

March 22, 2016

Mr. Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager
Senior Engineering Geologist
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room 213A
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, California 94236-0001
Mark.Nordberg@water.ca.gov

**RE: NOTICE OF INTENT TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT**

Dear Mr. Nordberg:

This letter serves as notification to the California Department of Water Resources that the Patterson Irrigation District (“**District**”) has elected to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“**GSA**”) pursuant to Water Code section 10723.8, and its intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management for that portion of the Northern Delta Mendota Subbasin that lies within the boundaries of the District. A map and shapefile showing the Subbasin, the District’s service area, and the proposed area of the GSA are attached in **Exhibit A**.

The District is in discussions with other agencies overlying the Subbasin, and is interested in working cooperatively with them. To the best of the District’s knowledge, the other entities considering formation of a GSA within the Subbasins’ boundaries currently include:

NORTHERN DELTA MENDOTA SUBBASIN

City of Patterson
West Stanislaus Irrigation District
Del Puerto Water District
Stanislaus County
San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority

A copy of the resolution electing to become a GSA for the Subbasin is attached in **Exhibit B**.

The District did not adopt any new bylaws, ordinances, or new authorities to elect to become a GSA.

Prior to the election to become a GSA, a public hearing was held on March 16, 2016 pursuant to Water Code section 10723(b).

As required by Water Code section 10723.8(a)(4), the District developed a list of interested parties, and this list will continue to be amended as necessary during the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) development process. As required by the Sustainability Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”), the District will consider all beneficial uses and users of groundwater within the Subbasins, as well as those responsible for developing GSPs. The District will solicit feedback and participate in discussions with interested parties during GSP development. These interests include, but are not limited to the following:

- ***Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:***

- *Agriculture users.*

The District’s Board of Directors is comprised of five members, each representing the agricultural water users within the district. Therefore, agricultural users are exclusively represented on the District’s governing board.

- *Domestic well owners.*

There are domestic wells within the GSA, however, based on the understanding of groundwater conditions that currently exist, or are likely to exist in the foreseeable future, the GSA anticipates that the plan will exclude domestic wells.

- ***Municipal well operators.***

The City of Patterson operates municipal wells within the Basin, but not within the District’s service area. The District has been meeting regularly with the City of Patterson to discuss implementation SGMA, and will continue to do so.

- ***Public water systems.***

The District will work with Stanislaus County to identify any public water systems within the GSA relying on groundwater supplies.

- ***Local land use planning agencies.***

Again, the City of Patterson operates municipal wells within the Basin, but not within the service area of the District or the proposed GSA. The District has been meeting regularly with the City of Patterson, and Stanislaus County to discuss implementation SGMA, and will continue to do so.

- ***Environmental users of groundwater.***

The District is working to identify agencies advocating for environmental uses within the Basin and will work with those entities in developing the GSA.

- ***Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater flows.***

The District and the United States Bureau of Reclamation are the sole surface water providers within the GSA boundaries. The District has a working relationship with numerous surface water users within the basin through its participation in the

Northern Delta Mendota Subbasin Group, each coordinated by the San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority.

- ***The federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands.***

The District has a contractual relationship with the United States Bureau of Reclamation, and will continue to work with the federal government in development of the Groundwater Management Plan for the Basin.

- ***California Native American tribes.*** N/A

- ***Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems.***

The District has identified disadvantaged communities within the basin from DWR's web page, and will cooperate with Stanislaus County to work with any disadvantaged communities within the GSA relying on groundwater supplies.

- ***Entities listed in Water Code section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or a part of a groundwater basin managed by the GSA.***

The District has a groundwater management plan adopted under Water Code Section 10750, et seq.

The District intends to work cooperatively with other agencies, water providers, and other interested stakeholders within Stanislaus County, and the State of California, regarding the sustainable management of groundwater within the Subbasins. The District intends to use its existing Board of Directors for governance purposes.

Very truly yours,



MARC N. VANDEN
General Manager

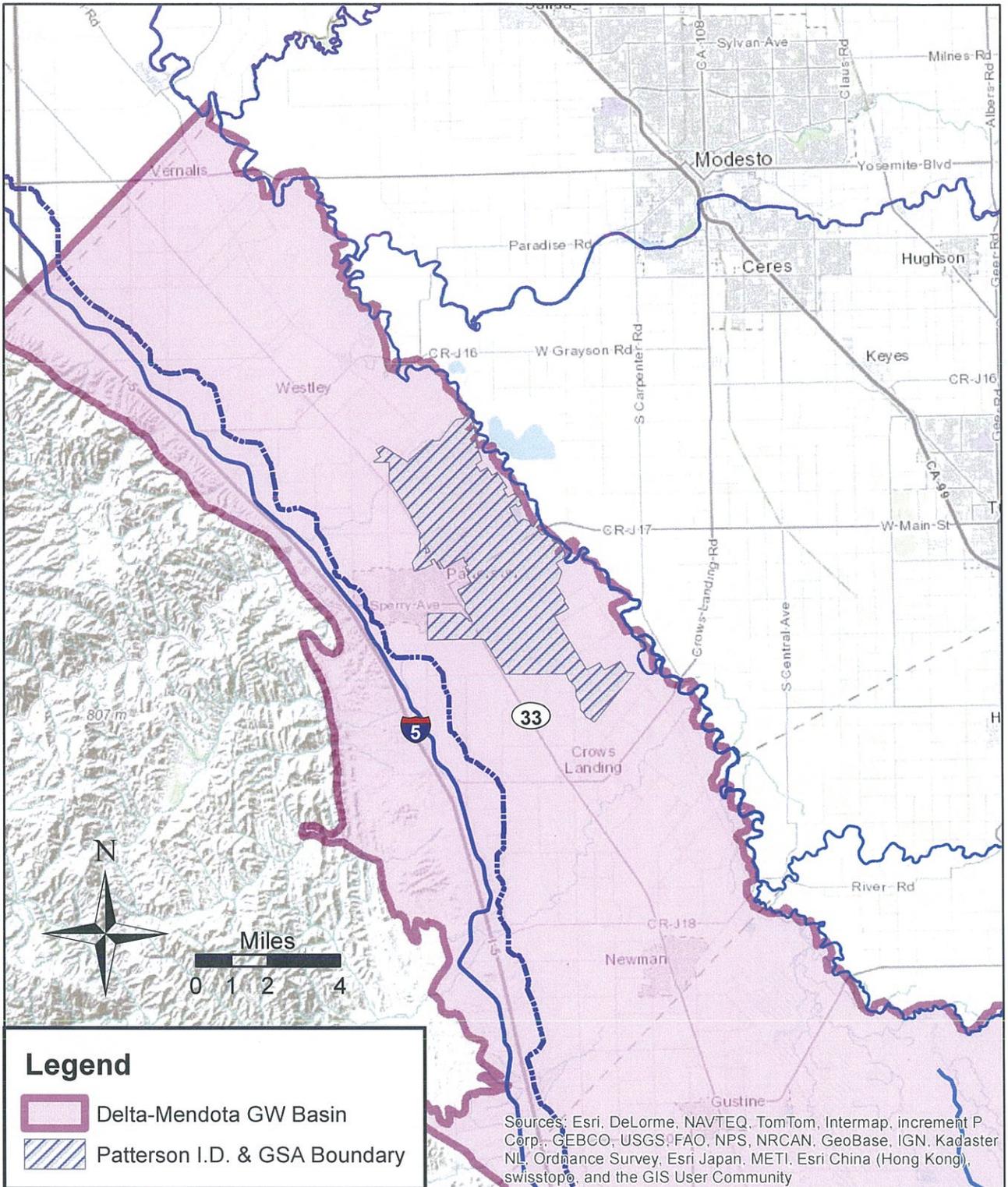
Attachments:

Exhibit A – Map/GIS shape file of the Northern Delta Mendota Subbasins

Exhibit B – Copy of resolution of election to become a GSA

EXHIBIT A

**MAP OF SUBBASINS, THE DISTRICT SERVICE AREA, AND THE PROPOSED
AREA OF THE GSA**



**Patterson Irrigation District
Groundwater Sustainability Agency Boundary**

Prepared by:
Summers Engineering, Inc.
Consulting Engineers
Hanford California

EXHIBIT B

**RESOLUTION OF THE PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT DECLARING ITS
INTENT TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UNDER THE
SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT FOR THE NORTHERN
DELTA MENDOTA SUBBASIN**

**PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION NO. 01-2016**

**RESOLUTION OF THE PATTERSON IRRIGATION DISTRICT DECLARING ITS
INTENTION TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UNDER
THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT FOR THE
NORTHERN DELTA MENDOTA SUBBASIN**

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Senate Bills 1168 and 1319 and Assembly Bill 1739, known collectively as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA); and

WHEREAS, the SGMA went into effect on January 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, the SGMA requires all high and medium priority groundwater basins, as designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 118, to be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA); and

WHEREAS, the Central Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) has been designated by DWR as a high priority basin; and

WHEREAS, the SGMA authorizes any local agency overlying the Basin to elect to become a GSA within the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the Patterson Irrigation District (District) is a local agency as defined under the SGMA and is therefore eligible to serve as a GSA within the Basin; and

WHEREAS, Section 10723.2 of the SGMA requires that a GSA consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing groundwater sustainability plans; and

WHEREAS, Section 10723.8 of the SGMA requires that a local agency electing to be a GSA to notify the DWR of its election and intention to undertake sustainable groundwater management within a basin; and

WHEREAS, the District held a public hearing on March 16, 2016 after publication of notice pursuant to Government Code section 6066 to consider the adoption of this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the District wishes to exercise the powers and authorities of a GSA granted by the SGMA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Patterson Irrigation District hereby elects to become a groundwater sustainability agency for those portions of the Northern Delta Mendota Subbasin lying within its boundaries; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District will develop an outreach program to include all stakeholders to ensure that all beneficial uses and users of groundwater are considered; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board Members of the Patterson Irrigation District are authorized to submit to the DWR on behalf of the District a notice of intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management in accordance with the SGMA (Part 2.74 of the Water Code); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such notification shall include the boundaries of the Northern Delta Mendota Subbasin that the District intends to manage, which shall include the lands within the District boundaries, a copy of this resolution, a list of interested parties developed pursuant to Section 10723.2 of the SGMA, and an explanation of how their interests will be considered in the development and operation of the GSA and the development and implementation of the GSA's groundwater sustainability plan.

On motion by Director Barbaste and seconded by Director Fantozzi, the forgoing resolution was passed and adopted on March 16, 2016 by the following vote.

AYES – Azevedo, Reichmuth, Barbaste, Fantozzi, and Prevostini

NOES –

ABSTAINS –

ABSENT –

By: 
President

ATTEST:

By: 
Secretary

PROOF OF PUBLICATION
(2015.5 C.C.P)

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
County of Stanislaus

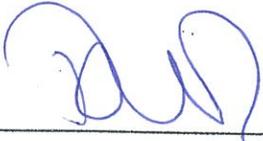
I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the County aforesaid; I am over the age of eighteen years and not a party to or interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of the printer of the Patterson Irrigator, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published once a week on Thursdays, in the city of Patterson, California, County of Stanislaus, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court, of the County of Stanislaus, State of California, under the date of June 23, 1952, Case Number 47304; that the notice, of which the annexed is a printed copy (set in type not smaller than nonpareil), has been published in each regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in any supplement thereof on the following dates, to -wit:

2/25, 3/3

all in the year 2016

I certify (or declare) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Dated at Patterson, California, this 3
day of March, 2016



Signature

This space is for the County Clerk's Filing stamp

Proof of Publication of

This publication serves as Gov. Code section 6066 notice that the Patterson Irrigation District intends to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA") under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 for the Northern Delta Mendota Subbasin. The Patterson Irrigation District will be holding a public hearing in Stanislaus County at 948 Orange Avenue, Patterson, CA 95363, on March 16, 2016 at 1:00 p.m.

2/25,3/3