



EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Joint Exercise of Powers

Board of Directors Meeting

AGENDA

Wednesday, September 13, 2017

9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

San Joaquin County – Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center
2101 E. Earhart Avenue – Assembly Room #1, Stockton, California

- I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance & Safety Announcement/Roll Call
- II. SCHEDULED ITEMS
 - A. Discussion/Action Items:
 1. Approval of Minutes of August 9, 2017 (see attached).
 2. Presentation of Baseline Options for Allocation of Costs of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (see attached).
 - B. Informational Items (see attached):
 1. August 9, 2017, Adopted Bylaws by the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority
 2. August 28, 2017, Joint Response Letter to Mr. Trevor Joseph, SGM Section Chief, Department of Water Resources, “Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Guidance Document and Toolkit”
 3. August 31, 2017, mavensnotebook.com, “State Water Board: Update on SGMA Implementation”
 4. September 20, 2017, Workshop Offered by Department of Water Resources, “SGMA Groundwater Sustainability Plan Workshop”
- III. Public Comment
- IV. Directors’ Comments
- V. Future Agenda Items
- VI. Workshop/Shirtsleeve Session: GSP Work Plan Development (see attached).
- VII. Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting

October 11, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.

San Joaquin County - Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center
2101 E. Earhart Ave., Assembly Rm. #1, Stockton, California

Action may be taken on any item

Agendas and Minutes may also be found at <http://www.ESJGroundwater.org>

Note: If you need disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact San Joaquin County Public Works Water Resources Staff at (209) 468-3089 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

ATTACHMENT II
A.1.



Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board Meeting Summary Wednesday, August 9, 2017

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance & Safety Announcement: The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (Authority) Board meeting was convened at 9:35 a.m., on August 9, 2017, at the Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center, 2101 E. Earhart Ave. Stockton, CA. The pledge of allegiance was conducted. Ms. Lynn Hoffman provided the required safety information.

Roll Call:

In attendance were Directors Biagi, Jr., Fletcher, Flinn, Henry, Holman, Nakanishi, Silverman, Alternates Freeman, Gibson, Heberle, Kuil, Sheldon, Ward, Secretary Balaji, Vice-Chair Panizza, and Chair Winn. Roll was taken and a quorum was present.

II. SCHEDULED ITEMS

A. Discussion/Action Items:

1. **Approval of Minutes of July 12, 2017:** Motion: The minutes of July 12, 2017 were unanimously approved. (Fletcher/Flinn)

2. **Public Hearing for and possible adoption of Authority's proposed Conflict of Interest Code:**

Following a brief review by Mr. Brandon Nakagawa of the proposed Conflict of Interest Code, Chair Winn opened the Public Hearing on the item. There was no public comment offered, and the public hearing was closed.

Motion: The Authority unanimously voted to approve a Resolution Adopting Conflict of Interest Code for the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority. (Flinn/Silverman)

Mr. Nakagawa stated that staff would send to the Authority Board a reminder to complete the required Form 700. The Authority Board agreed upon a self-imposed deadline of August 23, 2017 to have the forms completed and returned to County staff.

3. **Discussion and possible action to adopt Bylaws for the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (red-line and clean versions available at meeting):**

As a follow up to last month's discussion item, Mr. Nakagawa provided feedback on the survey regarding the Board's meeting time preference. He reported that of those responding, 13 preferred the meetings remain on the second Wednesday of the month in the morning; five could move the meeting time to the afternoon; and two had no preference. Based on the input received, staff recommended that the Bylaws reflect the meetings occur on second Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. Additional edits to the Bylaws were reviewed by Authority Counsel.

Mr. Rod Attebery, Authority Counsel on governance matters, explained that he incorporated some of the edits suggested by member agencies into the Bylaws. Those edits are reflected in the copies made available at this meeting and the current version was also emailed out after the agenda packets were distributed. Before the Authority took action to adopt, a few more revisions were added to accurately reflect the names of participating

agencies and to clarify acronyms. The Authority Board agreed to incorporate suggested revisions.

Motion: The Authority unanimously voted to adopt the Bylaws as revised and with the changes as discussed at today's meeting. (Heberle/Panizza)

Mr. Attebery confirmed a clean version will be made available and posted to the website.

4. **Discussion and possible action to authorize Authority Chair to enter into a contract with GEI regarding "Proposal for Preparing Prop 1 GSP Grant Application," not to exceed \$35,000 base cost, and not to exceed a total cost of \$43,000.**

Mr. Nakagawa explained that the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is offering grant money to help defray the cost for the preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP), which is required in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). The maximum grant amount is \$1.5M, and requires a 50% local cost share. The timeline to apply will be tight, given that DWR is expected to open solicitation as early as August 2017. It is anticipated that the application may be due October 2017. He reminded the Board of the decision from last month to come back to this meeting with a proposed consultant services agreement for the grant application work.

Mr. Nakagawa highlighted the scope of the GSP as well as the consultant selection process. A selection committee representing 12 GSAs reached consensus and selected GEI Consultants, Inc. (GEI) to prepare the grant application. Mr. Nakagawa reviewed GEI's proposed tasks for GSP scoping and reviewed the proposed nine-week schedule to prepare and submit the grant application. He stated the selection committee liked the idea of using a simple survey as a tool to help gauge the level of effort required in the GSP work plan and possibly discuss its results in September in the workshop setting. The objective of which would be to reduce the level of effort required, capitalize on previous work and past efforts, and determine the remaining requirements of SGMA.

The Board was reminded that the adopted 2017-18 budget included this expense for consultant services, which would be covered by the revenue generated from collected membership dues. Staff recommended approval of the consultant contract. Director Nakanishi asked for clarification of past work and if it would be considered part of the \$1.5M estimated cost. Mr. Nakagawa replied that it would not be part of the \$1.5M; however, the prior work may reduce the work that will be needed as part of the GSP. Mr. Nakanishi also asked if there has been a determination of total cost and how costs will be allocated amongst GSAs. Mr. Nakagawa replied that costs must first be defined and discussed by the Board at future meetings, emphasizing that the goal is to reach consensus.

Motion: The Authority unanimously voted to authorize the Authority Chair to enter into a contract with GEI Consultants, Inc. regarding "Proposal for preparing Prop 1 GSP Grant Application," not to exceed \$35,000 base cost, and not to exceed a total cost of \$43,000. (Silverman/Fletcher)

B. Informational Items:

During the Workshop/Shirtsleeve session, Mr. Nakagawa updated the Board that staff has submitted an application for facilitation services to DWR, identifying Ms. Carolyn Lott as the facilitator of choice. He stated that a draft scope of work has been prepared for DWR's approval. The hope is that the process will be completed by DWR and that Ms. Lott will be available to facilitate the next meeting.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Julianne Phillips of the San Joaquin Farm Bureau stated that since 2013, the two SGMA related questions among those for whom she works is: 1) How much is it going to cost me?; and 2) How much will I be able to pump? She stated she valued the Board's in depth conversation today regarding apportionment of costs. She cautioned moving forward purely with the metric of acreage or groundwater use, stating it would disproportionately impact "ag-heavy" districts. She concluded by referring back to the Board's discussion on who is benefitting by this effort. She emphasized this effort is for the GSP and all will equally share in the benefit of being compliant and should share equally in the cost to achieve compliance.

IV. DIRECTORS' COMMENTS

Chair Winn mentioned he attended a meeting with San Diego County Water Authority (SDCWA), which has essentially been at war for decades with Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). SDCWA is MWD's largest customer, purchasing about 25% of its available water. SDCWA has been taking steps to move away from reliance upon MWD, as well as Delta water. One alternative SDCWA pursued is moving to desalinization and is looking to embark on an additional desalinization partnership. SDCWA has had lawsuits against MWD and have won the first two cases. The outcome of the most recent lawsuit was not favorable for SDCWA, and they are taking measures to appeal the case to the Supreme Court. He stated that a factor in whether the Supreme Court will hear an appeal is the amount of correspondence they receive on the given topic.

He encouraged entities to send in correspondence on the matter, not necessarily taking a position on the issue, rather indicating this is a matter of state-wide concern and requesting the appeal be heard. He concluded by stating that should the current court decision stand, it will have ramifications throughout the State on future water negotiations. Mr. Nakagawa mentioned that an email will soon be forthcoming from Supervisor Chuck Winn, as Chair of San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors, providing additional information and encouraging correspondence on the matter to the Supreme Court.

V. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

No discussion held.

VI. WORKSHOP/SHIRTSLEEVE SESSION: EQUITABLE GSP COST APPORTIONMENT

(Note: this item occurred at the conclusion of Agenda Item II.A.4. at the meeting.)

Director Winn reminded the group that the County is a partner and not in charge of this effort. He believes having facilitation at the workshop sessions will be beneficial especially as we consider the upcoming challenges.

One challenge will be completing the GSP together by the deadline in 2020. To that end, Mr. Walt Ward directed a question to DWR representative, Paul Wells, regarding the January 31, 2020 GSP deadline. Specifically, he wanted to know whether a public review period and adoption step must take place prior to the deadline. Mr. Wells stated he will check into that.

Mr. Nakagawa mentioned that the Authority Board has discussed seeking ways to broaden the conversation and include Alternate Members, staff, public, etc., while also keeping its needed focus. One solution discussed is to have a "Workshop" discussion and invite those listed to join the Board during part of its regular session, in which this group act as an advisory group. He pointed out that part of the statute within SGMA is to identify and include interested stakeholder groups not currently included in the efforts. A facilitated discussion is desired and Mr. Nakagawa updated the Board on the status of application with DWR for facilitation services.

Mr. Nakagawa suggested that each Board member think about who they would like to have participate at the next workshop discussion, whether it be the Alternate Member or key staff. He

asked Ms. Lott to review “ground rules” for workshop sessions. She explained that as more participants are phased in, the ground rules provide a means to manage the conversation and keep them productive. She presented a slide listing proposed ground rules and concluded by stating that the workshop is not a place for action items, but recommendations from that group may be presented to the Board for consideration. She also stated that it may be appropriate to have different folks at the table at given points in time, depending on the subject matter (she gave an example of GSAs with more than one member agency that may want to include those agencies in the discussion). As the GSP develops, it will be required to involve interest groups and it will be valuable to have their input.

In an effort to set the tone for a healthy dialogue, Mr. Nakagawa discussed the various common interests in developing a single GSP. He explained that for discussion purposes in the workshop session today, potential metrics for cost apportionment will be presented for consideration. Those metrics included: GSA acreage, GSA population, as well as GSA groundwater access and use (once quantified). These or other metrics may be considered or a hybrid may be developed. The cost could split equally if desired. He stated that it will be a discussion where consensus is sought.

The Board expressed a variety of thoughts in this initial workshop discussion of cost apportionment. The discussion included pros and cons of the metrics, funding of sustainability within the basin, as well as some specific agency concerns in cost allocation methodology. Mr. Nakagawa stated cost benefit analysis is taking place and time is limited to solidify a methodology. He stated that this approach begins with simple building blocks and layers of complexity may be needed to reach consensus amongst the group. He also stated that the goal during the GSP grant application process is to provide technical justification to reduce a portion of the cost share to the extent possible, noting that the cost share will be spread over three fiscal years.

Ms. Lott added that in-kind expenditures may count toward a member’s cost share if properly documented to meet DWR requirements. Mr. Nakagawa stated that if the Authority is in fact the applicant for the GSP Grant, it will need to pass a Resolution authorizing a grant submittal, as well as identify and obligate a local cost share. The cost allocation amongst GSAs may be determined after the submittal, but must be determined before entering into the agreement/contract (approximately March or April of 2018). It was agreed that this topic would be agendized at future Board meetings. It was also noted that the Ad Hoc Technical Review Committee may be a place to discuss and make certain recommendations, such as with vetting the groundwater data/metric which a consultant is currently working on.

The possibility of equally sharing the cost of the GSP was further discussed. It was estimated that if the maximum grant was applied for and awarded, each agency, if equally sharing the cost over three fiscal years, would pay about \$29,000 per year. Chair Winn suggested sharing some of the information discussed at today’s meeting with member agency Boards so they can have a sense of the possibility of the ceiling cost of the option to equally share in the GSP. It would be good to hear any feedback.

In conclusion Mr. Nakagawa reminded the Board of the workshop session which will be agendized at the next Authority meeting and to bring additional staff, Alternate, etc. to participate in that portion of the meeting.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Winn adjourned the meeting at 11:40 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting: September 13, 2017, at 9:30 a.m. San Joaquin County – Robert J. Cabral
Agricultural Center 2101 E. Earhart Ave., Assembly Rm. #1, Stockton, California

Submitted by: Kelly Villalpando, San Joaquin County

MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD

 Location: SJ COUNTY ROBERT J. CABRAL AG CENTER Date: 08/09/17 Time: 9:30 AM

NAME	AFFILIATION	E-MAIL ADDRESS	PHONE
Danielle Barney	SJC PW	dbarney@sjgw.org	468-3000
Dennis Mills	DEANWICKS Co	DMILLS@CO.CALAWATER.CA.US	-
Fritz Burkman	SJC PW		
MIKE Henry	Lockettford CSD	midot@att.net	712-4014
Carolyn LOTT	Carson Consulting	carolynlott@bcglobal.net	402-2024
Paul Wells	DWR	Paul.Wells@water.ca.gov	916-3255
Amardeep Singh	DWR	amardeep@water.ca.gov	(916) 376-9655
Lynn Hoffman	SJC AW WR	lhoffman@sjgw.org	(209) 468-3531
Colin Peere	DuMay/Eclwr	CLPeere@DumayMDC.com	415-519-4138
Ali Taghavi	BMC/Woodbridge/Corra	ataghavi@woodbridge.com	916-999-8760
David Fletcher	Linden CWD	dfletcher dfletcher@comcast.net	887-9202
RICH SILVERMAN	MANTUCA		
Walt Ward	Eastside SJGSA	wward@envrec.org	525-6710
Jotain Cruz	EBMUD	jcruz@ebmud.com	510/287-0908
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ACAW NAKAWIS	LODI	ACAW & SSCP AGC.C	
Emily Sheldon	OID	esheldon@caclimateirrigation.com	840-5509
Scott Moody	SEWD		
John Freeman	CWS	jfreeman@clw.com	547-7910
Elbert Holman	City of Stockton	hoytjr63@yahoo.com	209-423-3778
T.R. FLOW	NSJ WCD		
Greg Gibson	City of Lathrop	ggibson@ci.lathrop.ca.us	(209) 941-7442
MARIE WILKINSON	CR21		916/631-4559

ATTACHMENT II
A.2.

DRAFT

DRAFT - FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY			
Groundwater Sustainability Agency	GSA Acres	%	Share of 1.5 million
Linden County Water District	303	0.04%	\$589
Lockeford Community Services District	787	0.10%	\$1,529
San Joaquin County GSA No. 2	6,851	0.89%	\$13,308
City of Lathrop	7,654	0.99%	\$14,868
City of Lodi	8,957	1.16%	\$17,400
City of Manteca	13,387	1.73%	\$26,006
South Delta Water Agency	17,932	2.32%	\$34,835
Woodbridge Irrigation District	29,419	3.81%	\$57,149
Oakdale Irrigation District	31,452	4.07%	\$61,098
City of Stockton	39,331	5.09%	\$76,402
San Joaquin County GSA	50,694	6.57%	\$98,476
Central Delta Water Agency	52,175	6.76%	\$101,353
South San Joaquin GSA	63,864	8.27%	\$124,061
Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District	73,166	9.48%	\$142,130
Stockton East Water District	100,603	13.03%	\$195,428
Eastside GSA	126,621	16.40%	\$245,970
North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	148,976	19.29%	\$289,397
Totals	772,171		\$1,500,000

**Discussed at Ad Hoc Meeting
August 23, 2017**

DRAFT

DRAFT - FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY			
Groundwater Sustainability Agency	GSA Population	%	Share of 1.5 million
Linden County Water District	1,682	0.25%	\$3,805
Central Delta Water Agency	2,086	0.31%	\$4,718
South Delta Water Agency	2,886	0.44%	\$6,529
Lockeford Community Services District	2,917	0.44%	\$6,599
Woodbridge Irrigation District	5,230	0.79%	\$11,831
Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District	5,874	0.89%	\$13,289
Oakdale Irrigation District	7,022	1.06%	\$15,885
Eastside GSA	9,598	1.45%	\$21,712
City of Lathrop	18,351	2.77%	\$41,513
North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	20,017	3.02%	\$45,282
San Joaquin County GSA	29,292	4.42%	\$66,265
Stockton East Water District	31,355	4.73%	\$70,932
South San Joaquin GSA	38,212	5.76%	\$86,443
San Joaquin County GSA No. 2	48,820	7.36%	\$110,441
City of Lodi	63,469	9.57%	\$143,580
City of Manteca	69,721	10.51%	\$157,723
City of Stockton	306,538	46.23%	\$693,453
Totals	663,070		\$1,500,000

**Discussed at Ad Hoc Meeting
August 23, 2017**

DRAFT - FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

DRAFT

Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Equal Cost
Central Delta Water Agency	\$88,235
Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District	\$88,235
City of Lathrop	\$88,235
City of Lodi	\$88,235
City of Manteca	\$88,235
City of Stockton	\$88,235
Eastside GSA	\$88,235
Linden County Water District	\$88,235
Lockeford Community Services District	\$88,235
North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	\$88,235
Oakdale Irrigation District	\$88,235
San Joaquin County GSA	\$88,235
San Joaquin County GSA No. 2	\$88,235
South Delta Water Agency	\$88,235
South San Joaquin GSA	\$88,235
Stockton East Water District	\$88,235
Woodbridge Irrigation District	\$88,235
Totals	\$1,500,000

**Discussed at Ad Hoc Meeting
August 23, 2017**

ATTACHMENT II
B.1.

**EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN
GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
BYLAWS**

**BYLAWS
OF
EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**

**ARTICLE I
NAME**

This joint powers agency shall be known as the EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (“Authority”) and shall exercise its powers within the geographical area of the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin as set forth in the joint powers agreement entered into by Calaveras County Water District on behalf of all the members of the Eastside San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Central Delta Water Agency, Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District, City of Lathrop, City of Lodi, City of Manteca, City of Stockton, Linden County Water District, Lockeford Community Services District, North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, Oakdale Irrigation District, San Joaquin County, South Delta Water Agency, South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, Stockton East Water District, and Woodbridge Irrigation District GSA (“Member” or collectively “Members”) establishing Authority.

**ARTICLE II
PURPOSE**

The purposes of Authority as set forth in the joint powers agreement are for the following reasons:

- A. Provide for coordination among the Members to develop and implement a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and/or facilitate a coordination agreement, to the extent necessary;
- B. Provide for the joint exercise of powers common to each of the Members and powers granted to members by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) (subject to the restrictions contained in the joint powers agreement);
- C. Cooperatively carry out the purposes of SGMA;
- D. Develop, adopt and implement a legally sufficient GSP covering those portions of the Basin that are within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Members, subject to the limitations set forth in the joint powers agreement; and
- E. Satisfy the requirements of SGMA for coordination among Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs).
- F. Allocation of Resources. The Members share common mission and issues, and at the same time, have different needs and priorities and are affected in different ways by these

issues. The resources of Authority should be allocated in a manner so that the needs of any portion of the area within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Authority are not ignored, recognizing, however, that resources are limited and that not all needs can be met, nor all portions of the area assisted equally at any one time.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Board. Authority shall be governed by a Board of Directors, herein referred to as the “Authority Board” or “Board”, which shall be comprised of:

A. One (1) member appointed from each of the Members. Members of the Board of Directors are not required to be members of the governing board of the appointing Member; however, it is the strong preference that members of the Board of Directors be members of the governing board of the appointing party.

B. In the event Members establish a separate or additional GSA pursuant to a separate agreement with any Member or other entity, the GSA so established will thereafter have one representative on the Board of Directors and the vote of the GSA member will be exercised in accordance with the separate agreement (*e.g., Memorandum of Agreement*).

Section 2. Appointment. Members shall be appointed by the governing body of each Member, or in the event any Member establishes a single GSA with another Member or other entity, pursuant to the separate agreement, and shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing body or bodies or until their respective successors are appointed. If a Member of the Board of Directors is a member of the governing body of the appointing member, termination of that member’s mayor, councilperson, supervisor, director or trustee status shall constitute automatic termination of that person’s membership on the Authority Board. The appointing body of a Member may appoint a new member or alternate immediately upon any vacancy in the Member’s representation.

Section 3. Alternates. The governing body of each Member, or in the event any Member establishes a single GSA with another Member or other entity, pursuant to the separate agreement, shall appoint an alternate member to the Authority Board. The alternate need not be a member of the governing board of the appointing member. During the absence of a regular member from any meeting of the Authority Board, the alternate shall be entitled to participate in all respects as a regular member of the Authority Board.

ARTICLE IV OFFICERS

Section 1. Elected Officers.

The elected officers shall be chosen by the Board from the members of the Board and shall consist of a Chair and a Vice-Chair.

Section 2. Terms of Elected Officers.

Elected officers of the Board shall be elected by the Board at the June meeting and shall serve for a two (2) year term, said term to commence upon election.

Section 3. Duties of Elected Officers.

A. Chair.

1. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Board and such other meetings approved by the Board.
2. The Chair shall serve as official spokesperson for the Board.
3. The Chair shall appoint such committees and other working groups as prescribed by the Board.
4. The Chair shall designate Directors or others to represent the Board at various meetings, hearings, and conferences.
5. The Chair shall perform such other duties as necessary to carry out the work of the Board.
6. The Chair shall perform such duties as prescribed by law.

B. Vice-Chair.

1. The Vice-Chair shall serve in the absence of the Chair.

C. Absences.

1. In the absence of both the Chair and Vice-Chair, a majority of the Board shall select a Director to serve as Chair Pro Tem.

**ARTICLE V
MEETINGS**

Section 1. Regular and Special Meetings.

A. The Authority Board shall hold a regular meeting on the second Wednesday of each month, at 9:30 a.m., or at a time, specified by the Authority Board. The Authority's Board may designate the location of such regular meetings in a duly adopted Resolution of the Authority Board. Such regular meetings shall be for considering reports of the affairs of Authority and for transacting such other business as may be properly brought before the meeting. Any regular meeting may be rescheduled on an individual basis as to date, time and place, by motion of the Authority Board or at the direction of the Authority Secretary, in the event of a

conflict with holidays, Directors' schedules, or similar matters, or, in the event of a lack of a quorum, as specified below.

B. Special meetings may be called in accordance with the California Ralph M. Brown Act. Special meetings may be called by the Chair, or by any nine Directors.

C. All meetings shall be conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.

Section 2. Closed Sessions.

A. All information presented in closed session shall be confidential.

B. Under Government Code section 54956.96, Authority adopts a joint powers agency limited disclosure policy as follows:

1. All information received by the legislative body of the local agency member in a closed session related to the information presented to Authority in closed session shall be confidential. However, a member of the legislative body of a member local agency may disclose information obtained in a closed session that has direct financial or liability implications for that local agency to the following individuals:

(a). Legal counsel of that member local agency for purposes of obtaining advice on whether the matter has directed financial or liability implications for that member local agency.

(b). Other members of the legislative body of the local agency present in a closed session of that member local agency.

2. Any designated alternate member of the legislative body of the Authority who is also a member of the legislative body of a local agency member and who is attending a properly noticed meeting of the joint powers agency in lieu of a local agency member's regularly appointed member may attend closed sessions of Authority.

Section 3. Quorum.

A. A quorum for conducting all matters of business shall be a majority of the Members.

Section 4. Voting.

A. Voting shall only be conducted at properly noticed meeting where a quorum has been established and members are physically present, except as provided in Government Code section 54953 for teleconferencing.

B. Voting shall be by voice, show of hands, or roll call vote. Any Director may request a roll call vote.

C. In all cases, a vote to “abstain” shall be counted as an “aye” vote unless there is a majority vote to defeat the motion and then the vote to abstain shall be counted as a “no” vote.

D. Supermajority Vote Requirement for Certain Actions. The following actions will require two-thirds (2/3) vote by the directors present:

1. Approval or modification or amendment of the Authority’s annual budget;
2. Decision related to the levying of taxes, assessments or property-related fees and charges;
3. Decisions related to the expenditure of funds by the Authority beyond expenditures approved in the Authority’s annual budget;
4. Adoption of rules, regulations, policies, bylaws and procedures related to the function of the Authority;
5. Decisions related to the establishment of the Members’ percentage obligations for payment of the Authority’s operating and administrative costs as provided in Article 5.1 of the joint powers agreement;
6. Approval of any contracts over \$250,000 or contracts for terms that exceed two (2) years;
7. Setting the amounts of any contributions or fees to be paid to the Authority by any Member;
8. Decisions regarding the acquisition by any means and the holding, use, sale, letting and disposal of real and personal property of every kind, including lands, water rights, structures, buildings, rights-of-way, easements, and privileges, and the construction, maintenance, alteration and operation of any and all works or improvements, within or outside the Authority, necessary or proper to carry out any of the purposes of the Authority;
9. Decisions related to the limitation or curtailment of groundwater pumping; and
10. Approval of a GSP.

Section 5. Notice of Regular and Special Meetings.

A. Notices of regular meetings shall be sent in writing to each Director at the Director’s address at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to such meetings. Directors may choose to receive notices of regular meetings electronically and such electronic notices shall also be sent at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to such meetings. Such notices shall specify the place, the

day, and the hour of the meeting and accompanying the notice shall be a copy of the agenda for that meeting.

B. In the case of special meetings, the written or electronic notice shall specify the specific nature of the business to be transacted.

Section 6. Lack of Quorum.

A. If less than a quorum of the Directors are present at any properly called regular, adjourned regular, special, or adjourned special meeting, the member(s) who are present may adjourn the meeting to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment. A copy of the order or notice of adjournment shall be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the place where the meeting was to have been held within 24 hours after adjournment.

B. If all the members are absent from any regular or adjourned regular meeting, the Administrator of the Authority may so adjourn the meeting and post the order or notice of adjournment as provided, and additionally shall cause a written notice of the adjournment to be given in the same manner as for a notice of a special meeting.

C. If the notice or order of adjournment fails to state the hour at which the adjourned meeting is to be held, it shall be held at the hour specified for the regular meeting of Authority.

Section 7. Agenda.

Any Director or the Administrator may cause an item to be placed on the agenda.

Section 8. Adjournment.

Except as provided in Section 6 above, a meeting may be adjourned by the presiding officer's own action; however, any Director may object to such adjournment by the presiding officer and then a motion and action is required in order to adjourn the meeting in accordance with Rosenberg's Rules of Order.

Section 9. Decorum.

All Directors, and staff, shall conduct themselves in accordance with Rosenberg's Rules of Order and in a civil and polite manner toward other board members, employees, and the public. Using derogatory names, interrupting the speaker having the floor, or being disorderly or disruptive, are prohibited actions. If any meeting is willfully interrupted by any individual so as to render the orderly conduct of that meeting infeasible, that individual may be removed from the meeting. If any group or groups of persons willfully interrupts a meeting so as to render the orderly conduct of that meeting infeasible, the presiding officer, or a majority of the Board, may clear the meeting room in accordance with Government Code section 54957.9.

**ARTICLE VI
COMMITTEES**

Section 1. Advisory Committee.

A. The Board may establish an Advisory Committee which contains no more than 8 representatives from the Board of the Authority.

B. The members of the Advisory Committee shall elect one (1) of their members to serve as Chairperson.

C. A majority of the Advisory Committee members attending a meeting of the Committee, given notice in writing not less than 72 hours in advance, shall constitute a quorum for discussion and action delegated to the Committee.

D. The Advisory Committee shall conduct the preliminary review of all Federal and State mandates. In conducting such reviews, the Advisory Committee will draw upon the expertise and assistance of any persons, committees, groups, or agencies it deems appropriate.

E. The Advisory Committee shall ensure maximum inter-agency coordination and consistence with adopted comprehensive plans.

F. The Advisory Committee shall carry out any duties as assigned by the Authority Board.

Section 2. Other Committees.

The Authority Board may appoint other committees as necessary. The Chair may appoint ad hoc committees.

**ARTICLE VII
REFERRALS**

The San Joaquin County may accept by letter or resolution referrals for study and report from any duly constituted advisory or legislative body or their representatives. Reports will be made and returned to the referring body within a reasonable time.

**ARTICLE VIII
PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

Rosenberg's Rules of Order, current edition or such other authority as may be subsequently adopted by resolution of the Board is to apply to all questions of procedure and parliamentary law not specified in these Bylaws or otherwise by law.

**ARTICLE IX
MISCELLANEOUS**

In the case of any inconsistency between the provision of these Bylaws and the Joint Powers Agreement creating the Authority, the provisions of the Joint Powers Agreement shall govern and control. Any capitalized term used in these Bylaws and not defined herein shall have the same meaning as used in the Joint Powers Agreement.

**ARTICLE X
AMENDMENTS**

The Bylaws may be repealed or amended, or new Bylaws may be proposed, by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the Board of Directors present on a resolution presented at any regular meeting of the Board, provided notice of such proposal shall have been electronically mailed to each Director at least five (5) calendar days prior to the meeting at which the matter is to be acted upon.

ATTACHMENT II
B.2.



August 28, 2017

Trevor Joseph, SGM Section Chief
901 P Street
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236
sent via electronic mail to: sgmps@water.ca.gov

Re: Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Guidance Document and Toolkit

Dear Mr. Joseph,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the GSP Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Guidance document and the accompanying toolkit. Stakeholder engagement is at the heart of SGMA and without effective engagement of all interested parties, the goal of SGMA, sustainable groundwater management is difficult, if not impossible, to achieve. The Guidance document clearly lays out the need and benefits of effective stakeholder engagement, and includes valuable information on how to engage the wide variety of stakeholders GSAs will need to work with. However, the Guidance document fails to provide sufficient guidance on how to actually find stakeholders, an issue that will prove to be especially difficult for GSAs located in rural areas.

Guidance document
Overarching comments

The Guidance document contains clear visuals which include valuable information for GSAs working to implement stakeholder engagement. Furthermore, the document places important emphasis on the need to conduct stakeholder outreach in a timely and continual fashion. Unfortunately, since the Communications Plan is not due until the submittal of the final GSP, some GSAs may let stakeholder engagement slide (whether intentionally or unintentionally) in favor of what may appear to be more pressing matters. The Guidance emphasizes the need for stakeholder engagement throughout the process to develop the best plan for sustainability. We appreciate and agree with that emphasis.

Section 3: Developing Your Communication and Engagement Plan

The document states that GSAs are currently in the formation stage, when at this point most GSAs should have formed and SGMA has formally moved into Phase 2 (GSP creation). Before finalizing the Guidance document, it should be updated to be current with where we are in the SGMA process.

In the last paragraph on page 5 the Guidance accurately states that where there are multiple GSAs in a basin, outreach will include all stakeholders who may be impacted. We believe this important goal could be made more clearly by adding at the end of the paragraph, “This means a GSA would be required to outreach to stakeholder outside of their boundaries to insure all impacted users are included in the GSP process.”

Stakeholder Engagement Chart

We find this table concerning because it purports to identify stakeholders and the appropriate level of engagement for each group. Per our August 7 meeting with staff, this table is also intended to provide information about how to find these stakeholders. The column titled “Engagement purpose” seems to recommend a limited purpose and extent for the engagement of a particular stakeholder group. For example, the chart states that the general public should be engaged in order to be informed “to improve public awareness of sustainable groundwater management.” However, this term is much more limited than the requirement in statute (WC 10727.8), which calls for local GSAs to “encourage the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the groundwater basin.” If this table is to be useful, it needs to be accurate.

While we appreciate the effort to develop clear and easily understood visuals, this table could be vastly improved by inserting more detail. We recommend the following changes:

- For the column “Categories of Interest” use the beneficial users list in Water Code §10723.2, adding “diverse social, cultural and economic elements of the population” as an additional category or categories.
- Check statute to ensure that the level of engagement is at minimum that identified in statute; encourage active involvement, consider interests, share public notices and documents, encourage participation in the development of the GSP. We note that the levels of engagement currently listed in the column come from headings in Figure 1 “Levels of Public Participation.” However, of the five headings – Inform, Consult, Involve, Collaborate, Empower – we note that staff uses only the terms “inform and involve” for nonagency stakeholders, and reserves the roles of “Consult” and “Collaborate” only for governmental entities. This does not conform to the statutory requirements. While “consult and involve” accurately describes an appropriate role for the general public, it is not adequate to meet the statutory requirement to “consider the interests” of beneficial users of groundwater. At a minimum, beneficial users of groundwater need to be consulted.
- Add a new column with suggested resources for identifying and contacting the identified parties. (Appendix B of “Collaborating for Success” contains such information).

Advisory Committees

SGMA recognizes the importance of advisory committees to ensure broad participation in the planning and implementation process (Water Code §10727.8). We agree that a properly developed, appointed, and engaged advisory body can be of great assistance in engaging the broad range of interest groups in a basin and creating a shared understanding of local sustainability. Advisory committees also help ensure that important interests are not left out of the discussion or unintentionally harmed by the interests that are represented on the GSA board. This guidance should

provide recommendation for developing and integrating advisory committees into the planning process.

We are particularly concerned that groundwater planning and implementation efforts will be lost in GSAs that are multi-purpose agencies - such as counties or existing water agencies - rather than those formed strictly for groundwater management. In these instances the entity that formed the GSA may only have expertise or knowledge of a particular aspect of water management and thus would be significantly benefitted by forming advisory committees. These committees can provide input and help with language development on other aspects of the GSP. We think this document should strongly recommend the formation of advisory committees in these cases.

Committee structure and makeup: The statute provides that an advisory body can be made up of “interested parties.” At a minimum beneficial users of groundwater that are not represented on the governing body should be represented on such a body. GSAs can also consider having multiple advisory committees that may address different needs within the jurisdiction of the GSA. This can include advisory committees dedicated to working on specific interests, such as water for domestic use, or based on a specific requirement, such as developing the plan for the placement, installation, and monitoring of monitoring wells.

Committee appointments: To ensure diverse representation, the GSA should consider an application and/or appointment process that allows more than one entity the authority to name members. Further, in the case of multiple advisory committees, entities should be allowed to proposed members to all advisory committees relevant to their interests.

Committee charter or by-laws: The Advisory committee should have a clear role in the GSP planning and implementation process. Decisions by the GSA governing body should be informed by the advisory committee, meaning that the advisory committee must have full access to information developed to support these decisions. A GSA which releases only portions of the information available to the advisory committee(s) hamstrings its ability to produce robust documents and guidance for the GSA. The charter will also determine how decisions will be made.

Toolkit

The toolkit includes a lot of useful information, but some materials are not adequate and should be removed. We’ve provided some suggestions for replacements

Advisory Committees

While advisory committees are encouraged in statute (Water Code §10727.8), examples are not provided in the toolkit. We hope this oversight can be corrected in the final product. Three suggestions:

- Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency - whose [website](#) is featured in the toolkit - is putting together an advisory committee to “review technical information, give advice on Basin sustainability goals, plan objectives, project funding, plan implementation, and other topics as identified by the Committee and the Board.” This body, as described, plays a key role in advising the board, and is not limited in scope to those issues identified by the Board.
- The Salinas Valley Groundwater Sustainability Agency- website [here](#) - has created an advisory committee with a specific charter and a publicly identified membership list.

- The North Fork Kings GSA established a rural community advisory committee for purposes of assisting the board to consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater. (SB 564 (Canella) 2016)

Local SGMA websites (we recommend retitling this section)

We agree that it is helpful to include sample websites in the guidance, but found some basic problems with most of the links provided:

- Most of the meeting calendars are out of date and show only past, not future meetings.
- The email sign-ins on most websites ask for almost no information. While members of the public should be able to sign up with minimal information, GSAs have the opportunity with this sign-in to encourage “active involvement.”

We looked for basic features on GSA websites

- Information on public meetings should be up-to-date and easily accessible.
- There should be a clear opportunity to participate.
- Email sign-ups should be clearly accessible, and opportunities for additional engagement should be provided.

Of the featured websites, we found that only the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency provided this level of information. We think the following are good examples which should replace the other websites listed:

[McMullin Area GSA](#) and [North Fork GSA](#) - each has the same basic website, which provides great information on the front page, including a map, meeting notices, stakeholder signup and recent news.

[Salinas Valley GSA](#) - is easily navigable and provides up-to-date meeting information, documents and opportunities for stakeholder engagement.

One area of concern is the large number of multi-purpose agencies that have taken on the role of a GSA. While we acknowledge the expertise of these agencies, their size and complexity can make it difficult to find information about SGMA. We found the GSA portion of these sites generally difficult to access, and the decision-making process obscure. For that reason, we would recommend that multi-purpose agencies hosting GSAs provide a clear link to SGMA content on their home page; specifically identify when GSA business is on the general meeting calendar; and establish an advisory body, clearly identified on the SGMA page, whose sole focus will be guiding and commenting on GSP development.

Other materials

We think the fact sheets, newsletters and other materials provided here are generally good but with a few exceptions. Specifically:

- The newsletter and the Salinas Valley Groundwater work group Spanish SGMA materials are both useful and clear examples for effectively reaching out to stakeholders.
- The featured Solano Subbasin GSA Advisory Group meeting notes are a great example for the toolkit because of their clearly defined meeting goals, next steps, brief meeting summary, and list of participants and their affiliations.

- While the Eastern San Joaquin County Groundwater Basin Authority provides a great list of documents and links, the meeting agendas and minutes have not been updated since July.
- The featured Upper Ventura River Groundwater Basin fact sheet offers a useful overview of the geographic and hydrological information of the basin but does not offer information about the GSA or ways to engage with the GSP process. It would be useful for featured fact sheets to include: a map of the GSA boundary, a list of board of directors, board and committee meeting times, and ways for different stakeholders to engage in the GSP planning process. Translating these fact sheets into different languages is important for reaching all beneficial users.

We are providing the following additional materials:

- North Fork GSA fact sheet - in English and Spanish
- Sign-in page - the Kern Groundwater Authority provides a comprehensive stakeholder [sign-in page](#) where those signing up for public notices can identify their area of interest

We are happy to meet with you to further discuss our comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Clary
Water Programs Manager
Clean Water Action

Debi Ores
Attorney
Community Water Center

Randy Reck
Staff Attorney
Environmental Justice Coalition for Water


Sandi Matsumoto
Associate Director, CA Water Program
The Nature Conservancy

Konrad Fisher
Director
Klamath Riverkeeper

Phoebe Seaton
Co-Director and Attorney at Law
Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability

ATTACHMENT II
B.3.

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STATE WATER BOARD: Update on SGMA Implementation

 [August 31, 2017](#)
 [Maven](#)
 [Meetings](#)

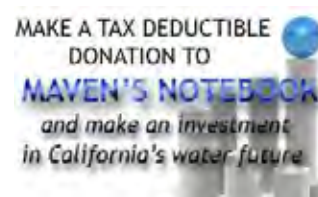


Staff: Formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies has been successful

At the State Water Resources Control Board meeting on August 15th, staff from both the Department of Water Resources and the State Water Board were on hand to deliver this update on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation and planned state intervention actions.

The agenda item was introduced by Erik Ek Dahl, Director for the Office of Research, Planning, and Performance at the State Water Board. "We have recently passed a milestone for SGMA with the first public deadline for local public agencies in the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, passing on July 1st, 2017," he said. "With that passage and in the implementation of SGMA, we are set up for the first stage of possible board action, so we thought this would be a good time to come before the Board and talk about what we've done, both with the Department or as the Department working together with the water board and looking at what we've done over the three years since SGMA was passed in 2014, and looking forward to what we have to do next."

Seated on the panel to deliver the update was Taryn Ravazzini, the Executive Sponsor for SGMA at the Department of Water Resources; Sam



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Boland-Brien, Program Manager for the Groundwater Management Unit at the State Water Board; Trevor Joseph, Program Manager and Supervising Engineering Geologist at the Department of Water Resources; and Mark Norberg, a Senior Engineering Geologist, who has been integral in the SGMA process over at the Department of Water Resources.

Taryn Ravazzini, Deputy Director for Special Initiatives at the Department of Water Resources, and the new Executive Sponsor for the SGMA Program first gave some introductory comments. She noted that now that they have passed this major milestone for the formation of the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, it takes the Department into a new and very active phase in terms of SGMA implementation as they move now into the development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans. "The Department has met every single legislative and regulatory deadline, and we're very pleased to be here to be able to say that today," said Ms. Ravazzini.

She had praise for the coordination and the working relationship between the State Water Board and Department of Water Resources that has brought them to this point. "We have years ahead of us of a lot of work and coordination, so we are committed to that," she said.

"It is important to emphasize that the passage of SGMA legislation and the regulations solidify the commitment by the state that groundwater management be locally driven," Ms. Ravazzini said. "So while the Department has a regulatory role in SGMA, our greatest contribution to successful implementation will be through our role in planning, technical, and financial assistance, and all of this will be to help those GSAs reach sustainability through the preparation of complete and adequate groundwater sustainability plans, so we are really gearing up for that right now."

LEGISLATIVE DEADLINES AND MILESTONES

Trevor Joseph, Program Manager and Supervising Engineering Geologist at the Department of Water Resources, began with a brief overview of all that has been achieved since the legislation was passed. He noted that there are four entities engaged in SGMA implementation:

- The Department of Water Resources is a regulatory and assisting agency; they will perform technical evaluations of the new groundwater sustainability plan requirements for the local agencies.



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- The local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies that will do the planning and implementation;
- The State Water Board, which will step in only the local agencies choose not to or cannot find a path to sustainability; the Board is the enforcing agency in this relationship, although the Board has been doing more than just enforcement, such as providing assistance through facilitation.
- Stakeholders are important; this is very much a stakeholder-driven process. There is recognition of the stakeholder effort to date and the needed effort on an ongoing basis to make this successful.

Sign me up!

UPCOMING CALENDAR EVENTS

At the highest level, sustainability is the avoidance of undesirable results: lowering of groundwater levels, reduction of storage, seawater intrusion, degraded quality, land subsidence, and surface water depletion; these must be avoided at significant and unreasonable levels, he said. The local agencies in high and medium priority basins throughout the state must avoid these undesirable results within 20 years of implementing their plans; those plans are due in 2020 for critically overdrafted basins, and in 2022 for the remaining basins.

“Although we’ve met these deadlines and the local agencies are gearing up to meet their deadlines, there’s a lot of work to be done to get these plans in place,” Mr. Joseph said. *“2020 is right around the corner, as we know.”*



Mr. Joseph then presented a list of due dates and other achievements. *“2015 and 2016 were years of mainly developing emergency regulations*

that were put in place and approved by the California Water Commission,” he said. *“In 2017-2018, we’ve met those legislative due dates that we’ve needed to meet on [Best Management Practices](#) and putting together a [Bulletin 118](#) document that really just memorialized basin boundary changes, but as you can see, there are more tasks boxes left to be checked.”*

Mr. Joseph then turned it over to Mark Norberg to discuss the formation of the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies.

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FORMATION

Mark Norberg, GSA Project Manager, Department of Water Resources since January of 2015 then presented a series of slides showing how GSA formation progressed over time.

During the first six months, January through June of 2015, only three GSAs were formed. During this period of time, there was outreach to local agencies and educational



materials and fact sheets were developed to help the public and local agencies understand the legislation and its requirements.

The next six months, July 2015 to December 2015, there was a progression of GSA notifications. Imperial County claimed the alluvial basins in the county, and a lot of local agencies began forming in Northern California. During these initial months, local agencies were starting form, mainly in very small irrigation districts and small water districts. Some of those jurisdictions had some overlap, which required passage of SB 13 that amended SGMA and clarified language related to GSA formation that dealt with what happens if two separate local agencies form GSAs with overlapping areas. By the end of 2015, we were up to about 39 GSA notifications.

By June of 2016, there were 73 notifications, some in the San Joaquin Valley. *"During this time, while a lot of local agencies did submit notifications, a lot of folks did outreach to both the Department and the State water Board to receive facilitation support services,"* Mr. Norberg said. *"Both of our entities had contracts with facilitators, who definitely wanted help with organizing this difficult governance structure."*

By the end of 2016, there were 104 notifications, and from January to the deadline of June 30th of this year, there was a lot of GSA formation activity. There were 293 GSAs that were formed.

Board member Steven Moore said that it's not only being sustainable from a water resources perspective, but financial sustainability is also important. 293 agencies for 127 basins?

Mr. Norberg notes that there were 127 high and medium priority basins subject to SGMA; 22 of those basins have submitted alternative plans. *"Because an alternative was submitted in compliance with SGMA, the GSA doesn't necessarily have to be formed in those basins unless the Department does not approve that alternative, so of those 22 alternatives, I think 11 of those basins have full GSA coverage, 9 of those basins don't have any GSA coverage and 2 have partial, so if the Department does not approve the alternative, there will be some additional GSAs formed in those particular basins."*

- SEP 8 FRI **Floodplain Management**
📅 08 Sep @ Day 4 of 4
- Yolo Bypass Salmon H**
📅 08 Sep @ Day 2 of 2
- California's Headwaters**
📅 08 Sep @ 10:00 am
- SEP 12 TUE **Southern California Edi**
📅 12 Sep — 13 Sep @ All-d
- SEP 14 THU **Delta Independent Scie**
📅 14 Sep — 15 Sep @ All-d
- SEP 15 FRI **Last day for each hous**
📅 15 Sep @ All-day
- SEP 17 SUN **Santa Barbara Recycle**
📅 17 Sep — 18 Sep @ All-d
- SEP 19 TUE **State Water Resources**
📅 19 Sep @ 09:30 am
- SEP 20 WED **California Water Comm**
📅 20 Sep @ 09:45 am
- Improving the Health o**
📅 20 Sep @ 11:45 am
- SEP 21 THU **Delta Protection Comm**
📅 21 Sep @ 05:30 pm
- SEP 22 FRI **Central Valley Flood Pr**
📅 22 Sep @ 09:00 am
- SEP 25 MON **WEBINAR: California-N**
📅 25 Sep @ 11:00 am
- SEP 28 THU **Delta Stewardship Cou**
📅 28 Sep — 29 Sep @ All-d
- OCT 3 TUE **State Water Resources**
📅 03 Oct @ 09:30 am
- OCT 4 WED **Water Smart Innovator**
📅 04 Oct — 06 Oct @ All-day
- OCT 6 FRI **Dam Exciting: Accomp**
📅 06 Oct @ 08:00 am
- OCT 13 FRI **San Joaquin Valley Wa**
📅 13 Oct @ 10:00 am
- OCT 15 SUN **Last day for Governor t**
📅 15 Oct @ All-day
- OCT 17 TUE **2017 ACWA Regulatory**
📅 17 Oct @ 09:00 am

Mr. Norberg said that 140 basins now have GSAs; 108 of them are high and medium priority basins; 32 low and very low priority basins have GSA coverage. With the remaining high and medium priority basins that don't currently have a GSA, some of those basins have filed alternatives, and others are adjudicated.

He also acknowledged that the number could actually be less than 293; some local agencies might be part of many GSAs, so they might be a part of different efforts and may be counted more than once.

ALTERNATIVE PLAN SUBMITTALS

Trevor Joseph then discussed the alternative plan submittals. "This is an option in the statute for local agencies that feel that they are largely sustainable to submit either an existing groundwater management plan, or do an analysis that shows that they are already sustainable in lieu of forming a Groundwater Sustainability Agency and preparing a GSP," he said.



22 basins submitted alternative plans by the deadline of January 1st, 2017, and are shown in blue on the map. He reminded that the same review criteria applies to alternatives as

it does to a groundwater sustainability plan.

"The same end goal is basin-wide sustainability and the avoidance of undesirable results," he said. "These entities are claiming again that they have a plan in place or the analysis itself to show that they can reach sustainability, so it will be a high bar, but we will provide some status updates, hopefully early next year. ... The term we use is functional equivalency where their concepts and their ways to meet the requirements are slightly different, but can be functionally equivalent to the requirements of the regulations."

ASSISTANCE IN IMPLEMENTATION

The next phase of implementation for the Department will be to provide assistance to local agencies and GSAs in the preparation of their groundwater sustainability plans. There are three types of assistance: financial, planning, and technical, all of which work towards the goal of having local agencies able to prepare compliant groundwater sustainability plans, Mr. Joseph said. He then discussed each in turn.

Financial assistance: The Department received \$100 million to award to local agencies as part of Prop 1 for groundwater management. They did an

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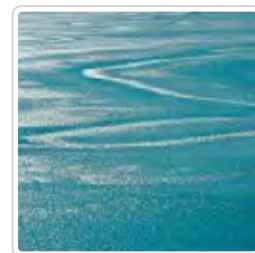
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early round of funding with a limited amount for counties, but the vast majority (\$86.3 million) remains for use towards completing groundwater sustainability plans. At least \$10 million of the \$100 million must be used for severely disadvantaged communities.



Technical and planning assistance: The second phase of implementation is assistance and engagement leading up to the development of groundwater sustainability plans and their submission to the Department. "We have a lot of outreach that the Department provides; we can provide then facilitation services, and we're continuing that program for all the stakeholder engagement activities as it relates to local agencies having to develop their groundwater sustainability plans," he said. "But we're also going to provide technical services, specifically engagement in field activities or support in a technical manner to local agencies, GSAs, so they can achieve more of the technical elements of their plan. But then we move into a GSP evaluation phase, and then we'll work into a final phase of implementation."

Mr. Joseph noted that the Act requires 5 year updates to the plans and annual reports so there will be a cyclical process of looking at the information, and updating data and information as they obtain it.

He said they are also aligning ourselves for a lot of engagement with the regional offices. There are four regions with regional coordinators, and they are aligning staff to be representative of each basin and point of contacts.



There was a legislative requirement for the Department to provide **best management practices**; five of those were produced by the deadline. They were largely technical documents on the requirements of developing a groundwater sustainability plan. "We designed them in such a way that they really speak to a plan requirement or they are structured in such a way that

used funds to help plan for Delta tunnels

September 8, 2017 (553)



DAI LY DIG EST

Labor Day edition: State may open door for storm system fees; Funding secured for the Salton Sea Management Plan; Reasons for optimism about California Water Fix from a fish perspective; and more ...

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s remain just ahead of vote on Delta tunnels project; Setting the sights on Sites; Wild horses destroying water resources; Calls for action as California water board considers Salton Sea plans; and more ...

September 7, 2017 (413)

you see the plan requirement in the statute, and then there are different ways to achieve it, so we're hoping that they are really value-added for the local agencies," he said.

The Department has developed other guidance documents including checklists, engagement with tribal governments, and other documents on communication and engagement. They are currently working on a Best Management Practice that will focus on sustainable management criteria requirements and definition of undesirable results. *"It's very critical that those elements are achieved in these groundwater sustainability plans for us to approve them, so we really want to make sure local agencies understand those requirements clearly, and we hope this BMP will provide them that information,"* said Mr. Joseph.

Other technical tools include the Groundwater Information Center which currently has groundwater level and subsidence data; the water management tool which focuses on boundaries such as existing IRWM boundaries, water agency boundaries, county boundaries, and existing groundwater management plans; a tool for disadvantaged communities to find grant dollars, and the basin boundary tool which provides geologic information for local agencies. More tools are planned in the future to aid in SGMA implementation, he said.



The SGMA portal is a one-stop shop to locate GSAs and the documents that have been submitted to the Department related to SGMA obligations. Alternatives can be found here as well. The GSP submittal tool and documents will be here when they are due to be submitted.

As for the next steps for the Department, they are engaged in implementing assistance programs and will continue to develop additional technical tools. They are heavily invested in engaging with the public and the GSAs during this process, so that hopefully they can develop successful GSPs. They are working through the process of evaluation of alternatives.

"We look forward to continuing coordinating with those local agencies and the State Board," said Mr. Joseph. *"It has been a very collaborative process and in large part, we're successful to date because we work very closely together. Thank you."*

STATE WATER BOARD'S ROLE WITH UNMANAGED AREAS



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Sam Boland-Brien, manager of the Board's groundwater management program, began by saying that Groundwater Sustainability Agency formation has been successful. *"I want to double-down on the point that this has been a tremendous amount of effort by local agencies,"* he said. *"The Department of Water Resources has provided assistance and made sure the nuts and bolts of the process are there. The Board staff have worked hard to make sure there is an appropriate incentive to the process, but really the credit goes to the local agencies that have invested in a lot of hours of coordination and stakeholder meetings to get these organizations in place."*

The State Water Board has identified the managed and unmanaged areas because the Board has a role after the June 30th deadline to start collecting extraction reports from groundwater pumpers in areas that are outside of the management of the GSA.

Mr. Boland-Brien then presented a map showing in light gray the areas that are managed, and the pink are the areas where there are not reporting requirements that the Board will be following up on. These areas were determined by taking information from the Department of Water Resources on GSA boundaries, basins submitting alternatives, and adjudicated areas, and combined those.

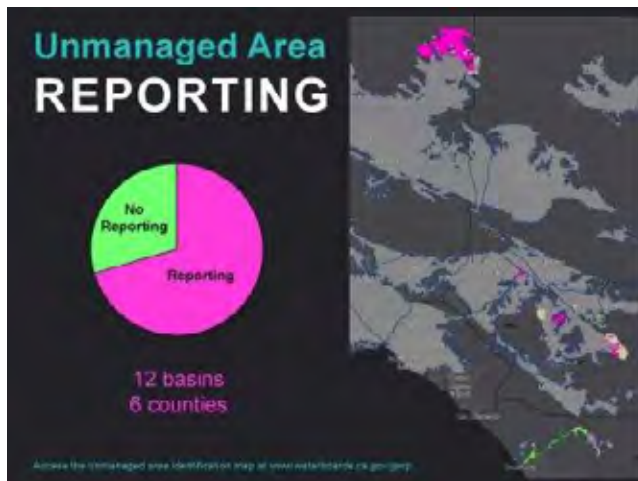
"It's important to note that this is not a static map by any means," said Mr. Boland-Brien. *"This will be an ongoing process. Local conditions could change, so we're keeping an eye on how things proceed. It's also worth pointing out that board staff are still continuing to review the GSA filings. We may find issues that weren't reflected necessarily in the mapping data but are in the specific GSA filings, things like eligibility, or if there are folks that have filed for an area that is larger than their jurisdiction. The purpose here is to look for areas where there are pumpers subject to these new reporting requirements. The idea there is that they are either submitting information under the control of a local agency or they are submitting information to the Board."*

A board member asks about involvement by LAFCO in the process. *"There's interesting discussions from the LAFCO side of how SGMA and LAFCO integrate, but there are a lot of entities forming new local agencies so that those agencies can become Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, and in other areas, they're working with LAFCO to kind of extend their boundaries,"* answered Mr. Boland-Brien.

Most of the remaining unmanaged areas are in adjudicated basins, which are referred to as fringes, because most of the basin is covered by an existing management structure, and the remaining fringes were not part of that. In some cases, local agencies decided it wasn't necessary to form a GSA for these areas because there's limited development there, he said. He noted that the basins marked in pink are areas there they think there are extractors, and green are where areas there they don't believe there is anyone subject to reporting requirements and therefore will not prioritize efforts in those areas.

Mr. Boland-Brien said that in terms of the total unmanaged area, it's about a 70/30 split of areas that are either undeveloped and not subject to reporting

requirements or where we plan to follow up with. "These areas where we think there will be reporting are spread across 12 basins," he said. "Most of them are adjudicated



and it's the small fringes that the adjudications didn't cover across six counties. All this information is available on an interactive map on our website. Part of the reason we designed the map this way is to make it really clear to landowners and extractors to help them determine whether or not they are in one of these unmanaged areas and subject to the reporting requirements."

He noted that the Board has taken its role seriously and defined a process that was scalable. "A quick outline of the steps was that we would essentially identify the extractors in unmanaged areas and that's what we've done; we plan to notify those extractors and let them know about the new reporting obligations that SGMA creates. We'll collect those reports, we'll review them, and we'll invoice the extractors for the fees associated with the filings, the fees went before you in May's emergency regulations."

The graphic has a dark blue background with a glowing green circuit board pattern. The title "Extraction REPORTS" is in large, bold, white letters. Below the title, the text reads: "Reports are submitted annually." followed by "Reports require..." and a bulleted list: "• well location & capacity", "• monthly extraction volumes", and "• place & purpose of use". At the bottom, it says "Reports must be filed electronically." and a small URL: "Information on extraction reports is available at www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/sgma/extractors.htm".

The extractors will have to provide information such as their well location, the capacity of their well, the volumes of water pumped, and how they are using the water, and

where that water is being used. These reports have to be filed annually electronically; there is a map-based interface that is part of the form that collects the information for where the well is located and then identifies where the water was used.

The Board also has technical assistance to help people through the process. "We wanted to make it as clear as possible, but also to make sure that compliance was straightforward, and support staff are planning to help extractors as they work through the reporting process," he said.



As for the timeline, Board staff has identified the parcels they think might have a well and they are planning to send letters out to those landowners later this week. The reporting is by water year which is September 30, so they will need to provide monthly volumes of water extracted for July, August, and September. The reports are due by December 15, the very next day the Board staff will be reviewing these reports, and then the fees will be due by February 15.

"This process is very focused to a very small area, and the big takeaway point is that the large majority of the state has been successful in GSA formation process," he said.

IN CONCLUSION ...

In closing, Erik Ekdahl emphasized the importance of the coordination between both the Department and the State Water Board staff. *"We both have a common vision of how SGMA can work if things are implemented correctly, and we're on the way towards helping that become true," he said. "We can't emphasize enough the tremendous success of the locals. 99.9% of the SGMA eligible basins are covered, so we're really only talking about a few number of wells ... maybe 40? Maybe a few more, maybe a few less, we're going to see when it comes in, but it's very, very few number of wells. When you consider that there's somewhere between maybe 1 million and 2 million wells in the state of California, and 40 are subject to the SGMA reporting requirements, that is a tremendously successful number, and it goes to the work of the locals who realized this was a real thing and that SGMA was something that they had to look at and address and work towards going forward."*

With that being said, the the hard work is still to come. Mr. Ekdahl cautioned. *"By February 1st, 2020, which is exactly 900 days from today, those first sustainability plans are due. ... both the Department and the Water Board need to be prepared to help get past some of those controversial issues and to support the efforts of the locals in developing those plans, and if things fall apart, even though we hope that they don't, we'll be ready to step in with the intervention process if its needed. And I think continuing to serve as that credible backstop and threat will hope motivate locals, because their locally developed plan is going to look a whole lot better than whatever we come up with here and impose upon them."*

There is also a need to educate both the public and the landowners. "We've been in critical overdraft in some basins for the last 10-50 years, so it's not going to turn around on a dime," said Mr. Ekdahl. "It's going to take a long effort, 20 years or maybe more, of concentrated planning and focused effort to make this succeed."

FOR MORE INFORMATION ...

- [Sustainable Groundwater Management Page](#)
- [Unmanaged Area Identifier Map](#)
- [GSP Emergency Regulations Guide](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions on Groundwater Sustainability Agencies](#)
- [State Water Board responsibilities under the Groundwater Management Program](#)
- [Details on the groundwater extraction report requirements are available here.](#)

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ATTACHMENT II
B.4.

SGMA Groundwater Sustainability Plan Workshop

Hosted by the CA Department of Water Resources

Join us for an interactive workshop to discuss DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Program implementation efforts and key components of Groundwater Sustainability Plan development.

This workshop will feature:

- GSA formation updates
- Assistance & engagement information
- Guidance, data, and tools overviews
- Interactive forums on Groundwater Sustainability Plan development
- Information booths on Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant

and much more

Don't miss the opportunity to meet DWR Sustainable Groundwater Management Program and Region Office Staff! Information booths will open at 12:30 P.M.

September 20, 2017

1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M.

**Clovis Veterans Memorial District
808 Fourth Street, Clovis, CA 93612**

**Please RSVP for the workshop at
<http://bit.ly/2xzs0Qo>**

Registration is not required but is appreciated to ensure suitable accommodations for all attendees. This workshop is free of charge and is open to all interested persons and the public.



For questions or if you need special accommodations, please contact us at (916) 653-7564 or sgmps@water.ca.gov

Visit DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management website at <http://water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/>

ATTACHMENT VI

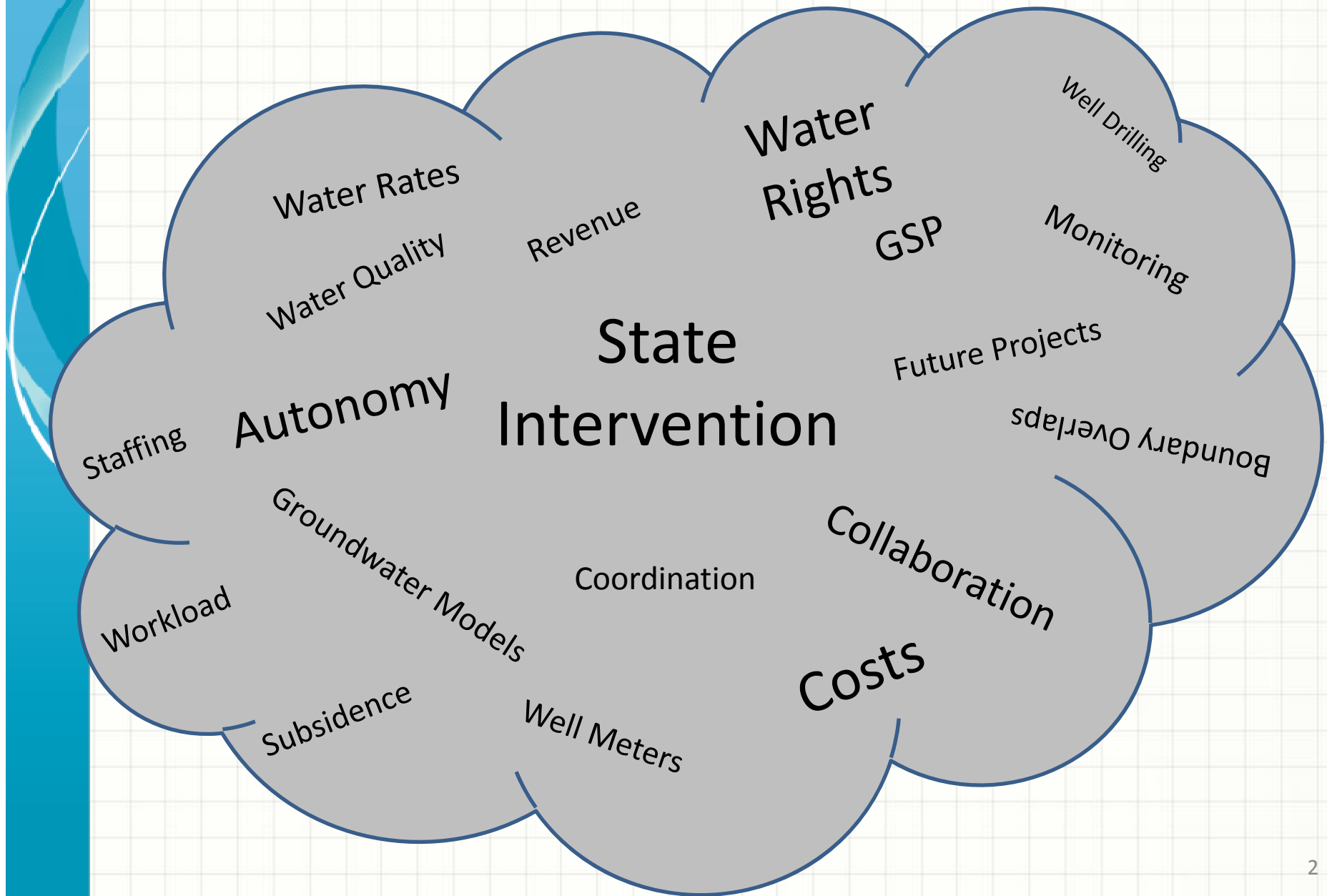


GSP Program Guide

Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the
Eastern San Joaquin Basin

As Presented to the SGMA WG
September 14, 2016

Everyday is a cloudy day with SGMA



Shedding the light on SGMA



Monitoring and Data Collection

- GW Levels
- GW Quality
- GW Production
- Subsidence
- Rainfall
- Reservoir Levels
- River Flows
- Land Use
- Irrigation Methods
- Climate
- Costs

GSP Development

- Sustainability Indicators
- Sustainable Yields
- Groundwater Modeling
- Water Budgets
- Target GW Levels
- Interim Milestones
- GSA Coordination
- Costs

Regulatory Reporting

- Municipal GW Production
- Irrigation Demands
- Meters?
- Milestones
- Other Metrics
- Exemptions
- Costs

Projects and Program Actions

- Enforcement
- Reduction of Groundwater Usage
- Conjunctive Use Projects
- Recharge Projects
- Conservation
- Costs



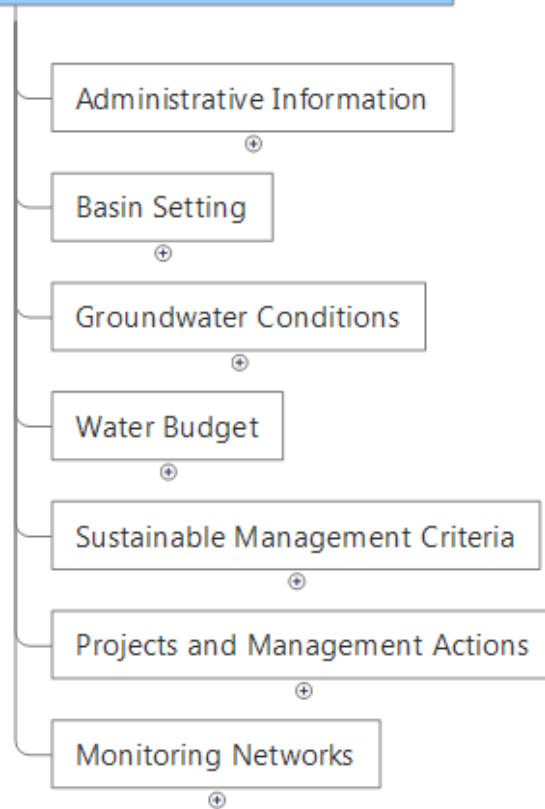
Desired Outcomes for the Presentation

- Understand the layout, organization, and potential uses of the GSP Program Guide
- Provide opinion on local vs. regional responsibility
- Provide opinion of relative cost, labor needs, and duration
- Provide a preliminary schedule for GSP development

Proposed Scope of Work – Task 1

- Task 1: Inventory of future SGMA Regulatory Compliance Program Elements that are required, necessary, and or desired.
- Examples of program elements include monitoring, data collection and data management, regulatory reporting, conjunctive use projects, GSP development.
- Consultants shall evaluate current efforts and consider each task as a potential candidate for the regional group or the individual GSA.

Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)



Evaluate

- Is the Basin operated sustainably?
- How do you know?

Plan (GSP)

- What will you do to become sustainable?

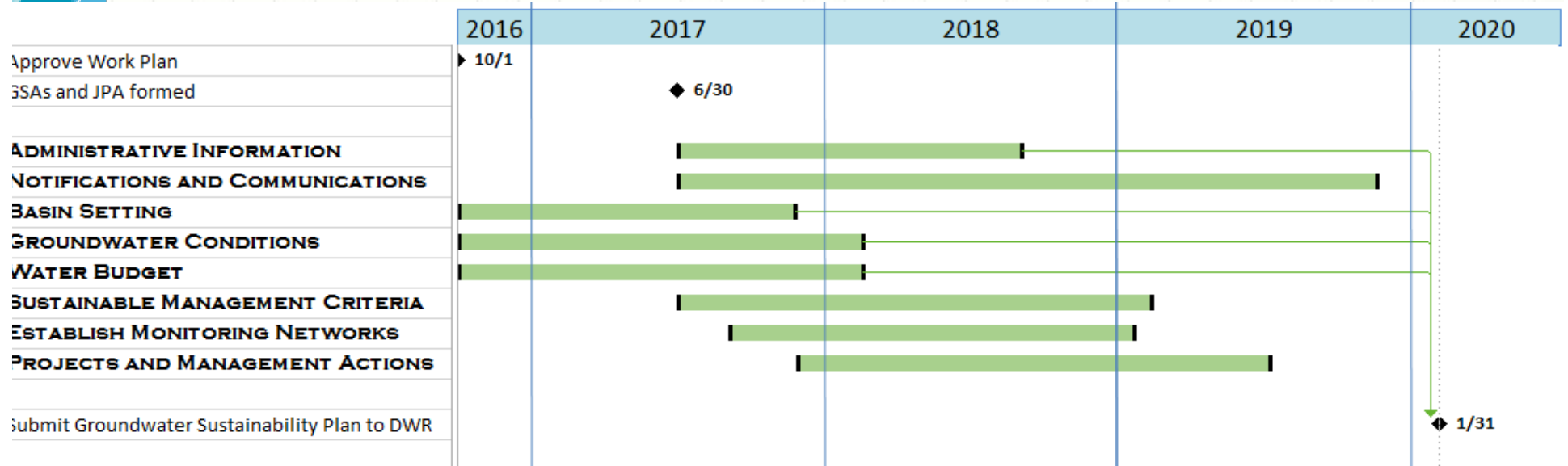
Implement

- Actions
- Projects

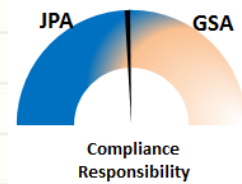
Re-Evaluate

- How do you know these solutions will work?

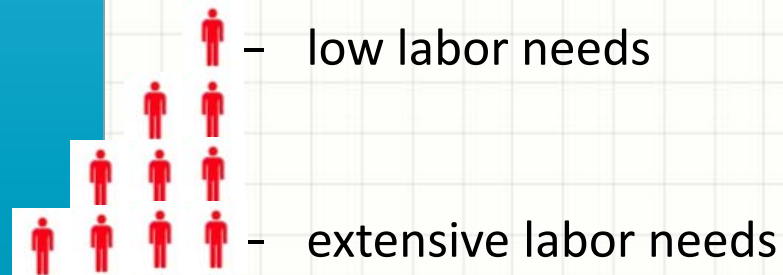
Overview Schedule



Dashboard Key



Suggested Regional (JPA) vs. Local (GSA) Responsibility



Specialty Expertise Needed

Administrative Information

Executive summary

Agency Information

Description of Plan Area

Notifications and communications



Compliance
Responsibility



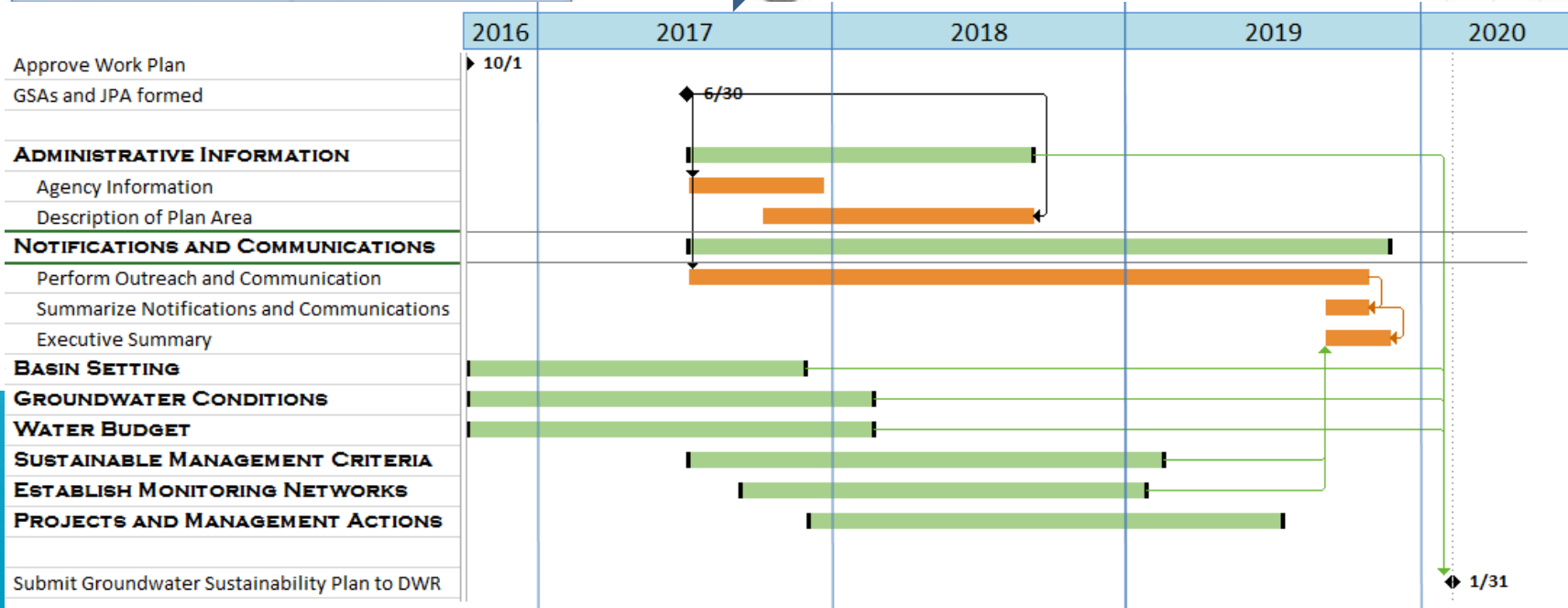
Relative
Cost

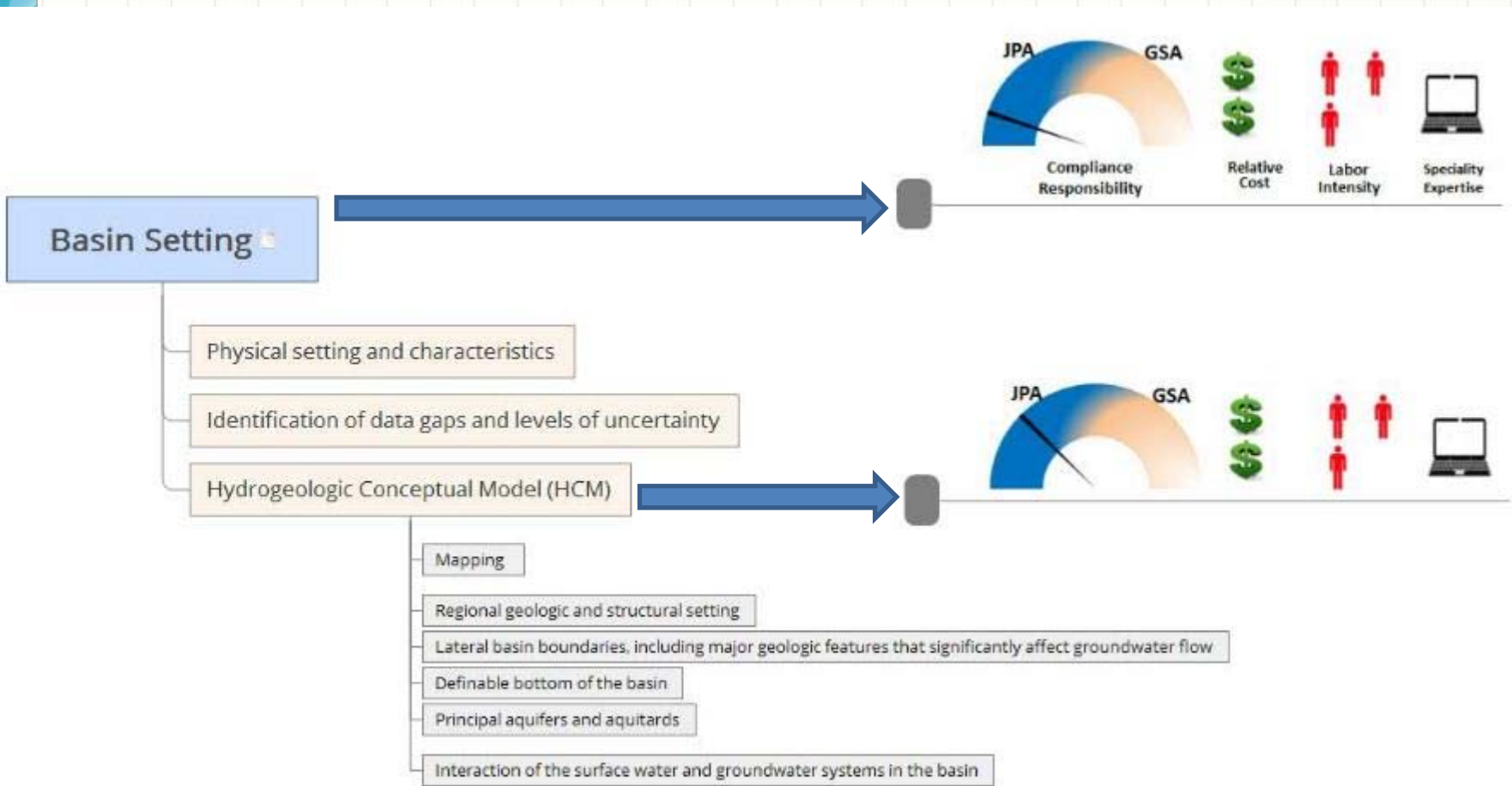


Labor
Intensity

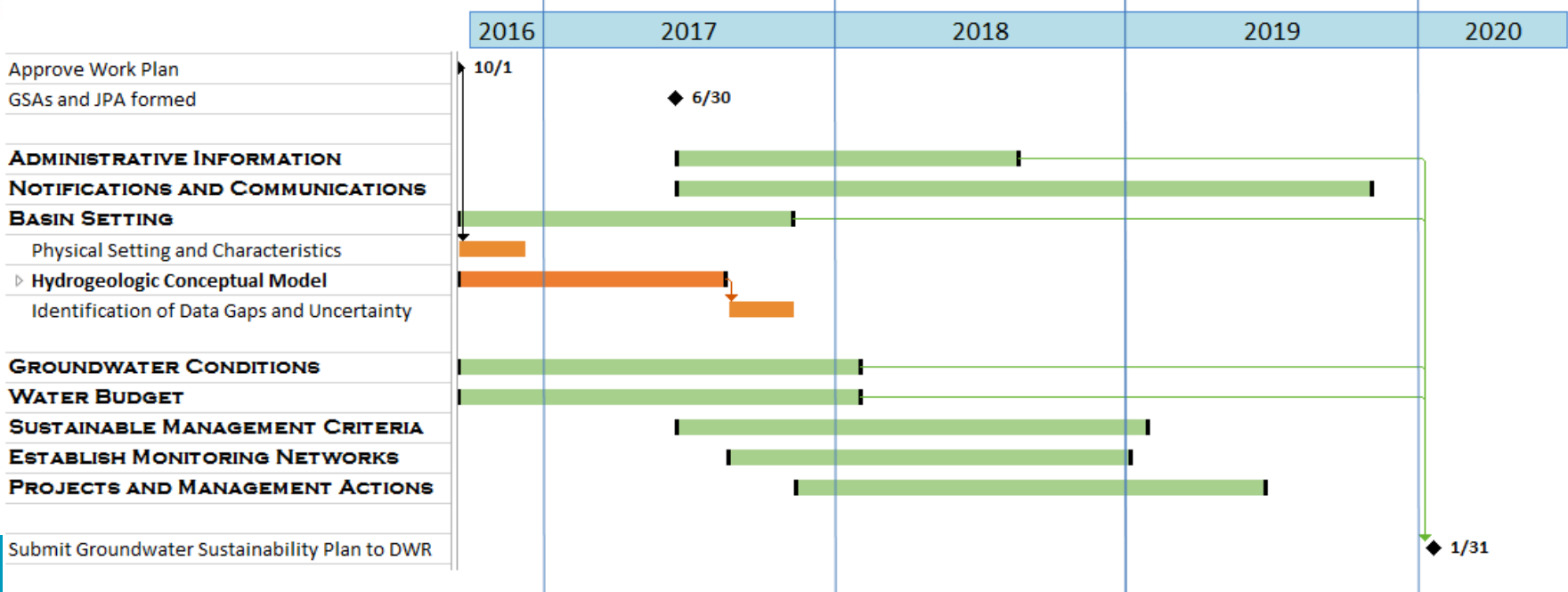
Specialty
Expertise

Administrative Information





Basin Setting



Groundwater Conditions

Description of current and historical groundwater conditions

Groundwater elevation contour maps

Hydrographs of long-term groundwater elevations

Historical highs and lows

Hydraulic gradients between principal aquifers

Graph of change in groundwater in storage

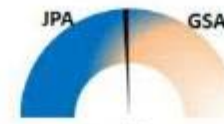
Seawater Intrusion

Groundwater quality issues

Land subsidence

Interconnected surface water systems

Groundwater dependent ecosystems



Compliance
Responsibility



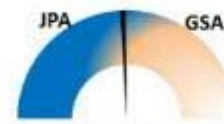
Relative
Cost



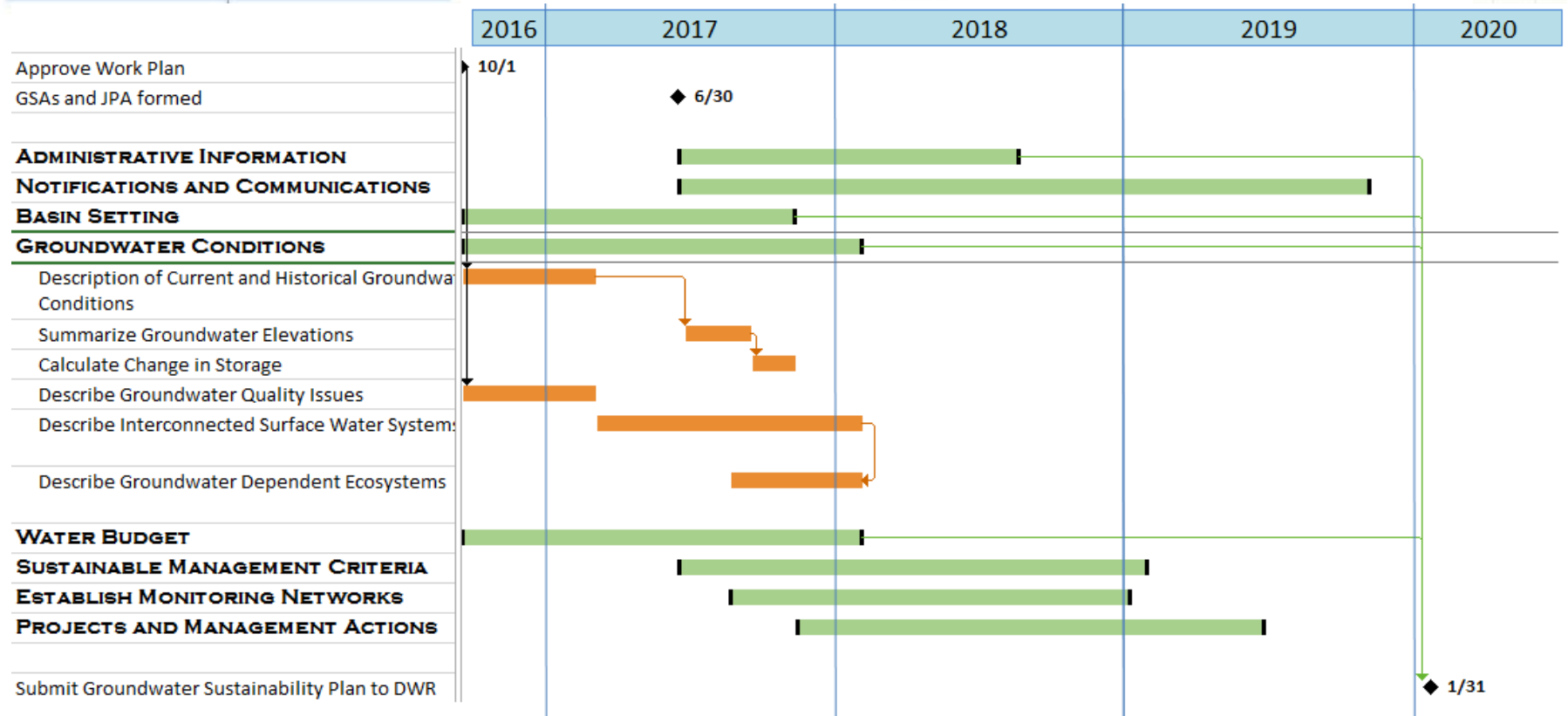
Labor
Intensity



Speciality
Expertise



Groundwater Conditions



Water Budget

Water budget quantifying:

- Inflow to the groundwater system by water source type
- Outflows from the groundwater system by water use sector
- Change in the annual volume of groundwater in storage between seasonal highs
- Quantification of overdraft
- Estimate of sustainable yield

Historical water budget

Current water budget

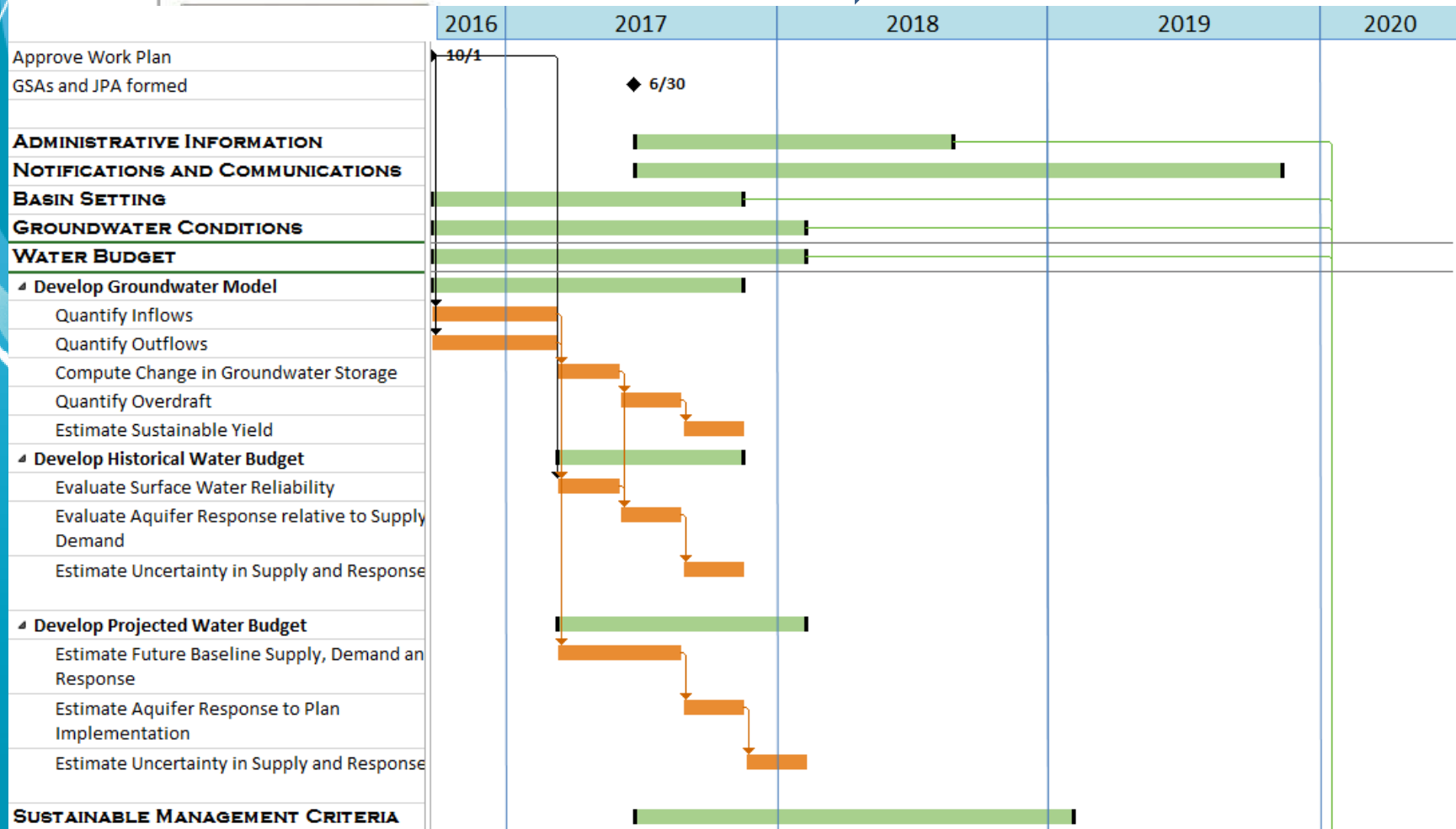
Projected water budget

Plan shall rely on best available information and best available science (e.g. modeling)

Management Areas



Water Budget



Sustainable Management Criteria

- Sustainability Goal
- Undesirable Results
- Minimum Thresholds
- Measurable Objectives



Key SGMA Definitions

- “Sustainable yield” means the maximum quantity of water – calculated over a base period representative of long-term conditions in the basin and including any temporary surplus – that can be withdrawn annually from a groundwater supply without causing an undesirable result.
- “Sustainable groundwater management” means “management and use of groundwater in a manner that can be maintained during the planning and implementation horizon without causing undesirable results.”
- “Undesirable result” means any of the following effects caused by groundwater conditions occurring throughout the basin:



Undesirable Results



Lowering
GW Levels



Degraded
Quality



Reduction
of Storage



Land
Subsidence



Seawater
Intrusion

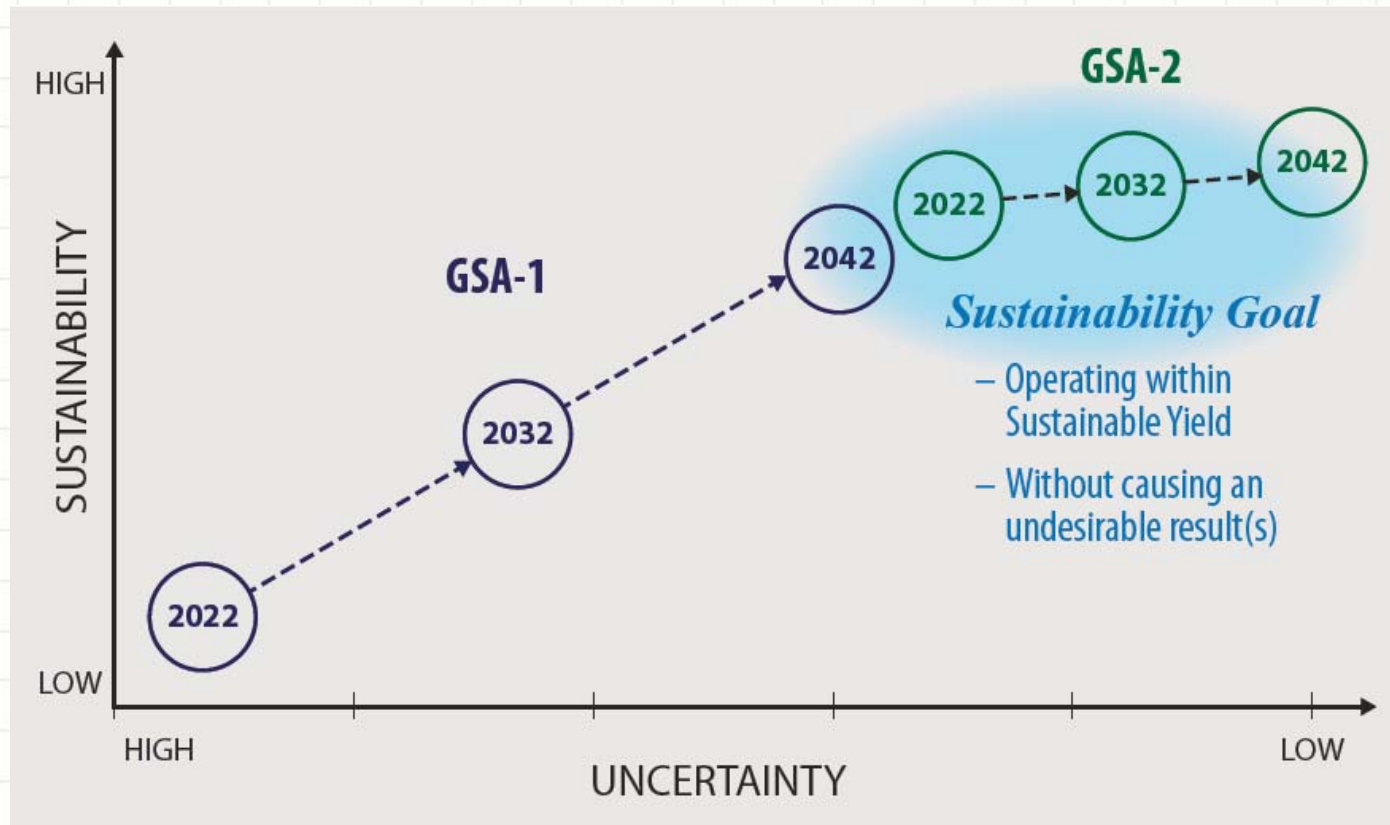


Surface Water
Depletion

Sustainable Management Criteria -1

Sustainability Goal

- Culminates in the absence of undesirable results within 20 years of applicable statutory deadline
- Plan shall describe sustainability goal, including
 - Information from basin setting
 - Measures to ensure operations within sustainable yield
 - Explanation for achieving goal within 20 years of Plan implementation



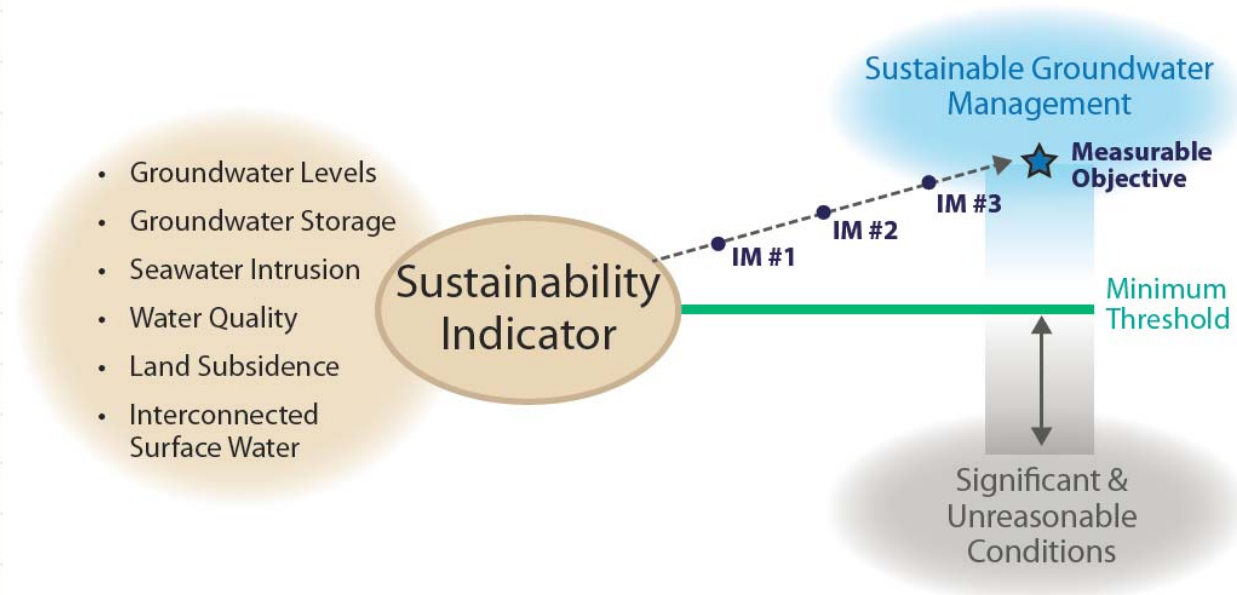
Sustainable Management Criteria -2

Minimum Thresholds

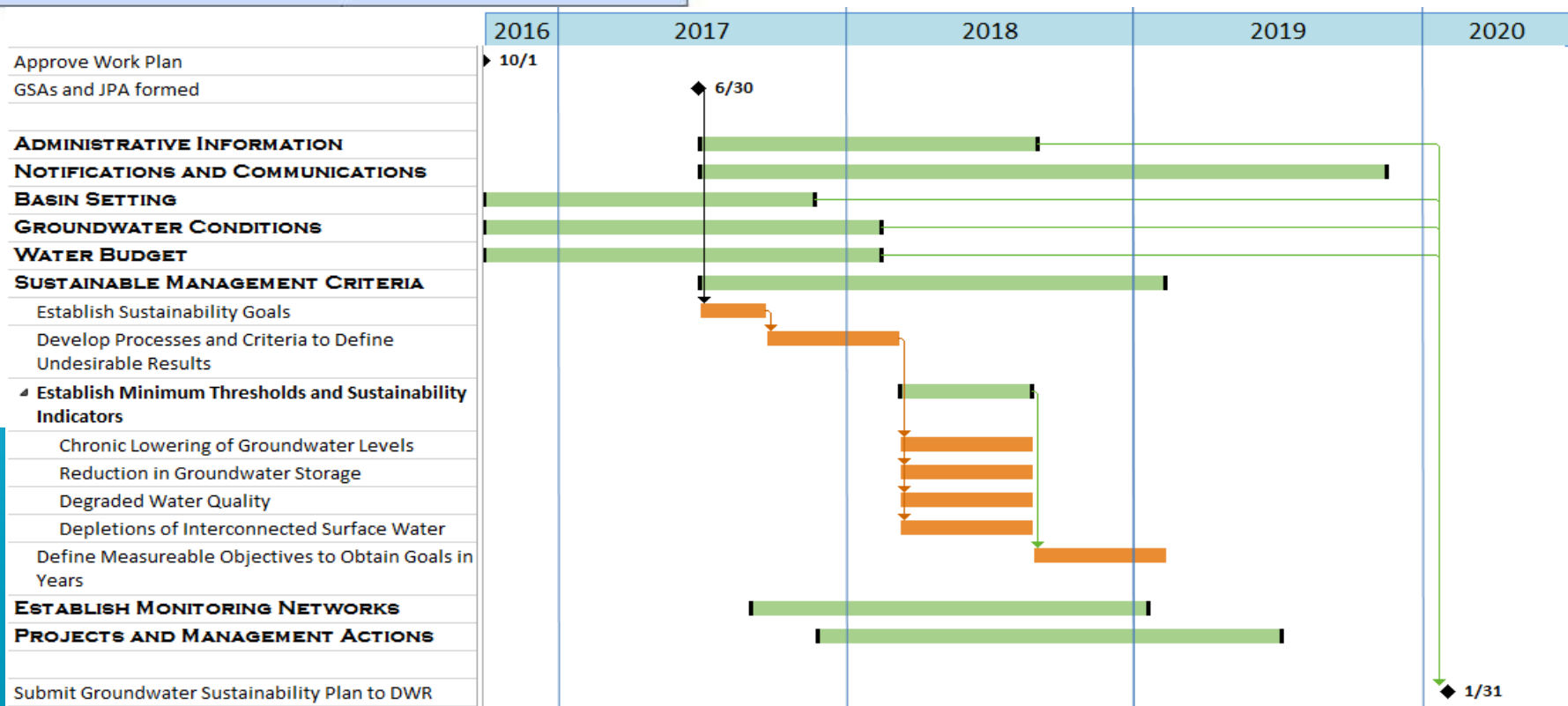
- Sustainability indicators for 6 undesirable results
- Representative minimum threshold for groundwater elevation may serve multiple sustainability indicators
- Minimum thresholds are not required for unlikely sustainability indicators

Measurable Objectives

- Establish measurable objectives to achieve the sustainability goal within 20 years of Plan implementation, including interim milestones at 5-year intervals
- Quantitative values using the same metrics and monitoring sites as minimum thresholds
- Provide reasonable margin of operational flexibility under adverse conditions, considering historical water budgets, seasonal and long-term trends and periods of drought and uncertainty
- Representative measurable objectives for groundwater elevation may serve multiple sustainability indicators



Sustainable Management Criteria



Projects and Management Actions

Description of the projects and management actions the Agency has determined will achieve the sustainability goal for the basin



Compliance
Responsibility



Relative
Cost

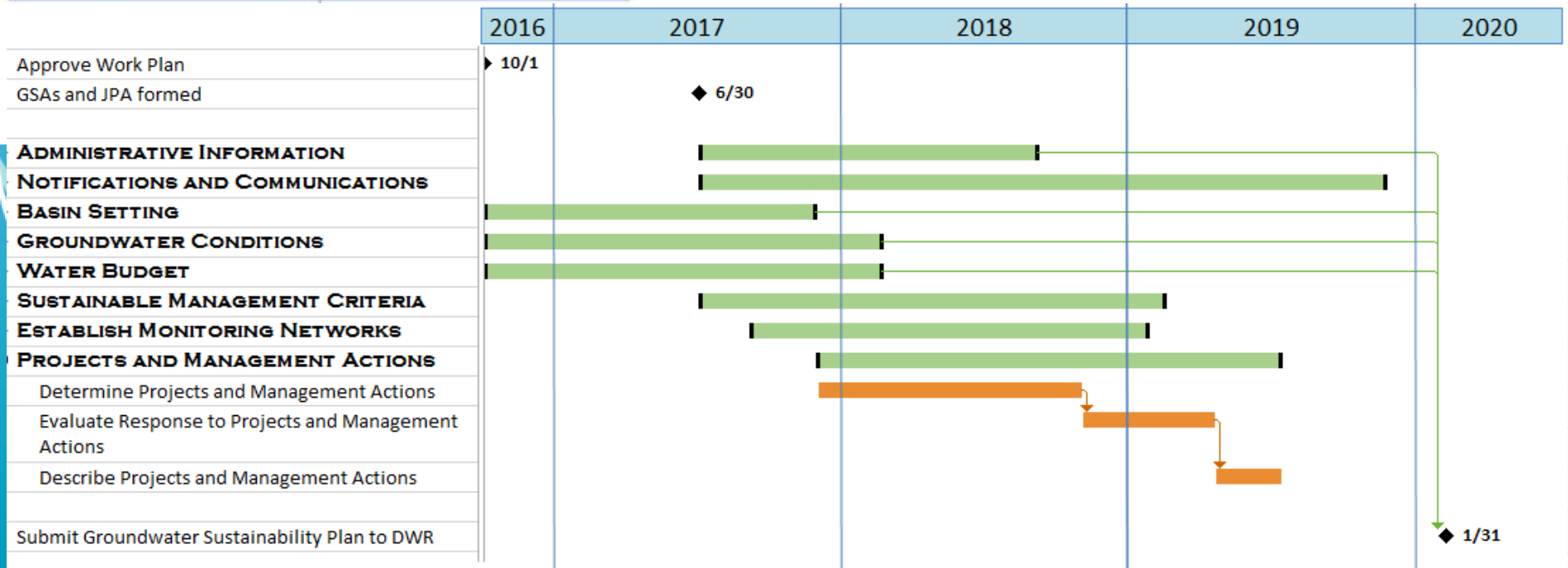


Labor
Intensity

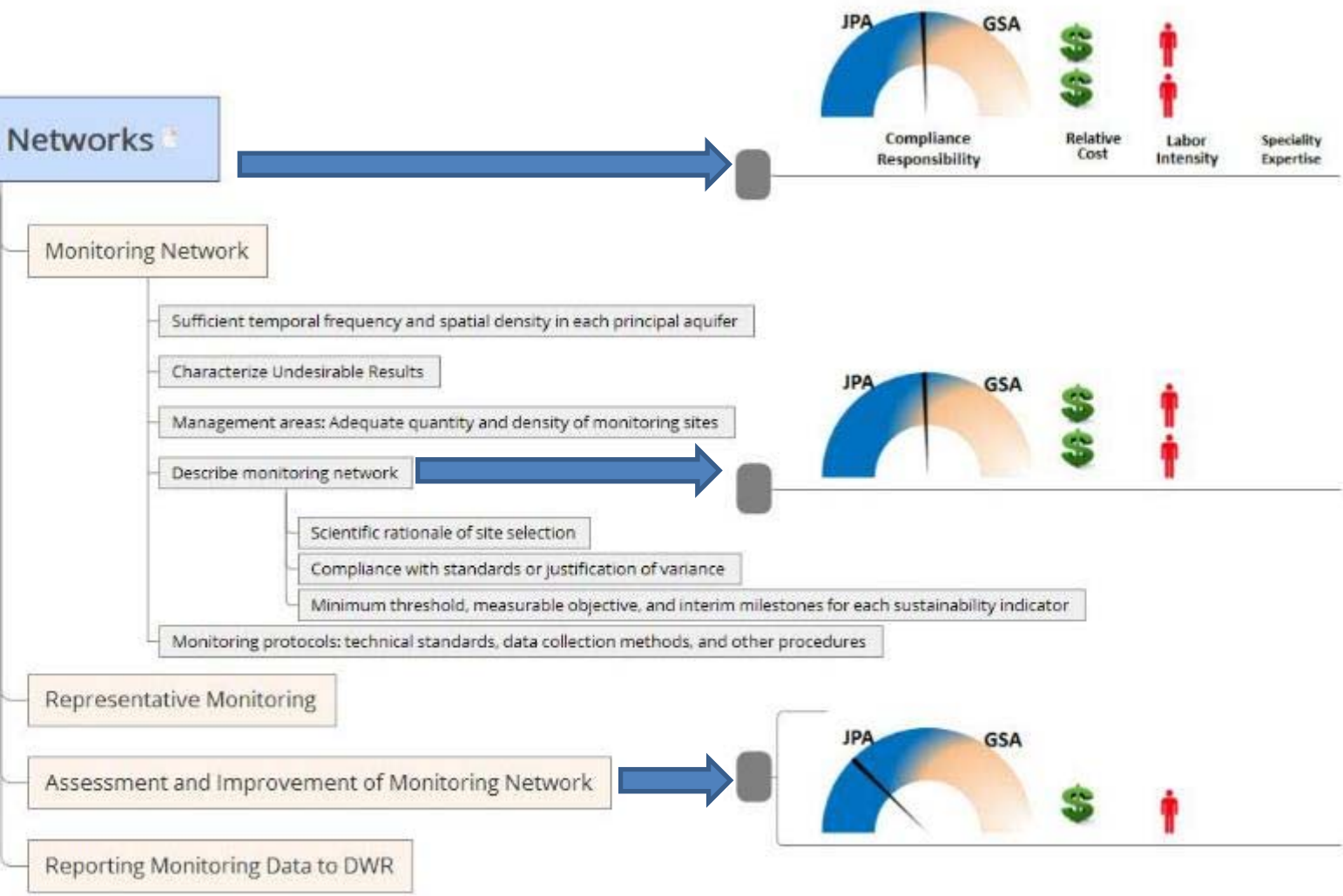


Speciality
Expertise

Projects and Management Actions



Monitoring Networks



Monitoring Networks



Compliance Responsibility

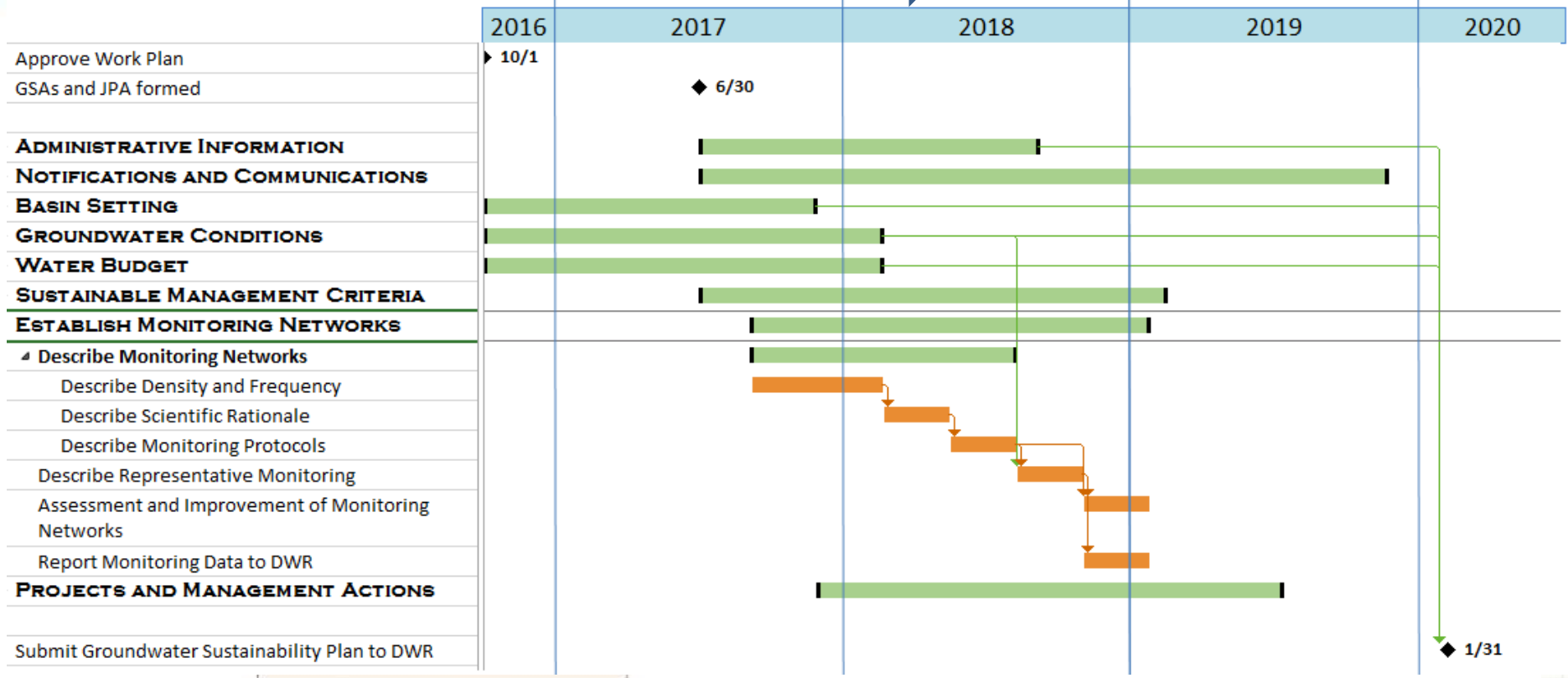


Relative Cost



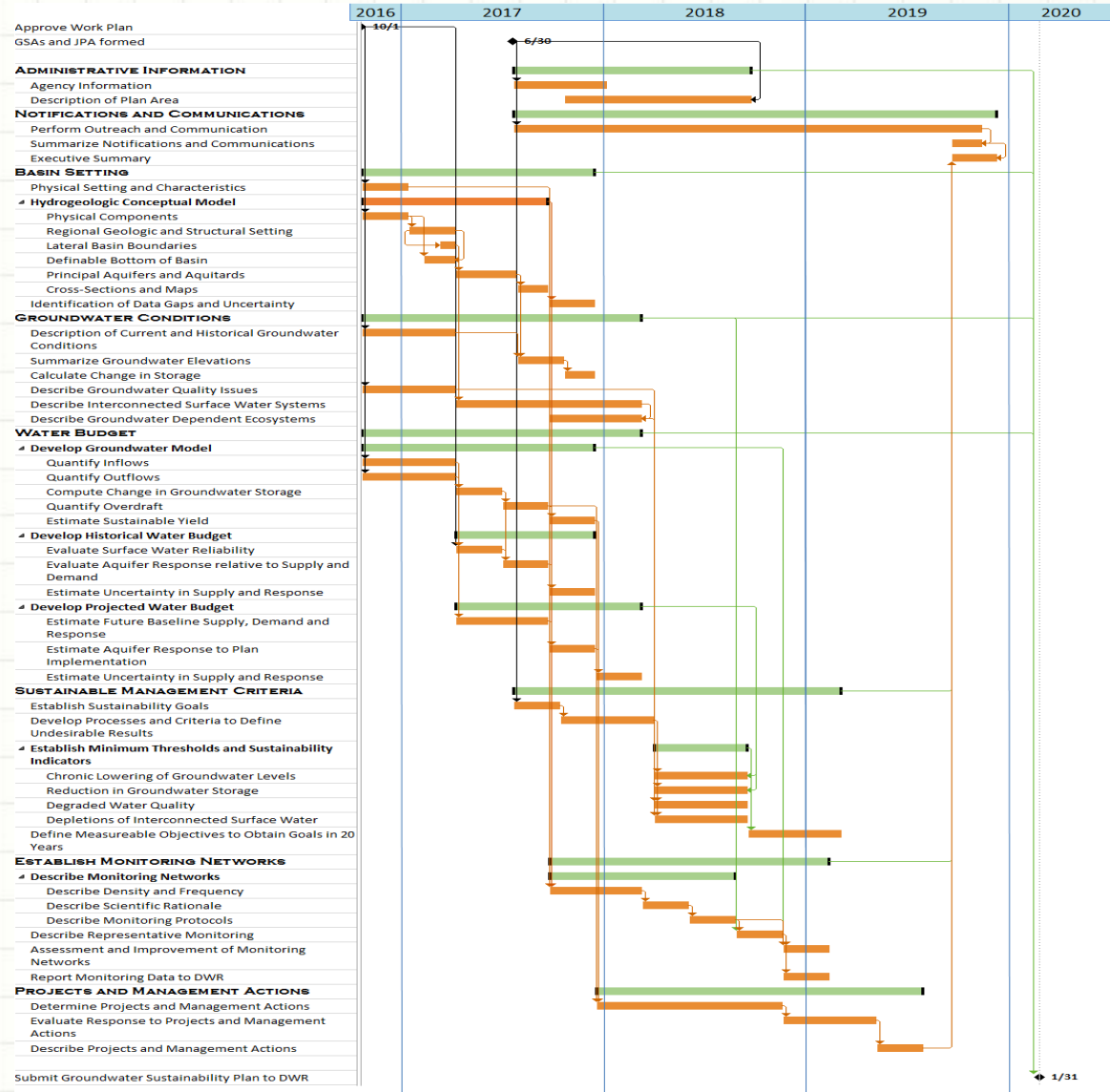
Labor Intensity

Specialty Expertise



GSP Program Guide Integrated Schedule

- Critical Path to GSP
- Must understand basin as a system to determine solutions and evaluate solution set.
- Tasks beyond 2020:
 - Monitoring
 - Annual Reporting
 - 5-year GSP Updates
 - Project Implementation



ID	Task Mode	Task Name	Duration	Start	Finish	Predecessors	2018				2019				2020		
							Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4	Qtr 1	Qtr 2	Qtr 3	Qtr 4
1																	
2		Approve Work Plan	1 day?	Wed 12/13/17	Wed 12/13/17												
3		GSAs and JPA formed	1 day	Fri 6/30/17	Fri 6/30/17												
4																	
5		ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION	120 days	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 5/30/18												
8		NOTIFICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS	540 days	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 1/8/20												
12		BASIN SETTING	280 days	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 1/9/19												
13		Physical Setting and Characteristics	3 mons	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 3/7/18	2											
14		Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model	220 days	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 10/17/18												
21		Identification of Data Gaps and Uncertainty	3 mons	Thu 10/18/17	Wed 1/9/19	14											
22		GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS	280 days	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 1/9/19												
29		WATER BUDGET	358 days	Mon 7/3/17	Wed 11/14/18												
30		Develop Groundwater Model	120 days	Mon 7/3/17	Fri 12/15/17												
36		Develop Historical Water Budget	180 days	Mon 9/25/17	Fri 6/1/18												
40		Develop Projected Water Budget	240 days	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 11/14/18												
41		Estimate Future Baseline Supply, Demand and Response	6 mons	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 5/30/18	2,31											
42		Estimate Aquifer Response to Plan Implementation	3 mons	Thu 5/31/18	Wed 8/22/18	41											
43		Estimate Uncertainty in Supply and Response	3 mons	Thu 8/23/18	Wed 11/14/18	42											
44		SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA	480 days?	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 10/16/19												
45		Establish Sustainability Goals	3 mons	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 3/7/18	2											
46		Develop Processes and Criteria to Define Undesirable Results	6 mons	Thu 12/14/17	Wed 5/30/18	45SS											
47		Establish Minimum Thresholds and Sustainability Indicators	240 days?	Thu 5/31/18	Wed 5/1/19												
52		Define Measureable Objectives to Obtain Goals in 20 Years	6 mons	Thu 5/2/19	Wed 10/16/19	47											
53		ESTABLISH MONITORING NETWORKS	260 days	Thu 10/18/17	Wed 10/16/19												
54		Describe Monitoring Networks	140 days	Thu 10/18/17	Wed 5/1/19												
58		Describe Representative Monitoring	3 mons	Thu 5/2/19	Wed 7/24/19	57,22											
59		Assessment and Improvement of Monitoring Networks	3 mons	Thu 7/25/19	Wed 10/16/19	30,57,58											
60		Report Monitoring Data to DWR	3 mons	Thu 7/25/19	Wed 10/16/19	158											
61		PROJECTS AND MANAGEMENT ACTIONS	420 days	Mon 12/18/17	Fri 7/26/19												
65																	
66		Submit Groundwater Sustainability Plan to DWR	55 days	Mon 11/18/17	Fri 1/31/20	5,12,22,29											

Project: ESJ SGMA Schedule rev1
Date: Wed 9/6/17

Task		Inactive Task		Manual Summary Rollup		External Milestone		Manual Progress	
Split		Inactive Milestone		Manual Summary		Deadline			
Milestone		Inactive Summary		Start-only		Critical			
Summary		Manual Task		Finish-only		Critical Split			
Project Summary		Duration-only		External Tasks		Progress			