



Westlands Water District

Groundwater Recharge Terms and Conditions

Westlands Water District (District) Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) adopted the Westside Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), in 2020. The GSP identifies projects that may be implemented by water users or the District to generate “groundwater credits” for future use.

The Groundwater Recharge Terms and Conditions (Terms) are intended to promote conjunctive use in the Westside Subbasin and to inform the implementation of the GSP. “Groundwater Credits” will be allocated to the water users who develop a qualifying recharge project and provide the District data to support the project’s recharge benefits to the groundwater subbasin. All “groundwater credits” shall be subject to the Article 1, Regulations for Groundwater Allocation Program and Use of Groundwater within the Westside Subbasin (Rules and Regulations) and policies, pursuant the District’s GSP, as they may be updated over time. Policies governing “groundwater credits” may include *but are not limited to* avoidance of undesirable results, calculated recharge amount, transfer, and a leave-behind quantity (accounting for losses).

Interested participants must follow the Terms listed below to receive groundwater credit:

1. Application conditions are as follows:
 - a. Applicant’s wells shall be furnished with a (District approved) meter.
 - b. Opening meter readings are required for all District turnouts and dedicated private meters.
 - c. Continued access to applicant’s wells and recharge facilities by District personnel.
 - d. Applicant must adhere to the District’s Regulations for the Allocation and Use of Agricultural Water within Westlands Water District, the Terms and Conditions for Agricultural Water Service and the Regulations for the Groundwater Allocation Program and Use of Groundwater within the Westside Subbasin.
 - e. Applicants must be in good financial standing with District to receive groundwater credits.

2. A participant may recharge the Westside Subbasin through one of the following methods:
 - a. Percolation ponds/basin¹

¹ Land selected for this activity must be favorable for passive recharge. The proposed Project will not be accepted if lands are drainage impaired or have geology that could create a perched water condition.



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- b. Over irrigating crops¹
 - c. Sublateral¹
 - d. Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) well²
 - e. Dry well injection
3. Recharge projects are required to install a dedicated water meter to measure the amount of water delivered to the recharge project. For recharge projects shared by multiple water users (e.g., Percolation Basin with one meter), the groundwater credit(s) will be allocated to the applicant. Groundwater credits will only be allocated to water users that meet Term 1 conditions.
4. Participants are required to submit meter readings from the dedicated water meter monthly, at a minimum, using the Recharge Operations Field Data Sheet (via [browser-based form](#) or printable PDF)
 - a. If meter readings are not submitted promptly, the District will assume the highest ET value for the listed crop, if applicable, when calculating applicable losses.
 - b. Participants are required to indicate in the 'Notes' column of the Recharge Operations Field Data Sheet if a crop has been harvested or crop type has changed.
 - c. Participants are required to use Sentinel Hub data or equivalent to fill out the Recharge Acres (Wetted Area) column. If the Recharge Acres (Wetted Area) are not included, the District will assume the recharge area as listed on the Standard Groundwater Recharge Application.
5. Participants are required to comply with the Standard Groundwater Recharge Checklist set forth on page 4.
6. Appropriate information must be provided by the Participant to quantify the volume of water being recharged by the respective method.
7. Water account and project specific information provided by the water user shall remain confidential. The amount of groundwater credit received will be allocated based on the supporting documentation *and subject to staff's review/concurrence*.

² A separate ASR application must be completed and submitted to the District. The ASR application may be found at the following link [Aquifer Storage and Recovery \(ASR\) Program \(ca.gov\)](#).



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- a. **Supporting geotechnical information for the participant's groundwater recharge project must be stamped by a professional geologist or engineer (if applicable).**
8. Approved Projects from the previous year(s) are required to update the source water and total quantities for the Contract Water Year. (See page 6)
9. Participant shall indemnify, hold harmless and defend the District and each of its officers, officials, employees, agents and volunteers from any liability, claim of liability, damage, or claim of damage of any nature whatsoever, including any legal action brought by any third party, with respect to property damage, personal injury or death, or claims concerning the control, carriage, handling, use, disposal, or distribution of recharge water up to the point of delivery, incurred by the District, Participant or any other person, and from any and all claims, demands and actions in law or equity (including reasonable attorney's fees and litigation expenses), arising or alleged to have arisen directly or indirectly out of performance of this Application. Participant's obligations under the preceding sentence shall apply regardless of whether the District or any of its officers, officials, employees, agents or volunteers are passively negligent, but shall not apply to any loss, liability, fines, penalties, forfeitures, costs or damages caused by the active negligence or willful misconduct of the District or any of its officers, officials, employees, agents or volunteers.

If you have any questions regarding the Terms, please contact Antonio Solorio (asolorio@wwd.ca.gov) at (559) 241-6244.



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Standard Groundwater Recharge Application Checklist

Required Attachments

- Standard Groundwater Recharge Application
- Groundwater Recharge Project Location Map
- Groundwater Recharge Project Layout (including project boundaries, District turnout, and dedicated private meters)
- Groundwater Recharge Project Photos

Recommended Attachments

- Projected Infiltration Rate
- Projected Evaporation Rate
- Nearby Well Completion Reports
- Depth to Water Table (below ground surface)
- Surrounding Monitoring Well Locations
- Water Quality:
 - Native Groundwater at Groundwater Recharge Project Site
 - Geological Properties (hydraulic conductivity, percentage of coarse sediment, etc.)
- Geotechnical Investigation³:
 - Cone Penetration Test
 - Exploratory Boring with Soil Permeability Analysis
 - Recharge Study in the Vicinity
 - Other: _____

³ Supporting geotechnical information for the participant's groundwater recharge project must be stamped by a professional geologist or engineer.



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Standard Groundwater Recharge Application

1. Participant Information	
Company	
Water User Account Number	
Contact Name	
Contact Number	
Email	
Source(s) of Water Supply and Volume(s) of each (acre-feet)*	

*Attach water quality characteristics upon submission of application.

2. Groundwater Recharge Project Information ¹					
Project Type (check one below)	APN	Field-ID	Crop (if applicable)	Recharge Area (acres)	Turnout
<input type="checkbox"/> Percolation Ponds/Basin <input type="checkbox"/> Over/Flood Irrigation <input type="checkbox"/> Sublateral <input type="checkbox"/> Dry Well Injection					

3a. Proposed Recharge Start Date: _____

3b. Proposed Amount of Groundwater Recharge (acre-feet): _____

3c. Proposed Aquifer to be Recharged (Upper and/or Lower): _____

4. I hereby acknowledge the Groundwater Recharge Terms and Conditions and agree that all groundwater credits are subject to the policies, Rules and Regulations of the Westside Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and its GSP. I, the undersigned, own the land identified in this application or am the duly authorized legal representative of one who owns that land. I am authorized to complete and file this form with the District.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

¹ Add a separate page for multiple Project Types.



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Annual Renewal of Approved/Existing Groundwater Recharge Project Form²

1. Participant Information	
Name of Recharge Project	
Company	
Water User Account Number	
Contact Name	
Contact Number	
Email	
Proposed Recharge Start Date	
Proposed Amount of Recharge (acre-feet)	
Date of Last O&M event*	

*O&M events include, but are not limited to, removal of silts, backwashing, or any other maintenance event required to efficiently recharge.

2. Source(s) of Water Supply for Groundwater Recharge Project	
Water Source	Quantity (acre-feet)
Central Valley Project	
Section 215	
Supplemental	
Other*: _____	

*Attach water quality characteristics upon submission of Renewal of Approved/Existing Groundwater Recharge Project Form.

3. I hereby acknowledge the Groundwater Recharge Terms and Conditions and agree that all groundwater credits are subject to the policies, Rules and Regulations of the Westside Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency and its GSP. I, the undersigned, own the land identified in this application or am the duly authorized legal representative of one who owns that land. I am authorized to complete and file this form with the District.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____

² Annual Renewal of Approved/Existing Groundwater Recharge Project Form must be submitted annually by start of Contract Water Year (i.e., March 1).