



# North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency

## NEWSLETTER

### FALL 2022

## Online Portal to Support Well Registration and Future Sustainability Programs

At their September Board meeting, the North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board discussed and approved a proposal by MLJ Environmental to develop a North Fork Kings GSA online portal. The Board members expressed their desire for a portal that was easy to use by landowners, cost-efficient, and could be expanded to support future sustainability programs. The immediate use of the portal will be to register existing wells within the boundaries of the North Fork Kings GSA. Well registration is an essential undertaking to better manage groundwater.

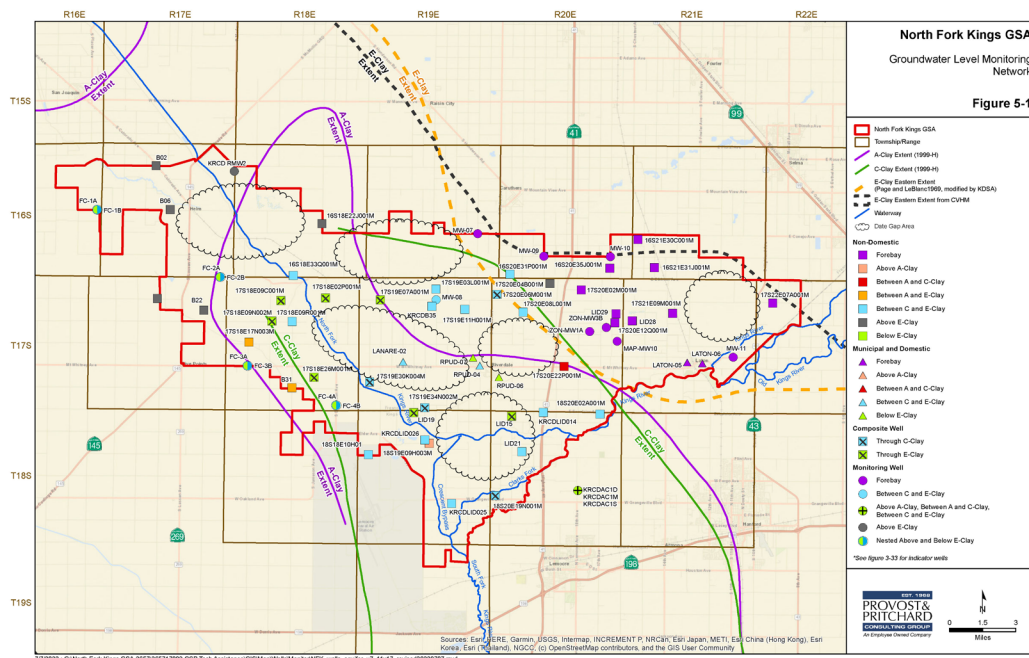
To provide a user-friendly experience for landowners, the portal will be similar in function to the Kings River Water Quality Coalition member portal. To streamline well registration, Coalition members will have the ability within their member portal to share contact information and other data with the North Fork Kings portal, such as crop, parcel, and management practices. No data from the Coalition member would be accessed or shared with the North Fork Kings GSA without the member's consent and authorization. If a landowner is not a member of the Coalition, they will have the ability to create a North Fork Kings portal account and directly enter the requested information.

It is anticipated the portal will be available for use by early 2023. Those landowners or residents who use less than 2 acre-feet per year (an acre foot is approximately 326,000 gallons) of groundwater will not be required to register their wells.

## Inactive Wells Needed to Help Fill In Groundwater Data Gaps

The North Fork Kings GSA needs additional groundwater data to provide a more accurate understanding of groundwater levels and storage. This data is necessary to make the best decisions for managing groundwater.

The black circles on the map to the right show the areas where additional monitoring wells are needed. If you have an inactive well within one of these circles that is not sealed off, the North Fork Kings GSA can use your well to provide additional data points and create a more accurate picture of groundwater depths and changes. There is also a great need to have wells for monitoring the confined aquifer in the western portion of the GSA. Inactive wells are preferred, but production wells are okay if inactive wells are not available.



Volunteering to participate in the monitoring program is at no cost to the landowner and all data is represented in the aggregate as part of the larger groundwater monitoring program. Contact General Manager Justin Mendes at 559.240.4281 or email [jmendes@northforkkings.org](mailto:jmendes@northforkkings.org) if you would like more information on how to include your well in the North Fork Kings GSA groundwater monitoring program.

## North Fork Kings GSA Dairy Workshop Participants Learned About Grants, Well Mitigation

A number of dairy owners participated in the NFKGSA Dairy Workshop held in September. Those attending were provided updates on GSA activities by General Manager Mendes. In addition, Self-Help Enterprises discussed resources available for domestic well mitigation and representatives from Common Good Water made a presentation on their groundwater pumping reduction program that promotes the conversion of flood-irrigated forage crops to subsurface drip irrigation.

## General Manager Justin Mendes Column



I want to thank everyone who has signed up for updates and attended meetings the past few months. It has been informative meeting many of you and engaging in productive conversations. A lot is happening in SGMA as neighboring Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) implement new policies they believe will put them on a path to sustainability. With multiple SGMA strategies playing out around us, it may appear we are not moving fast enough on implementing our own strategies. It is important to remember these policies are specific to those GSAs and do not apply to the North Fork Kings GSA.

Our Board of Directors and Technical Advisory Group are diving into the available data to begin crafting our own policies. It is essential for you and other stakeholders to know where we are headed. With our consultant team, I will be putting together a "North Fork Kings Road Map." Some crucial decisions will need to be made next year. While we don't have answers today, I want to provide a document that lets you know what future decisions will be in front of the Board, so you can provide input into the process. Many times when I talk to landowners, we end up with more questions than answers, which is a good thing because thorough discussion becomes good policy. Our Board is made up of community members and farmers like you who want to hear your ideas to help them make sound decisions.

One specific topic of discussion lately has been a possible groundwater allocation. We will not be implementing this any time soon, but it is necessary to start studying what that number will be so the farms and communities in the GSA can plan with some degree of certainty. Our GSA will be the first one in the Kings Subbasin to start this conversation and like everything in water policy, it can be contentious. As we start making tough decisions, I want everyone to know they can always contact me with questions or ideas.

North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
4886 E. Jensen Ave.  
Fresno, CA 93725

**Important groundwater updates for  
North Fork Kings GSA landowners enclosed.**



Email Manager Justin Mendes  
[jmendes@northforkkings.org](mailto:jmendes@northforkkings.org)



Call us at **559.242.6118**



Visit our website  
[www.northforkkings.org](http://www.northforkkings.org)

**Grower Advisory Committee Formed:** At their October meeting, the Board approved revisions to the bylaws, which included the formation of a Grower Advisory Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice to the Board on matters related to SGMA, and specifically to represent agricultural interests. The Grower Advisory Committee shall report directly to the Board. In addition to two Board members, the Committee shall be comprised of five to ten members. Each member shall represent agricultural interests. Members shall be selected through an application process. You can view the revised bylaws on the North Fork Kings GSA website, [www.northforkkings.org/board-of-directors/documents](http://www.northforkkings.org/board-of-directors/documents) under the Agency Documents tab.

### North Fork Kings GSA Board Members

Division 1	Division 2	Division 3	Division 4	Division 5	Division 6	Division 7
<b>Buddy Mendes</b>	<b>Frank Zonneveld</b>	<b>Jim Petty</b>	<b>Mark McKean</b>	<b>Leonard Acquistapace</b>	<b>Stephen Maddox</b>	<b>Tony Campos</b>
County of Fresno	Clarks Fork Reclamation Laguna ID Upper San Jose Water Co.	Lanare CSD Laton CSD Riverdale PUD	Crescent Canal Co. Stinson Canal & Irrigation Co.	Reed Ditch Co. Riverdale ID	Burrel Ditch Co. Liberty Mill Race Co.	Liberty Canal Co. Liberty Water District