Edition #3 February 2025

## >>> NEWSLETTER <<<

# **COSUMNES GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**

CGA



**2024: A YEAR IN REVIEW** 

WHAT HAS THE COSUMNES GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY BEEN WORKING ON?

# >>> UPDATES ON CGA

The Cosumnes Groundwater Authority was formed in November of 2021 by seven Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs):

- Amador County Groundwater Management Authority
- Clay Water District
- · City of Galt
- Galt Irrigation District
- Omuchumne-Hartnell Water District
- County of Sacramento
- Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District

In 2024, CGA elected a new Chair and Vice Chair to the Board. Beginning in July 202,4 new Board Chair, Lindsay Carter, and Vice Chair and Treasurer, Rick Ferriera, have taken steps to ensure that CGA is running smoothly, financially solvent, and attending to timely issues such as the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and GSA partnerships/communication. CGA also passed a new fee structure with the assistance of our consultants at SCI. This structure is meant to be implemented by each GSA individually, with the majority of the funds coming back to CGA to be used for the preparation of our state required 5-year GSP Evaluation in 2027.

Let's take a look at the other 2024 CGA activities such attending a number of new outreach events, the continued groundwater monitoring and reporting to DWR/SGMA and the free program opportunities for farmers/ranchers through Sloughhouse RCD.

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#### **CGA NEWSLETTER**

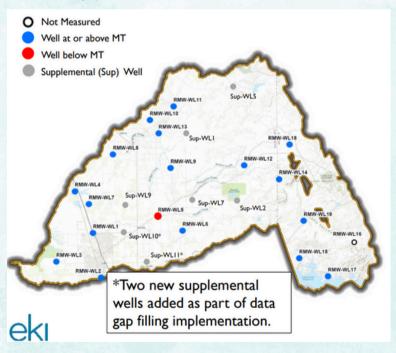


# 2024 GROUNDWATER MONITORING

#### >>> RESULTS OF THE GROUNDWATER MONITORING

CGA staff worked with consultants at EKI Environment and Water to put together groundwater monitoring data for both Spring and Fall 2024. In total, 25 wells were monitored as part of our network. The results found include:

- On average, water levels increased by one foot between Spring 2023 and Spring 2024
- On average, water levels increased by half a foot between Fall 2023 and Fall 2024
- Two new supplemental wells were added as part of the data gap filling implementation that the CGA has been tasked with from DWR.
- 7 out of 8 of the interconnected surface water wells had water levels that were greater than the minimum threshold, with one well equaling the threshold.
- Only one well had levels below the minimum threshold even though the water level had risen in this well by 2 feet since the previous year. CGA is working to fill this data gap and obtain more information.



#### SEE THE FULL REPORT

You can read the full report at <u>CosumnesGroundwater.org</u>on our December 2024 Meeting Drive

#### **CGA NEWSLETTER**

# FARMER/RANCHER CONSERVATION OPPORTUNITIES



#### >>> CONSERVATION PLANS FOR YOUR FARM

One of CGA's Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District, is offering a FREE opportunity for farmers and ranchers to develop a conservation plan.

Sloughhouse RCD was awarded funds through the Conservation Agriculture Planning Grant Program (CAPGP) which will fund the development of various types of agricultural conservation plans. The funded plans will promote conservation efforts which will help to mitigate greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, adapt to climate change impacts, and promote environmental and agricultural sustainability for local landowners, ranchers and farmers. Farms must be in Sacramento County or Tuolumne County (we have partnered with the Tuolumne RCD to fund a handful of plans in that county).

If you are interested, please use the form at this QR code to indicate which Conservation Planning Activity you would be interested in.

### SLOUGHHOUSE MOBILE IRRIGATION LAB <<<

Sloughhouse RCD also began a Mobile Irrigation Lab (MIL) in 2024 as part of a CDFA Water Efficiency grant. The goal of the MIL is to provide a FREE resource to our community that helps growers achieve increased irrigation efficiency which then helps save money with water & energy costs. For interested growers, the MIL team will first ask participants to answer a questionnaire regarding farm/vineyard/orchard irrigation systems, pumps, crops, acreage, etc. Once the questionnaire is completed and submitted, the MIL team will contact you to schedule an evaluation.

During the on-site evaluation, the MIL team will collect data in the fields which will be provided to the grower in a comprehensive & confidential report. The evaluation & report will focus on the following:

- Distribution Dniforty(DU) tests (how evenly water is applied to the surface of the crop)
- Amount of water applied(application rate) during an irrigation event
- Pressure & Flows(map included)
- System recommendations(maintenance, improvements)
- Coordination of a free pump efficiency test



If you are interested in receiving a FREE irrigation system evaluation, please complete this questionnaire using this QR code to qualify.



# **RECENT EVENTS**

# >>> 2024 OUTREACH & ENGAGEMENT

The Outreach and Engagement Committee attended more events in 2024 than ever before! The goal of the Committee is to speak with the public about who CGA is, why we were formed and how we are trying to improve the Cousmnes Subbasin.

The crown jewel event of the year for CGA was our Farmer's Appreciation BBQ. It was so successful that we will be holding another Luncheon this Spring where all CGA irrigators can attend, win raffle prizes, hear about the SRCD Mobile Irrigation Lab and enjoy free lunch! Information about event can be found on the following page.



# **CONTACT US**

For more information about CGA:

<u>Visit our Website:</u>
CosumnesGroundwater.org

Email: info@CosumnesGroundwater.org

Phone: (916) 526-5447

Mailing Address: 8970 Elk Grove Blvd. Elk Grove, CA 95624

**Location:** Galt Police Department Community Room 455 Industrial Dr. Galt, CA 95632

Dates: Wednesday, February 5 from 8:30am - 11:30am Wednesday, April 2 from 8:30am - 11:30am Wednesday, June 4 from 8:30am - 11:30am

#### ATTENDED EVENTS <<<

2/28/24: Farmers BBQ in Herald - Appreciation Event targeting Basin irrigators with information about CGA and GSA Activities and Irrigator support. 6/20/24: Herald Community Club Planning Meeting, discussed CGA and GSA Activities.

8/3/24: Herald Day Community Event was a great opportunity to engaged with stakeholders about groundwater issues, provide help in determining which GSA stakeholders are within, and answered questions about Basin meetings, and the upcoming Ag-Res parcel assessment.

10/5/24: SRCD WETA Workshop at the Wilton Community Center, information was presented about the benefits of the WETA Program, and also important beneficial information was provided by partner organizations who attended.

10/12/24: Wilton Fire Dept Chili Cookoff, Wilton Community Center, a well attended community event provided a great opportunity to engage with stakeholders and answer their groundwater questions

10/26/24: Galt/Arno Cemetery District Day of The Dead Event, also a great opportunity to have discussions with the stakeholders about the Basin.



CGA holds regular board meetings on an every-other-month basis. Members of the public are always welcome join in-person or via Zoom (link on website), ask questions and share comments.



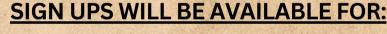
**LUNCH & LEARN MORE ABOUT** 



# SLOUGHHOUSE

Resource Conservation District
HERALD SLOUGHHOUSE WILTON

MOBILE IRRIGATION LAB, AND HOW THIS FREE RESOURCE CAN BENEFIT YOU.



FREE IRRIGATION EVALUATIONS
FREE WELL PUMP EFFICIENCY TESTS

FOOD, DRINKS AND RAFFLE PRIZES

THURSDAY FEBRUARY

2.025

HERALD FIRE STATION

12746 IVIE RD. HERALD, CA 95638

12:00PM - 2:00PM

916-526-5447

MUST RSVP BY FEBRUARY 13TH

**RSVP NOW** 

CALL OR SCAN QR CODE TO SIGN UP







AMADOR COUNTY GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

OMOCHUMNE -HARTNELL WATER DISTRICT



GALT IRRIGATION DISTRICT