



December 17, 2025

Re: Groundwater Well Registration & Metering Policies – January 1, 2026, Registration Deadline

Dear GWD and GRCD Landowners,

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies for all groundwater basins in California and the development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) to achieve sustainability by 2040. The GWD and GRCD formed the Grassland Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GGSA) and adopted a single GSP for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin (DMS).

The DMS GSP requires all active production wells pumping above 500 AF to register with the GGSA by January 1, 2026. Active production wells pumping less than 500 AF must be registered by January 1, 2027. The DMS GSP also requires that all active production wells be metered by January 1, 2028, and submit annual pumping reports. Additionally, all inactive wells must be registered by Jan 1, 2029. All new wells must be registered with the GGSA within six months of completion. If an active well changes to inactive service, or vice versa, notify the GGSA within six months.

Attached are the Well Registration Form and the Well Registration and Metering Policies. Please contact the District with any questions. We appreciate your attention to this urgent and important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Ric Ortega", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Ric Ortega  
General Manager  
Grassland Water District  
Resource Conservation District  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency





June 17, 2025

## WELL REGISTRATION POLICY

The Grassland Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GGSA) is responsible for implementing the Delta-Mendota Subbasin 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) within the boundaries of its member agencies, Grassland Water District (GWD) and Grassland Resource Conservation District (GRCD). Chapter 16 of the GSP requires each GSA to implement a Monitoring and Data Collection Plan, including a Well Registry. Wells must be fully catalogued by 2030. At a minimum, the Well Registry must define the location, perforated interval, and active status of each well.

This Well Registration Policy applies to all groundwater wells within the boundaries of Grassland Water District and/or Grassland Resource Conservation District, both active and inactive. The purpose of this Policy is to assist with implementation of the GSP and responding to exceedances of groundwater sustainability thresholds.

### **1. Well Registration: Active Production Wells**

All active production groundwater wells within Grassland Water District and/or Grassland Resource Conservation District that are not small volume pumpers, *de minimus*, monitoring, inactive, or abandoned wells, as those terms are defined below, must be registered with the GGSA Well Registry no later than January 1, 2026, using a form provided by the GGSA. Any new well must be registered with the GGSA within six months of completion.

### **2. Well Registration: Small Volume Pumpers**

All active production groundwater wells within Grassland Water District and/or Grassland Resource Conservation District that pump less than 500 acre-feet per year must be registered with the GGSA Well Registry no later than January 1, 2027, on a form provided by the GGSA. Any new well must be registered with the GGSA within six months of completion.

### **3. Well Registration: *De Minimus* Wells**

All groundwater wells that pump less than 2 acre-feet per year for domestic purposes (*de minimus well*) such as bathing, drinking, cooking, and landscape irrigation, must be registered with the GGSA no later than January 1, 2028, on a form provided by the

GGSA. Any new well must be registered with the GGSA within six months of completion.

**4. Well Registration: Monitoring, Inactive, and Abandoned Wells**

All groundwater wells that are used only for groundwater monitoring purposes, are not regularly operated but can be made operable with the placement of a pump or other equipment, or are permanently abandoned must be registered with the GGSA Well Registry no later than January 1, 2029, on a form provided by the GGSA. Owners must inform the GGSA within one year if an active well changes to inactive status, or vice versa, or if a well is permanently abandoned.

**5. Penalties for Non-Compliance**

Any well owner who fails to register a well within the time set forth in this Policy may be subject to fines imposed by the GGSA, or legal action by the GGSA to cease and desist use of the unregistered well.



June 17, 2025

## WELL METERING AND REPORTING POLICY

The Grassland Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GGSA) is responsible for implementing the Delta-Mendota Subbasin 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) within the boundaries of its member agencies, Grassland Water District and Grassland Resource Conservation District. Chapter 16 of the GSP requires each GSA to implement a Monitoring and Data Collection Plan. As part of PRP implementation under the Monitoring and Data Collection Plan, Chapter 16 of the 2024 GSP requires each GSA to adopt a policy for mandatory flow metering and groundwater pumping measurement and reporting for all production wells (*de minimus* users and small volume pumpers are excluded).

This Well Registry Policy applies to all groundwater wells within the boundaries of Grassland Water District and/or Grassland Resource Conservation District, except *de minimus* users and small volume pumpers as those terms are defined, abandoned wells, and monitoring wells. The purposes of this Policy are to assist with implementation of the GSP by providing data to improve estimates of groundwater use and groundwater monitoring.

### **1. Well Metering Requirement:**

- A. **Wells Requiring Meters.** No later than January 1, 2028, all active production groundwater wells within Grassland Water District and/or Grassland Resource Conservation District that are not small volume pumpers, *de minimus* users, monitoring wells, inactive wells, or abandoned wells, as those terms are defined in the GGSA Well Registration Policy, must have an approved flow meter (meter) installed. New wells must be installed with approved meters.
- B. **Standards for Approved Meters.** Meters must meet the standards of the American Water Works Association C700 series. Data must be readily viewable by the GGSA. Meters must be calibrated at installation and no less than every five years thereafter.
- A. **Submission of Meter Information.** Each well owner subject to this Policy must provide the GGSA with the make and model of its flowmeter, the date installed, the name and contact information of the person who installed and calibrated the meter, and a photograph of the meter. The calibration data shall be reported using the reporting form provided by the GGSA. The reporting form will include a statement granting access to the GGSA to verify the installation, operation, and/or take meter readings, if necessary. This information shall be emailed to [jwright@gwdwater.org](mailto:jwright@gwdwater.org) no later than January 1, 2028.

**2. Annual Reporting Requirement:**

- A. Each well owner is required to report their groundwater extraction for the period from March 1 to February 28/29, no later than April 30 each year.
- B. Annual reports shall include groundwater extraction by month and shall indicate any changes such as new meters, modification of the production zones, flow rate production, or well abandonment.
- C. Annual reports shall be emailed to the GGSA at [jwright@gwdwater.org](mailto:jwright@gwdwater.org) using the form provided by the GGSA.

**3. GGSA Right to Inspect:** The GGSA reserves the right to inspect a well to verify compliance with this Policy or the applicability of this Policy to a well, pursuant to Water Code section 10725.4.

**4. Costs:** Well owners are responsible for the costs of purchasing, installing, calibrating and maintaining their meters. The GGSA shall not impose fees on well owners for field reviews and related activities.

**5. Requests for Additional Time:** A well owner may submit a request for an extension of time to comply with this Policy, and the GGSA may grant the extension if a finding of good cause is made, including demonstrated financial hardship, proof that the well owner was not properly notified of this Policy, or factors outside the owner's control.

**6. Amendment:** This Policy is subject to change and may be revised from time to time by the GGSA Board of Directors.

**7. Penalties for Non-Compliance:** Any well owner who fails to comply with this Policy may be subject to fines or legal action by the GGSA to cease and desist use of their well.