

Draft Slides

TEHAMA COUNTY

**DRY WELL
MITIGATION
WORKING GROUP
MEETING**

SEPTEMBER 23, 2025



WELCOME & INTROS

Working Group Members

- Martin Spannaus (Tehama County Farm Bureau)
- Tia Branton (Tehama County Environmental Health)
- Commission Ad Hoc
 - Martha Slack (Rio Alto WD)
 - Seth Lawrence (District 3)
 - Todd Hamer (Los Molinos CSD)

Staff and Support

- Justin Jenson and Adriana Langarica (District)
- Stephanie Horii, Facilitator (CBI)

PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES



Contribute



Make room for
others



All thoughts have
value



Ask questions of
one another



Not consensus-
seeking



Consider those
listening in (state
name, one voice
at a time)

AGENDA

1:00 Welcome, Intros, and Updates

**1:10 Well Mitigation Program Development
Process Review and Current Status**

**1:20 Overview of Straw Proposal and
Background**

1:30 Key Talking/Discussion Points

2:15 Next Steps:

2:25 Close and Adjourn

WELL MITIGATION PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS & CURRENT STATUS

Why We're Here:

- DWR approved revised GSPs, included commitments to management actions (2025)
 - Board Resolution No. 3-2024 to develop Well Mitigation Program
- Address water well impacts from declining groundwater levels from GSA management activities during GSP implementation

Current Status:

- Program development underway; Ad hoc developed initial straw proposal
- Implementation readiness needed for potential dry wells
- Coordination with related programs and potential partners

AD HOC & WORKING GROUP

Working Group

- Represent interests of their respective group(s).
- Provide input and feedback on groundwater dry well mitigation strategies.
- Assist in identifying potential impacts and benefits of proposed management strategies.
- Facilitate communication between the Ad Hoc, Commission, and stakeholders.
- Support implementation of the Groundwater Dry Well Mitigation Program.

Ad Hoc

- Same as above as well as present recommendations for the Commission to discuss and consider

AD HOC AND WORKING GROUP MEETINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Ad Hoc meeting monthly; Working Group meeting every other month
 - Frequency will change per need
- Not subject to Brown Act
- Public can listen in to Working Group meetings
- Audio recordings posted to website
- Ad Hoc will report back to the Commission; BOD makes final decisions
- When talking to external parties, members are asked to represent their own views only.

WELL MITIGATION PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK / TIMELINE

1. Form Groups & Prepare

- Formation & Planning
- Defining Goals, Objectives, and Priorities

2. Gather Info and Generate Ideas

- Information Collection and Analyses/ Assessments
- Identify Management Strategies

3. Explore and Package Ideas

- Build Out Specific Elements and Strategies
- Outreach Coordination

4. Refine

- Vet and refine program elements and strategies

5. 'Finalize' and Implement

- Finalize elements for Ad Hoc recommendations
- Identify considerations and opportunities to improve implementation feasibility



**GSA Boards
Review/
Consider for
Approval**

Jan 2026

WELL MITIGATION PROGRAM | DRAFT STRAW PROPOSAL

District committed to undertake mitigation actions through development and implementation of a Well Mitigation Program Program

Due to major **cost and well depth** differences, Program will consist of two different versions: **domestic and non-domestic.**

Draft Straw Proposal Current Content

- Eligibility and Application
- Mitigation Measures
- Funding and Financing
- Well Owner Agreement
- Key Talking / Discussion Points

KEY TALKING / DISCUSSION POINTS

Version of Program

Cost to Applicant

**Well Assessment to Be
Completed**

Age of Well

Misc.

- **Well age proration:** Proposed proration rate (e.g., #% per yr for XX-yr lifespan). How determine the well's age, especially if missing documentation? Any guidance/rubrics?
- **Cost-cap for well replacement.** Review data and typical installation costs (D Env't Health). Discuss approach for setting a reasonable cap for program reimbursement.
- **Eligibility criteria.** Confirm approach for who's eligible. Not distinguishing b/w domestic or non; using same monetary cap
- **Application and inspection fees.** Discuss proposed process (e.g., applicants paying for inspections, recommended pre-application steps, etc.)
- **Abandonment of old wells.** Review rationale for requiring and associated costs (D Env't Health?)
- **Demonstrating dry well caused by over-pumping.** Demonstrating chronic lowering of GWL as trigger.
- **Temporary mitigation options.** Interim solutions, potential partnership with North Valley Community Foundation

NEXT STEPS & ADJOURN

- Next steps and anticipated timeline for developing the Well Mitigation Program
- Specific topics and activities for the Ad Hoc and/or Working Group?
- Next meeting

