



Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency
308 Nelson Avenue, Oroville, CA 95965
(530) 552-3592
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Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board Meeting Agenda

Date: Wednesday, April 8, 2026

Time: 3:30 PM

Location: Chico City Council Chamber, 421 Main Street, Chico CA

Or [Join the Vina GSA Board Meeting via Zoom](#)

Meeting ID: 678 207 7386

Live streaming and recording of Vina GSA Board meetings are provided for viewing purposes only. Please note that in-person attendance is required for public participation. Streaming and recording services are subject to discontinuance if technical or other issues prevent effective meeting proceedings.

BOARD MEMBERS:

- Jeff Rohwer, Vice Chair, Agricultural Groundwater User
- Derek Sohnrey, Durham Irrigation District
- Tod Kimmelshue, Butte County
- Katie Hawley, City of Chico
- Jim Graydon, Domestic Well User

PUBLIC COMMENT INFORMATION:

Public comment will be accepted in-person at the meeting or may be submitted by email prior to the meeting to VINAGSAPUBLICCOMMENTS@CHICOCA.GOV. If you would like to address the Board at this meeting, you are requested to complete a speaker card and hand it to the Board Clerk prior to the conclusion of the staff presentation for that item. A time limit of three (3) minutes per speaker on all items and an overall time limit of thirty minutes for agenda items has been established. If more than 10 speaker cards are submitted for agenda items, the time limitation may be reduced to one and a half minutes per speaker.

When submitting public comments via email, please indicate the item number your comment corresponds to in the subject line. Comments submitted will be sent to the full GSA Board members electronically prior to the start of the meeting. Email comments will be acknowledged and read into the record by name only during the public comment period for each agenda item. Emailed comments received prior to the end of the meeting will be made part of the written record but not acknowledged at the meeting.

VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
REGULAR BOARD MEETING AGENDA

April 8, 2026

1. VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (GSA) REGULAR BOARD MEETING

1.1. Call To Order

1.2. Roll Call

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

2.1. *APPROVAL OF THE 03-11-25 VINA GSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES.

REQUESTED ACTION: Approve the 03-11-26 Vina GSA Board meetings minutes.

3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT – IF ANY

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Members of the public may address the Board at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda; comments are limited to three (3) minutes. The Board cannot take any action at this meeting on requests made under this section of the agenda.

5. REGULAR AGENDA

5.1. *ANNUAL STATUS OF THE VINA SUBBASIN BROCHURE

Staff from Lohdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers and Davids Engineering Inc. will present the Annual Status of the Vina Subbasin brochure for the 2025 water year which highlights information contained in the 2025 Annual Report developed per SGMA requirements. **(Report – Lohdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers and Davids Engineering Inc.)**

REQUESTED ACTION: Information Only.

5.2. *REVIEW OF STAKEHOLDER INPUT COLLECTION, INTEGRATION AND COMMUNICATION

At the March 11, 2026 Board meeting, Director Hawley requested a review of how stakeholder input is collected, integrated, and communicated. This item was previously presented at the June 11, 2025 meeting and is being brought back to support Board review and discussion. **(Report – Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)**

REQUESTED ACTION: Discuss the review of stakeholder input collection, integration, and communication, and provide feedback, as appropriate.

6. PROGRAM MANAGER REPORT – (Information Only - Dillon McGregor, GSA Program Manager)

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

7.1. Update on Interbasin Coordination **(Information Only)**

8. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS

Board Members may propose topics, projects, or issues for inclusion on a future agenda. Proposals will be noted for consideration by the Chair and Program Manager, subject to feasibility and alignment with the Agency's priorities. No discussion or action will be taken on proposed items at this meeting.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

The Vina GSA Board meeting will adjourn to Closed Session after tonight’s Vina GSA Regular Board Meeting.

1. CLOSED SESSION PUBLIC COMMENTS OR BOARD DISQUALIFICATIONS:

Members of the public may address the Board at this time on the closed session item only; comments are limited to three (3) minutes, or time limit as determined by the Chair.

2. ADJOURN TO CLOSED SESSION:

3. CLOSED SESSION

3.1 Call to Order

4. CLOSED SESSION AGENDA

4.1 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1) - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Butte County Superior Court #23CV02789 - Ronald R Titus, as Trustee of the 2005 Titus Trust et al vs Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency

4.2 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1) - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Butte County Superior Court #22CV00321 - AquAlliance et al vs Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency et al.

4.3 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(d)(1) - CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION – Butte County Superior Court #24CV04275 - AquAlliance et al vs Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency et al.

4.4 PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.9(D)(2) AND 54956.9(E)(1), CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – Exposure to litigation against the agency. Section 54956.9(d)(2) states: “A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the legislative body of the local agency on the advice of its legal counsel, based on existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the local agency.” Section 54956.9(e)(1) describes “facts and circumstances” as follows: “Facts and circumstances that might result in litigation against the local agency but which the local agency believes are not yet known to a potential plaintiff or plaintiffs, which facts and circumstances need not be disclosed.”

5. CLOSED SESSION ANNOUNCEMENT:

Report on any action taken during the closed session.

6. ADJOURNMENT:

The Vina GSA Closed Session will adjourn to a Vina GSA Regular Board Meeting on May 13, 2026, at 3:30 p.m. at the Chico City Council Chamber Building at 421 Main Street, Chico, CA and online via Zoom for viewing only.



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**VINA GSA AND ROCK CREEK RECLAMATION DISTRICT GSA
JOINT BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

March 11, 2025

1. VINA GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY (GSA) BOARD MEETING

1.1. Call To Order: at 3:34 p.m.

1.2. Roll Call

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Katie Hawley – City of Chico
Derek Sohnrey – Durham Irrigation District
Jim Graydon – Domestic Well Users Representative
Tod Kimmelshue – Butte County (Vice Chair)
Jeffery Rohwer – Agricultural Well Users Representative (Chair)

2. Consent Agenda

2.1. APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 11, 2026 VINA GSA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Action:

A motion to approve February 11, 2026, Vina GSA meeting minutes was made by Board Member Graydon. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Kimmelshue

Vote: The motion passed unanimously

3. Business from the Floor

Members of the public were invited to address the Vina GSA Board at this time on any matter not already listed on the agenda.

Public Commenters: <NONE>

4. ROCK CREEK RECLAMATION DISTRICT (RCRD) GSA SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

4.1. Call to Order

4.2. Roll Call

5. JOINT MEETING AGENDA

Staff and the consultant team provided project updates on components of the Vina GSA Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Grant Program. As final reports are completed, they will be made available on the GSA's [website](#) and emailed to the Boards and Stakeholder Advisory Committee.

3.1 Feasibility of Enhanced Recharge in the Lindo Channel - Project recap

The Boards received a final project update on the Lindo Channel Groundwater Recharge Alternative Feasibility Analysis, including field results, modeling, recharge potential, flow thresholds, and potential infrastructure, permitting, and operational considerations for future implementation. The study concludes March 31, 2026. **(Report – Becky Fairbanks, GSA Project Manager; Joe Turner, Geosyntec; David Jaffee, West Yost Associates)**

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

1. Jim Brobeck
2. Aurelia Gonzalez

ACTION:

Accepted as information.

3.2 Demand Reduction Strategies Project Recap

The Boards received a presentation of the main outcomes from the Demand Reduction Strategies two pilot projects: Extended Orchard Replacement and Precision Irrigation. The study concludes March 31, 2026. **(Report – Tovey Giezentanner, AGUBC Project Manager; Joel Kimmelshue, Land IQ)**

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

1. Anne Dawson
2. Aurelia Gonzalez
3. Cheetah Tchudi

ACTION:

Accepted as information.

3.3 Surface Water Supplies Feasibility Analysis Recap

The Boards received a presentation on the main outcomes from the feasibility analysis of two water supply projects: 1. South Vina Extension - would utilize Western Canal Water District or Table A water to irrigate parcels in south Vina, 2. Ridge to Valley – would utilize Paradise Irrigation District water to irrigate parcels along Comanche Creek south of Chico. The report will be available on the project [webpage](#). **(Report – Christina Buck, Butte County; Maddie Munson, Water and Land Solutions)**

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

<NONE>

ACTION:

Accepted as information.

3.4 Inter-basin Coordination Analysis Recap

The Boards received a presentation on highlights from the Joint Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Evaluation for the North Sacramento River Corridor as reported in the finalized Technical Memo and webinar available online: [Inter-Basin Coordination Analysis and Modeling Project - Implemented by Butte County - Vina Groundwater Sustainability Agency](#). **(Report – Christina Buck, Butte County)**

PUBLIC COMMENTERS:

1. Jim Brobeck

ACTION:

Accepted as information.

3.5 Tuscan Water District Update

General Manager Tovey Giezentanner provided the Boards an update on Tuscan Water District (TWD), including formation and early actions to comply with the Local Agency Formation Commission's (LAFCO) Conditions of Approval, Proposition 218 assessment implementation, governance milestones, groundwater recharge and surface water supply projects, Proposition 4 readiness, and coordination with the Vina GSA on the Groundwater Sustainability Plan five-year evaluation. Mr. Giezentanner addressed TWD's role, authority, and defined framework for how TWD will pursue projects in the Vina Subbasin. ***(Report – Tovey Giezentanner, General Manager Tuscan Water District)***

PUBLIC COMMENTERS

<NONE>

ACTION:

Accepted as information.

3.6 Other Sustainable Groundwater Management Updates

The Boards received an update on recharge activities, status of GSP Periodic Evaluation work, and Inter-basin Coordination from staff.

PUBLIC COMMENTERS

<NONE>

ACTION:

Accepted as information.

3.6.1 Update on 1242.1 Recharge Pilot (Verbal Report – Christina Buck, Butte County)

3.6.2 Update on GSP Periodic Evaluation (Verbal Report – Christina Buck, Butte County)

3.6.3 Inter-Basin Coordination (Verbal Report – Kamie Loeser, Butte County)

6. JOINT BOARD ADJOURNMENT

The Vina GSA/RCRD GSA Joint Regular Board Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m. to the Vina GSA Regular Meeting after tonight's Vina/RCRD GSA Joint Board Meeting.

*****RECONVENE TO VINA GSA REGULAR BOARD MEETING*****

7. COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

7.1. Correspondence

7.2. Butte County Public Health Department Quarterly Well Permit Summary. ***(Information Only)***

8. BOARD MEMBER REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS:

Board Members may propose topics, projects, or issues for inclusion on a future agenda. Proposals will be noted for consideration by the Chair and Program Manager, subject to feasibility and alignment with the Agency's priorities. No discussion or action will be taken on proposed items at this meeting.

Director Hawley requested that Staff bring an item to the Board to review how stakeholder input will be/is incorporated into meeting summaries and the decision-making process.

9. ADJOURNMENT:

The Vina GSA adjourned at 7:13 p.m. to a Vina GSA Regular Board Meeting on **April 8, 2026, at 3:30 p.m.** at the Chico City Council Chamber Building at 421 Main Street, Chico, CA and online via Zoom for viewing only.

WATER USE IN THE SUBBASIN

The majority of residents within the subbasin use groundwater for irrigation, drinking water and commercial needs, although some areas depend on surface water for irrigation.

Groundwater in the subbasin is primarily used for irrigation, followed by the municipal sector (Cal Water - Chico and the Durham Irrigation District). A small percentage is also used by the rural residential sector representing those with private wells. Since the first annual report developed for the 2020 Water Year, this trend has remained consistent.

Surface water supplies, such as those from Butte Creek, are primarily used for irrigation when accessible. Maintaining or expanding access to surface water supplies is crucial for preserving the subbasin's sustainability.

Total Groundwater Use

Total groundwater use within the subbasin was estimated to be about 262 thousand acre-feet (TAF) in 2025, a little higher than the historical 25-year average of 245 TAF. The total annual groundwater extraction volumes were estimated using the water use analysis approach based on land use, described in detail in the report. The remaining volumes were estimated using pumping reports where available.

Groundwater Levels

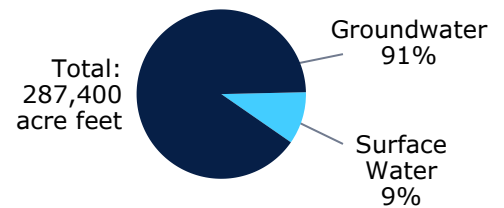
Groundwater levels are measured in 17 wells throughout the subbasin at the representative monitoring sites (RMS).

Overall RMS groundwater levels were approximately 3 feet higher in the spring of 2025 compared to spring of 2024 and exceeded their measurable objectives in spring of 2025. All spring groundwater levels in the RMS wells were well above their measurable objectives. Across both spring and fall, all RMS wells had water levels well above their minimum thresholds. In fall 2025, groundwater levels at the RMS were, on average, 11 feet above their historical fall lows.

Groundwater levels in the Vina Subbasin have generally shown a declining trend over the past 21 years, particularly in and around Chico and Durham where wells have recorded declines of 18 to 35 feet during this period. The GSA is taking steps to address this issue, as detailed in the GSP implementation section of this report.

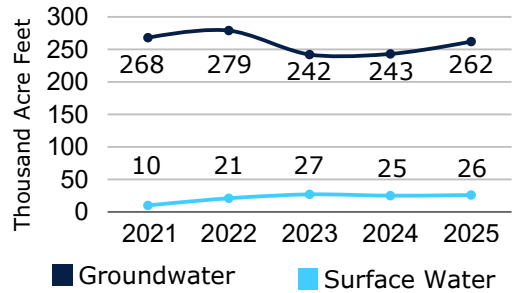
Observations indicate that groundwater conditions are on track to meet the first 5-year interim milestones set for 2027. The above average conditions and availability of surface water supplies in 2025 contributed to increased groundwater levels across much of the subbasin compared to 2020 - 2022, driven by enhanced natural recharge, reliable surface water availability, and reduced groundwater extractions.

2025 Water Use by Type

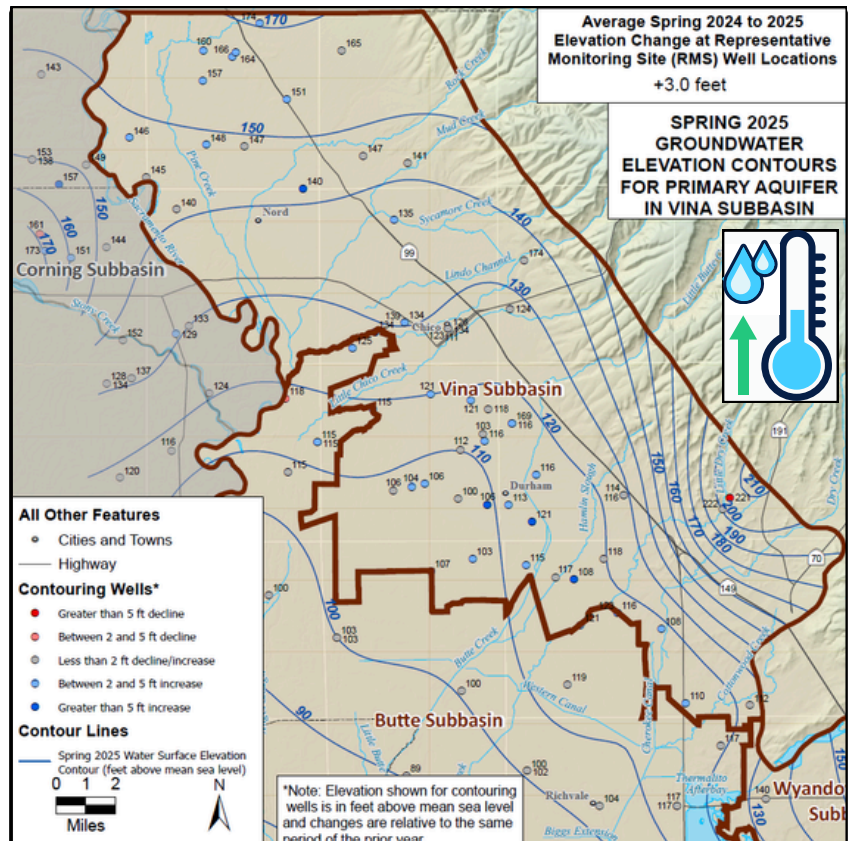
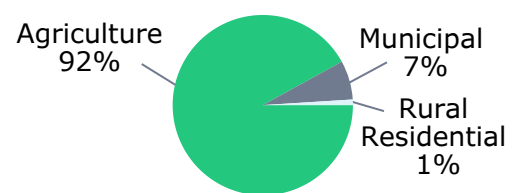


2021 - 2025

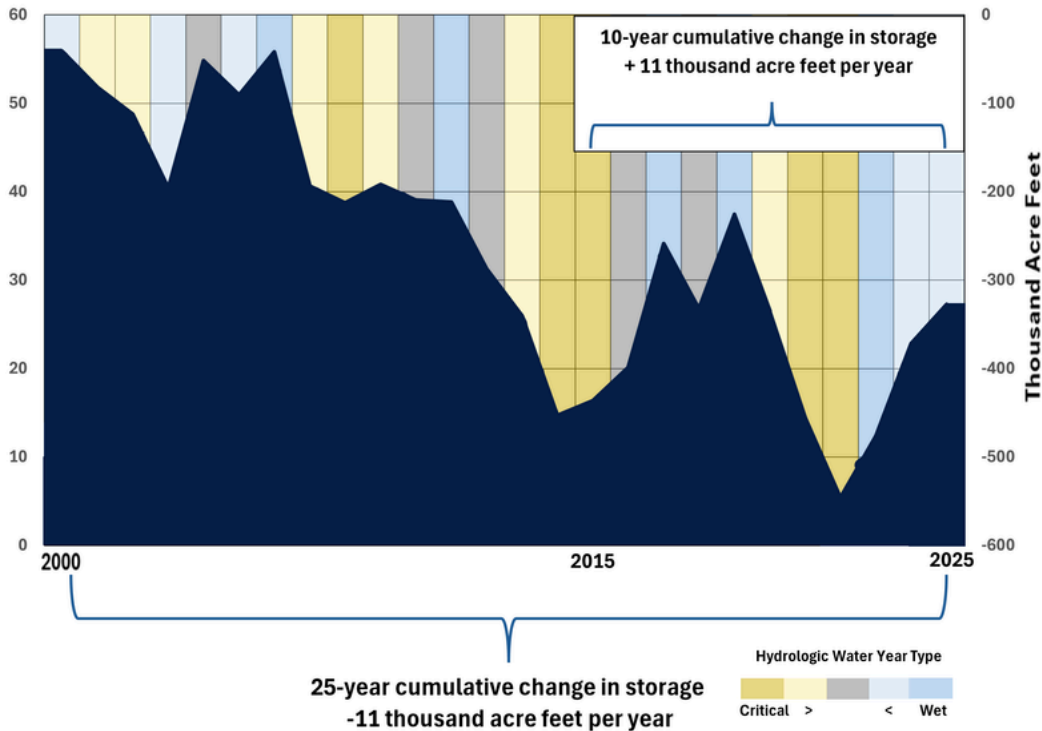
Groundwater vs. Surface Water Use



2025 Groundwater Use by Sector



Cumulative Groundwater Storage Change in the Vina Subbasin 2000-2025



Did you know?

One acre-foot of water is approximately 326,000 gallons, or enough to meet the annual consumption of two families of four in Butte County.

Groundwater Storage

The changing amount of groundwater stored in the subbasin over time is estimated based on changes in groundwater levels. As groundwater levels fluctuate, the volume of groundwater stored in the subbasin changes accordingly. Over the past 10 years, there has been an average increase of approximately 11 TAF (thousand acre-feet) per year.

In 2025, it is estimated that groundwater storage increased by about 44 TAF. Historically, wet water years have resulted in an average increase of 73 TAF, while critically dry water years have seen an average decline of about 65 TAF.



Depletion from Creeks, Streams and Other Surface Water

Determining if, when and where groundwater pumping depletes creeks, streams, and other surface water, also referred to as interconnected surface water is highly complex. The GSAs collaborated with scientists to develop a proxy for monitoring the depletion of interconnected surface water demand found no exceedances of minimum thresholds in Water Year 2025. The GSA is on track to meet the first five-year Interim. Milestones set for 2027 and avoid undesirable results for these criteria. Ongoing and planned activities aim to address data and information gaps related to this indicator as part of the sustainability plan's implementation.



Groundwater Quality

The GSA monitors the basin's salinity by measuring specific conductivity (SC) to assess whether GSA projects or groundwater pumping are impacting water quality. Groundwater is tested annually in monitoring wells to compare SC concentrations against the measurable objectives and minimum thresholds established in the GSP. The GSA considers groundwater quality to be degrading if SC levels in two wells exceed the minimum thresholds for two consecutive non-dry years. In Water Year 2025, there were no exceedances of the minimum thresholds for water quality.



Subsidence

Land subsidence (i.e., negative vertical land displacement) is generally tied to, though not exclusively caused by groundwater level decline. There have been no indications of inelastic subsidence in the Vina Subbasin.



GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN IMPLEMENTATION



The Vina Subbasin is in compliance with SGMA and on track to meet 2027 interim milestones.

The Groundwater Sustainability Plan was submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in 2022. In July 2023, the GSP was approved by DWR, which included five key recommended corrective actions. The GSA received funding from the state to begin implementing projects outlined in the plan to address these corrective actions effectively through the Periodic Evaluation of the GSP, which is due in January 2027.

Project Spotlight - Long-term Funding

- ▶ The GSA initially adopted a uniform acreage-based fee to fund SGMA compliance and operations, with plans to conduct a new fee study to better reflect the diversity of groundwater users. The study began in the previous water year, and in WY 2025 the GSA adopted a two-part SGMA fee for implementation in fiscal year 2025–26.

\$5.5 M

awarded by DWR

In 2024, the GSA launched SGM implementation grant-funded projects to advance groundwater sustainability. Ongoing projects include:

Outreach Program

Lindo Channel Recharge Feasibility

Demand Reduction Strategies

Long-Term Fee Study Project

Inter-basin Coordination Analysis and Modeling

Water Supply and Recharge Project

Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Updates, Data Gaps, & Monitoring Network Enhancements



More Information

The complete 2025 Vina Subbasin Annual Report is available at www.vinagsa.org

To access the data, scan or visit wdl.water.ca.gov/waterdatalibrary



Contact us: vinagsa@gmail.com



Ongoing activities of the GSA

Communications and Stakeholder Engagement

- Holding public GSA Board, Advisory Committee and community meetings
- Ongoing intra- and inter-basin coordination

Monitoring and Reporting

- Annual reporting of subbasin conditions and submission to DWR as required by SGMA
- Monitoring and recording groundwater level and groundwater quality measurements
- Maintaining and updating the Data Management System (DMS) with newly collected data