North Kings GSA Advisory Committee Meeting 2-9-2024

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
   - Teleconference Instructions For Members of the Public

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Written and Verbal Comments

Members of the public are encouraged to participate in the Advisory Committee and will have an opportunity to provide public comments during the meeting under Agenda Item No. 2 and following each agenda item discussion. No prior arrangements are required to be able to make public comment but comments are limited to three (3) minutes.

Written Comments can also be provided up to one hour prior to the scheduled meeting. Written comments received in advance of the meeting will be read onto the record during the public comment portion when the item is heard. Any portion of your comment extending past three (3) minutes may not be read aloud due to time restrictions but will be made part of the record of proceedings.

AGENDA

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

2. Public Presentation

AGENDA

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

3. Approval of Minutes:

- a. Discussion/Possible Action – January 12, 2024 Meeting Minutes

AGENDA

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

4. Financial Report:

- a. Discussion/Possible Action – Recommend Approval of Expense Report – December 2023
- b. Discussion / Possible Action – Recommend Approval of the Financial Statements as of December 31, 2023
- c. Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Budget Update

AGENDA

5. Receive – Basin Coordination Update (Samuelian)

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Kings Basin Update

- Continuing work on 3 Primary Data Gap Studies
  - Well Mitigation Program, Confined Aquifer and Interconnected Surface Water
  - Initiated Interbasin ISW effort with Madera for San Joaquin River
- Other GSP corrective actions will follow 3 studies
- Basin level approach identified, then bring to technical committees
- Revised GSPs will be publicly noticed again and re-adopted by Boards
- Water Allocation Framework discussions ongoing
- Collected fall water level readings
- Annual report for WY22-23 being prepared
- Tracking State Board process for other basins

Kings Basin Update

- Schedule for studies and GSP revisions

TASK	2023					2024												2025
	A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	J
Confined Aquifer Study																		
ISW Studies																		
Basin Domestic Well Mitigation Program																		
GSA Specific Domestic Well Mitigation Plans																		
GSP Language Revisions																		
Admin Draft GSPs and Periodic Eval (PE) to GSAs																		
Draft GSPs & PE Posted for Comment																		
Draft GSP Revisions																		
Final GSP & PE Adoption by GSA Boards																		
GSP Posting to SGMA Portal																		

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

6. Administrative

6.a . NKGSA Representative Monitoring Network Improvements

- Short Term - $25,000 Available for Projects (Improvements)

Well ID	Recommended Improvement	Cost
FID Well 41 - Well 14S19E33D001	Monitor FID Well 41 and the nearby new well. Need to survey the new well.	Minimal
FID Well 40 – Well 14S19E32D001MX	Consider swapping out with a dedicated monitoring well located nearby	$1500 – obtain construction information on new well.
FID Well 15 Well 13s17e25C001	Well was deepened – continue using in the network; need to resurvey the deepened well.	Minimal
Existing FP Well	Very Oily - need to hire contractor to remove the oil to get a better and more consistent measurement.	$5,000.00

6.a. Representative Monitoring Network

- Other Improvements
- Short-Term
  - Work with DWR to Complete the TSS Well
  - Data Loggers and Telemetry
    - Proposal to add at up to 10 monitoring wells – Cost - $20,000.00
    - Recommendation: Dedicate Project Costs - $25,000 to representative monitoring network improvements.

6.a. Representative Monitoring Network

- Other Improvements
- Long Term
  - Add Up to 48 New Dedicated Monitoring Wells to the Network
    - Develop 3 to 5 year plan – starting FY 2024/2025
    - Begin drilling dedicated monitoring wells in Fall 2024 – dependent upon available budget.

6.b. Minimum Well Depth Construction Policy – NKGSA 2024-001

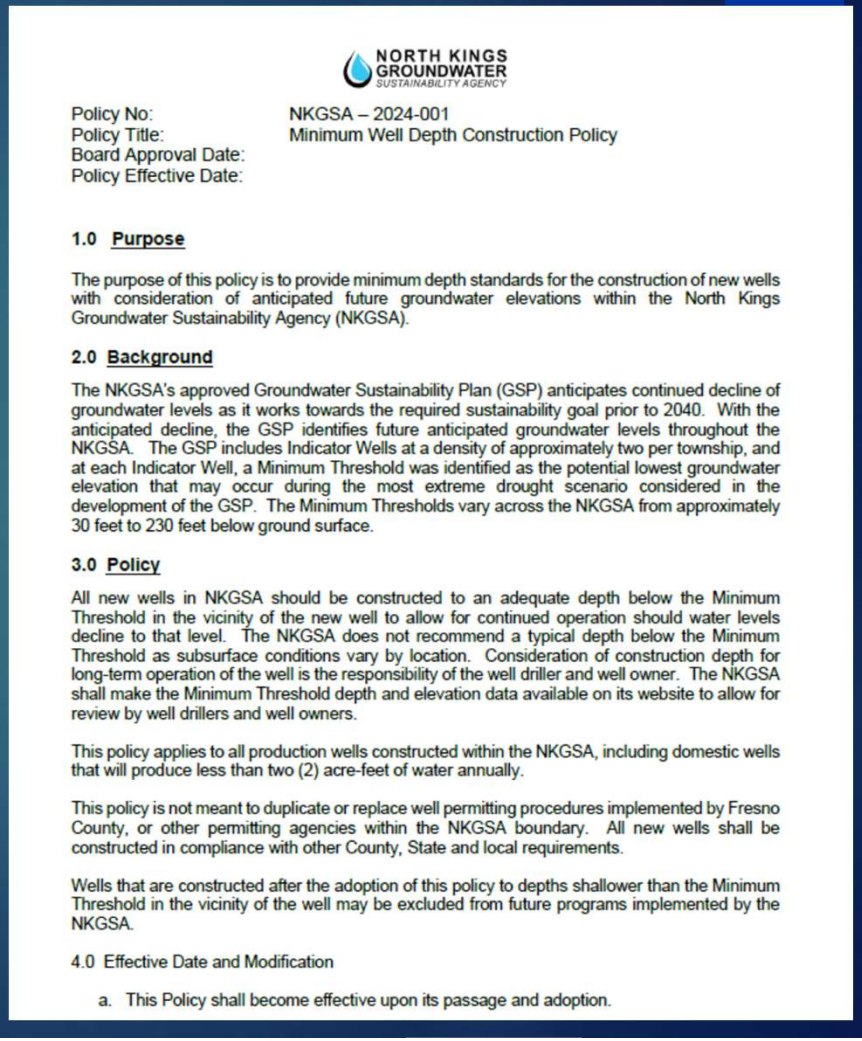
- Purpose: Provide minimum depth standards for the construction of new wells with consideration of anticipated future GW elevations within the NKGSA.
- WHY?
  - Glide Path Approach Allows GW Levels to Decline
  - Need to Mitigate for GW Uses and Users Impacted by Declining GW Levels
  - Implementing a Domestic Well Mitigation Program in Future
  - Stop the Bleeding

6.b. Minimum Well Depth Construction Policy – NKGSA 2024-001

- Other Considerations
  - Ministerial Permit Process – Drilling New Wells
  - Can't Deny Drilling, But CAN:
    - Limit Pumping
    - Limit Available Resources from NKGSA – For Wells Not Drilled to Standard
  - Since January 2020 – No Shallow Wells
  - Review Only of Domestic Well Permits – Limited Opportunity to Provide Comment
  - Policy Memorializes the NKGSA Standard – Controls Future Liabilities and Responsibilities

6.b. Minimum Well Depth Construction Policy – NKGSA 2024-001

- Recommendation:
  - For the Advisory Committee to recommend approval of NKGSA 2024-001 Minimum Well Depth Construction Policy to the North Kings GSA Board of Directors at its February 22nd Board Meeting.



NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Policy No: NKGSA – 2024-001
Policy Title: Minimum Well Depth Construction Policy
Board Approval Date:
Policy Effective Date:

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide minimum depth standards for the construction of new wells with consideration of anticipated future groundwater elevations within the North Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (NKGSA).

2.0 Background

The NKGSA's approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) anticipates continued decline of groundwater levels as it works towards the required sustainability goal prior to 2040. With the anticipated decline, the GSP identifies future anticipated groundwater levels throughout the NKGSA. The GSP includes Indicator Wells at a density of approximately two per township, and at each Indicator Well, a Minimum Threshold was identified as the potential lowest groundwater elevation that may occur during the most extreme drought scenario considered in the development of the GSP. The Minimum Thresholds vary across the NKGSA from approximately 30 feet to 230 feet below ground surface.

3.0 Policy

All new wells in NKGSA should be constructed to an adequate depth below the Minimum Threshold in the vicinity of the new well to allow for continued operation should water levels decline to that level. The NKGSA does not recommend a typical depth below the Minimum Threshold as subsurface conditions vary by location. Consideration of construction depth for long-term operation of the well is the responsibility of the well driller and well owner. The NKGSA shall make the Minimum Threshold depth and elevation data available on its website to allow for review by well drillers and well owners.

This policy applies to all production wells constructed within the NKGSA, including domestic wells that will produce less than two (2) acre-feet of water annually.

This policy is not meant to duplicate or replace well permitting procedures implemented by Fresno County, or other permitting agencies within the NKGSA boundary. All new wells shall be constructed in compliance with other County, State and local requirements.

Wells that are constructed after the adoption of this policy to depths shallower than the Minimum Threshold in the vicinity of the well may be excluded from future programs implemented by the NKGSA.

4.0 Effective Date and Modification

a. This Policy shall become effective upon its passage and adoption.

6. Admin.

c. Well Permitting Update

***2023: 293 total**

All Well Permits Issued	Number
January	5
February (to date)	2
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	
Total – To Date	

6.d . Well Registration Tool

- Roll Out Schedule – February/March 2024

- Portal Accessible on NKGSA Website Home Page – Feb
- Well Registration Educational Webpage Live on NKGSA Website – Feb
- Email Blast Via NKGSA and FID email distro lists – Feb
- Coordination with Fresno County White Area Landowners – Re-engagement

- Full Launch – April – December 2024

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

7. Workgroup Updates and Actions

7. Workgroup Updates

- a. Technical Workgroup Update (Claes)
- b. Kings Water Alliance – Stakeholder Advisory Committee Report (Koehn)

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

8. Member Agency Reports

a. i. Water Supply Update – (Claes)

a.ii. Others

8.a Water Operations Report

CVP & San Joaquin River:

- Millerton Lake Storage: 297,000 AF
- Initial allocations released by end of Feb
- Friant Class 1 – anticipated 60-80%

8.a Water Operations Report

Kings River:

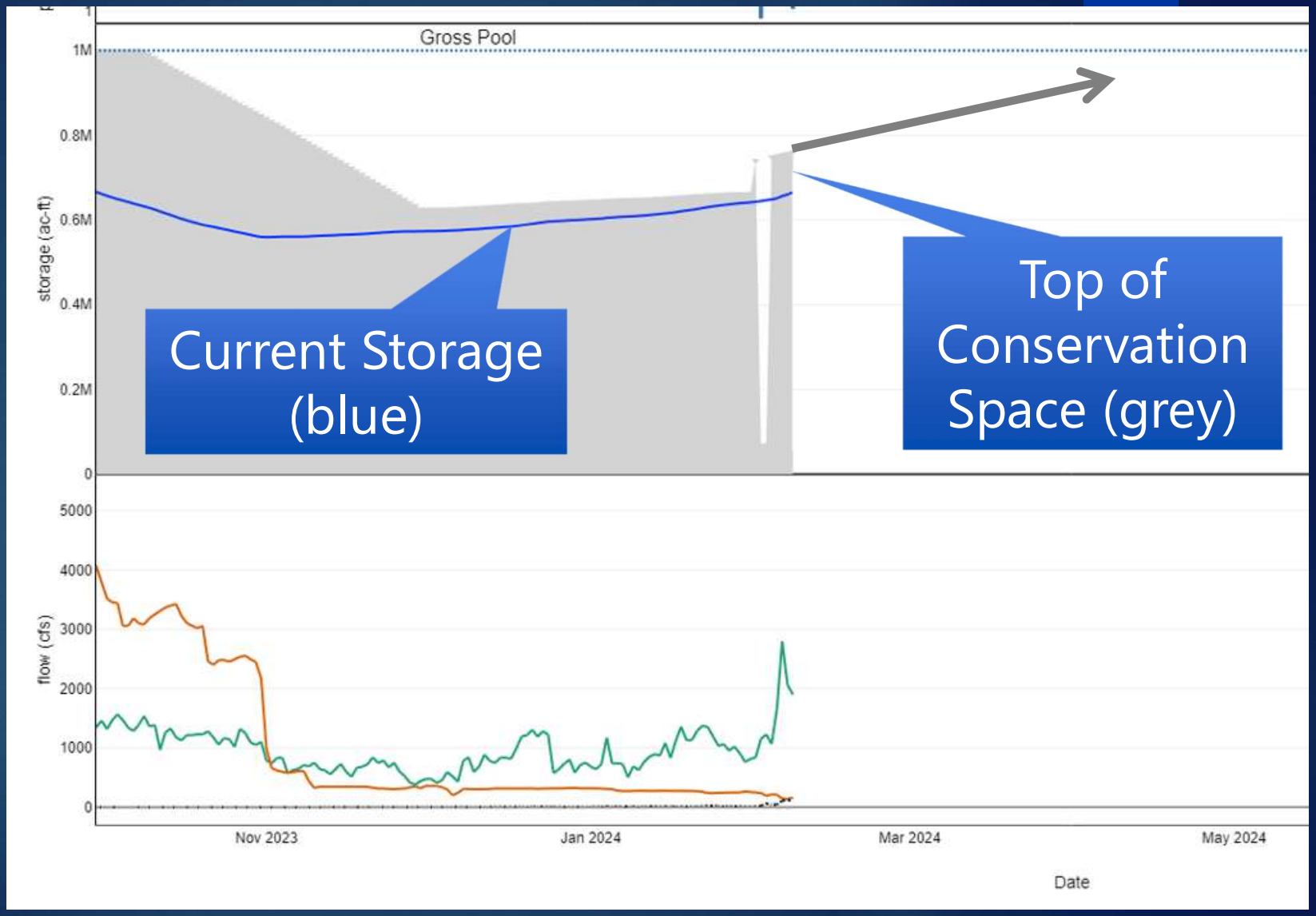
- Pine Flat Storage: 663,000 AF (FID @ 62k AF)
- Pre-Project: 2,100 cfs
- FID entitlement: 477 CFS
- FID diversion: 0 cfs (Kings), 45 cfs (CVP)

8.a Water Operations Report

February 1 Snow Survey Results:

- Occurred before Feb 4 – 7 storms
- Kings River:
  - KRWA – 37% of avg (date), 23% of April 1 avg
  - ASO – 294,000 AF snow water content
    - KRWA estimates now ~600k AF
  - Today live snow sensors: ~40% April 1 avg
- San Joaquin River:
  - ASO – 348,000 AF snow water content

Pine Flat Reservoir

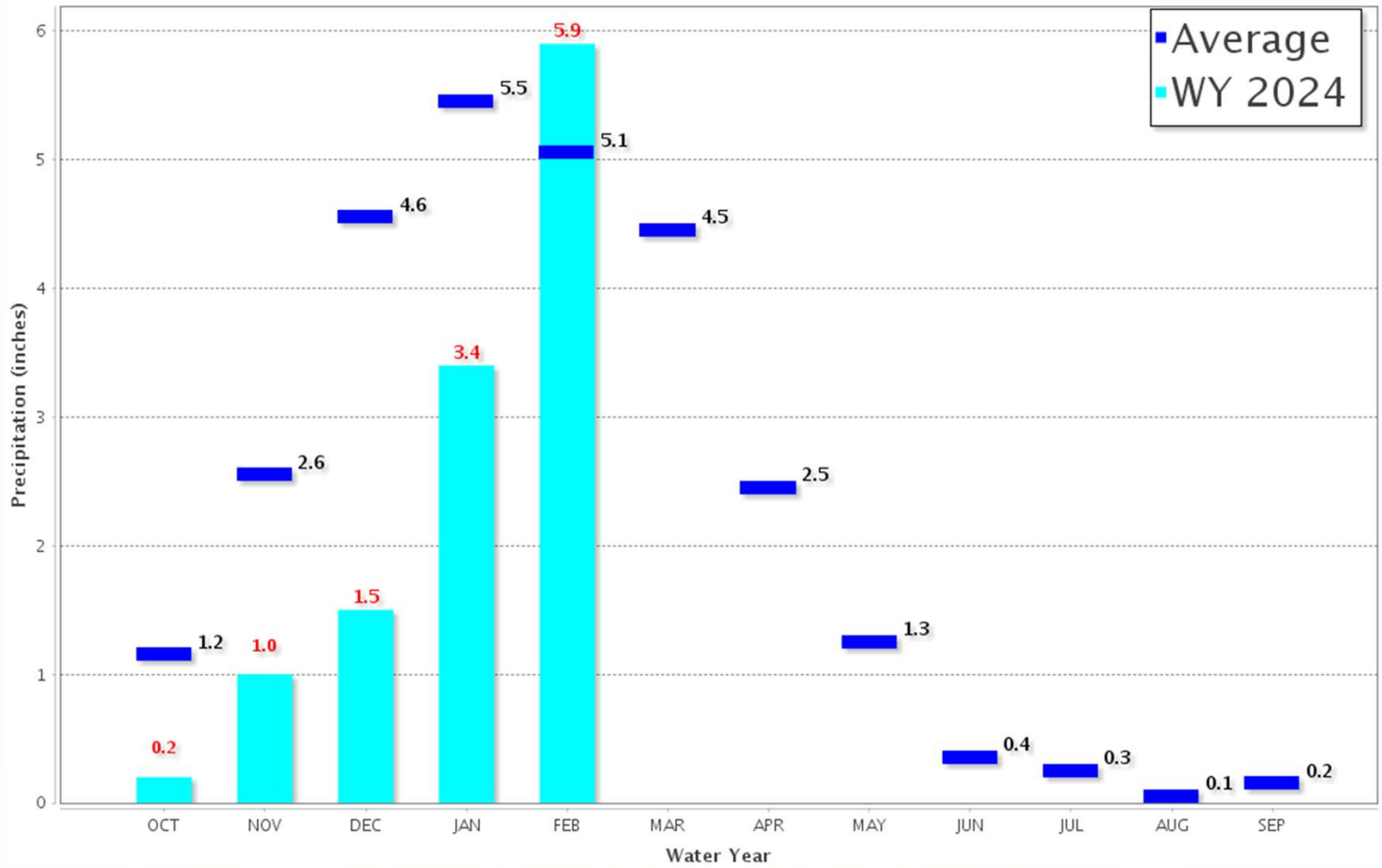


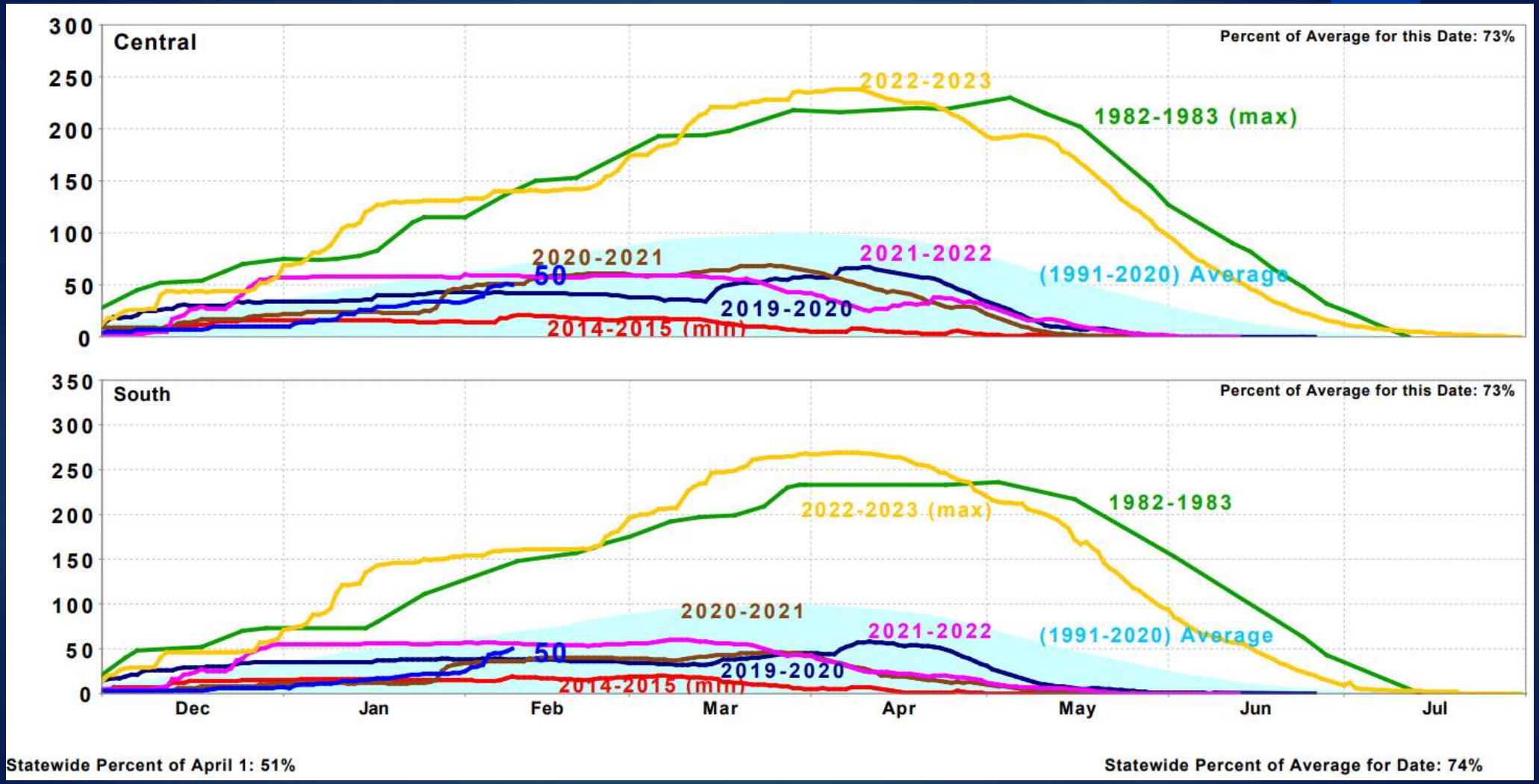
Tulare Basin 6-Station

Precipitation Index for Water Year 2024 - Updated on February 9, 2024 09:48 AM

Note: Monthly totals may not add up to seasonal total because of rounding

Water Year Monthly totals are calculated based on Daily precipitation data from 12am to 12am PST




Central
Percent of Average for this Date: 73%
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
2022-2023
1982-1983 (max)
2020-2021
2021-2022
50
(1991-2020) Average
2019-2020
2014-2015 (min)
South
Percent of Average for this Date: 73%
350
300
250
200
150
100
50
0
2022-2023 (max)
1982-1983
2020-2021
2021-2022
50
(1991-2020) Average
2019-2020
2014-2015 (min)
Dec
Jan
Feb
Mar
Apr
May
Jun
Jul
Statewide Percent of April 1: 51%
Statewide Percent of Average for Date: 74%

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

9. Executive Officer Update

9. a. 2023 Year in Review and 2024 Priorities

9. b. SGMA Implementation Projects Update

9. c. Outreach/External Affairs

9. d. Representative Monitoring Network

9. e. Miscellaneous

2023

Year-End Review

NORTH KINGS GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

This Photo by Unknown Author is licensed under CC BY-SA

Highlights for 2023

- Approved GSP – Kings Basin
- Historic Kings River Water Year and more than 200,000 AF of water recharged in NKGSA boundary – Reduced GW Pumping.
- Development of Well Intake Portal – Better data and better management.
- New Policies – Financial Policies
- Representative Monitoring Well Data Collection
- Stakeholder Engagement – Social Media
- Review of Well Permit Applications and Planning Documents
- Updated Project List – Solicitation
- Implementation Projects Completed – 1 – Biola CSD Basin and Started Two More – Kenneson/Sanchez Basin (FID) and Kerman Lions Park
- Water Supply Agreements: Biola CSD, Malaga CWD, Pinedale CWD and City of Kerman
- Speaking Engagements

Priorities for 2024

- Completing the Required Studies per GSP Approval from DWR
- Implementing and funding a domestic well mitigation program.
- Monitoring Network Improvements
- 2023 Annual Report to DWR by April 1.
- Launch of Well Intake Portal
- Preparing and releasing a revised GSP for public comment.
- Submittal of revised GSP – January 2025.
- Review of Member Agency Mitigation Targets and Efforts and Progress to Address Overdraft.
- Continued Outreach and Stakeholder Engagement
- Engage with Elected Officials and Policy Makers
- Routine Engagement with NKGSA Board of Directors

9.b. SGMA Implementation Projects

- Biola CSD
- FID
- Malaga CWD
- City of Kerman
- Fresno State – Coordiantion Efforts

9c. Outreach and Education

- Social Media
- Website
- Email Distribution

- 9. d. Representative Monitoring Network
- 9. e. Miscellaneous

10. Adjourn

Next Meeting

March 8, 2024