
*Omoichumne Hartnell
Water District*

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BOARD SECRETARY*

April 25, 2016

Mark Nordberg, GSA Project Manager
mark.nordberg@water.ca.gov
Senior Engineering Geologist
California Department of Water Resources
901 P Street, Room 213A
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Re: Notice of Decision to Serve as a Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Omoichumne-Hartnell Water District (“OHWD”) provides this notice of its decision to serve as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“GSA”) for those areas of the San Joaquin Valley Cosumnes Sub-Basin (DWR Bulletin 118 Basin No. 5-22.16) underlying its boundaries, pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.2. This area is identified in Exhibit A.

OHWD is a California Water District formed and operating under the provisions of the California Water District Law (California Water Code Section 34000, and following), and it has the authority to exercise powers related to groundwater management. OHWD is located in Sacramento County, and it depends on the unadjudicated groundwater basins underlying its boundaries to help meet the water needs of its landowners.

March 14, 2016, OHWD held a public hearing to consider its decision to serve as a GSA for the areas within its boundaries. Notice of this hearing was published in the Elk Grove Citizen, a paper of general circulation in the Cosumnes Sub-Basin, as provided by Water Code Section 10723(b) and Government Code Section 6066. A copy of that notice is attached hereto as Exhibit B. No negative comments were received prior to or at the hearing. OHWD adopted Resolution No. 2015-2016-05, attached hereto as Exhibit C, following the hearing at its March 29, 2016 Board of Directors Meeting. OHWD has not adopted any other bylaws, regulations, or ordinances in its role as GSA at this time.

OHWD has communicated with parties interested in the sustainable management of groundwater in the Basin, and will continue to solicit feedback from those parties as the plan is developed. Pursuant to Water Code Section 10723.8(a)(4)

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Mailing Address: P.O. Box 211, Wilton, CA 95693-0211

Email: info@ohwd.org

OHWD will consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing Groundwater Sustainability Plans (“GSPs”). These interests include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

- *Holders of overlying groundwater rights:*
 - *Agricultural users:* The portion of the Cosumnes Sub-Basin that OHWD overlies is composed almost entirely of agricultural users, most of whom have an existing relationship with the District. OHWD will communicate with landowners to assure that they understand their on-going opportunity to participate in developing a GSP, or GSPs, in the Cosumnes Sub-Basin.
 - *Domestic well owners:* There are some domestic wells within the GSA, however, OHWD anticipates that many will fall under SGMA’s exclusions for de minimus extractors. As with agricultural users, OHWD will communicate with these landowners to assure that they understand their on-going opportunity to participate in developing the GSP, or GSPs, for this area.

- *Municipal well operators:* N/A. There are no municipal well operators within the boundaries of the GSA. OHWD will continue to communicate with and solicit feedback from the all neighboring municipal suppliers in the Cosumnes Sub-Basin as it develops the GSP.

- *Public water systems:* N/A. There are no public water systems within the boundaries of the GSA. OHWD will continue to communicate with and solicit feedback from all neighboring public water systems in the Cosumnes Sub-Basin as it moves forward in developing the GSP.

- *Local land use planning agencies:*
 - Sacramento County: The area that OHWD proposes to manage is entirely within Sacramento County. OHWD provided notice of its intention to serve as a GSA to the County, has been involved in on-going discussions with County staff regarding that status, and will continue to communicate with and solicit feedback from the County and other land use stakeholders as the GSA develops the plan.

 - Other Water, Irrigation, and Reclamation Districts outside the GSA boundaries: OHWD provided courtesy notice of its intention to serve as a GSA to the other members of the Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority, including each of its member agencies, and to the other members of the Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Water Authority. Those entities include Galt Irrigation District, Clay Water District, Rancho Murieta Community Services District, the City of Elk Grove, the City of Folsom, the City of Rancho Cordova, the City of Sacramento, Sacramento County Water Agency, Florin Resource Conservation District, Elk Grove Water District, Sacramento County

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Regional Sanitation District, Golden State Water Company, and California-American Water Company. The County of San Joaquin and the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District have also posted notice of intent to become groundwater sustainability agencies for portions of the Cosumnes Sub-Basin that do not overlap with OHWD's proposed GSA boundary. OHWD will continue to communicate with and solicit feedback from these neighboring stakeholders as it develops the GSP.

- Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District: Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District's boundaries overlap with OHWDs, and the District has coordinated closely with SRCD in identifying GSAs for the region and in discussing future SGMA compliance for the area. Prior to OHWD's hearing on the GSA decision, SRCD and OHWD agreed that SRCD would defer on any GSA declaration for the OHWD area until OHWD had the opportunity to consider that election. These entities intend to continue coordinating to achieve SGMA compliance in their basins.
- *Environmental users of groundwater*: There is some use of groundwater for waterfowl habitat and groundwater recharge. The District has been talking with The Nature Conservancy which is an environmental user of water in the within the GSA boundaries on ways to work together on groundwater recharge projects that are environmental friendly.
- *Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater bodies*: Surface water users in this region are primarily agricultural riparian users with an existing relationship to the District. The District has coordinated closely with these users regarding both the GSA status and the potential for ongoing improvement of recharge within this area, and will continue to do so as it develops a GSP for the area.
- *The federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands*: N/A
- *California Native American tribes*: N/A.
- *Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems*: N/A.
- *Entities listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or a part of a groundwater basin managed by the GSA*: SCGA and SSCAWA each have a groundwater management plan adopted under Water Code Sections 10750, *et seq.* The GSA will continue to coordinate with both entities regarding those plans.

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The District and other interest holders' roles and responsibilities will be further defined in the plan. The District's staff welcomes feedback on and during this process from the state and any of the agencies or organizations listed here. By this notification, the District has provided DWR with all applicable information in Water Code section 10723.8(a). Please contact me directly if the Department of Water Resources requires anything further prior to the acceptance of this notification of the District's decision to serve as a GSA for the portion of its service area overlying the Cosumnes Sub-Basin.
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Wackman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mike Wackman
General Manager

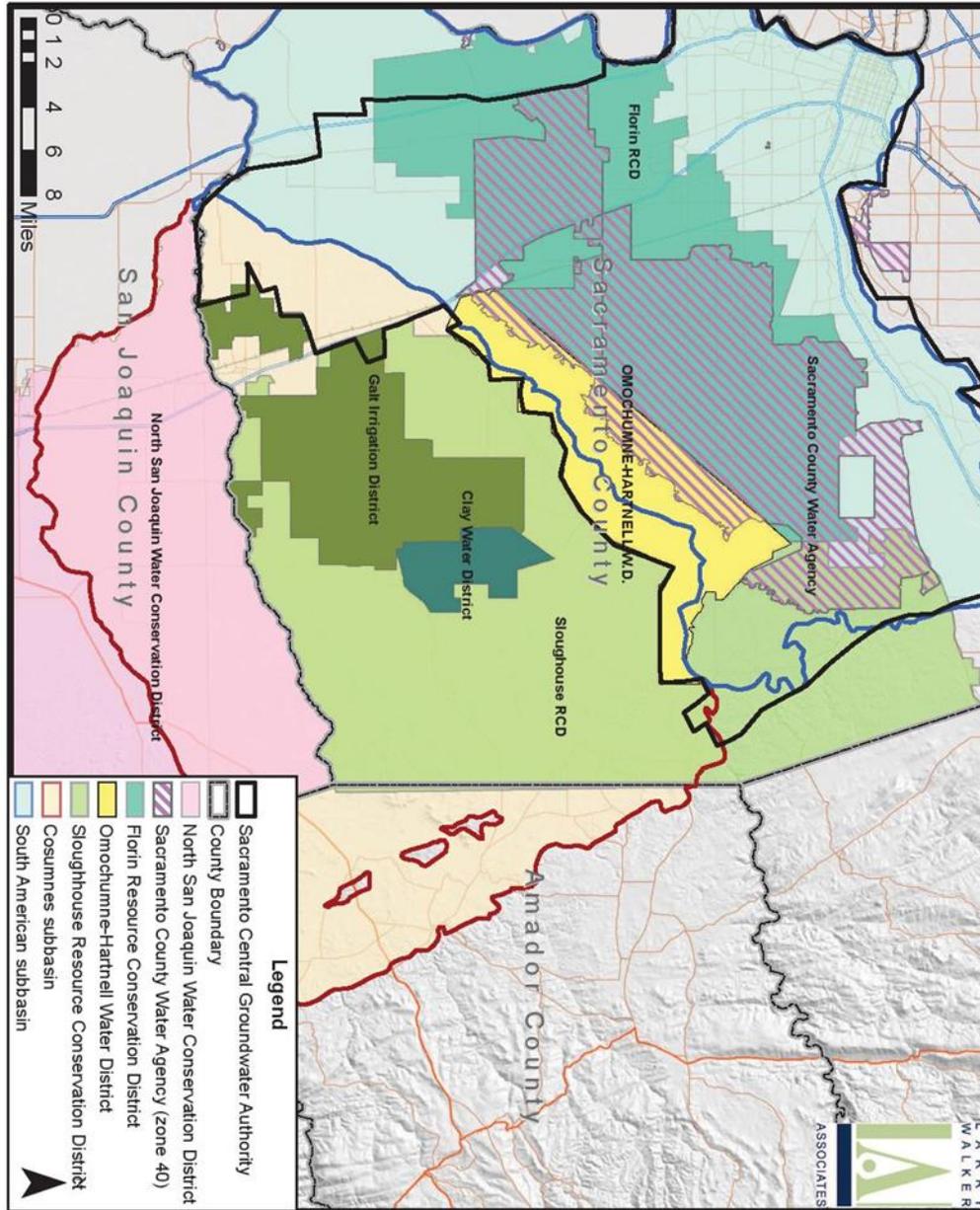
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EXHIBIT A
GSA MAP



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EXHIBIT B
GSA Hearing Notice, Proof of Publication

In the Superior Court of the State of California

IN AND FOR THE

COUNTY OF

Sacramento

**Certificate of Publication of
NOTICE OF HEARING**

State of California
ss.

County of SACRAMENTO

I, DAVID R. HERBURGER, certify on penalty of perjury:

That affiant is and at all times hereinafter mentioned was a citizen of the United States, over the age of eighteen years and was at and during all said times the printer and publisher of THE ELK GROVE CITIZEN, a newspaper published in Elk Grove, County of Sacramento, State of California; that said newspaper is and was at all times herein mentioned, a newspaper of general circulation as that term is defined by Sections 6000 and 6001 of the Government Code of the State of California, and as provided by said sections is and was at all times herein mentioned published for the dissemination of local and telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character, having a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers, and is not and was not during all said times devoted to the interests or published for the entertainment or instruction of a particular class, profession, trade, calling, race or denomination, or for the entertainment and instruction of any number of such classes, professions, trades, callings, races or denominations; that at all said times said newspaper has been established, printed and published in said Sacramento County and State, at regular intervals for more than one year preceding the first publication of the NOTICE herein mentioned; that said NOTICE was set in type not smaller than nonpareil and was preceded with words printed in black face type not smaller than nonpareil describing and expressing in general terms the purport and character of the notice intended to be given; that the NOTICE in the above entitled matter, of which the annexed is a true printed copy, was published in said newspaper on the following dates, to wit:

FEBRUARY 24, 2016

MARCH 2, 2016

that the date of the first publication of said

NOTICE OF HEARING

in said newspaper is FEBRUARY 24, 2016

DAVID R. HERBURGER

THE ELK GROVE CITIZEN

Dated: MARCH 2, 2016

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice of Hearing - Election to Become
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to Water Code section 10723, Omochumne-Hartnell Water District will hold a public hearing on March 14, 2016, commencing at 6:00 pm at the Cosumnes River Elementary School at 13580 Jackson Road in Sloughhouse, California, to determine whether the District will elect to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the portions of the Sacramento Valley South American sub-basin and San Joaquin Valley Cosumnes sub-basin underlying its boundaries. Written comments may be submitted to the District at P.O. Box 211, Wilton, CA 95693, or by email at info@ohwd.org. Written comments should be received by 5 p.m. on March 13, 2016. The District will hear oral testimony and receive additional written comments during the hearing before making a decision.

February 24, March 2, 2016

EGW 4395

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EXHIBIT C
OHWD Resolution No. 2015-2016-05

OMOCHUMNE-HARTNELL WATER DISTRICT

RESOLUTION 2015/16-06

Electing to Become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency

WHEREAS the Legislature recently adopted the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014, which authorizes local agencies to manage groundwater in a sustainable fashion; and

WHEREAS, in order to use the authority granted in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, a local agency or combination of local agencies must elect to become a groundwater sustainability agency; and

WHEREAS, where more than one local agency overlies a groundwater basin, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act calls on local agencies to cooperate to manage the groundwater basin in a sustainable manner for the common good; and

WHEREAS, the District overlies the Sacramento Valley South American sub-basin and the San Joaquin Valley Cosumnes sub-basin, both unadjudicated sub-basins where it is appropriate for the District to be a groundwater sustainability agency; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the District to work cooperatively with other water agencies, cities and the County of Sacramento, as may be appropriate, to manage the groundwater within these sub-basins in a sustainable fashion; and

WHEREAS, the District provided notice, pursuant to Government Code section 6066, of its intention to hold a hearing on the question of whether it should be the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for its boundaries; and

WHEREAS, the District has provided informal notice of its interest in serving as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for its boundaries by means of communications with neighboring water agencies, landowners, cities and Sacramento County; and

WHEREAS, on March 14, 2016, the District held a public hearing to consider whether it should elect to become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for those portions of the basin underlying its boundaries.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of Omochumne-Hartnell Water District as follows:

1. The District hereby elects to become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for those portions of the Sacramento Valley South American sub-basin and the San Joaquin Valley Cosumnes sub-basin underlying its boundaries.
2. District staff are hereby directed to provide notice of this election to the California Department of Water Resources in the manner required by law.

1438546.1

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3. District staff are hereby directed to coordinate with neighboring Groundwater Sustainability Agencies that may be established in order to begin the process of developing the groundwater sustainability plans for the basins. District staff are further directed to develop those plans in consultation and close coordination with other local agencies, as contemplated by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

ADOPTED, this 29 day of March 2016.

ICF A KET
President

March 29, 2016

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of Resolution No. 6 adopted by the Board of Directors of Omochumne-Hartnell Water District at its Regular Meeting held March , 2016.

Cynthia Sullen
Recording Secretary

1438546.1

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