



EAST KAWEAH

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

July 27, 2022

Paul Gosselin
Deputy Director of Sustainable Groundwater Management
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room 213
Sacramento, CA 94236

Subject: Submittal of East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency's 2022 First Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Dear Mr. Gosselin:

Within the Kaweah Subbasin, three separate GSPs were submitted by the three Kaweah Subbasin GSAs (East Kaweah GSA, Greater Kaweah GSA, and Mid-Kaweah GSA) alongside a required coordination agreement to meet Water Code §10727 by January 31, 2020. The Kaweah Subbasin GSAs were notified by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on January 28, 2022 via letter titled "Incomplete Determination of the 2020 Groundwater Sustainability Plans Submitted for the San Joaquin Valley – Kaweah Subbasin" (Determination Letter) that DWR deemed the Kaweah Subbasin's three GSPs to be incomplete. Specifically, DWR found that the three GSPs, "do not satisfy the requirements of SGMA nor substantially comply with the GSP Regulations" and recommended corrective actions for chronic lowering of groundwater levels, land subsidence, and interconnected surface water Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs). EKGSA was given 180 days (July 27, 2022) to address the identified deficiencies.

In the past six months, the Kaweah Subbasin GSAs consulted with DWR staff on February 25th, April 21st, and June 10th to discuss the best approaches and methodologies to develop a revised GSP that corrects the deficiencies identified in DWR's determination letter. The EKGSA is grateful for the time and expertise DWR staff shared with the Subbasin during these consultation meetings and applied this guidance while developing GSP revisions. Throughout the GSP revision process, EKGSA utilized a collaborative, Subbasin coordinated approach that would best consider the beneficial users and uses of groundwater within the EKGSA and larger Kaweah Subbasin.



Today, the EKGSA submitted the 2022 First Amended Groundwater Sustainability Plan to DWR's SGMA portal to address the deficiencies identified in DWR's determination letter with the intent that the amended GSP satisfies the objectives of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and substantially complies with the GSP Regulations. Significant revisions were made to Section 3: Sustainable Management Criteria (and associated appendices), Section 5: Projects and Management Actions, and Appendix 1-A "2022 First Amended Kaweah Subbasin Coordination Agreement", with other minor revisions throughout the other sections and appendices to maintain consistency.

Please contact our office if you, or your staff have any questions.

Respectfully,



Michael Hagman
Executive Director
East Kaweah GSA