

## APPENDIX D

### **Tehama GSA – 2026 Fee For Extraction Notice**

Available on Tehama GSA Website



## TEHAMA COUNTY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY NOTICE OF HEARING TO ADOPT PROPOSED FEE ON EXTRACTION

In compliance with California State Law, notice is hereby given that the Tehama Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) will hold a **public hearing on: June 25, 2026, at the Tehama County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 727 Oak Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080 at 10:00 AM** to consider the adoption of a new annual fee on extraction starting in Fiscal Year 2026-27 for Tehama GSA operations and implementation of the Antelope, Bowman, Corning, Los Molinos, and Red Bluff Subbasin's Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) in Tehama County required by the State of California pursuant to the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

### **Background:**

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was signed into law in 2014 for the purpose of protecting California's groundwater resources. SGMA requires all high and medium priority basins to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to prevent overdraft and achieve sustainability in the utilization of groundwater resources. The Tehama Subbasins (Basins 5-021.54, 5-006.01, 5-021.51, 5-021.56, and 5-021.50 in the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Bulletin 118) (Subbasins) are high and medium priority Subbasins that has been assigned a critical overdraft designation by DWR. The Subbasins consist of one (1) Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) who coordinated the completion of five (5) individual Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs), each prepared in a coordinated manner as required by SGMA. Tehama County elected to form one (1) GSA representing all groundwater subbasins throughout the County with the portion of the Corning Subbasin located within Glenn County represented by the Corning Sub-basin Committee to achieve SGMA compliance in their service area.

### **Basis of Proposed Fee:**

To provide local groundwater management, sustainability, and SGMA compliance, the Tehama GSA must annually monitor and report groundwater conditions to the State, prepare the required updates to the GSP, conduct required coordination among GSAs in Tehama County and adjoining subbasins, and maintain GSA operations. GSA operations include but are not limited to legal, financial, technical and administration costs (including consultant services, insurance, office and outreach materials, and accounting).

The proposed fee is governed by SGMA legislation and the California Constitution. California Water Code Section 10730 provides authority for the Tehama GSA to impose Fees to support GSA administration, GSP implementation, and SGMA compliance activities. The Tehama GSA has reviewed the available options to fund the Tehama GSA and associated activities over the next five years as explained and documented in the April 2026 SGMA Fee Report.

The service of local groundwater management requires each landowner to cover the cost of groundwater management, GSA administration, GSP implementation, and SGMA compliance including groundwater monitoring, preparation of annual reports, and regulatory compliance activities to ensure that the Tehama GSA is sustainable over the long term, as required by SGMA. Each parcel in the Tehama GSA is required to be managed by a GSP and land within the Tehama County portion of the Subbasins will receive the local management services of the Tehama GSA. Ensuring sustainability will allow the Tehama GSA to maintain local control and **avoid State intervention and operation of the Subbasins, which would result in higher Fees on a basin-wide scale.** If the State Water Resources Control Board intervenes in the Tehama GSA operations, it may impose annual fees ranging from \$100 per domestic well, to \$300 per agricultural well, plus up to \$55 (interim plan rate) per acre-foot of pumped water per well and require annual reporting of extractions to the State. For more information:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/gmp/docs/intervention/intervention\\_fs.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/gmp/docs/intervention/intervention_fs.pdf)

Implementing the proposed fee allows the Tehama GSA to provide groundwater management services and ensures a more tailored and locally managed option for managing the Tehama GSA subbasins while maintaining SGMA compliance for all landowners.

**Proposed Fees:**

The proposed fees fund the service of groundwater management including GSA operations and implementation of the GSP and compliance with SGMA. This fee is based on estimated groundwater use that imposes a maximum fee based on the parcels subject to the fee. The proposed maximum fee of extraction rate will be **\$8.00** per acre foot per acre for each parcel including inflation, for the subsequent four years). The proposed fee of extraction, if approved, will become effective for the 2026-27 fiscal year (beginning July 1, 2026), with the first payment due in December 2026 through the Tehama County property tax bill. **The actual amount of the fee of extraction will be set by Resolution of the Tehama GSA but cannot exceed the maximum water use per parcel fee specified above, including the inflation factor, absent a subsequent fee of extraction approval proceeding.**

Each parcel subject to the fee would only be charged the specified fee of extraction in this notice. For more information, including the Fee Report summarizing the findings, please visit the Tehama GSA website at: <https://tehamacountywater.org/>.

**Public Hearing and Majority Protest:**

Under California State law, owners of land subject to the proposed fee have the right to protest its adoption. If you have received this notice, one or more parcels under your ownership will be subject to the proposed fee. If the identified parcel has more than one record owner only one written protest will be counted. Valid protest forms received before the close of the public hearing will be received and documented prior to consideration of approving the proposed fees.

Landowners desiring to protest the proposed Tehama GSA fee of extraction should send their written protest prior to the public hearing to: Tehama GSA, 1509 Schwab Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080, or in person at the public hearing on June 25, 2026, at 10:00 AM, so long as the protest is received prior to the close of the public hearing. **Protests submitted by e-mail, fax, or other electronic means are not valid and will not be counted as a protest.**

There are multiple ways to obtain additional information about this topic:

- View more information online at <https://tehamacountywater.org/>.
- Call the Tehama GSA at **(530) 690-0700**.
- The Tehama GSA Fee Report will be available for public review during normal business hours at 1509 Schwab Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080.
- For more information about SGMA, see the California Department of Water Resources website: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/SGMA-Groundwater-Management>

*If you do not wish to protest the proposed Tehama GSA SGMA Fee, you do not need to take any action.*



**Tehama GSA FEE OF EXTRACTION PROTEST FORM**

To protest, complete and detach this portion of the fee of extraction notice and mail to Tehama GSA, 1509 Schwab Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080, OR submit in-person at the Public Hearing on June 25, 2026, at 10:00 AM, Tehama County Board of Supervisors Chambers, 727 Oak Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080. All protests must include:

- Landowner Printed Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_
- Assessor's Parcel Number: \_\_\_\_\_
- Statement of Protest: \_\_\_\_\_

Under penalty of law, I affirm that I am the owner(s) or authorized representative of the owner of the above parcel.

- Valid Landowner Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Each parcel is entitled to one protest. If a parcel has more than one owner, all must sign one protest form.