

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

Big Pine CSD — City of Bishop — County of Inyo — County of Mono — Eastern Sierra CSD — Indian Creek-Westridge CSD — Keeler CSD —
Sierra Highlands CSD — Starlite CSD — Tri Valley Groundwater Management District — Wheeler Crest CSD

Exhibit E: Letter from the four existing GSAs in the Basin indicating their joint action to reform the four existing GSAs into a single GSA, and resolutions from each GSA board indicating their withdrawal of their GSA status contingent on the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority being designated the exclusive GSA for the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin.



(760) 878-0001
FAX: (760) 878-2552

EMAIL: mail@inyowater.org
WEB: <http://www.inyowater.org>

P.O. Box 337
135 South Jackson Street
Independence, CA 93526

May 10, 2018

Mark Norberg, GSA Project Manager
Sustainable Groundwater Management Section
California Department of Water Resources
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, California 94236-0001

RE: Joint Notice of Intent to Transfer Groundwater Sustainability Agency Status to the
Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

Dear Mr. Norberg:

This letter is jointly sent by the County of Mono, County of Inyo, City of Bishop, and Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), specifically Water Code section 10723.8(e), to notify the California Department of Water Resources (Department) of our collective intent to withdraw from managing certain portions of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin No. 6-012, hereinafter the "Basin") in order to allow the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA), a joint powers authority formed by our and other local agencies, to become the exclusive groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) within the Basin. The notice of intent from the OVGA to become the exclusive GSA within the Basin is sent concurrently herewith.

As you are aware, the County of Mono, County of Inyo, City of Bishop, and Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District became exclusive GSAs within the Basin on or about 07/19/2017, 06/28/2017 & 09/27/2017, 07/17/2017, and 07/20/2017, respectively. Together our GSAs' boundaries span the entirety of the Basin. Concurrent with that process, we were engaged in the process required to form the OVGA with the intent that the OVGA would ultimately become the exclusive GSA for the Basin. The OVGA is now fully constituted and able to become the exclusive GSA for the Basin.

Pursuant to the OVGA joint powers agreement, the undersigned GSAs each took formal action to withdraw from managing the Basin in order to allow the OVGA to become the exclusive GSA for the Basin. Copies of the resolutions effectuating each GSA's withdrawal are included with this letter as Attachments 1-4. As you will see in each resolution, our understanding is that these actions, combined with the OVGA's notice of intent to become the exclusive GSA within the Basin, constitute a non-material change to the management of the Basin. As such, we

respectfully request that the Department immediately post the OVGA's notice and recognize the OVGA as the exclusive GSA for the entire Basin, while concurrently accepting this joint notice of intent to withdraw, in order to allow the OVGA to move forward with implementation of SGMA mandates.

Please do not hesitate to contact the OVGA's acting Executive Director, Dr. Bob Harrington, if you have any questions regarding this matter. His contact information is contained at the top of this letter.

Respectfully,

COUNTY OF MONO



COUNTY OF INYO

CITY OF BISHOP
DISTRICT

TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Cc:

Brian Moniz, Regional Coordinator
California Department of Water Resources Southern Region
700 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 102
Glendale, CA 91203

Bob Pierotti, Supervising Engineering Geologist
California Department of Water Resources Southern Region
700 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 102
Glendale, CA 91203

Anita Regmi/Jennifer Wong, Basin Contact Persons
California Department of Water Resources Southern Region
700 Fairmont Avenue, Suite 102
Glendale, CA 91203

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Respectfully,

COUNTY OF MONO

COUNTY OF INYO

Karen Schwab

CITY OF BISHOP

TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT
DISTRICT

Cc:

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California Department of Water Resources Southern Region
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Respectfully,



COUNTY OF MONO

COUNTY OF INYO



CITY OF BISHOP
DISTRICT

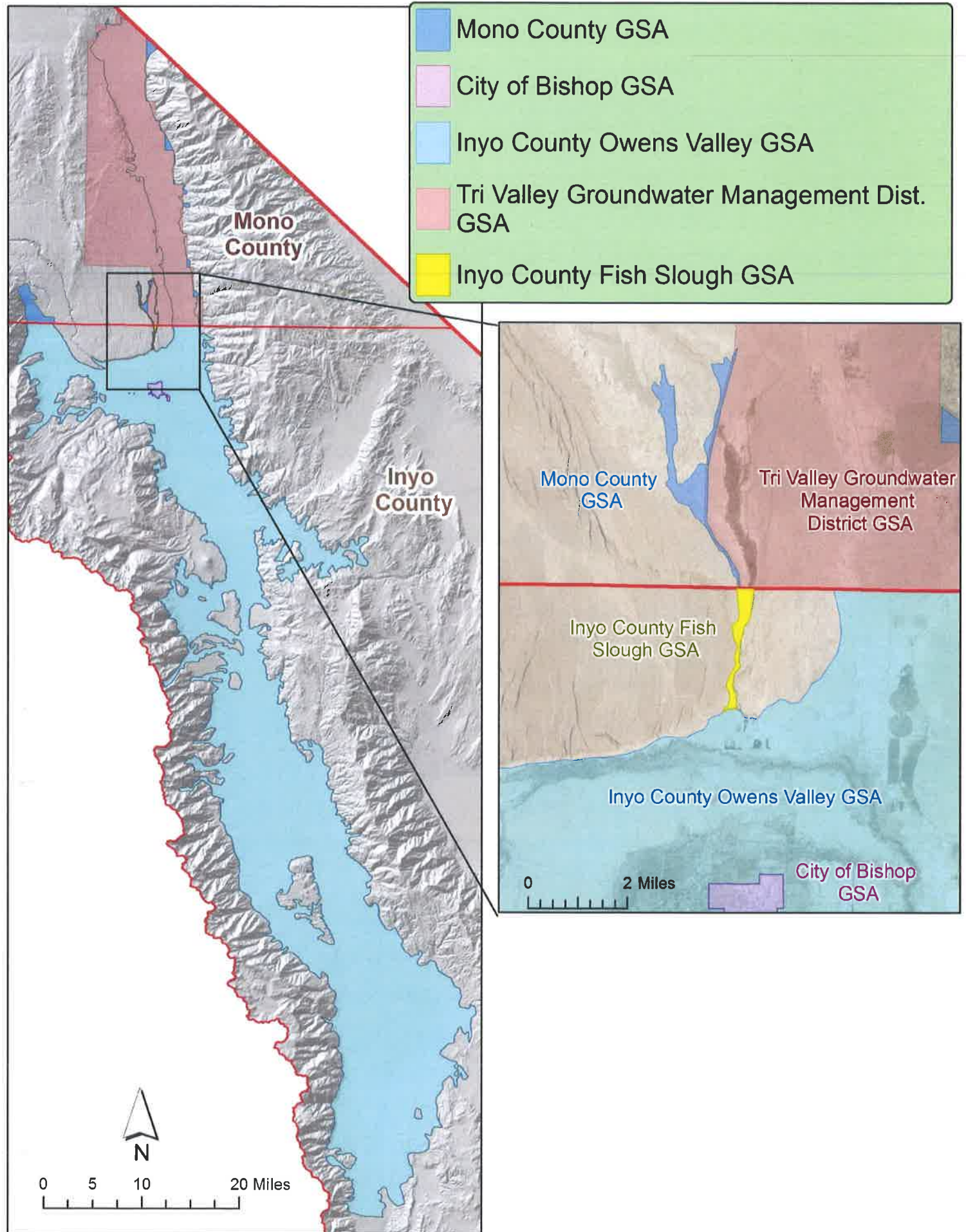
TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

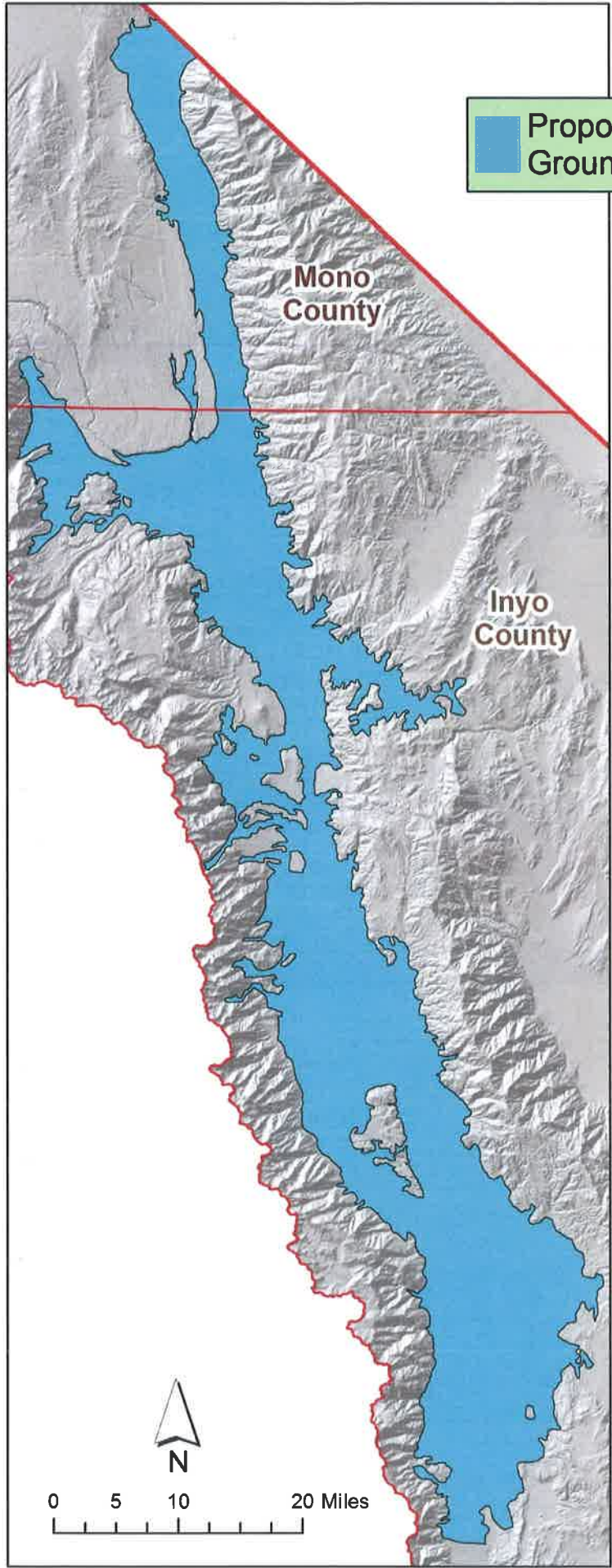
Cc:

Brian Moniz, Regional Coordinator
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Proposed boundary of the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority GSA

Mono
County

Inyo
County



0 5 10 20 Miles

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-26

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF INYO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, ELECTING TO WITHDRAW ITS STATUS AS A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY IN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN CONTINGENT UPON THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY BECOMING THE EXCLUSIVE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR ALL PORTIONS OF THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), Part 2.74 (commencing with section 10720) of the Water Code, requires all groundwater basins designated by the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") as high- and medium-priority basins to be managed sustainably by "local agencies," as defined in Water Code section 10721(n), that decide to become groundwater sustainability agencies ("GSA"); and

WHEREAS, the County of Inyo (the "Agency"), became the exclusively recognized Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for certain portions of the Owens Valley groundwater Basin (Basin No. 6-12.01 and 6-012.02 in the Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118 Update 2016, henceforth "Basin") pursuant to Water Code section 10723(a) and, thereafter, notified DWR of its decision to become a GSA for certain portions of the Basin pursuant to Water Code section 10723.8(a); and

WHEREAS, three other local agencies eligible to serve as GSAs pursuant to Water Code section 10723(a), separately became the exclusively recognized GSA for discrete portions of the Basin, (including the Fish Slough Subbasin of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin identified as Basin No. 6-12.02 in the Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118 Update 2016; henceforth the entirety of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin including Fish Slough is referred to as the the "Basin") which resulted in the entire Basin being separately covered by the four GSAs; and

WHEREAS, on or about August 1, 2017, those four GSAs and seven other local agencies within the Basin entered into a joint powers agreement ("JPA") to form the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (the "OVGA") in order to, among other things, jointly exercise their powers as a single GSA within the Basin for the purpose of creating a groundwater sustainability plan to be implemented within their combined jurisdictional boundaries in the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the JPA requires, among other things, the four exclusive GSAs within the Basin to formally notify the California Department of Water Resources ("DWR"), in writing, of their respective intents to withdraw their respective GSA status' expressly contingent upon the OVGA becoming the exclusive GSA for the entire Basin; and

WHEREAS, the Agency considers the transfer of the GSA into the OVGA JPA to be a non-material change in that the OVGA includes all existing exclusive GSAs and this action was contemplated at the time each of the existing exclusive GSAs submitted their notices to DWR.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County of Inyo Board of Supervisors as follows:

- (1) Contingent upon the OVGA actually becoming the exclusive GSA for the Basin and in accordance with the JPA, the Agency hereby withdraws its status as the exclusively recognized GSA; and
- (2) Consistent with Water Code section 10723.8(e), and concurrently with the OVGA notifying DWR of its intent to become the GSA for the entire Basin, Agency staff is directed to provide DWR written notification of its decision to withdraw its status as a GSA for the Basin and a copy of this resolution so that the OVGA may become the exclusive GSA for the Basin.
- (3) Agency staff is directed to do all things appropriate and necessary, including but not limited to providing assistance and support to the OVGA and its staff, to effectuate the withdrawal of the Agency's status as a GSA for the Basin and the OVGA becoming the exclusive GSA for the Basin.

PASSED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 15th DAY OF MAY, 2018 BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: -5- Supervisors Griffiths, Kingsley, Pucci, Tillemans, Totheroh

NAYS: -0-

ABSTAIN: -0-

ABSENT: -0-



Chairman Dan Totheroh, County of Inyo

Attest: *Kevin Carunchio,*
Clerk of the Board

by: 

Darcy Ellis,
Assistant to the Clerk of the Board



R18- 24

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MONO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
TO WITHDRAW ITS STATUS AS A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
IN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN CONTINGENT UPON THE
OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY BECOMING THE EXCLUSIVE
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR ALL PORTIONS OF THE
OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), Part 2.74 (commencing with section 10720) of the California Water Code, requires all groundwater basins designated by the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") as high- and medium-priority basins to be managed sustainably by "local agencies," as defined in Water Code section 10721(n), that decide to become groundwater sustainability agencies ("GSA"); and

WHEREAS, the County of Mono ("Agency") became the exclusively recognized Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for certain portions of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin No. 6-12.01 in DWR's Bulletin 118 Update 2016) ("Basin") pursuant to Water Code section 10723(a) and, thereafter, notified DWR of its decision to become a GSA for certain portions of the Basin pursuant to Water Code section 10723.8(a); and

WHEREAS, three other local agencies eligible to serve as GSAs pursuant to Water Code section 10723(a) separately became the exclusively recognized GSA for discrete portions of the Basin, (including the Fish Slough Subbasin of the Basin identified as Basin No. 6-12.02 in DWR's Bulletin 118 Update 2016) which resulted in the entire Basin being separately covered by the four GSAs; and

WHEREAS, on or about August 1, 2017, those four GSAs and seven other local agencies within the Basin entered into a joint powers agreement ("JPA") to form the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority ("OVGA") in order to, among other things, jointly exercise their powers as a single GSA within the Basin for the purpose of creating a groundwater sustainability plan to be implemented within their combined jurisdictional boundaries in the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the JPA requires, among other things, the four exclusive GSAs within the Basin to formally notify DWR, in writing, of their respective intents to withdraw their respective GSA statuses expressly contingent upon the OVGA becoming the exclusive GSA for the entire Basin; and

1 **WHEREAS**, the Agency considers the transfer of its GSA status into the OVGA JPA to
2 be a non-material change in that the OVGA includes all existing exclusive GSAs and this action
3 was contemplated at the time each of the existing exclusive GSAs submitted their notices to
4 DWR;

5 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mono County Board of Supervisors as
6 follows:

- 7 1. Contingent upon the OVGA actually becoming the exclusive GSA for the Basin and in
8 accordance with the JPA, the Agency hereby withdraws its status as the exclusively
9 recognized GSA for those portions of the Basin within its jurisdictional boundaries; and
10 2. Consistent with Water Code section 10723.8(e), and concurrently with the OVGA
11 notifying DWR of its intent to become the GSA for the entire Basin, Agency staff is
12 directed to provide DWR written notification of its decision to withdraw its status as a
13 GSA for the Basin and a copy of this resolution so that the OVGA may become the
14 exclusive GSA for the Basin; and
15 3. Agency staff is directed to do all things appropriate and necessary, including but not
16 limited to providing assistance and support to the OVGA and its staff, to effectuate the
17 withdrawal of the Agency's status as a GSA within the Basin and the OVGA becoming
18 the exclusive GSA for the Basin.

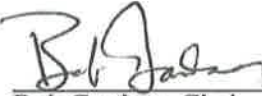
19 **PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 1st day of May, 2018,
20 by the following vote, to wit:

21 **AYES:** Supervisors Corless, Gardner, Peters, and Stump.

22 **NOES:** None.

23 **ABSENT:** None.

24 **ABSTAIN:** None.

25 

26 Bob Gardner, Chair
27 Mono County Board of Supervisors

28 **ATTEST:**

29 **APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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31 Clerk of the Board

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 County Counsel

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RESOLUTION NO. 2018-01

**A RESOLUTION OF THE MONO COUNTY TRI-VALLEY GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO WITHDRAW ITS STATUS
AS A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY IN THE OWENS VALLEY
GROUNDWATER BASIN CONTINGENT UPON THE OWENS VALLEY
GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY BECOMING THE EXCLUSIVE GROUNDWATER
SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR ALL PORTIONS OF THE OWENS VALLEY
GROUNDWATER BASIN**

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), Part 2.74 (commencing with section 10720) of the Water Code, requires all groundwater basins designated by the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") as high- and medium-priority basins to be managed sustainably by "local agencies," as defined in Water Code section 10721(n), that decide to become groundwater sustainability agencies ("GSA"); and

WHEREAS, the Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater Management District ("Agency") became the exclusively recognized Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for certain portions of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin No. 6-12.01 in DWR's Bulletin 118 Update 2016) ("Basin") pursuant to Water Code section 10723(a) and, thereafter, notified DWR of its decision to become a GSA for certain portions of the Basin pursuant to Water Code section 10723.8(a); and

WHEREAS, three other local agencies eligible to serve as GSAs pursuant to Water Code section 10723(a) separately became the exclusively recognized GSA for discrete portions of the Basin, (including the Fish Slough Subbasin of the Basin identified as Basin No. 6-12.02 in DWR's Bulletin 118 Update 2016) which resulted in the entire Basin being separately covered by the four GSAs; and

WHEREAS, on or about August 1, 2017, those four GSAs and seven other local agencies within the Basin entered into a joint powers agreement ("JPA") to form the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority ("OVGA") in order to, among other things, jointly exercise their powers as a single GSA within the Basin for the purpose of creating a groundwater sustainability plan to be implemented within their combined jurisdictional boundaries in the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the JPA requires, among other things, the four exclusive GSAs within the Basin to formally notify DWR, in writing, of their respective intents to withdraw their respective GSA statuses expressly contingent upon the OVGA becoming the exclusive GSA for the entire Basin; and

WHEREAS, the Agency considers the transfer of its GSA status into the OVGA JPA to be a non-material change in that the OVGA includes all existing exclusive GSAs and this action

1 was contemplated at the time each of the existing exclusive GSAs submitted their notices to
2 DWR.

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater
4 Management District Board of Directors as follows:

- 5 (1) Contingent upon the OVGA actually becoming the exclusive GSA for the Basin and in
6 accordance with the JPA, the Agency hereby withdraws its status as the exclusively
7 recognized GSA for those portions of the Basin within its jurisdictional boundaries; and
8
9 (2) Consistent with Water Code section 10723.8(e), and concurrently with the OVGA
10 notifying DWR of its intent to become the GSA for the entire Basin, Agency staff is
11 directed to provide DWR written notification of its decision to withdraw its status as a
12 GSA for the Basin and a copy of this resolution so that the OVGA may become the
13 exclusive GSA for the Basin; and
14
15 (3) Agency staff is directed to do all things appropriate and necessary, including but not
16 limited to providing assistance and support to the OVGA and its staff, to effectuate the
17 withdrawal of the Agency's status as a GSA for the Basin and the OVGA becoming the
18 exclusive GSA for the Basin.

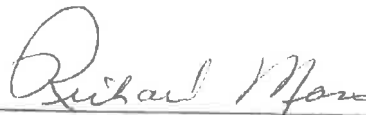
17 **PASSED AND ADOPTED ON THIS 18th DAY OF APRIL 2018 BY THE FOLLOWING**
18 **VOTE:**

19 AYES: Richard Moss, Phil West, Marion Dunn, Fred Stump

20 NAYS: Carol Ann Mitchell

21 ABSTAIN: None

22 ABSENT: Frank Ormistan, Dave Doonan

23
24 

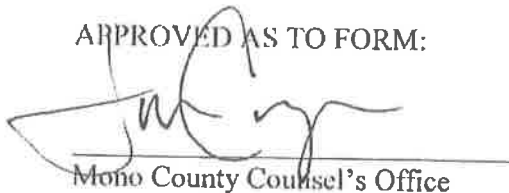
25 Richard Moss, Chair
26 Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater
27 Management District

28 ATTEST:

29 

30 Marion Dunn, Secretary
31 Mono County Tri-Valley Groundwater
32 Management District

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Mono County Counsel's Office

RESOLUTION NO. 2018-08

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BISHOP, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, ELECTING TO WITHDRAW ITS STATUS AS A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY IN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN CONTINGENT UPON THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY BECOMING THE EXCLUSIVE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR ALL PORTIONS OF THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), Part 2.74 (commencing with section 10720) of the Water Code, requires all groundwater basins designated by the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") as high- and medium-priority basins to be managed sustainably by "local agencies," as defined in Water Code section 10721(n), that decide to become groundwater sustainability agencies ("GSA"); and

WHEREAS, the City of Bishop (the "City"), became the exclusively recognized Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) for certain portions of the Owens Valley groundwater Basin (Basin No. 6-12.01 in the Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118 Update 2016, henceforth "Basin") pursuant to Water Code section 10723(a) and, thereafter, notified DWR of its decision to become a GSA for certain portions of the Basin pursuant to Water Code section 10723.8(a); and

WHEREAS, three other local agencies eligible to serve as GSAs pursuant to Water Code section 10723(a), separately became the exclusively recognized GSA for discrete portions of the Basin, (including the Fish Slough Subbasin of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin identified as Basin No. 6-12.02 in the Department of Water Resources Bulletin 118 Update 2016; henceforth the entirety of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin including Fish Slough is referred to as the "Basin") which resulted in the entire Basin being separately covered by the four GSAs; and

WHEREAS, on or about August 1, 2017, those four GSAs and seven other local agencies within the Basin entered into a joint powers agreement ("JPA") to form the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (the "OVGA") in order to, among other things, jointly exercise their powers as a single GSA within the Basin for the purpose of creating a groundwater sustainability plan to be implemented within their combined jurisdictional boundaries in the Basin; and

WHEREAS, the JPA requires, among other things, the four exclusive GSAs within the Basin to formally notify the California Department of Water Resources ("DWR"), in writing, of their respective intents to withdraw their respective GSA status' expressly contingent upon the OVGA becoming the exclusive GSA for the entire Basin; and

WHEREAS, the Agency considers the transfer of the GSA into the OVGA JPA to be a non-material change in that the OVGA includes all existing exclusive GSAs and this

action was contemplated at the time each of the existing exclusive GSAs submitted their notices to DWR.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Bishop that in accordance with SGMA:

1. Contingent upon the OVGA actually becoming the exclusive GSA for the Basin and in accordance with the JPA, the City hereby withdraws its status as the exclusively recognized GSA; and
2. Consistent with Water Code section 10723.8(e), and concurrently with the OVGA notifying DWR of its intent to become the GSA for the entire Basin, city staff is directed to provide DWR written notification of its decision to withdraw its status as a GSA for the Basin and a copy of this resolution so that the OVGA may become the exclusive GSA for the Basin.
3. Agency staff is directed to do all things appropriate and necessary, including but not limited to providing assistance and support to the OVGA and its staff, to effectuate the withdrawal of the Agency's status as a GSA for the Basin and the OVGA becoming the exclusive GSA for the Basin.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 29th day of May 2018.


Karen Schwartz, Mayor

ATTEST: Jim Tatum, City Clerk

By: 
Robin Picken, Assistant City Clerk



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
COUNTY OF INYO
CITY OF BISHOP



I, Robin Picken, Assistant City Clerk for the City of Bishop, do hereby certify that the whole number of members of the City Council of said City of Bishop is five (5); that the foregoing Resolution No. 2018-08 was duly passed and adopted by said City Council; approved and signed by the Mayor of said City; and attested by the City Clerk of said City, all at a regular meeting of said City Council, held on May 29, 2018, and that the same was so passed and adopted by the following roll call vote.

AYES: Pecs, Smith, Ellis, Schwartz

ABSENT: Costello

NOES: None

DISQUALIFIED: None

WITNESS, my hand and the seal of the City of Bishop this 30th day of May, 2018.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Robin Picken".

Robin Picken, Assistant City Clerk
CITY OF BISHOP

