

The Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (SVBGSA) was formed in December 2016 to comply with the mandate of developing a plan to secure groundwater sustainability throughout the basins in the state. In 2019, the SVBGSA adopted a fee structure that would fund SVBGSA's annual administrative and operating costs as of July 2019. To date, the fee has been annually evaluated and implemented.

Since 2019, projects and management actions identified in the groundwater sustainability plans for the six subbasins SVBGSA manages have moved into various stages of planning as stipulated under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). Currently, SVBGSA is not carrying out any project-level activities; however, it is undertaking a series of activities in support of the actions described in the six groundwater sustainability plans.

On February 9th 2023, the SVBGSA Board of Directors adopted a policy which states that it is appropriate to consider a tiered fee structure for

setting the regulatory fee on an annual basis. This structure would comprise a uniform regulatory fee (Tier 1 fee) charged to all subbasins within the GSA for activities that benefit all subbasins in roughly equivalent proportion, and a Tier 2 regulatory fee that could vary by subbasin to pay for activities that benefit some, but not all, subbasins. Under the current fee structure, all water systems in the SVBGSA management area pay the same fee on a per connection* basis. The fiscal year 2022/23 fee is \$2.37 per connection (full 12-month annual fee).

**"Connection" is defined as a connection between the customer's piping or constructed conveyance and the water system's meter, service pipe, or constructed conveyance.*

Fiscal year 2023/24 is the first year that the Board will deliberate whether to modify the existing fee structure. SVBGSA is seeking input on the potential change to the regulatory fee structure. **If a tiered fee structure is approved, the regulatory fees will no longer be the same for every subbasin.** Alternatively, the Board could continue with a uniform regulatory fee for all subbasins.

The fee options for fiscal year 2023/24, which start **July 1, 2023**, will be presented at SVBGSA subbasin committee meetings and to the SVBGSA Board of Directors meetings in May and June. Participation is strongly encouraged.

Subbasin Committee Meetings:

May 2nd, 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Forebay/Upper Valley Joint Subbasin Implementation Committees
Greenfield Council Chamber
599 El Camino Real, Greenfield, CA 93927

May 3rd, 9 a.m. - 11 a.m.

Langley Subbasin Implementation Committee
Monterey County Offices, Cinnamon Room,
1441 Schilling Place Salinas, CA 93901

May 3rd, 12 p.m. - 2 p.m.

180/400/Eastside/Monterey Joint Subbasin Implementation Committees
Monterey County Offices, Cayenne Room, 1441 Schilling Place Salinas, CA 93901

Board of Directors Meetings:

Visit www.SVBGSA.org for meeting times and instructions to attend.

**Planning & Funding & Securing
Our Groundwater Future**



Salinas Valley Basin

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Post Office Box 1350 • Carmel Valley, CA 93924

You have received this postcard because your water system is located within the SVBGSA service territory and your customers pay an annual regulatory fee to SVBGSA.

STAY INFORMED!

Visit SVBGSA.org or scan QR Code
Escanea el código QR para ver la postal
en español.



Email questions or comments to:
Piret Harmon, SVBGSA General Manager
at harmonp@svbgsa.org