

# CITY OF GUSTINE

PO BOX 16 - 352 5<sup>TH</sup> STREET

GUSTINE CA 95322

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[www.cityofgustine.com](http://www.cityofgustine.com)



April 27, 2017

Mr. Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager  
Senior Engineering Geologist  
California Department of Water Resources  
901 P Street, Room 213A  
P.O. Box 942836  
[Mark.Nordberg@water.ca.gov](mailto:Mark.Nordberg@water.ca.gov)

***RE: Notice of the City of Gustine's Intent to Serve as Groundwater  
Sustainability Agency for a Portion of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin***

Mr. Nordberg,

This letter serves as notification to the California Department of Water resources that the City of Gustine (City) 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 Delta-Mendota Groundwater subbasin (Basin), that lies solely within the boundaries of the City. A map showing the proposed boundaries of the GSA (Exhibit A) and the Basin (Exhibit B) are attached.

The City is engaged in regular discussion with other agencies within an interest in groundwater management, and will continue to work cooperatively with interested stakeholders within Merced County, the surrounding areas, and the State of California concerning sustainable groundwater management.

On March 21, 2017, the City of Gustine held a public hearing, in accordance with Water Code Section 10723(b), prior to its decision to become a GSA. The public hearing was noticed in accordance with Government Code Section 6066 (Exhibit C).

After the public hearing, the Gustine City Council adopted the enclosed resolution 2017-2383 (Exhibit D), becoming a GSA for that portion of the Delta-Mendota Groundwater subbasin which underlies the service area of the City of Gustine. The City did not adopt any new bylaws, ordinances, or new authorities concerning the formation of the GSA.

Pursuant to Water Code section 10723.2, the City has developed a list of interested parties and will continue to amend the list as necessary during the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development process. The City has considered, and will

continue to consider, the interests of beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing GSPs. The City will solicit feedback and engage in discussions with other interested parties during GSP development. The interested parties include, but are not limited to the following:

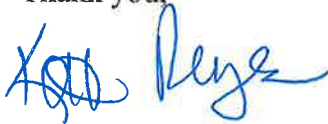
1. Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:
  - a. Agricultural users. The city meets regularly with agricultural irrigation district within the Basin, e.g., Central California Irrigation District (CCID).
  - b. Domestic well owners. The city will consider the interests of domestic well owners and conduct outreach efforts when and where appropriate.
2. Municipal well operators. Currently, the City operates and maintains four (4) municipal water wells within the City GSA.
3. Public water systems. Currently, the City operates and maintains the Public Water System (Water System ID: 2410003) within the City GSA. The City will recognize and consider existing interests of public water systems.
4. Local land use planning agencies. The City is the local land use planning agency, with the Gustine City limits.
5. Environmental users of groundwater. The City will work with any agencies proposing environmental uses of the groundwater within the Basin.
6. Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater flows. The City is not a surface water user. However, the City will collaborate with the surface water users in areas adjacent to the City and work to identify impacts to the interests of surface water users for consideration during GSP development.
7. Federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands. The City has a working relationship with several federal governmental agencies, and will continue to collaborate with such agencies.
8. California Native American Tribes. Not Applicable.
9. Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community systems. The city is one the identified disadvantaged communities within the subbasin, and will cooperate with disadvantaged communities within the GSA that may be relying on groundwater.
10. Entities listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or part of a groundwater basin managed by the GSA.

The City, as an active GSA, intends to proactively and openly consult with other agencies, municipalities, the County, and the State of California, regarding the management of groundwater within the Delta-Mendota Groundwater Subbasin. The City intends to utilize the Gustine City Council for the purposes of governing the GSA.

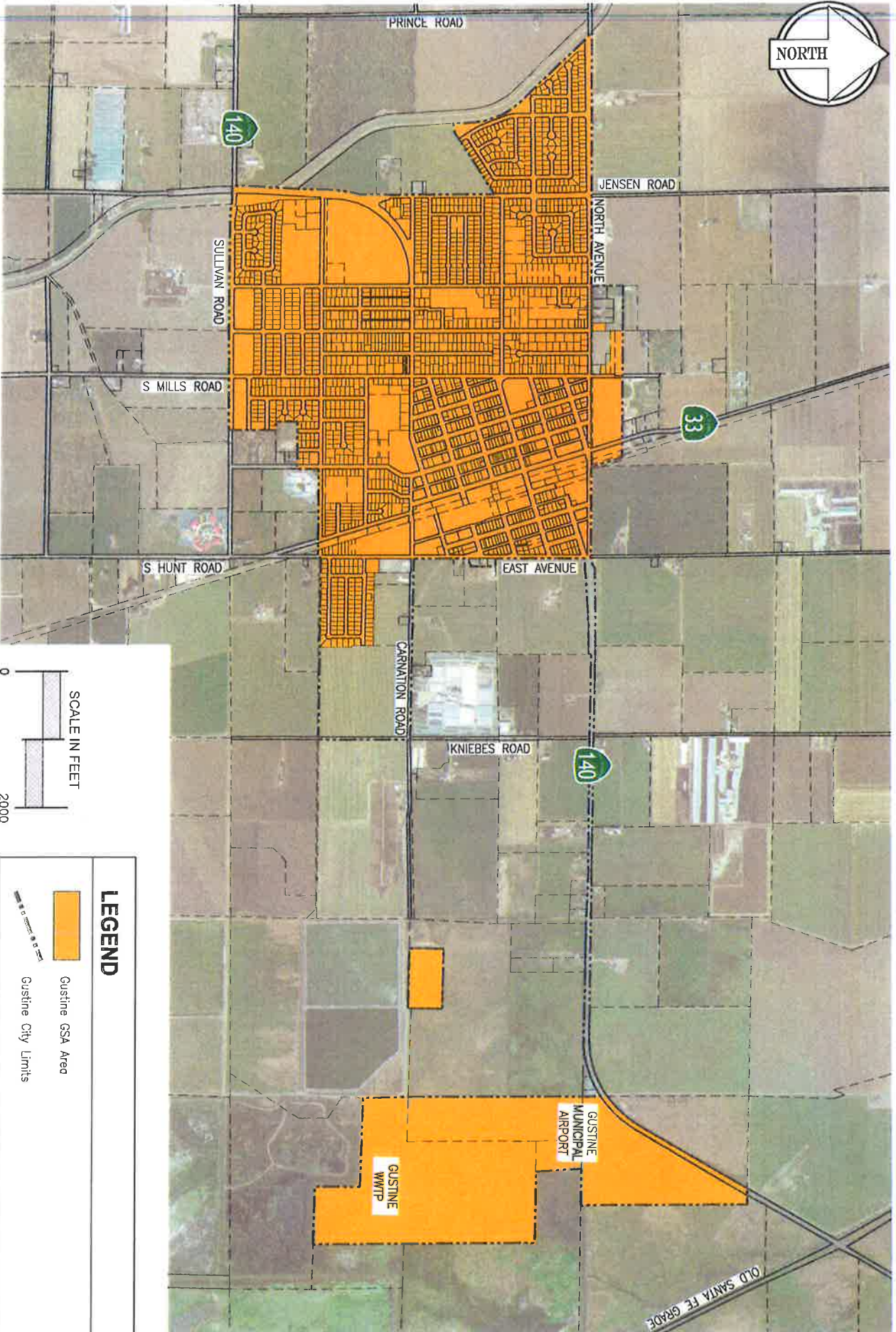
All applicable information required by Water Code Section 10723.S (a) has been provided in this notification.

Should the Department of Water Resources require additional information, please contact me at (209) 854-6183 or by email at [kreyes@cityofgustine.com](mailto:kreyes@cityofgustine.com).

Thank you,



Kathryn Reyes  
City of Gustine, Community Services Director



SCALE IN FEET  
0 2000

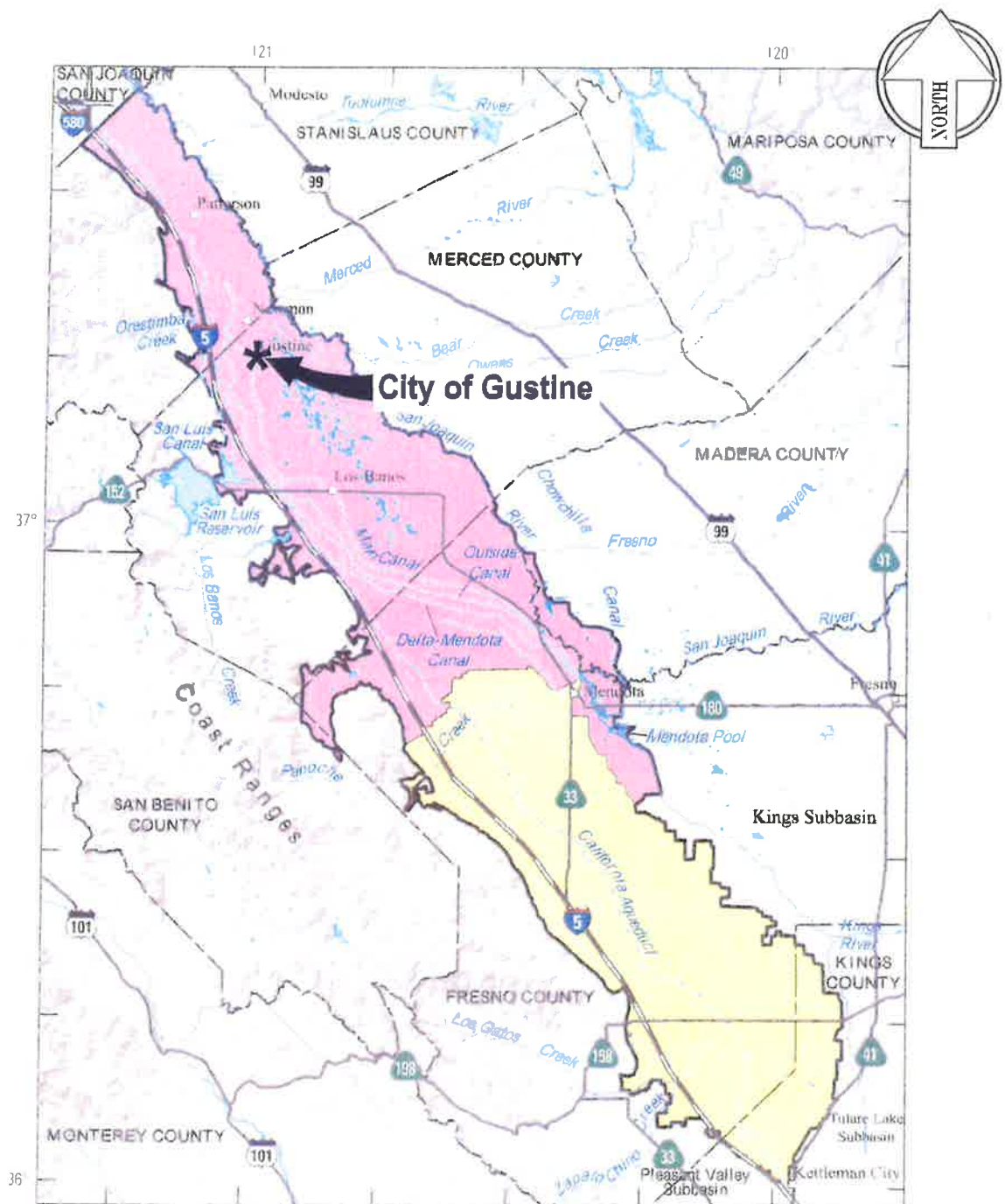
### LEGEND

-  Gustine GSA Area
-  Gustine City Limits

## City of Gustine - Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Map

OWN BY: ECR  
DATE: 03/17/17

EXHIBIT A



### LEGEND

- Delta-Mendota subbasin
- Westside subbasin
- Waterbodies
- County boundary

Original image was created by the USGS.

0 10 20 MILES  
0 10 20 KILOMETERS

NOTE: Shaded relief derived from U.S. Geological Survey National Elevation Dataset, 2006, Albers Equal Area Conic Projection

Mar 14, 2017 - 10:55am  
V:\COG\949\06\cad\exhibits\94906-Exh-B.dwg

DRAWN BY: DGR  
DATE: 03/07/17

## Delta-Mendota Groundwater Subbasin

**EXHIBIT B**

# PROOF OF PUBLICATION

(2015.5 C.C.P.)

## STATE OF CALIFORNIA

### County of Merced

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 printer, foreman or principal clerk of The Gustine PRESS-STANDARD, a newspaper of general circulation, printed and published weekly in the City of Gustine, County of Merced, and which newspaper has been adjudged a newspaper of general circulation by the Superior Court of the County of Merced, State of California, under the date of April 5, 1988, Case Number 126091; 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:

March 9

in the year 2017.

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

Dated at Gustine, California, this 9th day of March, 2017.

  
Signature

This space is for the County Clerk's Filing Stamp

#### Proof of Publication of

Public Notice

Notice of Public Hearing

Hearing to determine whether the City will become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)

City of Gustine

#### PUBLIC NOTICE • PUBLIC NOTICE

##### Notice of Public Hearing By the Gustine City Council

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** by the City of Gustine that a Public Hearing will be conducted at a regular City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 21, 2017, at 6:30 PM at City Hall Council Chambers located at 352 Fifth St, Gustine, CA. The Public Hearing will be held to determine whether the City will become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) (California Water Code § 10720 et. Seq.) for a portion of the Delta-Mendota Groundwater Subbasin of the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin within the city limits of the City of Gustine.

**ALL INTERESTED PARTIES** wishing to provide oral comment on the described proposal may do so at this meeting or may provide written comments on these matters prior to the above-mentioned meeting date. Written comments may be sent by U.S. Mail to P.O. Box 16, Gustine, California, 95322, or hand delivered to City Hall at 352 Fifth St, Gustine CA. If no comments are received prior to or on the above dates, it will be assumed that no comments are being offered.

Melanie Correa  
Deputy City Clerk  
City of Gustine

**PUBLISHED:** March 9, 2017

PROOF OF PUBLICATION

EXHIBIT C

**RESOLUTION NO. 2017-2383****RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GUSTINE  
DECLARING THE FORMATION OF A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY TO MANAGE  
THE PORTION OF THE DELTA-MENDOTA SUBBASIN UNDERLYING THE CITY OF GUSTINE**

**WHEREAS**, the California Legislature has adopted, and the Governor has signed into law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (Water Code, Section 10720 et. seq.) (SGMA), which authorizes local agencies to manage groundwater in a sustainable fashion; and

**WHEREAS**, the main goals of SGMA are to achieve sustainable management of groundwater basins, enhance local management of groundwater consistent with rights to use or store groundwater, and establish standards for effective and continuous management of groundwater; and

**WHEREAS**, implementation of SGMA is achieved through the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and through preparation and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs); and

**WHEREAS**, in order to exercise the authority granted in SGMA, a local agency or combination of local agencies must decide to become or form a GSA pursuant to Water Code, Section 10723(a); and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Gustine (City) is a local agency, as SGMA defines that term in Water Code, Section 10721(n); and

**WHEREAS**, the City overlies a portion of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin, identified as Basin No. 5-22.07 in the California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Bulletin 118 groundwater basin inventory (Subbasin) and depicted in Exhibit B to this Resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA requires that a GSA be established by June 30, 2017, for all basins and subbasins designated by DWR as high priority or medium priority ; and

**WHEREAS**, the Subbasin has been designated by DWR as high priority; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the City to work cooperatively with other local GSAs, as may be appropriate, to sustainably manage portions of the Subbasin that fall outside the City's jurisdiction; and

**WHEREAS**, Section 10723.2 of the Water Code 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 Water Code requires that a local public agency deciding to become or form a GSA shall inform DWR of its decision and intention to undertake sustainable groundwater management within the agency's jurisdictional boundary within 30 days of making the decision; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Government Code 6066, notice of a public hearing on the City's decision to become a GSA has been published in the local newspaper, Gustine Standard, as required by Water Code Section 10723 ; and

**WHEREAS**, on March 21, 2017, the City held a public hearing to consider adoption of this Resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, it is in the City's interest to exercise the authorities and powers of a GSA granted by SGMA and to begin the process of cooperatively preparing a GSP with other GSAs as appropriate; and

**WHEREAS**, adoption of this Resolution does not constitute a "project" under California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5) because it involves organizational and administrative activities of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment. Additionally, adoption of this Resolution is exempt from CEQA under CEQA Guidelines Sections 15320, 15004, and 15061(b)(3).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Gustine City Council as follows:

1. The City of Gustine hereby decides to become a GSA for that portion of the Delta-Mendota Groundwater Subbasin (Bulletin 118 Basin No. No. 5-22.07) which underlies the area bound by the Gustine City limits as shown in Exhibit A; and
2. The City Council authorizes the City Manager or his designee to, within 30 days of the date of this Resolution, provide notice of the City's decision to become the GSA to DWR in the manner required by law; and
3. Such notification shall include the boundaries of the areas the City intends to manage, which shall include the lands within the Gustine City limits as shown in Exhibit A, a copy of this Resolution, a list of interested parties developed pursuant to Section 10723.2 of the Water Code, 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 GSP; and

4. The City Council hereby directs staff to begin discussions with all interested stakeholders and beneficial users within the Subbasin, resolve GSA boundary overlaps if necessary, and initiate the process of developing a coordinated GSP in accordance with SGMA.

The foregoing resolution was introduced at a regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Gustine held on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2017, and passed at said meeting by the following vote:

|          |                                           |
|----------|-------------------------------------------|
| AYES:    | Oliveira, Turner, Hasness, Nagy, Oliveira |
| NOES:    | None                                      |
| ABSENT:  | None                                      |
| ABSTAIN: | None                                      |

APPROVED:

  
Mel Oliveira, Mayor

ATTEST:



Melanie Correa, Deputy City Clerk