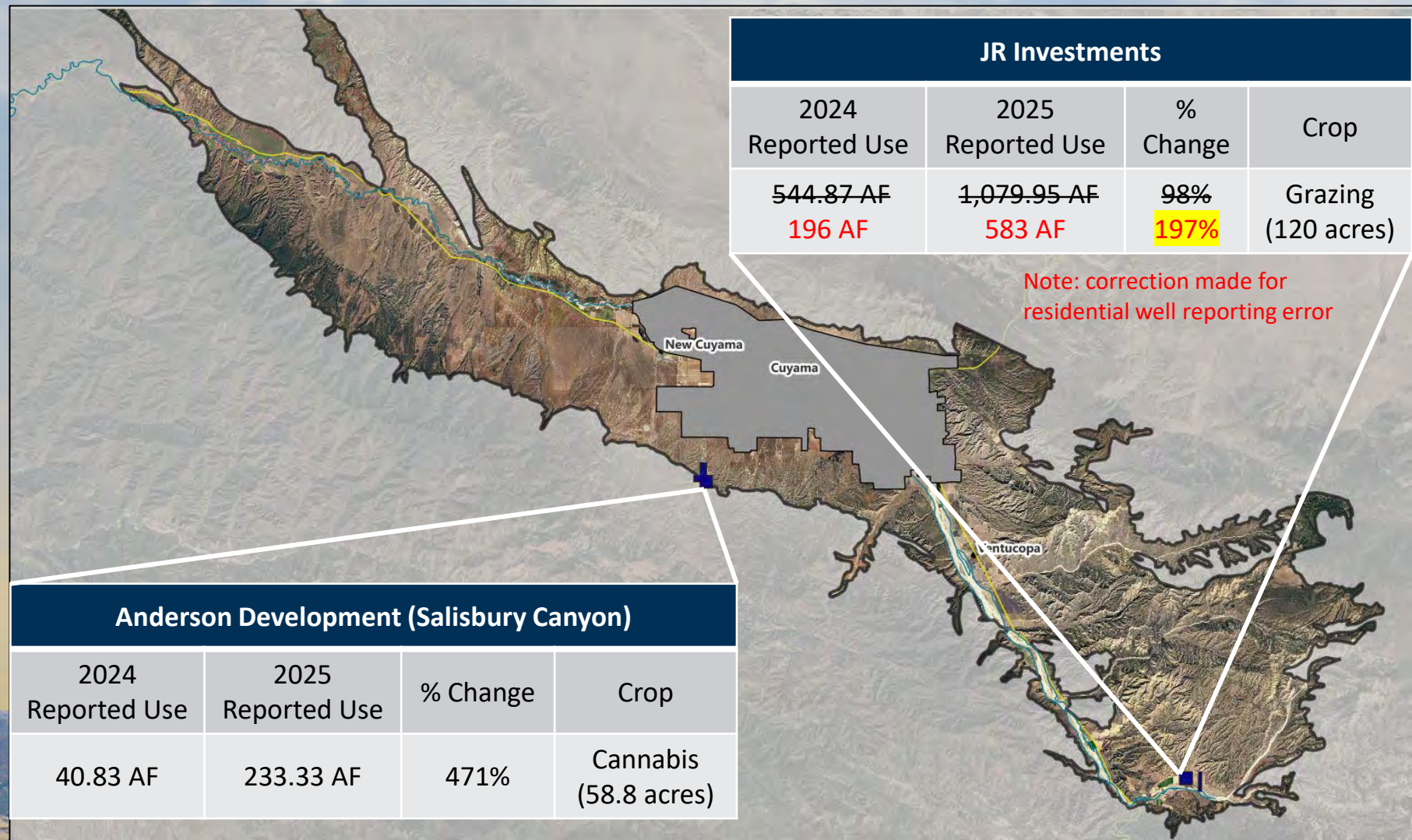
HALLMARK GROUP Woodard & Curran

Assessment of Increased Water Use for Areas Outside the Central Management Area| **Background**

- On July 9, 2025, the CBGSA Board directed staff to prepare a list of options to address new pumping outside the existing management areas.
- On September 3, 2025, staff presented management approaches and the Board directed staff to continue with basin-wide management.
- On November 5, 2025, staff provided an overview of the current water use management in the basin according to the GSP and Board policy.
  - Staff provided a reminder of the Board policy that calls for an annual assessment of water use outside the CMA to determine whether further management and potential localized allocations are needed.
- On January 14, 2026, staff presented the approach to for annually evaluating potential increased water use outside the CMA.
- 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.

Assessment of Increased Water Use for Areas Outside the Central Management Area| **Background**

- Staff identified two areas with significant increases in reported groundwater use, as shown on the map.
  - The Board directed staff to proceed with the detailed assessment process for these two areas with ongoing updates to the Board.



JR Investments			
2024 Reported Use	2025 Reported Use	% Change	Crop
~~544.87 AF~~ 196 AF	~~1,079.95 AF~~ 583 AF	~~98%~~ 197%	Grazing (120 acres)

Note: correction made for residential well reporting error

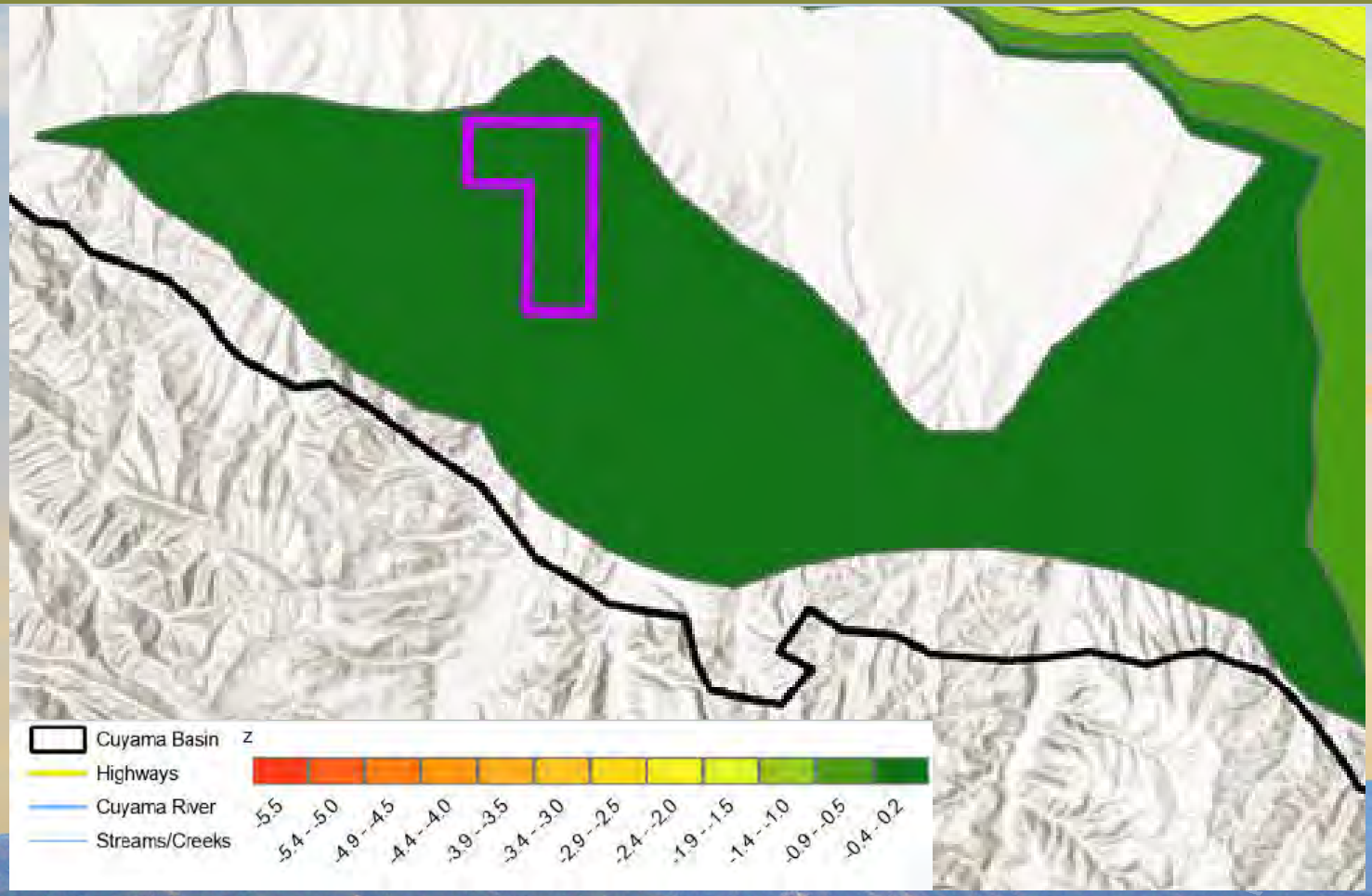
Anderson Development (Salisbury Canyon)			
2024 Reported Use	2025 Reported Use	% Change	Crop
40.83 AF	233.33 AF	471%	Cannabis (58.8 acres)

Modeling Assessment of Increased Water Use for Areas Outside the Central Management Area

- A modeling scenario was developed using the existing 50-year Baseline scenario
- Scenario assumptions:
  - **Anderson Development**: added a cannabis crop type with annual ET based on literature value for cannabis, which is consistent with Anderson's reported future water use
  - **JR Investments**: used a proxy crop type for irrigated areas that produces a similar water use to their 2025 reported pumping

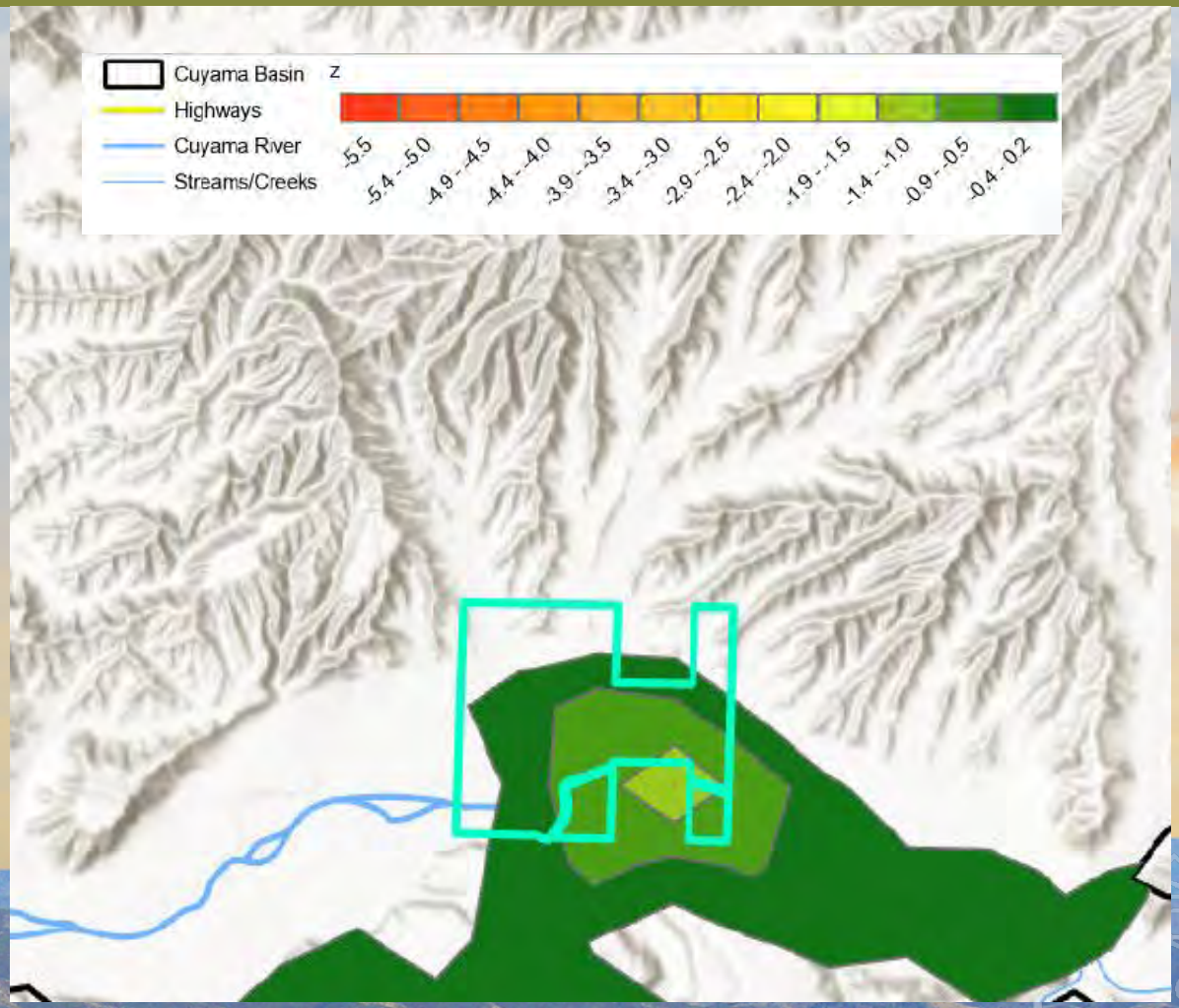
Modeling Results: Anderson Development

- Projected groundwater level declines are less than 1 ft/yr
- There is uncertainty in model results due to limited local data availability and inadequate representation of local geologic heterogeneity



Modeling Results: JR Investments

- Projected groundwater level declines of up to 1.5 ft/yr
- Model in this area reflects limited local data availability but hydrologic and geologic representation seems reasonable



Conclusions and Next Steps

- The current model results do not indicate long-term groundwater level declines of greater than 2 feet/year
- Confidence in model simulation results in vicinity of both properties could be improved with additional local model refinement and calibration
  - Staff recommends future model improvements, potentially with grant funding
- Groundwater levels in these areas should continue to be monitored to identify future changes
- Additionally, interconnected surface water (ISW) analysis will need to be performed throughout the Basin, which may result in other groundwater management actions

TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 7b

FROM: Taylor Blakslee

DATE: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Adopt the Amended Allocation Exchange Policy

Recommended Motion

Adopt the Amended Cuyama Basin GSA Rules And Regulations for the Transfer of Groundwater Allocations.

Discussion

An update on the amended allocation exchange policy is included as **Attachment 1**. A redlined and clean version of the amended policy is included as **Attachment 2** and **Attachment 3,** respectively, for consideration of adoption.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Approve and Adopt the Amended Allocation Exchange Policy

Taylor Blakslee / Grace Bianchi



Background

- On November 5, 2025, Board approved the Allocation Exchange Policy as a one-year pilot program while an ad hoc considers potential improvements.
- On August 7, 2026, the ad hoc (Directors Young, Yurosek, and Stakeholder Tristan Zannon) met to discuss potential allocation exchange program improvements.
- On September 2, 2026, the board reviewed ad hoc recommendations and directed staff to:
  1. Develop opt-in seller list
  2. Revise allocation exchange policy to extend exchange deadline to mid-February
- Staff prepared a draft amended policy incorporating the deadline extension, which was reviewed by the ad hoc on October 14, 2026.
- The redlined policy is included in the Board packet for approval and a summary of the revisions is provided on the following slide.

Amended Allocation Exchange Policy

- The amended allocation exchange policy includes the following revisions:
  - Extend the allocation exchange deadline to mid-February
  - The landowner request form requires landowner to acknowledge compliance with Sustainable Management Criteria
  - Clarify that policy has no impact to water rights **recommended by an ad hoc member**

Staff Recommendation

Approve and adopt the amended Rules And Regulations for the Transfer of Groundwater Allocations.

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR
THE TRANSFER OF GROUNDWATER ALLOCATIONS

Adopted: January 1, 2026

Amended: _____

ARTICLE I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.01 Authority. The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (**GSA**) may adopt rules, regulations, ordinances, and resolutions for the purpose of implementing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (**SGMA**), in compliance with any procedural requirements applicable to the adoption of such rule, regulation, ordinance, or resolution by the GSA. (Wat. Code, § 10725.2, subd. (b).)

1.02 Purpose. The purpose of these Rules and Regulations is to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater within the boundaries of the GSA.

1.03 Groundwater Sustainability Plan. The intent of these Rules and Regulations is to implement the provisions of the GSA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (**GSP**). These Rules and Regulations may be amended at any time, as deemed necessary by the GSA's Board of Directors (**Board**), to achieve consistency with that GSP and groundwater sustainability within the GSA's boundaries.

1.04 Effective Date and Amendments Hereto. These Rules and Regulations shall become effective upon adoption by the Board, and may be added to, amended and/or repealed at any time by later resolution of the Board with any such additions, amendments, and/or repeals becoming effective upon adoption of the resolution, or as otherwise specified by the Board. However, adoption of these Rules and Regulations will not affect the effective date of any of the GSA's policies existing as of the date the Board adopts these Rules and Regulations.

1.05 Actions Against the GSA. Nothing contained in these Rules and Regulations may be deemed a waiver by the GSA or estop the GSA from asserting any defenses or immunities from liability as provided by law, including those provided in Division 3.6 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

1.06 Severability. If any provision of these Rules and Regulations, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of these Rules and Regulations, and the application of its provisions to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected thereby.

1.07 No Impact on Rights; Temporary Reallocation.

a. **Temporary reallocation.** A transfer under Article II is a temporary reallocation of the transferring landowner's groundwater allocation for the term stated in the approved Groundwater Allocation Transfer Form, which shall not extend beyond December 31, 2029. A transfer is not a sale, conveyance, assignment, forfeiture or abandonment of any water right.

b. **No waiver or impairment.** Nothing in these Rules and Regulations, and no transfer or other participation under them, waives, impairs, reduces, or forfeits any right, claim,

priority, or defense of any landowner, including the transferring landowner, whether asserted in an adjudication or otherwise.

No determination of rights; no admission. Consistent with SGMA, nothing in these Rules and Regulations or participation in the allocation and exchange determines or alters any person's groundwater rights. (Wat. Code, § 10720.5, subd. (b).)

c.

ARTICLE II
TRANFER OF GROUNDWATER ALLOCATION

2.01 Transfer of Groundwater Allocation. A landowner may transfer its groundwater allocation to another landowner, subject to the following terms and conditions:

a. The transferring-landowner and the receiving-landowner shall each hold title to real property located within the 2025 – 2029 Central Management Area (including those parcels of real property made part of the Central Management Area via the creation of a Farming Unit), as that area is depicted in the map attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit A**.

b. The transferring-landowner and the receiving-landowner shall each be in good standing with the GSA. "Good standing" means the landowner does not owe any outstanding fee or penalty to the GSA and is up to date with any and all applicable reporting requirements (e.g., groundwater extraction facility registration; groundwater extraction reporting; etc.).

c. The transferred groundwater allocation shall be used solely within the Central Management Area.

d. The transfer shall terminate on or before December 31, 2029.

e. The transfer shall not cause an exceedance of any Minimum Threshold, as that term is defined within the GSP (as may be amended from time to time) as determined by GSA staff.

f. The transfer shall be memorialized in writing using the Groundwater Allocation Transfer Form attached hereto and incorporated herein as **Exhibit B** and submitted to the GSA. If the transferring-landowner is party to a Farming Unit, as recognized by the GSA, each landowner party to that Farming Unit must execute the previously mentioned Groundwater Allocation Transfer Form.

g. A request to transfer groundwater allocation for a particular calendar year must be submitted to the GSA no later than the second Friday in February of the following calendar

year. A transfer completed during this period applies only to the preceding calendar year and does not constitute carryover of groundwater allocation.

2.02 Process. Upon submission of the Groundwater Allocation Transfer Form, the GSA staff shall review the transfer to ensure compliance with these Rules and Regulations. Within 30 days of submission, the GSA staff shall inform the participating landowners of its findings approving the transfer, denying the transfer, or requesting additional information regarding the transfer. If the GSA staff denies the transfer, the participating landowners may appeal the decision to the Board. The Board's decision shall be final.

2.03 Carryover of Groundwater Allocation Prohibited. If a landowner uses less than its allocation, including any additional amounts received via transfer, during any particular year (i.e., January 1 through December 31), that landowner may not carryover any such unused portion to the next year.

ARTICLE III
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PARTICIPATING PARTIES

3.01 Acknowledgment of the GSA's Ongoing Authority. The Board has the authority to implement adaptive management actions at any time based on changing conditions within the Basin. The GSA will continue to monitor representative wells and Basin conditions. If data indicates that a previously approved transfer is contributing to one or more Undesirable Results including, but not limited to, the exceedance of Minimum Thresholds, the GSA may take corrective action. Such corrective actions include but not limited to restricting pumping, modifying allocations, or suspending future transfers as necessary to protect the sustainability of the Basin.

ARTICLE IV
PENALTIES AND FEES

4.01 Failure to Comply. The GSA shall not recognize or otherwise account for any transfer not memorialized using the GSA's Groundwater Allocation Transfer Form and approved by the GSA, as set forth herein.

4.02 SGMA Penalties. Upon violation of any provision of these Rules and Regulations by a landowner, the GSA shall impose a penalty of $1,000, plus $100 for each additional day upon which the violation continues if the landowner fails to comply within 30 days after being made aware of the violation by the GSA. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the GSA may petition the Superior Court for a temporary restraining order, preliminary or permanent injunction, or such other equitable relief as may be appropriate. The right to petition for injunctive relief is an additional right to those~~,~~ which may be provided elsewhere in these Rules and Regulations or otherwise allowed by law.

EXHIBIT A

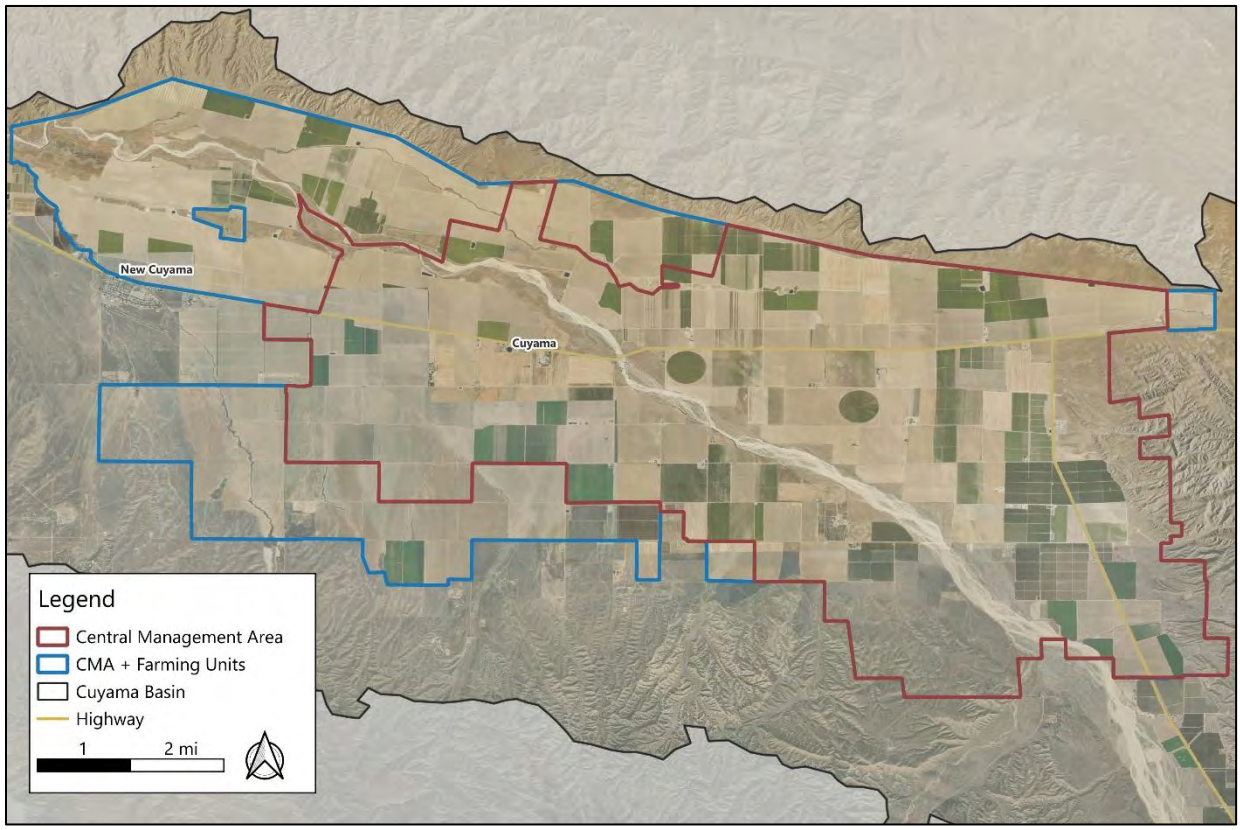

New Cuyama
Cuyama
Legend
Central Management Area
CMA + Farming Units
Cuyama Basin
Highway
1
2 mi

EXHIBIT B

GROUNDWATER ALLOCATION TRANSFER FORM

(For Landowner Use)

Instructions: If you're interested in transferring a groundwater allocation, complete the following form and submit the signed form to tblakslee@hgcpm.com for CBGSA review. GSA Staff will provide a determination regarding transfer requests within 30 days.

Name of Transferring-Landowner: _____

Parcels from which the Allocation is Leaving: _____

_____

_____

_____

Name of Receiving-Landowner: _____

Parcels to which the Allocation is Going: _____

_____

_____

_____

Amount of Water Being Transferred: _____

Term of Transfer: _____

☐ Receiving-Landowner acknowledges that exceedances of Sustainable Management Criteria may result in management actions impacting groundwater use.

Signature of Transferring-Landowner: _____

Signature of Receiving-Landowner: _____

Date: _____

GROUNDWATER ALLOCATION TRANSFER FORM, CONTINUED
(For Cuyama Basin GSA Staff Use)

Name of Transferring-Landowner: _____

Name of Receiving-Landowner: _____

Date Form Received: _____

1. Does the transferring-landowner hold title to real property within the CMA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

2. Does the receiving-landowner hold title to real property within the CMA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

3. Is the transferring-landowner in good standing with the GSA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

   If "NO," what corrective action is needed on part of the transferring-landowner?

   _____

   _____

4. Is the receiving-landowner in good standing with the GSA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

   If "NO," what corrective action is needed on part of the receiving-landowner?

   _____

   _____

5. Is the transferred groundwater allocation proposed for use solely within the CMA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

6. Does the transfer terminate on or before December 31, 2029? ☐ YES ☐ NO

THIS TRANSFER IS HEREBY:

☐ APPROVED

☐ DENIED

☐ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/CORRECTIVE ACTION NEEDED: _____

_____

_____

_____

Signature and Date: _____

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR
THE TRANSFER OF GROUNDWATER ALLOCATIONS

Adopted: January 1, 2026

Amended:_____

ARTICLE I
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priority, or defense of any landowner, including the transferring landowner, whether asserted in an adjudication or otherwise.

c. No determination of rights; no admission. Consistent with SGMA, nothing in these Rules and Regulations or participation in the allocation and exchange determines or alters any person's groundwater rights. (Wat. Code, § 10720.5, subd. (b).)

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c. The transferred groundwater allocation shall be used solely within the Central Management Area.

d. The transfer shall terminate on or before December 31, 2029.

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ARTICLE III
ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE PARTICIPATING PARTIES

3.01 Acknowledgment of the GSA's Ongoing Authority. The Board has the authority to implement adaptive management actions at any time based on changing conditions within the Basin. The GSA will continue to monitor representative wells and Basin conditions. If data indicates that a previously approved transfer is contributing to one or more Undesirable Results including, but not limited to, the exceedance of Minimum Thresholds, the GSA may take corrective action. Such corrective actions include but not limited to restricting pumping, modifying allocations, or suspending future transfers as necessary to protect the sustainability of the Basin.

ARTICLE IV
PENALTIES AND FEES

4.01 Failure to Comply. The GSA shall not recognize or otherwise account for any transfer not memorialized using the GSA's Groundwater Allocation Transfer Form and approved by the GSA, as set forth herein.

4.02 SGMA Penalties. Upon violation of any provision of these Rules and Regulations by a landowner, the GSA shall impose a penalty of $1,000, plus $100 for each additional day upon which the violation continues if the landowner fails to comply within 30 days after being made aware of the violation by the GSA. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the GSA may petition the Superior Court for a temporary restraining order, preliminary or permanent injunction, or such other equitable relief as may be appropriate. The right to petition for injunctive relief is an additional right to those which may be provided elsewhere in these Rules and Regulations or otherwise allowed by law.

EXHIBIT A

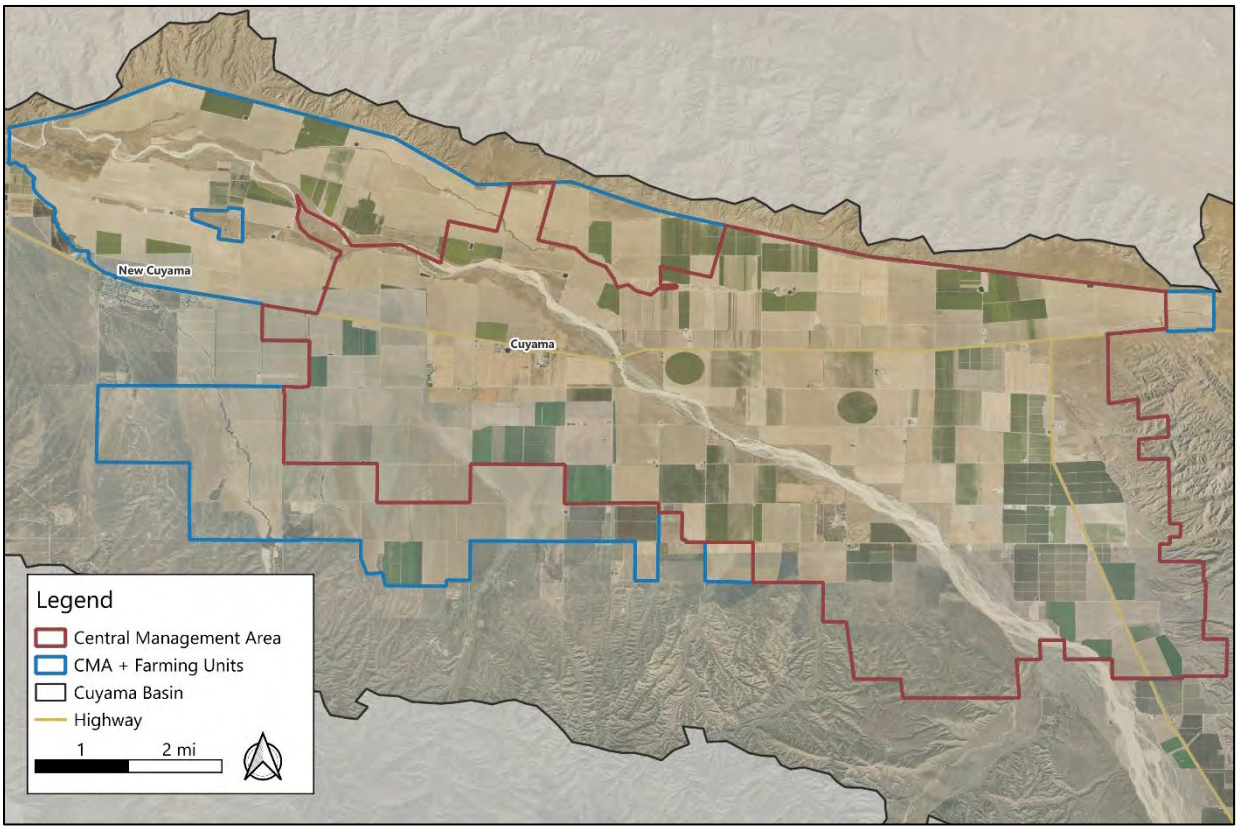

New Cuyama
Cuyama
Legend
Central Management Area
CMA + Farming Units
Cuyama Basin
Highway
1
2 mi

EXHIBIT B

GROUNDWATER ALLOCATION TRANSFER FORM

(For Landowner Use)

Instructions: If you're interested in transferring a groundwater allocation, complete the following form and submit the signed form to tblakslee@hgcpm.com for CBGSA review. GSA Staff will provide a determination regarding transfer requests within 30 days.

Name of Transferring-Landowner: _____

Parcels from which the Allocation is Leaving: _____

_____

_____

_____

Name of Receiving-Landowner: _____

Parcels to which the Allocation is Going: _____

_____

_____

_____

Amount of Water Being Transferred: _____

Term of Transfer: _____

☐ Receiving-Landowner acknowledges that exceedances of Sustainable Management Criteria may result in management actions impacting groundwater use.**Signature of Transferring-Landowner:** _____

Signature of Receiving-Landowner: _____

Date: _____

GROUNDWATER ALLOCATION TRANSFER FORM, CONTINUED

(For Cuyama Basin GSA Staff Use)

Name of Transferring-Landowner: _____

Name of Receiving-Landowner: _____

Date Form Received: _____

1. Does the transferring-landowner hold title to real property within the CMA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

2. Does the receiving-landowner hold title to real property within the CMA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

3. Is the transferring-landowner in good standing with the GSA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

   If "NO," what corrective action is needed on part of the transferring-landowner?

   _____

   _____

4. Is the receiving-landowner in good standing with the GSA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

   If "NO," what corrective action is needed on part of the receiving-landowner?

   _____

   _____

5. Is the transferred groundwater allocation proposed for use solely within the CMA? ☐ YES ☐ NO

6. Does the transfer terminate on or before December 31, 2029? ☐ YES ☐ NO

THIS TRANSFER IS HEREBY:

☐ APPROVED

☐ DENIED

☐ ADDITIONAL INFORMATION/CORRECTIVE ACTION NEEDED: _____

_____

_____

_____

Signature and Date: _____

TO: Board of Directors.
Agenda Item No. 7c

FROM: Taylor Blakslee

DATE: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Direction on Allocation Exceedance Penalty Fee

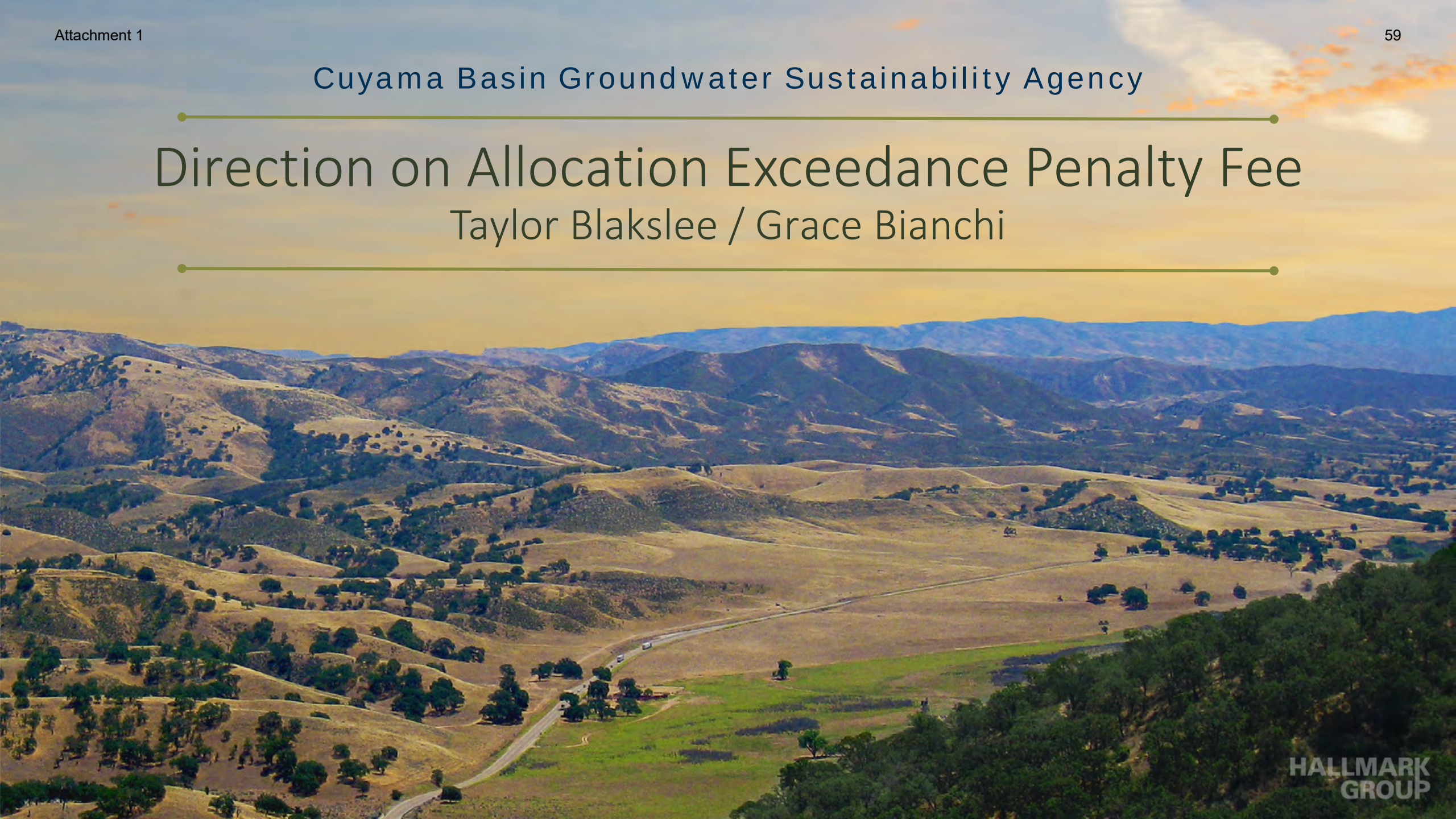
Recommended Motion
Board feedback requested.

Discussion
An overview of the current and alternative allocation exceedance penalty fee structures and ad hoc feedback is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Direction on Allocation Exceedance Penalty Fee

Taylor Blakslee / Grace Bianchi



Background

- On September 2, 2026, the Board directed staff to work with ad hoc to evaluate alternative penalty fee structures due to potential equity concerns.
- On October 14, 2026, the ad hoc reviewed alternative fee options.
  - The following slides outline the penalty fee structures and summarize ad hoc feedback.

Current Penalty Fee Structure

Penalty Tiers	Penalty Fee	Percent Over Allocation
Tier 1	$250/AF	0-5% Pumping over allocation
Tier 2	$500/AF	>5% Pumping over allocation

Allocation Exceedance Penalty Fee Structures

1. Percentage-Based (Current)
   - The same excess pumping volume results in different penalties depending on allocation size.
   - **Illustrative example:** Both landowners exceed allocation by 10 AF but penalties differ by $1,750 under the current fee structure.

	Allocation	**Exceedance**	**Percent Exceeded**	**Penalty Fee Tier**	**Penalty Fee** (Current Structure)
Landowner A	100 AF	10 AF	10%	$500/AF	$3,750
Landowner B	1,000 AF	10 AF	1%	$250/AF	$2,500

2. Volume-Based (Alternative Option)
   - Applies equal penalties to equal volumes of excess pumping.

Ad Hoc Feedback

- The ad hoc supported the volume-based structure with two penalty tiers: $250/AF for Tier 1 and $500/AF for Tier 2.
- Ad hoc members differed on the volume threshold between tiers:
  - Two members supported 10 AF.
  - One member supported 300 AF.

Penalty Tiers	**Penalty Fee**	**Percent Over Allocation** (Current)	**Volume Over Allocation** (supported by 2 members)	**Volume Over Allocation** (supported by 1 member)
Tier 1	$250/AF	0-5%	0 - 10 AF	0-300 AF
Tier 2	$500/AF	>5%	> 10 AF	> 300 AF

Board Direction

- Does the Board/SAC want to change allocation exceedance penalty fee tiers from a percentage to a volume-basis?
  - Does the Board/SAC want to continue with a two-tier system?
  - What acre-foot threshold should separate Tier 1 from Tier 2?

Penalty Tiers	Penalty Fee	Ad Hoc Feedback	
		Volume Over Allocation (2 members in favor)	**Volume Over Allocation** (1 member in favor)
Tier 1	$250/AF	0 - 10 AF	0 - 300 AF
Tier 2	$500/AF	> 10 AF	> 300 AF

TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 7c

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Direction on Variance Pool Concept

Recommended Motion
Board feedback requested.

Discussion
An overview of the variance pool concept and potential options are provided in **Attachment 1** for consideration.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

7c. Direction on Variance Pool Concept

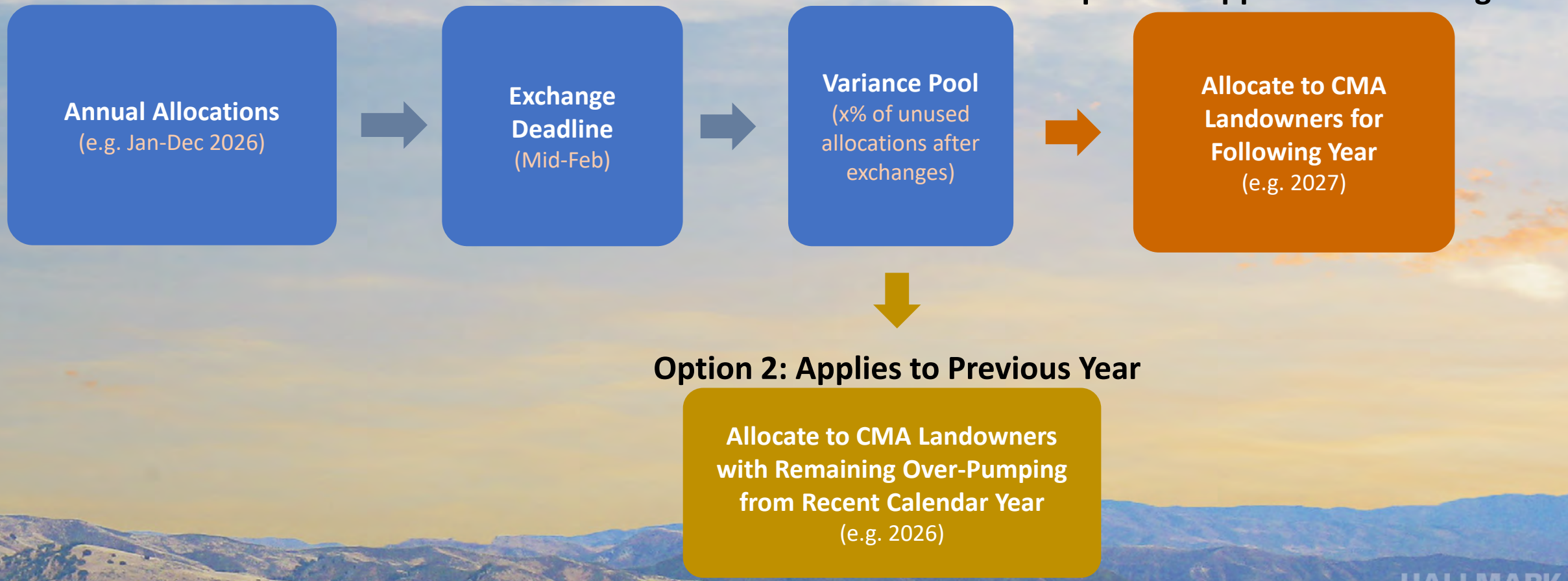
Taylor Blakslee



Background

- On August 7, 2026, the allocation exchange ad hoc (Directors Young, Yurosek, and Stakeholder Tristan Zannon) provided feedback on potential allocation exchange policy improvements, including Variance Pool concept.
- The ad hoc recommended discussing a variance pool concept once the Board made a decision on carryover policy.
- On September 2, 2026, the board decided not to implement a carryover policy now and reconsider once the adjudication is finalized.
- Therefore, staff met with the ad hoc on October 14, 2026, to reconsider the variance pool concept.
- A summary of the potential variance pool options and ad hoc feedback are provided on the following slides.

Variance Pool Concept



Variance Pool Concept

- Ad Hoc Feedback
  - **Two** ad hoc members were in favor of implementing a variance pool, with a recommendation to only use a small percentage of the unused allocation for the following year (e.g. 10%).
  - **One** member expressed that a variance pool is premature until the entire basin is adjudicated and is not in favor of a variance pool at this time. However, if a variance pool is established, then only the unused sustainable yield should be reallocated and not transitional water.

- Does the Board/SAC want to consider implementing a variance pool? If so, should policy be in place by March 2027?

TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 7e

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Update on Groundwater Quality Data Collection Approach

Recommended Motion
Board feedback requested.

Discussion
An update on the Groundwater Quality Data Collection Approach is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Approach for Groundwater Quality Data Collection

Taylor Blakslee / Grace Bianchi



Background

- Currently, the CBGSA is paying P&P to collect groundwater quality data for the basin's monitoring network.
- Separately, under the Central Coast Water Board's Ag Order 4.0, agricultural landowners are required to conduct groundwater quality monitoring and reporting.
- Participating landowners pay Central Coast Water Quality Preservation (Preservation), the approved third-party program that supports landowners with sampling, to coordinate annual well sampling, laboratory testing, and reporting.
- The Board directed staff to assess whether the Ag Order 4.0 groundwater quality data could meet the CBGSA's monitoring needs and potentially replace sampling at existing monitoring wells.

Background

- Currently, Central Coast Water Quality Preservation (Preservation) staff provide groundwater quality sampling for all domestic and agricultural wells.
- Currently, they are developing a Groundwater Quality Trend Monitoring program that will result in a smaller subset of agricultural wells to be measured annually.
  - The well subset will be submitted to the Regional Water Quaility Control Board by 2027.

Next Steps

- Staff Recommendation:
  - Review Preservation's historical data to assess potential adjustments to the CBGSA groundwater quality monitoring network for 2027-2028.
  - Once Groundwater Quality Trend Monitoring Plan (GQTM) is approved by RWQCB, evaluate whether its proposed reduced well network will meet the CBGSA's groundwater quality monitoring needs.

TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 7f

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Update on Adaptive Management

Recommended Motion
Board feedback requested.

Discussion
An update on the investigation of the five (5) wells that exceeded their minimum thresholds or were within 10% of the minimum threshold from the July monitoring event is provided in **Attachment 1.**

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Update on Adaptive Management

Taylor Blakslee / Grace Bianchi / Louie Poire



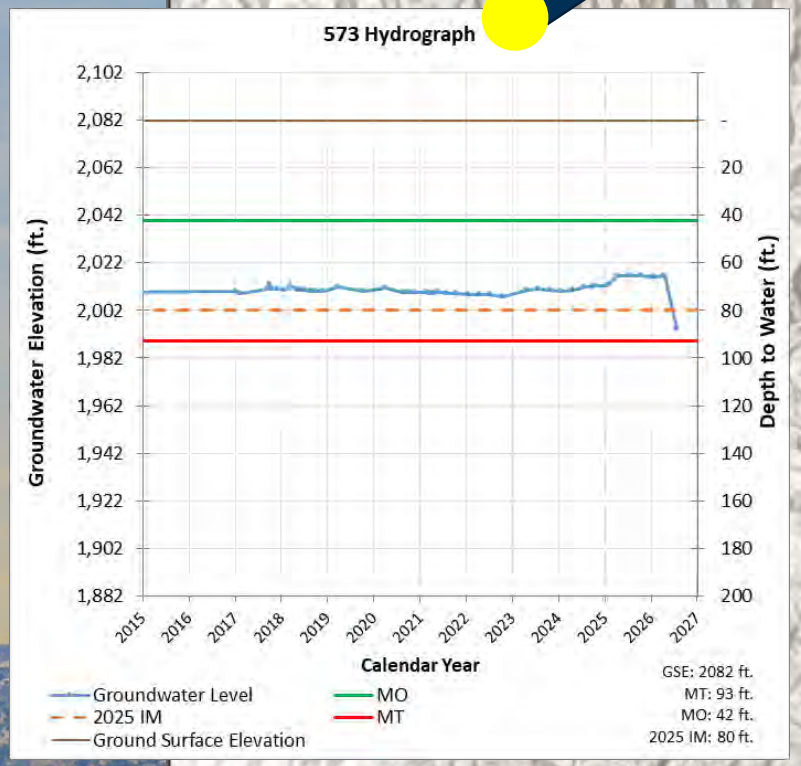
HALLMARK GROUP

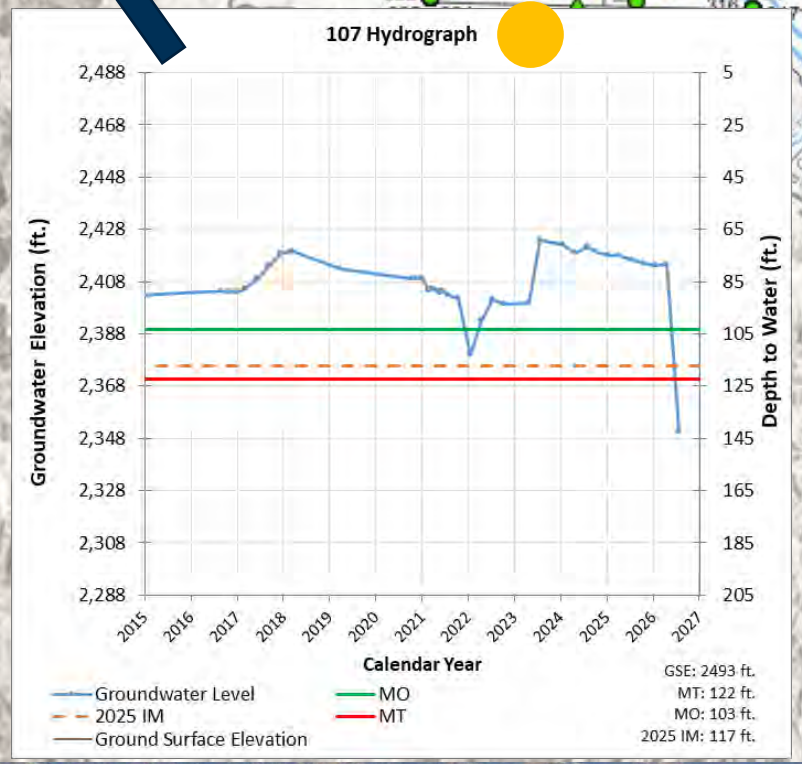
Woodard & Curran

Background

- In September, staff reviewed three wells with minimum threshold exceedances.
  - Two wells had significant groundwater level declines, which raised questions on the in-field QA/QC process.
- Staff met with P&P to review the QA/QC process and requested that the two wells be remeasured during the September monitoring event.
- As a result, both wells were remeasured at levels consistent with past measurements.
- Staff will also provide an update on Well 77-420-421, which still required the adaptive management process.

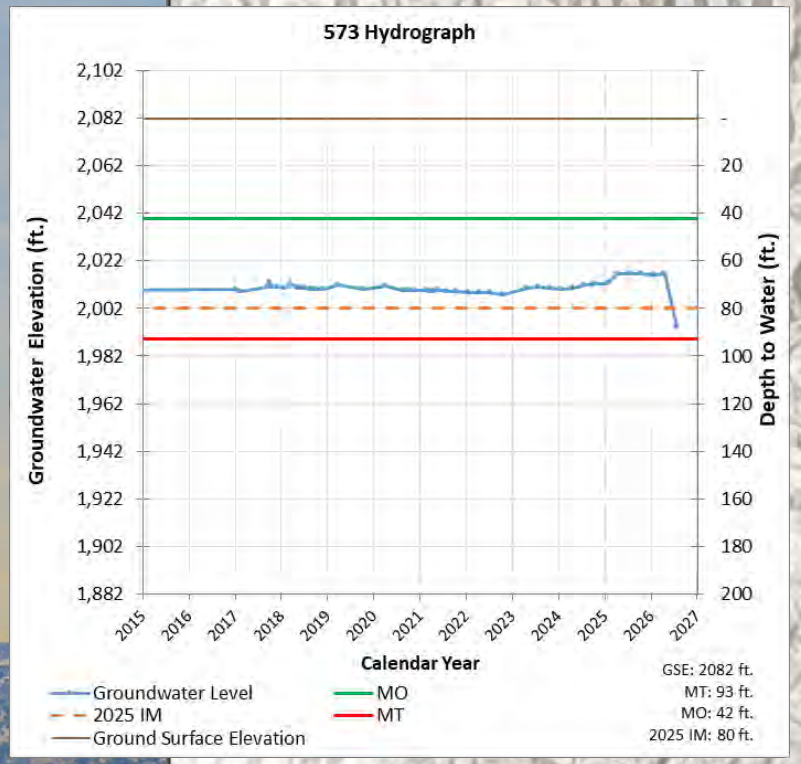
Wells below the MT or in Adaptive Mgmt Zone





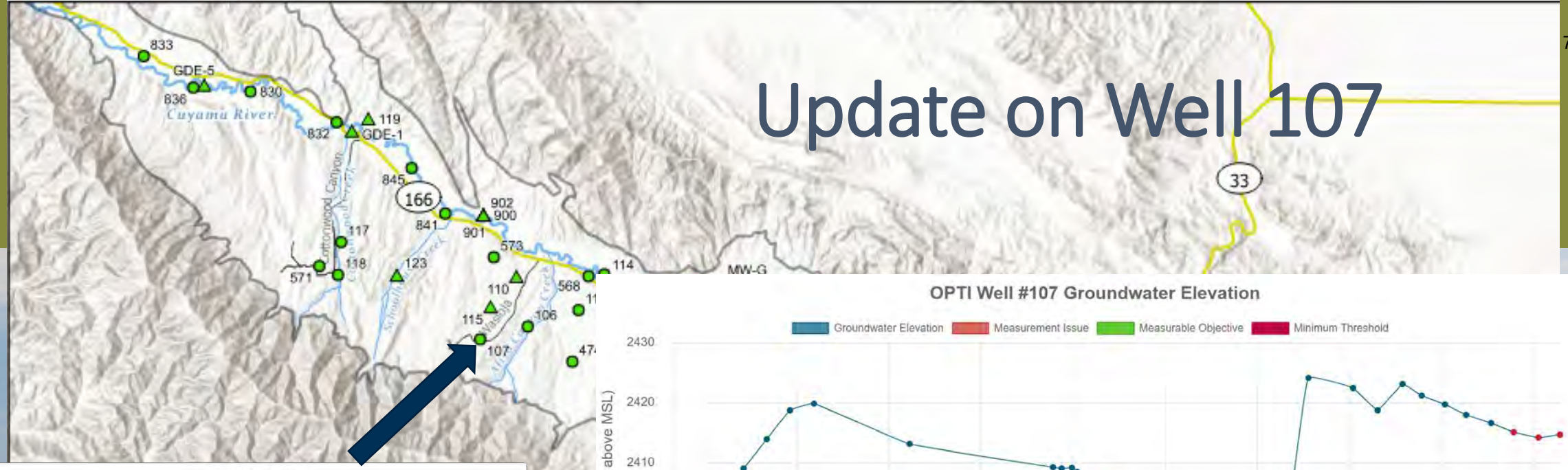
Update on Well 573

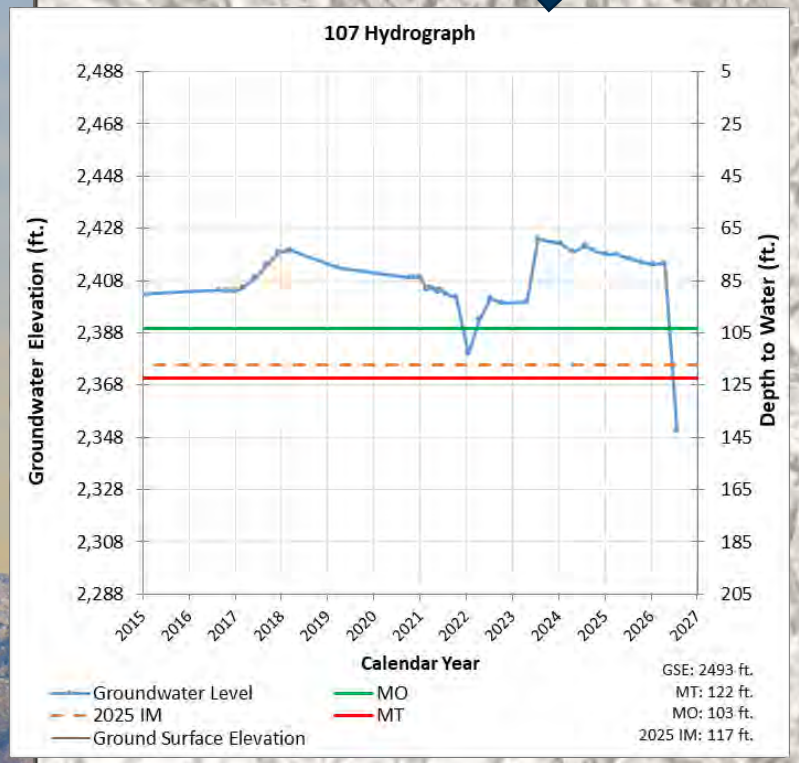
- P&P confirmed that the July groundwater level decline was due to pumping and the levels had not stabilized when the measurement was taken.
- The well was remeasured in September, which showed a groundwater level reading more consistent with past measurements.

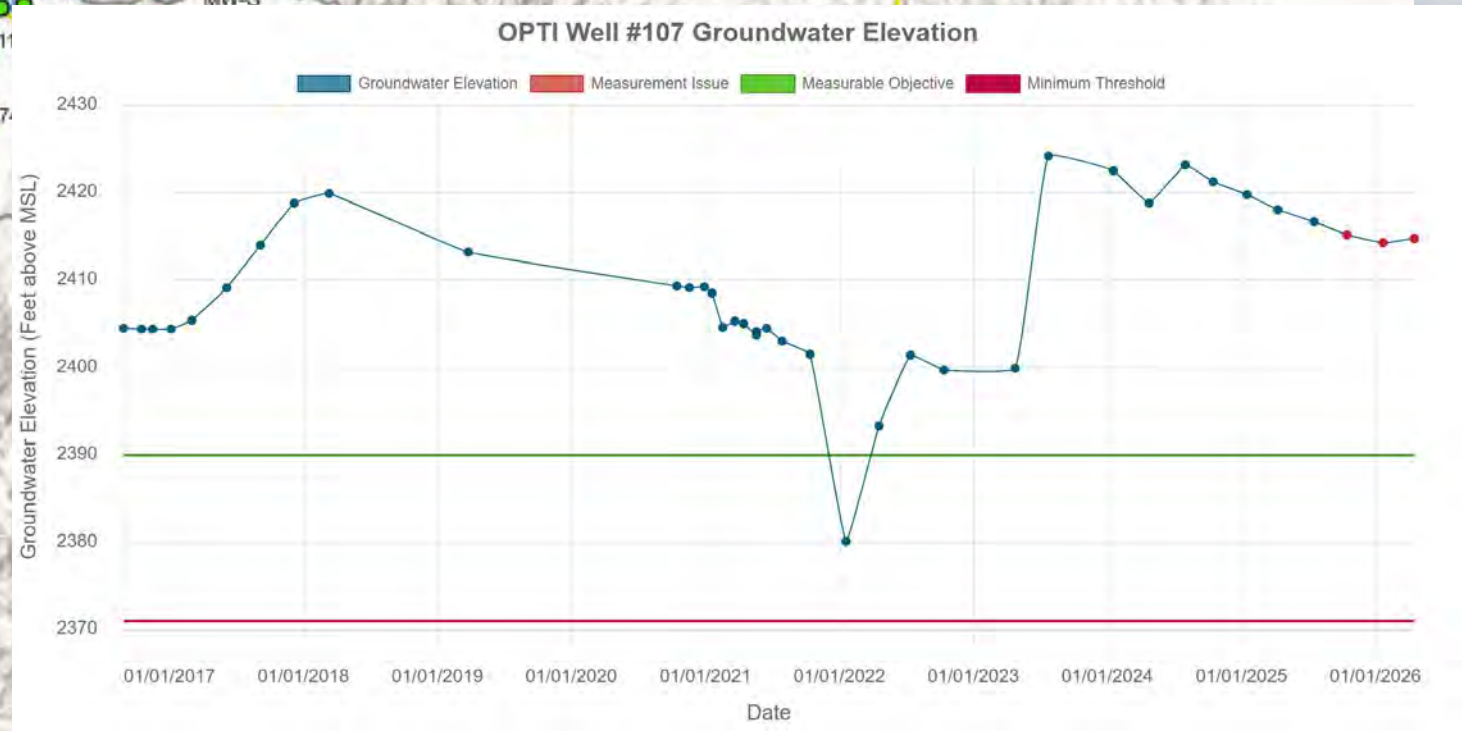




Update on Well 107







- P&P was unable to reach the landowner, so the cause of the initial decline has not been confirmed.
- P&P remeasured Well 107 in September and recorded a groundwater level more consistent with past measurements.

PROVOST&PRITCHARD
CONSULTING GROUP

Cuyama: Depth to Water Measuring

Methods to measure depth to water at a well site

Louie Poire, EIT · OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2026



BEFORE WELL SITE VISIT: COORDINATE WELL CONDITIONS

- Weather check prior to on-site days selection.
- All depth-to-water measurement equipment tested prior to site visit.
- Contact landowners that have requested notice before onsite measurements.
- Schedule appointments, as necessary.
- For the most accurate measurement the preference is that the well not run for at least 24 hours, however, we acknowledge that this is a best-case scenario and landowner wells must run when needed but measurements can be affected by shorter downtime.
- Field Records and route planned and mapped before travel to Cuyama area.

POWERS/SOLINST SOUNDER: AT THE WELL

1. Confirm the Site

Identify the well and the sounder access opening. Check the marked point at that opening where the cable will be read.

2. Review Prior Records

Look up the most recent and past year's depth to water. Use the history to anticipate how far to lower the probe and to recognize an unusual result.*

3. Access Opening

Place the probe into the well through the designated sounder access, keeping the cable aligned with the measuring point at the opening.

4. Controlled Descent

Turn the sounder on and feed out the marked cable. Lower the probe until it first reaches the water surface.

5. Listen for the Beep

The contact signal marks the water surface. Hold the cable steady and confirm the first contact.

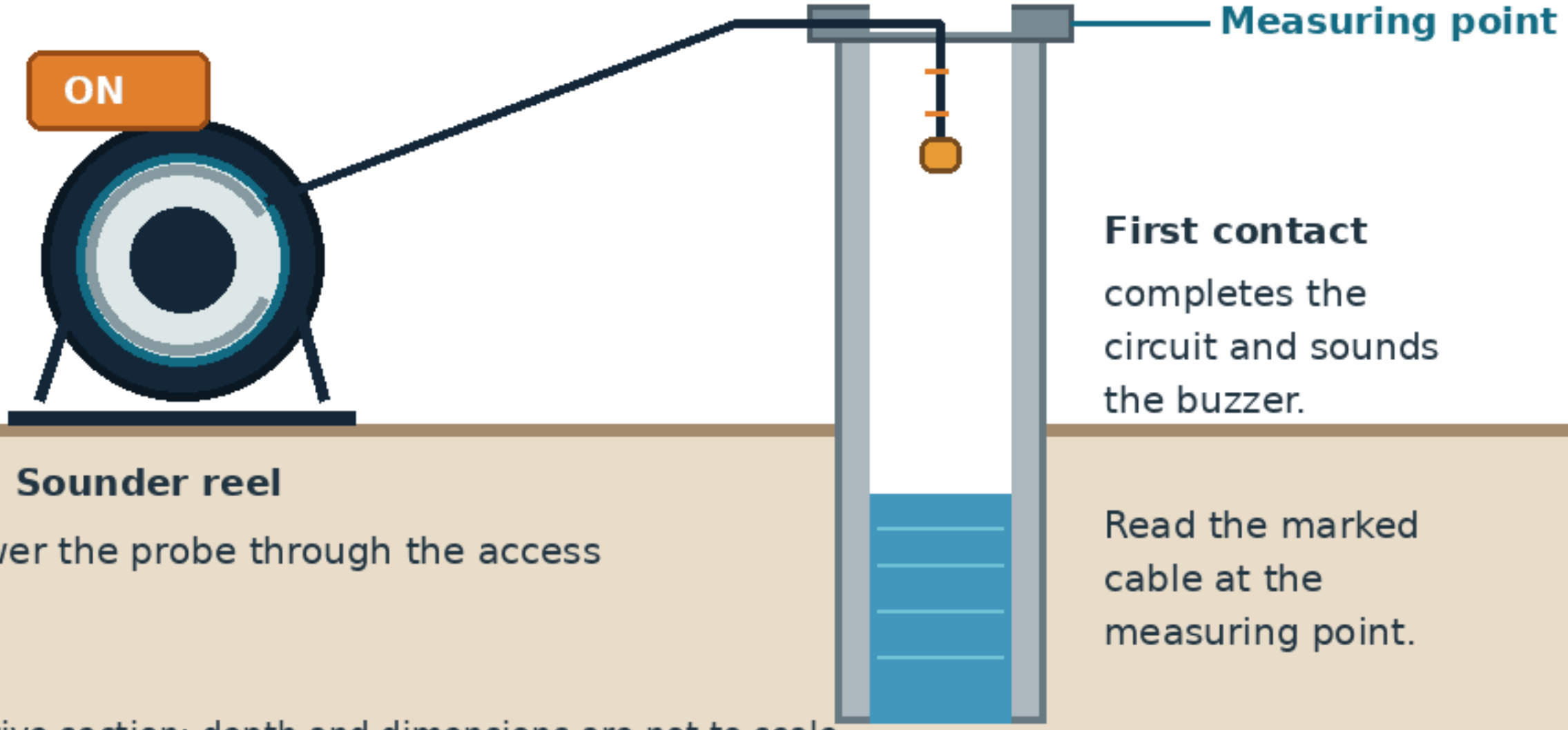
6. Read at the Opening

Read the marked cable at the established measuring point, typically the access opening. That is the depth to water. Record the well, date, time, depth to water, and instrument used. Compare result with prior records and remeasure if result is unusual.**

***The previous reading is a guide; the new measurement stands on its own.**

****Contact landowner for running schedule if anomalous measurement persists.**

Powers/Solinst: contact measurement



Sounder reel

Lower the probe through the access

First contact

completes the circuit and sounds the buzzer.

Read the marked cable at the measuring point.

Illustrative section; depth and dimensions are not to scale.

ENO SCIENTIFIC ACOUSTIC SOUNDER: AT THE WELL

1. Confirm the Site

Identify the well and the sounder access opening. Check the marked point at that opening where the cable will be read.

2. Review Prior Records

Look up the most recent and past year's depth to water. Use the history to anticipate how deep the acoustic should be reading and to recognize an unusual result.*

3. Access Opening

Place the probe end into the well through the designated sounder access.

4. Controlled Measurement

Turn the acoustic sounder on and adjust minimum and maximum settings based upon previous readings.

5. Proper Measurement

Read the display attached to the probe. Some wells will have extra acoustics/noise and require focused adjustments to the minimum and maximum settings.

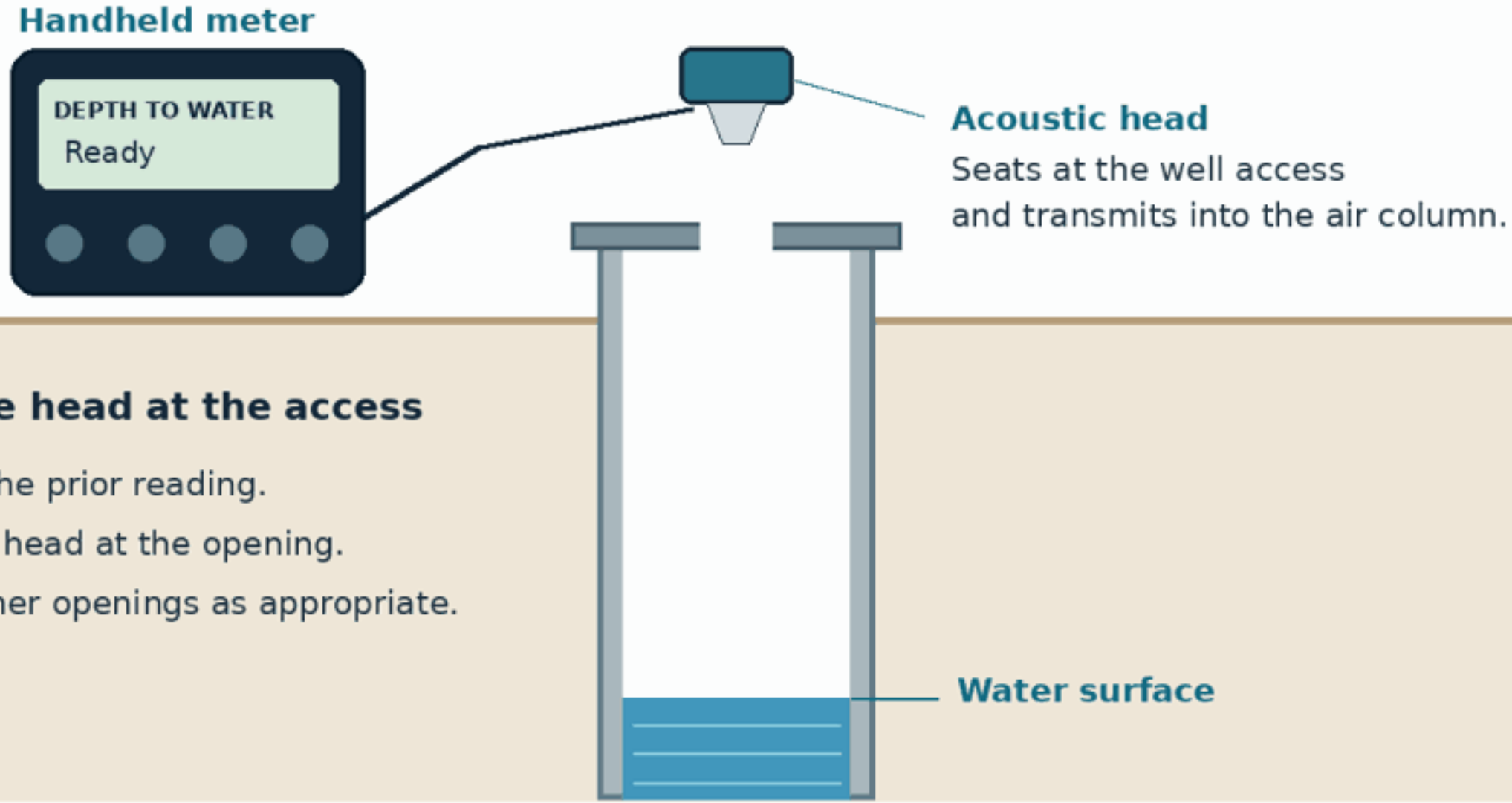
6. Results

When values are "jumping" from value to value a measurement will be the number ±1'. When values are somewhat strong, but slightly jumping around at the tenth place the measurement will be the number ±.1'. At the strongest reading, the values will be solid and will be the number ±.01'.**

*The previous reading is a guide; the new measurement stands on its own.

**Contact landowner for running schedule if anomalous measurement persists.

ENO Scientific acoustic well sounder



1 Place head at the access

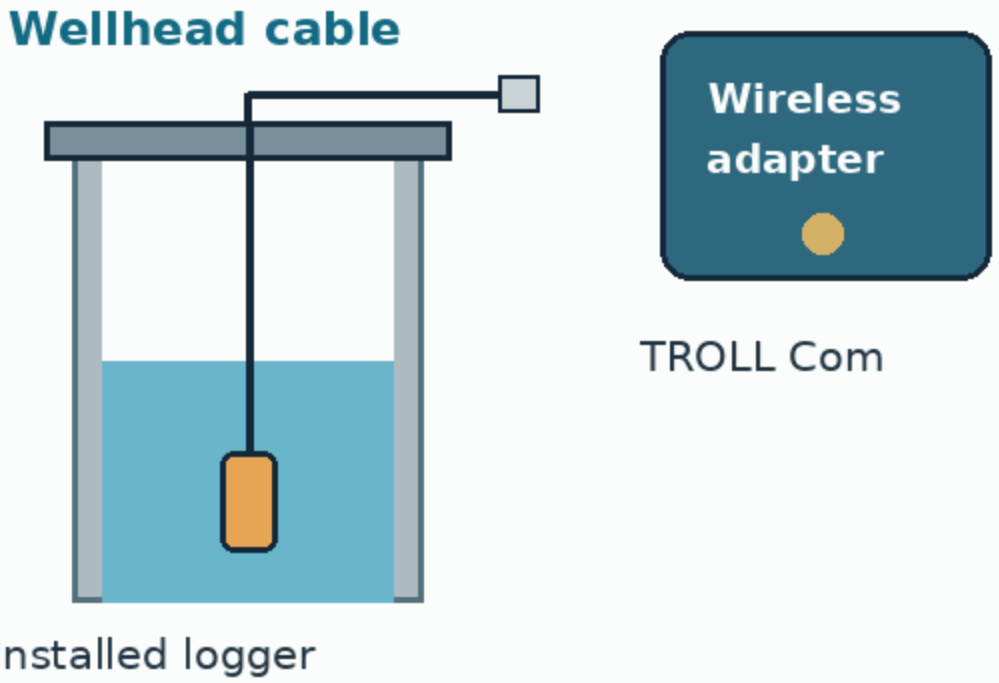
Review the prior reading.

Seat the head at the opening.

Close other openings as appropriate.

Illustrative section and device. Motion slowed; dimensions are not to scale.

Transducer: downloading stored data



Connect at the wellhead

Attach the wireless adapter to the cable.
The sensor stays installed below water.

VuSitu

Connect instrument

Attach the adapter to the surface cable.

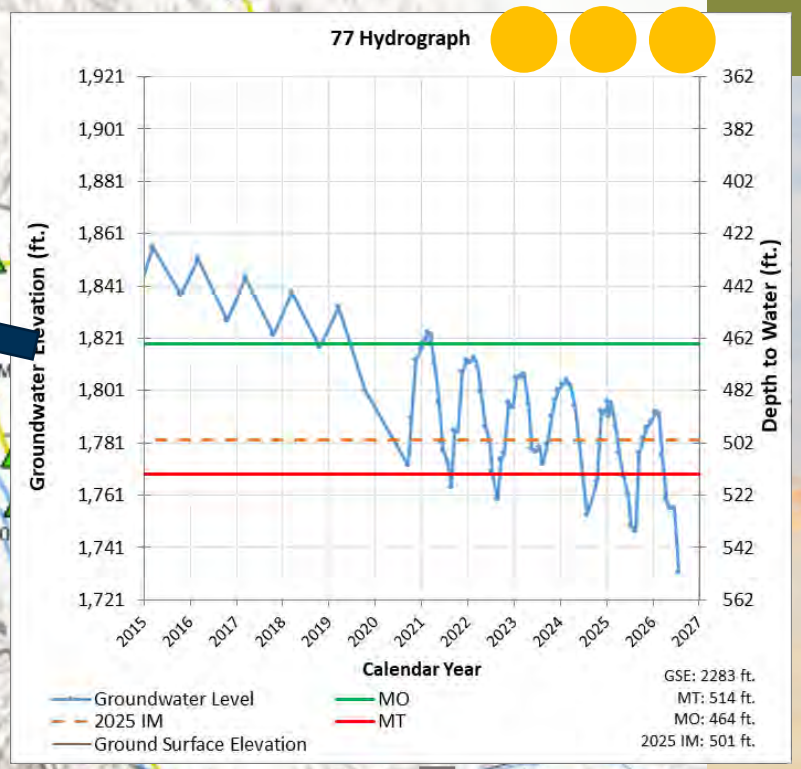
Direct-read cable and wireless adapter shown. Device shapes and app screens are schematic.

Background on Well 77-420-421

- The July 2026 Groundwater Conditions report indicated three (3) minimum threshold exceedances, from the same multi-completion monitoring well.
- On September 2, 2026, the Board directed staff to further investigate these wells, and an update is provided on the following slides.

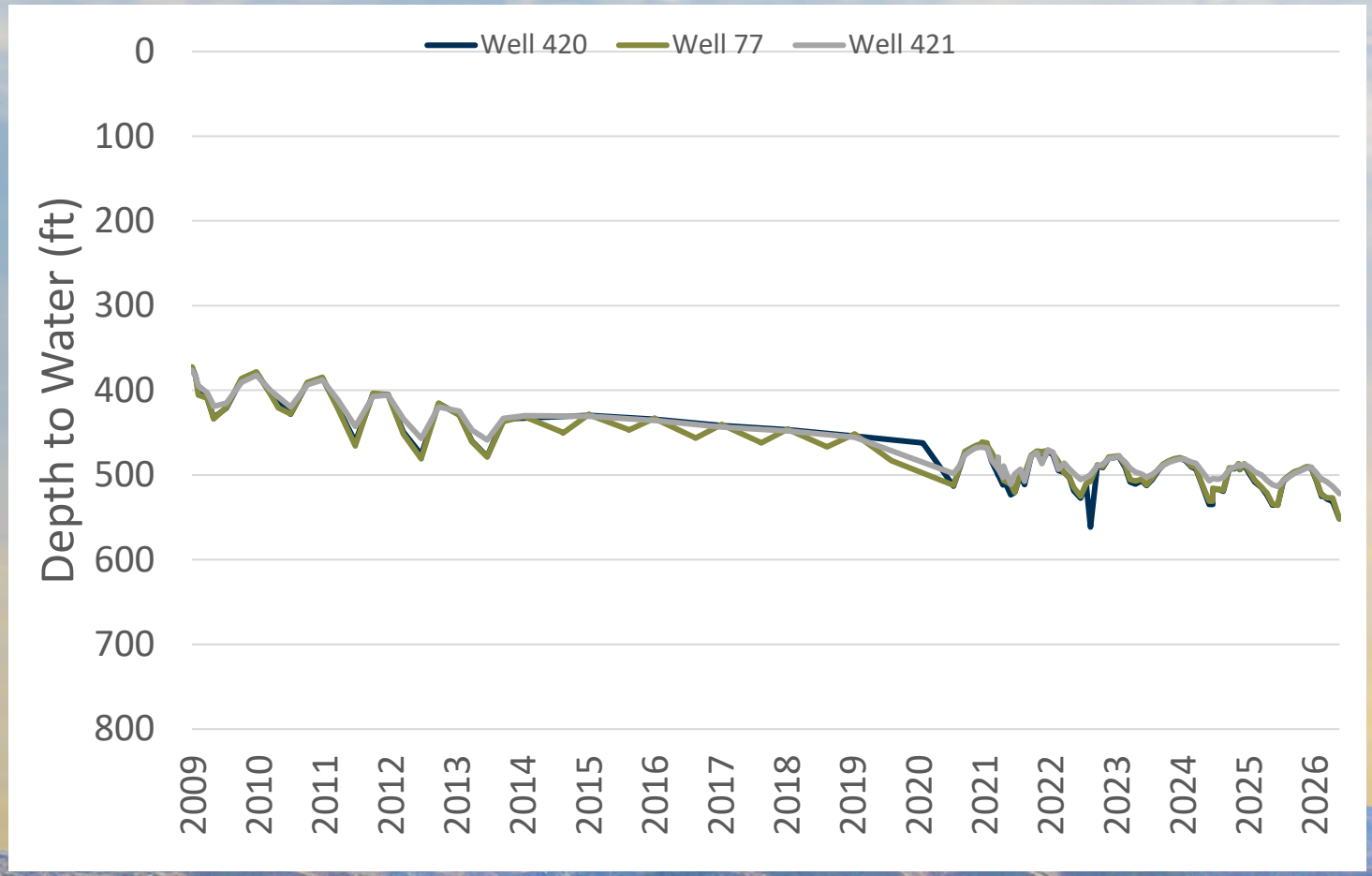
Update on Well 77-420-421

- On September 3, 2025, the Board was informed that Wells 77, 420, and 421, which are nested monitoring wells at the same location, had been below their MTs in July 2025.
- The wells subsequently recovered above their MTs in October 2025 but were again below their MTs in April 2026.
- Monitoring data indicate an overall downward trend in groundwater levels at this well.



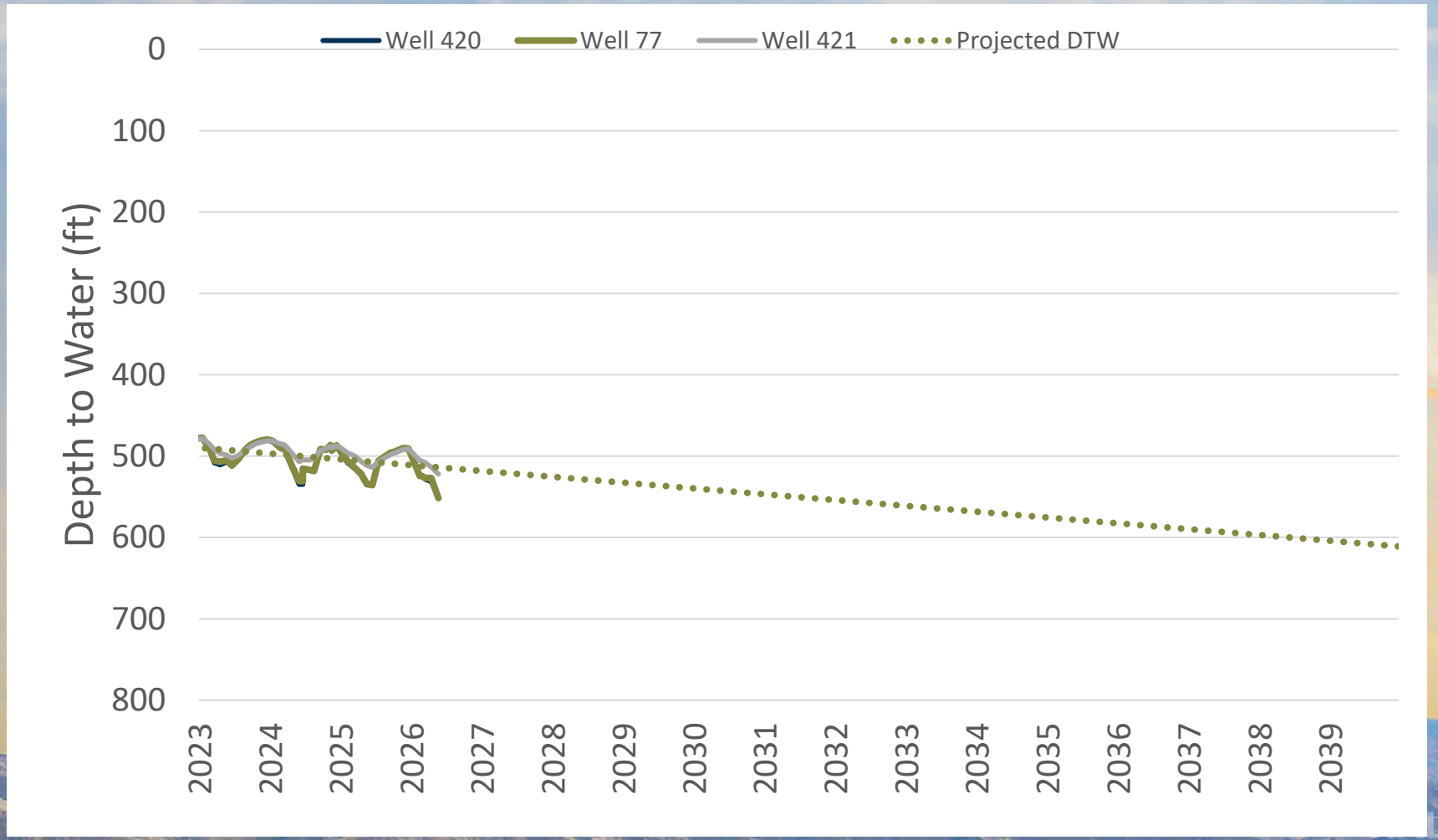
Multi-Completion Monitoring Well. Completions 420 and 421 also below MT.

Well 77-420-421: Historical Depth to Water



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Well 77-420-421 Projected Depth to Water Following CMA Allocation Implementation in 2023



Update on Well 77-420-421

Investigation Completed to Date

- Consistent with the Adaptive Management SOP, staff is investigating potential impacts to nearby wells within the 1-mile radius.
- Staff is working with landowners to provide groundwater level data.
- The Cuyama Elementary School reported that their domestic well's pump was lowered approximately 100 feet in July 2026.

Nearby Active Pumping Wells
14 wells w/in 1-mile radius



Well 77-420-421 Investigation: Next Steps

1. **Evaluate potential impact to beneficial users → Current process**
   - Assess whether available information indicates the groundwater-level decline may be affecting the nearby domestic well or other wells within the anticipated radius of influence.
   - Continue evaluation of other beneficial uses identified in the SOP, including nearby groundwater-dependent ecosystems and interconnected surface water, as applicable.
2. **Develop potential adaptive management responses**
   - Based on the findings, staff/ad hoc committee develops potential response strategies for Board consideration.
   - The SOP identifies potential strategies including additional groundwater monitoring, replacement or deepening of wells, localized pumping management, and modification of sustainability criteria.

TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 7g

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Direction on Priority Projects for Grant Opportunities

Recommended Motion
Board feedback requested.

Discussion
The Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CBGSA) staff are evaluating upcoming grant opportunities that could help fund projects supporting sustainable groundwater management in the basin.

Staff distributed a preliminary project list to the Board and SAC and requested additional project suggestions. No additional suggestions were received, and the preliminary list is included as **Attachment 2**.

An overview of the grant opportunities, potential eligible projects, and staff's recommended next steps is provided in **Attachment 1**.

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Direction on Priority Projects for Grant Opportunities

Taylor Blakslee / Brian Van Lienden



HALLMARK GROUP Woodard & Curran

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- California Department of Conservation (DOC) Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program (MLRP)
- DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program
- Department of Water Resources (DWR) Watershed Resilience Grant Program
  - Draft Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation package expected in 2027
  - Will be evaluated when more information is available in future

DOC Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program

- $200 million will be available in Winter 2026
- Draft guidelines released in October 2026
- Eligible project types:
  - Groundwater recharge and floodplain restoration
  - Agricultural land transitions and alternative land uses
  - Re-cropping to less water-intensive crops
  - Habitat restoration and water quality improvements
  - Community resilience and regional implementation strategies
- **Staff Recommendation:**
  - **Do not pursue this round due to lack of viable projects**
  - **If there are interested landowners, this could be considered as part of SGM grant or a future MLRP solicitation**

DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Program

- $386 million available, split into two components:
  - $193 million: projects that support SGMA implementation
  - $193 million: projects that support conjunctive use and GW recharge
- Eligible project types must include one or more of the activities listed below. All projects must be consistent with the subbasin's GSP.
  - Recharge/Conjunctive Use Projects
  - Subsidence BMP Implementation Actions
  - Addressing DWR Recommended Corrective Actions
  - Ag Land Adaptation Projects
  - Conveyance Projects
  - Other Implementation Projects

Oct 2026
Draft PSP and Guideline Amendments Released

Nov 5
General Public Comment Workshop

Nov 17
Tribal Workshop

Feb 2027
PSP and Guideline Amendments Published

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SGM Grant Program: Two-Step Application Process

1 Concept Proposal (early 2027)

- Submit through a web link (to be posted)
- Authorization and self-certification form
- Project descriptions with quantified benefits

2 DWR Review & Invitation

- DWR checks alignment and eligibility
- Invites a full application, asks for a revised concept, or refers elsewhere
- No invitation, no full proposal

3 Full Proposal in GRanTS

- Submitted in DWR's GRanTS system (code P4SGM)
- Six attachments (below)
- Up to $15M per proposal

4 Screening & Scoring

- Completeness and eligibility screen; 5 business days to cure
- Scored out of 36 points
- DAC/SDAC minimums filled first

5 Award & Agreement

- Based on score, judgment, and available funds
- About six months to execute the agreement
- Costs after the Final Award date are reimbursable

Full application attachments

Work Plan	Budget	Schedule	DAC / SDAC documentation (if applicable)	Indirect rate (if claimed)	Supporting documentation

HALLMARK GROUP Woodard & Curran

SGM Grant Program: Potential Cuyama Basin Projects by Category

- Recharge/Conjunctive Use Projects
  - Stormwater capture pilot project
  - Streambed scarification project
- Subsidence BMP Implementation Actions
  - Critical head analysis (if required)
- Addressing DWR Recommended Corrective Actions
  - Interconnected surface water analysis
  - Pending DWR corrective actions
- Ag Land Adaptation Projects
  - Pending individual landowner interest
- Conveyance Projects
  - None
- Other Implementation Projects
  - Cuyama Basin Model Updates (to improve GSP project implementation)
    - Small watershed/foothill updates
    - Evapotranspiration/irrigation methods studies
    - Historical land use update
  - Additional investigation of Santa Barbara Canyon fault
  - Monitoring network improvements

SGM Grant Program

- Staff distributed a list of projects to CBGSA Board and SAC members in September
  - The list is included in the packet
  - No comments have been received
- **Staff Recommendation:**
  - **CBGSA should submit a concept proposal (approximate cost of $7,000-9,000)**
  - **Appoint an ad-hoc committee to work with staff to provide guidance on concept proposal development**

DRAFT

Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Potential Projects for Grant Funding in 2027-2030

A. Model and Basin Data

1. **Evapotranspiration Study:** Evaluate crop evapotranspiration values used to estimate pumping in the groundwater model.
2. **Model Recalibration and Update:** Recalibrate and update the groundwater model in advance of the 2030 GSP update.
3. **Irrigation Efficiency and Methods Study.** Evaluate irrigation methods and efficiencies to refine model assumptions.
4. **Historical Land Use Update.** Develop land-use estimates for years with missing model data.
5. **Infiltration and Deep Percolation Study.** Evaluate infiltration rates and deep percolation assumptions to improve the model representation of recharge.

B. Ventucopa Management Area Model Updates

1. Develop hydrologic model for foothill areas upstream of SBCF
2. Develop subsurface flows from Quatal Canyon and Ozena
3. Develop hydraulic model of Cuyama River upstream of SB Canyon

C. Fault Investigations

1. **Santa Barbara Canyon Fault Investigation.** Complete additional work to refine the fault location and evaluate its permeability and effect on groundwater flow.
2. **Russell Fault Investigation.** Evaluate salinity and groundwater conditions on both sides of the fault.
3. **Ozena Investigation.** Conduct initial hydrogeologic investigation in the Ozena area.

D. Interconnected Surface Water and Monitoring

1. **Interconnected Surface Water Depletion Study.** Estimate depletion of interconnected surface water caused by groundwater use, consistent with DWR guidance.
2. **Interconnected Surface Water Criteria and Monitoring Network.** Update the monitoring network and sustainable management criteria for interconnected surface water.

E. Monitoring Network

1. **New Monitoring Wells.** Install dedicated monitoring wells to replace or supplement wells affected by active pumping.
2. **Monitoring Well Telemetry.** Install telemetry to increase monitoring frequency and reduce manual data-collection needs.

F. GSP Projects

1. **Ventucopa Community Water Supply Reliability.** Evaluate opportunities to improve the reliability of the Ventucopa Water Supply Company system.
2. **Flood and Stormwater Capture Feasibility Study.** Revisit technical and legal analyses before determining whether to pursue a feasibility study.
3. **Water Supply Transfers or Exchanges.** Evaluate as a potential companion to flood and stormwater capture following legal review.

G. Basin Understanding

1. **Additional Groundwater Geochemistry.** Analyze groundwater chemistry at additional locations to evaluate groundwater sources and connectivity across faulted areas.
2. **Water Age Testing.** Use isotopic testing at selected locations to evaluate groundwater age and movement.
3. **3D Basin Map.** Develop a three-dimensional geologic representation of the basin to support technical analysis and stakeholder understanding.

H. Additional Projects

1. **Groundwater Dependent Ecosystem Mapping and Ground-Truthing.** Refine groundwater dependent ecosystem mapping through field verification and additional analysis.
2. **Land Repurposing.** Support planning or implementation for land repurposing that reduces groundwater demand.

TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 8a

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 4, 2026

SUBJECT: Report of the Executive Director

Recommended Motion
None – information only.

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

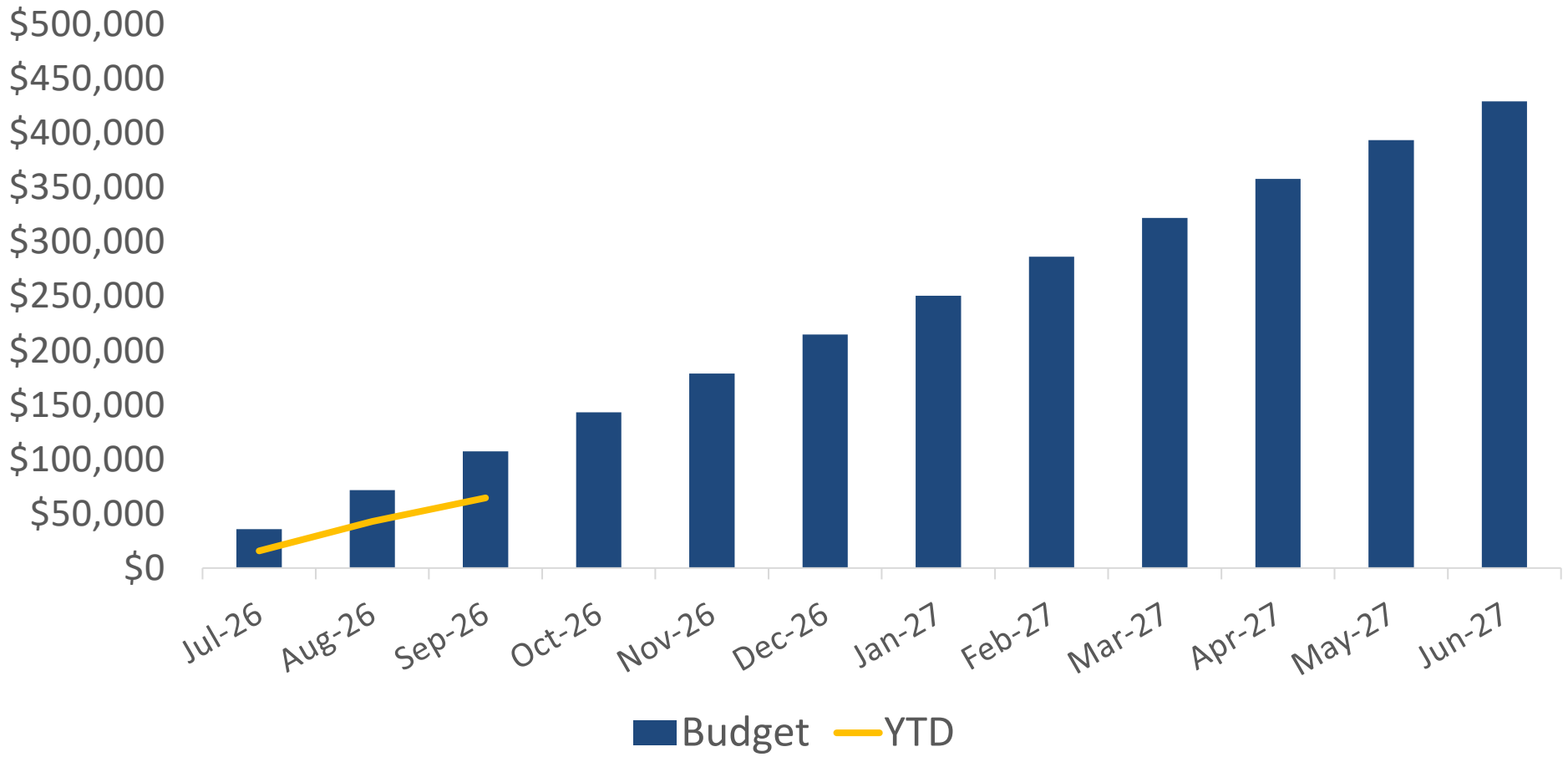
Cuyama Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Financial Report

November 4, 2026

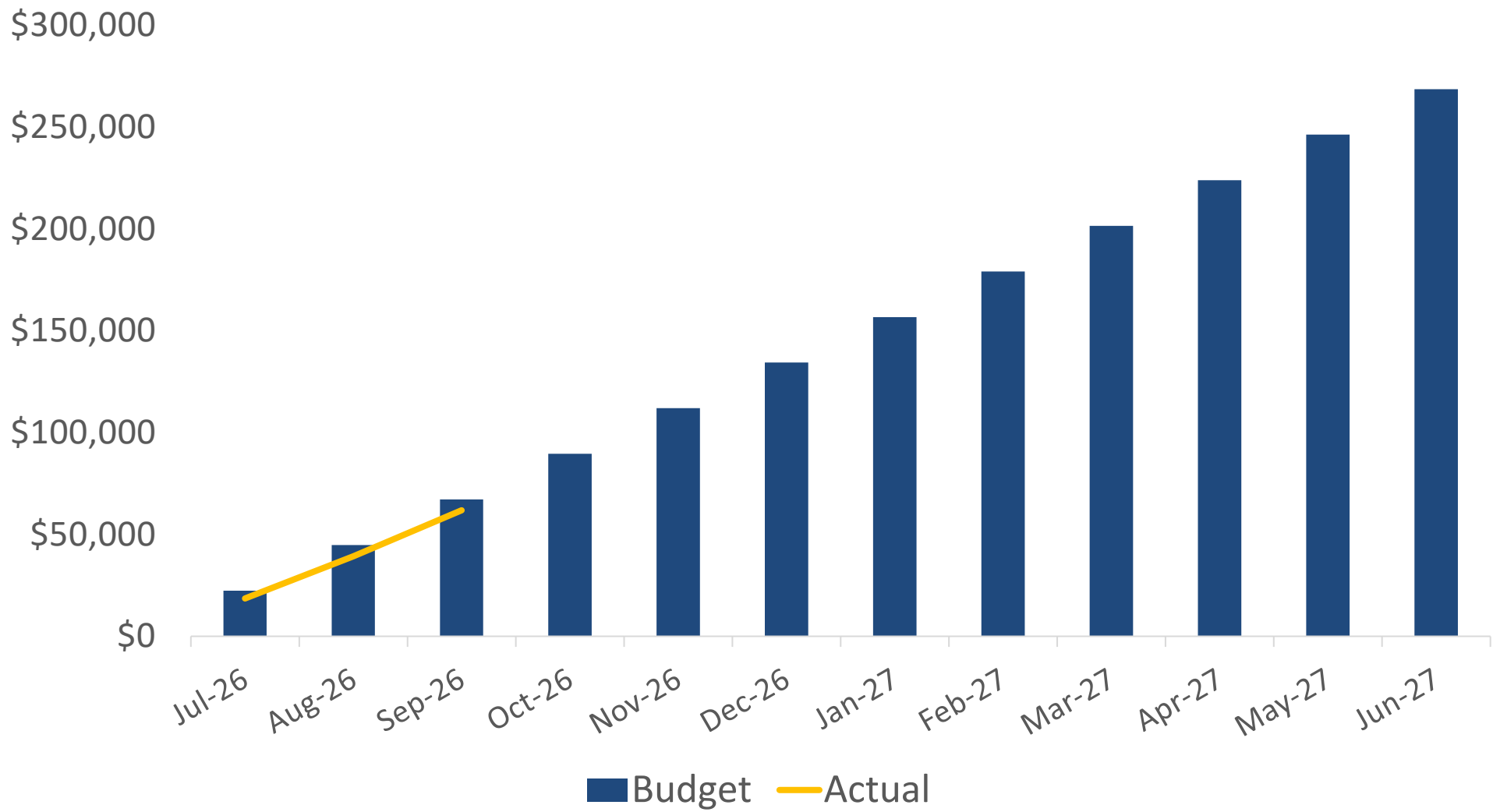
Legal Counsel – Budget-to-Actuals

FY 26/27



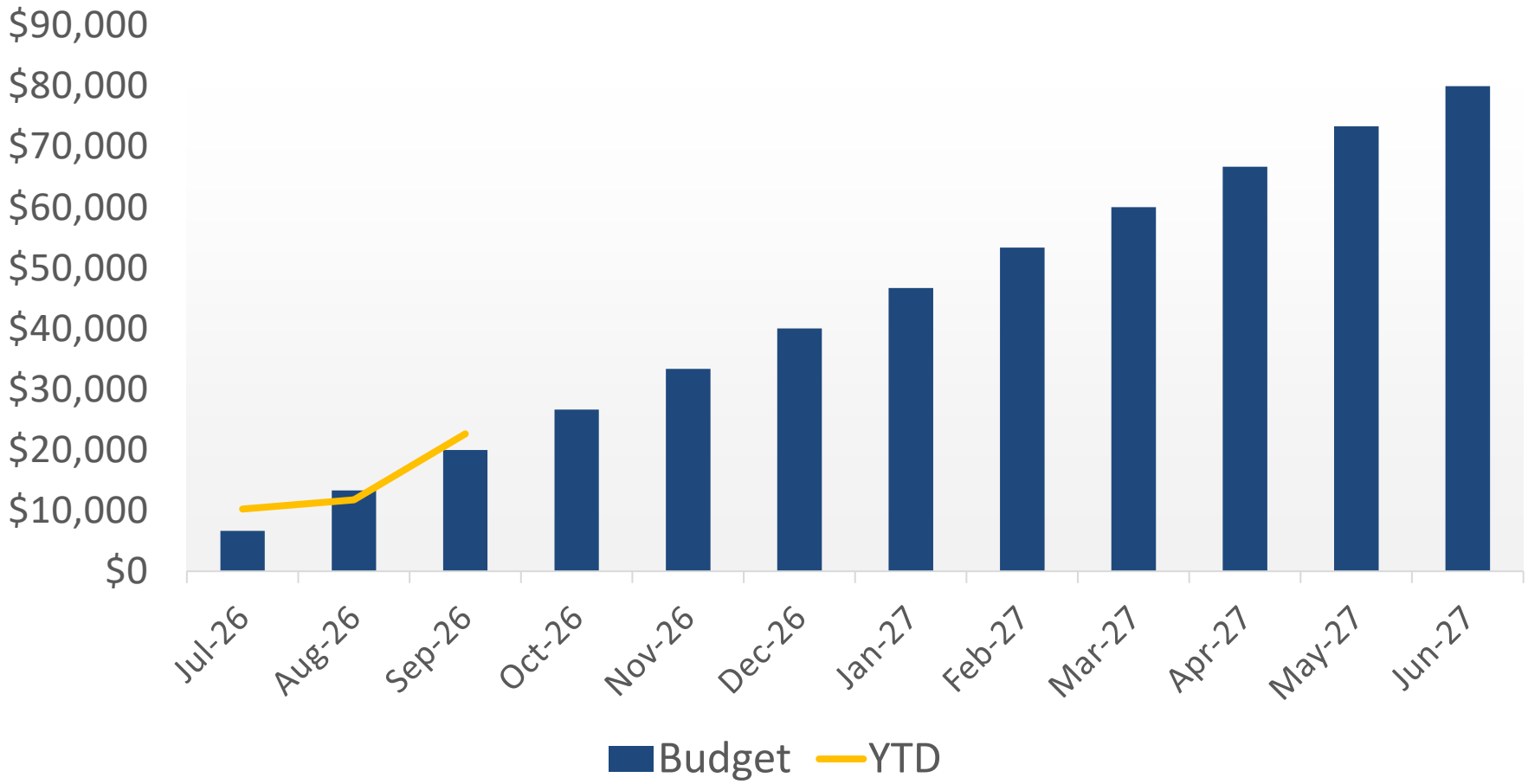
Hallmark Group – Budget-to-Actuals

FY 26/27



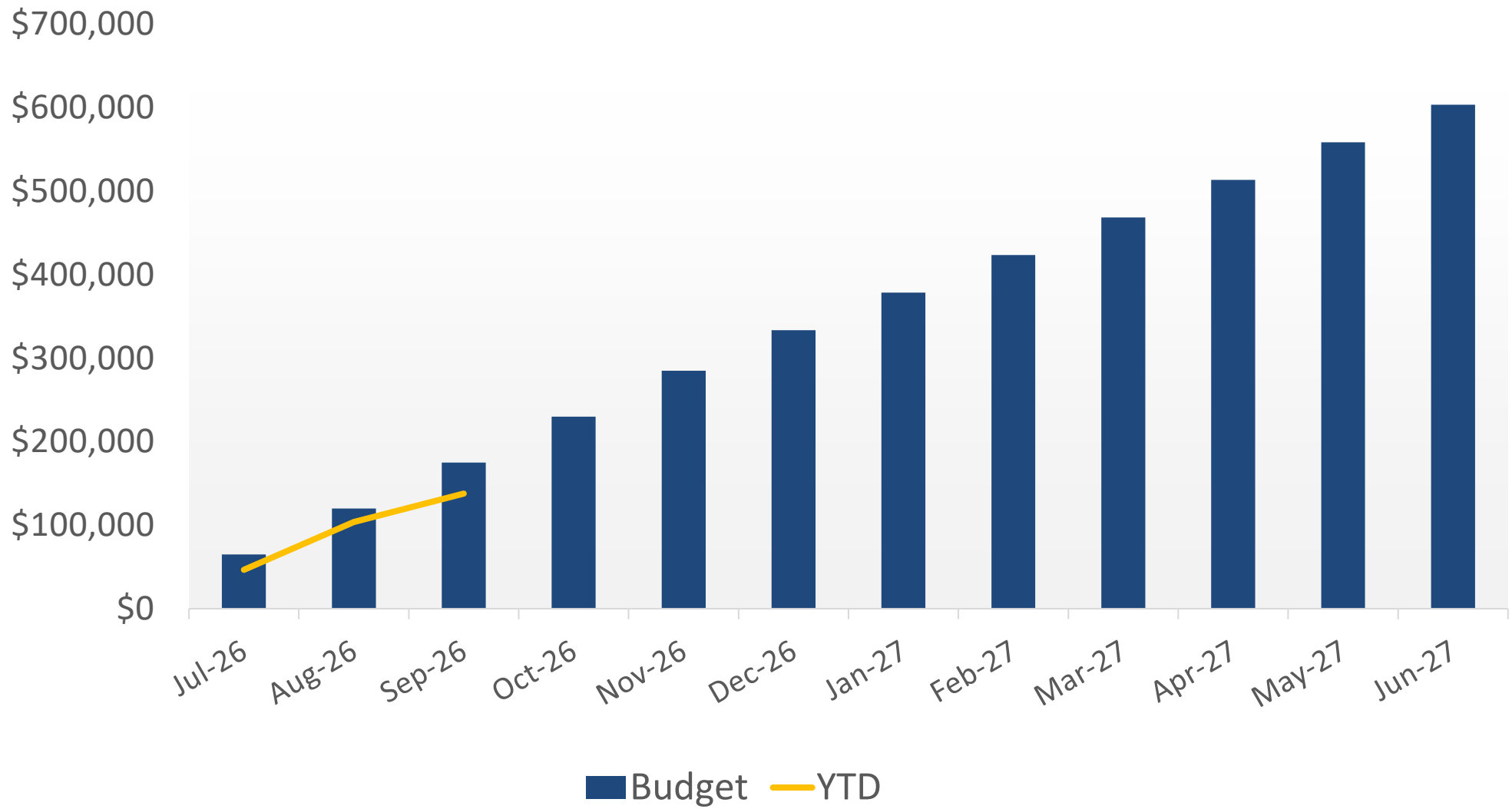
Provost & Pritchard – Budget-to-Actuals

FY 26/27

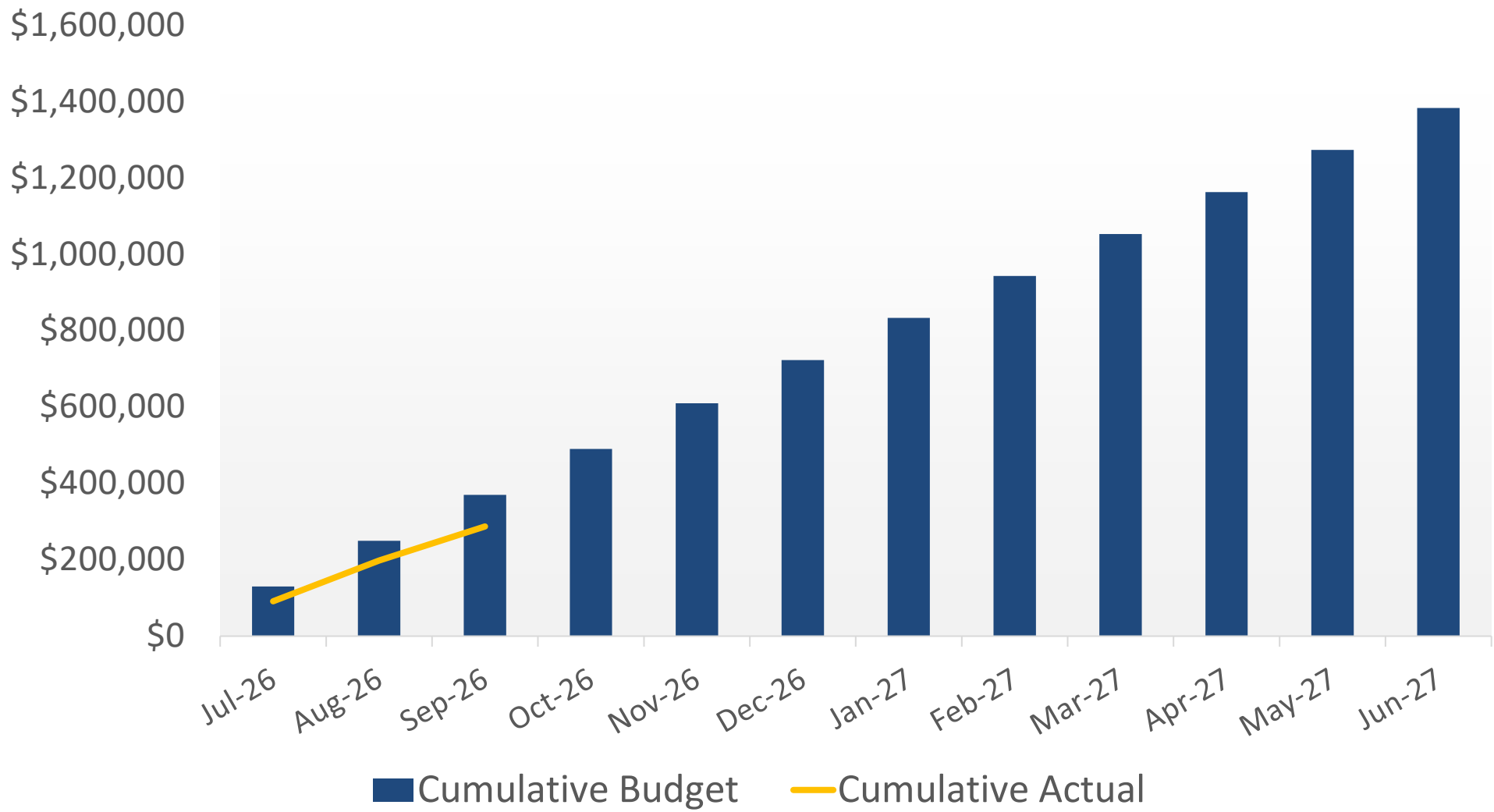


Woodard & Curran – Budget-to-Actuals

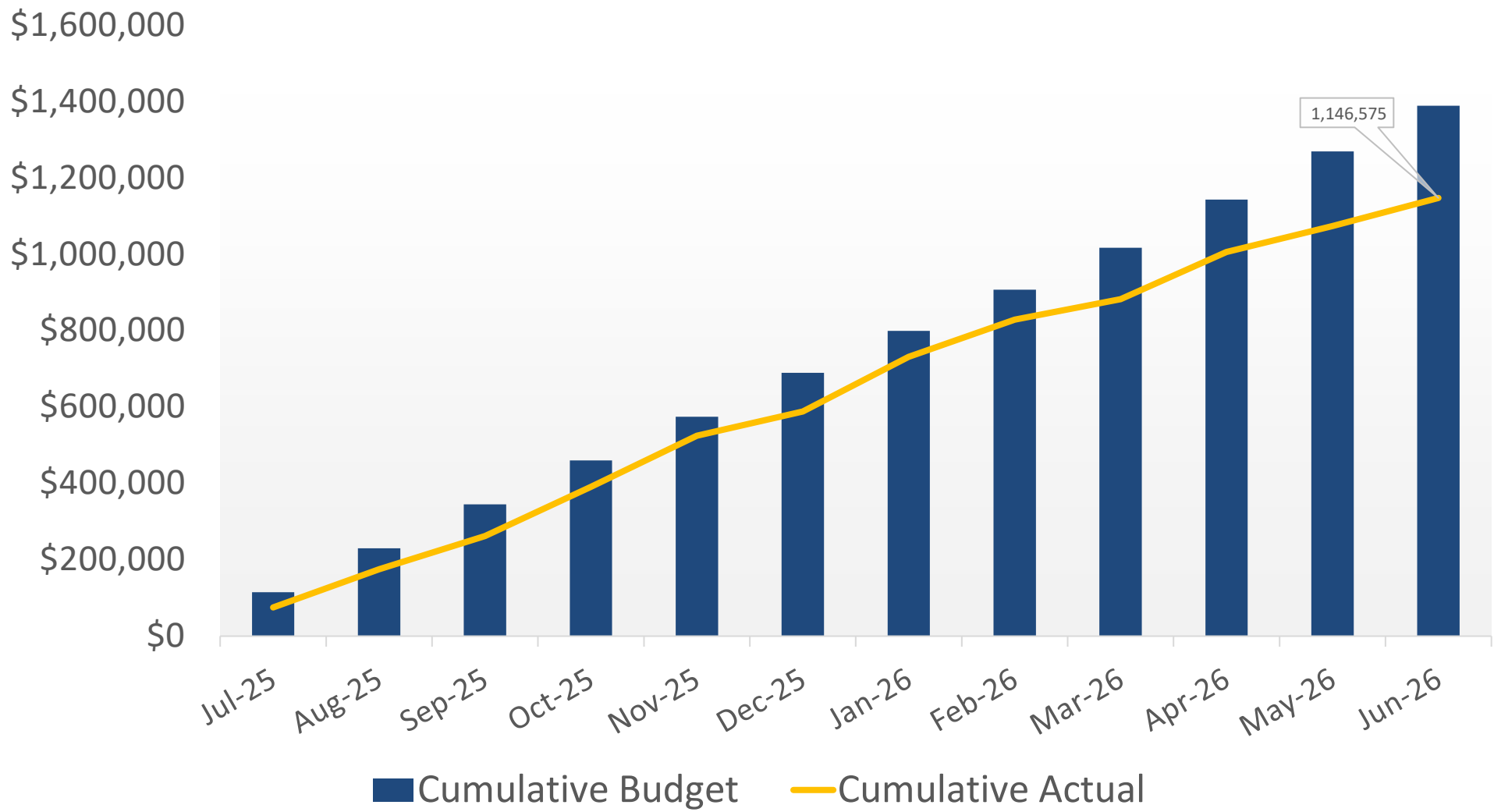
FY 26/27



CBGSA FY 26/27 – Budget-to-Actuals



CBGSA FY 25/26 – Budget-to-Actuals



TO: Board of Directors
Agenda Item No. 9a

FROM: Brian Van Lienden, Woodard & Curran

DATE: November 4, 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



HALLMARK GROUP Woodard & Curran

September-October Accomplishments

- ✓ Performed model simulation in CBWRM of locations with increased water use outside the CMA
- ✓ Reviewed and identified potential grant opportunities
- ✓ Performed website and DMS updates
- ✓ Performed additional update to model data to incorporate findings of fault investigations
- ✓ Continued development of land use data entry template for the Cuyama Basin DMS

Update on Processor for Local Land Use Data Reporting

- Processor is being developed through the Opti DMS site
- It will allow landowners to enter their current year cropping data
- Submitted data will be saved and exported for input into the CBWRM model
- A link will be sent out when cropping data is requested for 2026

