[Board Approved: 13-Sep-2022] Consumptive use for Dairy Facilities

The consumption of water by Dairy facilities, which encompasses the corrals, milking barns, and feed lots, shall be estimated for consumptive use, and shall not be measured using Evapotranspiration (ET) due to the intricate nature of the water balance and the current absence of ground truthing. Initial model results by 4Creeks Engineering (2022) indicate a net groundwater consumption (ET above precipitation) from a dairy at 0.5 acre-ft/acre, which will be the assumed consumptive use for all MKGSA dairy facilities. This estimation is based on the best accessible data for Central Valley dairies and may be subject to refinement in response to pertinent local multi-agency research efforts on dairy facility consumptive use.