AGENDA

SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

CARPINTERIA CITY HALL
5775 CARPINTERIA AVENUE
CARPINTERIA, CA 93013

Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83497539961?pwd=fX1aFWGam5A24Z4DNEzw8bFwzJxfS8.1

Meeting ID: 834 9753 9961
Passcode: 192622
or
Dial by Phone: 1-669-444-9171

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, Chairman Van Wingerden**

2. **PUBLIC FORUM (Any person may address the Board of Directors on any matter within its jurisdiction which is not on the agenda)**

3. **APPROVAL ITEMS**

   A. ****Minutes for the Meeting of the Board held on May 24, 2024**

4. **NEW BUSINESS -**

   A. ****Consider Presentation of Proposed FY 24/25 and FY 25/26 Operating Budget and corresponding FY 24/25 and FY 25/26 Fee for Operation and Administration Costs (for information, Executive Director Bob McDonald).**

   B. **Public Hearing on Proposed CGSA Fee**
      1. ****Secretary's Report (Board Secretary Silva)**
      2. **Opening of Public Hearing (Chairman Van Wingerden)**
      3. **Receipt of Public Comment (Chairman Van Wingerden)**
      4. **Closing of Public Hearing (Chairman Van Wingerden)**
      5. **Director Comments**
      6. **Tallying of Protests (Board Secretary, Silva)**

   C. ****Consider Resolution No. 032 Adopting FY 24/25 and FY 25/26 CGSA Operating Budget (for action, Executive Director Bob McDonald).**

   D. ****Consider adoption of Resolution No. 033 approving the Proposed Fee for operation and administration of the GSA for FY 24/25 and FY 25/26 (For action, Executive Director Bob McDonald).**

**Indicates attachment of document to agenda packet.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The above matters are the only items scheduled to be considered at this meeting.

Note: The above Agenda was posted at Carpinteria Valley Water District Administrative Office in view of the public no later than 5:00 p.m., June 3, 2024. The Americans with Disabilities Act provides that no qualified individual with a disability shall be excluded from participation in, or denied benefits of, the District's programs, services, or activities because of any disability. If you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the District Office at (805) 684-2816. Notification at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the meeting will enable the District to make appropriate arrangements. Materials related to an item on this Agenda submitted to the Board of Directors after distribution of the agenda packet are available for public inspection in the Carpinteria Valley Water district offices located at 1301 Santa Ynez Avenue, Carpinteria during normal business hours, from 8 am to 5 pm.

**Indicates attachment of document to agenda packet.

	MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
	May 22, 2024
	Chairman Van Wingerden called the regular meeting of the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors held in the Carpinteria City Hall Chamber to order at 5:44 p.m., Wednesday, May 22, 2024.
	Directors Present; Johnson, Balch, Roberts, Holcombe, and Van Wingerden
	Others Present: Bob McDonald
	Junajoy Frianeza Norma Rosales Lisa Silva Danielle Rose David O'Rourke Maso Motlow Scott Van Der Kar Alan Soicher
PUBLIC FORUM	No one from the public addressed the Board.
MINUTES	Following discussion, Director Balch moved, and Director Roberts seconded the motion to approve the minutes of the Board meeting held on April 10, 2024. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote. The minutes were approved by roll call as follows; Ayes: Holcombe, Roberts, Johnson, Balch and Van Wingerden Nayes : none Absent: none
DISBURSEMENT REPORT	Following discussion, Director Holcombe moved, and Director Balch seconded the motion to approve the monthly bills for the period of January 16, 2024 through May 10, 2024. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote. The motion was approved by roll call as follows; Ayes: Holcombe, Balch, Johnson, Roberts and Van Wingerden Nayes : none Absent: none
ANNUAL REPORT	Executive Director McDonald presented to consider the CGSA Annual Report. Presented by David O'Rourke, GSI Water Solutions.

	Following discussion, Director Holcombe moved, and Director Balch seconded the motion to approve and file the CGSA Annual Report. The motion carried by a 5-0 vote. The motion was approved by roll call as follows; Ayes: Holcombe, Roberts, Johnson, Balch and Van Wingerden Nayes : none Absent: none
COST OF SERVICE STUDY DRAFT FOR FY 25 AND FY 26	Executive Director McDonald presented to consider the Draft GSA Cost of Service Study for FY's 2025 & 2026. Presented by Danielle Rose. Scott Van Der Kar addressed the Board clarifying that the GSA is not moving away from using the tax assessor office to collect fees. Also inquiring how the basin is doing and requesting a state of the basin update every quarter. Mr. Van Der Kar is in support of the meters which he believes to be more efficient. Continues to be concerned regarding public knowledge regarding the upcoming Public Hearing and fee increase and questioning the deadline date of protests. Alan Soicher addressed the Board with updates in regards to his efforts toward a groundwater recharge planning proposal for the basin. Executive Director McDonald gave a verbal response.
ADJOURNMENT	Chairman Van Wingerden adjourned the meeting at 6:54 p.m.
	Lisa Silva, Board Secretary

To: CGSA Board of Directors

From: Bob McDonald, Executive Director

Date: June 4th, 2024

STAFF REPORT

Subject: Consideration for approval of FY 24/25 and FY 25/26 CGSA Budget and related charges.

Background:

In 2020, the CGSA was established to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. As an independent agency, CGSA operates with an annual budget of $465,000 for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024. CGSA revenues in FY 2024 were collected through a parcel acreage fee of $68/acre for parcels or portions thereof that overlay the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin, totaling approximately 7091 Acres. Although this approach adheres to the proportionality requirement of Proposition 218, feedback from property owners in 2022 suggested a preference for charging based on actual groundwater usage. Efforts commenced in 2022 to develop a methodology by June 2023 to utilize estimated pumping for FY 2024 charges. However, the extensive data collection and analysis required made completion unfeasible by June 2023. Staff continued refining the methodology and concluded groundwater extraction estimations by November 2023. To provide affected property owners an opportunity to provide additional information regarding groundwater use, pumping estimates for each of the 355 parcels were distributed along with maps showing crop acreages and CVWD water use. Subsequent adjustments were made based on gathered information.

Upon completing the pumping estimates, proposed CGSA budgets for FY 2025 and FY 2026 were developed. Budgeted revenue for FY 2025 is $485,000 and for FY 2026 is $500,000. Estimated groundwater extraction for Ventura and Santa Barbara County parcels, along with known groundwater extraction for CVWD during FY 2022 (used for FY 2025 fees), amounted to 7,545.465 acre-feet. Based on a proposed total budget of $485,000, this would result in a FY 2025 charge of $64.28 per acre-foot, rounded to $65.00. Similarly, for FY 2026, the estimated groundwater extraction amounted to 4,951.937 acre-feet, with a proposed total budget of $500,000, resulting in a charge of $100.97 per acre-foot, rounded to $101.00.

Upon evaluating the proposed FY 2025 and FY 2026 charges per acre-foot, it was evident that decreased CVWD groundwater extraction and overall reduction in groundwater use in FY 2023 led to substantially higher fees for affected parcels in FY 2026. To address this, the total calculated estimated groundwater extraction for both FY 2025 and FY 2026 was combined and It was divided by the total estimated groundwater extraction across the two-year period to arrive at a fee that would generate the same revenue over the two years. The proposed total revenue for FY 2025 and FY 2026 is $985,000, with a total estimated extraction of 12,497.102 AFY. This results in a fee of $79.00 (rounded to the nearest whole number) per acre-foot of water for both FY 2025 and FY 2026.

Analysis:

The proposed approach aligns with the requirements of Proposition 218 by allocating costs more directly to groundwater users based on pumping estimates. CGSA Staff has verified the following regarding this approach:

1. Revenues derived from the fee or charge will not exceed the costs required to provide the property-related service.
2. Revenues derived by the fee or charge will not be used for any purpose other than that for which the fee or charge was imposed.
3. The amount of the fee or charge imposed upon any parcel will not exceed the proportional cost of service attributable to the parcel.
4. No fee or charge will be imposed for a service unless that service is actually used or immediately available to the owner of property.

A written notice of the proposed fee or charge was mailed to the record owner of each parcel not less than 45 days prior to the public hearing on June 4th, when the agency considers all written protests against the charge.

The complete analysis and write-up of the proposed fee can be found in the “Carpinteria GSA Cost of Service Study FY2025 and FY2026,” attached to this Staff memo.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends the following actions be taken at the June 4th CGSA Special Board meeting:

1. Hold a public hearing for the adoption of new CGSA rates and fees for FY 2025 and FY 2026.
2. Tally protest votes received.
3. Adopt Resolutions 032 approving the FY 25 & FY 26 proposed CGSA Budget.
4. Adopt Resolution 033 approving proposed rates and fees for FY 25 & FY 26.

Please review the attached documents for comprehensive details regarding the proposed changes.

Thank you.

Bob McDonald

Executive Director

CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

CGSA

OPERATING BUDGET

FY 2024-2025 · FY 2025-2026

PROPOSED

Adopted by the Board of Directors of the
Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency
at a Regular Board Meeting held on
June 4, 2024 per Resolution No. 032.

_____
Lisa Silva, Board Secretary

CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
OPERATING BUDGET - PROPOSED
FY 2024-2025 · FY 2025-2026

		2023/24 Budget Adopted	2024/25 Budget Proposed	2025/26 Budget Proposed
PERSONNEL				
Revenue				
20-4315	GSA MEMBER FEES	465,000	485,000	500,000
20-4314	GSA GRANT FUNDING	-	-	-
Total Revenue		**465,000**	**485,000**	**500,000**
Expenses				
20-570-6025	GSA PERSONNEL	122,887	134,252	144,143
20-570-6117	GSA DIRECTORS FEES	12,600	7,200	13,367
20-570-6118	GSA ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	3,000	4,000	4,000
20-550-6308	GSA ANNUAL REPORTING	50,000	30,000	30,000
20-560-6307	GSA GROUNDWATER PROF SVCS	10,000	50,000	60,000
20-570-6309	GSA ADMIN PROF SERVICES	62,000	60,000	65,000
20-570-6310	GSA LEGAL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	21,125	10,000	12,000
20-560-6607	GSA SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT	3,600	3,708	3,900
20-550-6806	GSA WTR QUALITY & TESTING	20,000	30,000	32,000
20-599-7313	INTEREST EXPENSE	30,500	10,000	3,450
Total Expenses		**335,712**	**339,160**	**367,860**
Net Operating Revenue		**129,288**	**145,840**	**132,140**
	DEBT SERVICE	79,288	84,428	89,428
	RESERVES	50,000	50,000	50,000
Surplus (Deficit)		**-**	**11,412**	**(7,288)**
	$ Change		11,412	(18,700)
	% Change		100.0%	-263.9%

CGSA
CVWD Labor Allocations - Proposed
FY 2024-2025 · FY 2025-2026
%'s Per Mgmt Letter 05/30/22

		FY25	FY26
GM	8%	224,056	235,259
AGM	5%	203,768	219,051
Accountant/IT	5%	176,000	189,200
Bd Sec/Adm Asst	5%	93,013	99,989
District Engineer	5%	191,776	201,365
Field Eng Tech	10%	100,922	111,014
Engineering Analyst	10%	124,446	136,891
Wage Allocation		72,569	77,915
Overhead	85%	61,684	66,228
Total Allocation		134,252	144,143

Carpinteria GSA

COST OF SERVICE STUDY FY2025-2026

ESTIMATED GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION METHODOLOGY

CARPINTERIA GSA

Prepared by

CGSA Staff

May 24, 2024

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1. Executive Summary

Historically, the CGSA employed a fee structure based on parcel acreage within the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin (CGB). This approach, while administratively simple, allocated costs to many who had limited benefit from the management of the CGB by the CGSA. However, after considerable feedback from CGB users the CGSA is transitioning to a novel approach, basing fees on estimated pumping.

Simply put, the proposed methodology uses irrigation application rates that are calculated for FY 22 and FY 23 using parcels with known water use and crop type. These application rates are then applied to each parcel's crop acreage to determine the total crop water needed for that parcel. The parcel's delivered utility water (measured by CVWD or CMWD meter) is deducted from this value and the remainder is the estimated groundwater extraction.

The methodology for estimating groundwater extraction entails a comprehensive approach involving detailed analysis of crop acreages by parcel, aerial imagery, known Carpinteria Valley Water District (CVWD) and Casitas Municipal Water District (CMWD) metered water use and inquiries to parcel owners. While this new approach offers numerous advantages, including incentivizing conservation and aligning charges with groundwater usage, it necessitates rigorous data analysis and ongoing adjustments to ensure accuracy and fairness.

Community engagement has been important throughout this transition, with the CGSA actively involving stakeholders through extensive public outreach initiatives, property notifications, and ongoing public meetings. Property owners were provided opportunities to request variances on the initial estimates and will have the opportunity to request variances on their fee estimate after the fee is adopted by the CGSA Board, ensuring transparency and equity in the fee adjustment process. The fee will continue to be collected through the Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties tax rolls. Approximately 350 parcels will be assessed the fee. CVWD will also be assessed the fee for its municipal pumping.

In an effort to avoid instability of the fee the CGSA chose to adopt a 2-year rate based on FY 23 and 24 pumping. The fee was calculated to be $79/ Acre Foot extracted for FY 25 and FY 26.

The proposed budget for fiscal years 2025 and 2026 underscores the CGSA's commitment to sustainable groundwater management. Fees were meticulously calculated based on estimated groundwater extraction, ensuring revenue adequacy while mitigating sudden fee increases and promoting long-term financial stability.

This CGSA Cost of Service study represents a description of the restructuring of the previous Fiscal Year 2024 Fee, how the fee was derived, what the basis for the fees was, who will be assessed the fee, what the generated revenues will be used for and how the fee was communicated to the public. The work of the CGSA heralds a significant stride towards safeguarding the long-term viability of groundwater resources in the Carpinteria Valley, paving the way for a more resilient and sustainable future.

2. Background

2.1 Background of the Study

In September of 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was passed which provided a framework for achieving sustainable groundwater management in previously unregulated

basins throughout the State of California. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) ranked basins as high- medium- or low-priority basins and those categorized as high- or medium-priority were required to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and develop Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). Carpinteria Groundwater Basin (CGB) was initially designated as a low-priority basin; however, in 2019 DWR reclassified the CGB as a high-priority basin, requiring the establishment of a GSA and GSP.

The Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CGSA) was formed in February of 2020 and a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) was established which is comprised of four member agencies: Carpinteria Valley Water District (CVWD), City of Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County, and the County of Ventura. **Figure 1** outlines the CGB and its member agencies relative to the basin's boundary. The CGSA was awarded a $1.9M grant to be used toward the GSP development and a monitoring well in 2020. Costs associated with GSA formation and operating the CGSA were covered by loans from CVWD to CGSA for fiscal years (FYs) 2020, 2021, and 2022. Repayment by the CGSA of these loans by 2026 to CVWD is accounted for in the GSA's annual budget. Fiscal years for the CGSA begin July 1 and end June 30 of the following calendar year. Figure 5 shows the detailed CGSA Budget for fiscal years 25 and 26.

In FY2022, the CGSA hired *Raftelis* to carry out a fee and cost of service study to determine the most equitable and easily implementable methodology for generating revenue to cover CGSA Phase 1 funding requirements. Phase 1 requirements included the GSA Startup cost in addition to CGSA ongoing operations, administration, professional services, Debt repayment and establishment of a prudent cash reserve. The fee study that *Raftelis* completed in 2022 did not include the direct GSP development costs already covered by the DWR grant. Ultimately, the Raftelis 2022 fee study found that distributing the CGSA fees based on the total acreage of each parcel overlying the CGB boundary was the most reasonable and equitable way to implement the fee. This methodology was used for FY23 and FY24 as well. If a parcel was only partially within the groundwater basin boundary, the parcel owner was only charged for the acreage that was within the CGB. These per acre fees were collected through Ventura and Santa Barbara county's property tax rolls.

On January 24, 2024, the CGSA approved and submitted the GSP for the CGB to DWR. Thus, CGSA entered a new phase for SGMA compliance, complete with new legal authorities for ensuring compliance with SGMA. The goal of the current study is to outline the new approach to collecting CGSA fees for FY25 and FY26 under the post GSP submission legal framework pertaining to GSP implementation. The next phase fee approach is based upon estimated groundwater extraction for private property owners and known groundwater extraction for CVWD. The purpose of this study is to describe the methodology to comply with SGMA, Proposition 218, and potentially other Constitutional requirements, and to provide clarity on the current process, timeline, and the level of public outreach and public engagement that has been involved in developing the next phase fee structure. In addition, this study will describe the potential scenarios where estimated extractions were removed based on input from the property owner or estimated extractions were reduced on properties where owners reached out and provided supplemental information.

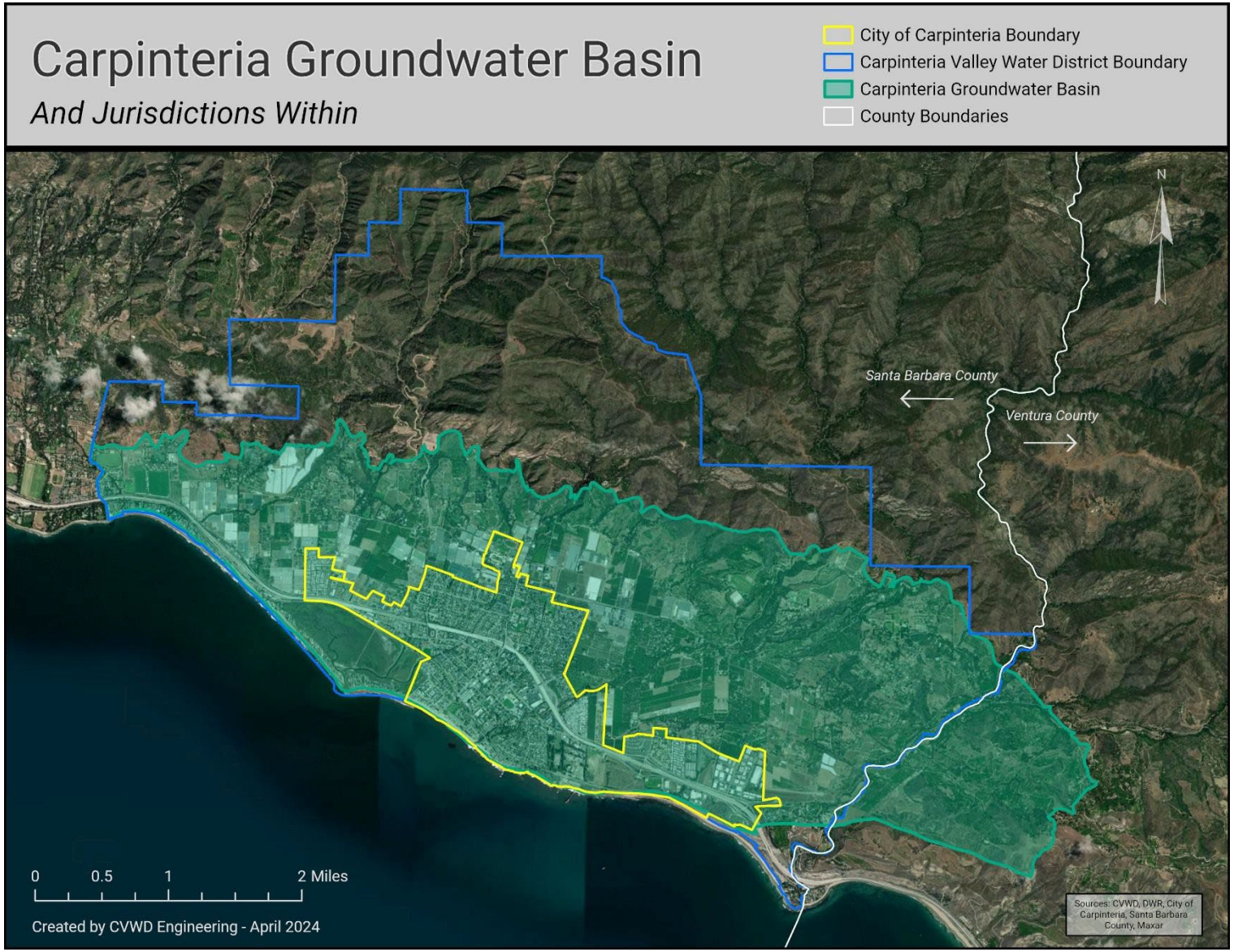

Figure 1. Map of the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin and jurisdictions within

2.2 Objectives of the Study and Data Gathering

2.2.1 Objectives

The objective of this study was to devise a new approach enabling the CGSA to transition from parcel acreage-based fees to fees based on estimated pumping. This new approach ensures that parcels directly benefiting from groundwater extraction contribute to funding the necessary management efforts. Under the new approach the Carpinteria Valley Water District (CVWD), which meters its groundwater pumping for public supply, would incur CGSA fees per acre foot of extraction. By subjecting CVWD to the same fee structure as other pumpers, all beneficiaries of the groundwater basin collectively shoulder the responsibility of sustainable groundwater management costs. Prior to adopting this proposed methodology, CVWD residential accounts would have seen CGSA fees on their property tax statements in proportion to their property size within the groundwater basin, rather than through their CVWD water bills, during FYs 2023 and 2024.

2.2.2 Data Gathering

With the planned move from acreage-based fees to estimated extraction-based fees, great efforts were undertaken to quality check existing private well data provided by Santa Barbara County's Environmental Health Services (EHS) department and Ventura County Watershed Protection District's Groundwater Section. Additionally, DWR's publicly available well completion reports provided on their Well Completion Report Map Application online were referenced as well. This local private well data is maintained in a geodatabase in a Geographic Information System (GIS) and updated by CVWD staff as new information becomes available. Although CVWD has a great deal of private groundwater information, Santa Barbara County's EHS department did not begin overseeing the permitting of private wells until after the passing of Ordinance 2769 in October of 1975. Well construction data prior to 1975 are not well documented and, if old records do exist, the old paper records are difficult to track down. Additionally, there are several private wells with shared ownership. The CGSA is aware of several small private distribution systems of between two and fifteen owners sharing the same private well. Information about who is sharing groundwater across property lines is still being investigated and discovered through the data gathering work.

The new methodology calculates the total water demand of each parcel overlying the CGB based upon the crops present and subtracts the known CVWD metered water use to derive an estimated groundwater extraction estimate. Water extraction estimates are calculated for any property where calculated water demand exceeds the known CVWD (or other supplier) delivered water amount. Delivered water records are only available from CVWD and are not available for Casitas Municipal Water District (CMWD) or Rincon Road and Water Works customers. Through the data gathering process and direct-mailing property owners, the CGSA has learned more about properties served by other water agencies, well-sharing agreements, and properties that are diverting water from local creeks. Although the information is not typically available, in cases where well meter data is available the CGSA would consider this as a basis for assessing the fee.

3. Previous Fee Study Methods

3.1 Previous Fee Calculation Method

Ultimately, the selected fee structure for FY23 and FY24 was based on the total acreage of a parcel overlying the CGB. Acreages were provided to the CGSA from Santa Barbara and Ventura County's GIS parcel dataset. If a property did not have a reported acreage in the dataset, such as condos with a shared common area, then the total acreage of the condo's housing association was calculated and divided by the number of units to distribute the total acreage across the individual properties. The total budget for the CGSA was divided by the total acres overlying the basin to calculate the per-acre fee for the property owners.

3.2 Advantages and Disadvantages of Previous Method

There were several advantages to the previous fee calculation method, although some disadvantages were noted as well. The data necessary to calculate the CGSA fees for the acreage-based charges on an annual basis were readily available from Ventura and Santa Barbara County's GIS data. Because the data was easy to access and the fee structure was straightforward, the administrative cost of performing this annual task was low. Processing the data and providing the fee list to each County to apply to the property tax rolls was not- overly burdensome and could be completed in a relatively short period.

However, the disadvantage of the acreage-based approach was that CGSA charges were not directly tied to groundwater extraction or groundwater benefit. Because charges were independent from groundwater use within the basin, the acreage-based fee-structure did not incentivize groundwater conservation and the implementation of water-saving practices on agricultural properties using wells.

After implementing the parcel acreage-based CGSA fees for several FYs, the CGSA received feedback from the community that "the pumpers should be paying", because the benefits form groundwater management directly benefit groundwater users including CVWD. Through input from property owners and the Groundwater Sustainability Plan Advisory Committee (GSPAC), the CGSA determined that parcel-acreages may not always be the best indicator of groundwater benefit (though still informative), and an alternative funding method authorized under SGMA should be pursued such as a pumping-based fee.

3.3 Number of Parcels Impacted by Previous Method

The parcel acreage-based fee method impacted a very large number of properties. All properties whose boundaries intersected the boundary of the CGB were subject to CGSA fees on their property tax statements. The number of properties impacted by the acreage-based fee in FY2024 is outlined in **Table 1**.

Table 1. Number of Properties Impacted by Acreage-Based Fee in FY2024

County	Number of Properties
Ventura County	35
Santa Barbara County	4787
Grand Total	**4822**

4. Fiscal Year 2025 and Fiscal Year 2026 Fee Approach

A novel approach using crop acreage demands on each parcel to determine water need for a parcel was developed for fiscal years 25 & 26. This method leverages data including water delivered to the parcel from water utilities and known non-users of groundwater to develop a crop application rate for each year. For example, one acre of avocado has a water demand of 2.63 AF in Fiscal Year 2022. If that parcel had 1 AF delivered by CVWD or CMWD then the remaining 1.63 AF is assumed to be extracted groundwater.

Many property owners expressed that the parcel acreage-based approach used in FYs 23 and 24 was not equitable. Their argument was that property size does not have a direct relationship to relative groundwater benefit, whether it be from a private well or CVWD metered water, and this concern was particularly relevant for large parcels without wells. There were situations discovered throughout this process where an agricultural customer had tens of acres overlying the groundwater basin that were undisturbed habitat with non-irrigated vegetation. These native areas had no additional water applied to the area and either could not be farmed due to conservation easements, poor environmental conditions, or perhaps were simply not accessible or worthwhile to farm; however, this acreage was still charged at $48/acre or
$68/acre in FYs 23 and 24, respectively. After receiving public feedback and additional input from the GSPAC, the consensus was that charges should be based on groundwater extraction and charged to actual groundwater users rather than properties above the basin. This way, those who are benefitting from the groundwater directly are contributing to the cost of CGSA operations, GSP implementation, future basin sustainability, and state-mandated monitoring and reporting which helps to ensure that their properties continue to have
access to adequate groundwater in the future. Few private wells in the CGB are configured with a water meter at this time, and existing meters may not necessarily function properly or be calibrated, so the approach that was used to set the rates proposed herein involved modeling estimated extraction for FYs 2025 and 2026 minus CVWD water applied to the parcel at issue. For CVWD groundwater extractions metered values will be used.

4.1 Methodology

Since 2002, CVWD has been using GIS aerial imagery, metered consumption data, and statistical analysis of the derived data to evaluate land use activities and estimate private pumping in the CGB. Prior to 2002, CVWD estimated groundwater use, but relied heavily on the institutional knowledge of staff to update land use records on paper cards when changes in land use were noticed as a part of other District activities. First, crop boundaries are digitized, and acreages are calculated in GIS software. These crops and acreages are associated with a particular parcel. Then, crop factors are calculated for each crop type with data available in the Carpinteria Valley. Finally, the crop factors and acreages are used to derive water demand at the property level and known CVWD metered water use is subtracted to arrive at the estimated groundwater extraction for the parcel.

4.1.1 Crop Determinations

CVWD participates in a local aerial imagery acquisition project with other public agencies through the Channel Islands Regional GIS Collaborative (CIRGIS). CVWD obtains a 3-inch resolution aerial image of their jurisdiction every 2 years, which allows for the documentation of land use and crop changes over time. Each time a new aerial image is received, a GIS analyst examines the agricultural areas to adjust changes to crop boundaries or make note of any crop changes. Staff perform site visits or drive-by crop assessments if new crops are unknown or questionable. Through this biannual interpretation of imagery, crop acreages are calculated for each land use on a particular property. An overview of the crop types and boundaries derived from the 2022 aerial image, flown between August and September of 2022, is shown in **Figure 2**.

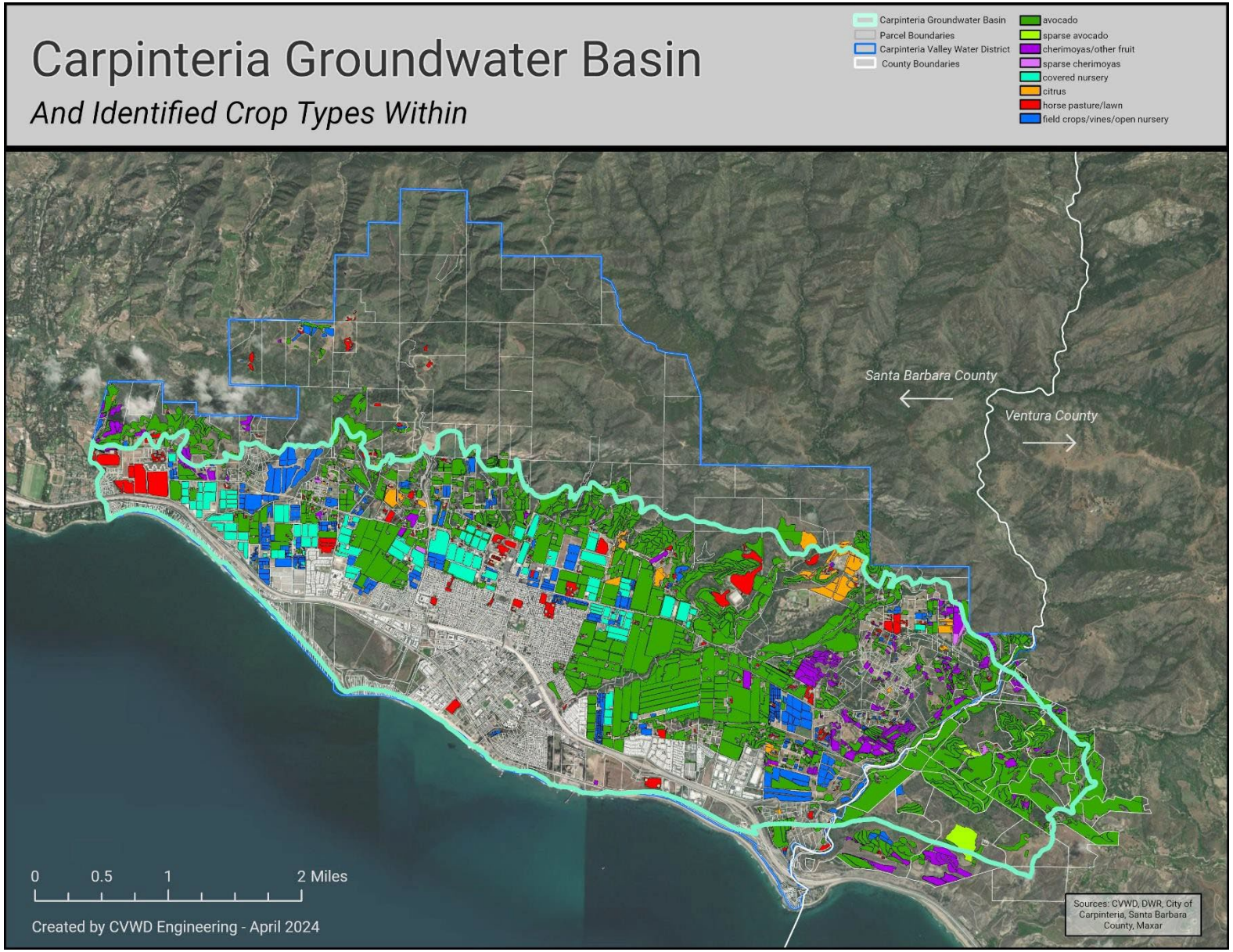

Figure 2. Map of the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin and Identified Crop Categories Within

4.1.2 Calculating Crop Factors

There are properties throughout the CGB and CVWD's water service area where there is primarily one type of crop grown, it is known that no private well water is being applied to the property, and only CVWD's water meter is used for irrigation. For these properties, the metered use for the period being studied is pulled into excel, converted from hundred cubic feet (HCF) to acre-feet, and then the water use in acre-feet is divided by the quantity of acres of the crop on the parcel. This value is what is called the crop factor for the parcel. The crop factors for multiple properties growing the same crop are compared and z-tests are applied to remove outliers to arrive at an average crop factor for the land use for the period of interest. The land use categories that crop factors are calculated for consist of: avocado, cherimoyas, covered nurseries, lawn, lemons, and open nurseries. Mixed crops and field crops have the open nursery crop factor applied, and other fruit crops have the cherimoya crop factor applied. The crop factor for lawn is applied to both turf and pasture. A summary of the crop factors calculated for FYs 2022 and 2023 are shown in **Table 2**.

Table 2. Crop Types and Calculated Crop Factors for FY2022 and FY2023

Crop type	Calculated Crop Factors - FY2022	Calculated Crop Factors - FY2023
Avocado	2.633	1.635
Cherimoyas	3.561	2.596
Covered Nursery	3.378	2.280
Lawn	2.963	2.284
Lemons	1.918	0.818
Open Nursery	2.137	2.275

3.1.2 Calculating Water Demand and Estimated Extraction at the Parcel Level

All land uses and their corresponding acreages are summarized at the parcel level. These acreages are then multiplied by their corresponding crop factors and summarized to arrive at an overall property water demand value. The known metered water use from CVWD records for the matching time period is then subtracted from the property's total water demand and the remaining value is considered to be their estimated groundwater use.

4.2 Advantages and Disadvantages of the Proposed Approach

There are several advantages to the proposed approach, although some disadvantages have been acknowledged. The benefit of this fee structure is that the groundwater users pay fees that are proportional to their estimated groundwater use. Because of this, property owners are more incentivized to conserve groundwater resources and implement water-saving practices. Additionally, groundwater pumpers derive the greatest current and future benefit from a sustainably managed groundwater basin that eliminates undesirable results such as sustained overdraft, seawater intrusion, and water quality degradation. Using the method proposed herein, properties who benefit from groundwater contribute to the costs associated with the management and monitoring of this shared resource in proportion to the amount of groundwater they are estimated to extract. The direct groundwater users are also those who care about the long-term sustainability and availability of groundwater in the Carpinteria Valley. Some of the disadvantages of the estimated extraction-based method are that the process proposed for FY 2025-26 is much more burdensome from a staffing perspective and that the estimates may not be exactly representative of an individual property owner's documented extraction, though this concern is mitigated via the proposed variance process described in

Section 5 that considers validated on the ground conditions on each parcel subject to the fee. Analyzing the aerial imagery and creating crop maps and estimates to mail to individual property owners on an annual basis takes much more time than the acreage-based approach. The CGSA acknowledges that the approach is not a perfect reflection of groundwater used but it has spent a significant amount of effort to find areas where the model may vary from actual amount pumped.

The estimated extraction model is still the best available approach currently to distribute the costs to groundwater users. There is a high-cost associated with installing and reading individual well meters and more time is needed in order to establish and implement a metering program to more accurately measure and distribute fees. The CGSA is evaluating a metering program and, if implemented, it could be utilized in establishing future charges once a critical mass of pumpers have meters installed.

5. Property Notifications, Public Outreach, and Community Engagement

5.1 Mailed Notices

In September and October of 2023, properties with estimated groundwater extraction estimates for FY2025 were contacted by mail to inform them that the CGSA's new crop-based model had estimated groundwater use for their property in FY2022 (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022). The FY2022 data is what is being used for FY2025 CGSA charges. Estimates at this time must be based on a trailing year due to the most recent aerial image available. Property owners were sent a letter (**Figure 3**) and a table (**Figure 4**) showing their property's water demand calculation minus their known CVWD metered water use, which was used to calculate the estimated groundwater extraction. Additionally, a map was enclosed showing the crop areas on the property using the aerial image flown in August and September of 2022. Property owners who contested the groundwater extraction estimates and did not use groundwater on their properties during FY2022 or property owners who did use groundwater during FY 2022, but who had alternate data indicating that the extraction estimate was incorrect, were required to contact the CGSA in writing by December 31, 2023. The CGSA worked with individual property owners to set up site visits and meetings as needed to better understand and examine the data before approving or rejecting any revisions.

CARPINTERIA GSA
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCV

1301 Santa Ynez Avenue
Carpinteria, CA 93013
805-263-4826

Robert McDonald, Executive Director

OWNER NAME
OWNER MAILING!
OWNER MAILING2

SUBJECT: GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION ESTIMATE FOR APN: XXX-XXX-XXX

Dear Owner,

Beginning in fiscal year 2025 (FY2025) the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CGSA) will be collecting groundwater fees based on estimated groundwater extraction. The CGSA has estimated groundwater extraction based on crop types present on the subject property using aerial imagery and known billed meter consumption. The *reverse side of this page* shows the breakdown of the CGSA's groundwater estimate for the subject property, which will be used to calculate the CGSA fee for FY2025. A map showing the crop coverages used in these calculations is also included for you.

Please take the time to review this information. If you believe this information is not correct and that amendments are required, please contact the CGSA's Executive Director in writing by mailing a letter to the address listed above explaining the changes you are requesting for your property. The letter must be submitted by December 31, 2023.

We encourage you to sign up for additional information regarding the CGSA, Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development, and California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). *To* sign up for e-mail updates, visit carpgsa.org. If you have any questions, please contact bob@cvwd.net or call 805-684-2816 extension 123.

Sincerely,

CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

2023 - APN: **«APN»**

Figure 3. Letter template that was mailed out to property owners for FY2022

GROUNDWATER ESTIMATE FOR: XXX-XXX-XXX

Note: Values in table are rounded

Crop Type	Crop Acreage (acres)	Estimated water applied per acre (acre-feet/acre)	Total water use estimate (acre-feet)
avocado		2.63	0.00
avocado / cherimoyas		2.63	0.00
avocado / citrus		2.63	0.00
avocado / fruit		2.63	0.00
avocado / lemons		2.63	0.00
avocado / lemons / oranges		2.63	0.00
avocado / lemons / persimmons		2.63	0.00
avocado / sparse		1.76	0.00
cherimoyas		3.56	0.00
cherimoyas / avocado / lemons		3.56	0.00
cherimoyas / lemons		3.56	0.00
cherimoyas / passion fruit / zapote		3.56	0.00
cherimoyas / sparse		2.37	0.00
covered nursery		3.38	0.00
covered nursery / garden center		3.38	0.00
covered nursery / orchids		3.38	0.00
field crops / mixed crops		2.14	0.00
field crops / vines		2.14	0.00
fruit trees		3.56	0.00
grapes / vines		2.14	0.00
horse facilities / pasture		2.96	0.00
horse facilities / pasture & barn		2.96	0.00
horse facilities / pasture / pen		2.96	0.00
horse facilities / polo field		2.96	0.00
lawn		2.96	0.00
lemons		1.92	0.00
lemons / avocado		1.92	0.00
lemons / oranges		1.92	0.00
lemons / sparse		1.28	0.00
mixed orchard		3.56	0.00
olives		3.56	0.00
open nursery		2.14	0.00
open nursery / garden center		2.14	0.00
open nursery / palms		2.14	0.00
open nursery w shade cover		2.14	0.00
orchard / mixed		3.56	0.00
park / sports field		2.96	0.00
passion fruit		3.56	0.00
persimmons		3.56	0.00
persimmons / sparse		2.37	0.00
roses		2.14	0.00
stone fruit		3.56	0.00
vegetable garden		2.14	0.00

Known metered water use for FY2022 (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022): CVWD DATA HERE acre-feet

Estimated Groundwater Use: FINAL CALCULATION HERE acre-feet

2023 - APN: «APN»

Figure 4. Table that was mailed out to property owners that was customized with their crop acreages, known CVWD metered water use, and final calculation for FY2022

5.2 Coastal View News Articles

The CVWD releases quarterly articles in the local newspaper, the Coastal View News (CVN), to keep the community apprised of major projects and news and to educate and inform their customers of the water supply outlook and conservation needs. The CGSA has used the CVWD's quarterly newspaper article timeslots to keep the Carpinteria Valley up to date with these recent changes to the CGSA fee structure and SGMA updates. Articles were published on the following dates discussing the change in methodology from acreage-based fees to estimated extraction-based fees and referenced the mailed estimates. The article published in November of 2023 stressed the need for owners to contact the CGSA for any amendments to the mailed estimates before the end of the calendar year.

- *Estimated Groundwater Extraction in the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin*
    - November 16, 2023
- *Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency*: *SGMA, CGSA History, and Updates*
    - February 15, 2023

5.3 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Advisory Committee

The CGSA gathered local stakeholders to form a Groundwater Sustainability Plan Advisory Committee (GSPAC) to help inform the preparation of the GSP. The CGSA's desire was to engage a diverse group of stakeholders to discuss groundwater sustainability and hear from different backgrounds in the Carpinteria Valley. The GSPAC's consensus was that groundwater extraction should be the basis for CGSA charges, which was one of the factors that prompted the change from acreage-based fees to estimated groundwater extraction-based fees.

5.4 Future Planned Property Notifications

In the fall of 2024, properties with estimated groundwater extraction estimates for FY2023, which will be used for FY2026 CGSA charges, will also be sent letters, tables outlining their extraction estimates, and maps of the associated crops. The FY2023 data used for FY2026 CGSA fees will also be based on the 2022 aerial imagery. New aerial imagery will be flown in 2024 for future use.

6. Eligibility for Fee Adjustment or Removal (Variance)

During the data gathering phase in fall of 2023, Property owners who responded to the estimated groundwater extraction estimates in writing with letters or e-mails as required were eligible to have their fees adjusted or removed if adequate data was provided or site visits were performed. This same variance will be available to CGSA fee payers in FY 2025-26 after the fee is adopted. Data that was/will be evaluated contained a mixture of:

- CMWD water bills
- Rincon Road and Water Works water bills
- Southern California Edison (SCE) bills for private water well pumps
- Irrigation Schedules for the time period with known hours and gallons applied per minute, gallons per hour, or gallons per emitter per tree and number of trees
- Logs of private well meter reads for the time period
- Site visits to properties to obtain global navigation satellite system (GNSS) points of wells to determine whether they fell within or outside of the CGB boundary
- Site visits to properties to examine private shared groundwater distribution systems
- Proof of other water supplies other than groundwater.

If property owners stated that no groundwater was applied to their property during FY2022, a GIS search and/or public records request was sent to Santa Barbara County's EHS department if one had not been sent already. Ventura County had already previously delivered private well data for the Ventura County parcels intersecting the CGB. If wells did exist on the parcel and claims were made that the well was inactive or not in use during FY2022, a site visit was required to be performed to examine the status of the well and get a GNSS point if one had not been obtained by CVWD staff previously. If a well existed on a parcel, but it was uncertain whether it truly fell within the groundwater basin then a site visit was performed to get a GNSS point to prove it was or was not within the basin.

If power was hooked up to the well, then Southern California Edison (SCE) bills were required to be provided for FY2022 to verify that the well pump was not used. If SCE bills could not confirm no energy use at the well pump during FY2022 then the charges were not removed. If the well was inactive with no equipment installed within it, or SCE bills demonstrated the pump was not used during this time, then the CGSA fee was eligible to be removed. Property owners who claimed no groundwater was applied and whose claims were accepted and approved by the CGSA will be sent affidavits that must be signed and returned to the CGSA by June 1, 2024 for the fees to be removed in FY2025 and FY2026.

7. CGSA Budget and Calculation of the Fee per Acre-Foot

7.1 GSA Budget for FY2025 and FY2026

The CGSA plans to adopt the budget outlined in **Figure 5** & **Table 3** for FY2025 and FY2026 on June 4, 2024.

PROPOSED BUDGET FY 2024-2025 FY 2025-2026	Line Items	2024/25 Budget Proposed Amended	2025/26 Budget Proposed Amended
Revenue			
20-4315	GSA MEMBER FEES	**$ 485,000.00**	**$ 500,000.00**
20-4314	GSA GRANT FUNDING	-	-
Total		**$ 485,000.00**	**$500,000.00**
Expenses			
20-570-6025	GSA PERSONNEL	$ 134,252.00	$ 144,143.00
20-570-6117	GSA DIRECTORS FEES	$ 7,200.00	$13,367.00
20-570-6118	GSA ADMINISTRATIVE	$ 4,000.00	$4,000.00
20-550-6308	GSA ANNUAL REPORTING	$ 30,000.00	$30,000.00
20-560-6307	GSA GROUNDWATER PROF	$ 50,000.00	$60,000.00
20-570-6309	GSA ADMIN PROF SERVICES	$ 60,000.00	$65,000.00
20-570-6310	GSA LEGAL PROFESSIONAL	$ 10,000.00	$12,000.00
20-560-6607	GSA SUPPLIES & EQUIPMENT	$ 3,708.00	$3,900.00
20-550-6806	GSA WTR QUALITY & TESTING	$ 30,000.00	$32,000.00
20-599-7313	INTEREST EXPENSE	$ 10,000.00	$3,450.00
Total		**$ 339,160.00**	**$ 367,860.00**
Net Operating Revenue		**$ 145,840.00**	**$ 132,140.00**
	DEBT SERVICE	$ 84,428.00	$89,428.00
	RESERVES	$ 50,000.00	$50,000.00
Surplus (Deficit)		**$ 11,412.00**	**$(7,288.00)**

Figure 5. Proposed Detailed CGSA Budget for Fiscal Years 2025 & 2026

Table 3. CGSA Proposed Budget

Fiscal Year	Budget
FY2025	**$485,000**
FY2026	**$500,000**
Grand Total	**$985,000.00**

The budget serves as the numerator in the equation used to determine the cost per acre-foot of groundwater extracted.

7.2 Estimated Extraction Calculated in FY2025 and FY2026 and Fee Options

Using the methodology described within this document, the total estimated groundwater extraction was calculated for FY2025 and FY2026 after examining all parcels intersecting the groundwater basin boundary in any capacity. Property owners who contacted the CGSA for amendments or fee removals and who were able to provide sufficient evidence of no groundwater use during FY2022 were removed from the overall estimated extraction for that year prior to calculating the fees (**Tables 4** & **5**). Those who claimed that groundwater was not applied on their parcel will still need to sign and return affidavits for fees to not apply to their property in FY2025 and FY2026.

The estimated groundwater extraction for Ventura and Santa Barbara County parcels and known groundwater extraction for CVWD during FY2022, which is the period used for the FY2025 fees, amounted to 7,545.465 acre-feet. With a proposed total budget of $485,000, this would make the FY2025 charge $64.28 per acre-foot, or $65.00 if rounded to the next whole number.

Table 4. Proposed FY2025 Fee

FY2025 CGSA PLANNED BUDGET: $485,000		
Category	**Number of properties**	**Estimated acre-feet of groundwater after removing appeals/making adjustments from those who sent in letters**
Ventura County parcels	12	507.874
Santa Barbara County parcels	343	5,060.551
Carpinteria Valley Water District	(3 CVWD wells)	1,977.04
Grand Totals	**355**	**7,545.465**
CGSA Fee (Budget/total estimated acre-feet)	$64.28	

The estimated groundwater extraction for Ventura and Santa Barbara County parcels and known groundwater extraction for CVWD during FY2023, which is the period which will be used for the FY2026 fees, amounted to 4,951.937 acre-feet. With a proposed total budget of $500,000, this would make the proposed FY2026 charge $100.97 per acre-foot, or $101.00 if rounded to the next whole number.

Table 5. Proposed FY2026 Fee

FY2026 CGSA PROPOSED BUDGET: $500,000		
Category	**Number of properties**	**Estimated acre-feet of groundwater after removing appeals/making adjustments from those who sent in letters**
Ventura County parcels	11	311.166
Santa Barbara County parcels	337	3349.48
Carpinteria Valley Water District	(3 CVWD wells)	1291.291
Grand Totals	**348**	**4951.937**
CGSA Fee (Budget/total estimated acre-feet)	$100.97	

After evaluating the proposed FY2025 and FY2026 charges per acre-foot, it became apparent that the decrease in CVWD groundwater extraction and reduction in overall groundwater use in FY2023 resulted in fees that were substantially higher for private property owners in FY2026. The decision was made to examine the total calculated estimated groundwater extraction for both FY2025 and FY2026 as a whole and divide it by the total estimated groundwater extraction across the two-year period to arrive at a fee that would generate the same amount of revenue over the course of the two-years (**Table 6**). The total revenue proposed to be needed for FY2025 and FY2026 is $985,000 and the total estimated

extraction over the two years is 12,497.102 AFY. This results in a flat fee for FY2025 and FY2026 of $79.00 (rounded to the nearest whole number) for each acre-foot of water. This $79 charge was the per-acre-foot fee that the CGSA has proposed to move forward with as to not have fees increase from $65 to $101 from one year to the next.

Table 6. Proposed Combined FY2025 & FY2026 Fee to Adjust

Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year Amended Budget	Estimated acre-feet of groundwater after removing appeals/making adjustments from those who sent in letters
FY2025	$485,000	7,545.465
FY2026	$500,000	4951.937
Grand Totals	$985,000.00	12,497.402
CGSA Fee (FY 25 & 26 Budget/total estimated acre-feet for both years)	$78.82	

APPENDIX A: IMPACTED PARCELS IN VENTURA COUNTY FOR FY2025

Number (Count) of Ventura County Parcels	Parcel Number
1	008-0-160-355
2	008-0-160-365
3	008-0-160-415
4	008-0-160-460
5	008-0-160-470
6	008-0-160-480
7	008-0-160-490
8	008-0-160-500
9	008-0-200-015
10	008-0-200-055
11	008-0-200-095
2	008-0-200-105
13	008-0-200-265
14	008-0-200-295
15	008-0-200-305
16	008-0-200-325
17	008-0-200-335
18	008-0-210-010
19	008-0-210-020
20	008-0-210-030
21	008-0-210-040
22	008-0-210-055
23	008-0-210-195
24	008-0-210-205
25	008-0-210-215
26	008-0-210-225
27	008-0-220-060
28	008-0-220-085
29	008-0-220-095
30	008-0-220-110
31	008-0-220-150
32	008-0-220-170

APPENDIX B: IMPACTED PARCELS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FOR FY2025

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
1	155-260-035
2	155-260-001
3	001-050-018
4	001-130-004
5	004-002-024
6	001-200-023
7	005-430-048
8	155-170-060
9	001-040-002
10	155-260-034
11	001-080-014
12	001-030-030
13	001-020-008
14	001-020-010
15	001-020-015
16	001-020-022
17	001-020-030
18	001-020-033
19	001-020-041
20	001-020-042
21	001-030-022
22	001-030-023
23	001-030-027
24	001-030-029
25	001-030-031
26	001-030-037
27	001-040-012
28	001-040-014
29	001-040-028
30	001-040-033
31	001-040-034
32	001-040-038
33	001-040-039
34	001-050-009
35	001-050-011

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
36	001-050-028
37	001-050-031
38	001-050-034
39	001-050-036
40	001-050-037
41	001-050-039
42	001-050-040
43	001-060-001
44	001-060-027
45	001-060-030
46	001-060-040
47	001-060-042
48	001-060-043
49	001-060-053
50	001-060-057
51	001-060-059
52	001-080-007
53	001-080-008
54	001-080-009
55	001-080-011
56	001-080-018
57	001-080-019
58	001-080-025
59	001-080-031
60	001-080-039
61	001-080-046
62	001-080-051
63	001-080-053
64	001-080-056
65	001-080-057
66	001-090-002
67	001-090-007
68	001-090-008
69	001-090-009
70	001-090-010
71	001-090-024
72	001-090-030
73	001-090-034
74	001-090-035

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
75	001-090-040
76	001-090-047
77	001-090-049
78	001-101-013
79	001-101-014
80	001-101-030
81	001-101-035
82	001-101-043
83	001-101-045
84	001-101-046
85	001-101-047
86	001-101-048
87	001-101-049
88	001-101-060
89	001-110-035
90	001-120-019
91	001-120-028
92	001-120-030
93	001-130-010
94	001-130-026
95	001-140-024
96	001-140-026
97	001-140-027
98	001-150-024
99	001-160-016
100	001-160-017
101	001-160-019
102	001-160-024
103	001-160-031
104	001-160-032
105	001-190-006
106	001-190-042
107	001-200-005
108	001-200-006
109	001-200-007
110	001-200-018
111	001-200-020
112	001-200-021
113	001-220-087

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
114	001-300-045
115	001-300-046
116	001-440-003
117	001-440-005
118	001-450-006
119	001-450-007
120	004-002-002
121	004-002-007
122	004-002-010
123	004-002-014
124	004-002-016
125	004-002-025
126	004-002-026
127	004-002-029
128	004-002-030
129	004-002-032
130	004-002-038
131	004-003-003
132	004-003-005
133	004-003-007
134	004-003-008
135	004-003-010
136	004-003-011
137	004-004-006
138	004-004-007
139	004-004-012
140	004-004-016
141	004-004-018
142	004-004-025
143	004-004-026
144	004-004-032
145	004-004-033
146	004-004-034
147	004-004-035
148	004-004-037
149	004-004-040
150	004-004-042
151	004-004-043
152	004-004-045

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
153	004-005-001
154	004-005-002
155	004-013-001
156	004-013-005
157	004-013-007
158	004-013-008
159	004-013-009
160	004-013-010
161	004-013-011
162	004-013-023
163	005-270-006
164	005-270-029
165	005-280-015
166	005-280-024
167	005-280-026
168	005-280-027
169	005-280-029
170	005-280-031
171	005-280-032
172	005-280-040
173	005-280-041
174	005-310-012
175	005-310-013
176	005-310-027
177	005-320-013
178	005-320-024
179	005-320-032
180	005-320-040
181	005-430-007
182	005-430-009
183	005-430-018
184	005-430-026
185	005-430-027
186	005-430-038
187	005-430-043
188	005-430-049
189	005-430-050
190	005-430-060
191	155-150-024

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
192	155-160-020
193	155-160-021
194	155-170-025
195	155-170-041
196	155-170-059
197	155-170-075
198	155-170-090
199	155-170-092
200	155-180-010
201	155-180-032
202	155-180-037
203	155-180-048
204	155-180-049
205	155-180-069
206	155-180-077
207	155-180-078
208	155-180-084
209	155-180-091
210	155-200-032
211	155-200-078
212	155-200-079
213	155-260-018
214	155-260-019
215	155-260-022
216	001-070-015
217	001-060-060
218	005-270-042
219	005-270-018
220	004-002-005
221	155-170-091
222	001-130-024
223	001-261-004
224	001-291-001
225	004-005-004
226	004-005-005
227	001-220-017
228	001-220-089
229	001-220-025
230	001-220-026

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
231	001-220-073
232	001-460-013
233	001-200-016
234	001-200-017
235	001-080-033
236	001-080-042
237	001-180-026
238	001-080-002
239	001-080-030
240	001-080-040
241	001-060-028
242	001-060-029
243	001-020-006
244	001-020-031
245	001-020-011
246	155-260-020
247	155-260-021
248	155-260-036
249	001-020-038
250	001-020-039
251	155-200-092
252	155-200-091
253	155-260-037
254	155-260-038
255	001-030-033
256	001-030-035
257	001-030-021
258	001-030-028
259	001-020-025
260	001-020-026
261	001-030-034
262	001-030-036
263	155-200-082
264	155-200-084
265	001-080-032
266	001-080-044
267	001-080-015
268	001-080-016
269	001-080-017

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
270	001-090-045
271	001-090-046
272	001-040-040
273	001-040-041
274	001-040-043
275	001-040-044
276	001-040-025
277	001-040-026
278	001-040-004
279	155-200-089
280	155-200-090
281	001-040-035
282	155-200-057
283	001-040-005
284	001-050-001
285	155-200-080
286	001-090-037
287	001-090-038
288	001-090-011
289	001-090-012
290	001-090-028
291	001-090-032
292	001-090-033
293	001-040-017
294	001-050-006
295	001-050-005
296	001-050-004
297	001-050-010
298	001-130-015
299	001-130-016
300	001-130-017
301	001-130-018
302	001-160-002
303	001-050-032
304	001-050-027
305	001-050-052
306	001-050-053
307	001-050-055
308	001-160-028

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
309	001-160-015
310	155-200-095
311	155-200-096
312	155-200-093
313	155-200-094
314	001-101-040
315	001-200-009
316	001-200-024
317	001-200-029
318	001-110-032
319	001-110-033
320	001-040-048
321	001-090-023
322	155-260-026
323	155-260-027
324	004-004-013
325	001-020-034
326	001-020-035
327	155-260-032
328	155-260-033
329	155-260-030
330	155-260-031
331	001-020-036
332	001-020-037
333	005-430-004
334	005-430-057
335	005-270-034
336	155-140-074
337	155-140-075
338	155-140-073
339	005-280-004
340	155-160-013
341	005-280-033
342	155-160-011
343	005-280-039
344	155-160-016
345	005-310-021
346	005-310-026
347	005-310-024

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
348	155-170-022
349	155-170-024
350	004-013-002
351	004-013-003
352	004-013-024
353	503-059-001
354	004-002-027
355	004-002-028
356	004-004-005
357	004-003-001
358	004-003-002
359	155-180-031
360	004-004-001
361	155-180-061
362	155-180-045
363	155-260-003
364	155-180-067
365	155-260-004
366	155-260-006
367	155-260-007
368	155-260-008

APPENDIX C: IMPACTED AGRICULTURAL AREAS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY WITHOUT AN APN FOR FY2025

Number (Count) of Agricultural Areas without an APN	Parcel Number
1	Agricultural easement on Casitas Pass Road between US 101N and Cameo Road

APPENDIX D: IMPACTED PARCELS IN VENTURA COUNTY FOR FY2026

Number (Count) of Ventura County Parcels	Parcel Number
1	0080160355
2	0080160365
3	0080160415
4	0080160460
5	0080160470
6	0080160480
7	0080160490
8	0080160500
9	0080200015
10	0080200055
11	0080200095
12	0080200105
13	0080200265
14	0080200295
15	0080200305
16	0080200325
17	0080200335
18	0080210020
19	0080210030
20	0080210040
21	0080210055
22	0080210195
23	0080210205
24	0080210215
25	0080210225
26	0080220060
27	0080220085
28	0080220095
29	0080220110
30	0080220150
31	0080220170

APPENDIX E: IMPACTED PARCELS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY FOR FY2026

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
1	155-260-035
2	155-260-001
3	001-050-018
4	001-130-004
5	004-002-024
6	001-200-023
7	005-430-048
8	155-170-060
9	001-040-002
10	155-260-034
11	001-080-014
12	001-030-030
13	155-180-048
14	001-130-010
15	001-050-039
16	001-120-030
17	004-004-025
18	005-280-024
19	001-101-035
20	001-150-024
21	001-200-007
22	001-140-024
23	155-180-049
24	155-180-010
25	001-160-031
26	001-020-042
27	005-320-041
28	155-180-037
29	001-160-024
30	155-170-090
31	001-080-053
32	001-050-028
33	001-160-019
34	001-080-057
35	004-004-038

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
36	001-140-027
37	004-002-038
38	005-430-018
39	004-013-009
40	001-160-016
41	001-040-038
42	001-080-039
43	001-110-035
44	001-450-007
45	004-004-007
46	001-050-031
47	004-004-042
48	001-080-051
49	001-300-046
50	005-320-032
51	001-090-002
52	005-280-014
53	004-004-035
54	001-200-020
55	001-080-046
56	001-101-043
57	005-320-024
58	001-130-026
59	001-101-014
60	001-120-019
61	004-004-006
62	001-190-042
63	001-050-009
64	005-430-049
65	004-013-008
66	001-220-087
67	004-004-045
68	001-080-056
69	155-180-078
70	004-004-034
71	001-200-018
72	155-180-032
73	001-030-029
74	001-440-003

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
75	001-050-036
76	001-050-034
77	004-002-010
78	001-200-005
79	001-450-006
80	001-090-030
81	004-002-032
82	155-160-021
83	005-280-031
84	001-080-019
85	004-005-002
86	155-180-091
87	001-120-028
88	005-280-032
89	001-060-030
90	155-170-075
91	004-003-007
92	001-040-039
93	001-080-045
94	005-280-015
95	001-050-040
96	001-040-014
97	155-200-079
98	001-020-032
99	001-101-030
100	005-270-029
101	005-430-027
102	005-280-026
103	001-140-026
104	001-050-011
105	155-170-092
106	001-090-040
107	004-013-011
108	004-004-037
109	005-280-025
110	005-430-007
111	005-430-060
112	005-310-013
113	001-090-024

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
114	155-180-069
115	001-060-001
116	004-002-030
117	004-003-005
118	155-170-041
119	001-020-022
120	001-060-043
121	001-040-033
122	005-270-006
123	005-430-038
124	001-060-042
125	001-101-045
126	005-280-027
127	155-260-019
128	001-080-025
129	155-180-077
130	155-150-024
131	005-430-050
132	004-005-001
133	001-101-048
134	155-260-022
135	001-020-041
136	001-090-009
137	001-020-008
138	004-004-018
139	155-160-020
140	001-101-047
141	005-310-012
142	001-040-028
143	004-002-002
144	001-200-021
145	001-101-046
146	004-013-010
147	001-090-010
148	001-090-049
149	155-170-059
150	005-430-009
151	001-101-060
152	004-002-007

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
153	004-002-014
154	004-004-026
155	004-013-001
156	004-004-043
157	155-180-084
158	004-004-016
159	004-013-023
160	004-003-011
161	001-030-031
162	004-004-032
163	001-060-059
164	004-002-029
165	005-280-041
166	001-020-030
167	001-060-040
168	001-080-031
169	001-440-005
170	005-280-040
171	001-030-022
172	001-060-027
173	001-090-007
174	004-003-010
175	005-430-043
176	004-013-005
177	155-200-078
178	001-200-006
179	004-002-026
180	001-090-008
181	001-030-037
182	001-080-008
183	001-090-034
184	001-040-012
185	001-090-047
186	001-030-023
187	004-004-012
188	001-080-007
189	001-160-017
190	155-200-032
191	001-020-010

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
192	004-013-007
193	155-170-025
194	004-003-008
195	004-002-025
196	001-080-011
197	001-040-034
198	001-060-057
199	001-030-027
200	001-101-049
201	001-020-033
202	001-090-035
203	001-060-053
204	001-160-032
205	004-003-003
206	001-190-006
207	001-020-015
208	001-020-006
209	001-020-011
210	001-020-025
211	001-020-026
212	001-020-031
213	001-020-034
214	001-020-035
215	001-020-036
216	001-020-037
217	001-020-038
218	001-020-039
219	001-030-028
220	001-030-033
221	001-030-034
222	001-030-035
223	001-030-036
224	001-040-004
225	001-040-005
226	001-040-017
227	001-040-025
228	001-040-026
229	001-040-035
230	001-040-040

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
231	001-040-041
232	001-040-043
233	001-040-044
234	001-040-048
235	001-050-001
236	001-050-005
237	001-050-006
238	001-050-027
239	001-050-032
240	001-050-052
241	001-050-053
242	001-050-055
243	001-060-028
244	001-060-029
245	001-060-060
246	001-070-015
247	001-080-002
248	001-080-015
249	001-080-016
250	001-080-017
251	001-080-030
252	001-080-032
253	001-080-033
254	001-080-035
255	001-080-040
256	001-080-041
257	001-080-042
258	001-080-044
259	001-090-011
260	001-090-012
261	001-090-023
262	001-090-028
263	001-090-032
264	001-090-033
265	001-090-037
266	001-090-038
267	001-090-045
268	001-090-046
269	001-101-040

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
270	001-110-032
271	001-110-033
272	001-130-015
273	001-130-016
274	001-130-017
275	001-130-018
276	001-160-002
278	001-160-015
279	001-180-026
280	001-200-009
281	001-200-016
282	001-200-017
283	001-200-024
284	001-200-029
285	001-220-017
286	001-220-025
287	001-220-026
288	001-220-073
289	001-220-089
290	001-261-004
291	001-291-001
292	001-460-013
293	004-002-005
294	004-002-027
295	004-002-028
296	004-003-001
297	004-003-002
298	004-004-001
299	004-004-005
300	004-004-013
300	004-005-004
301	004-005-005
302	004-013-002
303	004-013-003
304	004-013-024
305	005-270-018
306	005-270-034
307	005-270-042
308	005-280-004

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
309	005-280-033
310	005-280-039
311	005-310-007
312	005-310-021
313	005-310-024
314	005-310-026
315	005-430-004
316	005-430-057
317	155-140-073
318	155-140-074
319	155-140-075
320	155-160-011
321	155-160-013
322	155-160-016
323	155-170-011
324	155-170-022
325	155-170-024
326	155-170-091
327	155-180-031
328	155-180-045
329	155-180-061
330	155-180-067
331	155-180-073
332	155-200-057
333	155-200-080
334	155-200-082
335	155-200-084
336	155-200-089
337	155-200-090
338	155-200-091
339	155-200-092
340	155-200-093
341	155-200-094
342	155-200-095
343	155-200-096
344	155-260-003
345	155-260-004
346	155-260-006
347	155-260-007

Number (Count) of Santa Barbara County Parcels	Parcel Number
348	155-260-008
349	155-260-020
350	155-260-021
351	155-260-026
352	155-260-027
353	155-260-030
354	155-260-031
355	155-260-032
356	155-260-033
357	155-260-036
358	155-260-037
359	155-260-038
360	503-059-001

APPENDIX F: IMPACTED AGRICULTURAL AREAS IN SANTA BARBARA COUNTY WITHOUT AN APN FOR FY2026

Number (Count) of Agricultural Areas without an APN	Parcel Number
1	Agricultural easement on Casitas Pass Road between US 101N and Cameo Road

CARPINTERIA GSA
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

1301 Santa Ynez Avenue
Carpinteria, CA 93013
805-263-4826

Robert McDonald, Executive Director

TO: Board of Directors
FROM: Secretary of the Board, Lisa Silva

Subject: Secretary's Report

Mr. Chairman and Directors:

This is the time and place for the Public Hearing as set forth in the public notice dated April 16, 2024. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to receive public comment as well as any written protests of the proposed changes in the Fees for Groundwater Sustainability service. Previous Board meetings including agenda items about the proposed Budget and Fees were also held in the City of Carpinteria Chamber on April 10 and May 22, 2024.

The Cost-of-Service Analysis completed by the CGSA supports the proposed fees. The analysis has been articulated in detail in the CGSA Cost of Service Study for FY 2025 & 2026, Dated May 24, 2024. The Study is available for inspection at the CGSA Offices and on the CGSA Website and is also included in the Board Packet materials of today's meeting. This report along with the CGSAs annual Budget establishes the basis for the proposed fee increases. If valid written protests are not received from customers, tenants, or property owners from a majority of the affected parcels identified, the Board of Directors may adopt the proposed increases in the Rates and Charges for water service under the current law. To be valid and counted, written protests must be received by the close of this Public Hearing or postmarked no later than June 4th, 2024.

RESOLUTION NO. 032

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY APPROVING THE FY 24/25 AND FY 25/26 OPERATING BUDGETS

WHEREAS, the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency has been formed via a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA); and

WHEREAS, the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CGSA) shall approve a budget as per Article 14.1. Budget and Expenses of the JPA; and

WHEREAS, the Staff of the CGSA has prepared a Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 and FY 2025-26 Operating Budget for approval by the Board of Directors of the CGSA; and

WHEREAS, the proposed Operating Budget projects a need for $485,000 in operating funds for the Fiscal Year of 2024-25 and $500,000 for Fiscal Year 2025-26

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the CGSA that the FY 2024-25 and the FY 2025-26 Operating Budget (attached) be approved and authorized.

Vote on the Resolution by roll call resulted as follows:

AYES:
NAYES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

The Resolution was thereupon declared, carried and adopted.

Date: This 4th day of June 2024

APPROVE:

_____

Case Van Wingerden, Chair

ATTEST:

_____

Lisa Silva, Board Secretary

DRAFT

Resolution No 033

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CARPINTERIA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (the "CGSA") ADOPTING FEE FOR THE OPERATION AND ADMINISTRATVE COSTS OF THE CGSA

WHEREAS, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014, Water Code sections 10720-10737.8 ("SGMA") was signed into law on September 16, 2014; and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires that Medium or High Priority groundwater basins be managed by a Groundwater Sustainability Agency ("GSA"), or multiple GSAs, and that such management be pursuant to an approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan ("GSP"), or multiple GSPs; and

WHEREAS, in 2020, the CGSA was formed through a Joint Powers Authority Agreement between the Carpinteria Valley Water District, County of Santa Barbara Water Agency, City of Carpinteria and the County of Ventura to manage the sustainability of the groundwater in the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin (the "Basin"), which was designated as a High Priority basin in 2019; and

WHEREAS, the CGSA is the exclusive GSA for the Basin approved by California Department of Water Resources in 2020; and

WHEREAS, Beginning in Fiscal Year ("FY") 2025 and FY 2026, the CGSA Proposed a fee based on estimated groundwater extraction from the Basin based on the crops present, calculated crop demand for a trailing year, in this case FY 2022 and FY 2023 respectively, and known Carpinteria Valley Water District ("CVWD") water use for the parcel (s) during those years; and

WHEREAS, on June 04, 2024, pursuant to Water Code section 10730 ("Section 10730"), which authorizes GSAs to impose fees on regulated groundwater activity to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program, the Board held a duly-noticed public hearing regarding the proposed fee and the purpose of charging said fee for the CGSA's groundwater sustainability program (hereinafter "GSA Fee"), including but not limited to CGSA staffing, the collection, study, analysis and reporting of groundwater data, and administrative support such as legal, auditing and hydrogeologic support; and

WHEREAS, the GSA Fee is based on a study for the CGSA entitled " Cost of Service Study FY2025-2026" Dated May 24 2024 (the "Study") prepared by CVWD Staff, which describes the background for the change in allocation of the cost, provides the methodology for calculating the GSA

Fee and determines the parcels affected by the GSA Fee; and

WHEREAS, at the noticed June 4, 2024 hearing, the Board of Directors ("Board") of the CGSA considered its estimated necessary costs for the operations of the CGSA for FY2025 and FY 2026 and thoroughly considered the testimony and evidence received from its staff and the public in both oral and written form; and

WHEREAS, after due deliberation and consideration of all the record before it, and as discussed in further detail in the Study and Staff Report, both of which are incorporated by reference, the Board finds as follows:

A. It is necessary and in the best interest of the CGSA to collect the GSA Fee from property owners overlying the Basin based on estimated groundwater extraction from the Basin, which estimation is obtained based on the crops present, the calculated crop demand for FY 2022 and FY 2023, and known CVWD-water use for the parcel(s); and

B. Revenues derived from the GSA Fee shall not exceed the costs required to provide the property-related services provided by the CGSA; and

C. The amount of the GSA Fee imposed on any parcel does not exceed the proportional cost of service attributable to that parcel; and

D. The GSA Fee is exclusively applied to property owners who receive and directly benefit from the service of sustainable groundwater management in the Basin; and

E. The CGSA has mailed to the record owner of each parcel not less than 45 days prior to this public hearing a written notice of the GSA Fee; and

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED AND ORDERED by the Board of Directors of the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency as follows:

The Board adopts the recitals stated above and hereby incorporates them into this Resolution.

The Board authorizes and directs the CGSA Executive Director to annually request the County Treasurer-Tax Collector for the County of Ventura to collect the GSA Fee in the same manner as ad valorem property taxes pursuant to Water Code section 10730(d) with the required information no later than July 5, 2024, for FY 2025 and July 5, 2025, for FY 2026; and

DRAFT

The Board authorizes and directs the CGSA Executive Director to annually request the County Treasurer-Tax Collector for County of Santa Barbara to collect the GSA Fee in the same manner as ad valorem property taxes pursuant to Water Code section 10730(d) with the required information no later August 10, 2024, for FY 2025 and August 10, 2025, for FY 2026; and

That the GSA Fee be assessed for Fiscal Year 2025 and FY 2026 per the Report at a rate of Seventy-Nine Dollars ($79.00) per acre foot of estimated pumping on property overlying the Carpinteria Groundwater Basin identified in the Study; and

That the CGSA Executive Director keep a record of the GSA Fee and its method of calculation for each parcel; and

That the CGSA Executive Director adopt and give notice of an administrative appeal process by which a GSA fee payor may obtain a review of the GSA Fee allocated to his or her parcel. Failure to pursue such an appeal shall be a failure to exhaust administrative remedies and a bar to suit. The CGSA's decision on such an appeal shall be the final action of the CGSA, subject to judicial review pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure section 1094.5.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Directors of the Carpinteria Groundwater Sustainability Agency on the 4th day of June 2024, by the following roll call vote:

AYES:
NAYES:
ABSENT:
ABSTAIN:

APPROVED:

_____
Case Van Wingerden, Chair

ATTEST:

_____

Lisa Silva, Board Secretary

DRAFT