

State Water Resources Control Board Members  
c/o Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board  
State Water Resources Control Board  
1001 I Street  
Sacramento, CA 95814

December 17, 2024

**RE: Joint Letter of Support for the 2024 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

Dear Board Members,

We, the water districts, purveyors, and community service districts (districts) within the Kern County Subbasin as represented by our logos below, are writing to express our collective support for the 2024 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). Our districts have been actively engaged in the development of the GSP, participating in numerous meetings, workshops, outreach events, and collaborative sessions to ensure that the GSP addresses the diverse needs and concerns of our communities. We have worked closely with the 20 groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) and other stakeholders to develop this comprehensive and effective GSP.

We support the 2024 Amended GSP for several key reasons:

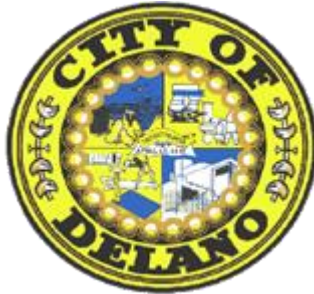
1. **Revised Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs):** The updated SMCs provide a framework for managing our groundwater resources sustainably. These criteria are based on the latest scientific data and reflect the unique conditions of our subbasin.
2. **Subbasin Mitigation Program:** The inclusion of a mitigation program is crucial for protecting the water supply of our communities. This program ensures that wells impacted by groundwater management activities are properly mitigated, safeguarding the water access for our residents and businesses.
3. **Collaborative Approach:** The development of the GSP has been a collaborative effort, involving input from all relevant stakeholders. This inclusive process has resulted in a GSP that is balanced and considers the needs of all water users in the subbasin.
4. **Long-term Sustainability:** The GSP outlines a clear path towards achieving long-term groundwater sustainability. By implementing the proposed projects and management actions, we are confident that we can maintain a reliable and sustainable groundwater supply for future generations.

We believe that the 2024 Kern County Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan is a coordinated document developed using the best available science with common data and methodologies that will guide us towards a sustainable future. We urge the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to approve the Kern GSPs and support its implementation, as it effectively addresses the deficiencies identified by both the Department of Water Resources, the July 2024 SWRCB Draft Staff Report, and follow up feedback from coordination meetings amongst all parties.

Thank you for your consideration.



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**Buttonwillow County Water District**

