

NOTICE
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
will be held on **Tuesday, October 15, 2024**, at 10:00 a.m.
at Buellton City Council Chambers
140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California

Optional remote public participation is available via Telephone or ZOOM
To access the meeting via telephone, please dial: 1-669-444-9171 or via the Web at: <http://join.zoom.us>
“Join a Meeting” - **Meeting ID: 815 3412 0400 Meeting Passcode: 586977**

*** Please Note ***

The above teleconference option for public participation is being offered as a convenience only and may limit or otherwise prevent your access to and participation in the meeting due to disruption or unavailability of the teleconference line. If any such disruption of unavailability occurs for any reason the meeting will not be suspended, terminated, or continued. Therefore in-person attendance of the meeting is strongly encouraged.

AGENDA OF SPECIAL MEETING

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda
4. Public Comment (Any member of the public may address the Committee relating to any non-agenda matter within the Committee’s jurisdiction. The total time for all public comment shall not exceed fifteen minutes and the time allotted for each individual shall not exceed five minutes. No action will be taken by the Committee at this meeting on any public comment item.)
5. Review and consider approval of Minutes of the Special Meeting of September 4, 2024
6. Review and consider approval of Minutes of the basin-wide joint GSA meeting of September 6, 2024
7. Review and consider approval of Quarterly Financial Reports and Warrant List
8. Receive update from EKI on Prop 68 Grant Implementation Projects in CMA
9. Receive updates and consider taking action on the following:
 - a. Consider Approval of Monitoring Well Access Agreement – Polo Village
 - b. Review Stetson Engineers scopes of work and cost estimates and consider approval of the following Task Order projects under the CMA’s Contract with Stetson
 - i. CMA Five Year GSP Update
 - ii. CMA Annual Sub-Report
 - iii. Single Basin-Wide coordination of Annual Report
 - c. Consider directing staff to develop a contract with Streamline for the CMA GSA website, and authorize and request a change in ownership from SYRWCD to the CMA GSA JPA
 - d. Discuss the status of the JPA Amendment to add an Agricultural Representative and consider directing staff to begin recruitment for the position
10. Consider changing the date and time of regular meetings of the CMA GSA for 2025
11. Discuss and Review CMA JPA Board Positions for 2025
12. Review Selection of Special District Representative for the GSRMA Board of Directors
13. Receive information on DWR SGMA 10-year Anniversary Event

14. Notice of Cancellation of Regular Meeting November 18, 2024
15. Next Basin-wide Joint-GSAs meeting Friday, December 6, 2024, 10 AM., at the Buellton City Council Chambers
16. Next CMA GSA Board Regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 24, 2025, 10:00 AM at the Buellton City Council Chambers
17. CMA GSA Board member reports and requests for future agenda items
18. Adjournment

[This agenda was posted 24 hours prior to the scheduled regular meeting at 3669 Sagunto Street, Suite 101, Santa Ynez, California, and SantaYnezWater.org in accordance with Government Code Section 54954. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to review agenda materials or participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District at (805) 693-1156. Advanced notification as far as practicable prior to the meeting will enable the GSA to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.]

MEETING MINUTES

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors September 04, 2024

A special meeting of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, September 04, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the City of Buellton, City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California.

Directors Present: Larry Lahr and John Sanchez

Non-Voting Directors Present (Teleconference): Meighan Diethofer (Acting Alternate)

Others Present (In Person): Bill Buelow, Rose Hess, Alex Pappas, Carol Redhead, and Amber Thompson

Others Present (Teleconference): Doug Circle, Gib Fates (Geosyntec), Paeter Garcia, Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Kadie McShirley, Matt Scrudato, Isaac St. Lawrence, Scarlet Tovar (DWR), and Legal Counsel Steve Torigiani

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

CMA GSA Board Chair Lahr called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Buelow called roll. Two Directors and one non-voting Acting Alternate Director were present providing a quorum.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

CMA GSA Board Chair Lahr led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Closed Session

The Board went into closed session at 10:03 a.m. to discuss the following item:

- b. Public Employee Appointment: Special Legal Counsel (Gov. Code § 54957(b)(1))

4. Reconvene into Open Session and Report from Closed Session (Gov. Code § 54957.1)

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 10:12 a.m. Ms. Thompson reported that Director Sanchez made a MOTION to retain Isaac St. Lawrence of McMurtrey, Hartsock, Worth, & St. Lawrence as Special Counsel to advise the GSA regarding the proposed Subgrant Agreement (Item 9.a.), Director Lahr seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

To accommodate the limited available time of Mr. St. Lawrence, special counsel, the Board unanimously agreed to move Agenda Item 9.a. to be discussed after Agenda Item 4 and move Closed Session Item 3.a. to be discussed after Agenda Item 12.

5. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda

6. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

7. Review and Consider Approval of Minutes of the Special Meeting of June 24, 2024

The minutes of the CMA GSA Board special meeting on June 24, 2024 were presented for Board consideration. There was no discussion or public comment.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve the minutes of the CMA GSA Board special meeting on June 24, 2024, as presented. Director Lahr seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

8. Review and Consider Approval of Financial Statements and Warrant List

The CMA GSA Board considered the financial reports of FY 2023-24 Periods 10 through 12 (through June 30, 2024). Discussion followed.

Mr. Buelow presented the Warrant Lists for April, May, and June 2024. There was no discussion or public comment.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve the Warrant Lists for April, May, and June 2024 (Check Nos. 1031-1035) totaling \$18,100.58, as presented. Director Lahr seconded the motion. There was no discussion or public comment. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

9. Receive Updates and Consider Taking Action on the following:

a. Subgrant Agreement with SYRWCD

This item was considered earlier in the meeting, after Agenda Item 4.

Mr. Buelow summarized the Subgrant Agreement with Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District (“SYRWCD”).

Mr. St. Lawrence explained the purpose of the Subgrant Agreement and reviewed the duties of SYRWCD and the three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies. He reported that the Subgrant Agreement was approved by the WMA GSA Board and that the EMA GSA member agency staff have been looking at it. He advised the Board that he approved of the form of the Subgrant Agreement, and that if there are any changes made to the Agreement by any of the parties then all parties may need to consider the amended version.

Public comment was received, and discussion followed.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve and authorize execution of the Subgrant Agreement for Implementation of Grant Agreement Number 4600015265 Between the State of California Department of Water Resources and Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District. Director Lahr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

b. Monitoring Well Access Agreement – Polo Village

Mr. Torigiani provided an update on the Monitoring Well Access Agreement for Polo Village in Buellton. There was no discussion or public comment.

c. EKI Scope of Work and consider approval of Grant Implementation Projects and authorize CMA GSA Contract

Mr. Buelow reported on the current EKI Scope of Work for certain Grant Component work on behalf of the entire basin through a contract held with the WMA GSA. He explained the need to establish an agreement for GSP Implementation tasks for Components 2 and 5 work for the CMA GSA. Staff recommendation was to establish an agreement between the CMA GSA and EKI Environmental and approve a Scope of Work for GSP Implementation tasks for Components 2 and 5 work for the CMA GSA. Legal counsel recommended changes to the form of agreement. Discussion followed.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve and authorize execution of the EKI Scope of Work for GSP Implementation tasks for Components 2 and 5 for the CMA GSA and associated agreement, not to exceed \$707,000, subject to final form of agreement being acceptable to legal counsel and plan manager and authorize legal counsel to negotiate changes to the form of agreement consistent with his recommendations to the Board. Director Lahr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

d. Discuss the addition of an Agricultural Representative

Mr. Buelow presented the First Amendment to Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for Santa Ynez River Valley Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“Amendment”) to add the non-voting position of an Agricultural Representative Director to the CMA GSA JPA Board of Directors. Mr. Buelow explained that the governing bodies of each of the JPA Member Agency need to approve the Amendment at a public meeting for the Amendment to be effective. Discussion followed and public comment was received.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to endorse and recommend consideration of the First Amendment to Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for Santa Ynez River Valley Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency, as presented, by the JPA member agencies. Director Lahr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

- e. Review Stetson Engineers Scope of Work and cost estimate and consider approval of ongoing technical support and authorize CMA GSA Contract

Mr. Buelow presented the Stetson Engineers Scope of Work and Estimated Cost for Central Management Area (CMA) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Implementation Support for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 with a total budget listed as \$7,000. He explained this Scope of Work is for Stetson Engineers to support the CMA GSA with technical issues for this fiscal year and recommended the CMA GSA establish a contract directly with Stetson Engineers. Discussion followed. There was no public comment.

Director Sanchez made a MOTION to approve and authorize execution of an agreement with Stetson Engineers, Inc., subject to approval of legal counsel and the plan manager as to the form of the agreement, with the ability to add more Scopes of Work to the contract, subject to approval by the Board in the future, and to approve the Scope of Work for Task Order No. 1 for GSP Implementation Support for Fiscal Year 2024-2025 in an amount not to exceed \$7,000. Director Lahr seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

10. Basin-wide Joint-GSAs Meeting Friday, September 6, 2024, 10 a.m. at Buellton City Council Chambers

Mr. Buelow announced a Basin-wide Joint-GSAs meeting is scheduled for Friday, September 6, 2024, 10 a.m. at the Buellton City Council Chambers. Both CMA GSA Directors reported they are available to attend. There was no public comment or action.

11. Next CMA GSA Board Regular Meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2024, at Buellton City Council Chambers

The next scheduled CMA GSA Board Regular meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, November 18, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California. The Board discussed availability for November 18, 2024 and determined there would be a lack of quorum available to meet on November 18, 2024. After unanimous consensus, Director Lahr directed staff to cancel the regular meeting scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2024, and called for a special meeting to be scheduled for Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 10:00 a.m., at the Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, CA.

12. CMA GSA Board reports and requests for future agenda items

There were no reports or requests.

Earlier in the meeting, the Board unanimously agreed to move Closed Session Item 3.a. to be discussed after Agenda Item 12.

3. Closed Session (Second Session)

The Board went into a second closed session at 11:45 a.m. to discuss the following items:

- a. Conference with Real Property Negotiator (Gov. Code § 54956.8)
 - i. GSA Designated Representative: Bill Buelow
 - ii. Property: APN 137-090-067
 - iii. Under Negotiation: Price and Terms of Payment
 - iv. Negotiation With: Buellton Polo Village Partners, LP

4. Reconvene into Open Session and Report from Closed Session (Gov. Code § 54957.1)

The Board reconvened into Open Session at 12:12 p.m. Ms. Thompson stated there was no reportable action taken in the second Closed Session.

13. Adjournment

Chair Lahr adjourned the meeting at 12:12 p.m.

Larry Lahr, Chair

Amber Thompson, Secretary

JOINT MEETING MINUTES

**Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency
and
Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Eastern Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency
and
Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

September 6, 2024

A joint special meeting of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CMA GSA), the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Eastern Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (EMA GSA), and the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (WMA GSA) was held on Friday, September 6, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at the City of Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California.

EMA GSA Director Brett Marymee attended the meeting via teleconference from 32001 Railroad Canyon Rd., Canyon Lake, California. This remote participation location was properly noticed on the agenda and the agenda was posted at the remote location, in compliance with Gov. Code Section 54950 et seq. No members of the public joined Director Marymee at the location.

WMA GSA Alternate Director Mike Garner attended the meeting via teleconference from 2824 Desert Song Drive, Bullhead City, Arizona. This remote participation location was properly noticed on the agenda and the agenda was posted at the remote location, in compliance with Gov. Code Section 54950 et seq. No members of the public joined Alternate Director Garner at the location.

CMA GSA Committee Members Present: Larry Lahr, John Sanchez, and Joan Hartmann (non-voting)

EMA GSA Committee Members Present: Joan Hartmann, Brad Joos, Elizabeth Orona, and Brett Marymee (participating by teleconference)

WMA GSA Committee Members Present: Jeremy Ball, Chris Brooks, Myron Heavin, Steve Jordan, and Joan Hartmann (non-voting)

CMA GSA Alternate Committee Members Present: Meighan Dietenhofer

EMA GSA Alternate Committee Members Present: Meighan Dietenhofer and Steve Jordan

WMA GSA Alternate Committee Members Present: Meighan Diethofer, Ron Stassi, and Kristin Worthley

Others Present (In Person): Cynthia Allen, Bill Buelow, John Fio (EKI Consulting), Paeter Garcia, Daniel Heimel (Confluences Environmental), Rose Hess, Mary Heyden, Kadie McShirley, Nate Page (Confluences Environmental), Amber Thompson, Donna Wood, and Matt Young

Others Present (Teleconference): Jeff Barry (Confluences Environmental), Doug Circle, V. Deanda, Dan Drugan, Karen Kistler, Deby Laranjo, Curtis Lawler (Stetson Engineers), Sharyn Merritt, Tim Nicely (GSI Water Solutions), Carol Redhead, Matt Scudato, Isaac St. Lawrence (McMurtrey, Hartsock, Worth, & St. Lawrence, WMA GSA Legal Counsel), Steve Torigiani (Young Wooldridge LLP, CMA GSA Legal Counsel), and Scarlett Tovar (DWR)

1. Call to Order

CMA, EMA, and WMA Director Joan Hartmann called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Roll Call

Ms. Thompson called roll.

Two CMA GSA Directors and one non-voting Director were present providing a quorum. In addition, one Alternate Director was present.

Three EMA GSA Directors were present in-person and one Director was present by teleconference, as was properly noticed on the agenda, providing a quorum. In addition, two Alternate Directors were present.

Four WMA GSA Directors and one non-voting Director were present in-person providing a quorum. In addition, two Alternate Directors were present in-person and one participated by teleconference.

3. Consider Appointment of Moderator to Facilitate Joint GSA Meeting

CMA, EMA, and WMA Director Joan Hartmann volunteered to moderate the joint meeting. There was unanimous consensus by all other GSA Directors.

4. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Update on Proposition 68 Grant

Mr. Fio, EKI Environmental, presented an update on Proposition 68 Grant and GSP Implementation Component tasks for the Basin. Discussion followed and public comment was received.

6. Discuss Outreach to pumpers of river-alluvium in response to DWR comment on the GSPs

Mr. Buelow reported that Plan Managers/Executive Director and legal counsels will develop a plan for outreach to the pumpers of river-alluvium in response to Department of Water Resources (DWR) comment on the Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). The outreach and education are part of the Action Plan approved by all three GSAs and submitted to DWR in January 2024 as part of the three GSPs. Discussion followed.

Ideas for education included: how to report, who to report to, consequences for non-reporting, why to report, and who enforces the consequences?

There was no public comment.

7. Discuss alternative approaches for a coordinated annual report for the basin

Mr. Buelow presented the letter received from DWR requesting one coordinated and combined annual report for the basin instead of three individual GSA Annual Reports. Three options were presented for discussion and direction:

- Option 1: Status Quo with sending three separate GSA Annual Reports
- Option 2: Hire one consultant to prepare one annual report for the basin
- Option 3: Each GSA continue to use the same teams for the annual reports with CMA and WMA using Stetson Engineers and EMA using GSI Water Solutions plus hire one consultant to combine the GSA reports into one basin report for submittal to DWR.

Discussion followed and public comment was received.

The unanimous consensus by Directors of all three GSAs was, for this year, to have each GSA hire its own consultant to prepare a separate annual report for its respective Management Areas plus one overarching report to tie the three individual reports together. The consultant to prepare the overarching report needs to be selected.

8. Discuss Quarterly Basin-wide joint-GSAs schedule of Special Meetings

- a. Friday, December 6, 2024, 9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Buelow reported that Friday, December 6, 2024, 9:00 a.m. has been reserved for a Basin-wide joint-GSAs special meeting at the City of Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California. Discussion followed.

b. Other dates

The Boards of Directors of the three GSAs discussed developing a potential schedule for future joint-GSA meetings. The unanimous consensus was to schedule quarterly special joint-GSA meetings on the first Friday morning of the last month of each quarter at the City of Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton, California.

9. Next GSA Regular Meetings

WMA GSA Board of Directors is scheduled to meet Wednesday, September 25, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Village Community Services District, Meeting Room, 3745 Constellation Rd, Lompoc.

CMA GSA Board of Directors is scheduled to hold a Special Meeting in lieu of the regular meeting on Tuesday, October 15, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Buellton City Council Chambers, 140 West Highway 246, Buellton.

EMA GSA Board of Directors is scheduled to meet Thursday, November 21, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at Santa Ynez Community Services District Meeting Room, 1070 Faraday Street, Santa Ynez. A special meeting of the EMA GSA may also be held in October.

There was no discussion or public comment.

10. GSA Board member reports and requests for future agenda items

EMA GSA Director Joan Hartmann requested to learn about specific issues in each GSA for each GSA to learn about the others in the basin.

WMA GSA Director Steve Jordan requested that metering discussions occur sooner and that GSAs consider adding conditions to new well verifications to request monitoring access and the addition of a flow meter.

EMA GSA Director Elizabeth Orona requested an update on communication to pumpers.

WMA GSA Director Jeremy Ball requested an update on rate studies and asked about implications for all three GSAs.

WMA GSA Alternate Director Kristin Worthley requested a report on the role, legal power, and requirements of the joint-GSAs on sustainability. Discussion followed.

WMA GSA Director Myron Heavin commented on the issue of discharge from water softeners that use bags of salt and requested that the County should take on the issue.

11. Adjournment

Meeting Moderator EMA GSA Director Joan Hartmann adjourned the meeting at 11:19 a.m.

DRAFT

**Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

Larry Lahr, Chair

Amber Thompson, Secretary

Approved on: _____

**Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Eastern Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

Brett Marymee, Chair

Elizabeth Orona, Secretary

Approved on: _____

**Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Western Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

Jeremy Ball, Chair

Amber Thompson, Secretary

Approved on: _____

CMA GSA
Balance Sheet
As of September 30, 2024

	<u>Sep 30, 24</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
1150 · Five Star Bank Checking #5943	210,657.52
Total Checking/Savings	<u>210,657.52</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>210,657.52</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>210,657.52</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Other Current Liabilities	
2501 · Loan from SYRWCD	125,000.00
2503 · Loan from City of Buellton	125,000.00
Total Other Current Liabilities	<u>250,000.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>250,000.00</u>
Total Liabilities	250,000.00
Equity	
3000 · Ret Earnings	-18,818.01
Net Income	<u>-20,524.47</u>
Total Equity	<u>-39,342.48</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>210,657.52</u></u>

CMA GSA
Profit & Loss
July through September 2024

	FY24-25 1st Quarter
	<u>Jul - Sep 24</u>
Income	
4600 · Interest Income	45.03
Total Income	<u>45.03</u>
Gross Profit	45.03
Expense	
5200 · GSA Management/Admin	6,271.25
5330 · Outside Staff Support	400.00
5360 · Insurance	5,018.00
5800 · Legal Services	2,340.00
6100 · Stakeholder Engagement	72.00
6400 · Annual Report	2,613.00
6502 · GSP Impl - Rate Study	3,156.25
6504 · GSP Impl - Monitoring Network	699.00
Total Expense	<u>20,569.50</u>
Net Income	<u><u>-20,524.47</u></u>

**SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN
CENTRAL MANAGEMENT AREA (CMA)
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILTY AGENCY**

JULY 2024 WARRANT LIST FOR BOARD APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
ACH	07/01/24	Golden State Risk Management Authority	General Liability Insurance FY 2024-25 (7/1/24-7/1/2025)	\$ 5,018.00
1036	07/10/24	Onsite Computers	Office 365 Basic License (email) - cma@SantaYnezWater.org	\$ 72.00
1037	07/10/24	Stetson Engineers	May 2024 Engineering Service (Annual Report and GSP Implementation - Monitoring Network)	\$ 1,242.00
1038	07/10/24	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Reimburse costs for Legal Services provided by Young Wooldridge during April 2024 and paid by SYRWCD	\$ 1,525.00
1039	07/10/24	Young Wooldridge	Legal Services (June 2024)	\$ 1,418.77
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 9,275.77

AUGUST 2024 WARRANT LIST FOR BOARD APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1040	08/14/24	Young Wooldridge	Legal Services (July 2024)	\$ 893.75
1041	08/14/24	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Administrative Services (June 24, 2024 - July 31, 2024)	\$ 2,947.25
1042	08/14/24	Stetson Engineers	June 2024 Engineering Service (WY2023-24 Annual Report & GSP Implementation - Monitoring Network)	\$ 2,573.25
1043	08/14/24	Raftelis	June 2024 Rate Study	\$ 455.00
1044	08/14/24	Raftelis	July 2024 Rate Study	\$ 1,157.50
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 8,026.75

SEPTEMBER 2024 WARRANT LIST FOR BOARD APPROVAL

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>PAYEE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
1045	09/25/24	Young Wooldridge	Legal Services (August 2024)	\$ 1,446.25
1046	09/25/24	Valley Bookkeeping	FY 2024-25 1st Quarter Bookkeeping (July, August, and September 2024)	\$ 400.00
1047	09/25/24	Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District	Administrative Services (August 2024)	\$ 3,324.00
1048	09/25/24	Stetson Engineers	July 2024 Engineering Service (GSP Implementation - Monitoring Network)	\$ 738.75
1049	09/25/24	Raftelis	August 2024 Rate Study	\$ 1,543.75
MONTH TOTAL				\$ 7,452.75

TOTAL CHECKS THIS QUARTER: \$ 24,755.27

MONITORING WELL ACCESS AGREEMENT

This Monitoring Well Access Agreement (“Agreement”), dated for informational purposes _____, 2024, is made and entered into by and between the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“Agency” or “GSA”), formed pursuant to Water Code section 10723.6, subd. (a)(2) and the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Gov. Code § 6500, et seq.), and Buellton Polo Village Partners LP, a California limited partnership (hereafter “Landowner”), and will be effective as of the Effective Date (as defined in Section 18 below). Agency and Landowner shall sometimes be referred to herein collectively as the “Parties” or individually as a “Party”.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the GSA was formed pursuant to a Memorandum of Agreement effective January 11, 2017, and the GSA has adopted a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (“GSP”) for the Central Portion of the Santa Ynez River Valley Basin (Basin Number 3-015, DWR Bulletin 118, “Basin”), hereinafter referred to as the “CMA,” to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) (Water Code § 10720 *et seq.*); and

WHEREAS, effective November 28, 2023, the member agencies forming the GSA entered into a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement for the Agency, which created the Agency as a separate public entity GSA to provide SGMA management for the CMA; and

WHEREAS, the Agency currently has no employees and does not anticipate hiring any employees in the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, SGMA, including Water Code § 10726.5, authorizes the GSA to enter into written agreements and funding with a private party to assist in, or facilitate the implementation of, a GSP or any elements of a GSP; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires the long-term monitoring of groundwater levels, water quality, and other groundwater data (collectively, the “Data”), and, to satisfy this requirement, the Agency needs to construct or secure the access rights to monitoring wells within its service area to acquire and monitor Data for use in development and implementation of the GSP and amendments thereto; and

WHEREAS, Landowner plans to develop Landowner’s land within the CMA, as described and depicted in Exhibit A attached hereto (“Landowner’s Land”), for residential development and/or other non-agricultural uses, which development plans require Landowner to abandon one groundwater production well, hereinafter referred to as the “Groundwater Well,” which is further described in Exhibit A to this Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Agency believes that with relatively minor alterations the Groundwater Well is suitable for use as monitoring well by the Agency (in lieu of Landowner’s plan to abandon same), and Agency and Landowner agree that use of the Groundwater Well as a monitoring well will not conflict with Landowner’s development plans or applicable laws, regulations or other legal requirements; and

WHEREAS, Agency desires to use Groundwater Well for groundwater monitoring, and Landowner has agreed to grant the Agency permanent, non-exclusive access onto Landowner's Land as necessary for use of the Groundwater Well as a monitoring well, subject to the terms and conditions as set forth in this Agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Parties agree as follows:

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. **Incorporation of Recitals.** The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as terms and conditions of this Agreement.

2. **Permanent Right of Entry and Use.** Landowner grants Agency a permanent, non-exclusive right to enter onto Landowner's Land (as described and depicted in Exhibit A) for use of the Groundwater Well as a monitoring well to obtain Data for use in the Agency's implementation of the GSP subject to the terms and conditions of this Agreement. Unless otherwise agreed to by the Parties in a written amendment to this Agreement, the Parties agree that the Agency's access to Landowner's Land shall be limited to access as necessary for use of the Groundwater Well described in Exhibit A's "Monitoring Well Location" through the access area described in Exhibit A. Agency understands that Landowner makes no representation or warranty whatsoever with respect to the Groundwater Well, Landowner's Land or Landowner's intended development and use of Landowner's Land. Agency further (a) understands that Landowner does not represent or warrant (i) that the Groundwater Well is in working condition, (ii) that Landowner has water rights or interests in such waters or rights relating to the Groundwater Well or (iii) that the Groundwater Well is adequate for Agency's use, and (b) accept use of the Groundwater Well in its current "As-Is, Where-Is" condition and subject to alteration as provided in section 3 below. Agency's access and use of the Groundwater Well shall not unreasonably interfere with Landowner's use of the Landowner's Land, including but not limited to the construction, development and operation of Landowner's residential development.

3. **Alteration and Control.** On or before May 31, 2025, Landowner shall permanently remove all pumping apparatus from the Groundwater Well and secure the well's casing with a water-tight locking cap with surface completion that is further secured in a shallow vault and with bollards and/or other appropriate protections (collectively, the "Well Work"), so that the Groundwater Well is protected from damage during construction of Landowner's development in accordance with the plan approved by the Parties and attached hereto as Exhibit B. Landowner shall provide Agency with written documentation supporting Landowner's out of pocket costs for the Well Work, which is estimated currently at Twenty Two Thousand Eight Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$22,850), and Agency shall reimburse Landowner fifty percent (50%) of the total cost, which may exceed the current estimate but shall not exceed \$30,000 absent the written consent of Agency, within thirty (30) days and prior to entering Landowner's Land. Landowner shall have no obligation to otherwise improve or to maintain, monitor, repair, alter or restore the Groundwater Well. At its sole cost, Agency shall maintain the above-ground portion

of the Groundwater Well as it determines appropriate for its use as a monitoring well and inspect the Groundwater Well up to two (2) times annually. Agency, in its sole discretion and at its sole cost, may but shall have no obligation to improve, modify, repair or otherwise alter, and use the Groundwater Well as it determines necessary to use the well for its intended use as a monitoring well, following thirty (30) days written notice to Landowner with a description of the proposed improvement, modification, repair, alteration or use, provided that any such improvement, modification, alteration, repair or use does not unreasonably interfere with the construction, development or operation of Landowner's development or Landowner's Land. Following review and approval from Landowner, Agency may also enclose the Groundwater Well with a fence or other form of enclosure as the Agency determines necessary to protect the same and to prevent unauthorized access to the Groundwater Well, and Agency shall maintain such fencing or other form of enclosure at its sole cost and expense. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed as affording the public a right of access to any portion of the Landowner's Land or precluding Landowner's right to grant access to third parties across the Landowner's Land, provided that such grant of access does not unreasonably interfere with Agency's rights hereunder.

4. Duration of Right; Termination. The Parties agree that the intent of this Agreement is to grant Agency a permanent right of non-exclusive access to and use of the Groundwater Well as a monitoring well, and, accordingly, this Agreement shall remain in effect until terminated by Agency or Landowner. Agency may terminate this Agreement if Agency decides to no longer use the Groundwater Well for any reason. Landowner may terminate this Agreement (1) in the event of a default by Agency that is not cured within thirty (30) days' notice of such default, (2) in the event the Groundwater Well requires abandonment, destruction or closure, or (3) in the event the Groundwater Well requires improvement, modification, repair or alteration and Agency declines to make, at Agency's sole cost, such improvement, modification, repair or alteration.

5. Maintenance of Landowner's Land. The Parties acknowledge that this Agreement grants the Agency access to Landowner's Land for the limited purpose of using the Groundwater Well as a monitoring well to obtain Data, as provided above. Accordingly, except as provided in section 6 of this Agreement below ("Damage/Restoration") and section 3 of this Agreement above (Alteration and Control), the Parties agree that the Agency is under no obligation to maintain or otherwise repair the Landowner's Land. The Parties further agree that the Agency does not own the Groundwater Well and, except as provided in section 6 of this Agreement below ("Damage/Restoration") and section 3 of this Agreement above (Alteration and Control) shall have no financial or other obligation for any required repair, modification, abandonment, destruction, or closure of the Groundwater Well not relating to or arising out of Agency's (including its members, parties, directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, consultants, and contractors) use of the Groundwater Well.

6. Damage/Restoration. The Agency (including its members, parties, directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, consultants, and contractors) shall take all reasonable

precautions to avoid damaging Landowner's Land, including but not limited to the Groundwater Well. If any damage is caused to Landowner's Land, including but not limited to the Groundwater Well, by the Agency (including its members, parties, directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, consultants and contractors), the Agency shall notify the Landowner immediately. In addition, the Agency will work with the Landowner to take all action reasonably necessary for Agency to promptly repair the damage and restore the Landowner's Land, including but not limited to the Groundwater Well, to the condition that existed immediately prior to the damage caused by the Agency (including its members, parties, directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, consultants, and contractors) at Agency's sole cost and expense.

7. Schedule or Notice of Access. The Agency may develop and propose to Landowner, for Landowner's approval in its reasonable discretion, a schedule of dates/times for Agency to access Landowner's Land for the purposes of well monitoring. Agency shall notify the Landowner, or its designee, in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours in advance of accessing Landowner's Land, at the dates/times approved by Landowner in its reasonable discretion, pursuant to the access rights granted under this Agreement.

8. Compliance with Laws. Agency shall comply with all applicable laws at all times when using and accessing the Landowner's Land and the Groundwater Well.

9. Indemnity. The Agency agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Landowner for any claim, costs, claims, damages, losses, obligations or other liabilities arising out of the Agency's (including any of its members, parties, directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, consultants, and contractors) negligent actions and/or intentional misconduct on Landowner's Land under this Agreement, with the exception that Agency shall not be responsible for defending, indemnifying, or holding harmless Landowner with regard to costs, claims, damages, losses, or other liabilities to the extent arising out of the negligence or intentional misconduct of Landowner or third parties not affiliated with the Agency. This section shall survive termination of this Agreement.

10. Insurance.

(a) Prior to entering onto Landowner's Land and at all times during use of the Landowner's Land, the Agency shall obtain and maintain in full force and effect, at its own expense, the following insurance coverages: (i) commercial general liability policy with an annual coverage limit of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence, Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) aggregate for injury to or death of one or more persons in an occurrence, and for bodily injury and property damage (including loss of use), (ii) worker's compensation insurance if required by law, and in the amount not less than the amount required by law and (iii) vehicle liability coverage with limits of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per annum. The commercial general liability and auto liability policies shall be endorsed to (a) name Landowner as an additional insured, and (b) provide that such insurance is primary insurance with respect to the interests of Landowner and non-contributory with

insurance carried by Landowner. The commercial general liability policy shall provide coverage for Agency's contractual liability for the indemnification obligations set forth in section 9 above. Deductibles for the above-required insurance shall not exceed \$25,000.00 per occurrence. Agency shall provide Landowner complete copies of all required insurance policies prior to Agency entering onto Landowner's Land. If at any time Agency fails to comply with the requirements of this section, then Landowner shall not be required to allow Agency onto the Landowner's Land.

(b) Within thirty (30) days of Agency's request, Landowner will provide Agency with proof of Landowner's insurance coverage. Landowner's insurance coverage includes commercial general liability policy with an annual coverage limit of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence and Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) aggregate.

11. Release. Except for the negligence or willful misconduct of Landowner or any of its members, directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, contractors, successors or assigns, Agency, for itself, its members, directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, consultants, contractors, successors and assigns, hereby waives and releases any and all claims, demands or rights of action, in law or in equity, known or unknown, against Landowner of any kind or character arising from or relating to (1) use or improvement of the Groundwater Well and (2) access or use of the Landowner's Land. Agency hereby waives any and all benefits of the provisions of California Civil Code Section 1542 with respect to the waiver and release in the preceding sentences. Section 1542 of the California Civil Code states:

"A GENERAL RELEASE DOES NOT EXTEND TO CLAIMS THAT THE CREDITOR OR RELEASING PARTY DOES NOT KNOW OR SUSPECT TO EXIST IN HIS OR HER FAVOR AT THE TIME OF EXECUTING THE RELEASE AND THAT, IF KNOWN BY HIM OR HER, WOULD HAVE MATERIALLY AFFECTED HIS OR HER SETTLEMENT WITH THE DEBTOR OR RELEASED PARTY."

Agency initials

Agency acknowledges that it has carefully reviewed the foregoing provisions and discussed their import with its counsel, and that the provisions of the foregoing waivers and releases (including, but not limited to, the waiver of California Civil Code Section 1542) are a material part of this Agreement

This section shall survive termination of this Agreement.

12. Liens. Agency shall not suffer or permit any liens of any kind to stand against the Landowner's Land or any part thereof by reason of any work, labor, services or materials done for, or supplied to, or claimed to have been done for, or supplied to, Agency, its members, parties, directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, consultants, and contractors. If any such lien shall at any time be filed against the Landowner's Land, Agency shall cause the

same to be discharged of record within ten (10) days after the date of filing the same, by either payment, deposit or bond. If Agency shall fail to discharge any such lien within such period, then, in addition to any other right or remedy of Landowner, Landowner may, but shall not be obligated to, procure the discharge of the same and recover from Agency any amount reasonably paid or deposited by Landowner for any of the aforesaid purposes, and all legal and other expenses of Landowner, including reasonable counsel fees, in defending any such action or in or about procuring the discharge of such lien, with all necessary disbursements in connection therewith.

13. Written Notices. Written notices between the Parties shall be sent via U.S. mail to the addresses listed below:

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
Central Management Area Groundwater
Sustainability Agency
P.O Box 719
Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Buellton Polo Village Partners LP
100 Pacifica, Suite 203
Irvine, CA 92618

14. Assignment. This Agreement shall benefit and be binding on the Parties' respective successors in interest and permitted assigns. In the event Landowner sells Landowner's Land, Landowner shall provide the purchaser with actual notice of and a copy of this unrecorded agreement. The Parties agree that Agency may assign its rights and duties under this Agreement to a successor entity or entities undertaking SGMA responsibilities for the CMA portion of the Basin, in whole or part, including a separate public entity formed pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Gov't Code § 6500, *et seq.*) following written notice to Landowner and transmittal to Landowner of an assignment and assumption of the duties, obligations and liabilities of this Agreement and including a release with the terms of section 11 by the assignee.

15. Authority. Each signatory below represents that he or she has the authority to bind the Party to this Agreement on whose behalf the signatory is executing this Agreement.

16. Third Party Beneficiaries. This Agreement is not intended to and does not create any third party beneficiary rights whatsoever.

17. No Right in Public. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to be a gift or dedication of any portion of the property subject to this Agreement to or for the general public or for any public purposes, it being the intention of the Parties that this Agreement shall be strictly limited to the purposes herein expressed.

18. Effective Date. The effective date of this Agreement (the "Effective Date") shall be the date that this Agreement is fully executed and delivered by the Parties.

19. Entire Agreement. This Agreement contains the entire understanding of the Parties and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings among the Parties related to the subject matter of this Agreement.

20. Amendment. Amendments to this Agreement shall become effective upon execution of a written amendment signed by both Parties.

21. Severability. If any provision of this Agreement is held to be unenforceable for any reason, it shall be adjusted, rather than voided, if possible, to achieve the intent of the Parties, and the balance of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.

22. Waiver. No waiver of any provision or consent to any action shall constitute a waiver of any other provision or consent to any other action, whether or not similar. No waiver or consent shall constitute a continuing waiver or consent or commit a Party to provide a waiver in the future except to the extent specifically stated in writing. Any waiver given by a Party shall be null and void if the Party requesting such waiver has not provided a full and complete disclosure of all material facts relevant to the waiver requested. No waiver shall be binding unless executed in writing by the Party making the waiver.

23. Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be an original but all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument. The Parties contemplate that they may be transmitting counterparts of this Agreement by email and agree and intend that a signature by email or facsimile shall bind the Party so signing with the same effect as though the signature were an original signature.

24. Governing Law. This Agreement shall be interpreted and enforced pursuant to the laws of the State of California, and venue for any litigation relating to this Agreement shall be Santa Barbara County Superior Court.

Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin
Central Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Buellton Polo Village Partners LP, a
California limited partnership

By _____

By _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

EXHIBIT A

Parcel (Referenced in the attached Agreement as "Landowner's Land")
Buellton Polo Village Partners LP, Danavon L. Horn
APN(s): 137-090-067

Polo Village Legal Description

The Land referred to herein below is situated in the City of Buellton, County of Santa Barbara, State of California, and is described as follows:

PARCEL ONE OF PARCEL MAP NO. 31,032 IN THE CITY OF BUELLTON, COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS PER MAP RECORDED IN [BOOK 59, PAGES 11 THROUGH 14](#) OF PARCEL MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY.

EXCEPTING THEREFROM ALL OIL, PETROLEUM, AND OTHER HYDROCARBON SUBSTANCES IN THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA, AS RESERVED IN THE DEEDS FROM THE MERCHANTS TRUST COMPANY, A CORPORATION, RECORDED SEPTEMBER 5, 1912 IN [BOOK 137, PAGE 165](#) OF DEEDS AND RECORDED SEPTEMBER 24, 1913 IN [BOOK 141, PAGE 519](#) OF DEEDS, RECORDS OF SAID COUNTY, LYING WITHIN THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED TRACT OF LAND:

BEGINNING AT THE EASTERLY TERMINUS OF THAT CERTAIN COURSE SHOWN AND DESIGNATED AS SOUTH 77° 37' 12" EAST, 135.54 FEET ON PARCEL MAP NO. 12,092 FILED IN [BOOK 15, PAGES 98 AND 99](#) OF PARCEL MAPS, IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY RECORDER OF SAID COUNTY; THENCE NORTH 55° 36' WEST, 384.40 FEET; THENCE NORTH 62° 26' 30" WEST, TO THE INTERSECTION WITH A CURVE CONCAVE WESTERLY HAVING A RADIUS OF 1,232 FEET, A DELTA OF 09° 55' 29" AND AN ARC LENGTH OF 213.40 FEET, BEING A POINT ON THE WEST LINE OF SAID PARCEL B; THENCE SOUTHERLY ALONG THE ARC OF SAID CURVE TO THE SOUTHERLY TERMINUS THEREOF; THENCE NORTH 88° 08' 55" EAST, 26.44 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 68° 13' 38" EAST, 727.11 FEET; THENCE SOUTH 77° 37' 12" EAST, 135.54 FEET TO THE POINT OF BEGINNING.

SAID EXCEPTION AFFECTS THE SOUTHWESTERLY PORTION OF SAID LAND.

Monitoring Well Locations and Access Locations

The monitoring well is depicted in the following exhibit. Access to and the access area for the monitoring well is limited to a width of 5 feet wide (as measured from the centerline of the vault and extending 2 ½ feet on each side to the north and south) and a length that starts from the sidewalk (ROW) and extends east to a point that is 3 feet beyond the east side of the vault.

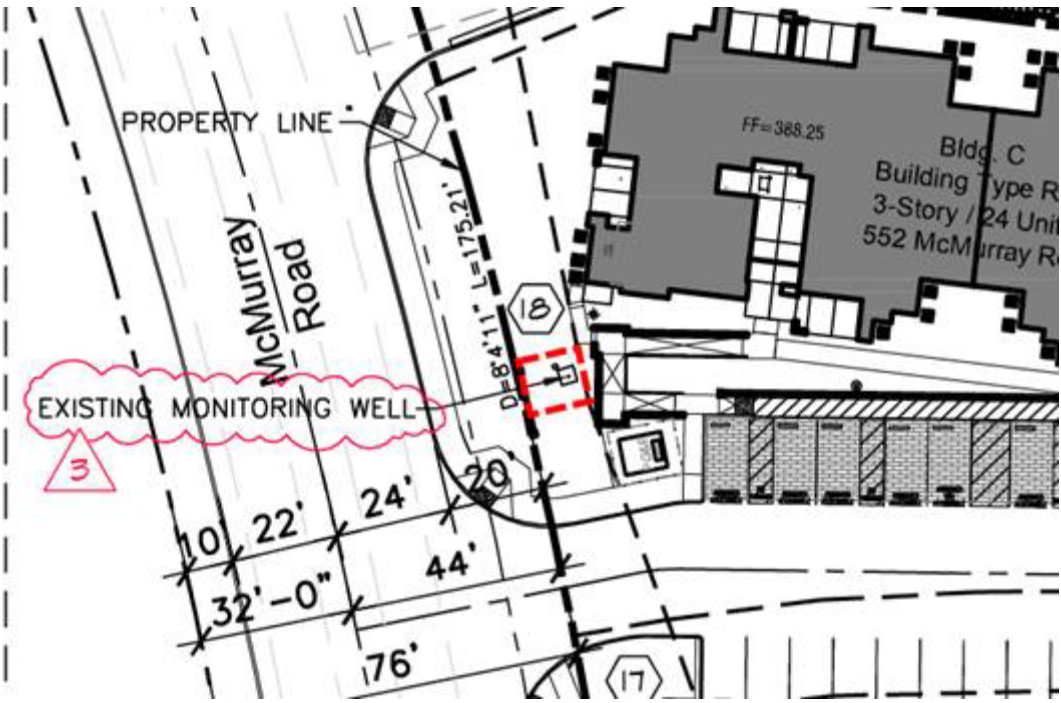


EXHIBIT B

Well Work

1. Secure the well's casing with a water-tight locking cap with surface completion that is further secured in a shallow vault with doors on top
2. Add bollards and/or other appropriate protections (such as rocks)

Estimated total cost of \$22,850.

STETSON ENGINEERS
SCOPE OF WORK AND ESTIMATED COST
Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“CMA GSA”)
5-Year Periodic Evaluation and Plan Amendment (5-Year GSP Update)

California’s Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires local Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSAs) in medium and high priority Basins to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), which outline a 20-year sustainability goal and plan to achieve sustainability in the Basin. Stetson Engineers prepared the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“CMA GSA”), which was submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in January 2022 and approved in January 2024. This GSP was also the basis for receiving recent Proposition 68 grant funding to implement the Projects and Management Actions in the GSP and to support the Periodic Evaluation of the GSP.

Periodic Evaluation and Periodic Review

Under SGMA and GSP Regulations, a Periodic Evaluation of a Basin’s GSP is due to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) at least every five years after initial GSP submission for each basin with an approved GSP or any time the GSP is amended. The CMA GSA’s initial GSP was adopted by the CMA GSA Board and submitted in January 2022 and a Periodic Evaluation is due to DWR on or before **January 18, 2027**.

A Periodic Evaluation is an evaluation of the implementation progress of an approved GSP performed by the GSA that developed the initial GSP. This written assessment is meant to summarize the Basin’s current conditions, the implementation progress of projects and management actions, as well as determine whether the Basin is on track to meet the measurable objectives and the Basin’s sustainability goal at the time of evaluation. The Periodic Evaluation is also meant to facilitate DWR’s Periodic Review of an approved GSP, which also occurs at least every five years after the initial GSP submission. DWR’s Periodic Review is an evaluation and assessment of an approved GSP to ensure that GSP implementation remains compliant with SGMA and GSP regulations and that it is likely to achieve the sustainability goal. During its Periodic Review, DWR will utilize previously submitted Annual Reports, this Periodic Evaluation, and other available information to evaluate the GSP.

For the first Periodic Evaluation due by January 2027, the CMA GSA must address the Recommended Corrective Actions (RCAs) provided by DWR in their January 2024 approval letter. DWR submitted seven (7) RCAs for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin. One of the first tasks will be to set up action plans to address these 7 RCAs and determine if an amendment to the 2022 GSP is needed.

Possible Plan Amendment

Current SGMA regulations do not provide specific mandates on when a GSP should be amended and leaves this decision to the discretion of the GSA. If the Periodic Evaluation identifies that changes to the Plan are needed, then a GSP Amendment must be prepared and submitted together with the evaluation. Depending on how the CMA GSA intends to address the 7 RCAs and if the Basin is on track to meet the measurable objectives and sustainability goal, a Plan Amendment may or may not be necessary. If so, the Periodic Evaluation must also explain and discuss the Plan Amendments. In addition, a plan amendment will require additional outreach and engagement, including soliciting and addressing comments, proper public notice (90 days), and adoption by the CMA GSA Board.

Project Workplan

Starting as soon as possible, a technical advisory committee (TAC) would meet to discuss the following topics:

- Action Item: Discuss Recommended Corrective Actions (RCAs);
- Action Item: Assess Basin's Sustainability Goal/ Basin Conditions; and,
- Action Item: Assess Need for Plan Amendment.

Stetson Engineers would lead these TAC meetings/calls that would be scheduled from November 2024 through March 2026. This scope of work plans for at least 5 TAC meetings. The first TAC meetings will discuss the 7 RCAs concerning:

1. Action Plan for Management of All Well Production Along the Lower Santa Ynez River, Above the Lompoc Narrow.
2. Understanding interconnected surface water (ISW) and the approach to manage depletions of ISW due to pumping.
3. Water Budget Questions.
4. Sustainability Management Criteria for Chronic Lowering of Water Levels.
5. Sustainability Management Criteria for Chronic Lowering of Water Quality.
6. Sustainability Management Criteria for Land Subsidence.
7. Sustainability Management Criteria for Depletion of ISW and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems.

DWR released guidance materials in February and September 2024 of “technical information related to interconnected surface water (ISW) and depletions of ISW caused by groundwater use.” This latest guidance will be reviewed and discussed on the best way to address this in the Periodic Evaluation. Due to the discretion given to the local agency (CMA GSA) in determining if a plan amendment is necessary, the focus of the TAC would be on deciding if the 2022 GSP is still a viable Plan for achieving sustainability by Year 2042.

The outline of the contents of the Periodic Evaluation is based on the statutory requirements under SGMA.¹ The Periodic Evaluation will consist of the following sections:

1. Executive Summary
2. New Information Collected
3. Groundwater Conditions Relative to Sustainable Management Criteria
4. Status of Projects and Management Actions
5. Basin Setting Based on New Information or Changes in Water Use
6. Monitoring Networks
7. GSA Authorities and Enforcement Actions
8. Outreach, Engagement, and Coordination with Other Agencies
9. Summary of Proposed or Completed Revisions to the Plan

In October 2023, DWR released a guidance document on the content to be included in the Periodic Evaluation. A brief summary of the content for each section of the Periodic Evaluation is provided below. Full details of DWR’s required and recommended content for each section of the Periodic Evaluation can be found in DWR’s GSP Implementation Guide, found on DWR’s SGMA website (<https://water.ca.gov/programs/groundwater-management/sgma-groundwater-management>).

New Information Collected

This section is meant to summarize any new significant data acquired by the GSA during the evaluation cycle and any impacts on the GSP, basin management, and implementation.

¹ Water Code Section 10728.2 identifies the criteria that GSAs should consider when conducting their GSP evaluation and Section 356.4 of the GSP Regulations further details the components of a Periodic Evaluation, including Section 357.4 for basins with multiple GSPs.

Groundwater Conditions Relative to Sustainable Management Criteria

This section will evaluate the Basin's current groundwater conditions for each sustainability indicator relative to the Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) set in the original 2022 GSP and if SMCs will likely be achieved within the next evaluation cycle. The evaluation would also determine whether implementation of the GSP is currently effective and if not, what actions the GSA plans to take to continue making progress toward sustainability, with regard to sustainability indicators.

Status of Projects and Management Actions

This section will summarize progress over the evaluation cycle and the current status of projects and management actions as described in the original 2022 GSP. Significant new information that affects the projects should be described and an evaluation as to the feasibility and relevance of the original projects and management actions is to be done. Furthermore, the GSA should report on the realized and expected benefits and impacts to beneficial users from currently implemented projects and management actions. Potential timelines for projects and management actions not currently implemented should be included, as well as challenges that the GSA has encountered in implementation.

Basin Setting Based on New Information or Changes in Water Use

This section will determine and evaluate changes to the Basin setting (Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model and Basin Model, groundwater conditions, water budget) due to new information or changes in water use in the Basin. This section indicates progress toward a more refined understanding of the Basin. Based on the new information, it will also include a description of the updated Basin Model.

This section will also include a technical memorandum on utilizing recently collected data to update and extend the numerical models to facilitate water budget calculations, including coordinating subsurface flows between the Management Areas (EMA, CMA, and WMA). New data can be used to assess post-2018 model performances. Tasks include updating input data sets and associated refinements of the Basin numerical models to support the GSP 5-year Periodic Evaluation.

Monitoring Networks

Each sustainability indicator's monitoring network will be evaluated in this section to include an assessment of changes to each monitoring network, the functionality of the monitoring network for each sustainability indicator, and actions to potentially improve the monitoring network and address data gaps.

GSA Authorities and Enforcement Actions

This section will describe all new authorities gained, established, or exercised since the original 2022 GSP to advance Basin sustainability. This section will also include enforcement and legal actions the GSA took and demonstrate how GSA implementation is helping to reach Basin sustainability.

Outreach, Engagement, and Coordination with Other Agencies

GSAs are responsible for establishing communication efforts and engaging interested parties, the public, and beneficial users on the Basin's progress and implementation actions and activities. This section will provide a summary and assessment of public comments received after the initial 2022 GSP adoption and how the GSA has responded. This section will also describe public engagement efforts the GSA has taken, provide an evaluation of these efforts, and describe how these efforts are being maintained and updated.

Summary of Proposed or Completed Revisions to the Plan

A separate section in the Periodic Evaluation will discuss potential Plan Amendments. The October 2023 DWR guidance document states, “The Periodic Evaluation must provide specific explanations of what was amended, why, and the effects of those amendments on the implementation of the Plan (e.g., adapting the management program, adjusting projects and management actions).”

These sections of the Periodic Evaluation will be produced with three types of tasks, including: Task 1. Data collection and analysis; Task 2. Report Preparation; and Task 3. Project Management and Meetings.

Project Deliverables

Component 4 of the SGMA Implementation Grant between DWR and the SYRWCD (Agreement Number 4600015625) has the following listed deliverables, which will be provided from this scope of work:

- Completion of a draft 5-year GSP Update (Periodic Evaluation and Possible Plan Amendment).
- Technical memorandum summarizing updates to groundwater models.
- All education and outreach materials; and
- Meeting agendas and minutes.

In addition, the main document, Periodic Evaluation, will be distributed in draft release chapters for review and comment throughout 2025 and 2026. The Plan Amendment document will be determined if needed by the stakeholders and CMA GSA.

Project Cost

Component 4 of the SGMA Implementation Grant between DWR and the SYRWCD, Agreement Number 4600015625 (Grant), has the funding to complete the 5-Year GSP Periodic Evaluation and Possible Plan Amendment (5-year GSP Update). The budget remaining for the CMA GSA portion of Component 4 is roughly \$335,000. The plan is to reserve \$85,000 from this total for additional peer review by Citizen Advisory Groups, agency staff, consultants, and legal counsel. The total not to exceed cost for Stetson Engineers to produce a draft Plan Evaluation, and Plan Amendment, if needed, for the CMA GSP is **\$250,000**. Staff hours for each of the three tasks above are estimated below. All work is on a time and material basis using the attached rate schedule (Attachment A). Stetson will work as efficiently as possible to lower costs further if possible.

**Proposed Costs for Central Management Area
5-Year GSP Update (Periodic Evaluation and Possible Amendment)**

TASK	Labor Hours	Labor Cost	Expenses	Total
Task 1 - Data Collection and Analysis	255	\$39,000	0	\$39,000
Task 1.1 - Update Numerical Groundwater Model	380	\$73,000	0	\$73,000
Task 2 - Report Preparation	531	\$81,000	\$500	\$81,500
Task 3 - Project Management and Meetings	290	\$54,500	\$2,000	\$56,500
TOTAL	1456	\$247,500	0	\$250,000

Project Schedule

The current deadline for the Grant is that all work must be completed by April 30, 2026. Since this date is before January 18, 2027 (5 years after initial GSP submittal), the Grant date would be the controlling factor in planning the project schedule. Table 1 below has two project schedules based upon whether the Draft or the Final is produced by 4/30/26. The difference between the two schedules is about 3-4 months. The Draft by 4/30/26 allows more time to complete Projects and Management Actions, could factor in better the Fall 2025 and Spring 2026 water levels, and is more in synch with DWR’s Periodic Review starting in January 2027. However, this option (Draft by 4/30/26) would include costs to the CMA GSA outside of the current grant funding period to address comments and edits for the Final².

The project schedule provides for conducting stakeholder outreach and engagement, including continued GSA Board meetings and Citizens Advisory Groups (CAG) meetings. The project

² A request could be made by SYRWCD to DWR to extend the work for Component 4 to August 31, 2026, but it is unknown if this would be acceptable.

schedule includes providing two early sets of draft releases of chapters of the Periodic Evaluation for early public review and comment before completing the entire Periodic Evaluation report and possible Plan Amendment. The project schedule allows for proper public noticing before the CMA GSA Board approves the final Periodic Evaluation report and possible Plan Amendment (5-year GSP Update) and submit to DWR before their Periodic Review starting in January 2027.

Table 1. Tentative Project Schedule for CMA GSP Periodic Evaluation and Amendment¹

	GSP Evaluation and Amendment	
	Draft by 4/30/26	Final by 4/30/26
<u>Meetings/ Public Discussion/ Collect and Analyze</u>		
Action Item: Discuss Recommended Corrective Actions	November 2024-March 2026 (17 months)	
Action Item: Assess Basin's Sustainability Goal/ Basin Conditions	November 2024-March 2026 (17 months)	
Action Item: Assess the Need for Plan Amendment	November 2024-March 2026 (17 months)	
Evaluation/Amendment Technical Advisory Committee Meetings (5)	November 2024-March 2026 (17 months)	
Citizen Action Group Meetings (5)	November 2024-March 2026 (17 months)	
GSA Board Meetings (6)	November 2024-March 2026 (17 months)	
<u>Periodic Evaluation Schedule of Draft Releases</u>		
New Information Collected	12/15/2025	9/1/2025
GSA Authorities and Enforcement Actions	12/15/2025	9/1/2025
Monitoring Networks	12/15/2025	9/1/2025
Outreach, Engagement, and Coordination	12/15/2025	9/1/2025
Groundwater Numerical Model Update Technical Memorandum	1/30/2026	10/17/2025
Groundwater Conditions Relative to Sustainable Management Criteria	1/30/2026	10/17/2025
Basin Setting Based on New Information/Changes in Water Use	1/30/2026	10/17/2025
Status of Projects and Management Actions	1/30/2026	10/17/2025
Summary of Proposed or Completed Revisions to the Plan	1/30/2026	10/17/2025
<u>Submittal Process Schedule</u>		
Complete Draft Periodic Evaluation Released	4/30/2026	1/15/2026
Complete Draft Plan Amendment Released (if needed)	4/30/2026	1/15/2026
Periodic Evaluation and Plan Amendment Comment Period	May- June 2026	January-February 2026
Final Periodic Evaluation for Board Approval	August 2026	4/30/2026
Final Plan Amendment for Board Approval	August 2026	4/30/2026
Submittal to DWR	September 2026	May 2026
<u>DWR Periodic Review</u>	January 2027	(June 2026?); January 2027

¹ Exact dates in tentative schedule can be modified as necessary.

Attachment A



Standard Billing Rate Schedule Professional Fees

Principal	\$256.00	Per Hour
Special Project Director	\$256.00	Per Hour
Project Manager, Senior	\$222.00	Per Hour
Supervisor I	\$222.00	Per Hour
Supervising Soil Scientist	\$207.00	Per Hour
Supervisor II	\$207.00	Per Hour
Supervisor III	\$201.00	Per Hour
Senior I	\$178.00	Per Hour
Senior II	\$161.00	Per Hour
Senior III	\$145.00	Per Hour
Construction Manager	\$145.00	Per Hour
Construction Manager / Oversight	\$128.00	Per Hour
Senior Construction Inspector	\$128.00	Per Hour
Senior Field Geologist	\$145.00	Per Hour
Senior Associate	\$139.00	Per Hour
Associate I	\$133.00	Per Hour
Associate II	\$125.00	Per Hour
Associate III	\$119.00	Per Hour
Associate Soil Scientist	\$119.00	Per Hour
Senior Assistant	\$111.00	Per Hour
Assistant I	\$106.00	Per Hour
Assistant II	\$101.00	Per Hour
Assistant Soil Scientist	\$101.00	Per Hour
Assistant III	\$96.00	Per Hour
GIS Manager	\$133.00	Per Hour
GIS Specialist I	\$109.00	Per Hour
GIS Specialist II	\$99.00	Per Hour
Technical Illustrator	\$96.00	Per Hour
AutoCAD Technician	\$96.00	Per Hour
Soil Technician	\$83.00	Per Hour
Aide I	\$77.00	Per Hour
Aide II	\$67.00	Per Hour
Aide III	\$62.00	Per Hour
Project Coordinator I	\$145.00	Per Hour
Project Coordinator II	\$106.00	Per Hour
Project Coordinator III	\$96.00	Per Hour
Contract Management	\$111.00	Per Hour
Administrative I	\$77.00	Per Hour
Administrative II	\$72.00	Per Hour
Administrative III	\$67.00	Per Hour

Effective January 1, 2024

Direct Expense Rates

Expense Description	Billing Rate
Mileage	\$* / Mile
Reproduction: Black & White (In-House)	\$0.15 / Page
Reproduction: Color - 8.5" x 11" (In-House)	\$0.89 / Page
Reproduction: Color - 11" x 17" (In-House)	\$1.89 / Page
Plotter Reproduction (In-House)	\$1.50 / Sq. Ft.
Survey Equipment	\$120.00 / Day

Notes:

- 1) * Mileage is billed at the current IRS approved mileage rate and may be subject to change.
- 2) Subcontractor services will be charged at cost plus 10% administration fee.
- 3) All other project reimbursable expenses (i.e. telephone, commercial transportation, meals, lodging, postage, outside reproduction, etc.) will be billed at cost.
- 4) Testimony fees are 150% of standard rates and apply to depositions, court time and time spent on stand-by at attorney's request. Travel time and preparation time is charged at standard rates. Stetson Engineers Inc. authorizes only staff at associate classification or higher to testify as expert witnesses.

STETSON ENGINEERS
SCOPE OF WORK AND ESTIMATED COST
Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“CMA GSA”)
Water Year 2024 Annual Subreport for SGMA Requirements

Stetson Engineers prepared the Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“CMA GSA”), which the CMA GSA Board approved in January 2022, and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) approved in January 2024. This GSP was also the basis for receiving recent Proposition 68 grant funding to implement the Projects and Management Actions in the GSP.

For the past three years (Water Years 2021, 2022, and 2023), Stetson Engineers prepared the annual reports for the CMA GSA. In DWR’s review of the 2023 annual reports for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin), DWR requested that the GSAs consolidate the annual reports of the GSAs into one annual report for the entire Basin (DWR, May 31, 2024). At a Basin-wide meeting on September 6, 2024, the GSAs decided to produce the materials in the annual report for each GSA separately similar to the last three reports, but have an Executive Summary and Annual Report produced for the entire Basin.

This scope of work for Stetson is to produce a Water Year 2024 Annual Subreport that will contain all of the SGMA reporting requirements for the CMA GSA, but the subreport will be intended for inclusion in the one annual report for the entire Basin for Water Year 2024. The contents of this subreport will be the same as the previous annual reports but streamlined for inclusion in the annual report for the entire Basin. The total not to exceed cost is estimated at \$20,000. This cost for the annual report does not include separate costs associated with combining the subreports for each GSA into one Basin Annual Report.

The outline of the contents of the subreport for the CMA will be the same as the previous three years because this meets the statutory requirements under SGMA. In addition, the latest Department of Water Resources (DWR) guidance on annual reports (DWR, October 2023) and comments on the annual reports (DWR, May 2024) will be addressed. The critical chapters in the report will be:

- Basin Conditions: This includes the determination of the hydrologic year type.
- Groundwater Hydrographs and Contours: Includes hydrographs for the representative monitoring well network, and required groundwater elevation contour maps (seasonal high and low).
- Water Use: This includes both groundwater and surface water used by each sector (domestic, municipal, and agricultural).

9/6/2024

- **Groundwater Storage:** This includes changes in groundwater storage maps and the effects of groundwater use on storage changes.
- **Progress on GSP Sustainability Indicators:** This includes an evaluation of recent data regarding sustainability for groundwater levels, storage, water quality, seawater intrusion, land subsidence, and interconnected surface water and groundwater dependent ecosystems.
- **Implementation of Project and Management Actions Since Previous Annual Report:** This includes discussing GSA activities in the current water year to achieve sustainability goals.

Attachment A includes which sections, tables, and figures of the 2023 report will be produced for the 2024 subreport for the CMA. These sections of the SGMA Annual report will be produced over three tasks, including:

- **Task 1. Data collection and analysis.** Groundwater levels, production, and surface water data will be collected for the reporting period. Groundwater level information will be converted into projected groundwater level contours for the management areas and estimates of updated storage calculations. Additional analyses are related to estimating surface water quantities. The latest data for the other sustainability indicators (water quality, seawater intrusion, land subsidence, depletions of interconnected surface water) will also be collected and analyzed per the GSP.
- **Task 2. Report Preparation.** The text and content of the SGMA annual report are described in the regulations (23 CCR § 356.2. Annual Reports). It includes provisions defining general information summarizing the basin and hydrologic conditions, including groundwater elevations, hydrographs, contour maps, summary of extraction data, surface water quantities, available surface water supplies, total water use, and storage maps. A final section summarizes updates on projects and management actions from the groundwater sustainability plan and how other sustainability indicators are being met. Additional supporting information will be provided in the appendices.
- **Task 3. Project Management and Meetings.** Project management costs are estimated at 5% of total cost. This task also includes calls with the other GSAs in the Basin to coordinate efforts. This task involves coordinating with the preparer of the one annual report for the Basin. This task consists of attending GSA meetings to summarize the subreport if needed.

Project Cost

The total not to exceed cost for the Water Year 2024 Annual subreport for the Basin is **\$20,000**. Staff hours for each of the three tasks above are estimated below. All work is on a time and material basis using the attached rate schedule (Attachment B). With this new format to meet the

9/6/2024

reporting requirements, Stetson will work as efficiently as possible to lower costs further if possible.

Proposed Costs for 2024 Central Management Area Annual Subreport for SGMA

TASK	Labor Hours	Labor Cost	Expenses	Total
Task 1 - Data Collection and Analysis	95	\$14,500	0	\$14,500
Task 2 - Report Preparation	28	\$4,000	0	\$4,000
Task 3 - Project Management and Meetings	9	\$1,500	0	\$1,500
TOTAL	132	\$20,000	0	\$20,000

Project Schedule

The SGMA requires annual reports submitted by April 1st for each GSP's previous water year (WY). For this scope of work, the reporting period for the next annual report is WY 2024 (October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024), and the final Basin Annual Report would be due April 1, 2025. Because DWR is requesting that pumping data provided to Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District on January 31, 2025, be incorporated into the 2024 annual report, Stetson will produce a first draft of the annual subreport by December 31, 2024, with placeholders for the water use in the last three months of the water year 2024 (July, August, and September 2024). This early draft will provide the GSAs and the preparer of the One Basin annual report more time to review, edit, and incorporate the information in the annual subreport. Stetson will then produce the final draft of the annual subreport by Feb 20, 2025, after incorporating the final water use data for the year 2024.

Attachment A

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Front Matter	ii
Cover Photographs	ii
Preparers.....	v
Acknowledgments.....	vi
Table of Contents.....	vii
List of Tables	ix
List of Figures	x
List of Appendices.....	xii
List of Acronyms and Abbreviations	xiii
Well Numbering Description	xv
Water Year Description.....	xvii
Executive Summary	1
Chapter 1: General Information	1-1
1.1 Purpose of Annual Report.....	1-9
1.2 Sustainability Goal and Undesirable Results	1-10
1.3 New and Updated Plans, Reports, and Data of Note during Water Year 2023.....	1-11
Chapter 2: Basin Conditions	2-1
2.1 Precipitation.....	2-2
2.2 Classification of Water Year 2023.....	2-5
Chapter 3: Groundwater Hydrographs and Contours	3-1
3.1 Groundwater Elevation Data and Hydrographs	3-2
3.2 Groundwater Elevation Contour Maps.....	3-2
3.2.1 Fall 2022 –Start of Year Seasonal Low Contours	3-7
3.2.2 Spring 2023 – Seasonal High Contours.....	3-7
3.2.3 Fall 2023– End of Year Seasonal Low Contours.....	3-7
Chapter 4: Water Use and Available Surface Water	4-1
4.1 Groundwater Use.....	4-1
4.2 Surface Water Use	4-2
4.2.1 Surface Water Diversions from Santa Ynez River Underflow.....	4-6
4.2.2 Water Imports	4-7
4.3 Surface Water Available for Groundwater Recharge or Reuse	4-9
4.3.1 Treated Wastewater Sources	4-11
4.4 Total Water Use	4-12
4.4.1 Cannabis Land and Water Use.....	4-13

Chapter 5: Groundwater Storage.....	5-1
5.1 Change in Groundwater in Storage Maps.....	5-1
5.2 Groundwater Use and Effects on Storage	5-4
Chapter 6: Progress Towards GSP Implementation and Sustainability	6-1
6.1 Sustainability Indicators.....	6-1
6.1.1 Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels	6-2
6.1.2 Reduction of Groundwater in Storage	6-3
6.1.3 Water Quality	6-4
6.1.4 Seawater Intrusion	6-4
6.1.5 Land Subsidence	6-4
6.1.6 Interconnected Surface Water and Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems.....	6-10
6.2 Implementation of Project and Management Actions Since Previous Annual Report ..	6-11
6.2.1 Governance Update.....	6-12
6.2.2 Groundwater Extraction Fee Study	6-13
6.2.3 Update Well Registration Program.....	6-13
6.2.4 Data Updates and Reporting	6-14
6.2.5 CMA Committee Meetings	6-14
Chapter 7: References	7-1
Chapter 8: Appendices.....	8-1

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1-1 Management Areas of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin	1-4
Table 1-2 Summary of CMA Subareas by Area	1-7
Table 1-3 New Reports and Data during the Water Year 2023	1-11
Table 2-1 Annual Precipitation and Water Year Classification for CMA for Recent Years	2-1
Table 2-2 Average Annual (1991-2020) Precipitation by CMA Subarea	2-2
Table 4-1 Summary CMA Groundwater Extraction for Water Year 2023.....	4-2
Table 4-2 Summary CMA Surface Water Diversions for Water Year 2023	4-6
Table 4-3 Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Water Imports in Acre-Feet for Recent Years	4-7
Table 4-4 Wastewater Influent Volumes for Recent Years.....	4-11
Table 4-5 Summary CMA Total Water Use by Sector for Water Year 2023	4-12
Table 4-6 Summary CMA Total Water Use by Source for Recent Years	4-13
Table 4-7 CMA Cannabis Cultivation Land Use Permits as of December 2023^A	4-14
Table 5-1 Estimated Change in Groundwater in Storage in Acre-Feet.....	5-3
Table 6-1 Groundwater Elevations for Groundwater Levels (feet in NAVD88).....	6-3
Table 6-2 Groundwater Elevations for Interconnected Surface Water (feet in NAVD88).....	6-11
Table 6-3 Summary of CMA GSP Implementation Projects.....	6-12

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1-1 Santa Ynez River Watershed and Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin, Central Management Area	1-2
Figure 1-2 Central Management Area Boundary, Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin	1-3
Figure 1-3 Area Extents of the Buellton Aquifer, Central Management Area	1-5
Figure 1-4 Subareas – Central Management Area	1-8
Figure 2-1 Precipitation Stations and Isohyetals, Central Management Area, 1991-2020 Climate Normals	2-3
Figure 2-2 Buellton Fire Station Precipitation and Cumulative Departure from Mean, WY 1955-2023 ...	2-4
Figure 2-3 Salsipuedes Creek Near Lompoc, Cumulative Departure from Mean and Period of Record (WY 1942-2023)	2-6
Figure 2-4 Water Year Type, Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin	2-7
Figure 3-1 Groundwater Well Monitoring Network for Groundwater Levels, Groundwater Storage, and Interconnected Surface Water, Central Management Area	3-3
Figure 3-2 Groundwater and Underflow Elevation Contours, Seasonal Low, Fall 2022, Central Management Area	3-4
Figure 3-3 Groundwater and Underflow Elevation Contours, Seasonal High, Spring 2023, Central Management Area	3-5
Figure 3-4 Groundwater and Underflow Elevation Contours, Seasonal Low, Fall 2023, Central Management Area	3-6
Figure 4-1 Monthly Groundwater Use, Buellton Aquifer	4-3
Figure 4-2 Annual Groundwater Use, Buellton Aquifer	4-4
Figure 4-3 Groundwater Use Locations, Buellton Aquifer	4-5
Figure 4-4 Annual Water Imports through WY 2023, Central Coast Water Authority	4-8
Figure 4-5 Monthly Surface Flow, Santa Ynez River at Solvang	4-10
Figure 5-1 Buellton Aquifer Annual Change in Storage, Spring 2022-Spring 2023, Central Management Area	5-2
Figure 5-2 Comparison of the Water Year, Use, Annual Storage, and Cumulative Storage Relative to March 2015	5-5
Figure 6-1 Land Subsidence October 2022 to October 2023, InSAR Data Within the Central Management Area	6-6
Figure 6-2 Land Subsidence January 2015 to October 2023 InSAR Data Within the Central Management Area	6-7
Figure 6-3 Continuous Global Positioning System, BUEG Station Trends	6-9

Attachment B



Standard Billing Rate Schedule Professional Fees

Principal	\$256.00	Per Hour
Special Project Director	\$256.00	Per Hour
Project Manager, Senior	\$222.00	Per Hour
Supervisor I	\$222.00	Per Hour
Supervising Soil Scientist	\$207.00	Per Hour
Supervisor II	\$207.00	Per Hour
Supervisor III	\$201.00	Per Hour
Senior I	\$178.00	Per Hour
Senior II	\$161.00	Per Hour
Senior III	\$145.00	Per Hour
Construction Manager	\$145.00	Per Hour
Construction Manager / Oversight	\$128.00	Per Hour
Senior Construction Inspector	\$128.00	Per Hour
Senior Field Geologist	\$145.00	Per Hour
Senior Associate	\$139.00	Per Hour
Associate I	\$133.00	Per Hour
Associate II	\$125.00	Per Hour
Associate III	\$119.00	Per Hour
Associate Soil Scientist	\$119.00	Per Hour
Senior Assistant	\$111.00	Per Hour
Assistant I	\$106.00	Per Hour
Assistant II	\$101.00	Per Hour
Assistant Soil Scientist	\$101.00	Per Hour
Assistant III	\$96.00	Per Hour
GIS Manager	\$133.00	Per Hour
GIS Specialist I	\$109.00	Per Hour
GIS Specialist II	\$99.00	Per Hour
Technical Illustrator	\$96.00	Per Hour
AutoCAD Technician	\$96.00	Per Hour
Soil Technician	\$83.00	Per Hour
Aide I	\$77.00	Per Hour
Aide II	\$67.00	Per Hour
Aide III	\$62.00	Per Hour
Project Coordinator I	\$145.00	Per Hour
Project Coordinator II	\$106.00	Per Hour
Project Coordinator III	\$96.00	Per Hour
Contract Management	\$111.00	Per Hour
Administrative I	\$77.00	Per Hour
Administrative II	\$72.00	Per Hour
Administrative III	\$67.00	Per Hour

Effective January 1, 2024

Direct Expense Rates

Expense Description	Billing Rate
Mileage	\$* / Mile
Reproduction: Black & White (In-House)	\$0.15 / Page
Reproduction: Color - 8.5" x 11" (In-House)	\$0.89 / Page
Reproduction: Color - 11" x 17" (In-House)	\$1.89 / Page
Plotter Reproduction (In-House)	\$1.50 / Sq. Ft.
Survey Equipment	\$120.00 / Day

Notes:

- 1) * Mileage is billed at the current IRS approved mileage rate and may be subject to change.
- 2) Subcontractor services will be charged at cost plus 10% administration fee.
- 3) All other project reimbursable expenses (i.e. telephone, commercial transportation, meals, lodging, postage, outside reproduction, etc.) will be billed at cost.
- 4) Testimony fees are 150% of standard rates and apply to depositions, court time and time spent on stand-by at attorney's request. Travel time and preparation time is charged at standard rates. Stetson Engineers Inc. authorizes only staff at associate classification or higher to testify as expert witnesses.

STETSON ENGINEERS
SCOPE OF WORK AND ESTIMATED COST
For SANTA YNEZ RIVER VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN -
WATER YEAR 2024 ANNUAL REPORT for
Western Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“WMA GSA”);
Central Management Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“CMA GSA”);
and Eastern Management Area Sustainability Agency (“EMA GSA”)
Fiscal Year 2024/2025

The Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) consists of three Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and Management Areas (MAs): Eastern, Central, and Western (EMA GSA, CMA GSA, and WMA GSA). Each developed separate Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) by Stetson Engineers (Stetson; WMA and CMA) and GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (GSI; EMA). The GSPs were submitted in January 2022 and approved by DWR in January 2024.

For the past three years (Water Years 2021, 2022, and 2023), Stetson Engineers prepared the annual reports for the WMA GSA and CMA GSA. In DWR’s review of the 2023 annual reports for the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin), DWR requested that the GSAs consolidate the annual reports of the GSAs into one annual report for the entire Basin (DWR, May 31, 2024). At a Basin-wide meeting on September 6, 2024, the GSAs decided to produce the materials in the annual report for each GSA separately similar to the last three reports, but have an Executive Summary and one Annual Report produced for the entire Basin.

This scope of work for Stetson is to produce one SGMA Annual Report for the entire Basin for Water Year 2024. This scope of work assumes subreports of the WMA, CMA, and EMA have been prepared that contain the same information as produced in the previous three annual reports for each respective GSA. However, for the WY2024 annual report, additional consolidation, aggregation, and analysis for the entire Basin will be performed by Stetson to produce one document.

There are expected to be some savings due to producing only one report. However, in the first year of consolidating the three annual GSA reports, there will be additional text, tables, and figures that need to be produced for the first time for the one Basin annual report. There will also be work involved in creating formatting consistency from each of the three GSA’s subreports into the one Basin annual report. DWR also requested that the data submitted annually to the SGMA Portal be aggregated for the entire basin.

The outline of the contents of the one-Basin annual report will be the same as the previous three years because this meets the statutory requirements under SGMA. In addition, the latest Department of Water Resources (DWR) guidance on annual reports (DWR, October 2023) and

9/6/2024

comments on the annual reports (DWR, May 2024) will be addressed. The critical new tables and figures in the one Basin report will summarize the Basin’s water use and change in groundwater storage. This will involve summing up these components from the three subreports of the WMA, CMA, and EMA.

The two main tasks for producing the one Basin Annual report include:

- **Task 1. Report Preparation.** The text and content of the SGMA annual report are described in the regulations (23 CCR § 356.2. Annual Reports). It includes provisions defining general information summarizing the basin and hydrologic conditions in the basin, including groundwater elevations, hydrographs, contour maps, summary of extraction data, surface water quantities, available surface water supplies, total water use, and storage maps. A final section summarizes updates on projects and management actions from the groundwater sustainability plan and how other sustainability indicators are being met. Additional supporting information will be provided in the appendices. Efforts in this task include preparing the data and report to upload to the DWR portal.
- **Task 2. Project Management and Meetings.** Project management costs are estimated at 5% of total cost. This task includes calls with the other GSAs in the Basin to coordinate efforts. This task involves attending GSA meetings to summarize the report if needed.

Project Cost

The total not to exceed cost for the Water Year 2024 Annual Report for the Basin is **\$12,000** (divided evenly at \$4,000/GSA). All work is on a time and material basis using the attached rate schedule (Attachment A). Staff hours for each of the tasks above are estimated below. With this new format to meet the reporting requirements, Stetson will work as efficiently as possible to lower costs further if possible.

Proposed Costs for 2024 Santa Ynez Basin Annual Report

TASK	Labor Hours	Labor Cost	Expenses	Total
Task 1 - Report Preparation	70	\$11,000	0	\$11,000
Task 2 - Project Management and Meetings	6	\$1,000	0	\$1,000
TOTAL	76	\$12,000	0	\$12,000

Project Schedule

The SGMA requires annual reports submitted by April 1st for each GSP's previous water year (WY). For this scope of work, the reporting period for the next annual report is WY 2024 (October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024), and the final Basin Annual Report would be due April 1, 2025. Because DWR is requesting that pumping data provided to Santa Ynez River Water Conservation District on January 31, 2025, be incorporated into the 2024 annual report, Stetson will produce a first draft of the annual report by January 31, 2025, with placeholders for the water use in the last three months of the water year 2024 (July, August, and September 2024). This early draft will provide the GSAs more time to review and edit the annual report. Stetson will then produce the final draft of the annual report by Feb 28, 2025, after incorporating the final water use data for water year 2024. The GSAs would then need to approve the final annual report before submittal to DWR before April 1, 2025.

Attachment A



Standard Billing Rate Schedule Professional Fees

Principal	\$256.00	Per Hour
Special Project Director	\$256.00	Per Hour
Project Manager, Senior	\$222.00	Per Hour
Supervisor I	\$222.00	Per Hour
Supervising Soil Scientist	\$207.00	Per Hour
Supervisor II	\$207.00	Per Hour
Supervisor III	\$201.00	Per Hour
Senior I	\$178.00	Per Hour
Senior II	\$161.00	Per Hour
Senior III	\$145.00	Per Hour
Construction Manager	\$145.00	Per Hour
Construction Manager / Oversight	\$128.00	Per Hour
Senior Construction Inspector	\$128.00	Per Hour
Senior Field Geologist	\$145.00	Per Hour
Senior Associate	\$139.00	Per Hour
Associate I	\$133.00	Per Hour
Associate II	\$125.00	Per Hour
Associate III	\$119.00	Per Hour
Associate Soil Scientist	\$119.00	Per Hour
Senior Assistant	\$111.00	Per Hour
Assistant I	\$106.00	Per Hour
Assistant II	\$101.00	Per Hour
Assistant Soil Scientist	\$101.00	Per Hour
Assistant III	\$96.00	Per Hour
GIS Manager	\$133.00	Per Hour
GIS Specialist I	\$109.00	Per Hour
GIS Specialist II	\$99.00	Per Hour
Technical Illustrator	\$96.00	Per Hour
AutoCAD Technician	\$96.00	Per Hour
Soil Technician	\$83.00	Per Hour
Aide I	\$77.00	Per Hour
Aide II	\$67.00	Per Hour
Aide III	\$62.00	Per Hour
Project Coordinator I	\$145.00	Per Hour
Project Coordinator II	\$106.00	Per Hour
Project Coordinator III	\$96.00	Per Hour
Contract Management	\$111.00	Per Hour
Administrative I	\$77.00	Per Hour
Administrative II	\$72.00	Per Hour
Administrative III	\$67.00	Per Hour

Effective January 1, 2024

Direct Expense Rates

Expense Description	Billing Rate
Mileage	\$* / Mile
Reproduction: Black & White (In-House)	\$0.15 / Page
Reproduction: Color - 8.5" x 11" (In-House)	\$0.89 / Page
Reproduction: Color - 11" x 17" (In-House)	\$1.89 / Page
Plotter Reproduction (In-House)	\$1.50 / Sq. Ft.
Survey Equipment	\$120.00 / Day

Notes:

- 1) * Mileage is billed at the current IRS approved mileage rate and may be subject to change.
- 2) Subcontractor services will be charged at cost plus 10% administration fee.
- 3) All other project reimbursable expenses (i.e. telephone, commercial transportation, meals, lodging, postage, outside reproduction, etc.) will be billed at cost.
- 4) Testimony fees are 150% of standard rates and apply to depositions, court time and time spent on stand-by at attorney's request. Travel time and preparation time is charged at standard rates. Stetson Engineers Inc. authorizes only staff at associate classification or higher to testify as expert witnesses.



Streamline Platform - Subscription Agreement

CUSTOMER: **Central Management Area GSA**

ORDER DATE: **09 / 12 / 2024**

This Software as a Service Agreement (“Agreement”) is entered into on the start date listed below, between Streamline (DBA of Digital Deployment, Inc.) with a place of business at 3301 C Street #1000, Sacramento, CA 95816 (“Company”), and the Customer listed above (“Customer”). This Agreement incorporates the [Streamline Terms of Service](#). W9 is available online. **Most customers prefer annual billing for convenience, but all subscriptions are cancellable anytime with a written 30-day notice.**

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES: See Page 2 for an overview of what Streamline Web includes, and for more information please review our [subscription-based website toolkit for local government](#) .

SUBSCRIPTION ORDER:

Name	Price
Community Pro	\$190.00

One-Time Build Costs: **\$2500**

Invoice Frequency: **Monthly**

Additional Billing Details: **N/A**

Order #: **21955926803**

Original Order? **Original**

Billing Start Date: **11/01/2024**

Paying with check?

Mail the check to: PO Box 207561, Dallas, TX 753207561

Billing Person: Amber Thompson

Billing Address: P.O. Box 719

City, State, Zip: Santa Ynez, CA 93460

Phone: 805-693-1156

Email: athompson@syrwcd.com

Streamline:

Name: Michael Rivera

Title: Associate Partner

Date: 10 / 07 / 2024

Signature: *Michael Rivera*

Customer:

Name: Larry Lahr

Title: Board Chair

Date: 10 / 15 / 2024

Signature:



STREAMLINE

(916) 900-6619

info@getstreamline.com

www.getstreamline.com

3301 C Street #1000, Sacramento, CA 95816



What Your Subscription Includes



Technology

- **Easy-to-use website tool allows you to control your content** - no more waiting on a vendor or IT.
- **Built-in ADA compliance** (the platform is fully accessible out of the “box”).
- **State-specific transparency dashboard** with checkpoints for all posting requirements.
- **Meeting dashboard with agenda reminders**, one-click agenda and minute upload that takes seconds.
- **Ongoing improvements** to existing features included at no cost - your software will never be out of date.



Setup and Training

- **Multiple options** for initial site build and migrating existing content.
- **Introduction to your state requirements** so you know what needs to be posted.
- **Training** for anyone on your staff via remote meeting to help you learn the system.
- **Free domain** included (acmemud.specialdistrict.org) or connect your own custom domain / web address.
- **Free SSL security certificate** so that your site is served over https and visitors are protected.



Ongoing Support

- **Unlimited support** is included for anyone on your staff responsible for updating the website.
- **Support system is built into your website** - get help with the click of a button.
- **Unlimited hosting** of content and files so you never have to “upgrade” your account.
- **Extensive knowledge base** of how-to articles and getting started guides are available 24/7.
- **Can’t figure out how to send your question? That’s ok, you’ll have our technical support number, too.**

And if (when) your state passes additional website mandates, Streamline Web will be updated to help you comply as effortlessly as possible.

September 30, 2024

Re: Selection of Special District Representative for the GSRMA Board of Directors

Dear Sir or Madam,

We are reaching out to our special district members to inform you of a vacancy of the Special District Representative position on the GSRMA Board of Directors. This is a very exciting opportunity in which we hope your district will want to participate.

An outline of the Board Member Election Timeline is attached. Once the nomination period is closed, we will conduct an election among our special district members. The district that wins the election can then appoint a member of their governing board to serve on the GSRMA Board.

The length of term for the GSRMA board position is 2 years. This specific term runs from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027. GSRMA board meetings are bi-monthly starting in July (6 meetings per year). Meetings are held in the GSRMA board room in Willows, CA, from 6-8 pm on the second Wednesday of each meeting month. We do have the capability for virtual participation via zoom and in accordance with current Brown act requirements if a board member is unable to attend a meeting in-person.

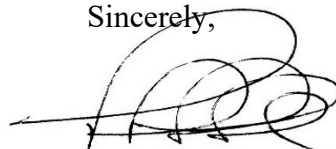
GSRMA will provide funds annually to the district of each board representative for their district's professional development expense. This amount is set annually and is currently \$5,000.

Please share this information with your board and let us know if they wish to self-nominate to be a candidate district in this election. You can notify us by sending an email that includes your district's name, your name and states that your district would like to be a candidate in the election for GSRMA board representation. The email should be sent to: elections@gsrma.org. Alternatively, you may mail us your nomination via the USPS or fax it to (530) 934-8133.

The deadline for nominations is end of business on December 13, 2024. The election will take place February 3, 2025 through April 14, 2025. If your district is selected, your governing board will be asked to appoint one of its members to serve on the GSRMA board.

Active member participation on its board of directors contributes greatly to GSRMA's success as a risk pool. I hope your district accepts this invitation. Please contact our office if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Scott Schimke, ARM
Risk Manager

cc: GSRMA Board of Directors

Golden State Risk Management Authority (GSRMA)
Governing Board Member Election Timeline
Effective for July 1, 2025 vacancies

The July 1, 2025, vacancies for the Board include representatives for Fire and Special Districts.

The timeline for these elections are as follows:

Approval of the July 1, 2025 Board Member Election Timeline.

Nominations will be open October 1, 2024, through December 13, 2024.

- Send nomination invite to appropriate member agencies by October 1, 2024.
- Send deadline reminder by November 29, 2024.
- Nominations must be received in the GSRMA office by end of business December 13, 2024.

Approve nominees/ballot at the January 8, 2025, board meeting.

Election conducted February 3, 2025 – April 14, 2025.

- Distribute primary contact information for each peer district to candidate districts by January 15, 2025.
- Distribute election ballots by February 3, 2025.
- Send deadline reminders by March 31, 2025.
- Ballots must be received in the GSRMA office by end of business April 14, 2025.

Election results will be presented to the Board at their May 14, 2025, meeting. At this meeting the Board will:

- In case of a tie, hold a drawing among those receiving the most votes.
- For any vacancy that received no nominations, appoint an individual qualified to fill the position.
- Certify the results of the election process.

Elected districts will provide their appointment prior to the July 9, 2025, Board meeting.

The Road to Sustainability: SGMA 10-Year Anniversary Event – Registration Now Open



Join the Department of Water Resources (DWR) on November 18th as we commemorate the 10-Year Anniversary of the historic passing of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Hear from local groundwater sustainability agencies, community organizations, state leaders, and others in the SGMA community as they reflect on the progress made over the first 10 years of SGMA, highlight challenges and lessons learned, and look ahead to the next 10 years of advancing sustainable groundwater management. This all-day event will be held in person at the California Natural Resources Agency in Sacramento and online via Zoom.

If interpretation is requested (either in-person or virtual), please email sgmps@water.ca.gov and we will do our best to make accommodations.

When: November 18, 2024

Where: Participants can join in person at California Natural Resources Agency, 715 P St, Sacramento, CA 95814, or online via Zoom.

Registration: <https://SGMA10Year.eventbrite.com> *Virtual attendees will be emailed a Zoom link prior to the event.*

Join us for a No-Host Social Hour after the event.



Subscribe to updates

Email Address e.g. name@example.com

Share Bulletin



DWR Releases Semi-Annual Groundwater Conditions Update

This bulletin was sent at 10/07/2024 01:39 PM PDT

[View this bulletin online - Share](#)



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT OFFICE

This is an email from the Department of Water Resources' Sustainable Groundwater Management Office.

Please do not reply directly to this email; for more information or general inquiries, please contact: sgmps@water.ca.gov.

DWR Releases Semi-Annual Groundwater Conditions Update

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released the [Fall 2024 Semi-Annual Groundwater Conditions Update](#), which provides a look back at groundwater conditions following California's historic 2023 Water Year and an average 2024 Water Year. It also summarizes groundwater conditions over the first 10 years of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation (2014-2024). The groundwater update released today includes groundwater sustainability plan annual report data reported by local groundwater sustainability agencies across 99 groundwater basins, which make up over 90 percent of the groundwater use in the state. This information is helping provide a clearer picture than ever before of groundwater conditions, including the amount of change in groundwater storage, groundwater extractions, and managed recharge that occurs each year.

The data in this report show that during the 2023 Water Year, groundwater levels began to rebound from the prior drought years, but only partially. In Water Year 2024, groundwater levels continued to stabilize, but it will likely require several more wet years, along with focused efforts to increase groundwater recharge and reduce pumping, to recover from the most recent and past droughts and the cumulative depletion of groundwater aquifers that has occurred over decades. Additionally, like previous dry-wet-dry climate cycles, land subsidence rates are likely to increase again during future dry periods unless long term groundwater extraction is reduced as part of ongoing sustainable groundwater management.

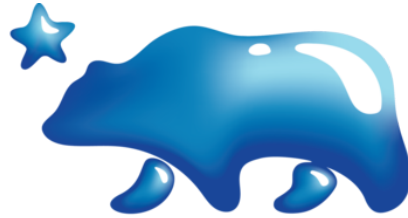
Semi-Annual Groundwater Conditions updates include data and discussion on statewide groundwater levels, groundwater storage, recharge, land subsidence, well infrastructure and the status of California's groundwater basins. DWR produces Groundwater Conditions updates semi-annually in spring and fall to help State and local agencies make management decisions informed by the latest conditions.

These semi-annual updates support DWR's comprehensive [California's Groundwater \(Bulletin 118\)](#) publication which is updated every five years. This suite of reports provides knowledge and understanding about California's groundwater system that is necessary for state and local agencies to plan and implement management actions that will help to ensure long-term resiliency of the state's groundwater supply.

For more information about this update and additional groundwater information, see the following resources:

- [Press Release \(October 7, 2024\)](#)
- [California's Groundwater Semi-Annual Conditions Updates](#)
- [California's Groundwater \(Bulletin 118\)](#)
- [California's Groundwater Live](#)
- [Sustainable Groundwater Management Act \(SGMA\)](#)
- [Groundwater Recharge \(ca.gov\)](#)

For general inquiries, please contact: sgmps@water.ca.gov and for inquires related to the latest groundwater information, please contact: CalGW@water.ca.gov.



SAVE OUR WATER

SaveOurWater.com

Stay Connected with the California Department of Water Resources



SUBSCRIBER SERVICES:
[Manage Subscriptions](#) | [Help](#)

Powered by



[Privacy Policy](#) | [Cookie Statement](#) | [Help](#)


NOTICE OF CANCELLATION OF REGULAR MEETING

**Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin Central Management Area
Groundwater Sustainability Agency**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the regular meeting of the Santa Ynez River Valley Groundwater Basin **Central Management Area** Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors (Board) scheduled for Monday, November 18, 2024, has been cancelled.

A special meeting of the Board has been called for Tuesday, October 15, 2024, 10 a.m. at the City of Buellton City Council Chambers.

Dated: October 3, 2024



Amber Thompson
Secretary