SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY
AGENCY JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

SANGER CITY HALL
1700 7th Street
Sanger, CA 93657

Wednesday, April 22, 2026
5:30 PM

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to access or to otherwise participate at this meeting, including auxiliary aids or services, please contact the City of Sanger at (559) 876-6300. Notification at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will allow reasonable arrangements to be made to ensure accessibility to the Board meeting.

ITEMS:

1. Pledge of Allegiance by Chairman Karnig Kazarian.
2. Call to Order and roll call
   Board Chair – Karnig Kazarian *(Juan Mejia)*
   Board Vice Chair – Esmerelda Hurtado *(Nathan Olson)*
   Board Member – Alma Beltran *(Aaron Palmer)*
   Board Member – David Silva *(Brandon Pursell)*
   Board Member – Daniel Ramirez *(Maria Reyna)*
3. Approve the Agenda
4. Public Comment on Items not on Agenda
   The first 15 minutes of each regular session is set aside for members of the public to comment on any item within the jurisdiction of the Board of Directors but not appearing on the agenda. For items appearing on the agenda, the public is invited to comment at the time the item is called for consideration by the Board. Any person addressing the Board under public comment will be limited to a 3-minute presentation to ensure that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak. Please submit any handouts to the Secretary via email prior to the meeting at dpeters@peters-engineering.com.

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5. Closed Session

    5.1 Government Code section 54956.9, subdivision (d)(2)
    CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – ANTICIPATED LITIGATION
    One (1) Case.

6. Consent Calendar

    Unless a member of the Board of Directors requests that an item be removed from the Consent Calendar, all items will be acted upon as a whole and by one vote. Items removed from the Consent Calendar will be acted upon separately.

    6.1 Approve Minutes of March 11, 2025, meeting.

    6.2 Accept March 2026 revenue and expense reports.

    6.3 Approve Lozano Smith Legal Services Renewal Agreement

7. Committee Reports

    7.1 Technical Advisory Committee – Oral Report by Josh Rogers, Chair

    7.2 Administrative Committee – Oral Report by David Peters, Secretary

8. General Items

    8.1 Presentation of FY 26-27 Budget – Staff Report by David Peters

    8.2 Groundwater Allocation Framework Approval – Staff Report by Josh Rogers

8. Secretary's Report

    8.1 Time and place for next meeting – TBD in Del Rey

9. Board Member Comments

10. Adjourn regular SKGSA Board Meeting

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SKJPA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MEETING MINUTES

PARLIER CITY HALL
1100 E Parlier Ave
Parlier, CA 93648

Wednesday, March 11, 2026
5:30 PM

Chairman Kazarian called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Board Members Present: Chairman Kazarian, A. Beltran, D. Silva, N. Olson, D. Ramirez

Board Members Absent: E. Hurtado

Staff Present: David Peters, Josh Rogers, Matthew Lear

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS

2.1 *Public Comment on Items not on Agenda*

None

CONSENT CALENDAR

3.1 *Approve minutes of December 9, 2025 meeting.*
3.2 *Accept January 2026 and February 2026 revenue and expense reports.*

Member Beltran makes a motion, seconded by Member Olson. Motion passes unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

4.1 *Technical Advisory Committee Meeting*

Mr. Rogers states the TAC met and discussed annual report information, current recharge basins in construction, most ready to receive water in 2027, and the CID agreement negotiations.

4.2 *Administrative Committee Meeting*

Mr. Peters states the Administrative Committee did not meet. Mr. Peters did discuss a new project with SKF that will provide roughly an additional 4,000 AF.

GENERAL ITEMS

5.1 Coordination Group Update – Oral Report by Josh Rogers

Mr. Rogers states Coordination Group is working on getting all agencies to approve Groundwater Allocation Framework. Will be presenting to board at next meeting.

5.2 Recharge Projects Update – Oral Report by David Peters

Mr. Peters states that two basins in Fowler that are owned by SKGSA, not City of Fowler.

5.3 Budget Preparations Discussion – Oral Report by David Peters

Mr. Peters provides a brief update about FY 26-27 budget preparation and takes suggestions.

SECRETARY REPORT

6.1 *Time and place for next meeting*

April 8th in Sanger

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business Chairman Kazarian adjourned the meeting at 6:16pm.

Expenditure Detail Report

City of Sanger
03/01/2026 through 03/31/2026

383 SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY A
070 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
101 FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

Account Number	Adjusted Appropriation	Expenditures	Year-to-date Expenditures	Year-to-date Encumbrances	Balance	Prct Used
6000 SERVICES AND SUPPLIES						
6290 SVCS-PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	125,000.00	0.00	18,876.52	0.00	106,123.48	15.10
3/4/2026 invoice IN 125086 Line Description: TASK ORDER 17: SKGSA WEBSITE S Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		1,050.00				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 2261108 Line Description: PROF LEGAL SRVS - OCT Document Description : PROF LEGAL SRVS - OCT Vendor: 02614 SMITH, LOZANO Check # 96831		704.00				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 125567 Line Description: TASK ORDER 12 (COR)-BASIN COOR Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		1,554.05				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 125567 Line Description: TASK ORDER 12: ANNUAL REPORT P Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		1,141.07				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 125795 Line Description: TASK ORDER 12: BASIN COORDINAT Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		1,912.30				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 125795 Line Description: TASK ORDER 12: ANNUAL REPORT P Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		758.97				

383 SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY A
070 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
101 FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

Account Number	Adjusted Appropriation	Expenditures	Year-to-date Expenditures	Year-to-date Encumbrances	Balance	Prct Used
6290 SVCS-PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	(Continued)					
3/4/2026 invoice IN 127810 Line Description: TASK ORDER 17:SKGSA WEBSITE SU Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		350.00				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 102570 Line Description: LEGAL SRVS - DEC 2025/JAN 2026 Document Description : LEGAL SRVS - DEC 2025/JAN 2026 Vendor: 12927 ALESHIRE & WYNDER LLP Check # 96757		720.00				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 122289 Line Description: TASK ORDER 12: BASIN COORDINAT Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		323.91				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 122289 Line Description: TASK ORDER 12: ANNUAL REPORT P Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		25.85				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 125904 Line Description: TASK ORDER 1: ONGOING GSA SERV Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		74.10				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 125904 Line Description: TASK ORDER 17: SKGSA WEBSITE S Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		350.00				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 126756 Line Description: TASK ORDER 17: SKGSA WEBSITE S Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		700.00				

383 SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY A
070 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
101 FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

Account Number	Adjusted Appropriation	Expenditures	Year-to-date Expenditures	Year-to-date Encumbrances	Balance	Prct Used
6290 SVCS-PROFESSIONAL SERVICES (Continued)						
3/4/2026 invoice IN 126904 Line Description: TASK ORDER 12: BASIN COORDINAT Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		1,576.49				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 126904 Line Description: TASK ORDER 12: ANNUAL REPORT P Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		1,923.25				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 120173 Line Description: TASK ORDER 18 (SUB)- CONFINED Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		47.92				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 125086 Line Description: TASK ORDER 15: MONITORING WALL Document Description : PROF SRVS (SKGSA) Vendor: 06201 PROVOST & PRITCHARD ENG GROUP Check # 96820		750.00				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 2266658 Line Description: PROF LEGAL SRVS - DEC Document Description : PROF LEGAL SRVS - DEC Vendor: 02614 SMITH, LOZANO Check # 96831		1,054.00				
3/4/2026 invoice IN 2263858 Line Description: PROF LEGAL SRVS - NOV 25 Document Description : PROF LEGAL SRVS - NOV 25 Vendor: 02614 SMITH, LOZANO Check # 96831		900.00				
3/12/2026 invoice IN 2269292 Line Description: PROF LEGAL SRVS - JAN Document Description : PROF LEGAL SRVS - JAN Vendor: 02614 SMITH, LOZANO Check # 96951		198.00				
6290 SVCS-PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	125,000.00	16,113.91	34,990.43	0.00	90,009.57	27.99

383 SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY A
070 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
101 FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION

Account Number		Adjusted Appropriation	Expenditures	Year-to-date Expenditures	Year-to-date Encumbrances	Balance	Prct Used
6430	INSURANCE PREMIUMS	15,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,000.00	0.00
6448	ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE	60,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	60,000.00	0.00
6921	SKGSA WATER PURCHASE	2,600,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,600,000.00	0.00
	Total SERVICES AND SUPPLIES	2,800,000.00	16,113.91	34,990.43	0.00	2,765,009.57	1.25
7000	CAPITAL OUTLAY						
7562	NORTH SANGER GROUNDWATER RECHARGE PROJEC	0.00	0.00	27,591.93	0.00	-27,591.93	0.00
	3/5/2026 invoice IN 55219		781.00				
	Line Description: NORTH SANGER GRDWTR RECHRG Document Description : NORTH SANGER GRDWTR RECHRG						
	Vendor: 00931 YAMABE & HORN ENGINEERING, INC Check # 96851						
7562	NORTH SANGER GROUNDWATER RECHARGE PROJEC	0.00	781.00	28,372.93	0.00	-28,372.93	0.00
	Total CAPITAL OUTLAY	0.00	781.00	28,372.93	0.00	-28,372.93	0.00
8000	OTHER CHARGES						
8455	MEMBER AGENCY REIMBURSEMENTS	1,025,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,025,000.00	0.00
	Total OTHER CHARGES	1,025,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,025,000.00	0.00
	Total SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY A	3,825,000.00	16,894.91	63,363.36	0.00	3,761,636.64	1.66
	Grand Total	3,825,000.00	16,894.91	63,363.36	0.00	3,761,636.64	1.66

Revenue Detail Report

City of Sanger
03/01/2026 through 03/31/2026

383 SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY A
070 PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
101 FINANCE/ADMINSTRATION

Account Number		Adjusted Estimate	Revenues	Year-to-date Revenues	Balance	Prct Rcvd
4000	REVENUES					
4010	SKGSA AGENCY REVENUE	3,825,000.00	0.00	2,801,605.42	1,023,394.58	73.24
4329	SKGSA/ PROP 68 GRANT REVENUE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4869	MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE	0.00	0.00	303.08	-303.08	0.00
Total	SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY A	3,825,000.00	0.00	2,801,908.50	1,023,091.50	73.25
Grand Total		3,825,000.00	0.00	2,801,908.50	1,023,091.50	73.25

STAFF REPORT

TO: CHAIRMAN KAZARIAN AND BOARD MEMBERS

FROM: DAVID PETERS, SECRETARY

DATE: APRIL 22, 2026

ITEM: RENEWAL OF LOZANO SMITH LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Lozano Smith has provided legal services to South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SKGSA) since 2017. To continue providing legal services a new agreement is necessary to update the billing rates and terms of service. If approved, the new agreement shall be effective July 1, 2026.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Authorize Chairman to sign agreement with Lozano Smith for continued legal services.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

Provide staff with direction regarding revising legal services agreement.

BACKGROUND:

See Executive Summary.

ATTACHMENTS:

Lozano Smith Legal Services Agreement

AGREEMENT FOR
PROFESSIONAL LEGAL SERVICES
AS GENERAL COUNSEL

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into as of July 1, 2026, between the SOUTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY, a Joint Powers Authority (hereinafter referred to as "GSA") and LOZANO SMITH, a limited liability partnership (hereinafter referred to as "Attorney").

1. SCOPE OF WORK AND DUTIES

GSA hires Lozano Smith as its General Counsel to render such legal services as are customarily rendered by a General Counsel, including attending meetings of the GSA, as directed by the GSA. Representation shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, drafting and reviewing resolutions and agreements, consulting with or advising GSA staff on legal issues that may arise regarding the GSA's operation under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), and generally advising the GSA Board of Directors ("Board) and GSA staff concerning the legal affairs of the GSA.

Attorney, as a full-service law firm, is prepared to, and will, provide representation to GSA in all of its legal affairs, including, but not limited to, SGMA law, contract representation and other matters, except where conflicts exist or where the GSA Board of Directors may otherwise direct. Attorney shall represent the GSA in initiating and defending all litigation unless otherwise directed by the GSA Board.

All of these duties shall be performed, as directed by the GSA Board, and Attorney will keep the GSA Board and the GSA Administrator informed as to the progress and status of all pending matters. All legal services can be authorized only by the GSA Board.

Attorney will manage and control the delivery of legal services in a competent, professional, and cost-effective manner. Where appropriate, Attorney may from time to time recommend the use of special counsel. In that event, Attorney shall coordinate the work of special counsel. Notwithstanding the foregoing, it is expressly understood that Attorney shall not be responsible for any pending litigation matter(s) until Attorney has specifically appeared in the matter as attorneys of record on behalf of GSA.

The scope of work and duties under this Agreement shall not include representation of the GSA as Bond Counsel. In the event GSA desires that Attorney act as Bond Counsel, and Attorney so agrees, GSA and Attorney shall enter into a separate Bond Counsel Agreement setting forth Attorney's duties and compensation for such Bond Counsel services. GSA and Attorney may agree that such compensation shall be on a contingent fee basis.

2. GSA DUTIES

GSA agrees to provide such information, assistance, cooperation, and access to books, records, and other information, as is necessary for Attorney to effectively render its professional services under this Agreement. GSA further agrees to abide by this Agreement, and to pay in a timely manner for Attorney's bills for fees, costs, and expenses.

3. LEGAL FEES, BILLING PRACTICES, AND PERSONNEL

GSA shall compensate Attorney for legal services provided within the scope of work and duties as follows:

- From July 1, 2026 through June 30, 2028, GSA shall pay to Attorney $295.00 per hour for attorney services, and $195.00 per hour for paralegal and law clerk services.

- Beginning July 1, 2028, GSA shall pay to Attorney $315.00 per hour for attorney services, and $210.00 per hour for paralegal and law clerk services.

In addition to paying legal fees, GSA shall reimburse Attorney for customary and reasonable costs and expenses incurred by Attorney in the course of providing legal services to GSA. Costs will include, but are not limited to, all third party expenses, mileage for travel, duplicating, long distance telephone, postage charges, delivery charges, computerized legal research, facsimile charges, and filing fees.

Attorney shall render to GSA a statement for fees for services and costs incurred every calendar month. GSA shall pay Attorney's statement within thirty (30) days after issuance of each statement. Each statement shall clearly indicate the basis of the fees, including the working attorney, hours worked, hourly rate (or flat meeting rate) and a brief description of the work performed, and a description of costs charged.

The GSA Attorney will exercise discretion to use whichever attorneys, paralegals and staff that he determines best suited to the rendering of legal services in a competent and economically efficient manner.

4. THIRD PARTY COSTS AND EXPENSES

Attorney may determine it necessary or appropriate to use one or more outside investigators, consultants, or experts in rendering the legal services required (particularly if a matter goes into litigation). Upon advance approval and proper documentation, GSA shall pay directly or reimburse Attorney for directly incurred out-of-pocket disbursements, costs, and expenses of providing said services.

5. INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR/LAWFUL PERFORMANCE

Attorney shall perform all legal services required under this Agreement as an independent contractor. Attorney shall fully comply with the provisions of law regarding performance of this Agreement, including but not limited to, laws regarding licensure, professional canons of ethics

and conflict of interest statutes, rules and regulations. Attorney must certify and comply with the following: (1) that Attorney has no ethical or legal conflicts which would in general disqualify Attorney from representing the GSA; (2) that Attorney will refrain from initiating any legal action against GSA (or their respective officers, agents and employees in their official capacity as such) by way of complaint or cross-complaint during the term of this Agreement or any services rendered pursuant thereto, whichever later occurs; and (3) that Attorney will promptly disclose upon knowledge or discovery of any specific facts which would or could potentially disqualify Attorney from representing GSA pursuant to this Agreement.

6. HOLD HARMLESS

Attorney agrees to protect indemnify and save harmless against all claims, demands and causes of action by Attorney's employees or third parties on account of personal injuries or death or on account of property damages arising out of the work to be performed by Attorney hereunder and resulting from the negligent acts or omissions of Attorney, Attorney's agents, employees or subcontractors.

7. INSURANCE

Attorney shall procure and maintain, at his sole cost and expense, comprehensive general liability and property damage insurance, including automobile and excess liability insurance, and professional liability insurance against all claims for injuries against persons or damages to property resulting from Attorney's negligent acts or omissions rising out of or related to Attorney's performance under this Agreement. The minimum amount of such insurance shall be $1,000,000. Attorney shall also carry Workers' Compensation Insurance in accordance with applicable laws of the State of California. Such coverage shall be maintained in effect during the term of this Agreement and shall not be subject to reduction in coverage below the limits established, nor shall the insurance be canceled or terminated without thirty (30) days, prior written notice to the GSA.

8. TERM, DISCHARGE, AND WITHDRAWAL

This Agreement shall continue in effect until terminated by discharge or withdrawal. GSA may discharge Attorney at any time. Attorney may withdraw from GSA's representation at any time, to the extent permitted by law, and the rules of Professional Conduct, upon at least thirty (30) days written notice. Upon notice of discharge or withdrawal, Attorney shall deliver all documents and records of the GSA to the GSA and assist to the fullest extent possible in the orderly transition of all pending matters to GSA's new counsel.

9. NOTICE

Any notice required by law or by this Agreement shall be deemed delivered upon personal delivery or when deposited in the United States Mail, postage prepaid, and addressed as described below or to any subsequently noticed change or address, whichever applies:

South Kings GSA
c/o David Peters, Secretary
PO Box 14
Kingsburg, CA 93631

Andy Garcia
Executive Director
LOZANO SMITH
7404 North Spalding Avenue
Fresno, CA 93720

10. EFFECTIVE DATE

This Agreement shall be effective July 1, 2026.

11. ASSIGNMENT

This Agreement shall not be assigned by Attorney without prior written consent of the GSA.

12. CONSENT TO ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

In order to maximize efficiency, Attorney intends to use technology to facilitate its representation of GSA. Such technology may include, but is not limited to, email, document transfers by computer, cellular telephones, and use of mobile computing devices. The use of such technology may place GSA confidences and privileges at risk. While Attorney has reasonable safeguards in place to guard against any breach of confidentiality, Attorney cannot guarantee that such information will not be accessed by persons not entitled to access such information and there is a risk of accidental disclosure. Knowing the foregoing, GSA nevertheless consents to the use of technology.

13. SUPERSESSION

This Agreement supersedes any and all prior agreements or amendments thereto entered into for legal services between GSA and Attorney.

SOUTH KINGS GSA

By: _____
Karnig Kazarian, GSA Board Chairman

Date: _____

ATTORNEY
LOZANO SMITH

By: _____
Karen M. Rezendes, Managing Partner

Date: _____

STAFF REPORT

TO: CHAIRMAN KAZARIAN AND BOARD MEMBERS

FROM: DAVID PETERS, SECRETARY

DATE: APRIL 22, 2026

ITEM: FY 2026/27 BUDGET

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Section 6.03 of the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SKGSA) Joint Powers Authority Agreement requires the SKGSA Board to adopt a budget for the Joint Powers Authority on an annual basis. As such, staff has developed a budget for operational costs for the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 associated with operational costs of the SKGSA.

REQUESTED ACTION:

Review and approve SKGSA Budget for FY 26/27.

ALTERNATIVE ACTION:

Provide staff with direction regarding revising proposed budget and direct staff to bring item back for Board consideration at a future meeting.

BACKGROUND:

Section 6.03 of the South Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SKGSA) Joint Powers Authority Agreement requires the SKGSA Board to adopt a budget for the Joint Powers Authority on an annual basis. As such, staff has developed a budget for operational costs for the Fiscal Year 2026/2027 associated with operational costs of the SKGSA.

The member agency contributions have increased from $2,800,000 in FY 25/26 to $3,390,409 in FY 26/27. This increase is a result of the consumer price index (CPI) increase on our annual $2.7M water purchase ($100,000 increase from last year), $451,000 in capital projects (compared to $0 last year), addition of $45K for maintenance of the two SKGSA owned basins (new item to the budget this year), and other small increases such as insurance premiums.

The following is a summary of Professional Services costs for the past five years compared with the budgeted amount:

SGKSA Professional Services Costs

Year	Budget	Spent
21/22	$50,000.00	$54,747.45
22/23	$75,000.00	$56,231.05
23/24	$85,000.00	$82,103.33
24/25	$125,000.00	$102,719.13
25/26	$125,000.00	$26,287.78

Staff believe that last year's lower professional services costs will not be sustained in FY 26/27 and therefore have projected $125,000 for these services in the proposed budget.

Member agencies' contributions are based on each agencies percentage of cumulative municipal well groundwater pumping volumes for all five member agencies.

ATTACHMENTS:

FY 26/27 SKGSA Budget

South Kings GSA
Budget: FY 26-27 **VERSION 4-17-26**

Revenues

Account	Account Description	GSA Description	FY 26-27
New	Agency Contributions	Contribution to GSA	$ 3,390,409
	Last FY Carryover	Carryover funds from last FY Budget	$ 1,023,092
		Total Revenue:	**$ 4,413,500**

Expenses

New	Capital Costs	Surface Water Purchase	$ 2,700,000
New	Agency Administration	Administrative Expenses	$ 50,000
New	Property Maintenance	SKGSA Basin Maintenance	$ 45,000
New	Reimbursements	Capital Projects	$ 451,000
New	Reimbursements	Carry over Reimbursements from FY25	$ 1,025,000
New	Insurance	Insurance Premiums	$ 17,500
6290	Professional Services	Misc Services	$ 125,000
		Total Expenses	**$ 4,413,500**

South Kings GSA
Budget: FY 26-27

FISCAL YEAR	**FY 26-27**
Total GSA Contribution	$ 3,390,409

Local Agency Budget Contributions		**FY 26-27**
Fowler	15.54%	$ 526,831
Del Rey	4.25%	$ 143,929
Kingsburg	20.86%	$ 707,368
Parlier	16.07%	$ 544,794
Sanger	43.28%	$ 1,467,487
TOTALS	100%	$ 3,390,409

2025 Year Groundwater Pumped (A-F)		% of Total
Fowler	2317	15.54%
Del Rey	633	4.25%
Kingsburg	3111	20.86%
Parlier	2396	16.07%
Sanger	6454	43.28%
TOTALS	14911	100.00%

PROPOSED SKGSA CAPITAL PROJECTS - FY 26/27

Agency Projects	Description	Cost
City of Kingsburg	Madsen Basin Tie-In	$51,000
SKGSA	SKF Recharge Ponds	$400,000
	Total All Projects =	$451,000

SKGSA STAFF REPORT

TO: CHAIRMAN KAZARIAN & BOARD MEMBERS

FROM: JOSHUA ROGERS, TAC CHAIR

SUBJECT: GROUNDWATER ALLOCATION FRAMEWORK APPROVAL

DATE: APRIL 22, 2026

RECOMMENDATION / REQUESTED ACTION

Approve the Kings Subbasin Groundwater Allocation Framework to be used for potential implementation at some future date if needed.

BACKGROUND

At this point in time, now 6 years into the implementation phase of the Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) adopted by the various GSAs of the Kings Subbasin (Basin), each GSA has had some time to analyze data and see trends. And while much progress has been made across the Basin with project and program development in support of the GSPs, the reality is that surface water supplies have been tracking below long-term averages over the last 10-year period. As stated in the Groundwater Sustainability Annual Report for Water Year 2025 (Annual Report) recently developed and submitted on behalf of the Basin (and which is linked here: 5-022-08 Kings Basin Annual Report WY2025) "since 2015, surface water supplies are only 91% of long term average, and since 2020 the total surface water supplies are well below the long term average at just 82%."

With below average water deliveries and with GSP implementation still in the relatively early stages, it is not surprising that groundwater storage volumes would show decreases during this 10-year period. Attachment 1 to this staff report shows a graph of groundwater storage conditions since Water Year 2015. While some wetter years (most notably 2017, 2019 and especially 2023) have allowed the Basin to capture water and recharge the aquifer, many years have resulted in loss of storage volume and an overall decrease in groundwater within the Basin.

While this was not unexpected during the early years of SGMA implementation, the reality of climatic conditions has given cause for each of the GSAs to consider all of the options for groundwater management at their disposal and to plan for future contingencies. One of the potential "Projects and Management Actions" described in each of the GSPs for the Basin GSAs is the establishment of a Groundwater Allocation. Through this process, the "Sustainable Yield", or the volume of groundwater which could be extracted safely from the aquifer without causing any undesirable results, would be calculated and applied to groundwater users, and used as a management tool by the GSAs.

In meetings of the Kings Basin Coordination group, certain GSAs expressed their desire to initiate discussions with their stakeholders on potential future allocation establishment, which would allow those stakeholders to have the information needed to make land-use decisions which could be affected by water issues. Given that the multi-GSA Basin must ensure that their groundwater management strategies are coordinated in order to ensure success of the Basin as a whole, the decision was made at the Coordination group level to establish a common methodology for creating groundwater allocations pursuant to SGMA within their respective GSAs. Attachment 2 to this staff report is the document which was generated from this effort, entitled the "Kings Subbasin Groundwater Allocation Framework" (Framework).

As stated in the first paragraph of the Framework document, "This document does not implement an allocation within each GSA. This document does not set forth a schedule for any GSA to implement a groundwater allocation, and each GSA will determine when to implement an allocation." The intent of the document and the effort undertaken to create it was to ensure that, if and when each GSA decides to establish an allocation, that they would all utilize a common set of data and methodologies to establish that allocation value in order to ensure that the Basin is being managed consistently across the multiple GSAs.

As a brief summary of the Framework, the Sustainable Yield of the Basin has been broken up into two components: 1) Native Sustainable Yield (i.e. the Groundwater Allocation), and 2) Surface Water in the Ground (SWIG). The Native Sustainable Yield ("NSY") component is groundwater that naturally exists in the Subbasin and includes the following:

- Precipitation;
- Deep percolation from irrigation by riparian, or claimed riparian, water users;
- Mountain front recharge;
- Natural subsurface flow.

The Surface Water in the Ground ("SWIG") component is present because of operations and recharge of surface water and includes the following:

- All imported surface water supplies;
- Local water supplies from the Kings River that are intentionally diverted, recharged or banked.

The SWIG credit is additional water above the Native Sustainable Yield (Groundwater Allocation) that can be pumped by those with a legal surface water right. As the Framework states, "The GSAs agree that a proposed groundwater allocation will allocate the NSY component of Sustainable Yield. The GSAs agree that they must account for SWIG, but ultimate discretion for use, distribution, deliveries, etc., are left to the jurisdiction of the relevant surface water entity with ownership or control of the surface water at issue."

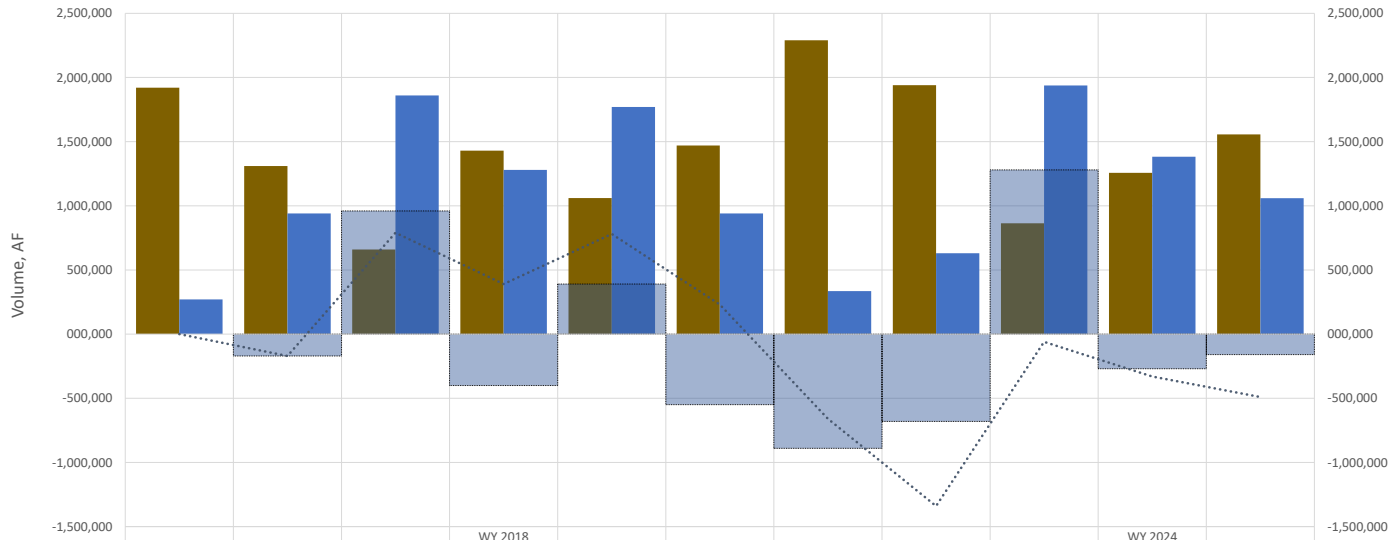
For the SKGSA, an agency made up primarily of municipalities without historical surface holdings, the primary use of the Framework is the establishment of the Native Sustainable Yield value, which can then be used to calculate any groundwater overdraft conditions

caused by pumping above the NSY. Consistent with the GSP for the SKGSA, and due to the geographic condition of the various SKGSA member agencies as islands within the larger Central Kings GSA (CKGSA), the calculated values for NSY and SWIG are shown for both the SKGSA and CKGSA as combined values. A breakdown of those numbers for each GSA is an effort which is separate from the attached Framework.

In closing, Staff's recommended approval of the Kings Subbasin Groundwater Allocation Framework is purely to ensure that the GSAs within the Basin are acting in a coordinated manner for SGMA implementation and using common methodologies to do so. The Framework represents primarily technical data and provides no recommendations on administration, economics or any other facet of a groundwater allocation. As stated in the document, the decision on how or when to establish a groundwater allocation is left to each GSA and its governing body. Staff makes no other recommendation to that effect at this time.

ATTACHMENT 1

Groundwater Change Graph – 2015-2025



	WY 2015 (20%, Dry)	WY 2016 (75%, Normal)	WY 2017 (160%, Wet)	WY 2018 (100%, Normal)	WY 2019 (149%, Wet)	WY 2020 (75%, Dry)	WY 2021 (23%, Dry)	WY 2022 (50%, Dry)	WY 2023 (155%, Wet)	WY 2024 (108%, Normal)	WY 2025 (82%, Normal)
Water Year Est. Total GW Use, AF	1,920,000	1,310,000	660,000	1,430,000	1,060,000	1,470,000	2,290,000	1,940,000	864,000	1,257,000	1,556,000
Water Year Surface Water Deliveries, AF	270,000	940,000	1,860,000	1,280,000	1,770,000	940,000	335,000	630,000	1,938,000	1,382,000	1,059,000
Est. Annual GW Storage Change, AF	0	(170,000)	960,000	(400,000)	390,000	(550,000)	(890,000)	(680,000)	1,280,000	(270,000)	(160,000)
Est. Cumulative Change in Storage, AF	0	(170,000)	790,000	390,000	780,000	230,000	(660,000)	(1,340,000)	(60,000)	(330,000)	(490,000)

Notes:
1 - Annual storage change is from fall to fall. Estimated storage change is listed under the ending year evaluated. For example,estimated storage change from Fall 2015 to Fall 2016 is under the Water Year (WY) 2016 column.
2 - WY begins Oct. 1 of preceding year and runs through Sept. 30 of listed year. For example, WY 2015 begins Oct. 1, 2014 and continues through Sept. 30, 2015.
3 - Values rounded to nearest 10,000 acre-feet.
4 - Water Year Types based on Kings River diversions - less than 75% = Dry, from 75% to 125% = Normal, greater than 125% = Wet. WY type may change based on the running average, see note 5.
5 - WY% is a running average since 1955, therefore WY% shown can vary yearly. For example, the 2015 WY% was 19.7% based on the average through WY 2020, while the average for WY 2015 is 19.9% based on the average through WY 2021. Values rounded to nearest whole number
6 - WY Surface Water Deliveries for Kings Subbasin = Kings River Headgate Diversions + Central Valley Project + estimated San Joaquin and Kings River Riparian.
7 - Some historical values for estimated total groundwater use and water year surface water deliveries may differ slightly fromprevious annual reports due to data reported after the annual report were submitted and differences in rounding.

ATTACHMENT 2

Kings Subbasin Groundwater Allocation Framework

Kings Subbasin
Groundwater Allocation Framework

The Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) within the Kings Subbasin have prepared the following document for purposes of establishing a common methodology for creating groundwater allocations pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) within their respective GSAs. The purpose of this document is to reach an understanding as to how the Subbasin Sustainable Yield will be divided amongst the GSAs within the Subbasin, including an understanding as to how each component of the Subbasin Sustainable Yield will be divided amongst the GSAs. This document does not implement an allocation within each GSA. This document does not set forth a schedule for any GSA to implement a groundwater allocation, and each GSA will determine when to implement an allocation.

Background/Purpose:

For purposes of creating a water budget pursuant to 23 Cal. Code Regs. §354.18, the Kings Subbasin agreed upon a Sustainable Yield for the Subbasin that is included in each of the GSAs' 2025 Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) as required. The purpose of this allocation framework is to establish a methodology for how the Subbasin Sustainable Yield shall be divided amongst the GSAs for purposes of potential allocations within each GSA.

Neither the water budget(s), nor this document, is an allocation of a final determination of any water rights. This understanding is consistent with California Water Code § 10720.5(b) of SGMA, which provides that nothing in SGMA or in a plan adopted pursuant to SGMA determines or alters surface or groundwater rights under common law or any provision of law that determines or grants surface water rights.

The 2025 revised GSPs contain a coordinated historic and current water budget for each GSA as well as an overall water budget for the Kings Subbasin, which was used to determine the estimated sustainable yield of the Kings Subbasin of 1,240,000 acre-feet/year. A detailed description for calculating the water budgets is contained in Section 3.3 of the 2025 GSPs, as well as in Exhibit B of the Kings Subbasin Coordination Agreement, which was revised in January 2025 prior to submission of the 2025 GSPs. It is recognized that due to numerous uncertainties, assumptions and estimates in the water budgets, the sustainable yield is considered approximate in nature. The sustainable yield estimate can, and will likely, change over time due to better information, changes in surface water usage, changes in water demands, and potential climate change impacts. SGMA defines the water budget as "an accounting of the total groundwater and surface water entering and leaving a basin including the changes in the amount of water stored." To assess flow into the groundwater aquifer, SGMA's implementing regulations direct GSAs to quantify all flows into the groundwater system by water source type. The inflow categories include subsurface groundwater inflow/outflow, infiltration of precipitation, deep percolation of applied water, and seepage from surface water systems, such as lakes, streams, rivers, canals, springs and conveyance systems.

The Subbasin's objective in developing a framework for determining the allocation of groundwater is to provide a common methodology for determining the sustainable yield of a GSA to enable the continued beneficial use of groundwater for the current and planned uses within the Subbasin in

a cumulative quantity that, under the identified management actions, will avoid undesirable results.

The groundwater allocation method described herein is a consumptive use-based allocation. When implementing an allocation, however, each GSA within the Kings Subbasin will need to consider the method of measurement used to determine groundwater use. An allocation based on consumptive use is different than an allocation based on extracted volume since the two methods use different approaches to return flow of applied groundwater.

Sustainable Yield:

The GSAs agree that the Sustainable Yield components for the Kings Subbasin are Native Sustainable Yield ("NSY") and Surface Water in the Ground ("SWIG"), graphically indicated in **Figure 1** below:

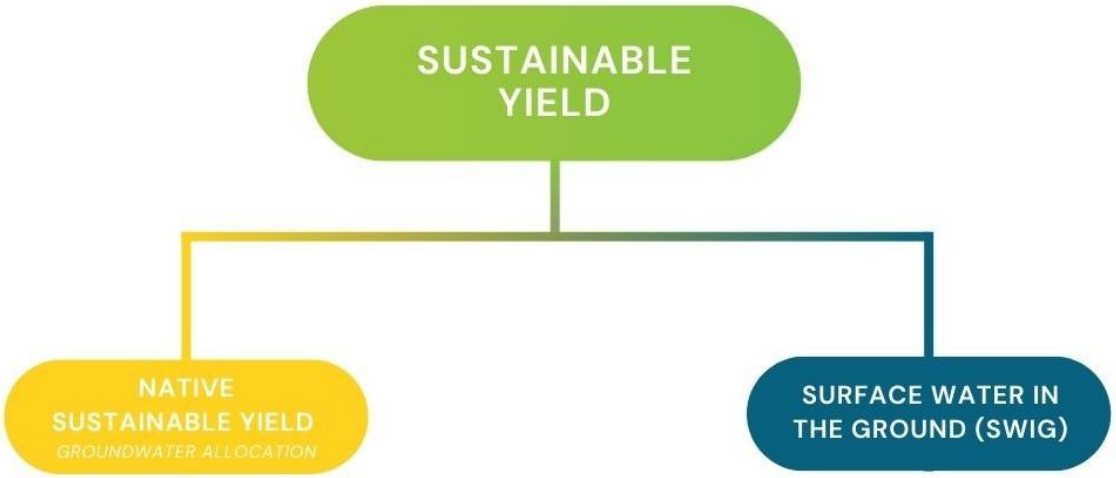


Figure 1 Sustainable Yield Components

The Native Sustainable Yield ("NSY") component is groundwater that naturally exists in the Subbasin and includes the following:

- Precipitation;
- Deep percolation from irrigation by riparian, or claimed riparian, water users;
- Mountain front recharge;
- Natural subsurface flow.

The Surface Water in the Ground ("SWIG") component is present because of operations and recharge of surface water and includes the following:

- All imported surface water supplies;
- Local water supplies from the Kings River that are intentionally diverted, recharged or banked.

The SWIG credit is additional water above the Native Sustainable Yield (Groundwater Allocation) that can be pumped by those with a legal surface water right.

Seepage from local water supplies from the Kings River could be attributed to either NSY or SWIG. For purposes of this document, the GSAs agree to attribute to each GSA the quantity of estimated river seepage where it occurs. From there, each GSA then may make its own determination as to how to allocate such river seepage. Attributing the quantity of river seepage where it occurs assures there will be no inadvertent double counting of seepage throughout the Kings Subbasin.

The GSAs agree that a proposed groundwater allocation will allocate the NSY component of Sustainable Yield. The GSAs agree that they must account for SWIG, but ultimate discretion for use, distribution, deliveries, etc., are left to the jurisdiction of the relevant surface water entity with ownership or control of the surface water at issue.

Precipitation

The GSAs agree to use a 15-year rolling average for calculating precipitation based on rainfall data and contour maps developed by the PRISM Climate Group (Oregon State), with the Kings Subbasin determining average precipitation values for each GSA that are used in the water budgets. A 15-year average for precipitation was chosen because the water budgets cover a 15-year period.

The GSAs within the Subbasin are using a variety of methods to estimate groundwater use - including consumptive use methods such as remote sensed evapotranspiration (ET) methods (LandIQ or similar) or estimating crop ET using a crop coefficient basis or refence crop data, and metered (or planned to be metered) extraction (applied) data. That variety requires different approaches to treating precipitation when estimating consumed groundwater, however, a common methodology in handling precipitation is needed to divide the Subbasin sustainable yield among the GSAs. It was agreed that an equitable way to treat precipitation was to give a proportional credit to each GSA for the amount of precipitation received by that GSA as part of the NSY so that, when combined with the other components of the NSY and with the calculated average SWIG credit, the total produces a sustainable yield approximately equal to the estimated Subbasin sustainable yield. The precipitation amount assigned to NSY may be adjusted in the future based on additional data and analytical information to modify the NSY allocation as needed when the calculated Kings Subbasin sustainable yield is revised.

Methodologies for Estimating Groundwater Use

As noted above, the Kings GSAs will likely use different methods to estimate groundwater use such as consumptive use (ET) or metering physical extractions. Depending on the method used to estimate groundwater use, the allocation used by the Kings GSAs may be different due to the addition of return flow of applied groundwater that would be added to the Native Sustainable Yield Allocation discussed herein if using meters to measure extracted groundwater. Precipitation will be treated differently depending on the method used to estimate groundwater use, however, the amount of allowable use of native groundwater does not change based on the method of measurement. The purpose of this document is to ensure the GSAs utilize the same data and a common methodology for determining distribution of the Subbasin sustainable yield and allocation of native groundwater, regardless of which method is chosen for purposes of measuring groundwater use.

APPENDIX

Average precipitation data used for the 2025 GSP revised water budget for each GSA as well as the weighted average in the Kings Subbasin is shown in **Table 1** below:

Table 1 Average Precipitation Data by GSA and Subbasin Weighted Average (inches)

Agency	15-year rolling average WY 2009 - 23			
	Avg	Min	Max	Variance
Central Kings GSA	9.09	8.29	10.83	2.54
James GSA	6.86	6.34	8.59	2.26
Kings River East GSA	10.79	9.79	13.20	3.40
McMullin Area GSA	7.27	6.75	9.23	2.48
North Fork Kings GSA	7.17	6.52	8.32	1.80
North Kings GSA	9.90	9.19	11.79	2.61
South Kings GSA	9.99	9.21	11.96	2.76
Weighted Avg	9.07	8.36	10.92	2.55

Table 2 below shows the amount of Kings River seepage allocated to each GSA as part of the water budgets in the 2025 GSPs for the period WY 2009 – WY 2023.

Table 2 Estimated Kings River Seepage used in GSPs

Estimated Kings River seepage by reach (where it occurs)

Kings River Reach		Kings River seepage [a]	Estimated Seepage by Reach (09-23)								
			Kings River East	North Kings	Central Kings	North Fork Kings	James ID	MAGSA	Tulare Lake Subbasin GSAs	WWD	Total
1	Piedra to Peoples	50,500	25,000	6,800	18,500	0	0	0	200	0	50,500
2	Peoples to Lemoore + Cole Sl	63,400	0	0	22,600	20,100	0	0	20,700	0	63,400
3	Lemore to Island	7,000	0	0	0	3,500	0	0	3,500	0	7,000
4	Island to Crescent	4,900	0	0	0	4,900	0	0	0	0	4,900
5	Crescent to Stinson	10,200	0	0	0	10,200	0	0	0	0	10,200
6	Stinson to James Bypass [b]	19,300	0	0	0	10,900	4,200	4,200	0	0	19,300
7	South Fork + Clarks Fork	5,900	0	0	0	2,200	0	0	2,100	1,600	5,900
		161,200	25,000	6,800	41,100	51,800	4,200	4,200	26,500	1,600	161,200

[a] Estimated amount of river loss attributed to seepage during base period 2009-2023 after estimating evaporation and river pumping. Includes losses during flood release periods.

[b] Occurs during flood releases, losses occur downstream of Kings River users within Kings Subbasin except for James ID (along with Tranquillity ID).

Table 3 Native Sustainable Yield (NSY) Calculation

Kings Subbasin estimated Sustainable Yield by GSA

NSY calculation - Equal proportional credit of precipitation, "natural" river seepage in NSY, any remaining river seepage in SWIG

Preliminary Calculation	*CKGSA / SKGSA*	*JGSA*	*KREGSA*	MAGSA	NFKGSA	*NKGSA*	*Total*
GSA Acreage	160,770	29,040	191,330	120,570	168,300	310,730	980,740
Native Groundwater							
Precipitation - AF	**73,100**	**10,000**	**103,200**	**43,800**	**60,300**	**153,800**	**444,200**
Mountain Front Runoff (inflow) estimate (AF)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**
Agreed Natural Internal Groundwater Flow - 1925 (AF)	**(10,500)**	**2,500**	**0**	**16,600**	**13,600**	**(22,200)**	**0**
"Natural" River Seepage where it occurs (AF)	**41,100**	**4,200**	**39,000**	**25,900**	**35,800** [4]	**53,000**	**199,000**
Kings River	41,100	4,200	25,000	4,200	35,800	6,800	117,100
San Joaquin River	0	0	0	17,700	0	37,100	54,800
Other sources	0	0	14,000	4,000	0	9,100	27,100
Deep Percolation River Pumpers							
Estimated River Pumpers - AF	6,500	0	6,200	0	10,200	10,300	33,200
Assumed Irrigation Efficiency	84%	90%	82%	83%	80%	83%	
Estimated Deep Percolation river pumpers - AF	**1,000**	**0**	**1,100**	**0**	**2,000**	**1,800**	**5,900**
Native Sustainable Yield (GW Allocation)	**104,700**	**16,700**	**143,300**	**86,300**	**111,700**	**186,400**	**649,100**

Notes:

1) Data for average precipitation, river seepage, and estimated volume pumped by river pumpers obtained from 2009-23 water budgets for each GSA.
2) Precipitation gives proportional credit to each GSA for the amount of precipitation received by that GSA and is an adjustment factor to balance total Subbasin SY.
3) Mountain front runoff (inflow) assumed to be zero, but seepage from local streams could be considered mountain front runoff (at least partially).
4) NFKGSA calculated amount of seepage within GSA applicable to delivery of entitlement water as SWIG, remainder is "natural" seepage for NSY (flood years).
5) Each GSA will determine how NSY is spread within their GSA.

Table 4 Surface Water in Ground (SWIG) Calculation

Kings Subbasin estimated Sustainable Yield by GSA
SWIG calculation based on current water budgets in 2025 GSPs

Preliminary Calculation	CKGSA / SKGSA	JGSA	KREGSA	MAGSA	NFKGSA	NKGSA	Total
GSA Acreage	160,770	29,040	191,330	120,570	168,300	310,730	980,740
Surface Water in Ground (SWIG)							
Surface Water for Irrigation (estimated)	114,100	23,000	172,600	1,400	104,900	253,000	669,000
Assumed Irrigation Efficiency	84%	90%	82%	83%	80%	83%	
Estimated Deep Percolation of SW irrig - AF	**18,300**	**2,300**	**31,100**	**200**	**21,000**	**43,000**	**115,900**
Surface Water for M&I and Recharge	200	0	1,700	0	0	116,300	118,200
Deep Percolation of M&I Surface Water (prorate)	**100**	**0**	**800**	**0**	**0**	**48,200**	**49,100**
River Seepage above "natural" seepage (AF)	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**16,000** [2]	**0**	**16,000**
Other Recharge: Friant-Kern Canal Seepage	**0**	**0**	**5,100**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**5,100**
Seepage of Channels & Pipelines	**59,600**	**9,000**	**37,700**	**0**	**27,600**	**75,500**	**209,400**
Seepage - Reservoirs	**0**	**0**	**0**	**400**	**0**	**0**	**400**
Groundwater - Intentional Recharge	80,400	6,200	7,100	4,300	8,000	100,300	206,300
Evaporation - Reservoirs & Recharge Basins	1,700	0	400	0	200	7,600	9,900
Net Intentional Recharge	**78,700**	**6,200**	**6,700**	**4,300**	**7,800**	**92,700**	**196,400**
Surface Water in Ground (SWIG)	**156,700**	**17,500**	**81,400**	**4,900**	**72,400**	**259,400**	**592,300**

Notes:
1) Data obtained from current water budgets contained in revised 2025 GSP.
2) NFKGSA calculated amount of seepage within GSA applicable to delivery of entitlement water as SWIG, remainder is "natural" seepage for NSY (flood years).
3) Only those entities or landowners with legal water rights that developed the SWIG credit will be allocated SWIG.

Table 5 Summary of Estimated Sustainable Yield by GSA

Kings Subbasin estimated Sustainable Yield by GSA
Summary of Agreed Methodology

Preliminary Calculation

Sustainable Yield of Subbasin contained in 2025 GSPs = 1,240,000 AF

Equal percentage of precipitation, "natural" river seepage in NSY, any remaining river seepage in SWIG							
	CKGSA / SKGSA	JGSA	KREGSA	MAGSA	NFKGSA	NKGSA	Total
GSA Acreage	160,770	29,040	191,330	120,570	168,300	310,730	980,740
Native Sustainable Yield (GW Allocation)	104,700	16,700	143,300	86,300	111,700	186,400	649,100
Surface Water in Ground (SWIG)	156,700	17,500	81,400	4,900	72,400	259,400	592,300
Sustainable Yield (NSY + SWIG)	261,400	34,200	224,700	91,200	184,100	445,800	1,241,400

Each GSA will determine how NSY is spread within their GSA, and only those with legal water rights that developed the SWIG credit will be allocated SWIG.