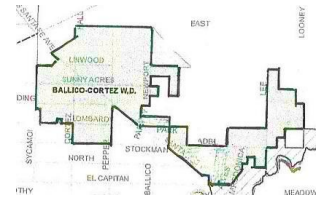


Ballico Cortez Water District Newsletter



Greetings

Last Summer you received a newsletter from the Ballico Cortez Water District (BCWD) board chair about the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) that will affect all of us who pump groundwater for irrigation.

Groundwater Sustainability Agency



We have been aware of overdraft water conditions occurring in our area evident by the drop of standing water levels.

In 2014 California passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) to begin to identify ways to help make groundwater levels and usage more stable.

SGMA requires locally controlled agencies to form Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs). BCWD is part of the East Turlock Groundwater Sustainability Agency. The GSAs are responsible for developing and implementing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

Groundwater Sustainability Plan

GSPs must be completed and submitted for approval to the California Department of Water Resources by 2022. The GSP must include groundwater sustainable water management practices that will bring the groundwater basin into balance by 2040. The best solutions will be part of the GSP. The East Turlock Subbasin and the West Turlock Subbasin are currently in the process of developing a plan. For more information go to www.turlockgroundwater.org

Cost



In previous newsletters we talked about the GSA and the GSP, and that they require funding. We said landowners will be required to contribute. The BCWD cannot afford to be a part of the East Turlock Subbasin GSA without landowner participation. **Beginning September 2019, we must** begin to collect funds from the landowners within our district. Since 1996 the BCWD discontinued collecting assessments from landowners, because there wasn't a need to. Now we have a **tremendous need**. Landowners will be **charged \$3.00 per acre**.

Your Input

We know you will have questions or comments. Our next board meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, June 5, 2019, 9:30 am at Cortez Hall**.



We **welcome and want** your attendance. If you would like to talk to me before the June 5th meeting, you can call me at **209.531.6662**.

Coming Soon

BCWD is developing a website. We hope to be live by June 1. If you have questions, please email our secretary, Karen Whipp at karenballicocortezwater@gmail.com or call her at 209.626.5523.

Thank you for your interest and participation!

Dirk Ulrich
Chairman
Ballico Cortez Water District
209.531.6662