



Westlands Water District

3130 N. Fresno Street, P.O. Box 6056, Fresno, California 93703-6056, (559) 224-1523, FAX (559) 241-6277

July 21, 2016

VIA EMAIL

California Department of Water Resources
Attention: Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager

SUBJECT: Notices of Intent to Serve as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Westside Subbasin

Dear Mr. Nordberg,

The purpose of this letter is to provide notice to the Department of Water Resources (DWR), pursuant Water Code Section 10723.8, regarding Westlands Water District's (Westlands) Board decision to serve as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) of the Westside Subbasin (Subbasin Number 5-22.09, also shown as Exhibit A). Westlands is a local agency with water supply and water management responsibilities in the area overlying the Westside Subbasin, and is an appropriate local agency to serve as the GSA for the Westside Subbasin. At this time, no other entity has filed a notice of intent to serve as a GSA for the management area identified in Exhibit A.

The proposed GSA management area is approximately 626,400 acres, which includes 12,100 acres outside of Westlands' jurisdictional boundary that reside in Fresno and Kings Counties. Westlands and Fresno County will execute a Memorandum of Understanding which authorizes Westlands to serve as the GSA for all the Fresno County lands within the Westside Subbasin, where no other agency is acting as the GSA.

On July 13, 2016 in Kings County and July 19, 2016 in Fresno County, Westlands held public hearings to receive public testimony as to whether Westlands should serve as the GSA of the Westside Subbasin. In compliance with Water Code Section 10723 (b) and Government Code 6066, notices (Exhibit B) of these hearings were advertised in Fresno and Kings Counties newspapers on June 27 and July 5.

Westlands did not receive any written comments prior to the hearings. Additionally, Westlands did not receive any oral or written opposition during either of the hearings. The only comments Westlands received were in support of Westlands' GSA formation from Kings and Fresno Counties. Kings County's Board of Supervisors unanimously supported (Exhibit C) Westlands' GSA formation.

Immediately following the public hearing on July 19, Westlands' Board of Directors took action to serve as the GSA of the Westside Subbasin and approved Resolution 111-16, which directs Westlands' Staff to file a notice of intent for Westlands to serve as the exclusive GSA of the Westside Subbasin.

Interested parties within Westlands' proposed GSA management area were determined pursuant to Water Code Sections 10723.2, and include:

- (a) Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:
 - (1) Agricultural Users: Westlands' proposed GSA management area is composed primarily of agricultural users, within Westlands' jurisdictional boundary. Land owners within the Westside Subbasin hold the groundwater rights within the GSA management area. The GSA shall consider the interest of individual land owners in the development of the GSP for the Westside Subbasin. Effective May 17, 2016, Westlands provided interested parties a means to provide comments and will host of a series of workshops to best address suggestions/concerns in the development of the GSP.
 - (2) Domestic Well Users: Westlands' proposed GSA service area contains approximately 35 domestic well users. Westlands has yet to determine if the domestic well locations will be subject to the GSP developed by Westlands because SGMA classifies domestic well users producing less than two acre-feet per year as de minimis extractors.
- (b) Municipal Wells Operators: The Westside Subbasin boundary includes eight communities; the cities of Avenal and Huron; the communities of Three Rocks, Cantua Creek, Turk, Calfax, O'Neil Farms and El Porvenir. To Westlands' knowledge, Cantua Creek is the only community that extracts groundwater for municipal use. However, Westlands will work with any of these interested parties to develop a GSP that sustainably manages the Westside Subbasin.
- (c) Public Water Systems: The Westside Subbasin boundary includes eight public water systems; Avenal, Huron, Three Rocks, Cantua Creek, Turk, Calfax, O'Neil Farms and El Porvenir.
- (d) Local Planning Agencies: Fresno and Kings Counties. Westlands will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with Fresno County for coverage of county areas that fall outside of Westlands' jurisdictional boundary. Kings County provided Westlands with a letter supporting our GSA activities (Exhibit C).
- (e) Environmental Users of Groundwater: The Westside Subbasin includes Pilobos Wildlife Area and Pleasant Valley Ecological Area. Reliance on groundwater is unknown at this time, however Westlands will work with interested parties when developing a GSP.
- (f) Surface Water Users: The Westside Subbasin does not encompass hydrologic surface water bodies.

- (g) Federal Government: Naval Air Station Lemoore (NASL) resides within the Westside Subbasin. NASL's interest will be included in the development of the GSP.
- (h) California Tribes: The Westside Subbasin boundary does not include California Tribes.
- (i) Disadvantage Communities: The Westside Subbasin boundary includes five disadvantage communities; Avenal, Huron, Three Rocks, Cantua Creek, and Lemoore Station (also referred to as NASL).
- (j) Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities: The Westside Subbasin boundary includes five disadvantaged unincorporated communities; Calflax, Cantua Creek, Mendota, Three Rocks, and Turk.
- (k) Entities Listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or parts of the groundwater basin managed by the GSA:
 - Broadview Water District
 - Westlands Water District
 - San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority

Westlands will host a series of interactive workshops to provide water users, land owners, and interested parties' information/ updates on the District's GSP development. The workshops will provide a public forum allowing for collaboration with the District's staff during SGMA implementation.

If you have any questions, please call Kiti Campbell at 559-241-6226 or me at 559-241-6215. Thank you for reviewing Westlands' Notice of Intent to serve as the GSA of the Westside Subbasin.

Sincerely,



Jose Gutierrez, P.E.

Deputy General Manager Resources

Enclosures: [Resolution 111-16](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Exhibit B](#)
[Exhibit C](#)

RESOLUTION NO. 111-16

**A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
ELECTING FOR WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT TO SERVE AS A
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
PURSUANT TO THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT**

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), California Water Code section 10720, et. seq., which was signed into law on September 16, 2014, requires that each California groundwater basin or subbasin be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), or multiple GSAs, and that such management be implemented pursuant to an approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) or multiple GSPs; and

WHEREAS, Westlands Water District (District) is a local agency as defined in Water Code section 10721(n); and

WHEREAS, California Water section 10723(a) authorizes any local agency overlying a groundwater subbasin to become a GSA for that basin; and

WHEREAS, the District's service area overlies the subbasin defined as the Westside Subbasin in the San Joaquin Valley Basin, as depicted by the map attached hereto as Exhibit A, 2016 boundary modification pending, an un-adjudicated groundwater basin in Fresno and Kings Counties; and

WHEREAS, public hearings were noticed in the Fresno Bee and Hanford Sentinel on June 28, 2016 and July 5, 2016 pursuant to Water Code Section 10723(b); and

WHEREAS, the District held public hearings on July 13, 2016 and July 19, 2016 to consider forming a GSA of the Westside Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, after considering the GSA formation and hearing public testimony, the Board determined that it is in the best interest of the District, its landowners, and water users to serve as the GSA of the Westside Subbasin.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED as follows:

1. The District elects to serve as the GSA of the Westside Subbasin as depicted by the map attached hereto as Exhibit A, including future revisions approved by the District and the California Department of Water Resources.
2. Within thirty days of the effective date of this Resolution, the General Manager or his designee shall submit a notice of intent to the California Department of Water

Resources, pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.8(a), and complete all necessary tasks related to this matter.

3. The General Manger or his designee shall, after complying with Water Code Section 10723.8, begin developing a GSP for the Westside Subbasin in accordance with the GSP emergency regulations.

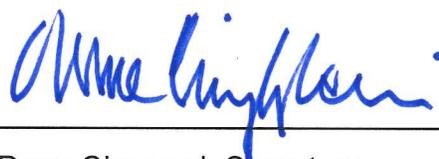
4. The General Manager or his designee shall maintain a list of interested parties regarding the newly formed GSA pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.4.

Adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Directors, at Fresno, California, this 19th day of July, 2016.

AYES: Directors Anderson, Coelho, Errotabere, Esajian, Enos, Neves, Peracchi and Woolf.

NOES: None

ABSENT: Director Bourdeau



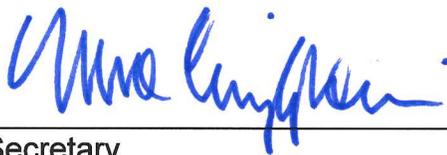
Dave Ciapponi, Secretary

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
)ss
COUNTY OF FRESNO)

I, Dave Ciapponi, do hereby certify that I am the duly appointed, qualified and acting Secretary of Westlands Water District, a public district organized under the laws of the State of California with its offices at Fresno, California; that Resolution No. 111-16 was duly and regularly adopted by the Board of Directors of Westlands Water District at a meeting of said Board of Directors duly called and held on the 19th of July, 2016, at the offices of said Westlands Water District at which a quorum of said Directors was present and acting; and that said Resolution is still in full force and effect.

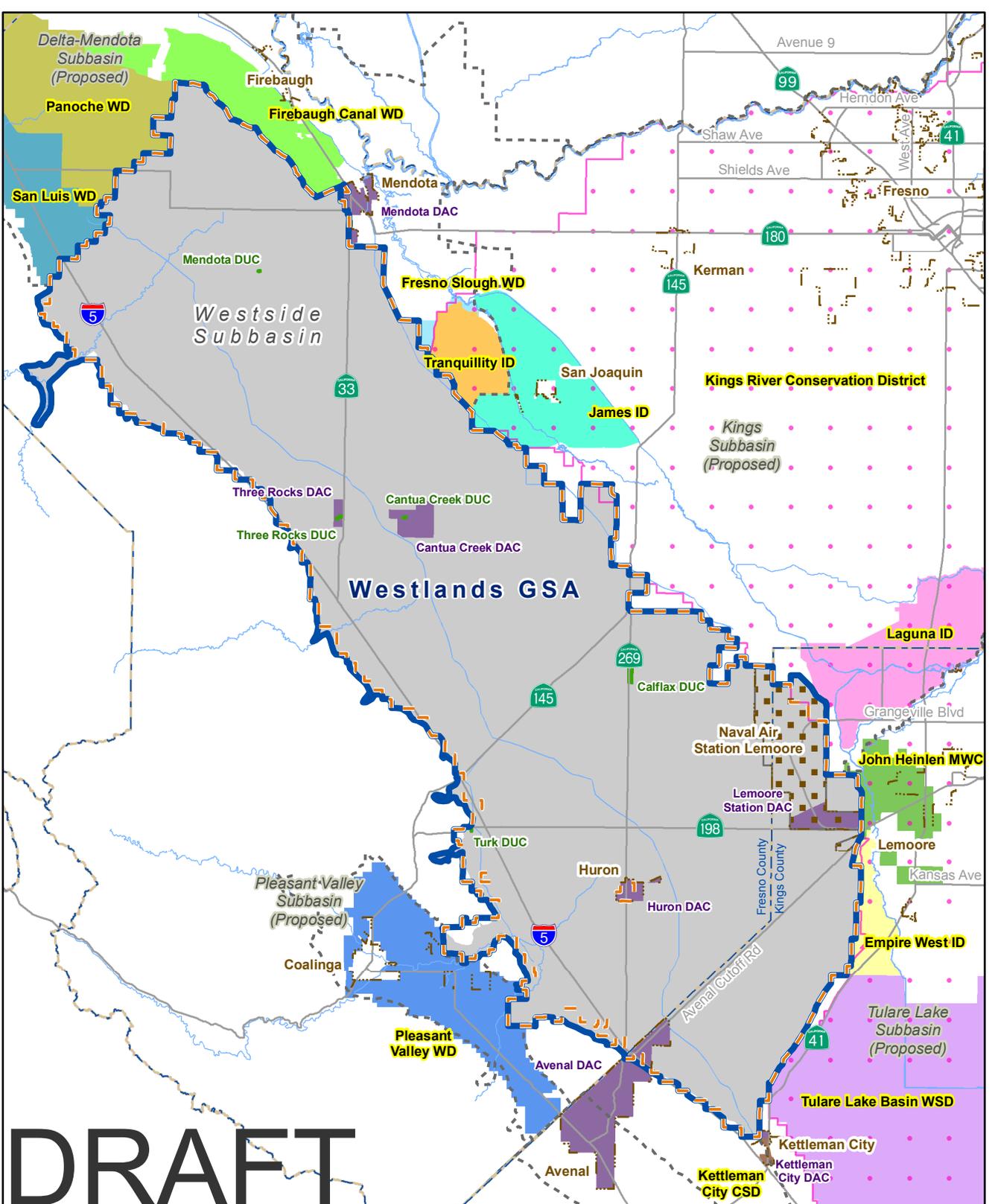
IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal as Secretary of said District this 20th day of July, 2016.





Secretary
Westlands Water District

DRAFT



DRAFT

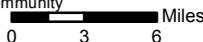
Legend

- Major Roads
- Waterway
- WWD Service Area Boundary
- - - SGMA Proposed San Joaquin Valley Subbasins
- Proposed Westside Subbasin July 2016
- Proposed Groundwater Sustainability Agency of the Westside Subbasin and Westlands Water District (July 2016)
- Affected or Adjacent Local Agencies
- Water Districts

- Municipal/Jurisdictional Boundaries
- Disadvantaged Community (DAC)
- Disadvantaged Unincorporated Community (DUC)
- Naval Air Station Lemoore
- City/Community

Exhibit A
Proposed Groundwater Sustainability Agency of the Westside Subbasin July 2016 Revisions

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
 3130 N. FRESNO ST.
 FRESNO, CALIFORNIA 93703
 559.224.1523 FAX 559.241.6277



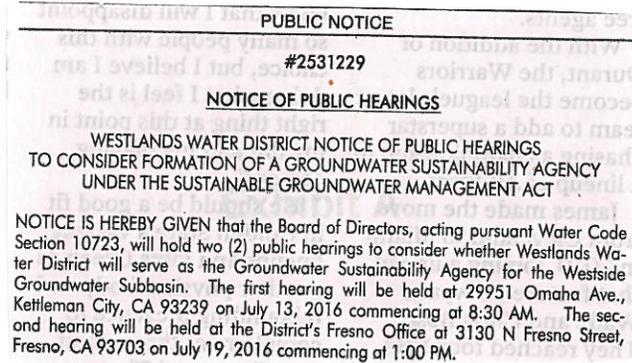
R:\DWG\GSA\Archived\2016-W-0042\GSA Formation Map 07182016 8 by 11 Ver B.mxd

Date: 7/19/2016

DRAFT

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

COUNTY OF FRESNO STATE OF CALIFORNIA



The undersigned states:

McClatchy Newspapers in and on all dates herein stated was a corporation, and the owner and publisher of The Fresno Bee. The Fresno Bee is a daily newspaper of general circulation now published, and on all-the-dates herein stated was published in the City of Fresno, County of Fresno, and has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Fresno, State of California, under the date of November 28, 1994, Action No. 520058-9.

The undersigned is and on all dates herein mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of twenty-one years, and is the principal clerk of the printer and publisher of said newspaper; and that the notice, a copy of which is hereto annexed, marked Exhibit A, hereby made a part hereof, was published in The Fresno Bee in each issue thereof (in type not smaller than nonpareil), on the following dates.

June 28, 2016, July 05, 2016

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

Dated July 05, 2016

Shelly Zoratto

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

COUNTY OF FRESNO STATE OF CALIFORNIA

The undersigned states:

McClatchy Newspapers in and on all dates herein stated was a corporation, and the owner and publisher of The Fresno Bee. The Fresno Bee is a daily newspaper of general circulation now published, and on all-the-dates herein stated was published in the City of Fresno, County of Fresno, and has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Fresno, State of California, under the date of November 28, 1994, Action No. 520058-9.

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June 28, 2016, July 05, 2016

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

Dated July 05, 2016



PUBLIC NOTICE
#2531229
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
TO CONSIDER FORMATION OF A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Board of Directors, acting pursuant Water Code Section 10723, will hold two (2) public hearings to consider whether Westlands Water District will serve as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Westside Groundwater Subbasin. The first hearing will be held at 29951 Omaha Ave., Kettleman City, CA 93239 on July 13, 2016 commencing at 8:30 AM. The second hearing will be held at the District's Fresno Office at 3130 N Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93703 on July 19, 2016 commencing at 1:00 PM.

***** Proof of Publication *****

The Sentinel
Lee Central California Newspapers
P.O. Box 9
Hanford, CALIFORNIA 93232
PHONE 888-790-0915
Sentinel_Finance@lee.net

WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT
PO BOX 6056
FRESNO, CA 93703

ORDER NUMBER 61230

Publication- The Hanford Sentinel

State of California

County of Kings

I am a citizen of the United States and a resident of the county
forsaid; I am over the age of eighteen years, and not a part to or
interested in the above-entitled matter. I am the principal clerk of The
Hanford Sentinel, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and
published daily in the city of Hanford, County of Kings, and which
newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by
the superior court of the County of Kings, State of California, under
the date of October 23, 1951, case number 11623.

That I know from my own personal knowledge 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:

PUBLISHED ON: 06/28/2016, 07/05/2016

TOTAL AD COST: 120.45
FILED ON: 7/5/2016

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

Dated at Kings County, California

This Day 5 of July, 2016.

Signature Rusty Williamson

Ad#61230

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS
TO CONSIDER FORMATION OF A GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY UNDER THE SUSTAINABLE
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held at the District's Fresno Office at 3130 N Fresno Street, Fresno, CA 93703 on July
19, 2016 commencing at 1:00 PM.

Publish: June 28, July 5, 2016

COUNTY OF KINGS BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GOVERNMENT CENTER HANFORD, CALIFORNIA 93230 (559) 852-2362
Catherine Venturella, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors



AGENDA ITEM July 12, 2016

Bookmark: 3

SUBMITTED BY: County Counsel - Colleen Carlson

SUBJECT: SUPPORT FORMATION OF WESTSIDE SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY BY WESTLANDS WATER DISTRICT

SUMMARY:

Overview:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA") became law in 2014. Its purpose, over a 20 year period, is to bring groundwater uses to a sustainable level. It authorizes local agencies to work together to create plans to move toward eventual sustainability. Formation of sustainability agencies is part of that process.

Recommendation:

Support formation of the Westside Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency conditioned upon and subject to County's statutory Land Use and Constitutional Police Powers.

Fiscal Impact:

None.

BACKGROUND:

Westlands Water District ("WWD") is forming a groundwater sustainability agency ("GSA") which is being referred to as the "Westside Subbasin GSA". The boundaries of the proposed GSA are consistent with the boundaries of WWD, except that those boundaries were modified to include the Lemoore Naval Air Station ("LNAS") and a small area south of the Kings County line near the city of Avenal and another small area near Kettleman city and the I-5. The California Department of Water Resources ("DWR") recently approved this boundary modification. A map is attached for your reference. A portion of WWD and LNAS lie within Kings County and the Westside Subbasin and Tulare Lake Subbasin share a hydrologic boundary. For these reasons, WWD seeks your Board's support for their GSA formation. WWD offered to involve the County in the GSA if your Board is inclined. WWD is also willing to be responsible for such areas within the County without specific involvement by the County. The latter approach is consistent with ongoing discussions among staff for County and WWD and Countywide efforts to cover all areas within Kings County. However, as explained to WWD, staff recommends this approach be specifically conditioned upon and subject to the County's statutory Land Use and Constitutional Police Powers. WWD staff has confirmed this understanding.

2016-7-562 [78910]

BOARD ACTION:

APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED: OTHER:

ROLL CALL: NEVES, PEDERSEN, VALLE, FAGUNDES, VERBOON – AYE

I hereby certify that the above order was passed and adopted on 7/12/2016.

CATHERINE VENTURELLA, Clerk to the Board
By Melanie Curtis, Deputy.

From: [Katarina Campbell](mailto:Katarina.Campbell@westlandswater.org)
To: [Nordberg, Mark@DWR](mailto:Nordberg.Mark@DWR)
Cc: [Jose Gutierrez](mailto:Jose.Gutierrez@westlandswater.org); [Russ Freeman](mailto:Russ.Freeman@westlandswater.org); [Mathis, Dane@DWR](mailto:Mathis.Dane@DWR); [McKenzie, Charles@DWR](mailto:McKenzie.Charles@DWR); [Gooding, Benjamin@DWR](mailto:Gooding.Benjamin@DWR)
Subject: RE: Notice of Intent to serve as the GSA for the Westside Subbasin
Date: Tuesday, July 26, 2016 4:28:47 PM

Good Afternoon Mr. Nordberg,

It is my understanding that you need clarification from Westlands Water District (District) since the 2016 proposed Westside Subbasin boundary revisions are not finalized. Please recognized this email as an extension of the District's GSA formation package and include the District's GSA formation package in DWR's GSA formation table in the Westside, Delta-Mendota, Kings and Pleasant Valley Subbasins. The map and shapefile submitted on July 21 assumes DWR will adopt the Westside Subbasin as published in the Draft approved changes to California Groundwater Basin Boundaries on July 1. However, since the 2003 Bulletin 118 Boundaries still govern, our GSA management area and portions of our jurisdictional boundary include a portion of the Delta Mendota, Kings, and Pleasant Valley Subbasins. Furthermore, it is the District's understanding that once DWR approves the 2016 California Groundwater Basin Boundary revisions the management areas that currently reside in the Delta-Mendota, Kings and Pleasant Valley Subbasins will be consolidated into the Westside Subbasin. Thank you again for your time in reviewing the District's request.

Kiti Buelna Campbell, P.E.

559-241-6226

From: Katarina Campbell [mailto:kcampbell@westlandswater.org]
Sent: Thursday, July 21, 2016 8:38 AM
To: 'Mark.Nordberg@water.ca.gov'
Cc: Jose Gutierrez (jgutierrez@westlandswater.org); Russ Freeman (Rfreeman@westlandswater.org); Dane Mathis; McKenzie, Charles@DWR (Charles.McKenzie@water.ca.gov); Gooding, Benjamin@DWR (Benjamin.Gooding@water.ca.gov)
Subject: Notice of Intent to serve as the GSA for the Westside Subbasin

Good Morning Mr. Nordberg,

Attached are Westlands Water District's (District) GSA formation package and the proposed GSA management area shapefile. Please review the District's GSA formation documents and post our notice on DWR's website within 15 days. Please let me know If you have any questions. Thank you for reviewing the District's Notice of Intent to serve as the GSA of the Westside Subbasin.

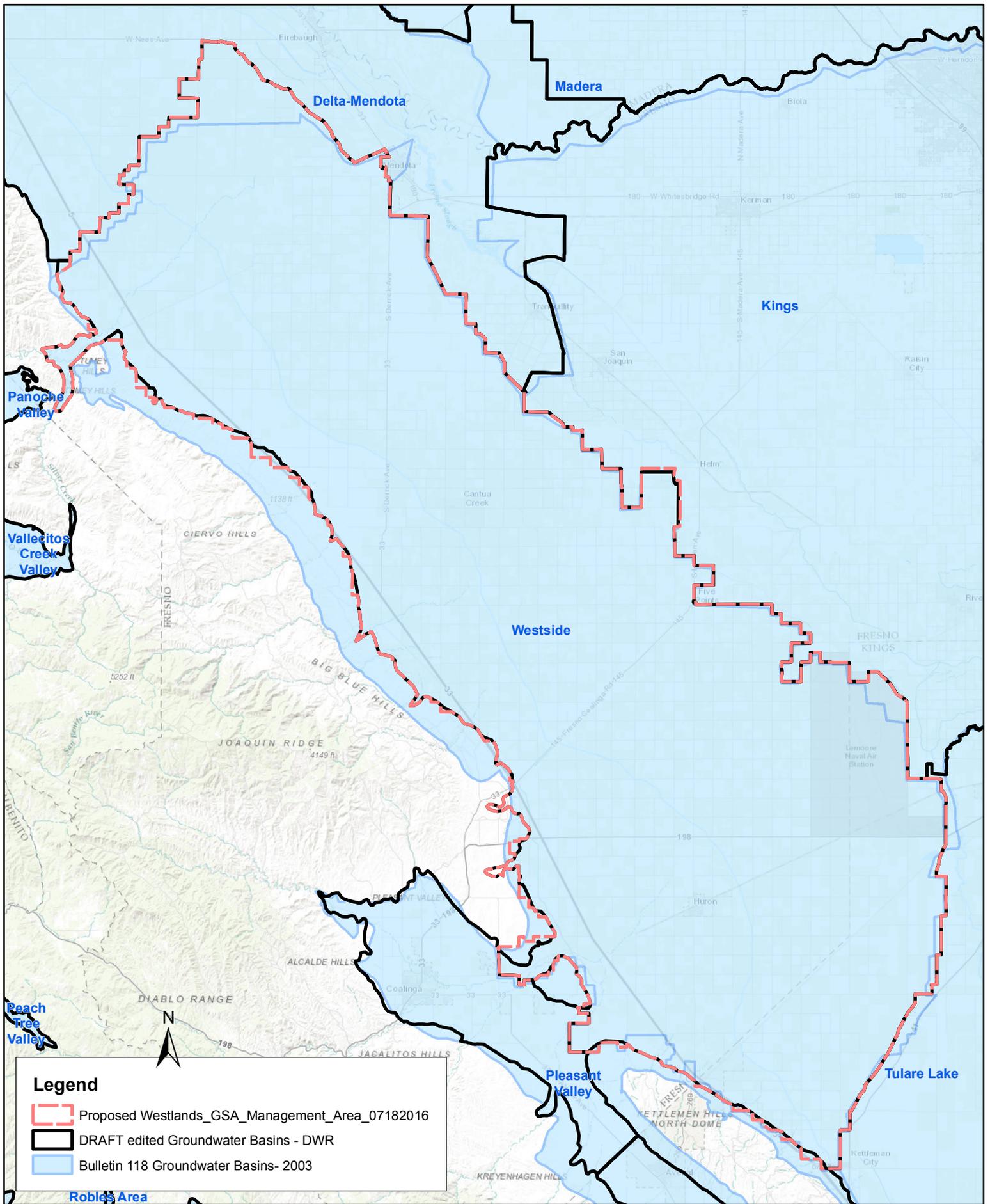
Kiti Buelna Campbell, P.E.

Westlands Water District

Senior Resources Engineer

kcampbell@westlandswater.org

559-241-6226



**Proposed Westlands Water District
GSA Submittal**

