



EAST KAWEAH
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Q3

QUARTERLY
REPORT

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS



MY JOB DEPENDS ON WATER: FARMING IN THE SGMA ERA

The East Kaweah GSA, in partnership with Mid-Kaweah and Greater Kaweah GSAs, held a subbasin-wide grower event, My Job Depends on Water: Farming in the SGMA Era. **About 350 growers attended, and the event garnered 12 sponsors and 20 vendors who helped make the event possible.**

Speakers included the Kaweah Subbasin GSA leaders **Michael Hagman, Aaron Fukuda, and Mark Larsen**, as well as guest speakers:

- **Jason Phillips**, Friant Water Authority CEO
- **Kait Palys**, INTERA Water Resources Scientist/Hydrogeologist
- **Joel Kimmelshue**, Land IQ Owner/Principal Soil & Agricultural Scientist
- **Craig Hornung**, Technical Services at AC-Foods, and Owner of Hornung Brothers Farming
- **Amber Butland**, UCCE Fresno Community Education Specialist for the Climate Smart Agriculture Program
- **Lurana Strong**, USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service District Conservationist



The event was held at the International Agri-Center in Tulare on July 13, 2023, and educated growers on irrigation efficiency, grew their understanding of groundwater policies related to local SGMA efforts, and pointed them toward grant funding opportunities.

Watch video recordings of speaker presentations and a recap on [**YouTube**](#) [here!](#)

LINDSAY RECHARGE BASIN RIBBON CUTTING



The East Kaweah GSA held a ribbon cutting on August 9, 2023 to celebrate the completion of improvements made to the Lindsay Recharge Basin. Approximately 30

community members, media, and agency leaders gathered at the basin site to celebrate.

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR), the City of Lindsay, Lindmore Irrigation District, and East Kaweah GSA each gave remarks to celebrate their partnership on the basin. The East Kaweah GSA sent

a press release out to local media outlets and encouraged community members to attend.

The basin will recharge up to 150 acre-feet of water annually back into the aquifer, and is especially important after wet years like 2023. The basin benefits growers and Lindsay residents who rely on groundwater for farming and drinking water supply.

Recharge Basin In Lindsay Gets A New Flow

By Serena Bettis Published August 11, 2023 - 9:00 am



(Provost & Pritchard courtesy of East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency)

Lindsay Recharge Basin adds hundreds of acre-feet of water to the groundwater aquifer each year with new improvements

LINDSAY – A recharge basin in Lindsay got its own recharge earlier this year thanks to a \$544,000 improvement project.

Stakeholders – including the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), the city of Lindsay, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the Lindmore Irrigation District – came together on

EXTRA! EXTRA! READ ALL ABOUT EAST KAWEAH GSA IN THE NEWS

East Kaweah GSA’s projects were highlighted in recent news publications, showcasing the agency’s proactive approach to replenishing the aquifer through groundwater recharge. The Lindsay Recharge Basin ribbon cutting event was covered by ABC 30 and The Sun Gazette, and the Lewis Creek recharge project was covered by SJV Water.

Getting the word out about East Kaweah GSA’s recharge project efforts is key to involving the community in meeting sustainability goals. These groundwater recharge projects help meet sustainability goals designated in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

- [Water Basin Improvements Helping Recharge Groundwater in Lindsay, ABC 30 Fresno](#)
- [Recharge Basin in Lindsay Gets a New Flow, The Sun Gazette](#)
- [Creek Beds to be Used for Groundwater Recharge and to Improve Water Quality in Kaweah Subbasin, SJV Water](#)

WATER DASHBOARD AND ALLOCATIONS OUTREACH

The East Kaweah GSA developed four videos to explain to growers how to use the new Credit Manager feature on the Water Dashboard. The Credit Manager tool was developed to assist landowners with the Allocation Year 2022 billing period by allowing them to rearrange the order of their water use. New features of the Credit Manager tool allow landowners to view their account summary and transfers, export transfers between accounts, view and manage credit summary, access accounting on APNS, and submit their credits.

Watch all four videos on our YouTube channel [here!](#)

In addition to the four new videos on the Credit Manager tool, the East Kaweah GSA shared two blog posts to the website. One post announced the beginning of the Allocation Year 2022 billing period on August 21, while the other encouraged landowners to create their Water Dashboard account to streamline the Allocation Year 2022 billing process. A social media post was also shared to remind landowners about the billing period and encourage them to set up their Water Dashboard accounts.

East Kaweah GSA stakeholders can always access ekgsa.org/allocation for updated information.

PROJECT STORYMAP LAUNCHING SOON!

The East Kaweah GSA is thrilled to announce that almost all groundwater projects listed in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) are either completed or under construction! We’re making steady progress on a StoryMap that will showcase the benefits and highlights of each of these projects to our stakeholders. **Stay tuned as the StoryMap will be launched on our project webpage soon!**

STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

MITIGATION OUTREACH

East Kaweah GSA technical experts created a video on the draft Mitigation Plan to explain what stakeholders should know about the Plan. The technical consultants break down the Plan in an approachable way to help stakeholders understand what's in the plan and who it impacts. It has gained nearly 130 views. The agency also kept the existing Mitigation webpage updated with information as the public comment period extended through mid-September.

The East Kaweah GSA Mitigation Plan is the effort to respond to impacts caused by groundwater overdraft, including to wells and critical infrastructure, during the implementation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan.

YOUTUBE UPDATE/RECENT UPLOADS

The screenshot shows the YouTube channel page for the East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency. The channel name is "East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency" with the handle "@eastkaweahgsa", 17 subscribers, and 26 videos. A "Subscribe" button is visible. Below the channel name are navigation tabs for HOME, VIDEOS, PLAYLISTS, COMMUNITY, CHANNELS, and ABOUT. The "Videos" section is active, showing a "Play all" button and a grid of video thumbnails. The thumbnails include:

- "Credit Manager: Available Features" (13 views • 1 month ago, 8:22)
- "Credit Manager: Using Manual Mode" (8 views • 1 month ago, 5:19)
- "Credit Manager: Getting Started" (22 views • 1 month ago, 5:45)
- "Credit Manager 101" (44 views • 1 month ago, 2:58)
- "Kaweah Subbasin Grower Event Highlight" (54 views • 2 months ago, 1:01)

Video plays a crucial role in East Kaweah GSA's stakeholder engagement and is another effective way to quickly convey information.

In Quarter 3, the East Kaweah GSA released a total of **13 videos**. Out of these, four videos were related to the Water Dashboard Credit

Manager, providing information to growers on how to use the tool during the Allocation Year 2022 billing period. Additionally, eight videos covered highlights from the "My Job Depends on Water: Farming in the SGMA Era" grower event, including recordings of the event

speaker presentations and a recap video summarizing the incredible event. The East Kaweah GSA also released a video overview of the draft Mitigation Plan.

Stay engaged with our YouTube channel [here!](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA



East Kaweah Groundwater Sustainability Agency

121 followers
3mo •

What an incredible day at the [International Agri-Center](#) yesterday for the "My Job Depends on Water: Farming in the SGMA Era" Grower event! 🌱💧🌻 As our irrigation practices presenter [Craig Hornung](#) emphasized, "farming is an art supported by science," perfectly captures the essence of the event.

The day was filled with valuable information for growers in the Kaweah Subbasin! We were privileged to have [Friant Water Authority](#) CEO [Jason Phillips](#) brief attendees on the CVP water supply, and the three Kaweah Subbasin GSA leaders - Mark Larsen, [Aaron Fukuda](#), and [Michael Hagman](#) - provided SGMA and GSP determination updates, followed by an informative presentation from [Kait Paly](#) on the Kaweah Subbasin Mitigation Program.

The event also included a presentation on [Land IQ](#) and evapotranspiration from [Joel Kimmelshue, PhD, CPSS](#) and a presentation on essential irrigation practices by [Craig Hornung](#). The event concluded with a presentation on SWEEP grant opportunities by Amber Butland and a presentation on [USDA-NRCS](#) funding opportunities from Lurana Strong, followed by a delicious lunch provided by Western BBQ Catering Services!

We're so thankful to our event speakers and all attendees for making the event a success! Special thank you to all our event sponsors and vendors for their support! ❤️

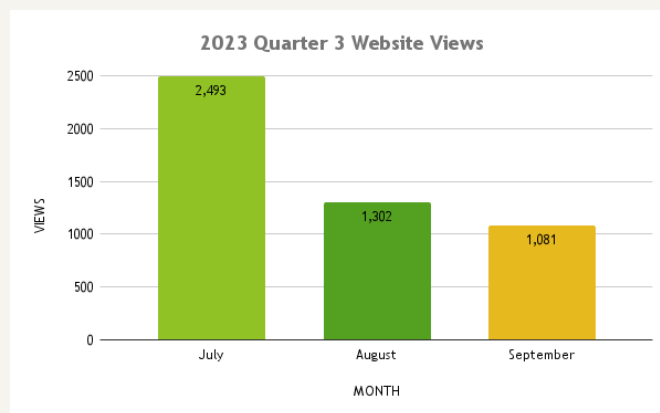
[WaterWrights](#), [Ranch Systems Inc.](#), [Hortau](#), [HotSpot AG](#), [Nutrien](#), Superior Ag Constriction, [BRANDT](#), [Phytech - Plant-Based Farming](#), [TechnoFlo Systems](#), [Seametrics](#), [INTERA Incorporated](#), [4Creeks, Inc.](#), [Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group](#)



The East Kaweah GSA is active on social media and continues to grow its following. gained over **60 new followers** across all platforms from July to September 2023! In Quarter 3, the top post was an overview of the "My Job Depends on Water: Farming in the SGMA Era" grower event.

Stay engaged with the agency by following us on social media. **The public can follow, like, and share East Kaweah GSA's social media posts on Facebook, LinkedIn, and X (Twitter).**

EAST KAWEAH GSA WEBSITE



The East Kaweah GSA website has generated nearly **5,000 views from July through September!** The website is consistently updated to include the most current resources. During Quarter 3, the Allocation page was updated to reflect the latest billing updates for Allocation Year 2022. The agency also posted **8 blog posts** between July and September.

EMAIL NEWSLETTER

East Kaweah GSA's Interested Persons email list grew by **27 subscribers!** The Kaweah Subbasin grower event provided a place to sign up for the email list at check-in. Stakeholders who are signed up for the email list are the first to know about news such as new YouTube videos, new blog posts, Allocation Year billing information, and important announcements. Stakeholders can sign up to stay informed at www.ekgsa.org/keep-informed.

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STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

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