

**GSPWG MEETING #17  
MEETING SUMMARY  
South American Subbasin (SASb)  
Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)  
July 16, 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		--
<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		--
<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>	Sloughouse Resource Conservation District		AM
<b>Herb Garms, Alternate</b>	Sloughouse 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 10 additional stakeholders were estimated to be on the call):**

Suzanne Pecci  
 Dominic Gutierrez (DWR)  
 Tom Nelson (Florin RCD/Elk Grove Water District)  
 Forrest Williams (Sacramento County)  
 Dalia Fadl (City of Rancho Cordova)  
 Samantha Salvia (W&C)  
 Ron Pecci  
 Gay Jones  
 Lisa Dills (Southgate Recreation and Parks District)  
 M Washington (TFE)

**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 website. No changes since last GSPWG meeting.
    - An update on key remaining GSP decisions to be made. For this meeting, input on the Sustainable Yield estimate is requested. GSP implementation decisions and Inter-basin coordination items were again highlighted. As noted in prior meetings, the GSPWG input on these topics will be used to inform key decisions for the revised version of the GSP.
    - GSPWG members were reminded that the draft GSP was released for public and GSPWG comment on June 18. Comment deadline is August 18 to allow the consultant team time to address comments in a final draft GSP.

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- SCGA staff and Stantec facilitators reported that they are scheduling a next meeting of GSA representatives to develop an MOU describing a governance structure and cost sharing plan for GSP implementation.
  
- Technical
  - A brief presentation was provided by the consultant team (Tom Grovhoug and Rich Pauloo of LWA) to describe the elements of a Shallow/Vulnerable Well Protection Program as a SASb GSP management action. The consultant team indicated that the analysis performed for the GSP has been based on best available information and methodology and indicates that few shallow wells in the SASb are projected to be impacted by groundwater level changes in the future. The team acknowledged, however, that the available data is imperfect, that the age of wells to be protected is an important consideration, and that a management action to better understand this issue and to provide funding for a well protection program is prudent. A ZOOM poll was conducted to secure input from GSPWG members regarding their support for this management action and the amount to be budgeted in Section 5 of the GSP. There was fairly widespread support for a GSA-sponsored Well Protection Program, funded at \$100,000 annual cost. An approach to proceed incrementally, with focus in the first couple years on improved data collection regarding the depth, age and groundwater levels in shallow wells and continuation of outreach and education to landowners, was generally supported by the group. The management action will include a commitment to develop the details of the Well Protection Program, i.e. the type of wells to be protected, the amount of mitigation funding, the need to register for the program, etc. The DWR representative noted that SGMA implementation grant funding may be available to support the proposed program, in part.
  - Tom Grovhoug re-visited the GSP implementation actions described in Section 5 of the draft GSP and asked that GSAs carefully consider those actions and associated costs in their review of the document. These actions should be considered by the GSAs as commitments under the GSP. A comment was made that some additional detail and commitment to some of the actions (e.g. support for a Regional Water Bank) should be specified in the GSP.
  - A presentation was provided by Ali Taghavi of W&C regarding the development of a sustainable yield estimate for the SASb. Ali reminded the group that a sustainable yield figure of 273,000 Acre-feet per year (AFY) was developed as part of the Water Forum agreement in early 2000's. The revised sustainable yield estimate is based on an annual average usage of groundwater that addresses the SGMA sustainability indicators and avoids undesirable results in the SASb. The revised sustainable yield estimate for the SASb is 235,000 AFY. The approach for deriving this revised value and the value itself received endorsement from the GSPWG for inclusion in the GSP.

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- Tom Grovhoug provided a status report on topics being discussed in the ongoing inter-basin coordination meetings. A recent meeting was held with NASb; meetings are being scheduled with Cosumnes, Solano and Yolo. NASb is suggesting use of a coordination letter to document the discussions that have occurred, rather than a formal agreement. Mike Wackman stated that some form of agreement may be necessary with the Cosumnes subbasin given the overlap that OHWD and Sloughhouse RCD have in the two basins and the intricacies of project impacts along the Cosumnes River.
- 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 the fourth SASb GSP public meeting held on July 15<sup>th</sup>. Topics again included a request to GSAs to set up advisory committees to provide greater Ag-Res community engagement, the need for greater commitment and specificity in the GSP regarding the proposed well protection program for shallow/vulnerable wells, and the need to document and leverage past efforts at well protection in the SASb in the development of a new program.
  - Public comment received during the meeting included a request for greater detail in the budgets presented in the GSP and a request to have comments received on the draft GSP posted on the website.
  - The consultant team reported that consideration is ongoing regarding a possible additional in-person public meeting/workshop in September.
  - Participants were reminded regarding the timing for the next GSPWG meeting, which will be held on August 20<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 12:30 pm; the meeting will again be a virtual meeting. Proposed agenda items for the meeting include draft text revisions describing the proposed well protection program and review of major comments received on the draft GSP.
- Supporting Materials
  - PowerPoint presentation on the estimated Sustainable Yield for the SASb.
  - PowerPoint presentation on the key management actions and costs contained in the draft GSP, including a shallow/vulnerable well protection program.
  - PowerPoint on the topics being discussed in the ongoing inter-basin coordination meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm