



Corning Subbasin Advisory Board



Tehama County Flood Control
and Water Conservation District

Members

Matt Hansen -- Dave Lester -- Steve Gruenwald -- Ian Turnbull (Alternate)
Grant Carmon -- Brian Mori -- Julia Violich -- John Amaro (Alternate)

Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Meeting

October 2, 2024 | 1:30 p.m.

In-Person Location:

City of Corning Council Chambers

794 Third Street

Corning, CA 96021

Due to limited parking for Corning City Hall, meeting attendees are asked to park their vehicles in the parking lot across from City Hall, next to the railroad tracks.

Alternate Meeting Location:

74 Hillcrest Drive, Lake Placid, NY 12946

Remote Public Participation Option:

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Meeting ID: 239 800 489 141

Passcode: bMi3oK

Dial in by phone

[+1 323-676-6164](tel:+13236766164), [233903688#](tel:+1323903688) United States, Los Angeles

[Find a local number](#)

Phone conference ID: 233 903 688#

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1. Call to Order

The meeting will be called to order.

2. Roll Call

Staff will conduct roll call.

3. Meeting Minutes

- a. *Approval of June 5, 2024 meeting minutes
- b. *Approval of August 7, 2024 meeting minutes

Draft meeting minutes are attached.

Attachments:

- June 5, 2024 CSAB meeting minutes
- August 7, 2024 CSAB meeting minutes



Corning Subbasin Advisory Board



Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Members

Matt Hansen -- Dave Lester -- Steve Gruenwald -- Ian Turnbull (Alternate)
John Amaro -- Brian Mori -- Julia Violich -- Grant Carmon (Alternate)

Corning Subbasin Advisory Board

June 5, 2024 | 1:30p.m.

Location | 794 Third Street, Corning, CA 96021

Alternate Location | 1177 Magnolia Ave., Larkspur, CA 94939

And Teleconference

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Member Hansen called the Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (TCFCWCD)	Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) (CSGSA)
X Steven Gruenwald	X John Amaro
X Dave Lester	Brian Mori
X Matt Hansen	X Julia Violich
Ian Turnbull (Alternate)	X Grant Carmon (Alternate)

Other participants: Lisa Hunter (Glenn County Water Resources Coordinator), Kaitlyn Murray (Glenn County), Nichole Bethurem (Tehama County), Eddy Teasdale (Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE)), Jenny Scheer, Adam Englehardt, Karen Jones, Martin Spannaus, Michael Ward, Shanna Long (Tehama County Farm Bureau), Toni Longley, Marisa Perez-Reyes

3. Meeting Minutes

a. *Approval of February 7, 2024 meeting minutes

Motion by Member Gruenwald, second by Member Carmon to approve the minutes as presented:

Ayes: Members Greunwald, Lester, Hansen, Amaro, Violich, Carmon

Noes: None

Absent: Member Mori

b. *Approval of March 6, 2024 special meeting minutes

Motion by Member Amaro, second by Member Gruenwald to approve the minutes as presented:

Ayes: Members Gruenwald, Lester, Hansen, Amaro, Violich, Carmon

Noes: None

Absent: Member Mori

c. *Approval of March 27, 2024 special meeting minutes

Motion by Member Carmon, second by Member Gruenwald to approve the minutes as presented:

Ayes: Members Gruenwald, Lester, Hansen, Amaro, Violich, Carmon

Noes: None

Absent: Member Mori

4. Period of Public Comment

There was no public comment.

5. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

Eddy Teasdale (Mr. Teasdale) gave a presentation on GSP Implementation (Items 5a-5f).

The presentation included the following slides: Revised Corning Subbasin GSP, WY 2023 Annual Report, Groundwater Conditions – Groundwater Elevations, Groundwater Storage, Subsidence, Interconnected Surface Water, Groundwater Recharge, Rolling Hills Casino, USBR Pond, Simpson Road, California Olive Ranch, Additional Sites, Permitting and Water Rights, Seeking Potential Volunteers, Task 5. Projects and Management Actions – Corning Regional Conjunctive Use, Tehama GSA GSP Implementation Project Grant Administration – Getting to Recharge, Corning Subbasin Expenditures Through 3.31.24, Tehama GSA GSP Implementation Project Environmental Review – Getting to Recharge, Tehama GSA GSP Implementation Project Optimizing Grant Funds for Recharge, Tehama GSA GSP Implementation Project Corning Subbasin Benefits, Task 2. GSP Implementation, Outreach, and Compliance Activities, Stakeholder Engagement and Community Outreach, Task 3. Ongoing Monitoring, Data Gaps & Enhancements for Corning & Antelope Subbasins, Task 3.1-Progress: Multi-Completion Monitoring Wells, Task 3.2 – Progress: Surface Water/Groundwater Site Identification, Task 3.3 – Synoptic Stream Gaging, Task 3.5 – Domestic Monitoring, Task 3.5 – Domestic Monitoring (Telemetry Equipment), Task 3.4 – Biological Investigation (Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems), Task 3.7 – Groundwater Quality Compliance Sampling, Seeking Potential Volunteers, Well Mitigation Discussion, and Demand Management Discussion.

a. Update on Revised Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Mr. Teasdale stated the revised GSP was submitted to Department of Water Resources (DWR) and that a response is expected by the end of 2024.

b. Presentation on Water Year 2023 Annual Report

Mr. Teasdale noted an acknowledgment letter was received from DWR following submittal, but no feedback has been given on the Annual Report contents. In response to Member Hansen, Mr. Teasdale stated minimal feedback was provided in response to annual reports for approved plans.

Michael Ward discussed potential GDE issues in the Capay and Hamilton City areas, noting the contours look like water is leaving the Sacramento River in these areas. Mr. Teasdale stated the complete analysis has not been completed.

In response to Member Gruenwald, Mr. Teasdale noted after two wet years, water levels look better than a few years ago but are still on a downward trend.

Mr. Teasdale stated consumption is calculated using surface water delivery, crop, and evaporation data; inflow is calculated by using a precipitation dataset.

Shanna Long asked if the Corning Subbasin uses the same model as other basins. Mr. Teasdale stated the methodology is the same for the Butte, Colusa, and Tehama subbasins. Mr. Teasdale noted the model is not used to develop the annual report due to the cost of running the model.

Discussion ensued about the use of groundwater levels as a proxy for interconnected surface water monitoring and the need to expand monitoring.

c. Presentation of Groundwater Recharge Efforts in the Corning Subbasin

Ms. Hunter noted Michelle Dooley (DWR) wants to help support implementation of groundwater recharge and requested the consultant team reach out to DWR to continue the conversation on how they can help.

Mr. Teasdale stated the Tehama County Groundwater Commission is forming a recharge ad hoc committee, tasked with providing direction to the consultant team on additional projects that can be done. There was additional discussion on how to incorporate the CSAB, Corning Sub-basin GSA, and stakeholders in these meetings and the importance of collaboration across the subbasin. GSA staff noted the June Groundwater Commission meeting will have a more in-depth discussion and requested the public ask questions at that time.

Mr. Teasdale noted DWR grant funds cannot be used to purchase water for recharge projects and discussed partnering with The Nature Conservancy for recharge projects.

In response to Member Gruenwald, Mr. Teasdale stated data from the Brown and Caldwell Feasibility Study was used but current efforts are focused on identifying willing landowners. Mr. Teasdale noted there is some overlap in locations between the feasibility study and locations identified by LSCE.

Jenny Scheer (Ms. Scheer) stated that 12 -15 phone calls have been made regarding surface water projects and 15-20 in-person site visits have been made to potential recharge sites. Ms. Scheer stated project flyers were distributed to Corning Water District last week.

Member Carmon stated the importance of dispersing funds and projects more equally across the subbasin and requested other entities have seats at the table.

Adam Englehardt (Mr. Englehardt) asked if recharge projects in the Corning Subbasin need to utilize surface water only. There was a discussion regarding the use of flood flows, and permitting and water right applications, with Ms. Scheer noting the high thresholds in which water would be available for use in the Corning and Red Bluff Subbasins.

Discussion ensued regarding the potential for funding matches and cost-sharing to get users to switch to surface water. Member Hansen stated the need to ensure money is being spent in the best way to reach sustainability.

d. Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Implementation Grant

Mr. Teasdale stated the first round of invoices and quarterly reports were submitted to DWR, provided an overview of expenses through March 31, 2024, and discussed the challenges with reimbursement timelines impacting payments to subconsultants and slowing down work.

There was a discussion regarding the funding mechanisms implemented in the Northern Sacramento Valley, legal challenges, probationary fees, and the decision-making authorities for the Corning Subbasin.

Mr. Englehardt requested clarification on the difference between participating in well monitoring through the GSA versus DWR.

e. Discussion on Well Mitigation Program

Mr. Teasdale discussed the concept of the well mitigation program, what has been implemented in other areas, the formation of the Groundwater Commission's ad hoc group, and progress to be made for the next annual report.

Ms. Hunter discussed the desire for consistency across the Corning Subbasin and including representatives from both GSAs in the discussion.

Member Gruenwald discussed requests to Environmental Health on the number of wells that have been drilled due to old wells going dry to help determine how many wells need to be mitigated.

Member Hansen proposed reallocating Tehama County American Rescue Act Funding for dry well replacements to the GSA, which could be used as an interim loan to pay the consultant and be reimbursed with grant funding.

f. Discussion on Demand Management Program

Mr. Teasdale stated the demand management activities to date and the next steps align with the Well Mitigation Program, with the Demand Management Program requiring an economic analysis.

6. Groundwater Sustainability Agency Updates

Ms. Hunter shared the following updates:

- The CSGSA is currently in the process of revising the fee policy to include a variance to allow parcels to be in multiple user classes.
- The Corning Subbasin Communications and Engagement (C&E) Plan is being updated with Facilitation Support Services funding, with the intent of guiding public outreach and engagement through 2027. A full presentation is expected at the August CSAB meeting.

7. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Member Reports and Comments

There were no CSAB member reports or comments.

8. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for August 7, 2024.

9. Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:43 PM.

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Corning Subbasin Advisory Board



Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

Members

Matt Hansen -- Dave Lester -- Steve Gruenwald -- Ian Turnbull (Alternate)
John Amaro -- Brian Mori -- Julia Violich -- Grant Carmon (Alternate)

Corning Subbasin Advisory Board

August 7, 2024 | 1:30p.m.

Location | 794 Third Street, Corning, CA 96021
And Teleconference

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

Member Hansen called the Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

2. Roll Call

Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (TCFCWCD)		Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) (CSGSA)	
X	Steven Gruenwald	X	John Amaro
X	Dave Lester	X	Brian Mori (arrived at 1:52 PM)
X	Matt Hansen		Julia Violich
X	Ian Turnbull (Alternate)	X	Grant Carmon (Alternate)

Other participants: Lisa Hunter (Glenn County), Justin Jenson (Tehama County), Nichole Bethurem (Tehama County), Marisa Perez-Reyes (Stantec), Eddy Teasdale (Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE)), Karen Jones, Martin Spannaus, Michael Ward, Shanna Long (Tehama County Farm Bureau), Bill Davis, Latisha Miller, Sharon Novak, Curt Pierce, Tamara Williams, *Monique Gaido (DWR)

3. Period of Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. Facilitation Support Services for the Corning Subbasin

- a. Receive a presentation on Corning Subbasin Communications and Engagement Plan Update

Marisa Perez-Reyes, Stantec Associate Facilitator, provided an update on the Corning Subbasin Communications and Engagement (C&E) Plan. The presentation included the following slides: Background on C&E Plans: What are they and why do we need them?, Requirements of a C&E Plan, The Need for a Plan Update, How has the Plan changed?, Interview Process Overview, What Did We Learn?, 1. Public Meetings, 2. Public Awareness of SGMA, Incorporating Public Input, Public Knowledge of GSAs, Outreach Activities and Tools Identified in the Update, and Reflections.

Following the presentation, Facilitator Perez-Reyes invited CSAB members and the public to share their comments.

Member Hansen stated the same people attend meetings and questioned where we are missing the mark to get new faces in the audience.

Member Turnbull stated the meeting time makes it challenging for people to attend.

Member Mori arrived at 1:52 PM.

Member Carmon stated new people begin attending meetings and public hearings when fees and charges are implemented.

Member Amaro stated more people need to attend regular meetings to have a better understanding of what is going on.

Member Hansen proposed sending a short informational video to the interested parties lists. Member Gruenwald added that sharing information on social media may help reach a younger audience.

Member Gruenwald discussed the public having some reluctance to engage with agencies when they do not feel like they are part of the decision-making process.

Member Turnbull discussed the number of meetings and topics pulling people in a lot of different directions and the need to ensure the website is current.

Latisha Miller stated it may be beneficial for the CSAB to re-introduce themselves as a committee and identify the CSAB goals and values and share the importance of public input in the messaging.

Deputy Director Jenson discussed many people still not being aware of SGMA and how it may impact them and echoed previous statements that it is hard for people to pay attention to everything going on in local government. Deputy Director Jenson stated the people making decisions work for the public and it is challenging to make decisions without knowing people's concerns.

In response to Shanna Long, Facilitator Perez-Reyes provided an overview of the DWR Facilitation Support Services (FSS) funding, initial C&E development, and updates to date.

Bill Davis stated outreach efforts generally don't reach people, requiring the public to play catchup at meetings while learning the SGMA vocabulary.

Sharon Novak stated there needs to be more informal meetings, emphasized the importance of continuing hybrid meetings, and discussed the benefits of evening meetings with refreshments, shorter presentations, and question and answer periods. Sharon Novak commented on the lack of diversity amongst CSAB members.

Tehama County Groundwater Commissioner Michael Ward stated good work has been done on the C&E Plan but expressed concerns about the document sitting on the shelf and discussed the need for action items and goals from the CSAB.

Tamara Williams asked who is being held accountable for implementing the C&E Plan and stated the need for metrics to identify the progress and success of the Plan.

Tamara Williams stated participants on the phone and Teams are unable to determine who is speaking, noting only a staff name appears as speakers for the meeting room.

5. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

a. Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Implementation Grant

Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) Project Manager Eddy Teasdale provided a verbal update on the SGM implementation grant activities.

Member Carmon requested to see a list of tasks for the Corning Subbasin to help ensure projects are being diversified across the subbasin and requested involvement in the decision-making process, including for access to surface water projects.

Member Gruenwald shared frustrations with not getting more recharge water in the ground and requested information on the permitting status. In response, Mr. Teasdale stated Jenny Scheer will be invited to provide an update at the next CSAB meeting.

Member Mori stated he does not want to hinder the ability to tackle low-hanging fruit projects or avoid discouraging willing landowners from participating with bureaucracy. Member Mori spoke in support of reviewing items at CSAB but not at the risk of stopping progress.

Deputy Director Jenson stated no DWR reimbursement payments have been received to date, noting the first round of invoice approvals and payments typically take the longest.

In response to Member Turnbull, Deputy Director Jenson stated the GSAs will need to implement projects to capture water due to the costs of long-term water purchases.

Member Gruenwald discussed the use of Section 215 water (excess flow water during high water events) to enhance groundwater recharge in Glenn County. Member Gruenwald stated that though there is a limited distribution, growers make use of the water when it is available. Ms. Hunter added some growers continued receiving and paying for water at more expensive rates on their own after the 215 water was no longer available and the water district stopped funding the program.

In response to questions, Mr. Teasdale stated recharge projects can be submitted at any time using the QR code included in presentation slides. Mr. Teasdale noted the responses are submitted directly to the LSCE team.

b. Discussion on Well Mitigation Program

Deputy Director Jenson stated the focus in Tehama County has been on establishing the Demand Management working group, as it will be the heavier lift.

Member Hansen discussed the importance of coordination between Glenn and Tehama counties.

Member Carmon discussed the focus of the well mitigation program being on how dry wells will be remedied versus the permitting process at the individual county level. Member Carmon emphasized the need for collaboration and the possibility of coordinated meetings.

Ms. Hunter stated the Corning Subbasin is unique as representatives from both counties meet regularly at CSAB meetings.

c. Discussion on Demand Management Program

Deputy Director Jenson stated the Demand Management Ad Hoc Committee recommended appointing CSAB members Steve Gruenwald and Ian Turnbull to the working group.

Members Carmon and Amaro have been appointed as CSGSA Demand Management Coordinating Members. Member Carmon requested invitations to the Tehama working group meetings be sent to the CSGSA Coordinating Members.

6. Groundwater Sustainability Agency Updates

Deputy Director Jenson stated Tehama County has completed compiling data from the second round of well registration and discussed the increased response from larger landowners in the east and west portions of the county.

Deputy Director Jenson stated this is an opportunity for landowners to inform the GSA of how they are using water versus assumptions being made in the future.

In response to Member Hansen, Deputy Director Jenson stated new wells will be entered into Tehama County Environmental Health's database.

Ms. Hunter added that the CSGSA does not have a well registration process; however, Glenn County maintains a robust well database that will be utilized in the various programs.

7. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Member Reports and Comments

Member Carmon discussed the following items from the CSAC legislative update:

- AB 2060 would extend exemptions for lake and streambed alterations for recharge.

- SB 1390 related to exemptions for diverting high-flow flood water and pumping.

Member Carmon stated the Glenn County Board of Supervisors will be submitting letters of support for the above items. Following discussion, it was requested a letter of support be presented to the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District Board of Directors on August 19.

Member Carmon discussed a project to install floodgates on Black Butte Reservoir to increase water storage by approximately 80,000 acre-feet. It is expected the project will take 6 years to complete if approved.

8. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2024.

9. Adjourn

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:59 PM.

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4. Period of Public Comment

Members of the public are encouraged to address the Corning Subbasin Advisory Board. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action will be taken on items under public comment.

5. *Approve 2025 CSAB Meeting Schedule

Two options for the 2025 CSAB meeting schedule are attached for consideration.

Attachments:

- 2025 CSAB Meeting Schedule Options

Corning Subbasin Advisory Board

2025 Meeting Schedule

Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Meetings will be held at **1:30 p.m.** unless otherwise noted. Meetings are expected to be held at the City of Corning Council Chambers at 794 Third Street, Corning, CA 96021. Meeting locations will be confirmed and included on each agenda.

Option 1: Bi-Monthly Meeting Dates

February 5, 2025

April 2, 2025

June 4, 2025

August 6, 2025

October 1, 2025

December 3, 2025

Option 2: Monthly Meeting Dates

January 8, 2025 (second Wednesday due to holiday)

February 5, 2025

March 5, 2025

April 2, 2025

May 7, 2025

June 4, 2025

July 2, 2025

August 6, 2025

September 3, 2025

October 1, 2025

November 5, 2025

December 3, 2025

6. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

- a. Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Implementation Grant
- b. Well Mitigation Program
 1. Updates from CSGSA
 2. Updates from Tehama County GSA
 3. *Discussion on potential coordination of programs and/or recommendations to the GSAs
- c. Demand Management Program
 1. Updates from CSGSA
 2. Updates from Tehama County GSA
 3. *Discussion on potential coordination of programs and/or recommendations to the GSAs

Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Implementation Grant

Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) are leading the Tehama County GSP Implementation Project, which includes the Corning Subbasin. This project is generally funded through the SGM Implementation Grants awarded to the Corning Subbasin and other subbasins in Tehama County. The following tasks are included in the project:

- Task 1. Grant Management and Administration
- Task 2. GSP Implementation, Outreach, and Compliance Activities
- Task 3. Ongoing Monitoring, Data Gaps, and Enhancements
- Task 4. Projects and Management Actions- Recharge Focused
- Task 5. Projects and Management Actions- Regional Conjunctive Use
- Task 6. General Consulting Services on an As Needed

LSCE and GSA staff will provide an update on the SGM Implementation Grant tasks.

Well Mitigation Program

As part of the Corning Subbasin GSP revision process, each GSA adopted a resolution establishing a Well Mitigation Program for the Corning Subbasin. The Program shall be developed and implemented by January 1, 2026.

The CSAB will be integral to enhance the coordination between the GSAs to develop the program(s) and to provide input and recommendations to the GSAs. It is anticipated there will be updates from the GSAs and discussion on potential coordination of programs and/or recommendations to the GSAs.

Demand Management Program

As part of the Corning Subbasin GSP revision process, each GSA adopted a resolution Establishing a Demand Management Program for the Corning Subbasin. The Program shall be developed and implementation shall begin no later than January 1, 2027.

The CSAB will be integral to enhance the coordination between the GSAs to develop the program(s) and to provide input and recommendations to the GSAs. It is anticipated there will be updates from the GSAs and discussion on potential coordination of programs and/or recommendations to the GSAs.

7. Groundwater Sustainability Agency Updates

Groundwater Sustainability Agency staff and members may provide activity updates to the CSAB.

- Corning Sub-basin GSA
 - Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District GSA
-

8. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Member Reports and Comments

Members of the CSAB are encouraged to share information, reports, comments, and suggest future agenda items. Action cannot be taken on matters brought up under this item.

9. Next Meeting

The next regular meeting is scheduled for December 4, 2024 at 1:30 p.m.

10. Adjourn

The meeting will be adjourned.
