

Eastern Tule GSA and Farm Bureau to host Grower Meeting on Groundwater Sharing

An informational meeting will be held on Thursday, August 3, 2017 from 4:00pm to 6:00pm at Porterville City Hall Council Chambers at 291 N. Main Street in Porterville, to provide outreach on a groundwater “sharing” model that the Eastern Tule GSA is studying for implementation as part of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) laws.

Mike Young, a professor of Environmental and Water Policy from the Centre for Global Food and Resources at the University of Adelaide in Australia, and Bryce McAteer, a recent graduate of Duke University, are currently traveling throughout California to assist communities and GSAs in learning more about this conceptual model for a groundwater “sharing” program.

The Water Association of Kern County recently held an informational meeting on this subject and had a large turnout of growers interested in understanding the model and its pros and cons.

The Eastern Tule GSA is working with these two individuals to advance a discussion about the groundwater sharing model and its potential implementation for achieving locally determined SGMA goals. The Nicholas Institute at Duke University has released a 76-page working paper, titled **“Sharing Groundwater: A Robust Framework and Implementation Roadmap for Sustainable Groundwater Management in California”**. The concepts described in this working paper will be the focus of the 2-hour workshop on August 3, 2017.

Growers are invited to attend the informational meeting at 4:00pm on August 3rd. Subsequent meetings will be convened through the Eastern Tule GSA, which includes the jurisdictions of City Of Porterville, Porterville Irrigation District, Saucelito Irrigation District, Teapot Dome Water District, Vandalia Water District, Terra Bella Irrigation District, Kern-Tulare Water District, and the County of Tulare (covering the white areas that may be outside any of the above mentioned authorities).

To find out more about the Eastern Tule GSA, visit the city of Porterville’s website at <http://www.ci.porterville.ca.us/depts/PublicWorks/easterntulegsa.cfm>.

To attend the August 3rd informational meeting, please RSVP to the Farm Bureau at 732-8301 before August 2nd. **Seating is limited.**