

SUTTER EXTENSION WATER DISTRICT

NOTICE OF DECISION TO SERVE AS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Attn:

Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager
Senior Engineering Geologist
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room 213A
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Bill Brewster
Senior Engineering Geologist
California Department of Water Resources
North Central Region
3500 Industrial Blvd
West Sacramento, CA 95691

Sutter Extension Water District (“SEWD”) provides this notice of its decision to serve as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”) for those areas of the Sacramento Valley Sutter and Sacramento Valley East Butte Groundwater Sub-Basins identified in Exhibit A (collectively, “the Basin”) pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.2.

SEWD is a California Water District formed and operating under the provisions of the California Water District Law (California Water Code Section 34000, and following), and it has the authority to exercise powers related to groundwater management. SEWD is located in Sutter County, and it depends on the Sacramento Valley Sutter and Sacramento Valley East Butte Groundwater Sub-Basins (collectively, the “Basin”), unadjudicated groundwater basins underlying its boundaries, to help meet the water needs of its landowners.

On September 24, 2015, SEWD held a public hearing to consider its decision to serve as a GSA for the areas of the Basin within its boundaries. Notice of this hearing was published in the *Appeal-Democrat*, a paper of general circulation in the Basin, as provided by Water Code Section 10723(b) and Government Code Section 6066. No negative comments were received prior to or at the hearing. SEWD adopted Resolution No. 2015-02, attached as Exhibit B, following the hearing. SEWD has not adopted any other bylaws, regulations, or ordinances in its role as GSA at this time.

SEWD has communicated with parties interested in the sustainable management of groundwater in the Basin, and will continue to solicit feedback from those parties as the plan is developed. Pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.8(a)(4) SEWD will consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing Groundwater Sustainability Plans (“GSPs”). These interests include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

- *Holders of overlying groundwater rights:*
 - *Agricultural users:* This Basin area is composed almost entirely of agricultural users, most of whom have an existing relationship with the District. SEWD will communicate with landowners to assure that they understand their on-going

opportunity to participate in developing the GSP for the Basin.

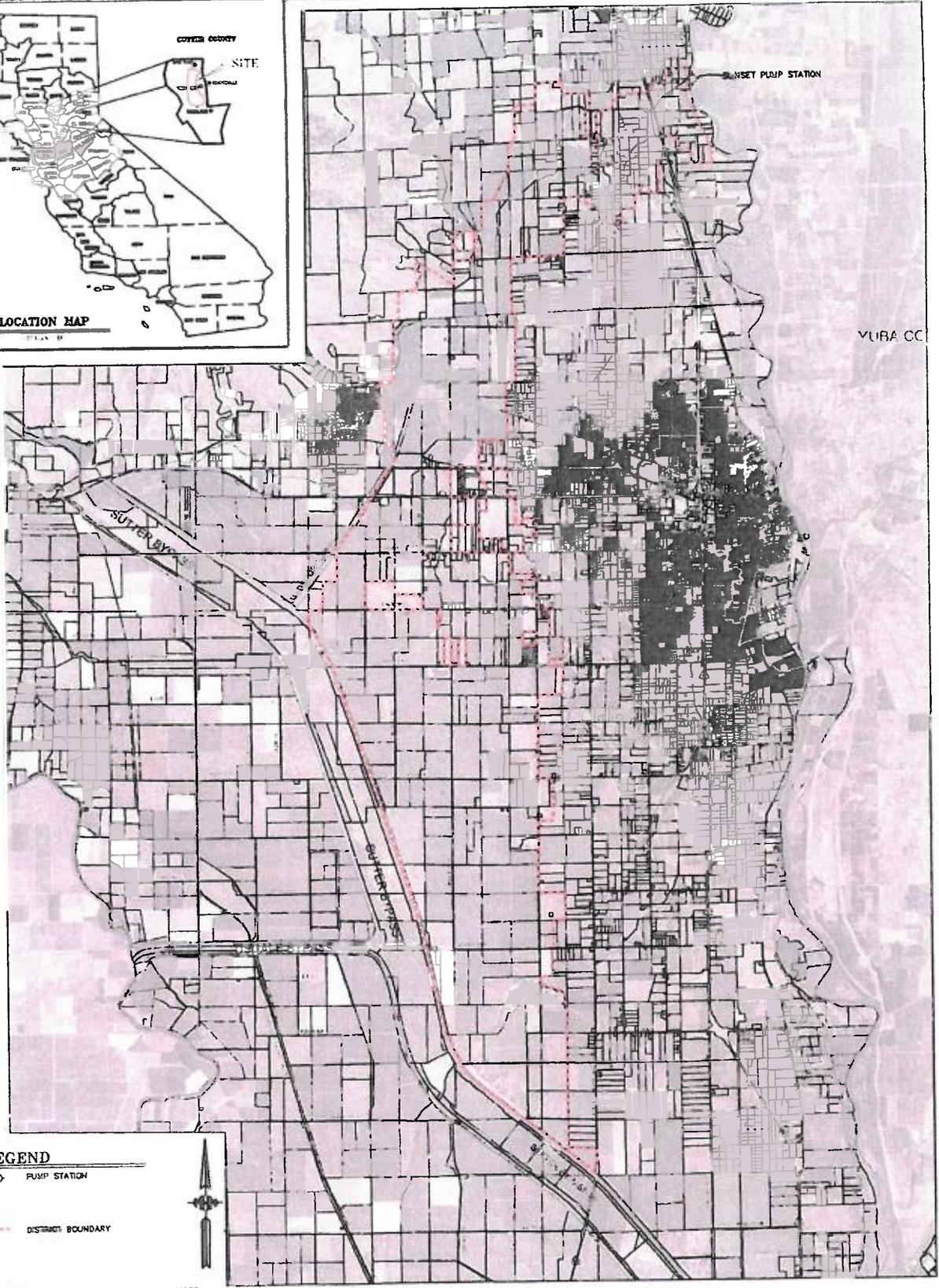
- *Domestic well owners:* There are some domestic wells within the GSA, however, SEWD anticipates that many will fall under SGMA's exclusions for de minimus extractors. As with agricultural users, SEWD will communicate with these landowners to assure that they understand their on-going opportunity to participate in developing the GSP for the Basin
- *Municipal well operators:* N/A. There are no municipal well operators within the boundaries of the GSA. Portions of the GSA overlap with the sphere of influence of the City of Yuba City (although those portions are outside the City's boundaries). SEWD will continue to communicate with and solicit feedback from the City of Yuba City and other neighboring municipal suppliers as it develops the GSP.
- *Public water systems:* N/A. There are no public water systems within the boundaries of the GSA. As noted above, portions of the GSA overlap with the sphere of influence of the City of Yuba City. Yuba City does maintain a public water system, and SEWD will continue to communicate with and solicit feedback from the City and it moves forward in developing the GSP.
- *Local land use planning agencies:*
 - Butte and Sutter Counties: Although the area that SEWD proposes to manage is entirely within Sutter County, portions of the larger Sacramento Valley East Butte Groundwater Sub-Basin are in Butte County. Accordingly, SEWD provided notice of its intention to serve as a GSA to both counties, and will continue to communicate with and solicit feedback from them as the GSA develops the plan.
 - Other Water, Irrigation, and Reclamation Districts outside the GSA boundaries: SEWD provided courtesy notice of its intention to serve as a GSA to the three other members of the Joint Districts (Biggs-West Gridley Water District, Butte Water District, and Richvale Irrigation District), as well as Reclamation District No. 777, Reclamation District No. 2056, Reclamation District No. 2054, Feather Water District, and Western Canal Water District. SEWD will continue to communicate with and solicit feedback from these neighboring agencies as it develops the GSP.
 - Cities of Live Oak and Yuba City: SEWD provided notice of its intention to serve as a GSA to both cities, and will continue to communicate with and solicit feedback from them as it develops the GSP.
 - Sutter Community Services District: Sutter Community Services District serves domestic water within its boundaries, portions of which overlap with SEWD's boundaries. Prior to the SEWD's hearing on the GSA decision, Sutter Community Services District and SEWD agreed that SEWD would serve as a GSA for those overlap areas.

- *Environmental users of groundwater:* There is some use of groundwater for waterfowl habitat, including within the Sutter National Wildlife Refuge, but otherwise there are no environmental users of groundwater within the GSA boundaries.
- *Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater bodies:* N/A
- *The federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands:* As noted above, portions of the Sutter National Wildlife Refuge, which is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are within the GSA's boundaries. The GSA will coordinate with the Fish & Wildlife Service and other relevant federal agencies as it moves forward in developing the GSP.
- *California Native American tribes.* N/A.
- *Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems:* N/A.
- *Entities listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or a part of a groundwater basin managed by the GSA:* SEWD, Sutter County and Butte County each have a groundwater management plan adopted under Water Code Sections 10750, *et seq.* The GSA will continue to coordinate with both counties regarding the plan.

The District and other interest holders' roles and responsibilities will be further defined in the plan. The District's staff welcomes feedback on and during this process from the state and any of the agencies or organizations listed here. If the Department of Water Resources requires anything further prior to the acceptance of this notification of the District's decision to serve as a GSA for the area identified in Exhibit A, please address your concerns to Lynn Phillips, Secretary and General Manager of SEWD.

EXHIBIT A

GSA MAP



LEGEND

◇ PUMP STATION

--- DISTRICT BOUNDARY



SUTTER EXTENSION WATER DISTRICT

4525 FRANKLIN ROAD, YUBA CITY

APRIL 1935

REVISED APRIL 2013

M-H-M ENGINEERS
1104 H STREET
YUBA CITY, CA 95904
PH: 530-782-4400
FAX: 530-782-4405
REG. NO. 60-110

EXHIBIT B
GSA Resolution



SUTTER EXTENSION WATER DISTRICT

4525 FRANKLIN ROAD
YUBA CITY, CALIFORNIA 95993
AREA CODE 530 673-7138
FAX 530 673-7194

RESOLUTION NO. 2015-02

**RESOLUTION BY
SUTTER EXTENSION WATER DISTRICT
ADOPTING NEGATIVE DECLARATION,
APPROVING NOTICE OF DETERMINATION
AND GIVING FINAL APPROVAL FOR
ELECTING TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

WHEREAS the Legislature recently adopted the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014, which authorizes local agencies to manage groundwater in a sustainable fashion; and

WHEREAS, in order to use the authority granted in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, a local agency or combination of local agencies must elect to become a groundwater sustainability agency; and

WHEREAS, where more than one local agency overlies a groundwater basin, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act calls on local agencies to cooperate to manage the groundwater basin in a sustainable manner for the common good; and

WHEREAS, the District overlies two unadjudicated sub-basins where it is appropriate for the District to be a groundwater sustainability agency, namely the Sacramento Valley East Butte Basin and the Sacramento Valley Sutter Basin (collectively, "Basins"); and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the District to work cooperatively with other water agencies, cities and the Counties of Sutter and Butte, as may be appropriate, to manage the Basins in a sustainable fashion; and

WHEREAS, the District provided notice, pursuant to Government Code section 6066, of its intention to hold a hearing on the question of whether it should be the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the District has provided informal notice of its interest in serving as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for its boundaries by means of communications with neighboring water agencies, cities and the Counties of Sutter and Butte; and

WHEREAS, on September 24, 2015, the District held a public hearing to consider whether it should elect to become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for those portions of the Basins underlying its boundaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the Sutter Extension Water District as follows:

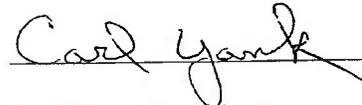
1. The District hereby elects to become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for those portions of the Sacramento Valley East Butte and the Sacramento Valley Sutter Basins underlying its boundaries.
2. District staff are hereby directed to provide notice of this election to the California Department of Water Resources in the manner required by law.
3. District staff are hereby directed to reach out no later than June 30, 2016 to coordinate with neighboring Groundwater Sustainability Agencies that may be established in order to begin the process of developing groundwater sustainability plans for the Basins. District staff are further directed to develop those plans in consultation and close coordination with other local agencies, as contemplated by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

ADOPTED, this 24th day of September 2015.

Ayes: 4

Noes: 0

Absent: 1



Carl Yank, President

September 24, 2015

I, Lynn Phillips, HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 2015-02 adopted by the Board of Directors of the Sutter Extension Water District at its Special Meeting held September 24th, 2015.



Lynn Phillips, District Secretary