

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION OF THE TULARE LAKE
SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN BY THE
TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

RESOLUTION NO. 20-01

A. WHEREAS, in August 2014, the California Legislature passed, and in September 2014 the Governor signed, legislation creating the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) “to provide local groundwater sustainability agencies with the authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater” (Wat. Code, section 10720, subd. (d)); and

B. WHEREAS, groundwater sustainability under SGMA is to be achieved through groundwater sustainability plans (“GSPs”), which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agency (“GSA”) or multiple coordinated plans within a basin or subbasin (Wat. Code section 10727); and

C. WHEREAS, the Tri-County Water Authority GSA (“TCWA GSA”) was created as a joint powers authority under a joint powers agreement on January 1, 2015, as amended on January 7, 2016, and amended and restated effective January 1, 2017, and submitted notice of its election to form a GSA to the Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) on February 28, 2017 pursuant to California Water Code section 10723.8; and

D. WHEREAS, TCWA GSA is authorized to exercise all actions required or authorized by DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board for GSA purposes; and

E. WHEREAS, TCWA GSA’s jurisdictional area is divided into three management areas: the North Management Area, the Southeast Management Area and the West Management Area. The North and Southeast Management Areas overlay a portion of Tule Subbasin number 5-22.13 in Tulare County, and the West Management Area overlies a portion of Tulare Lake Subbasin number 5.022-12 in Kings County. Both Subbasins are in the San Joaquin Valley Groundwater Basin identified in DWR Bulletin 118, as its boundaries may be modified from time to time as provided by law. DWR has designated both Tule and Tulare Lake Subbasins as critically overdrafted. Under SGMA, GSAs in critically overdrafted subbasins are required to submit separate and/or joint GSPs to DWR by January 31, 2020; and

F. WHEREAS, there are five GSAs in the Tulare Lake Subbasin: Mid-Kings River GSA, South Fork Kings GSA, El Rico GSA, Southwest Kings GSA, and TCWA GSA (collectively, the “Tulare Lake GSAs”). The Tulare Lake GSAs entered into an Interim Operating Agreement on September 17, 2017; and

G. WHEREAS, the Tulare Lake GSAs worked cooperatively to prepare and release the draft GSP (the “Tulare Lake GSP”) by posting it on each of the Tulare Lake GSA’s websites. Public comments were accepted on the Tulare Lake GSP and the TCWA GSA has reviewed comments received related to the Western Management Area, and worked to revise the Tulare Lake GSP as appropriate; and

H. WHEREAS, the Northern and Southeastern Management Areas will be covered in a separate GSP for the Tule Subbasin prepared by TCWA GSA; and

I. WHEREAS, on September 3, 2019, Mid-Kings River GSA, on behalf of the Tulare Lake Subbasin GSAs, e-mailed a 90-day notice to the County of Kings to inform the land use authority that it would be conducting a public hearing on December 2, 2019 to adopt the Tulare Lake GSP, pursuant to Water Code Section 10728.4. Notice of the public hearing was also published in the Corcoran Journal and several other basin-wide journals to provide notice to the public; and

J. WHEREAS, TCWA GSA has conducted public outreach, including direct mailing to landowners in the TCWA GSA's boundaries, holding public board and technical committee meetings, posting notices on its public website, and e-mailing all interested parties who signed up for notice. Additionally, two subbasin-wide outreach meetings were held on October 9, 2019 in Hanford and October 15, 2019 in Lemoore.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Directors of TCWA GSA finds as follows:

1. The above Recitals are true and correct and the Board of Directors so finds, orders, and determines.
2. The Board of Directors hereby approves and adopts the Tulare Lake GSP in substantially the form presented, subject to such modifications as the executing officer shall approve, said execution to provide conclusive proof of approval of any such modifications.
3. The Agency authorizes the Executive Director and its consultants to take such other actions as may be reasonably necessary to coordinate with the other Tulare Lake GSAs to ensure the submission of the Tulare Lake GSP to DWR by January 31, 2020, and implement the purpose of this Resolution.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of January, 2020 by the following vote:

AYES: 4 Cory Vanderham, Mark Grewal, Steve Jackson, Jack Mitchell
NAYS: 0
ABSTAIN: 0
ABSENT: 0



Cory VanderHam, Chairman

Attest:



Deanna Jackson, Secretary

Date: 1-22-20