



Fillmore and Piru Basins
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, October 19, 2023, 4:00 p.m.

City of Fillmore City Hall Council Chambers

250 Central Avenue, Fillmore, CA 93015

To participate in the Board of Directors meeting via Zoom, please access:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85480305580?pwd=ZnFBWGhtVU05dXd3REFkM255c0h6UT09>

Meeting ID: **854 8030 5580** Password: **FPBGSA**

To hear just the audio portion of the meeting, phone into:

Toll-free number: **877 853 5247** Meeting ID: **854 8030 5580**

AGENDA

1. CALL TO ORDER

1A Pledge of Allegiance

1B Directors Roll Call

1C Public Comments

Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) will accept public comment concerning agenda items at the time the item is considered and on any non-agenda item within the jurisdiction of the Board during the agendized Public Comment period. No action will be taken by the Board on any non-agenda item. In accordance with Government Code § 54954.3(b)(1), public comment will be limited to three (3) minutes per speaker per issue.

1D Approval of Agenda

Motion

2. UPDATES

2A Director Announcements/Board Communications:

Oral Reports from the Board

Fillmore Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update

Piru Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update

Environmental Stakeholder Director Update

City of Fillmore Member Director Update

United Water Conservation District Member Director Update

County of Ventura Member Director Update

2B Executive Director Update

Information Item

The Executive Director will provide an informational update on Agency activities since the previous Board of Directors meeting of August 17, 2023.

2C Legal Counsel Update

Information Item

Legal Counsel will provide an informational update on Agency's legal issues and concerns since the previous Board of Directors meeting of August 17, 2023.

2D GSP Consultant Update

Information Item

Representatives from Daniel B Stephens & Associates will provide an informational update on the Agency's groundwater sustainability planning and reporting activities since the previous Board of Directors meeting of August 17, 2023.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

3A Approval of Minutes

The Board will consider approving the Minutes from the Board Meeting of August 17 and Special Board Meeting of August 31, 2023.

3B Approval of Warrants

The Board will consider approving payment of outstanding vendor invoices:

Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc.	\$6,092.50
Aleshire & Wynder LLP	\$1,972.00
Aleshire & Wynder LLP	\$ 606.03

3C Monthly Financial Report

The Board will receive the monthly financial report for the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

3D United Water Conservation District Labor Rates

The Board will receive the United Water Conservation District labor rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

4. MOTION ITEMS

4A Kimball Ranches – El Hogar Well No. 4 Permit Application Executive Order N-3-23 GSA Review

Motion

The Board will consider finding that the Kimball Ranches – El Hogar permit application for the construction of a replacement agricultural water supply well (Well No. 4) to be located within parcel number 041-0-270-080, approximately 1,200 feet north of State Route 126 and just west of Timber Canyon Road in the Fillmore basin, is not inconsistent with the Agency’s Fillmore Basin Groundwater sustainability Plan and directing staff to provide a letter to the County of Ventura stating the Agency’s findings as required by Section 4a of Executive Order N-3-23.

4B Kimball Ranches – El Hogar Well No. 5 Permit Application Executive Order N-3-23 GSA Review

Motion

The Board will consider finding that the Kimball Ranches – El Hogar permit application for the construction of a new domestic (and potentially agricultural) water supply well (Well No. 5) to be located within parcel number 041-0-130-140, about 1.8 miles north of State Route 126 and west of Timber Canyon Road in the Fillmore basin, is not inconsistent with the Agency’s Fillmore Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and directing staff to provide a letter to the County of Ventura Stating the Agency’s findings as required by Section 4a of Executive Order N-3-23.

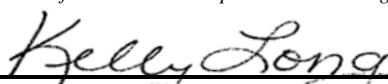
5. FUTURE TOPICS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Board will adjourn to the next **Regular Board Meeting** on Thursday, **November 16, 2023**, or call of the Chair.

Materials, which are non-exempt public records and are provided to the Board of Directors to be used in consideration of the above agenda items, including any documents provided subsequent to the publishing of this agenda, are available for inspection at UWCD’s offices at 1701 N. Lombard Street in Oxnard during normal business hours.

The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied the benefits of, the District’s services, programs or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, or if you require agenda materials in an alternative format, please contact the UWCD Office at (805) 525-4431 or the City of Fillmore at (805) 524- 1500. Notification of at least 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements.

Approved: 
Board Chair Kelly Long

Posted: (date) October 12, 2023 (time) 5:30p.m. (attest) Eva Ibarra
At: <https://www.FPBGSA.org>

Posted: (date) October 12, 2023 (time) 5:35p.m. (attest) Eva Ibarra
At: <https://www.facebook.com/FPBGSA/>

Posted: (date) October 12, 2023 (time) 5:40p.m. (attest) Eva Ibarra
At: UWCD, 1701 N. Lombard Street, Oxnard



Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, August 17, 2023, 4:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Directors in Attendance

Director Carole Fornoff
Director Debbie Jackson (virtual)
Director Gordon Kimball
Director Kelly Long
Director Albert Mendez (arrived 4:05pm)
Director Candice Meneghin

Staff in Attendance

Anthony Emmert, executive director
Steve O'Neill, legal counsel
Eva Ibarra, clerk of the board

Public in Attendance

Zachary Hanson, UWCD
Heather Merenda (virtual)
Patrick O'Connell, UWCD
Tony Morgan, DBS&A (virtual)
Ed Reese, UWCD

1. CALL TO ORDER 4:00 p.m.

Chair Long called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

1A Pledge of Allegiance

Director Meneghin led everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1B Directors Roll Call

The clerk called the roll. Five directors were present: Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Meneghin. Director Mendez was not yet present.

Director Jackson requested she attend virtually, under "good cause," under Bill 2449, as she was ill. Chair Long requested a motion to allow Director Jackson to attend virtually.

Motion to approve, Director Kimball; Second, Director Fornoff. Voice vote: four ayes (Fornoff, Kimball, Long and Meneghin), none opposed. Director Mendez was not yet present. Motion carries unanimously 4/0/2.

1C Public Comments

Chair Long asked if there were any comments or questions from the public. None were offered.

1D Approval of Agenda

Motion

Chair Long asked Executive Director Anthony Emmert if there were any changes to the agenda. Mr. Emmert responded that there had been no changes to the agenda. Chair Long then asked for a motion.

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Kimball; Second, Director Fornoff. Voice vote: five ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long and Meneghin), none opposed. Director Mendez was not yet present. Motion carries unanimously 5/0/1.

2. UPDATES

2A Director Announcements/Board Communications:

Fillmore Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update

Director Jackson said she had no update.

Piru Pumpers Association Stakeholder Director Update

Director Fornoff said she had no update.

Environmental Stakeholder Director Update

Director Meneghin reported she and Sanger Hedrick will be doing a site visit of Lost Creek on August 25 to assess the potential for HOBOWATER temperature monitors, possible locations for eDNA sampling of presence and absence of listed species, as well as the potential of enhancing over summer rearing habitat in the East Grove GDE. She also said UCSB Bren School Master students and potentially the CCC's will be joining. She mentioned she will be attending the CA Lawyer's Association Environmental Law Conference in Yosemite on October 19, through the 22nd, 2023, and on Friday, October 20, there is a session on SGMA with representatives from SWRCB, DWR, Community Water Center and Brownstein Firm, moderated by Kaitlin Harr. She also mentioned Friends of the Santa Clara River is hosting their 30th anniversary celebration at The Dudley House on October 7. She said CEA Consulting finalized an Integrated Water Resilience Strategy for the Santa Clara River watershed in July 2023, and said she is now fundraising to implement the \$300,000 endeavor. Friends together with environmental partners is researching a collaborative and comprehensive framework to long term management and operations of open space on the watershed and said they are exploring a Conservancy, JPA, Special District, MOU, and other frameworks. She finalized her update with the mention of Coastal Cleanup Day to be held on September 23, with a waterway site available to volunteers in Fillmore.

City of Fillmore Member Director Update

Director Mendez said he had no update.

United Water Conservation District Member Director Update

Director Kimball said he did not have anything to report and mentioned water levels have been lowered at Lake Piru spreading grounds to make space for purchased water.

County of Ventura Member Director Update

Chair Long reported August was dark, and no meetings were scheduled for the month, which allowed for catch up time. She also said the County is prepared and on alert, in case an emergency is to develop, due to hurricane Hilary, to hit the County this coming weekend.

2B Executive Director Update

Information Item

Executive Director provided an informational update on Agency activities since the previous Board of Directors meeting of July 20, 2023. Mr. Emmert reported grant invoice fifteen was amended, as per DWR's comments and has now been resubmitted. He also said they are preparing progress report and invoice sixteen and said he is awaiting feedback from DWR for a potential amendment to the final grant with adjustments to budget line items. Mr. Emmert finalized his update by providing an update on the SGM implementation round two grant, he said DWR's recommended award list did not include our agency and said the low ranking of our Agency is due to lack of rural disadvantaged communities.

Mr. Emmert requested the clerk of the Board poll Directors after the meeting, for a Special Board meeting for August 31.

Director Long asked if Eddie Pech from DWR is still working with the Agency for the Agency's grant process? Mr. Emmert said he is on family leave and a new person has been assigned to continue the grant process for the Agency.

2C Legal Counsel Update

Information Item

Legal Counsel reported he has been collaborating with Executive Director on task orders and with the clerk of the board on 2449 Bill for virtual attendee requirements. He also said he would provide a report on the initiative and public record act, at the next Board meeting.

2D GSP Consultant Update

Information Item

Tony Morgan from Daniel B Stephens & Associates provided slides and discussed the status of various Bills that could affect the Agency if passed, and their statuses. He also discussed the Agency’s grading from the grant application per DWR, and where the Agency was lacking to be considered for the grant award.

Director Long asked what does it mean when a Bill is pulled? Mr. Morgan said that means it can come back, and they can again try to make it pass. He then explained the process of a Bill when being approved or disapproved.

Directors, Legal Counsel and Executive Director all shared their thoughts and ideas regarding the grant application grading from DWR, and what the Agency needs to improve on to follow DWR’s standards based on grading received. It was also suggested the Agency receive guidance from DWR.

3. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED)

3A Approval of Minutes

The Board approved the Minutes from the Board Meeting of June 15, 2023.

3B Approval of Warrants

The Board approved payment of outstanding vendor invoices:

DBS&A	\$4,573.75
Aleshire & Wynder LLP	\$2,459.52

3C Monthly Financial Report

The Board received the Agency’s monthly profit and loss statement and balance sheet.

3D United Water Conservation District Labor Rates

The Board received the United Water Conservation District labor rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Motion to approve Consent Calendar items, Director Fornoff; second, Director Mendez. Roll call vote: six ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez and Meneghin); none opposed, Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

4. MOTION ITEMS

4A Task Order with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates for General As-Needed Technical and Planning Support Services

Motion

The Board approved Task Order Number 2023-02 with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc. for as-needed general technical and planning support services.

Motion to approve, Director Mendez; Second, Director Kimball. Voice vote: six ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez, and Meneghin), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

4B Task Order with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates for Well Permit Review Program Development and Implementation Services

Motion

The Board approved Task Order Number 2023-03 with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc. for as-needed technical and planning support services for the development and implementation of a GSA Well Permit Review Program.

Motion to approve, Director Mendez; Second, Director Meneghin. Voice vote: six ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, Long, Mendez, and Meneghin), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 6/0.

4C Development of Well Permitting Review Process in Compliance with California Executive Orders N-7-22 and N-3-23

Information

The Board received a presentation from Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Legal Counsel, and staff regarding the development of the Agency's Well Permitting Review Process and provided comments and direction.

5. FUTURE TOPICS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

GDE Talks
Well Permit
Annual Report
Comment Letter

6. ADJOURNMENT 5:15p.m.

Chair Long adjourned the meeting at 5:13 p.m. to the next **Regular Board Meeting** on Thursday, **September 21, 2023**, or call of the Chair.

Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors Meeting
MINUTES
August 17, 2023
Page 6

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Board of Directors meeting of August 17, 2023.

ATTEST: _____
Kelly Long, Chair, FPB GSA Board of Directors

ATTEST: _____
Eva Ibarra, Clerk of the Board



Fillmore and Piru Basins
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

SPECIAL Board of Directors Meeting
Thursday, August 31, 2023, 4:00 p.m.
MINUTES

Directors in Attendance

Director Carole Fornoff
Director Gordon Kimball
Director Albert Mendez
Director Candice Meneghin (virtual)

Director Absent

Director Kelly Long
Director Debbie Jackson

Staff in Attendance

Anthony Emmert, executive director
Steve O'Neill, legal counsel
Eva Ibarra, clerk of the board

Public in Attendance

Rachel Laenen, Kimball Farms
Patrick O'Connell, UWCD
Tony Morgan, DBS&A (virtual)
Ed Reese, UWCD

1. CALL TO ORDER 4:02 p.m.

Vice Chair Kimball called the meeting to order at 4:02p.m.

1A Pledge of Allegiance

Director Fornoff lead everyone in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

1B Directors Roll Call

The clerk called the roll. Four directors were present: Fornoff, Kimball, Mendez, and Meneghin participated virtually. Director Long and Director Jackson were absent. 04/0/02.

Director Meneghin requested she attend virtually under “good cause,” under Bill 2449, as she was ill and requested a motion to allow her virtual attendance. Director Kimball called for a motion.

Motion to approve, Director Fornoff; Second, Director Mendez. Voice vote: four ayes (Fornoff, Jackson, Kimball, and Mendez), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 4/0/2.

1C Public Comments

Director Kimball asked if there were any comments or questions from the public. None were offered.

**1D Approval of Agenda
Motion**

Director Kimball asked Executive Director Anthony Emmert if there were any changes to the agenda. Mr. Emmert responded that there had been no changes to the agenda. Director Kimball then asked for a motion.

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Mendez; Second, Director Fornoff. Voice vote: four ayes (Fornoff, Kimball, Mendez, and Meneghin), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 4/0/2.

2. CONSENT CALENDAR

All matters listed under the Consent Calendar are considered routine by the Board and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member pulls an item from the Calendar. Pulled items will be discussed and acted on separately by the Board. Members of the public who want to comment on a Consent Calendar item should do so under Public Comments. (ROLL CALL VOTE REQUIRED).

2A Approval of Warrants

The Board approved payment of outstanding vendor invoices:

United Water Conservation District	\$18,114.91
Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc.	\$ 2,311,70
Aleshire & Wynder LLP	\$ 603.20

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Fornoff; Second, Director Mendez. Voice vote: four ayes (Fornoff, Kimball, Mendez, and Meneghin), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 4/0/2.

3. MOTION ITEMS

**3A Task Order with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates for As-Needed
Technical and Planning Support Services for Export Policy
Motion**

The approved Task Order Number 2023-04 with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc. for as-needed technical and planning support services for the development of an export policy.

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Mendez; Second, Director Fornoff. Voice vote: four ayes (Fornoff, Kimball, Mendez, and Meneghin), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 4/0/2.

3B Task Order with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates for As-Needed Technical and Planning Support Services for Cienega Springs Drought Effects Mitigation Project

Motion

The Board will consider approving Task Order Number 2023-05 with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc. for as-needed technical and planning support services for the development and evaluation of the Cienega Springs Drought Effects Mitigation Project.

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Fornoff; Second, Director Mendez. Voice vote: four ayes (Fornoff, Kimball, Mendez, and Meneghin), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 4/0/2.

3C Task Order with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates for As-Needed Technical and Planning Support Services for Annual Reports

Motion

The Board will consider approving Task Order Number 2023-06 with Daniel B. Stephens & Associates, Inc. for as-needed technical and planning support services for preparation of the Water Year 2022-2023 Annual Reports to the California Department of Water Resources.

Motion to approve the agenda, Director Meneghin; Second, Director Mendez. Voice vote: four ayes (Fornoff, Kimball, Mendez, and Meneghin), none opposed. Motion carries unanimously 4/0/2.

3. FUTURE TOPICS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION

Water Talks

Presentation from Sespe Cienega Project – Sean Kelly

4. ADJOURNMENT 4:25p.m.

Director Kimball adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m. to the next **Regular Board Meeting** on Thursday, **September 21, 2023**, or call of the Chair.

Special Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors Meeting
MINUTES
August 31, 2023
Page 4

I certify that the above is a true and correct copy of the minutes of the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency's Special Board of Directors meeting of August 31, 2023.

ATTEST:
Kelly Long, Chair, FPB GSA Board of Directors

ATTEST: _____
Eva Ibarra, Clerk of the Board



SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

August 31, 2023 @ 4:00pm

City Council Chambers, Fillmore City Hall

250 Central Avenue, Fillmore, CA 93015

Name: RACHAEL LAEVEN

Name: _____

Organization: KR -EH

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

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E-mail: _____

E-mail: _____

Name: _____

Name: _____

Organization: _____

Organization: _____

Phone: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

E-mail: _____

Fillmore and Piru Basins, GSA

Check Detail Report
September 2023

ACCOUNT NAME	TRANSACTION ID	TRANSACTION DATE	TRANSACTION TYPE	TRANSACTION NUMBER	NAME	DESCRIPTION	CLEARED	AMOUNT LINE
Bank of the Sierra	14845							
Bank of the Sierra	14845	09/13/2023	Bill Payment (Check)	11201	Aleshire & Wynder LLP	--	Uncleared	-\$1,972.00
Bank of the Sierra	14845	09/13/2023	Bill Payment (Check)	11201	Aleshire & Wynder LLP	--	--	-\$1,972.00

Fillmore and Piru Basins, GSA

Check Detail Report

September 2023

ACCOUNT NAME	TRANSACTION ID	TRANSACTION DATE	TRANSACTION TYPE	TRANSACTION NUMBER	NAME	DESCRIPTION	CLEARED	AMOUNT LINE
Bank of the Sierra	16380							
Bank of the Sierra	16380	10/10/2023	Bill Payment (Check)	11202	Aleshire & Wynder LLP	--	Uncleared	-\$606.03
Bank of the Sierra	16380	10/10/2023	Bill Payment (Check)	11202	Aleshire & Wynder LLP	--	--	-\$606.03
	16381							
Bank of the Sierra	16381	10/10/2023	Bill Payment (Check)	11203	Daniel B Stephens & Associates, Inc.	--	Uncleared	-\$6,092.50
Bank of the Sierra	16381	10/10/2023	Bill Payment (Check)	11203	Daniel B Stephens & Associates, Inc.	--	--	-\$6,092.50

Fillmore and Piru Basins, GSA

Budget vs. Actuals: FY_2023_2024 - FY24 P&L

July - September, 2023

	JUL 2023		AUG 2023		SEP 2023		TOTAL	
	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income								
40001 Groundwater Extraction Charge		0.00		0.00	382.10	0.00	\$382.10	\$0.00
41000 Grant Revenue							\$0.00	\$0.00
41001 State Grants		0.00		0.00		23,750.00	\$0.00	\$23,750.00
Total 41000 Grant Revenue		0.00		0.00		23,750.00	\$0.00	\$23,750.00
47000 Other Revenue							\$0.00	\$0.00
47001 Late Fees		0.00	10,968.50	0.00		0.00	\$10,968.50	\$0.00
47012 Returned Check Charges		0.00		0.00		0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 47000 Other Revenue		0.00	10,968.50	0.00		0.00	\$10,968.50	\$0.00
Total Income	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,968.50	\$0.00	\$382.10	\$23,750.00	\$11,350.60	\$23,750.00
GROSS PROFIT	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$10,968.50	\$0.00	\$382.10	\$23,750.00	\$11,350.60	\$23,750.00
Expenses								
52200 Professional Services			0.00				\$0.00	\$0.00
52240 Prof Svcs - IT Consulting		148.75		148.75		148.75	\$0.00	\$446.25
52250 Prof Svcs - Groundwtr/GSP Prep							\$0.00	\$0.00
52251 Prof Svcs - UWCD GW Services		3,333.33		3,333.33		3,333.33	\$0.00	\$9,999.99
52252 Prof Svcs - GSP Consultant		41,250.00		41,250.00	6,092.50	41,250.00	\$6,092.50	\$123,750.00
Total 52250 Prof Svcs - Groundwtr/GSP Prep		44,583.33		44,583.33	6,092.50	44,583.33	\$6,092.50	\$133,749.99
52270 Prof Svcs - Accounting		2,117.50		2,117.50		2,117.50	\$0.00	\$6,352.50
52275 Prof Svcs - Admin/Clerk of Bd		2,187.50		2,187.50		2,187.50	\$0.00	\$6,562.50
52280 Prof Svcs - Executive Director		4,824.07		4,824.07		4,824.07	\$0.00	\$14,472.21
52290 Prof Svcs - Other		1,750.00		1,750.00		1,750.00	\$0.00	\$5,250.00
Total 52200 Professional Services		55,611.15	0.00	55,611.15	6,092.50	55,611.15	\$6,092.50	\$166,833.45
52500 Legal Fees							\$0.00	\$0.00
52501 Legal Counsel	603.20	3,333.33		3,333.33	2,578.03	3,333.33	\$3,181.23	\$9,999.99
Total 52500 Legal Fees	603.20	3,333.33		3,333.33	2,578.03	3,333.33	\$3,181.23	\$9,999.99
53000 Office Expenses		166.67		166.67		166.67	\$0.00	\$500.01
53010 Public Information		83.33		83.33		83.33	\$0.00	\$249.99
53020 Office Supplies		83.33		83.33		83.33	\$0.00	\$249.99
53026 Postage & Mailing		83.33		83.33		83.33	\$0.00	\$249.99
53040 Membership Dues	45.00						\$45.00	\$0.00
53110 Travel & Training		166.67		166.67		166.67	\$0.00	\$500.01
Total 53000 Office Expenses	45.00	583.33		583.33		583.33	\$45.00	\$1,749.99
53500 Insurance							\$0.00	\$0.00
53510 Liability Insurance		0.00		0.00		0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total 53500 Insurance		0.00		0.00		0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
70130 Bank Service Charges		0.00		0.00		0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$648.20	\$59,527.81	\$0.00	\$59,527.81	\$8,670.53	\$59,527.81	\$9,318.73	\$178,583.43
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$ -648.20	\$ -59,527.81	\$10,968.50	\$ -59,527.81	\$ -8,288.43	\$ -35,777.81	\$2,031.87	\$ -154,833.43
NET INCOME	\$ -648.20	\$ -59,527.81	\$10,968.50	\$ -59,527.81	\$ -8,288.43	\$ -35,777.81	\$2,031.87	\$ -154,833.43



Item No. 3D Informational
DATE: October 11, 2023 (for October 19, 2023 meeting)
TO: Board of Directors
SUBJECT: United Water Conservation District Labor Rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

SUMMARY

The agreement between the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency and the United Water Conservation District makes provision for periodic changes in labor rates and requires the District to provide the Agency with notice of those changes. The required notice to the Agency is provided via this report.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Board will receive the United Water Conservation District labor rates for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

BACKGROUND

The professional services agreement between the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) and the United Water Conservation District (District) for staff services, executed on April 19, 2018, and amended on August 23, 2018, makes provision for the District to periodically change the labor rates it charges to the Agency, and requires the District to provide the Agency with notification of such changes. With the adoption of its Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget on June 14, 2023, the District's overall hourly labor rates increased. The District is providing the Agency with an updated labor rates document for the staff members that may be utilized by the Agency. A copy of the District's Labor Rates Sheet for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 is attached to this report.

The anticipated labor rates were incorporated into the Agency's proposed Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget.

FISCAL IMPACT

There are sufficient funds included in the Agency's Fiscal Year 2023-2024 budget to accommodate the labor rate change from the District.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1 United Water Conservation District Labor Rates Sheet for Fiscal Year 2023-2024

United Water Conservation District

FY 2023-24 Labor Rates

Step 5

Position	FY 23-24 Billing Rates	FY 22-23 Billing Rates	% Change
Accountant	78.28	68.75	13.85%
Accounting Technician	62.46	58.23	7.27%
Administrative Assistant III	65.21	60.88	7.10%
Assistant Engineer / Associate Engineer	98.34	92.00	6.90%
Assistant General Manager	205.69	196.20	4.84%
Associate Controls Systems Programmer	81.03	70.09	15.60%
Associate Engineer	98.34	92.00	6.90%
Associate Environmental Scientist	81.04	75.67	7.09%
Chief Engineer	184.53	174.38	5.82%
Chief Financial Officer	184.52	173.99	6.05%
Chief Human Resources Officer	183.82	172.60	6.50%
Chief Operations Officer	184.20	173.99	5.87%
Chief Park Ranger	131.12	120.59	8.73%
Chief Water Treatment Operator	120.37	112.31	7.18%
Control Systems Technician	103.98	96.59	7.65%
Controls System Supervisor	117.80	109.51	7.57%
Dam Operator	95.00	88.38	7.49%
Engineer	114.79	107.53	6.75%
Engineer (/ Modeler)	104.11	-	
Engineering Manager	149.35	140.98	5.93%
Engineering Assistant/ GIS Analyst	81.05	71.00	14.17%
Environmental Scientist	96.23	107.36	-10.37%
Environmental Services Field Technician	65.86	53.25	23.68%
Environmental Services Lead Field Technician	72.98	68.11	7.15%
Environmental Services Manager	150.22	141.85	5.90%
Executive Assistant/Clerk of the Board	126.70	119.41	6.10%
Facilities Maintenance Worker II	62.63	57.70	8.55%
Finance Supervisor	76.92	-	
General Manager	307.70	288.17	6.78%
Human Resources Analyst	62.56	-	
Human Resources Generalist	69.10	62.14	11.21%
Human Resources Specialist	85.63	80.25	6.70%
Hydrogeologist	98.18	91.79	6.95%
Hydrologist	98.32	-	
Lead Recharge O&M Worker	97.68	90.50	7.93%
O&M Program Supervisor	133.24	125.27	6.37%
Park Ranger - Cadet	50.54	46.79	8.03%
Park Ranger IV	90.84	77.74	16.86%
Principal Engineer	110.66	-	
Principal Environmental Scientist	130.59	122.61	6.50%
Principal Hydrogeologist/ Modeler	137.97	124.59	10.75%
Principal Hydrologist	136.65	122.91	11.18%
Receptionist	48.49	44.84	8.16%
Recharge O&M Worker I	76.54	70.95	7.87%
Recharge O&M Worker II	85.11	79.01	7.72%
Reservations Coordinator	48.28	44.89	7.55%

Risk and Safety Manager	126.21	104.11	21.23%
Senior Accountant	91.23	85.54	6.64%
Senior Accounting Technician	73.50	68.26	7.68%
Senior Engineer	130.59	122.61	6.51%
Senior Environmental Scientist	87.36	-	
Senior Hydrogeologist	114.61	119.15	-3.81%
Senior Hydrologist	114.67	107.42	6.76%
Supervisory Water Resources Engineer	110.07	-	
Technology Systems Manager	126.48	117.85	7.32%
Technology Systems Specialist	85.53	80.08	6.80%
Water Resources Manager	-	140.85	
Water Resources Supervisor/Manager	112.74	-	
Water Resources Technician	73.00	68.08	7.23%
Water Treatment Operator II	85.08	-	
Water Treatment Operator III	88.77	80.50	10.29%
Water Treatment Operator IV	88.49	-	



Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Item No. **4A Motion**

DATE: October 11, 2023 (for October 19, 2023, meeting)

TO: Board of Directors

VIA: Anthony A. Emmert, Executive Director

FROM: United Water Conservation District, Water Resources Department Staff

SUBJECT: **Kimball Ranches – El Hogar Well No. 4 Permit Application Executive Order N-3-23 GSA Review**

SUMMARY:

Kimball Ranches – El Hogar has provided staff with a County of Ventura well permit application for the construction of a replacement water supply well (Well No. 4) to be located about 1,200 feet north of State Route 126 on the west side of Timber Canyon Road in the Fillmore basin. The well will serve as a replacement source of water for agricultural use on existing orchard land within the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) management area. Section 4a of the Governor’s Executive Order N-3-23 requires the local groundwater sustainability agency to verify if groundwater extraction from the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any applicable (i.e., the Fillmore Basin) Groundwater Sustainability Plan before a well permit can be issued. Given the proposed well usage, location, and construction, staff recommends that the Board consider authorizing staff to provide written findings to the permitting agency.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Board will consider finding that the Kimball Ranches – El Hogar permit application for the construction of a replacement agricultural water supply well (Well No. 4) to be located within parcel number 041-0-270-080, approximately 1,200 feet north of State Route 126 and just west of Timber Canyon Road in Fillmore basin, is not inconsistent with the Agency’s Fillmore Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and directing staff to provide a letter to the County of Ventura stating the Agency’s findings as required by Section 4a of Executive Order N-3-23.

DISCUSSION

Kimball Ranches – El Hogar (The Property Owner) has provided staff with a County of Ventura well permit application (signed July 21, 2023) for construction of a replacement water supply well (Well No. 4) to be located within parcel number 041-0-270-080, about 1,200 feet north of State Route 126 on the west side of Timber Canyon Road, in the Fillmore groundwater basin (as shown in Attachment 1). The Property Owner has also provided a memorandum (Attachment 2) prepared by Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc. (dated September 1, 2023) that documents the consultant’s evaluation of the well permit application’s compliance regarding Section 4b of Executive Order N-3-23 (the Executive Order). In accordance with Section 4a of the Executive Order, staff provides the following findings from our evaluation of if the proposed groundwater extraction by Well No. 4 would not be inconsistent with any

Kimball Ranches – El Hogar Well No. 4 Permit Application Executive Order N-3-23 GSA Review

October 11, 2022

Page 2 of 3

sustainable groundwater management program and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), i.e., the Fillmore Basin GSP.

According to the well permit application and memorandum, Well No. 4 will be a replacement well for Well No. 2 (State Well Number [SWN] 03N20W06A03), which is located 50 feet east of the proposed well location on the same parcel. Well No. 2 will be destroyed. As described in the memorandum, the Property Owner plans to alternate pumping from between proposed Well No. 4 and existing Well No. 3 (SWN 03N20W06A04), which is located 125 feet west of the proposed well on the same parcel. Each well is anticipated to operate at an instantaneous pumping rate of 500 gallons per minute (gpm) and extract similar volumes of groundwater as historically supplied by Well No. 1 (SWN 04N20W31J01, located about 1,500 feet to the north) and Well No. 2 for agricultural use on the existing land that staff understand is proposed to have no significant new planting occur within (i.e., no significant change in water demand).

Well No. 4 is proposed to be constructed to a total depth of 410 feet and perforated to extract groundwater from an upper aquifer zone, which is conceptualized to be separated (by an aquitard zone) from a lower aquifer zone that Well No. 3 is perforated within and designed to extract groundwater from (based on the discussion provided in the memorandum and staff's review of the well completion report for Well No. 3). These aquifer zones are generally consistent with the hydrogeologic conceptual model (e.g., the Principal Aquifer) described in the GSP. Staff also reviewed the memorandum's evaluation of the potential for well interference and subsidence and concur that neither would be likely to occur as result of extraction of groundwater from the proposed well.

Based on this evaluation, staff find that groundwater extraction from the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving the sustainability goal for the basin established in the Fillmore Basin GSP.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Map of the proposed well location

Attachment 2 – Memorandum regarding Governor's Executive Order N-3-23 Section 4b Permit Evaluation for Proposed Kimball Ranches Well No. 4 (APN 041-0-270-080)

Kimball Ranches – El Hogar Well No. 4 Permit Application Executive Order N-3-23 GSA Review

October 11, 2022

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Proposed Motion: “Motion to find that the Kimball Ranches – El Hogar permit application for the construction of a replacement agricultural water supply well (Well No. 4) located within parcel number 041-0-270-080, approximately 1,200 feet north of State Route 126 and west of Timber Canyon Road in the Fillmore basin, is not inconsistent with the Agency’s Fillmore Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and directing staff to provide a letter to the County of Ventura stating the Agency’s findings as required by Executive Order N-3-23.”

1st: Director _____

2nd: Director _____

Voice/Roll call vote:

Director Fornoff:

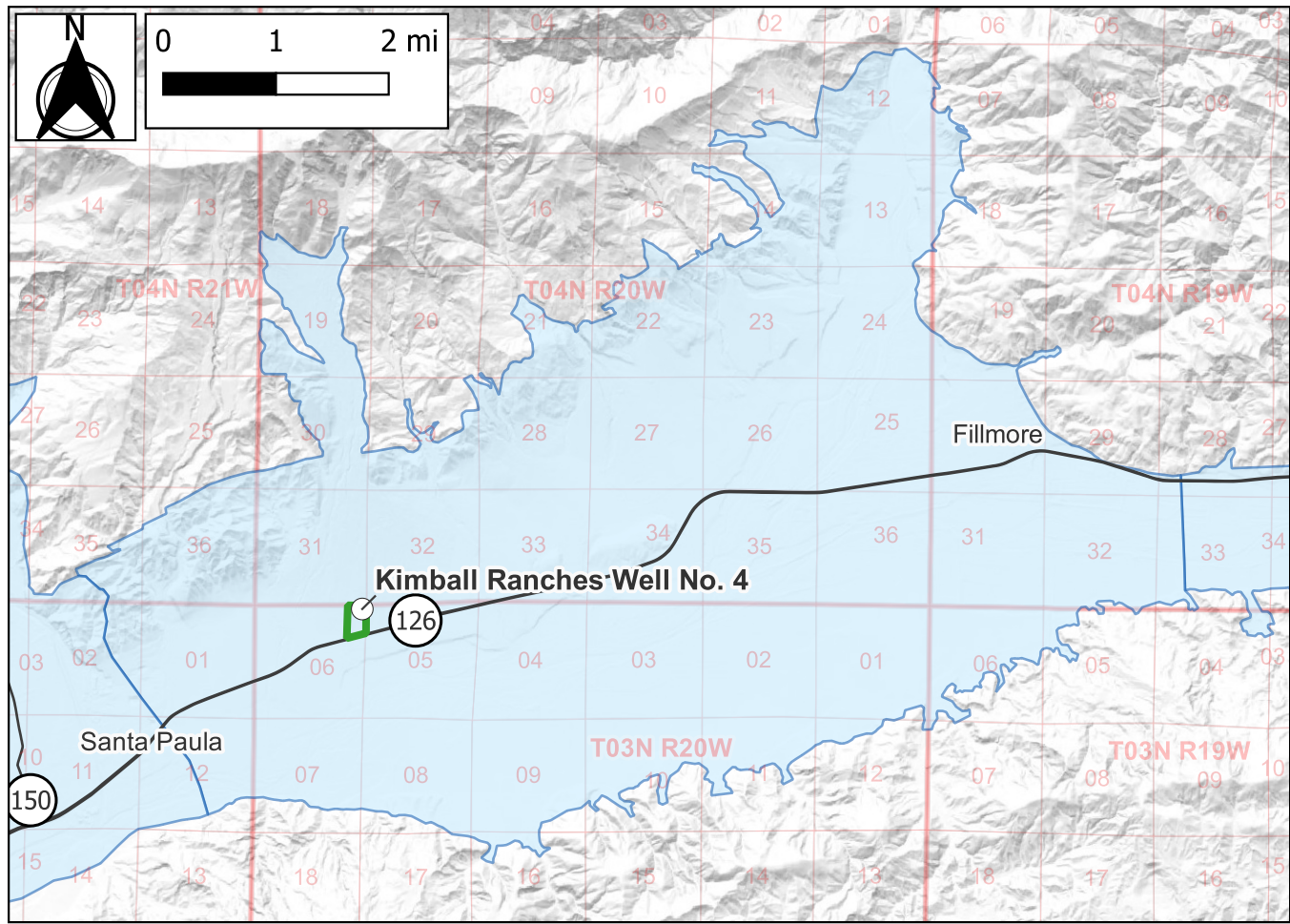
Director Jackson:

Director Kimball:

Director Long:

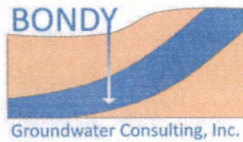
Director Mendez:

Director Meneghin:



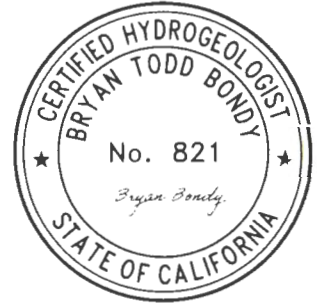
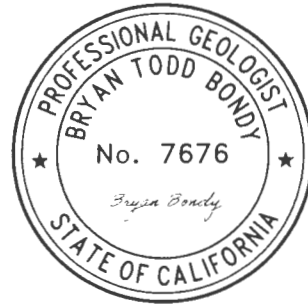
- Legend**
- Proposed well
 - ▭ Parcel
 - Highway
 - ▭ Groundwater basin
 - ▭ Section
 - ▭ Township and Range

Attachment 1. Map of the proposed well location



MEMORANDUM

To: Gordon Kimball / Kimball Ranches
From: Bryan Bondy / Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc.
Date: September 1, 2023
Re: Governor’s Executive Order N-3-23 Section 4b Permit Evaluation for Proposed Kimball Ranches Well No. 4 (APN 041-0-270-080)



Introduction

Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc. (BGC), is pleased to present this memorandum to Kimball Ranches – El Hogar General Partnership (KREHGP) to comply with Section 4b of the Governor’s Executive Order N-3-23, which states:

“To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not: Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.”

Effective February 13, 2023, the local well permitting agency (Ventura County Public Works Department) requires well permit applicants to submit an analysis from a qualified professional (PG, CHG, or PE) with determination that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well 1) is not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and 2) is not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure. This memorandum is intended to satisfy these requirements.

Project Background

BGC understands that Well No. 4 is a proposed replacement for Kimball Ranches Well No. 2 (SWN 03N20W06A03) located approximately 125 feet to the east (Figure 1). The proposed location for Well No. 4 is approximately 1,200 feet north of Highway 126 on the west side of Timber Canyon Road (Figure 1).

BGC understands that Kimball Ranches plans to alternate pumping between proposed Well No. 4 and existing Well No. 3 (SWN 03N20W06A04) to meet irrigation demands. The instantaneous extraction rates of each well are anticipated to be approximately 500 gallons per minute (GPM). BGC further understands that no significant new planting is proposed; thus, the total combined groundwater extraction from proposed Well No. 4 and existing Well No. 3 is anticipated to be similar to the historical combined extractions from Well Nos. 1 (04N20W31J01) and 2. Well No. 1 is scheduled for destruction soon. Well No. 2 will be destroyed or repurposed to serve as a



monitoring well, pending input from United Water Conservation District and/or Fillmore-Piru GSA.

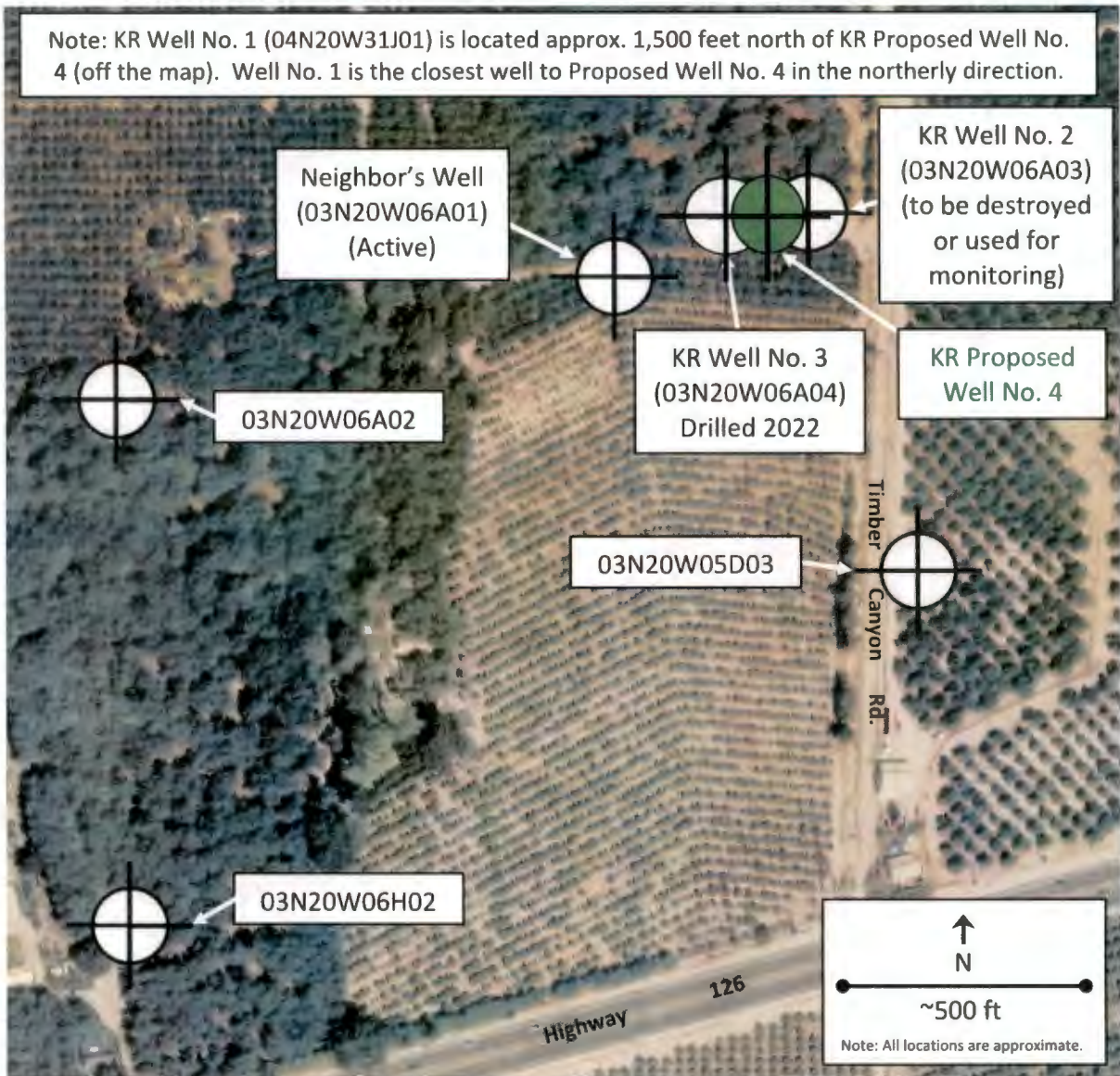


Figure 1. Project Area Map



Hydrogeologic Setting

Based on the geophysical log of Well No. 3, two aquifer zones are present in the upper ~800 feet (ft) below ground surface (bgs) in the vicinity of proposed Well No. 4 (Figure 2). An “upper aquifer” is present above approximately 400 ft bgs. The “upper aquifer” is comprised of gravelly and bouldery alluvial fan deposits that appear to be age correlative to Aquifer Zone A and perhaps the upper portion of Aquifer Zone B identified in the Fillmore Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). The “upper aquifer” is believed to be unconfined. The “lower aquifer” is present below approximately 500 ft bgs (Figure 2). The “lower aquifer” is comprised of an alternating sequence of gravels/sands and clays that appear to be correlative to the lower portion of Aquifer Zone B identified in the GSP. The intervening 100 feet is an aquitard that is composed primarily of clay (Figure 2). Thus, hydraulic communication between the “upper” and “lower” aquifer zones is believed to be limited and the “lower aquifer” is believed to be confined.

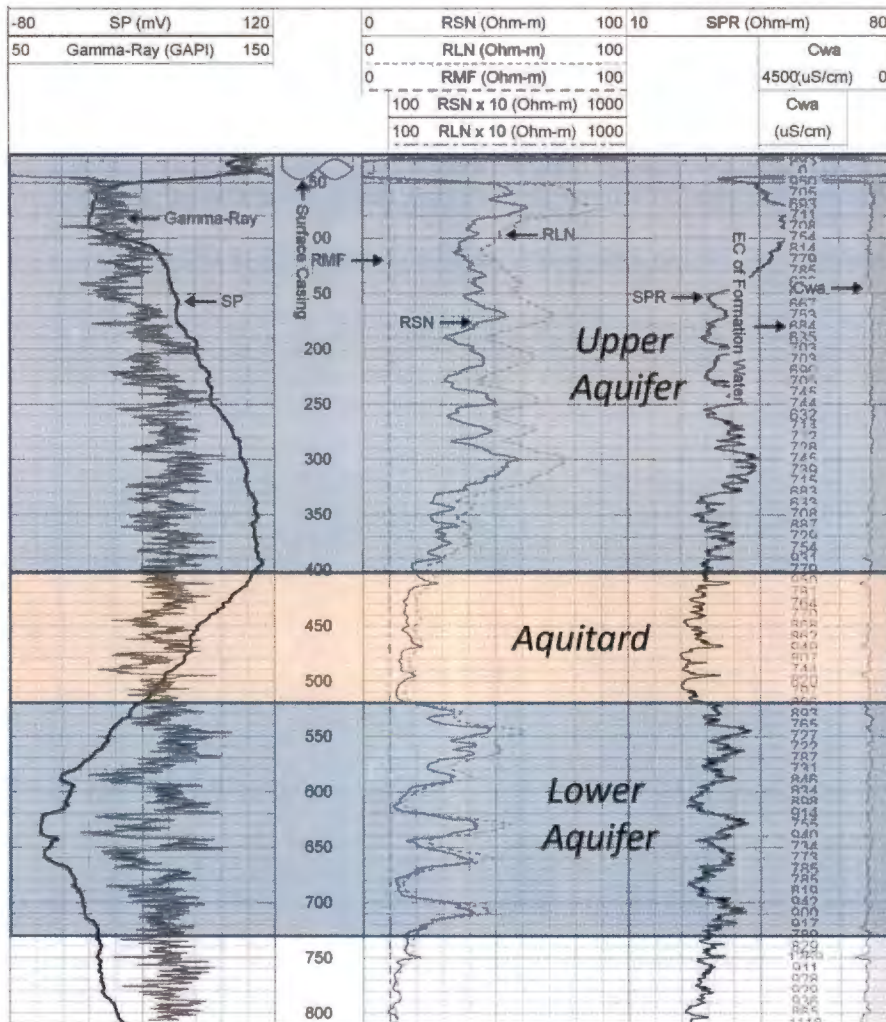
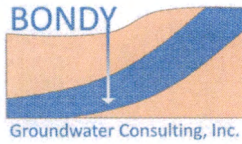


Figure 2. - Well 03N20W06A04 Annotated Geophysical Log



Well Interference Analysis

Section 4b of the Governor’s Executive Order N-3-23 requires that the County of Ventura determine that extraction of groundwater from proposed Well No. 4. is not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells before issuing a well permit.

This analysis focusses on the three wells located in closest to proposed Well No. 4 (Figure 1):

- Kimball Ranches No. 2 (03N20W06A03) is being replaced by proposed Well No. 4 and will be destroyed or retained for monitoring, pending input from United Water Conservation District and/or Fillmore-Piru GSA.
- Kimball Ranches Well No. 3 (03N20W06A04) was drilled in 2022 to replace Kimball Ranches No. 1 (04N20W31J01).
- The “Neighbor’s Well” (03N20W06A01) is located approximately 300 feet east-southeast of proposed Well No. 4.

Table one summarizes the construction information of the above-listed wells.

Table 1. Summary of Well Construction for Nearby Wells

Owner’s Well Name	State Well No.	Perforation Depth(s) (feet bgs)	Aquifer Zone
Kimball Ranches Well No. 2	03N20W06A03	520-940	Lower
Kimball Ranches Well No. 3	03N20W06A04	520-595; 620-670	Lower
Proposed Kimball Ranches Well No. 4	TBD	230-330 (Planned)	Upper
“Neighbor’s Well”	03N20W06A01	237-320 (Per Owner)	Upper

Because Well No. 2 will be destroyed or used for monitoring, there is no interference concern with this well. Because Well No. 3 is screened in the “lower aquifer” that is separated from the “upper aquifer” by an approximate 100-foot-thick aquitard, interference from proposed Well No. 4 groundwater extractions is not expected. Both the “Neighbor’s Well” and proposed Kimball Ranches Well No. 4 would be screened in the “upper aquifer.” Thus, the remainder of this analysis focusses on analyzing well interference at the “Neighbor’s Well.”

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Table 2 presents information about the “Neighbor’s Well” that is relevant to evaluating potential interference effects.

Table 2. “Neighbor’s Well” Information

Parameter	Value	Data Source
Pump Intake Depth	300 ft.	Per owner.
Range of Reported Static Groundwater Levels	188 – 207 ft. bgs	Per owner & 2018 SCE efficiency test.
Specific Capacity	12.5 - 12.9 gpm/ft	Per 2018 SCE efficiency test. Two tests ran (344 and 446 gpm).
Typical Pumping Rate	300 gpm	Per owner.
Typical Pumping Levels	211 – 231 ft. bgs	Calculated using above information.
Unused Available Drawdown Above Pump Intake	69 – 89 ft.	Calculated using above information.

Potential drawdown at the “Neighbor’s Well” that could result from proposed Well No. 4 groundwater extractions was estimated using Neuman’s solution for flow in unconfined aquifers. Table 3 presents the input parameters to Neuman’s solution¹ and Table 4 presents results for the two interference scenarios considered.

Table 3. Input Parameters for Neuman’s Solution

Parameter	Value	Comments
Distance from Proposed Kimball Ranches Well No. 4	~300 ft.	
Storage Coefficient	0.001	Based on KR No. 4 well log and consistent with UWCD model ¹ .
Specific Yield	0.15	Based on KR No. 4 well log and consistent with UWCD model ¹ .
Horizontal Hydraulic Conductivity	100 ft/day	Based on KR No. 4 well log and consistent with UWCD model ¹ .
Vertical Hydraulic Conductivity	10 ft/day	Assumed $K_h/K_v = 10$ consistent with UWCD model ¹ .
Aquifer Thickness	150 ft.	Based on KR No. 4 geophysical log (i.e., from water table at 200 ft. to base of most permeable sediments at ~350 ft.).
Groundwater Extraction Rate		See Table 4
Pumping Duration		See Table 4

Notes: (1) United Water Conservation District Open-File Report 2021-01

¹ Neuman, S.P., 1975. Analysis of pumping test data from anisotropic unconfined aquifers considering delayed gravity response, Water Resources Research, vol. 11, no. 2, pp. 329-342.

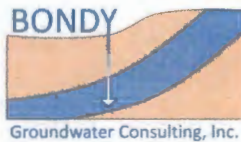


Table 4. Drawdown Estimation Scenarios and Results

Scenario	KR Well No. 4 Groundwater Extraction Rate	Pumping Duration	Scenario Description	Estimated Drawdown
1	250 gpm	1 year	Continuous pumping of the proposed new well at an average rate over a one-year period. This scenario is intended to examine the long-term average effect of pumping.	1.9 ft.
2	500 gpm	1 month	Pumping during a single month at the maximum estimated pumping rate. This scenario is intended to examine the short-term effects of a pumping cycle.	2.6 ft.

Analysis of Well Interference Effects

The estimated drawdown for 1 month and 1 year of proposed Well No. 4 operations at the “Neighbor’s Well” are 2.6 and 1.9 feet, respectively. To assess the potential effect on the “Neighbor’s Well,” the estimated drawdown interference is compared with the unused available drawdown above the pump intake. As noted in Table 2, there is approximately 69 to 89 feet of unused available drawdown above the pump intake in the “Neighbor’s Well” under normal operating conditions. The additional 2 – 3 feet of drawdown that could potentially result from pumping proposed Well No. 4 is not considered significant because it would only use approximately 2-4% of the unused available drawdown. Furthermore, the estimated additional drawdown does not cause pumping levels to fall below the top of the well screen in the “Neighbor’s Well”.

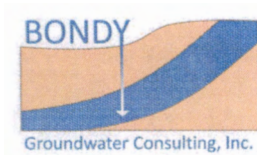
Based on the foregoing, BGC concludes that extraction of groundwater from proposed Well No. 4. will not likely cause significant interference with the production and functioning of the “Neighbor’s Well.” Furthermore, given the much larger distances between proposed Well No. 4 and other nearby wells, BGC concludes that extraction of groundwater from proposed Well No. 4 will not likely cause significant interference with the production and functioning of any existing nearby wells.

Subsidence Analysis

Section 4b of the Governor’s Executive Order N-3-23 requires that the County of Ventura determine that extraction of groundwater from proposed Well No. 4 will not likely cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

Regional Land Subsidence Context

The Fillmore Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan concludes that “Undesirable results related to subsidence are not likely to occur because future groundwater levels are not expected to be deeper than historical.” Furthermore, the GSP concludes that basin is “resistant to inelastic land subsidence” because the “Basin is composed largely of coarse-grained aquifer material.”



Site-Specific Land Subsidence Factors

Near Well No. 4, the “upper aquifer”, which the well would target, is comprised of gravelly and bouldery alluvial fan deposits, as evidenced by the geophysical log of nearby Kimball Ranches Well No. 3 (Figure 2). BGC did not encounter any clay units during the drilling of Well No. 3 within the depth range of the proposed Well No. 4 screen interval. Therefore, BGC concludes that “upper aquifer” has very limited potential for land subsidence.

It is also noted that all of Kimball Ranches’ groundwater production has historically been from wells screened in the “lower aquifer”. Because the “lower aquifer” is comprised of an alternating sequence of gravels/sands and clays it is more susceptible to compaction. By constructing and operating proposed Well No. 4, some pumping will be shifted from the “lower aquifer” to the “upper aquifer,” which is less susceptible to compaction. Therefore, BGC concludes that proposed Kimball Ranches Well No. 4 *decreases* the potential for land subsidence compared to current conditions.

Land Subsidence Conclusions

Based on the available information concerning both the regional and site-specific land subsidence potential, BGC concludes that extraction of groundwater from proposed Well No. 4 will not likely cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

Closing

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this memorandum or the services provided. The opportunity to assist KREHGP is greatly appreciated.

Limitations

This memorandum was prepared by BGC for KREHGP. BGC has employed accepted geologic and hydrogeologic procedures and its opinions are made in accordance with generally accepted principles and practices of these professions. The content of this memorandum reflects BGC’s best judgment in light of the information readily available to BGC at the time of preparation and experience with similar projects. Any use which a third party makes of this memorandum, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on it, are the responsibility of such third parties. BGC accepts no responsibility for damages, if any, suffered by any third party as a result of decisions made or actions based on this memorandum.

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Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Item No. **4B Motion**

DATE: October 11, 2023 (for October 19, 2023, meeting)

TO: Board of Directors

VIA: Anthony A. Emmert, Executive Director

FROM: United Water Conservation District, Water Resources Department Staff

SUBJECT: **Kimball Ranches – El Hogar Well No. 5 Permit Application Executive Order N-3-23 GSA Review**

SUMMARY:

Kimball Ranches – El Hogar has provided staff with a County of Ventura well permit application for the construction of a new water supply well (Well No. 5) to be located about 1.8 miles north of State Route 126 on the west side of Timber Canyon Road in the Fillmore basin. The well is proposed to primarily serve as a source of water for domestic use and potentially agricultural use on existing orchard land depending on the hydrogeological conditions (e.g., only during wet years), within the Fillmore and Piru Basins Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) management area. Section 4a of the Governor’s Executive Order N-3-23 requires the local groundwater sustainability agency to verify if groundwater extraction from the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any applicable (i.e., the Fillmore Basin) Groundwater Sustainability Plan before a well permit can be issued. Given the proposed well usage, location, and construction, staff recommends that the Board consider authorizing staff to provide written findings to the permitting agency.

RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Board will consider finding that the Kimball Ranches – El Hogar application for the construction of a new domestic (and potentially agricultural) water supply well (Well No. 5) to be located within parcel number 041-0-130-140, about 1.8 miles north of State Route 126 and west of Timber Canyon Road in the Fillmore basin, is not inconsistent with the Agency’s Fillmore Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and directing staff to provide a letter to the County of Ventura stating the Agency’s findings as required by Section 4a of Executive Order N-3-23.

DISCUSSION

Kimball Ranches – El Hogar (The Property Owner) has provided staff with a County of Ventura well permit application (signed July 21, 2023) for construction of a new water supply well (Well No. 5) to be located within parcel number 041-0-130-140, about 1.8 miles north of State Route 126 on the west side of Timber Canyon Road, in the Fillmore groundwater basin (as shown in Attachment 1). The Property Owner has also provided a memorandum (Attachment 2) prepared by Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc. (dated August 30, 2023) that documents the consultant’s evaluation of the well permit application’s compliance regarding Section 4b of Executive Order N-3-23 (the Executive Order). In accordance with Section 4a of the Executive Order, staff provides the following findings from our evaluation of if groundwater extraction

Kimball Ranches – El Hogar Well No. 5 Permit Application Executive Order N-3-23 GSA Review

October 11, 2022

Page 2 of 3

by Well No. 5 would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), i.e., the Fillmore Basin GSP.

According to the well permit application and memorandum, Well No. 5 will be a new water supply well that primarily serves domestic use for one single family home and farmworkers, and potentially serves agricultural use of existing orchard land depending on the hydrogeological conditions (e.g., only during wet years). As described in the memorandum, if Well No. 5 can yield at least 100 gallons per minute (gpm), the Property Owner would use this well to offset pumping from its two agricultural supply wells (Well Nos. 3 and 4) located about 1.5 miles to the south (and 870 feet lower in elevation). This would allow the Property Owner to operate their agricultural water supply wells more energy efficiently. It is staff's understanding that the Property Owner plans to extract similar volumes of groundwater as historically supplied by Well No. 1 (State Well Number [SWN] 04N20W31J01) and Well No. 2 (03N20W06A03) for agricultural use on the existing land that is proposed to have no significant new planting occur within (i.e., no significant change in water demand). If the proposed well is only operated for domestic use, groundwater extraction from the well would be considered *de minimus* (i.e., less than 2 acre-feet per year [AFY]).

Well No. 5 is proposed to be constructed to a total depth of 400 feet and extract groundwater from alluvial material with properties that are generally consistent with the hydrogeologic conceptual model described in the GSP. Staff notes a tributary riparian groundwater dependent ecosystem (GDE) unit is identified in the GSP about one-half mile north (upslope) of the proposed well location (see Attachment 3); however, given the significant downslope distance between the proposed well and the GDE unit, the proposed well use (e.g., potential agricultural use only during wet years when abundant water is available), and hydrogeological setting documented in the GSP (such as the unlikely surface water connection [Figure 2.7] and fault splays [Figure 2.2-3] that correspond with the downslope extent of the GDE unit that suggest these may provide a significant hydraulic barrier between groundwater beneath the GDE unit and that downslope nearer the well), staff considers groundwater extraction from this proposed well would not be inconsistent with the Fillmore GSP.

Staff also reviewed the memorandum's evaluation of the potential for well interference and subsidence and concur that neither would be likely to occur as result of extraction of groundwater from the proposed well. The assumed maximum pumping rate (250 gpm) used in the evaluation documented in the memorandum is considered conservative because it is unlikely that this pumping rate would occur continuously for an entire year.

Based on this evaluation, staff find that groundwater extraction from the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving the sustainability goal for the basin established in the Fillmore Basin GSP.

Attachments

Attachment 1 – Map of the proposed well location

Attachment 2 – Memorandum regarding Governor's Executive Order N-3-23 Section 4b Permit Evaluation for Proposed Kimball Ranches Well No. 5 (APN 041-0-130-140)

Kimball Ranches – El Hogar Well No. 5 Permit Application Executive Order N-3-23 GSA Review

October 11, 2022

Page 3 of 3

Attachment 3 – Map of the proposed well location and groundwater dependent ecosystem (GDE) units

Proposed Motion: “Motion to find that the Kimball Ranches – El Hogar application for the construction of a new domestic (and potentially agricultural) water supply well (Well No. 5) located within parcel number 041-0-130-140, approximately 1.8 miles north of State Route 126 and west of Timber Canyon Road in the Fillmore basin, is not inconsistent with the Agency’s Fillmore Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and directing staff to provide a letter to the County of Ventura stating the Agency’s findings as required by Executive Order N-3-23.”

1st: Director _____

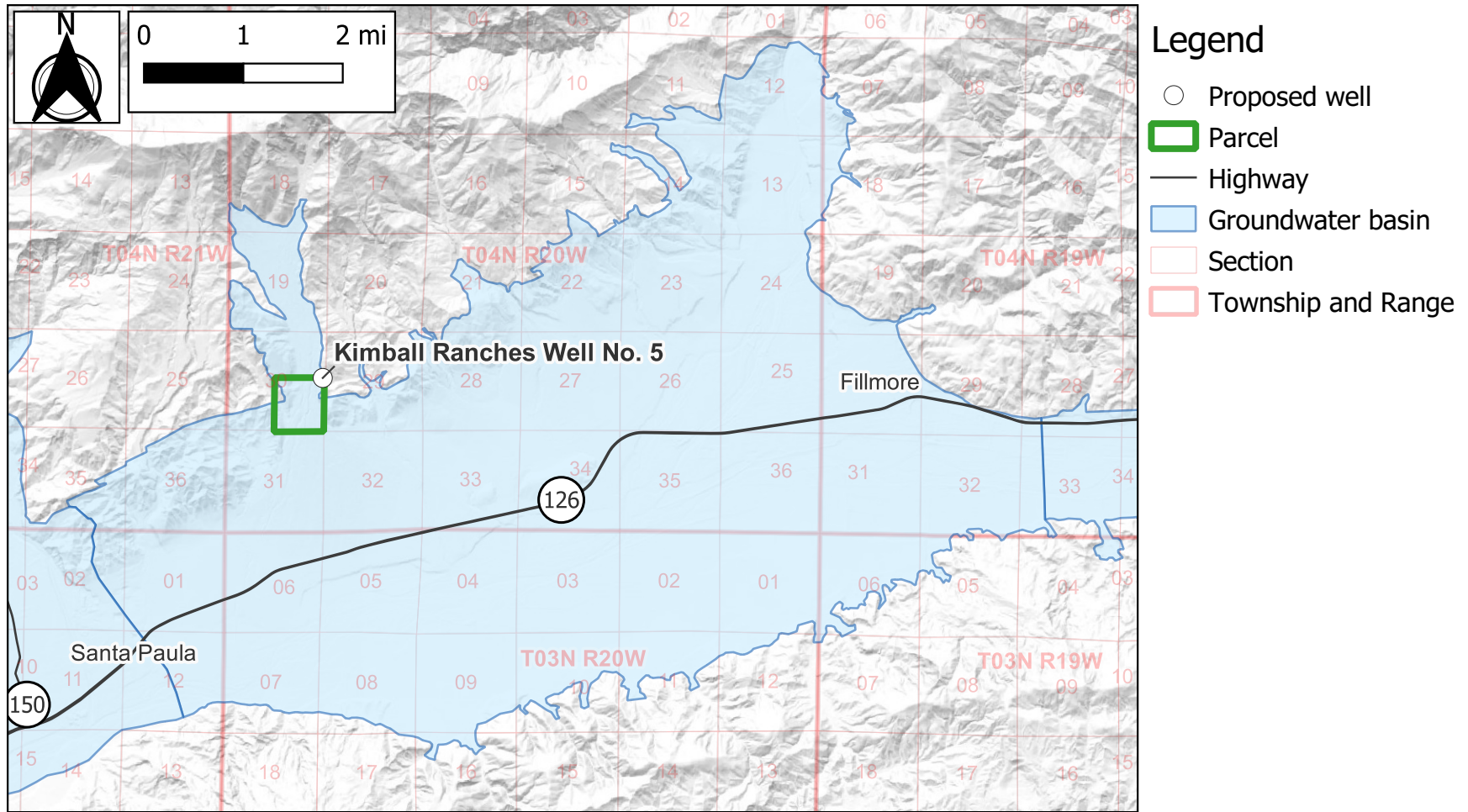
2nd: Director _____

Voice/Roll call vote:

Director Fornoff:
Director Long:

Director Jackson:
Director Mendez:

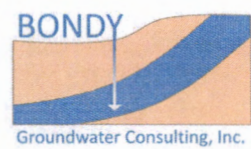
Director Kimball:
Director Meneghin:



Legend

- Proposed well
- ▭ Parcel
- Highway
- ▭ Groundwater basin
- ▭ Section
- ▭ Township and Range

Attachment 1. Map of the proposed well location



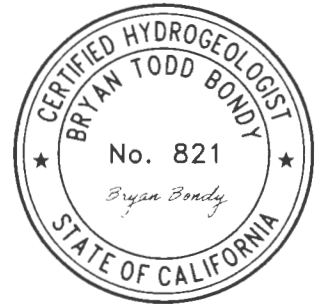
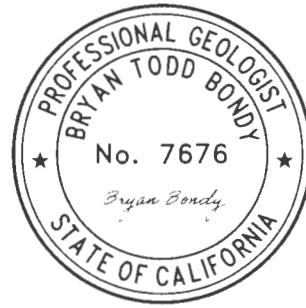
MEMORANDUM

To: Gordon Kimball / Kimball Ranches

From: Bryan Bondy / Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc.

Date: August 30, 2023

Re: Governor's Executive Order N-3-23 Section 4b Permit Evaluation for
Proposed Kimball Ranches Well No. 5 (APN 041-0-130-140)



Introduction

Bondy Groundwater Consulting, Inc. (BGC), is pleased to present this memorandum to Kimball Ranches – El Hogar General Partnership (KREHGP) to comply with Section 4b of the Governor's Executive Order N-3-23, which states:

"To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not: Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure."

Effective February 13, 2023, the local well permitting agency (Ventura County Public Works Department) requires well permit applicants to submit an analysis from a qualified professional (PG, CHG, or PE) with determination that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well 1) is not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and 2) is not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure. This memorandum is intended to satisfy these requirements.

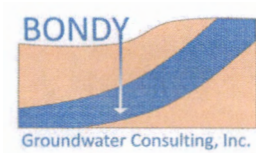
Project Background

BGC understands that Well No. 5 is a proposed domestic well that would be drilled at a location approximately 1.8 miles north of Highway 126 on the west side of Timber Canyon Road (Figure 1).

The proposed domestic well would provide water supply for one single family home and farmworkers. The anticipated pumping rate for domestic use would be approximately 5 gallons per minute (gpm). If the well can yield more water than required for domestic uses, it may also be pumped to irrigate the upper portion of the ranch. If the well is used for irrigation, it will offset pumping from Kimball Ranches Well No. 3 (SWN 03N20W06A04) and Kimball Ranches Well No. 4 (planned), both of which are/will be located 1.5 miles to the south (Figure 1). BGC understands that the minimum desired pumping rate for irrigation supply is 100 gpm. Achieving 100 or more gpm of production will be dependent on whether the alluvial fan deposits are



Figure 1. Project Area Map Showing Active or Presumed Active Water Wells



transmissive enough to transmit 100 or more gpm of water to the well. As explained below, it should be expected that transmissivity will be significantly impacted by low groundwater levels during years with below average precipitation, and use of the well for irrigation purposes may only be possible during wet years, if at all.

Hydrogeologic Setting

Based on available geologic maps, proposed Well No. 5 will target late to middle Pleistocene alluvial fan deposits present in Timber Canyon (i.e., Qpf2 unit of Tan and Irvine, 2005¹). The alluvial fan deposits are described as semi-consolidated, poorly sorted, boulder, gravel, sand, silt, and clay. The alluvial fan deposits of Timber Canyon are bounded laterally and vertically by Tertiary age bedrock formations (principally the Matilija Sandstone, Pico Formation, and Santa Barbara Claystone Formation), which are generally considered to be non-transmissive. Thus, alluvial fan deposits have a relatively limited vertical and lateral extent and the amount of groundwater that can be stored in Timber Canyon is finite. Timber Canyon has a relatively steep slope (approximately 13%), which drives groundwater flow down the canyon, which is believed to be under unconfined conditions. There are several incised channels in Timber Canyon. In the southern part of Timber Canyon, these channels have been observed to sustain surface water flow into the dry season after wet seasons with above-average rainfall². The surface water flows are typically observed to decrease gradually and cease prior to the next wet season. Conceptually, these observations suggests that the alluvial fan deposits of Timber Canyon naturally “drain” to the channels and that the Timber Canyon alluvial fan aquifer may become largely dewatered during dry periods.

Well Interference Analysis

Section 4b of the Governor’s Executive Order N-3-23 requires that the County of Ventura determine that extraction of groundwater from proposed Well No. 5. is not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells before issuing a well permit.

Potential drawdown at the nearest well (04N20W31H04) that could result from proposed Well No. 5 groundwater extractions was estimated using Neuman’s solution³ for flow in unconfined aquifers. Table 1 presents the input parameters to Neuman’s solution.

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¹ Tan, S. and Irvine, P., Geologic Map of the Santa Paula Peak 7.5’ Quadrangle Ventura County, California: A Digital Database, California Geological Survey, 2005.

² Personal communication with Kimball Ranches and BGC field observation on August 7, 2023.

³ Neuman, S.P., 1975. Analysis of pumping test data from anisotropic unconfined aquifers considering delayed gravity response, Water Resources Research, vol. 11, no. 2, pp. 329-342.

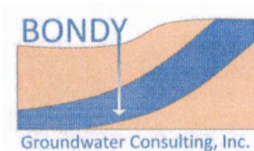


Table 1. Input Parameters for Neuman’s Solution

Parameter	Value	Comments
Distance from Proposed Kimball Ranches Well No. 5	~4,700 ft.	See Figure 1.
Storage Coefficient	0.001	Based on geologic map formation description and consistent with UWCD model ¹ .
Specific Yield	0.15	
Horizontal Hydraulic Conductivity	10 ft/day	
Vertical Hydraulic Conductivity	1 ft/day	Assumed $K_h/K_v = 10$ and consistent with UWCD model ¹ .
Aquifer Thickness	400 ft.	Per well permit application ³ .
Groundwater Extraction Rate	250 gpm	Assumed maximum potential pumping rate ² .
Pumping Duration	1 year	
Notes:		
(1) United Water Conservation District Open-File Report 2021-01		
(2) Used for drawdown estimate only. Not intended to be a prediction of well yield.		
(3) Review of available information and site visit suggests that alluvial fan deposits may be considerably thinner.		

The estimated drawdown for 1 year of continuous operation at the maximum anticipated extraction rate is a few hundredths of a foot at the nearest well. The scenario evaluated is considered conservative because it is unlikely that the well would be operated continuously at the maximum anticipated extraction rate for an entire year.

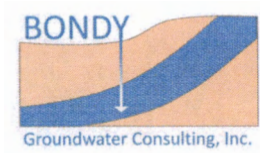
BGC concludes that extraction of groundwater from proposed Well No. 5. will not likely cause significant interference with any existing nearby wells because there are no “nearby” wells. The two closest wells are located approximately 4,700 and 5,100 feet to the south and southeast, respectively. The estimated drawdown at the nearest well is estimated to be a few hundredths of a foot for a conservative operational scenario. The second closest well (04N20W29Q01) is separated from the proposed well by bedrock outcrops; thus, it is physically impossible for a cone of depression to expand from proposed Well No. 5 to this well. Based on the foregoing, BGC concludes that it is very unlikely that measurable drawdown interference would be observed at the nearest wells.

Subsidence Analysis

Section 4b of the Governor’s Executive Order N-3-23 requires that the County of Ventura determine that extraction of groundwater from proposed Well No. 4 will not likely cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

Regional Land Subsidence Context

The Fillmore Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan concludes that basin is “resistant to inelastic land subsidence” because the “Basin is composed largely of coarse-grained aquifer material.”



Site-Specific Land Subsidence Factors

As mentioned earlier, the alluvial fan deposits that proposed Well No. 5 would target are semi-consolidated and comprised of predominantly coarse-grained sediments. Thus, the alluvial fan deposits are not likely to be very susceptible to consolidation associated with lowered groundwater levels. It also appears that there is limited potential for groundwater levels to be pumped down below historical low levels that could potentially trigger consolidation. This is because the alluvial fan deposits appear to become largely dewatered during dry periods as a result of natural drainage, as was described earlier. Thus, the alluvial fan deposits have likely already experienced the deepest groundwater levels possible, and pumping probably cannot draw the water table down any further (i.e., if the aquifer has dewatered historically, pumping cannot lower groundwater levels any further). Lastly, if land subsidence were to occur, there is no infrastructure that could be impacted other than the single-family home and ranch buildings that are owned by Kimball Ranches.

Land Subsidence Conclusions

Based on the available information concerning both the regional and site-specific land subsidence potential, BGC concludes that extraction of groundwater from proposed Well No. 5 will not likely cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

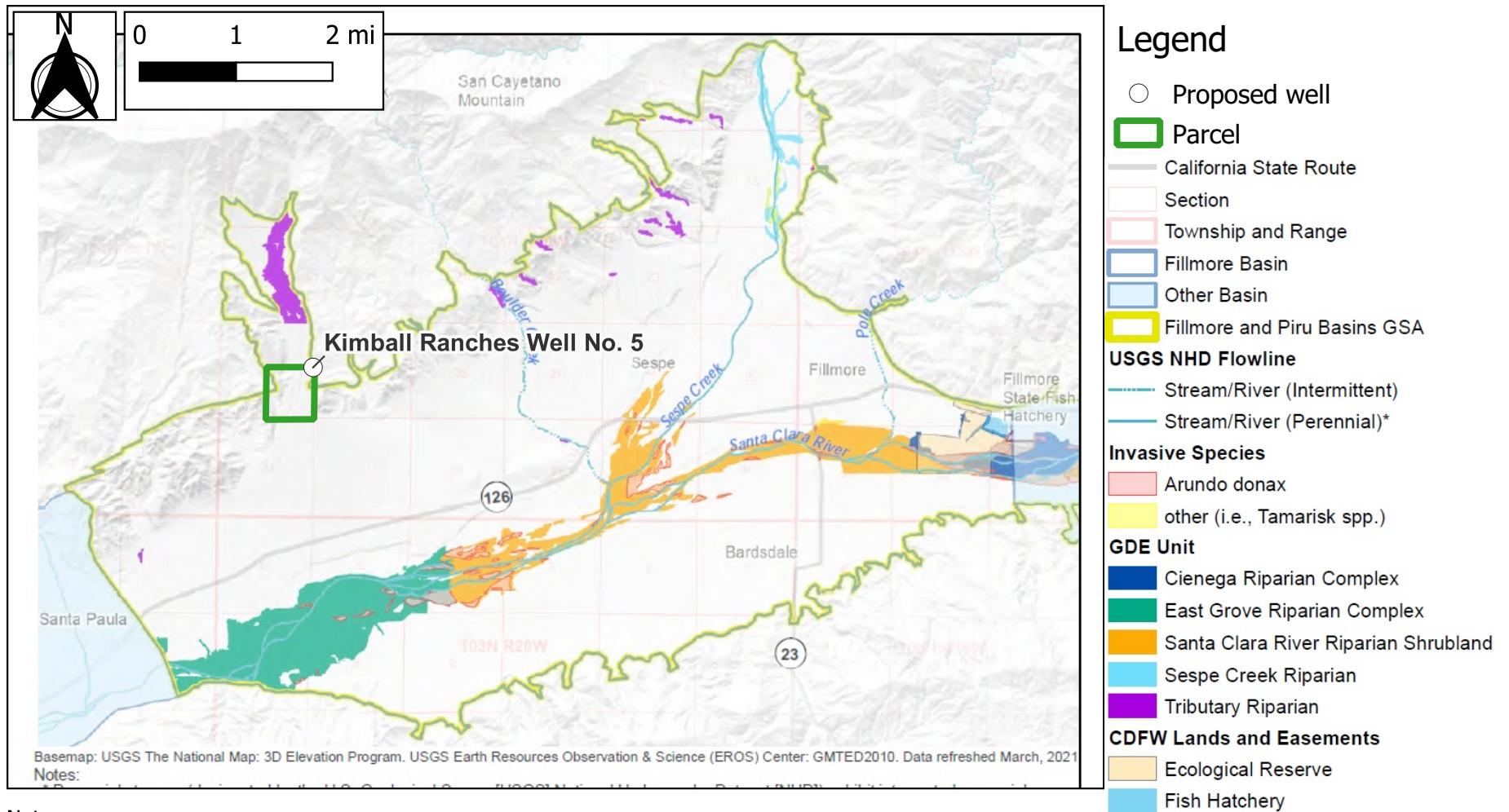
Closing

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this memorandum or the services provided. The opportunity to assist KREHGP is greatly appreciated.

Limitations

This memorandum was prepared by BGC for KREHGP. BGC has employed accepted geologic and hydrogeologic procedures and its opinions are made in accordance with generally accepted principles and practices of these professions. The content of this memorandum reflects BGC's best judgment in light of the information readily available to BGC at the time of preparation and experience with similar projects. Any use which a third party makes of this memorandum, or any reliance on or decisions to be made based on it, are the responsibility of such third parties. BGC accepts no responsibility for damages, if any, suffered by any third party as a result of decisions made or actions based on this memorandum.

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- Notes:
- Map is sourced from Figure 2.2-30 of the Fillmore Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan.
 - CDFW: California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Attachment 3. Map of the proposed well location and groundwater dependent ecosystem (GDE) units