



Newsletter

Latest Groundwater Updates in Your Area

Local Growers are Working Towards a Sustainable Future in North Fork Kings GSA Through Groundwater Recharge

This year's record water year has led to a unique opportunity for North Fork Kings GSA growers to contribute to groundwater sustainability through groundwater recharge - the application of using available surface water during wet years to recharge the aquifer beneath growers' land.

JOHN COELHO CREATES GENERATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY WITH RECHARGE

John Coelho is leading a decades-long, multi-generational farming career. He's creating a sustainable operation for the generations that follow him.

John operates Casaca Vineyards with his brother, and thinks strategically about managing water supplies, especially when it comes to correcting groundwater overdraft.



John Coelho, Casaca Vineyards

"You've got to build it before you need it."

- JOHN COELHO

In 2017, he built a groundwater recharge pond where he started using his own acreage to recharge the aquifer. In 2022, he built another

320-acre pond. Though there were drought conditions between 2017 and 2022, the 2023 wet water year filled both ponds for groundwater recharge. He says it's important to be ready to capture surface water so that during wet years he can help keep surface water within the North Fork Kings GSA boundary.



Scan the QR code to read more about John's story!

REID POTTER USES OPEN FIELDS TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THIS YEAR'S UNPRECEDENTED WET CONDITIONS

Reid Potter, a grower in the North Fork Kings GSA, was one of several within the agency to take the opportunity to perform groundwater recharge during this unprecedented wet year. Reid has a long history of farming, beginning in 1970 with his father's purchase of a ranch within the North Fork Kings GSA area.

"This year when we had all this water, I knew I had to do something."

- REID POTTER

To perform recharge, Reid flooded the open fields on his ranch. He also identified nearby landowners with surface water and open fields to help them perform recharge on their land. "We're all in this together. We could



Scan the QR code to read more about Reid's story! solve our problems if we got everybody involved," he said.

NEW GROUNDWATER RECHARGE PROJECT REGISTRATION FORM TO HELP LANDOWNERS RECEIVE CREDITS

The North Fork Kings GSA has developed a new recharge project registration form for compliant landowner-driven recharge operations. The form is now available online.

The recharge project registration form benefits landowners within the North Fork Kings GSA who conducted intentional surface water recharge in 2023 and wish to seek future groundwater extraction credits. Being aware of the recharge projects allows the North Fork Kings GSA to give proper credit to stakeholders performing recharge once policies governing groundwater credits are in place.



Download the form and learn more by scanning QR code or visit www.northforkkings.org



Flooded open field on Reid Potter's ranch
Photo credit: Reid Potter

CONTACT GENERAL MANAGER JUSTIN MENDES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT PRACTICING RECHARGE AT 559.242.6118 OR JMENDES@NORTHFORKKINGS.ORG

To read the full stories online, scan the QR codes with your cell phone camera, or visit www.northforkkings.org

North Fork Kings GSA Establishes Grower Advisory Committee

The North Fork Kings GSA has formed a Grower Advisory Committee comprised of local growers. The committee was formed to provide input and guidance on policies and programs the North Fork Kings GSA is implementing, including the development of groundwater allocations, the launch of a well registration tool, and more.

The committee consists of nine local growers and is led by Chair Dan Errotabere and Vice Chair Adam Mendes. When selecting members, geographic representation and acreage were taken into consideration, ensuring a diverse and inclusive representation within the committee.

"Only by working collectively with fellow stakeholders and the Board, will we be able to move forward in a positive manner and develop successful solutions." said committee member Matt Efir.

General Manager Justin Mendes envisions the committee to be the primary sounding board for future policies and plans, and to help with outreach by acting as ambassadors between the agency and growers within North Fork Kings GSA.



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North Fork Kings GSA to Perform a Canal Capacity Study

North Fork Kings GSA is performing a canal capacity study during the 2023-24 fiscal year to (article continued below)



North Fork Kings
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency
P.O. BOX 158
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**IMPORTANT GROUNDWATER UPDATES FOR
NORTH FORK KINGS GSA LANDOWNERS ENCLOSED.**

Una copia en español de este informativo se puede encontrar en el sitio web: www.northforkkings.org/resources

(continued from above) identify where potential improvements can be made. The study will allow surface water units within the North Fork Kings GSA to deliver as much available Kings River water as possible for irrigation and recharge to help comply with SGMA, and aims to increase the capacity of the systems to bring more surface water in to offset groundwater pumping and conduct groundwater recharge.



Scan the QR code to read more!

New Tool for Growers to Understand Their Water Use and Register Wells Is Launching This Year

A new online tool to help growers and residents understand their water use and register wells will launch this fall. Currently in development by the North Fork Kings GSA's consultant MLJ Environmental, the tool is being designed for users to easily view their historic water use data and register their wells.

The new tool will improve the usefulness of this information by allowing users to view the data for their own fields in a personalized and interactive way. Viewing the data will become increasingly important for growers who will benefit from routinely tracking water use once a groundwater allocation is implemented.

Besides technical need, the tool creates a platform for streamlined communications between the North Fork Kings GSA and its stakeholders. For domestic well users, this could mean receiving notice and resources before their well goes dry during a drought. The tool will house information like well location and the user's contact information so the North Fork Kings GSA can identify at-risk wells and notify households ahead of time.



Scan the QR code to read more!