

Subject: Proposed DFCs
Date: Tuesday, July 13, 2021 at 1:32:10 PM Central Daylight Time
From: Melanie Pavlas
To: admin@posgcd.org
CC: gwestbrook@posgcd.org
Attachments: image001.png

President Youngblood,

On behalf of Pines and Prairies Land Trust, I am contacting you about the proposed Desired Future Conditions and to urge you to reject them. We understand the difficult role you have taken and commend you for it. However, our groundwater, communities, rivers, springs and streams (and the people and wildlife that need them) depend on achieving a balance between conserving and protecting of our water resources (both groundwater and surface water systems) and the development of those resources. Putting those resources at risk puts our lives and our landscapes at risk. And while we understand that balance can be difficult to manage, we also believe it undoubtedly can be done.

Good planning requires agreement on management policies to guide the development of Desired Future Conditions. The districts were unable to agree on unified management policies workable for all the districts and unfortunately, have provided proposed DFCs based on controversial and flawed principles. As a result, the proposed DFCs for GMA-12 protect only permit holders — the big pumpers — by adopting drawdowns that allow them to pump to the limits of their permits, while local domestic and livestock wells are left high and dry and our local ecosystems suffer.

Whether or not a groundwater district mitigates failed local wells or not, the proposed DFCs unreasonably impact our aquifers. Likewise, the proposed DFCs will deprive our surface water systems of the inflows from aquifers that they depend on.

It is your duty to do the work to achieve the required balance and we trust and support you to do just that.

Sincerely,

Melanie Pavlas
Executive Director



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