



Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Farmer's Survey

The main purpose for the survey is to assess the interest of farmers/ranchers in participating in efforts to reduce water use and/or engaging in managed aquifer recharge. The information gained from the survey will be used to help identify approaches/options to reduce groundwater pumping in the Cosumnes Basin that are consistent with the interests of farmers/landowners.

The survey is completely confidential, and you are not obliged to answer all the questions. Please circle your answers below.

- 1. The Cosumnes Groundwater Sustainability Plan calls for saving 3600 AFY in the first 5 years of the plan. Would you be open to finding ways to reduce pumping on your farm to help achieve this goal?**
 - a. Yes
 - b. No
 - c. Maybe

- 2. Would assistance from a Farm Advisor (Ag Extension Agent or similar) help or do you feel you could accomplish this on your own?**
 - a. Yes, I would appreciate assistance
 - b. No, I can do without outside advice
 - c. Unsure

- 3. What type of water management or conservation practices do you currently use or would you consider using in the future?**

a. Soil Moisture Testing	d. Plant Tests/Pressure Bombs
b. Drip or Precision Irrigation	e. Metering
c. Estimating ET	f. Deficit Irrigation

- 4. If you were to reduce water use by up to 15%, how much impact would this have on your farm income?**

a. Significant Impact	d. No Impact
b. Moderate Impact	e. Unsure
c. Minor Impact	

- 5. To implement water conservation practices that result in a 10-15% reduction in applied water, what amount of financial offset would you require?**

a. \$25/acre	c. \$45/acre
b. \$35/acre	d. \$55/acre

- 6. Groundwater Sustainability Plans in other parts of the Central Valley are exploring opportunities for land repurposing to reduce groundwater pumping including: crop shifting, periodic fallowing, dryland farming, long term fallowing and using land for other purposes, such as solar. Some forms of compensation might be available for these forms of repurposing. Have you considered land repurposing?**
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
- 7. Would you be interested in considering land repurposing in the future?**
- Yes
 - No
 - Maybe
- 8. If you answered yes to the previous question, on how many acres would you want to repurpose?**
- Less than 20 acres
 - 20 - 100 acres
 - 100 - 500 acres
- 9. Which types of repurposing are of greatest interest to you? Check all that apply.**
- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| a. Switching to a crop with lower water needs | d. Solar Farming |
| b. Short-term fallowing on a set schedule | e. Habitat Creation |
| c. Dryland Farming (wheat, triticale, etc.) | f. Not interested in land repurposing |
- 10. If you were to idle land on a portion of your farm on a rotational basis, what do you think would be a reasonable yearly compensation?**
- | | |
|---------------|---------------|
| a. \$100/acre | c. \$300/acre |
| b. \$200/acre | d. \$400/acre |
- 11. If you were to switch to growing a low water use crop, dryland farming, or another form of repurposing, what form of compensation would you most prefer?**
- Monetary
 - Reduction in Fees assessed by the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies
 - A combination of both of the above
 - Other form(s) of compensation
- 12. Do you currently have surface water rights?**
- Yes
 - No

c. Unsure

13. If you answered yes to the previous question, do you utilize those surface water rights?

a. Yes (fully)

c. No

b. Yes (partially)

d. Unsure

14. Would you consider aquifer recharge on your farm if compensated in whole or part for implementation costs?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Maybe

15. Do you grow crops that would tolerate being underwater for a few months a year, every few years? For example, when there was flooding in the winter of '22 - '23?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Unsure

16. Do you live near a river, stream or water conveyance structure/facility that could deliver flood waters to your farm?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Unsure

17. Do you have low lying areas on your farm that collect water in the winter?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Unsure

18. If you answered yes to any of the previous two questions, would you consider having a dry well installed in that area?

a. Yes

b. No

c. Unsure

Thank you for participating in this vital step of information gathering!

Please visit <https://www.cosumnesgroundwater.org/> to find the latest meeting information. The CGA holds a Board Meeting every 1st Wednesday of the month and welcomes public participation.