

**GSPWG MEETING #16  
MEETING SUMMARY  
South American Subbasin (SASb)  
Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)  
June 18, 2021 (9:00 am to 12:30 pm)**

**PARTICIPANTS:**

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

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<b>Brian Van Lienden</b>	Woodard & Curran	BVL
<b>Rich Pauloo</b>	Larry Walker Associates	RP
<b>Chuck Young</b>	Stockholm Environment Institute	--
<b>Lisa Beutler</b>	Stantec	LB
<b>Jillian Young</b>	Stantec	JY

**Public Attendees (this may be a partial list based on participants on ZOOM poll and meeting notes – a total of 6 additional stakeholders were estimated to be on the call):**

Suzanne Pecci  
 Bill Myers  
 Dominic Gutierrez (DWR)  
 Tom Nelson  
 Carl Werder  
 Stephen Julian (OHWD watershed coordinator)

**MEETING SUMMARY:**

- Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. John Woodling opened the meeting as the facilitator.
- Roll Call was conducted.
- The Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development process was continued through presentations and discussions under three topical areas: Management/Governance, Technical, and Communication and Engagement (C&E), as follows:
  - Management / Governance
    - Reminder that the SASb GSP Master Meeting Schedule (reflecting topics to be covered in upcoming GSPWG and public meetings) is posted on the [sasbgroundwater.org](http://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. For this meeting, GSP implementation decisions were highlighted. As noted in prior meetings, the GSPWG has provided input to inform key decisions, which the Consultant Team has used in crafting the draft GSP.
    - GSPWG members were informed that their comments on drafts of Sections 3, 4 and 5 were incorporated in the public draft GSP that will be released and posted to the website later this day.
    - 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. Efforts will be renewed now that Section 5 GSP cost information is available.

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- Technical
  - A presentation was provided by the consultant team (Brian Van Lienden of W&C) to review the results of work performed to assess future projected conditions. As noted in the prior meeting, modeling scenarios were developed in coordination with the GSPWG and the North American Subbasin (NASb) and were run using the CoSANA model to assess the influence of planned Projects and Management Actions on future conditions of groundwater storage and level in the SASb. As discussed in prior meetings, the PMA scenarios that were modeled included a combination of the Regional San-sponsored Harvest Water recycled water project, a OHWD-sponsored recharge project along the Cosumnes River, and a regional conjunctive use project scenario. The PMAs were modeled using both the projected future baseline condition and also the median projected climate change condition. The results from the scenario runs provided spatial and temporal output regarding projected future groundwater levels at the representative monitoring points in the proposed SASb groundwater level monitoring network. This information was used to describe future water budgets and was also used to assess potential future impacts on sensitive users and uses in the SASb, including shallow wells, interconnected surface waters and groundwater dependent ecosystems. Questions were raised whether the PMA scenarios included, or relied upon, the previously modeled demand reduction scenarios. The group was advised that demand reduction was not assumed in the PMA scenarios – in essence, any future demand reduction, which is expected due to anticipated future water conservation requirements, will only serve to improve the storage conditions in the SASb. Brian stated that a remaining work item, development of a sustainable yield estimate for the SASb, will be presented at the next GSPWG meeting.
  - Rich Pauloo of LWA provided an update to the group regarding the use of the information on groundwater levels that Brian described above on proposed Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) in the SASb at the individual wells in the SASb GSP Monitoring Network. Rich pointed out that the PMAs largely improve groundwater levels in many areas within the SASb – in such cases, the SMC (minimum thresholds and measurable objectives) have not been modified from the levels established in the prior draft of Section 3 of the GSP. An exception is in the area of influence of the Harvest Water project, where measurable objectives were increased to capture the improvement in groundwater levels and to provide security that those improved levels would be maintained in the future. Rich noted that some minimum thresholds in the monitoring network wells in the City of Sacramento and along the American River were reduced somewhat to reflect the influence of the regional conjunctive use project. Rich stated that analysis was performed to ensure that sensitive uses would not be significantly impacted by these SMC changes. A

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concern was raised that localized impacts along the American River should be clearly addressed in the GSP.

- Tom Grovhoug of LWA addressed the key information on projects and management actions that are described in Section 4 of the draft GSP. Specific management actions related to a shallow/vulnerable well protection program and ongoing coordination activities by the GSAs were described. The draft of Section 5 includes a description of activities by the GSAs that will occur during the implementation of the GSP and cost estimates for those implementation activities, including both GSA-specific management and administration costs, as well as joint GSA costs to implement SGMA requirements and proposed management actions. Tom asked the GSPWG and individual GSAs to review the commitments that are described in Sections 4 and 5 of the draft GSP and to be prepared to discuss these in greater detail at the July 16 GSPWG meeting. With regard to future projects in the SASb, Dominic Gutierrez of DWR pointed out that it is good to list potential future projects in the GSP to improve chances for SGMA implementation funding for those projects in the future.
  - Tom Grovhoug also provided an overview of the information contained in the draft Executive Summary in the SASb GSP. He asked that GSPWG members prioritize review of this section since it is an element of the GSP that most people will read.
- Communication & Engagement (C&E)
    - GSA representatives were reminded to be documenting all GSP communication and engagement activities that are occurring at their GSAs, including Board meetings.
    - Lisa Beutler provided a review of topics covered and input received at a special Ag-Res workshop held on May 25<sup>th</sup>. Topics included a request to GSAs to set up advisory committees to provide greater Ag-Res community engagement, concern for the costs for GSP implementation as reflected in the SCGA fee proposal, continued concern that major developments will impact domestic wells, the pros and cons of local versus State control over groundwater management, and the need for a monitoring program for shallow/vulnerable wells.
    - The group discussed the draft agenda for the fourth SASb GSP public meeting, scheduled for July 15. Topics included consideration of an additional in-person meeting/workshop, Brown Act concerns related to GSA Board meetings, and the need for greater public engagement efforts by GSA Boards.
    - Participants were reminded regarding the timing for the next GSPWG meeting, which will be held on July 16<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 12:30 pm and which will be a virtual meeting.
  - Supporting Materials

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- PowerPoint presentations on the projected future SASb water budgets derived from latest CoSANA modeling scenarios.
- PowerPoint presentation on the key content included in Sections 4 and 5 of the draft GSP.
- PowerPoint on the changes to SMC resulting from the latest CoSANA model runs.
- PowerPoint presentation regarding GSP development status.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm