



Public Health Department

Danette York, M.P.H., Director

Environmental Health Division

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## BUTTE COUNTY WATER WELL ADVISORY GROUP MEETING AGENDA

December 22, 2021

Members of the public who wish to participate in public comment are encouraged to register in advance of the hearing by emailing [oclanduse@buttecounty.net](mailto:oclanduse@buttecounty.net). Use the following information to remotely view and participate in the Water Well Advisory Group meeting, including the Public Hearing portions, online:

Link <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83780488772>

Webinar ID 837 8048 8772

Event Password:

Participants may also call in 1 669 900 6833

TIME: 2:30 p.m.

PLACE: 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville (Tahoe Room) and online. See above for video and call information.

### A. PRELIMINARY ITEMS

- I. CALL TO ORDER
- II. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM
- III. CORRECTIONS AND/OR CHANGES TO AGENDA (ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA) members and staff may request additions, deletions, or changes in the agenda order.
- IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS
- V. MINUTES REVIEW Review and approve minutes from previous meeting.
- VI. CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENT This is an opportunity for any person to address the Committee. Presentations will be limited to five minutes. The committee is prohibited from taking action on any item presented if it is not listed on the agenda.

B. INFORMATIONAL NON-ACTION ITEMS

- I. BULLETIN 74 UPDATE (DEBBIE SPANGLER, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES) State on ongoing Bulletin 74 updates. See details on DWR site: <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/GroundwaterManagement/Wells/WellStandards>
- II. BUTTE COUNTY DROUGHT UPDATE (KELLY PETERSON) DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION Update on drought conditions
- III. BUTTE COUNTY GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY FRAMEWORK (KELLY PETERSON, DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND RESOURCE CONSERVATION) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) passed in the fall of 2014, establishes a new structure for managing groundwater resources in California and requires adoption of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by January 31, 2022. There are three subbasins in Butte County, each preparing a single GSP.
- IV. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS Opportunity for Committee Members to discuss topics not on the agenda. Action cannot be taken on any item not listed on the agenda.
- V. PROGRAM MANAGER UPDATES
  - a. Software Updates (Accela) Approved by BOS on 11/9/2021
  - b. EPI Increase 2.03% increase effective as of 1/1/2022
  - c. Soil Borings replacing Exploratory Well Program- Ordinance updates effective October 28, 2021.
  - d. Well Permit Updates/Reminders
    - i. Well pad requirements (BC Well Construction Manual, IAMP, Well Standards)
    - ii. Material shortage (eg well heads; well cap).
    - iii. Well Permit Application Process overview
    - iv. Permit backlog review.

C. ACTION ITEMS

- I. WATER WELL ADVISORY GROUP REGULAR MEETING CALENDAR Pursuant to Water Well Advisory Group Bylaws section II, The Committee shall meet regularly on a quarterly basis but no less than two times each year at the date, time, and location set by the Advisory Group at their first meeting of the year, unless otherwise notified by the Chair.

ACTION REQUESTED: PROVIDE DIRECTION AND ADOPT THE WATER WELL ADVISORY GROUP REGULAR MEETING CALENDAR

- II. HAND DUG WELL MEMORANDUM Advisory Group requested requirements for hand dug wells at the previous Advisory Group meeting. Discuss concerns over hand dug wells and general well abandonment and well destruction requirements. Propose a process aligned with current Water Well Ordinance and CA Water Well Bulletin 74.

ACTION REQUESTED: SUPPORT THE USE OF THE HAND DUG WELL MEMORANDUM DATED DECEMBER 2, 2021 AS GUIDANCE FOR HAND DUG WELL DESTRUCTION REQUIREMENTS.



- D. AGENDA PREPARATION FOR NEXT MEETING
- E. ADJOURN



Public Health Department

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## BUTTE COUNTY WATER WELL ADVISORY GROUP (WWAG) MEETING MINUTES

August 5, 2021

Members of the public who wish to participate in public comment are encouraged to register in advance of the hearing by emailing [bclanduse@buttecounty.net](mailto:bclanduse@buttecounty.net). Use the following information to remotely view and participate in the Water Well Advisory Group meeting, including the Public Hearing portions, online:

**Link:** <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84015041944?pwd=OHAWbzh2Qy9FSnk3REVRUmhjZUM4QT09>

**Webinar ID:** 840 1504 1944

**Event Password:** 451235

**Participants may also call in** +1 669 900 6833

**TIME:** 9 a.m.

**PLACE:** 202 Mira Loma Drive, Oroville (Tahoe Room) and online. See above for video and call-in information.

### A. PRELIMINARY ITEMS

#### I. CALL TO ORDER

**CHAIR ZAMUDIO CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:11 A.M.**

#### II. ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

**OFFICERS BARKER, MURPHY, RANKIN, RILEY, SCOTT, STILLWELL, TEASDALE, ZAMUDIO  
ALTERNATE OFFICERS HAMMOND, KRUSE, MARR, MURPHY, STILWELL**

**PRESENT: OFFICERS KRUSE, RANKIN, RILEY, SCOTT, WEIGHTMAN (JOINED AFTER ITEM A, IV),  
CHAIR ZAMUDIO**

**ABSENT: OFFICERS BARKER, HAMMOND, MARR, MURPHY, STILWELL CODY, STILWELL RON,  
TEASDALE.**

**QUORUM ESTABLISHED.**



**OTHERS PRESENT:**

**STAFF, PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION:**

**ELAINE MCSPADDEN, DIRECTOR**

**NIKOLAY OSTROVSKIY, PROGRAM MANAGER**

**KATTY HERNANDEZ, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST**

**YVETTE CASTANON, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN**

**PAUL THAO, SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST**

- III. SELECTION OF OFFICERS** – Approve of draft membership list ([PDF](#)) for 2 year terms ending August 5, 2023. Selection of Water Well Advisory Group Chair and Vice-Chair for one year term ending August 5, 2022.

**MOTION TO APPOINT OFFICER ZAMUDIO FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM ENDING AUGUST 5, 2022 AS CHAIR WAS MADE BY OFFICER RILEY AND SECONDED BY OFFICER RANKIN.**

**VOTE:**

**AYE: KRUSE, RANKIN, RILEY, SCOTT, ZAMUDIO**

**NAY: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

**NOT PRESENT: BARKER, HAMMOND, MARR, MURPHY, STILLWELL CODY, STILWELL RON, TESDALE, WEIGHTMAN.**

**MOTION CARRIES.**

**MOTION TO APPOINT OFFICER RILEY FOR A ONE-YEAR TERM ENDING AUGUST 5, 2022 AS VICE CHAIR WAS MADE BY CHAIR ZAMUDIO AND SECONDED BY OFFICER KRUSE.**

**VOTE:**

**AYE: KRUSE, RANKIN, RILEY, SCOTT, ZAMUDIO**

**NAY: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

**NOT PRESENT: BARKER, HAMMOND, MARR, MURPHY, STILLWELL CODY, STILWELL RON, TESDALE, WEIGHTMAN.**

**MOTION CARRIES.**



**MOTION TO APPROVE CURRENT WATER WELL ADVISORY GROUP MEMBER LIST FOR A 2-YEAR TERM ENDING AUGUST 5, 2023 WAS MADE BY OFFIER ZAMUDIO AND SECONDED BY OFFICER RILEY.**

**VOTE:**

**AYE: KRUSE, RANKIN, RILEY, SCOTT, ZAMUDIO**

**NAY: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

**NOT PRESENT: BARKER, HAMMOND, MARR, MURPHY, STILLWELL CODY, STILWELL RON, TESDALE, WEIGHTMAN.**

**MOTION CARRIES.**

- IV. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** Debbie Spangler (Engineering Geologist, Department of Water Resources); Bill Bridgnell (County Surveyor, Public Works Department); Tristan Weems (Associate Planner, Development Services Department); Public Health staff.

**GUESTS IN ATTENANDACE:**

**BILL BRIGNELL, COUNTY SURVEYOR;**

**TRISTAN WEEMS, ASSOCIATE PLANNER;**

**DEBBIE SPANGLER, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCE.**

- V. MINUTES REVIEW:** Review minutes from the April 1, 2021 WWAG meeting and approve.

**MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES FROM APRIL 1, 2021 WAS MADE BY CHAIR ZAMUDIO AND SECONDED BY OFFICER RANKIN.**

**VOTE:**

**AYE: KRUSE, RANKIN, RILEY, SCOTT, ZAMUDIO**

**NAY: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

**NOT PRESENT: BARKER, HAMMOND, MARR, MURPHY, STILLWELL CODY, STILWELL RON, TESDALE, WEIGHTMAN.**

**MOTION CARRIES.**

- VI. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA (CORRECTIONS AND/OR CHANGES TO AGENDA)** – Advisory Group members and staff may request additions, deletions or changes in the Agenda order.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT CURRENT AGENDA WAS MADE BY CHAIR ZAMUDIO AND SECONDED BY OFFICER RILEY.**

**VOTE:**

**AYE: KRUSE, RANKIN, RILEY, SCOTT, ZAMUDIO**

**NAY: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

**NOT PRESENT: BARKER, HAMMOND, MARR, MURPHY, STILLWELL CODY, STILWELL RON, TESDALE, WEIGHTMAN.**

**MOTION CARRIES.**

- VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND INPUT** – This is an opportunity for any person to address the Advisory Group. Presentations will be limited to five minutes. The committee is prohibited from taking action on any item presented if it is not listed on the agenda.

**NONE.**

**B. INFORMATIONAL NON-ACTION ITEMS**

- I. BULLETIN 74 UPDATE (DEBBIE SPANGLER, DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES)** – During the April 1, 2021 WWAG meeting, Advisory Group requested an update on current progress with the California Well Standard Bulletin update (5-10 minutes).

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Wells/Well-Standards>.

**DEBBIE SPANGLER PRESENTED ON THE ONGOING EFFORTS WITH THE BULLETIN 74 UPDATES. PHASE I HAS BEEN COMPLETED; PHASE II WILL BE IMPLEMENTED DECEMBER 2021 – JANUARY 2022. PUBLIC COMMENT DUE BY SEPTEMBER 2022 AND FINAL STANDARDS TO BE PUBLISHED DECEMBER 2022.**

- II. PARCEL CLEARANCE REQUIREMENTS (BILL BRIDGNELL, COUNTY SERVEYOR, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS; TRISTAN WEEMS, ASSOCIATE PLANNER, DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT SERVICES)**– During the April 1, 2021 WWAG meeting, Advisory Group requested a presentation on the Parcel Clearance process. Government Code Section 66499.34 requires a parcel to have clearance prior to permit issuance. Public Works and Development Services Departments will present on this process. Presentation by Bill Bridgnell, County Surveyor, for parcel clearance (5-10 minutes) and Tristan Weems, Associate Planner, for legal lot determination (5-10 minutes).

## **BILL BRIDGNELL AND TRISTAN WEEMS PRESENTED ON PARCEL CLEARANCE AND LELGAL LOT DETERMINATION PROCESSES.**

### **PARCEL CLEARANCE:**

- **DETERMINING IF A PARCEL THAT IS NOT DEVELOPED CAN BE DONE PRIOR TO PERMITTING BY PROVIDING A CREATION DEED**
  - **COUNTY HAS TO VERIFY PARCEL IS IN COMPLIANCE**
  - **THERE IS A LETTER SENT ASKING FOR A CREATION DEED TO DETERMINE WHEN A PARCEL WAS CREATED**
  - **COULD ALSO HAVE ACCESS ISSUES**
- **SCREENER AT PUBLIC WORKS TRIES TO CLEAR PARCEL PERMITS, DEEDS ETC.**
- **PARCEL OWNERS CAN CONDUCT THEIR OWN RESEARCH BY RECEIVING INFORMATION FROM THE CLERK RECORDER'S OFFICE.**
- **PARCEL OWNERS CAN REQUEST FOR ENTITLEMENT PRIOR TO ANY PERMIT AND USE TITLE COMPANY FOR RECORDS.**
- **ENTITLMENT PROCESS LEADS TO CLEARANCE OR LEGAL LOT DETERMINATION.**

### **LELGAL LOT DETERMINATION:**

- **LLD (LEGAL LOT DERMINATION) IF CREATED ILLEGALLY**
  - **SUBDIVISON MAP LEGAL**
  - **2-3 MONTH PROCESS**
  - **CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE = LEGAL LOT DETERMINATION (SYNONYMOUS)**
  - **PLANNING APPROVES LLD WITH CONDITIONS**
- **NON-DEVELOPMENTAL LOTS**
  - **HARD TO KEEP TRACK OF**
  - **CUSTOMERS ARE LOOKING AT A WAIT TIME TO UP TO 6 MONTHS FOR A WELL PERMIT DUE TO LLD**

- III. DROUGHT PRESENTATION/DISCUSSION (NIKOLAY OSTROVSKIY, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH DIVISION)** - On July 20, 2021 the Board of Supervisors (BOS) passed a Local Declaration for Drought Emergency. Staff were requested to pose questions to the WWAG from the BOS pertaining to drought conditions and current impacts. This presentation covers current drought conditions in Butte County with time for discussion and questions.

### **NIKOLAY OSTROVSKIY PRESENTED ON CURRENT DROUGH CONDITIONS AND EFFORTS:**

- **SECOND YEAR IN A ROW DROUGHT**
- **50 DRY WELLS HAVE BEEN REPORTED IN BUTTE COUNTY**



- [WATER.CA.GOV/PROGRAMS/GROUNDWATER-MANAGEMENT/WELLS/WELL-STANDARDS](https://www.water.ca.gov/programs/groundwater-management/wells/well-standards)
- EH IS COLLECTING DATA, TRACKING DROUGHT AND RELATED PERMITS
- LOCAL LICENSED WATER HAULERS CAN DELIVER WATER

#### QUESTIONS POSED TO WWAG:

1. HOW LONG IS IT CURRENTLY TAKING TO DRILL A WELL?

ANSWER: 2-4 MONTHS.

2. ARE YOU STARTING TO SEE ANY DROUGHT RELATED IMPACTS SUCH AS DRY WELLS? IF SO, HOW MANY ON AVERAGE AND WHAT AREAS?

ANSWER: DURHAM, BIGGS, CHICO. RPUGHLY 70 FOOT WELLS.

3. ARE YOU SEEING ANY EVIDENCE OF SALINE/SALT INTRUSION INW ELL WATER?

ANSWER: NOT MANY SIGNS YET.

4. ARE YOU SEEING ANY SUBSIDENCE ISSUES (IE WELL CASING FAILURES)?

ANSWER: NONE DUE TO DROUGHT.

#### IV. PROGRAM MANAGER UPDATES –

- a. Exploratory Well Program – Board of Supervisors voted to eliminate program on May 25, 2021. Draft Water Well Ordinance Changes requested to BOS.
- b. Well Permit Updates/Reminders –
  - i. Planning Division Review;  
**PLANNING REVIEW WILL BE REQUIRED WITH EACH PERMIT FOR A NEW WELL REGARDLESS OF PARCEL STATUS OR PREVIOUS APPLICATIONS.**
  - ii. Require complete well application;  
**A COMPLETE WELL APPLICATION WILL BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO BEING ACCEPTED FOR REVIEW.**
  - iii. Refund policy (1 year);  
**PERMIT APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REFUNDED AFTER ONE YEAR PER BUTTE COUNTY POLICY.**
  - iv. Double fee (23B-4);  
**DISCUSSED DOUBLE FEE ASSESSMENT PER BUTTE COUNTY CHAPTER 23B-4.**
  - v. Water quality testing requirements (LAMP, Appendix IV)  
**WATER QUALITY TESTING TO BE REQUIRED WITH NEW BUILDING PERMITS.**
- c. Staffing



**NIKOLAY OSTROVSKIY UPDATED ADVISORY GROUP ON CURRENT STAFFING; ONE NEW FULL TIME INSPECTOR, ONE 3-YEAR TERM INSPECTOR AND ONE 3-YEAR TERM ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH TECHNICIAN.**

**C. ACTION ITEMS**

**I. APPROVAL OF CALENDAR**

Action Requested: Approve draft calendar for 2021 calendar year [\(PDF\)](#).

**MOTION TO APPROVE CALENDAR FOR 2021 WAS MADE BY CHAIR ZAMUDIO AND SECONDAED BY OFFICER RILEY.**

**VOTE:**

**AYE: KRUSE, RANKIN, RILEY, SCOTT, WEIGHTMAN, ZAMUDIO**

**NAY: NONE**

**ABSTAIN: NONE**

**NOT PRESENT: BARKER, HAMMOND, MARR, MURPHY, STILLWELL CODY, STILWELL RON, TESDALE.**

**MOTION CARRIES.**

**D. AGENDA PREPARATION FOR NEXT MEETING**

- **WELL PERMIT APPLICATION PROCESS AND FEES**
- **HAND DUG WELL PROCESS**
- **DROUGHT UPDATE**
- **DWR BULLETIN UPDATE**

**E. ADJOURN**

**CHAIR ZAMMUDIO ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 11:32 A.M.**

# Ready for a Well Final?

1. Well Log
2. Disinfection statement
3. Well pad – 18”
4. Water sample report – bacteria, nitrate and coliform
  - This can be completed at Basic Lab:
    - 3860 Morrow Ln #F, Chico, CA, 530-894-8966
    - FGL Environmental, 563 E. Lindo Ave, Chico, CA, 530-343-5818

Butte County WWAG  
Item B, V, iii

*Environmental Health will need a copy of the well log and statement.*

You will need these items completed in order to get the well final and or final on home. When you have the pad completed and pump installed please give our office a call or email:

**530-552-3855** or **[bclanduse@buttecounty.net](mailto:bclanduse@buttecounty.net)**

*For final inspection, please leave your permit number and or Parcel number.*

# 2022

## Butte County Water Well Advisory Committee Meeting Calendar

Meetings begin at 2:30 p.m. at 202 Mira Loma Drive., in Oroville



WAC Meeting Date	Agenda Item Due Date
February 3	January 20
May 5	April 21
August 4	July 21
November 3	October 20

### Reserved Date

January 6  
March 3  
April 7  
June 2  
July 7  
September 1  
October 6  
December 1

### Holidays and Observances

January 17	MLK Day
February 21	President's Day
March 31	Cesar Chavez Day
May 30	Memorial Day
June 20	Juneteenth
July 4	Independence Day
September 5	Labor Day
November 11	Veteran's Day
November 24 -25	Thanksgiving Day
December 26	Christmas Day

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Danette York, M.P.H., Director

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[buttecounty.net/publichealth](http://buttecounty.net/publichealth)

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 2, 2021  
TO: All Interested Parties  
FROM: Nikolay Ostrovskiy, Program Manager  
RE: Hand Dug Well Destruction Requirements

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Butte County Department of Public Health, Environmental Health Division strives to eliminate potential public health and physical hazardous and sources of groundwater contamination by requiring that hand dug well destructions are completed in accordance with Butte County and State code.

### **Butte County Code, Chapter 23B-1:**

*It is the purpose of this chapter to provide minimum procedures for the proper construction of water wells and for the proper destruction of abandoned wells in order to ensure that water obtained from wells within the County of Butte will be suitable for the purposes for which used and that wells constructed or abandoned pursuant to this chapter will not cause pollution or impairment of the quality of the groundwater within the county.*

### **Butte County Code, Chapter 23B-2**

*Abandoned well: A well which is a public nuisance or which has not been used for a period of one (1) year and is not being properly maintained.*

### **Department of Water Resources, Water Well Standards: State of California, Bulletin 74-81:**

*Statement of the Problem: Wells themselves do not cause ground water quality to deteriorate. Rather, it is inadequate construction, or in the case of wells that no longer serve a useful purpose, their improper destruction, that can result in the deterioration of ground water quality.*

**California Health and Safety Code, Section 115700 – 115720:**

*(a) Every person owning land ... who knowingly permits the existence on the premises of any abandoned mining shaft, pit, well, septic tank, cesspool, or other abandoned excavation dangerous to persons legally on the premises, or to minors under the age of 12 years, who fails to cover, fill, or fence securely that dangerous abandoned excavation and keep it so protected, is guilty of a misdemeanor.*

*(b) Every person owning land ... who knowingly permits the existence on the premises of any permanently inactive well, cathodic protection well, or monitoring well that constitutes a known or probable preferential pathway for the movement of pollutants, contaminants, or poor quality water, from above ground to below ground, or vertical movement of pollutants, contaminants, or poor quality water below ground, and that movement poses a threat to the quality of the waters of the state, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.*

*(e) At a minimum, permanently inactive wells shall be destroyed in accordance with standards developed by the Department of Water Resources pursuant to Section 13800 of the Water Code....*

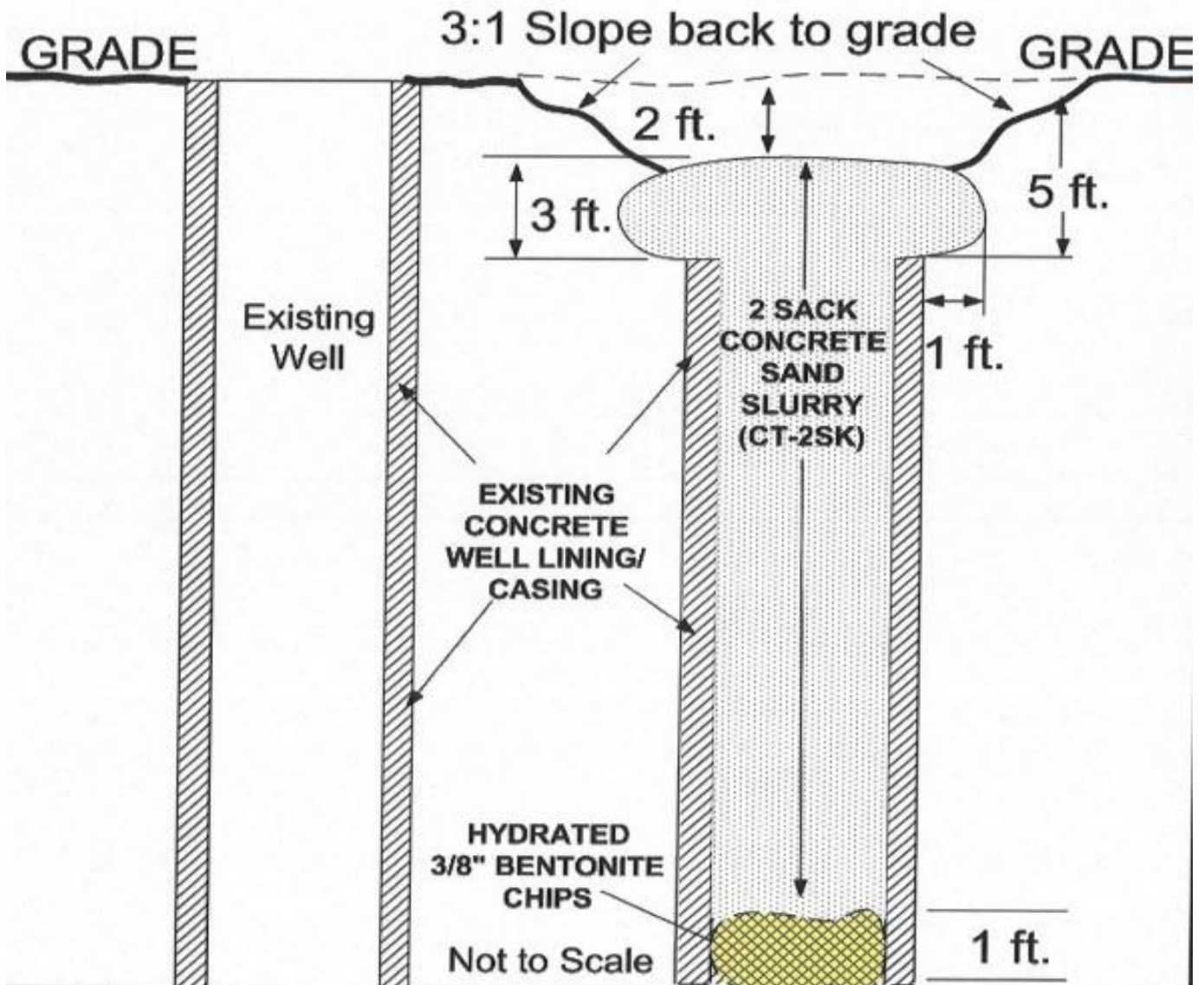
Historically, properties in Butte County utilized hand dug wells. A hand dug well is not considered a source for potable water supply and can facilitate the impairment of ground water quality regardless of the purpose or use of the well. Hand dug wells are not constructed with features protective of water quality. Hand dug wells are not constructed with an adequate annular seal. When the annular space (the space between the outside of the casing the wall of the hole) lacks an adequate vertical seal and surface water or shallow subsurface water flows into the well along the outside of the casing, this creates a situation where there is deterioration of the groundwater. Additionally, hand dug wells create an entrapment hazard for children and animals.

When a hand dug well is encountered by Environmental Health through review of a permit application or through complaint investigation, the hand dug well will be required to be destroyed as an abandoned well. This destruction will either be required prior to issuance of the permit that was under review or as a condition of approval on the permit application. In the case of a complaint investigation, the well will be required to be destroyed prior to closure of the complaint investigation. The wells must be destroyed under permit with Environmental Health and in accordance with the Butte County Well Construction Ordinance and CA Water Well Standards. See Exhibit A for sample destruction method.

## Exhibit A

### Hand Dug Well Destruction Plan (For wells that are lined to the bottom)

- 1 Cascade 3/8 bentonite chips into the bottom of the hole with an excavator. Hydrate chips intermittently with 10 gallons of water/bag.
- 2 Pour 2 sack sand slurry (CT-2SK), Fill well to 5 ft. below grade.
- 3 Allow concrete to set, then over excavate 1 foot beyond well lining and 5 ft. below grade. Then pour 3 foot concrete mushroom cap . Slope the sides 3:1 back to grade.





## Hand Dug Well Destruction Plan (For wells that are undermined below "lining")

- 1 Pour 2 sack sand slurry (CT-2SK), vibrate if necessary to insure void spaces are filled.  
Fill well to 5 ft. below grade.
- 2 Allow concrete to set, then over excavate 1 foot beyond well lining and 5 ft. below grade.  
Then pour 3 foot concrete mushroom cap.  
Slope the sides 3:1 back to grade.

