

Raisin City Water District Newsletter

QUARTERLY UPDATES FOR LANDOWNERS

MAGSA Submits Updated Groundwater Sustainability Plan in Coordination with Kings Subbasin GSAs

The McMullin Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MAGSA) and neighboring Kings Subbasin GSAs coordinated to submit their revised Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) by the July 27, 2022 deadline.

The GSP Process: MAGSA is authorized by the 2014 California law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), to develop, adopt, and implement a GSP for its region which includes the Raisin City Water District (RCWD).

A GSP is a plan outlining a region's strategy to achieve groundwater sustainability. SGMA required areas designated as medium- or high-priority to complete their original GSPs by January 31, 2020. MAGSA, along with the other Kings Subbasin GSAs, developed and submitted their first GSPs to the State by the January 31, 2020 deadline. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) had two years to evaluate the original GSPs.

On January 28, 2022, DWR provided notes on what changes needed to be made for the GSPs to be complete. Kings Subbasin GSAs worked collaboratively to prepare revised GSPs based on DWR's comments and submit them by July 27, 2022. DWR states they will work expeditiously to review the updated GSPs and will also host a public comment period before determining if the GSPs are approved or inadequate.

RCWD Board Votes to Extend 75-Cent per Acre Assessment

At RCWD's July 2022 Board meeting, the current 75-cent per acre assessment was extended for the 2022 - 2023 fiscal year. The 75-cent assessment rate has not increased since RCWD's inception in 1962. RCWD is largely funded through assessments billed to properties in the service area.

If RCWD would like to consider additional water supply projects on behalf of landowners, the Board will need to raise the assessment rate in the future. RCWD is also actively pursuing grant funding to offset costs for landowners and add long-term value to our region through a sustainable water supply.

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MCMULLIN EXPANSION PROJECT REACHES 90% DESIGN COMPLETION

RCWD BOARD VOTES TO EXTEND 75-CENT/ACRE ASSESSMENT

MEET RCWD DAIRY FARMER & BOARD MEMBER, JOHN VERWEY

McMullin Expansion Project Reaches 90% Design Completion

The McMullin On-Farm Flood Capture Expansion Project is the second phase of an existing on-farm flood capture and recharge project completed in early 2019.



The McMullin Expansion Project, funded by a \$10 million grant from the state of California and a \$7 million grant from NRCS, will increase the conveyance from the James Bypass from 150 cfs to 450 cfs and expand the total farmland acreage capable of receiving water for on-farm recharge.

The McMullin Expansion Project has reached the 90% design milestone. As design nears completion, the McMullin Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency (MAGSA) is facilitating meetings between appraisers and landowners to assess sections of their land where a canal might be constructed as part of the Expansion Project. MAGSA will use this information to offer landowners a fair price for the entire spectrum of costs associated with the construction of an easement on those sections of their properties.

The Expansion Project was also approved on July 8, 2022 pursuant to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Final CEQA documents can be found at www.mcmullin-ra.org/ofr. A draft National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document is underway and will be posted on the MAGSA website for public review and comment.

Meet RCWD Dairy Farmer and Board Member, John Verwey

Tell us about yourself. What led you to farm in RCWD? I am a third-generation dairy farmer. My grandfather started our dairy in the 1960s, and my family has lived in Fresno County ever since. I am married to my wife Katie, and we are raising three girls on our farm west of Raisin City.

Why did you choose to serve on the RCWD Board? I want to make progress in the District, get more water in the region, and have a future in this area.

What do you believe is the role of RCWD? To serve the landowners and have a more sustainable future for growers.

What do you enjoy doing in your free time? I like hunting, fishing, and spending time with my wife and kids. We enjoy going to the coast as a family or driving our Ranger around the dairy.

What is advice you want to share with the next generation of farmers? Work hard and don't be scared to get your boots dirty.



Raisin City Water District
455 W. Fir Ave
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Important summer updates enclosed for Raisin City Water District landowners.



Call us at: 559.449.2700



Email Manager Randy Hopkins:
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Visit our website:
www.rcwd.ca.gov

Next RCWD Board Meeting September 20 @ 1:30 PM

The RCWD August board meeting has been canceled. The next board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 20, 2022 at 1:30 PM.

The RCWD Board meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 1:30 pm. Meetings are held online via Microsoft Teams and at the RCWD office located at 455 W. Fir Ave., Clovis 93611. For meeting agendas visit: www.rcwd.ca.gov.

Raisin City Water District Board of Directors

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