

**GSPWG MEETING #14
MEETING SUMMARY
South American Subbasin (SASb)
Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
April 16, 2021 (9:00 am to 12:30 pm)**

PARTICIPANTS:

| Name | Organization | Status | Sign in |
|---|---|---------------|----------------|
| GSP Working Group | | | |
| Todd Eising, City of Folsom | Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority | | TE |
| Paul Schubert, Golden State Water Company | Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority | | PS |
| Ted Rauh, Conservation Landowners | Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority | | TR |
| Bruce Kamilos, Elk Grove Water District | Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority | | BK |
| Evan Jacobs, California-American Water Company | Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority | | EJ |
| David Ocenosak, Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District | Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority | | DO |
| Christine Thompson, Public Agencies Self-Supplied | Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority | | CT |
| Linda Dorn | Sacramento County | | LD |
| Kerry Schmitz, Alternate | Sacramento County | | KS |
| Erik Ringelberg | Northern Delta GSA | | ER |
| Chris Thomas, Alternate | Northern Delta GSA | | -- |
| Mike Wackman | Omochumne-Hartnell Water District | | MW |
| Mark Stretars | Omochumne-Hartnell Water District | | MS |
| Mark Wilson, Alternate | Omochumne-Hartnell Water District | | MW |
| Austin Miller | Sloughouse Resource Conservation District | | AM |
| Herb Garms, Alternate | Sloughouse Resource Conservation District | | -- |
| SCGA STAFF | | | |
| John Woodling | SCGA (GEI) | | JW |
| Bob Gardner | SCGA | | BG |
| Ramon Roybal | SCGA | | RR |
| Jonathan Goetz | SCGA (GEI) | | JG |
| CONSULTANTS | | | |
| Tom Grovhoug | Larry Walker Associates | | TG |
| Laura Foglia | Larry Walker Associates | | LF |
| Ali Taghavi | Woodard & Curran | | AT |

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----|
| Brian Van Lienden | Woodard & Curran | BVL |
| Rich Pauloo | Larry Walker Associates | RP |
| Lisa Beutler | Stantec | LB |
| Shawn Koorn | HDR | SK |

Public Attendees (this may be a partial list based on participants on ZOOM poll and meeting notes – a total of 10 members of the public were estimated to be on the call):

Suzanne Pecci
Paul Lindsay
Ian McLeod (CDFW)
Jose Ramirez (Regional San)
Dave Richardson (W&C)
Tom Nelson
Bill Myers
Gay Jones
Dalia Fadl (Rancho Cordova)
Lynn Wheat

MEETING SUMMARY:

- Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. John Woodling opened the meeting as the facilitator.
- Roll Call was conducted.
- Furthered Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development process through presentations and discussions under three topical areas: Management/Governance, Technical, and Communication and Engagement (C&E), as follows:
 - Management / Governance
 - The Master Meeting Schedule (reflecting topics to be covered in upcoming GSPWG and public meetings) are posted on the sasbgroundwater.org website.
 - An update on information delivery and GSPWG discussions regarding key decisions to be made during the development of the GSP was provided. As noted in prior meetings, the GSPWG has provided or will provide input to inform these decisions, which the Consultant Team will use in crafting the draft GSP.
 - The consultant team distributed a document summarizing the proposed response to comments received from GSPWG members on Section 1 and Sections 2.1 and 2.2 of the draft GSP prior to the meeting. This document was also posted on the website. GSPWG members were reminded to provide comments on the draft of Section 2.3 (Groundwater Conditions) (which was distributed in mid-March) by COB on April 16. A draft of Section 3 (SMC) was provided prior to the meeting and GSPWG members were asked to provide

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comments on this draft section prior to the next GSPWG meeting, on May 14, again using the EXCEL comment form provided.

- A status report was provided regarding the work by SCGA staff and facilitators from Stantec to develop a governance structure and cost sharing plan for GSP implementation, working with GSA representatives.
 - A status report was also provided indicating that the consultant team was working on a structure for a shallow well protection program to be considered as a proposed element of the GSP.
- Technical
- A presentation was provided by the consultant team (Ali Taghavi of W&C) to review the work performed to date to assess the history and current status of the basin with regard to groundwater storage volumes and groundwater levels. That work shows that the SASb is currently in good condition, due to the effective groundwater management efforts that have taken place over the last 3 decades by many of the entities represented on the GSPWG. Those efforts have included the Water Forum effort, Zone 40 master plan, SCGA Groundwater Management Plan, the SCWA Freeport diversion and Vineyard Water Treatment Plant, remediation efforts, demand management efforts, and many others. A map was presented showing statewide trends in groundwater conditions around the state. The map illustrates that the SASb and North American subbasin (NASb) are among the few subbasins in the Central Valley that have exhibited a favorable trend in terms of groundwater levels and storage.
 - A presentation of future projected conditions that have previously been shown to the GSPWG was provided, followed by a review of the status of modeling scenarios that will be run using the CoSANA model to assess the influence of planned Projects and Management Actions on future conditions of groundwater storage and level. As noted in prior meetings, two demand reduction scenarios have been run looking at 10 percent urban demand reduction and 5 to 10 percent agricultural demand reductions to understand the impact of such possible strategies on future conditions. A total of four additional scenarios will be run, including (1) a combination of Harvest Water plus the OHWD recharge project, (2) a conjunctive use scenario (which is under development in coordination with the North American subbasin), (3) a combination of Harvest Water, OHWD and conjunctive use, and (4) an aggregated scenario which includes Harvest Water, OHWD recharge, SAFCA recharge, and conjunctive use. The results from the scenario runs will provide spatial and temporal output regarding projected future groundwater levels at the representative monitoring points in the proposed SASb groundwater level monitoring network. This information will be used to assess potential future impacts on sensitive users and uses in the SASb, including shallow wells, interconnected surface waters and groundwater dependent ecosystems, and may lead to changes in the preliminary Sustainable Management Criteria (minimum thresholds and

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measurable objectives – as described in the draft Section 3 document) at some locations in the SASb. Several questions were raised regarding the monitoring network and its ability to detect changes in both the upper and lower sections of the primary aquifer in the SASb. The consultant team responded that the proposed monitoring network will monitor in both the upper and lower sections and that data from the network will be reviewed and reported annually to detect trends and to assess the need for additional wells in the network.

- Rich Pauloo of LWA provided an overview of the materials contained in the draft of Section 3 of the GSP that was distributed for review by the GSPWG prior to the meeting. The draft of Section 3 contains preliminary Sustainable Management Criteria for groundwater levels, groundwater storage, stream depletion and groundwater quality. The proposed monitoring networks for groundwater level and groundwater quality are also described in this draft section. As was mentioned in the prior meeting, results from the CoSANA modeling scenario runs may impact the proposed SMC at different locations in the SASb. Those adjustments will be discussed with the GSPWG and reflected in the draft GSP.
 - Shawn Koorn of HDR and John Woodling provided an overview of the work that is ongoing by SCGA to set rates to cover GSP implementation costs. The costs for GSP implementation will be estimated in Section 5 of the SASb GSP, which is under development and will be provided for review as a preliminary draft at the May 14 GSPWG meeting. HDR will contribute to the refinement of Section 5 in the Draft GSP.
 - A presentation was provided by Dave Ocenosak and Dave Richardson regarding the Harvest Water Project, describing the status, startup dates, project benefits and proposed monitoring program. A discussion followed as to whether SMC (either minimum thresholds or measurable objectives) could be used to ensure that the Harvest Water project benefits in terms of increased groundwater levels will be maintained. It was agreed to continue this conversation.
 - A brief discussion was held regarding the status of inter-basin coordination meetings with the groups that are now preparing GSPs for the Yolo, Solano, Cosumnes and North American subbasins. Coordination calls have been held with Yolo, Solano and NASb and information has been shared as a result of those interactions. A coordination call with representatives from the Cosumnes subbasin is scheduled for April 23.
- Communication & Engagement (C&E)
 - GSA representatives were reminded to be documenting all communication and engagement activities that are occurring at their GSAs, including Board meetings.
 - John Woodling provided a review of topics covered and input received at Public Meeting No. 3 on March 25th.

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- It was noted that three special meetings will be held in May, with Sacramento County Farm Bureau members, with the Ag-Res community, and with members of the environmental community. Dates will be confirmed at a later date.
 - Participants were reminded regarding the timing for the next GSPWG meeting, which will be held on May 14th from 9 am to 12:30 pm and which will be a virtual meeting.
- Supporting Materials
- PowerPoint presentation on the SASb groundwater conditions, future projections and CoSANA modeling scenarios.
 - PowerPoint presentation on the content of draft Section 3.
 - PowerPoint presentation on Harvest Water project.
 - PowerPoint presentation regarding GSP development status.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am