

Chapter Eight

IMPLEMENTATION & ENFORCEMENT OF PLAN ACTIONS

This Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) establishes the actions, which include the policies, projects, and implementation schedule, to achieve groundwater sustainability, in accordance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

For those landowners within the GSA who do not comply with the Actions of the GSP established to achieve sustainability, SGMA provides the GSA with the authority to enforce the approved actions. The Action of the GSP which are enforceable under the GSP include:

1. Failure to pay GSA assessments or pumping fees
2. Pumping of groundwater beyond the allowable limits set forth in this GSP
3. Failure to provide the GSA with required information

In the event of noncompliance by a landowner of the GSA, the following enforcement process will be implemented:

- At time a landowner is identified as not complying with the approved Actions of the GSP, a Notice of Non-Compliance (NONC) letter will be issued to the landowner. The NONC will identify the area(s) of non-compliance and request formal response from the landowner identifying plan to get back into compliance within 30 days.
- If the landowner does not respond to the NONC letter within 30 days, a Notice of Violation (NOV) will be issued to the landowner, stating that the landowner is now in violation of the GSP implementing SGMA. The NOV will request a meeting within 15 days to discuss a plan of action to meet compliance. At the time of issuing a NOV, an administrative fine of \$5 per acre fee will be assessed to that parcel(s) in violation, to be paid within 15 days.
- If a landowner has been determined to have pumped groundwater beyond the allowable limits, the landowner will receive a penalty of \$1,000 per acre-foot and a reduction of groundwater credits will be applied to the landowner account. The reduction shall be the overage of pumping plus an additional factor of 1.5 times.
- If a landowner does not correct a NOV, a lien against the property will be filed by the GSA and the GSA will pursue action according to Water Codes Sections 25500- 26677
- If a lien has been filed against the property for outstanding balances (amounts added to assessments) from the previous year, then the landowner will not be served any surface water pursuant to Irrigation District policy.

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- All fees collected will be used to for GSP implementation activities, including but not limited to, GSA administration and GSP project funding and implementation.