

# FOX CANYON GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT AGENCY

800 S. Victoria Avenue | Ventura, CA 93009-1610 | Tel: (805) 654-2014 | FCGMA-GSP@ventura.org



## Project Evaluation Checklist

BACKGROUND INFORMATION	
<b>Project Name:</b>	Destruction of Abandoned Wells
<b>Purpose of Project:</b>	Water Quality Management
<b>Project Type:</b>	Project Update
<b>Sponsoring Agency:</b>	Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
<b>Groundwater Basin:</b>	Oxnard Subbasin
<b>Location:</b>	Oxnard Plain
<b>Project Description:</b>	The project proposes identifying and destroying abandoned wells to reduce the cross-connection provided by wells screened across multiple aquifers.
<b>Implementation Trigger (if applicable):</b>	N/A
Evaluation Criteria	Response (Applicant to Complete)
<b>Water Supply</b>	
Annual increase in Sustainable Yield (AFY):	N/A
Annual increase in supplemental water in lieu of pumping (AFY):	N/A
Groundwater demand reduction (AFY):	N/A
Sustainability indicators addressed:	Groundwater Quality
Project documentation included?	Yes
<b>Timing/Feasibility</b>	
<b>Project Implementation Timeframe</b>	
Current Project status:	Conceptual - no feasibility or design
Estimated time to Project completion (years):	5 to 10 years - depending on funding
Timeline / feasibility documentation included?	No
<b>Environmental</b>	
CEQA/NEPA type:	Not Applicable
Status of CEQA/NEPA review and permitting:	Not applicable
Will the Project likely be permitted?	Yes
Sensitivity of location:	Depends on the wells identified, but all are located within current agricultural land.
<b>Permitting</b>	
Permits required:	Well destruction permit - County of Ventura
Status / time required:	1 to 2 months
Likelihood of Project being permitted:	High

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Project Complexity	
Does the Project use new technology:	No
Does the Project require land acquisition:	No
Status of the land acquisition process:	Not required or all acquisitions and/or easements complete
Is the Project dependent on other unbuilt or unfunded projects:	No
Is the Project dependent on funded projects currently under construction:	No
Description of Operation and Maintenance (if applicable):	N/A
Project Lifespan	
What is the projected lifespan of the Project:	Project duration ~5 to 10 years. Effects will be permanent.
Project Phasing	
<i>Please provide documentation of anticipated project phasing, including schedules and costs (capital and O&amp;M) for each phase, as an attachment to this form.</i>	
Does Project require multiple phases of construction?	No
No. of anticipated construction phases:	N/A
Description of phases:	N/A
Phasing timeline:	N/A
Total cost per phase:	N/A
Project phasing documentation attached?	No
Cost and Funding	
Total capital cost:	\$1,200,000
Total annual Operations & Maintenance (O&M) Cost:	N/A
Is the project Proponent providing a funding match to construct the project?	To Be Determined
Is there a funding source other than FCGMA for ongoing operation and maintenance costs?	N/A
Additional Benefits	
Does the project benefit disadvantaged or under-represented communities:	Yes
If yes, please describe the benefit(s):	Improves water quality for the Subbasin, which includes underrepresented communities.
Project Proponent Contact Information	Response (Applicant to Complete)
Name:	Kim Loeb
Title:	Groundwater Manager
Organization:	Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency
Email:	kim.loeb@ventura.org

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## Project Evaluation Checklist

Phone:	805-650-4083
Date:	9/29/2023

# Destruction of Abandoned Wells

## Description

This project proposes identifying and destroying abandoned wells in the Oxnard Subbasin in order to reduce the cross-connection provided by wells screened across multiple aquifers. There are three primary concerns with these wells. First, inland from the Point Mugu Naval Air Station, abandoned private wells may act as a conduit for seawater that has intruded the units of the UAS to migrate downward into the LAS. Second, abandoned wells in the semi-perched aquifer may provide pathways for groundwater with high chloride concentrations to migrate into the UAS and negatively impact the water quality of the Oxnard and Mugu aquifers. Third, the GSP determined that groundwater elevations that are higher than the minimum threshold groundwater elevations in the UAS and LAS adjacent to the coast may result in a return to artesian conditions in the confined aquifers. Abandoned wells can act as conduits for flow from the aquifer systems to land surface.

Because of the existing impacts to groundwater quality and the potential future impacts to infrastructure from abandoned wells, these wells need to be destroyed properly to achieve sustainable management of the groundwater conditions in the Subbasin. The initial phase of this project would address private wells inland from the Point Mugu Naval Air Station. Subsequent phases would identify and address coastal wells and wells that allow leakage from the semi-perched aquifer to the UAS.

## Relationship to Sustainability Criteria

### **Relationship to Minimum Thresholds**

This project improves groundwater quality in the Subbasin.

### **Relationship to Measurable Objectives**

This project improves groundwater quality in the Subbasin.

## Expected Benefits

The quantifiable benefits of this project will be in improved water quality in the LAS in the vicinity of Point Mugu, by preventing migration of poor-quality groundwater from the UAS to the LAS. Secondly, the project will provide an improved understanding of groundwater conditions in each of the principal aquifers by limiting vertical migration of groundwater. Later phases of this project will help limit future infrastructure expenditures to resolve issues that may arise when the groundwater levels in the confined aquifers recover to elevations that will restore artesian conditions on the Oxnard Plain.

## Timetable for Implementation

Identification of wells eligible for destruction, coordination with property owners, and physical destruction of wells landward of the Point Mugu Naval Air Station can occur within a one-year period. Subsequent phases of the project could occur, if funding is available, over the following 5 to 10 years.

## Economic Factors and Funding Sources

The total capital cost for the first phase of the well destruction project is anticipated to be approximately \$1,200,000. Funding sources for the project may include the Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency, as well as DWR and water quality improvement grants.