

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Joint Exercise of Powers

Board of Directors Meeting

AGENDA

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

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 November 8, 2017 (See Attached)
2. Notice of 2017/2018 Statement of Economic Interests Form 700 Annual Filing
3. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve the Proposed Local Cost Share Allocation for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan *Requires 2/3 Vote by Directors Present* (See Attached)
4. Discussion and Possible Action to Enter into a Funding Agreement with the Department of Water Resources to Receive up to \$1,500,000 from DWR for the Development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan *Requires 2/3 Vote by Directors Present* (See Attached)
5. Discussion and Possible Action to approve the Necessary Adjustments to the 2017-2018 Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Budget *Requires 2/3 Vote by Directors Present* (See Attached)
6. Discussion and Possible Action to Enter into a Consulting Services Agreement with Woodard & Curran for the Development of the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan for a Not-to-Exceed Cost of \$2,176,420 *Requires 2/3 Vote by Directors Present*
7. Presentation by Woodard & Curran on GSP Development Process

B. Informational Items (see attached):

1. November 8, 2017, written public comments from Jane Wagner-Tyack at GWA meeting
2. January 13, 2018, lodinews.com, "North San Joaquin Water Official Explains Upcoming Groundwater Project"
3. January 22, 2018, newsdeeply.com, "As California Groundwater Regulation Unfolds, Some Feel Left Out"
4. January 29, 2018, mantecabulletin.com, "Lathrop Seeks to Switch Basins for Groundwater Rules"

III. Public Comment

IV. Directors' Comments

(Continued on next page)

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
Joint Exercise of Powers
Board of Directors Meeting
AGENDA
(Continued)

- V. Future Agenda Items**
- VI. Workshop/Shirtsleeve Session:** No Items for Discussion
- VII. Adjournment**

Next Regular Meeting
March 14, 2018 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.

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
Board Meeting Minutes
November 8, 2017

I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance & Safety Announcement

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board meeting was convened by Vice-Chair Mel Panizza at 9:39 a.m., on November 8, 2017, at the Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center, 2101 E. Earhart Ave. Stockton, CA. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, a representative of the San Joaquin County Office of Emergency Services provided the required safety information. Chair Winn joined the meeting at 9:41 a.m. In attendance were Chair Chuck Winn, Vice-Chair Mel Panizza, Directors John Freeman, Tim McCoy (joined at 10:14 a.m.), Rich Silverman, Russ Thomas, David Fletcher, Mike Henry, Tom Flinn, Eric Thorburn, John Herrick, Dale Kuil, Alternate Directors Dante Nomellini, Reid Roberts, Charlie Swimley, Mel Lytle, Doug Heberle, and Secretary Kris Balaji.

II. SCHEDULED ITEMS

A. Discussion/Action Items:

1. Approval of Minutes of October 11, 2017

Motion: Director Fletcher moved, and Vice-Chair Panizza seconded, approval of the minutes of October 11, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Discussion and Possible Action to Approve Board Order Directing Members to Obtain Concurrence from Their Respective Boards and Councils on the Proposed Local Cost Share Allocation for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan:

Mr. Brandon Nakagawa noted, in October, the Board authorized submission of a DWR Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) planning grant application. The application, which includes a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) waiver, will be submitted for \$1.5M with the total cost of the GSP \$2,176,420. Mr. Nakagawa said optional Task 5 for monitoring wells was changed to a task within the planning work. There is a compressed schedule, as the draft plan needs to be completed in time for Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) boards to act on the plan. The target completion date for the GSP is June 30, 2019.

Mr. Nakagawa referred to the proposed local cost share table in the packet. The proposed cost share has been divided across multiple fiscal years and Zone 2 fiscal assistance, which has been applied to all GSAs within the County (the Eastside San Joaquin GSA receives no Zone 2 funds). The Eastside GSA cost share is shown as \$39,789 and the remaining GSAs are shown as \$11,664. Mr. Nakagawa said if there is consensus on the local cost share proposal, members can go back to their respective GSA Boards for concurrence.

Mr. Nakagawa said the cost estimate is very conservative. The proposed budget will be ratified by participating GSAs. The agreed upon budget will then be the basis for the contract with DWR and also the not-to-exceed amount given the consultant.

Director Nomellini distributed an alternate proposal. He said, even though it is a nominal amount, the staff proposal does not recognize the burden for those districts that are small and/or use little to no groundwater. He proposed reducing the amounts for four districts to \$5,000 with the remaining districts within the county increasing their contribution to \$13,885.

Director Lytle asked for clarification on the administrative contribution of \$5,000. He asked if an administrative assessment will need to be paid in the future. He voiced concerns that the alternate proposal could lead to a formula where GSAs that use the most groundwater pay the most towards plan development.

Vice-Chair Panizza noted staff presented a cost share proposal on a planning effort for the subbasin, not agency by agency. He suggested smaller GSAs could consider merging with another GSA to ease the burden.

Director Henry said the location of monitoring wells does not necessarily reflect groundwater usage. Calculating groundwater usage is complicated. He said staff has done a good job and GSAs should be grateful for Zone 2.

Chair Winn stated members should be working together with one common goal as all GSAs have an equal stake in developing the GSP and an equal vote.

Director Herrick said he wants to be sure members do not think sharing equally in the cost should apply to projects as well.

Director Thomas said the Eastside San Joaquin GSA is paying a disproportionate amount, but it is comfortable with the allocation because it would cost much more to do a separate plan.

Secretary Balaji said he understands the principle Director Herrick has brought up and perhaps the motion can include that this does not set a precedent for future allocations.

Attorney Rod Attebery pointed out the JPA Agreement requires a good faith effort to reach consensus. Director Nomellini said he will not dispute that there was adequate discussion.

Director Herrick said he objects to the language in the Board Order that directs the members to obtain concurrence. He said it should ask members to take the allocation to their GSA boards for consideration. Director Silverman suggested changing the word "obtain" in the Board Order to "seek."

Motion: Director Panizza moved, and Director Fletcher seconded, approval of the Board Order with the substitution of the word "seek" for "obtain."

Mr. Nakagawa noted the Board Order states the local cost share allocation, as shown in Attachments A & B in today's agenda packet, and is tentatively scheduled for action by this Authority Board on February 14, 2018.

Director Silverman said the length of the discussion should prove there was a good faith effort to achieve consensus. Chair Winn asked for public comment.

Ms. Mary Elizabeth said this issue is very important and at the Ad Hoc meeting there were concerns about equal distribution of cost. She also raised concerns about Cal Water's participation.

The Chair requested a roll call vote. The motion passed with South Delta and Central Delta Water Agencies voting no. The Chair asked that this item be agendaized in December to monitor concurrence by individual GSAs.

3. Discussion and Possible Action to Release Request for Proposals for the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan:

Mr. Nakagawa said that pending today's action, the RFP will be released Monday, with a closing date of December 18th. The scope of work is what will be submitted to DWR. Staff will use the County's standard procedures for the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) process. The Selection Committee plans to choose interviewees January 10th, with interviews on January 24th and the recommendation on the Authority Board agenda for February 14th.

Mr. Nakagawa distributed the Proposal Evaluation Scoring Sheet noting it heavily weights the written proposal. The oral presentation is approximately 30% of score. He added consultants have been warned they are prohibited from contacting members of the Authority during the RFP process.

Chair Winn asked for comments from the public.

Ms. Elizabeth noted one of DWR's great concerns is interbasin cooperation in terms of data and she thinks this should be added to the sections regarding the water budget and basin setting. She requested the "Frequently Asked Questions" document be posted on the Authority's website.

Motion: Director Lytle moved, and Alternate Director Swimley seconded, a motion to approve the RFP. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Update on Status of Nominations to the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority:

Mr. Nakagawa said the nominations for the TAC were mainly board members and/or alternates. The number far exceeded the Brown Act limitation. Therefore, the process may need to be a JPA workshop setting rather than a TAC. Ms. Carolyn Lott will provide a suggested workshop design at a future Authority meeting.

B. Informational Items:

- 1. September 15, 2017, Department of Water Resources, Project Work Order for Facilitation Support Services in Support of Developing Groundwater Sustainability Plan for Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.**
- 2. October 25, 2017, State Water Resources Control Board, Revised Notice of Opportunity for Public Comments, Public Workshops and Adoption Meeting – Draft Amended Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program Funding Guidelines**
- 3. October 30, 2017, Self-Help Enterprises, "Letter of Support for a Disadvantaged Community Cost-share Waiver for the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin Sustainable Groundwater Planning (SGWP) Grant Application"**

III. Public Comment

Ms. Jane Wagner-Tyack provided written comments, which will be included in the December Board packet. She read the comments.

Ms. Elizabeth offered comments regarding Nongovernmental Organization and individual well-owner participation. She requested more links to GSA documents be available on the website. She stated she is an interested stakeholder of each Member GSA of the Authority. She followed by saying that on behalf of the Mother Lode Sierra Club and the local Sierra Club, they are also interested stakeholders of each Member GSA.

Ms. Yolanda Park, Environmental Manager-Catholic Charities, commented on public outreach and usability of the website.

IV. Directors' Comments

None were heard.

V. Future Agenda Items

Report back from GSA Board representatives regarding the local cost share allocation actions.

VI. Workshop/Shirtsleeve Session

No items for discussion

VII. Adjournment

Chair Winn closed the board meeting at 11:25 a.m.





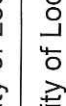
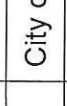



Next Regular Meeting: December 13, 2017 at 9:30 a.m.











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

Submitted by: Carolyn Lott, Carlon Consulting






MEMBER SIGN-IN SHEET

Location: SJ COUNTY ROBERT J. CABRAL AG CENTER Date: 11/8/17 Time: 9:30 AM

INITIAL	Member's Name	GSA	Phone	Email
	John Freeman	Cal Water Member	209-547-7900	jfreeman@calwater.com
	Steve Cavallini	Cal Water Alternate	209-464-8311	scavallini@calwater.com
	George Biagi, Jr.	Central Delta Water Agency Member	209-481-5201	gbiagi@deltabluegrass.com
	Dante Nomellini	Central Delta Water Agency Alternate	209-465-5883	ngmplcs@pacbell.net
	Grant Thompson	Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District Member	209-639-1580	gtom@velociter.net
	Reid Roberts	Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District Alternate	209-941-8714	reidwroberts@gmail.com
	Tim McCoy	City of Lathrop Member	209-941-7430	tmccoy@ci.lathrop.ca.us
	Greg Gibson	City of Lathrop Alternate	209-941-7430	ggibson@ci.lathrop.ca.us
	Alan Nakanishi	City of Lodi Member	209-333-6702	anakanishi@lodi.gov
	Charlie Swimley	City of Lodi Alternate	209-333-6706	cswimley@lodi.gov
	Rich Silverman	City of Manteca Member	209-456-8017	rsilverman@ci.manteca.ca.us
	Mark Houghton	City of Manteca Alternate	209-456-8416	mhoughton@ci.manteca.ca.us
	Elbert Holman	City of Stockton Member	209-937-8244	hoytir63@yahoo.com
	Mel Lytle	City of Stockton Alternate	209-937-5614	mel.lytle@stocktonca.gov

INITIAL	Member's Name	GSA	Phone	Email
	Russ Thomas	Eastside San Joaquin GSA Member	209-480-8968	rthomascwd@hotmail.com
	Walter Ward	Eastside San Joaquin GSA Alternate	209-525-6710	ward@envres.org
	David Fletcher	Linden County Water District Member	209-887-3202	dqfbc@comcast.net
	Paul Brennan	Linden County Water District Alternate	209-403-1537	ptbrennan@verizon.net
	Mike Henry	Lockeford Community Services District Member	209-712-4014	midot@att.net
	Joseph Salzman	Lockeford Community Services District Alternate	209-727-5035	lcsd@softcom.net
	Eric Schmidt	Lockeford Community Services District Alternate	209-727-5035	lcsd@softcom.net
	Tom Flinn	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District Member	209-663-8760	tomflinn2@me.com
	Joe Valente	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District Alternate	209-334-4786	jvalente@softcom.net
	Eric Thorburn, P.E.	Oakdale Irrigation District Member	209-840-5525	ethorburn@oakdaleirrigation.com
	Emily Sheldon	Oakdale Irrigation District Alternate	209-840-5509	esheldon@oakdaleirrigation.com
	Chuck Winn	San Joaquin County Member	209-953-1160	cwinn@sjgov.org
	Kathy Miller	San Joaquin County Alternate	209-953-1161	kmiller@sjgov.org
	John Herrick, Esq.	South Delta Water Agency Member	209-956-0150	jherrlaw@aol.com
	Jerry Robinson	South Delta Water Agency Alternate	209-471-4025	N/A
	Dale Kuil	South San Joaquin GSA Member	209-670-5829	dkuil@ssjid.com
	Robert Holmes	South San Joaquin GSA Alternate	209-484-7678	rholmes@ssjid.com
	Melvin Panizza	Stockton East Water District Member	209-948-0333	melpanizza@aol.com
	Andrew Watkins	Stockton East Water District Alternate	209-948-0333	watkins.andrew@verizon.net
	Anders Christensen	Woodbridge Irrigation District Member	209-625-8438	widrrigation@gmail.com
	Doug Heberle	Woodbridge Irrigation District Alternate	209-625-8438	heberlewid@gmail.com

Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Staff & Support

INITIAL	Member's Name	Organization	Phone	Email
	Kris Balaji	San Joaquin County	468-3100	kbalani@sjgov.org
	Fritz Buchman	San Joaquin County	468-3034	fbuchman@sjgov.org
	Brandon Nakagawa	San Joaquin County	468-3089	bnakagawa@sjgov.org
	Mike Callahan	San Joaquin County	468-9360	mcallahan@sjgov.org
	Lynn Hoffman	San Joaquin County	468-3531	mlhoffman@sjgov.org
	Kelly Villalpando	San Joaquin County	468-3073	krvillalpando@sjgov.org
	Danielle Barney	San Joaquin County	468-3089	dbarney@sjgov.org
	Carolyn Lott	Carlson Consulting / Facilitator	402-2024	carolynlott@sbcglobal.net

Matthew S S County

468-3060

Matthew@sjgov.org

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Joint Exercise of Powers Board of Directors Meeting

OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES - SIGN-IN SHEET

Location: SJ COUNTY ROBERT J. CABRAL AG CENTER Date: 11/8/17 Time: 9:30 AM

INITIAL	Member's Name	Organization	Phone	Email
<i>Paul</i>	Paul Wolls	DWR	916 376-9656	paul.woll@swater.ca.gov
<i>Alison</i>	Alison Tang	DWR NCRD	916 376 9631	alison.tang@water.ca.gov
<i>Deonnis</i>	Deonnis Mills	CAPANGRASS COUNWAY	916	
<i>Alyson</i>	Alyson Watson	Woodard + Curran	415-321-3415	awatson@woodardcurran.com
<i>Maggie</i>	Maggie Connell	Kleinfelder	916 225 36	mconnell@kleinfelder.com
<i>Peter</i>	Peter Martin	CCWD	209-874-3094	petem@ccwd.org
<i>Scott</i>	Scott Moody	League of Abused Voters of SJ County	209-692-5105	smoody@mac.com
<i>Yolanda</i>	Yolanda Park	Catholic Charities		ypark@ccstockton.org
<i>Sam</i>	Sam Bologna	SSSID	916 (631-4559)	
<i>Emily</i>	Emily Sheldon	OID	(209) 244-4617	sbologna@sssid.ca.gov
<i>Mary</i>	Mary Elizabeth		(209) 840-5509	
<i>Elba</i>	Elba Myjang	Manteca, City of	209 941-2107	elizabeth@marric.us

ATTACHMENT II
A.3.

Key Points

- \$2,176,420 Total GSP Cost Estimate
- Apply for a Disadvantaged Community Waiver
 - If approved, local cost share is reduced to 25%.
- Apply for the Maximum \$1.5M Grant Amount
- Cost Estimate Sufficient to Ensure Funds are Adequate for Substantially Compliant GSP
- Standard is Substantial Compliance
- Construct Monitoring Wells Added to Task 5
- Propose a Budgetary Approach Expend Only What Needed
- Compressed Schedule:
 - Effective Completion Date - June 30, 2019

PROPOSED LOCAL COST SHARE ALLOCATION AMONG GSAs: Split Evenly, with Zone 2 Contribution

- Remaining Cost to be Redistributed = \$226,420
- GSAs' Shares = $\$676,420/17 = \$39,789$
- Zone 2 Contribution = \$450,000
 - Not all GSAs in San Joaquin County
 - Divide \$450,000 by the number of GSAs in SJC (16)
- Share Reduction Per GSA (In SJC) by Zone 2 = \$28,125
- Remaining Share per GSA in SJC = \$11,664
- Eastside GSA Share = $\$676,420/17 = \$39,789$

Payable in two installments following adoption of GWA Budget (July 1, 2018 and July 1, 2019)

~~**DRAFT – For Discussion Purposes Only**~~

Proposed Local Cost Share Allocation per Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Groundwater Sustainability Agency		Total Amount*
1	Central Delta Water Agency	\$11,664
2	Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District	\$11,664
3	City of Lathrop	\$11,664
4	City of Lodi	\$11,664
5	City of Manteca	\$11,664
6	City of Stockton	\$11,664
7	Eastside GSA	\$39,789
8	Linden County Water District	\$11,664
9	Lockeford Community Services District	\$11,664
10	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	\$11,664
11	Oakdale Irrigation District	\$11,664
12	San Joaquin County GSA	\$11,664
13	San Joaquin County GSA No. 2 (Cal Water)	\$11,664
14	South Delta Water Agency	\$11,664
15	South San Joaquin GSA	\$11,664
16	Stockton East Water District	\$11,664
17	Woodbridge Irrigation District	\$11,664
	Zone 2 Contribution	<u>\$450,000</u>
	Total	\$676,420

* Payable in two installments following adoption of GWA Budget (July 1, 2018 and July 1, 2019)

ATTACHMENT II
A.4.

2017 SGWP Grant Solicitation Evaluation

CATEGORY 2

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN GRANT

Number of Projects 1
Total Proposal Level Score 6
Total Project Level Score 13

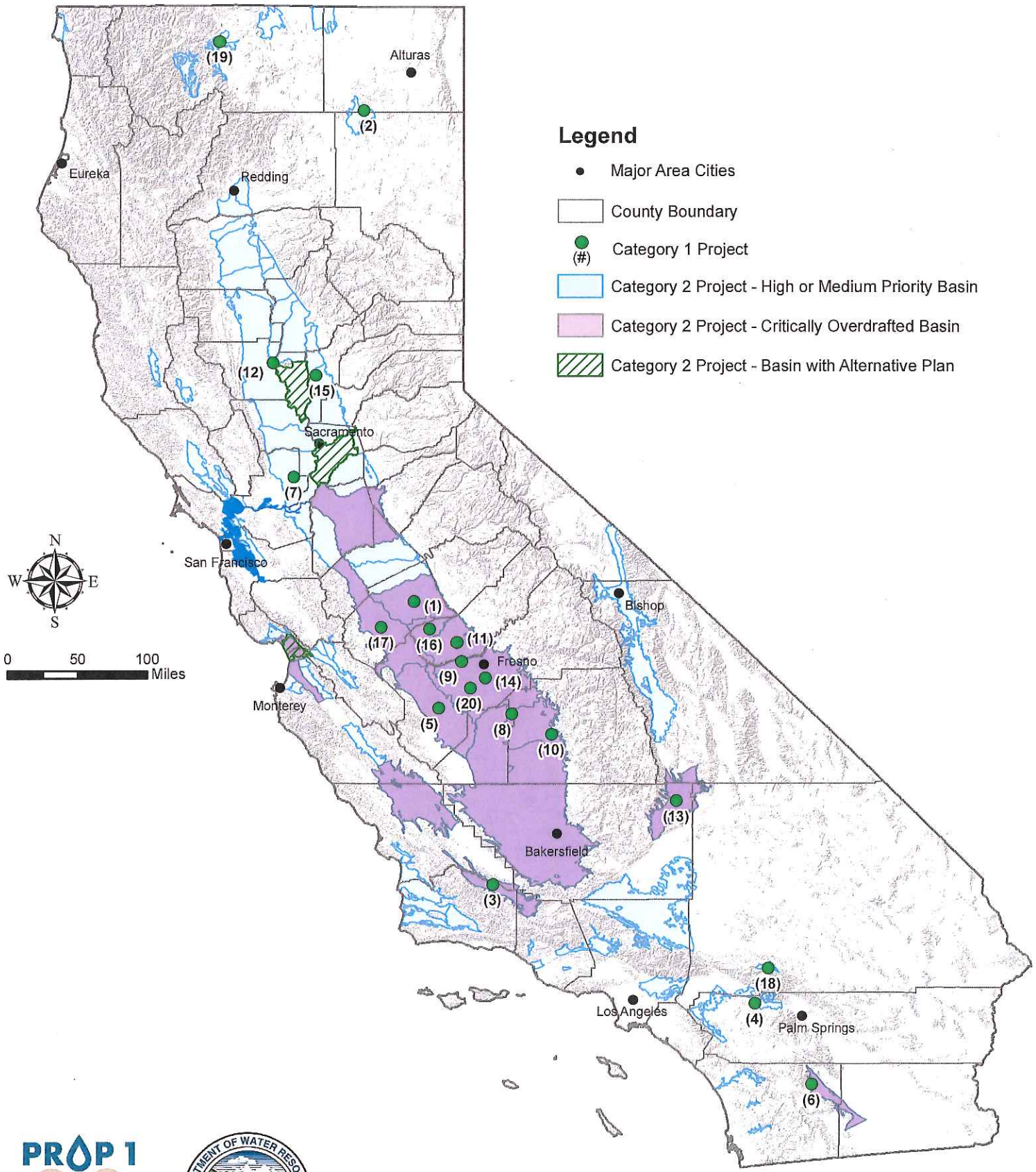
Tie-Breaker Points from Program Preferences Section (If Applicable)

Grand Total 19

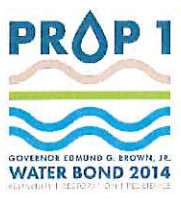
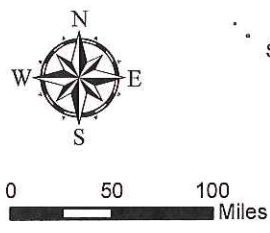
Table 7 – Application Evaluation Criteria for Category 2				
Q#	Questions	Attachment(s)	Possible Points	Score
Proposal Level Evaluation				
1	Does the Proposal Summary describe a well-coordinated Proposal including GSPs that encompass the entire basin or describes why a portion of the basin is not covered in the Proposal?	3	4	4
2	Collectively, do the Budget and Schedule demonstrate that all of the projects will be completed by the SGMA deadline for the respective basin (January 31, 2020 for critically overdrafted basins or January 31, 2022 for other high and medium priority basins)?	5, 6	2	2
Total Range of Possible Points			0-6	6

Table 7 – Application Evaluation Criteria for Category 2				Eastern San Joaquin GSP
Q#	Questions	Attachment(s)	Possible Points	Score
Project Level Evaluation				
3	Has the applicant addressed all of the items requested in the Project Justification Section of Attachment 3 (i.e., Proposal Summary and Project Support)?	3	4	4
4	Does the applicant provide an explanation of the Technical Need for the project?	3	2	2
5	Does the application contain a detailed Work Plan that includes tasks for developing, preparing, and submitting a complete GSP?	4	4	4
6	Does the application contain a complete Budget that is reasonable to execute the Work Plan on the Schedule provided?	5	2	2
7	Given the level of effort described in the Work Plan, does the Schedule seem reasonable?	6	1	1
Total Range of Possible Points			0-13	13
				13

Draft Funding Recommendations 2017 Groundwater Sustainability Plans and Projects Solicitation February, 2018



- Legend**
- Major Area Cities
 - County Boundary
 - (#) Category 1 Project
 - Category 2 Project - High or Medium Priority Basin
 - Category 2 Project - Critically Overdrafted Basin
 - ▨ Category 2 Project - Basin with Alternative Plan



Note:
Groundwater basin boundaries are approximate.
Data source: DWR's CASGEM Groundwater Basin Prioritization data layer as shown in:
<https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/boundaries/>

ATTACHMENT II
A.5.

**21451 - Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority 2017-18 Proposed Budget
(February 2018)**

Detail by Revenue Category and Expenditure Object	PROPOSED BUDGET	REVENUE & EXPENDITURES YTD
GSP Grant	\$ 1,500,000.00	\$ -
Member GSP Contributions	\$ 226,420.00	\$ -
Zone No. 2 GSP Contribution	\$ 450,000.00	\$ -
Initial Member Dues	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Zone No. 2 Contribution to Authority Expenses	\$ 35,000.00	\$ -
TOTAL REVENUE	\$ 2,296,420	\$ 70,000
Office Supplies	\$ 800.00	\$ 10.79
Office Expense - Postage	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 604.06
Auditor's Payroll & A/P Charges	\$ 600.00	
County Staff	\$ -	\$ -
Special Studies and Reports - GSP Activities	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 34,982.75
Authority Counsel	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 21,439.09
Professional Services - GSP Grant	\$ 2,176,420.00	\$ -
Rents-Structures & Grounds	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 672.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$ 2,296,420	\$ 57,708.69

DRAFT - 2/08/2018

Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority
Revenues and Expenditures to Date - January 2018

Revenues		
Date Paid	Item Description	Amount Received
	Calwater Initial Dues	\$ -
8/22/2017	Eastside Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
7/24/2017	CDWA Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
7/26/2017	CSJWCD Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
2/5/2017	City of Lathrop Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
8/4/2017	City of Lodi Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
	City of Manteca Initial Dues	\$ -
10/19/2017	City of Stockton Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
8/4/2017	Linden Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
7/28/2017	Lockeford Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
8/4/2017	OID Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
8/18/2017	SDWA Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
8/25/2017	SSJID GSA Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
7/26/2017	WID Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
8/4/2017	NSJWCD Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
7/31/2017	SEWD Initial Dues	\$ 5,000.00
	SJC Initial Dues	\$ -
	Total	\$ 70,000.00
Expenditures		
Date Paid	Item Description	Amount Paid
9/13/2017	Room rental & janitorial fees_Aug 2017 ESJGA Meeting	\$ 178.00
10/9/2017	Postage_Sept 2017	\$ 191.65
10/24/2017	GEI Consultants Invoice #3025273	\$ 2,937.00
11/2/2017	GEI Consultants Invoice #3026677	\$ 25,999.25
11/3/2017	Postage_Oct 2017	\$ 143.98
11/7/2017	Neumiller & Beardslee Invoice #287142	\$ 2,175.00
11/8/2017	Neumiller & Beardslee Invoice #286371	\$ 13,989.09
11/8/2017	Neumiller & Beardslee Invoice #287824	\$ 3,850.00
12/1/2017	Postage_Nov 2017	\$ 167.20
1/2/2018	GEI Consultants Invoice #3029178	\$ 6,046.50
1/10/2018	Office Supply	\$ 10.79
1/12/2018	Postage_Dec 2017	\$ 101.23
1/16/2018	Neumiller & Beardslee Invoice #289515	\$ 1,425.00
	Room rental & janitorial fees_Sep 2017 ESJGA Meeting	\$ 138.00
	Room rental & janitorial fees_Oct 2017 ESJGA Meeting	\$ 178.00
	Room rental & janitorial fees_Nov 2017 ESJGA Meeting	\$ 178.00
	Total	\$ 57,708.69

ATTACHMENT II
B.1-4.

My name is Jane Wagner-Tyack, and I'd like to talk to you about outreach and engagement.

I live in Central Lodi, within overlapping GSAs—the City of Lodi and the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District. I'm the co-director for water for the League of Women Voters of California, and the League's legislative analyst for water. Several of you know that I've been following water issues in the Delta and San Joaquin County for the better part of the past ten years, and I've been attending these meetings since the first one in September 2015.

Even with this background, I'm struggling to see even the vague outlines of what you are doing to put together a GSP for this Subbasin by your June 2019 deadline. That means that individually and collectively, your GSAs have been doing an inadequate job of public outreach.

Starting with the place most interested people would start, with the internet, it's hard to do a web search for this JPA. Searching for "Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority" turns up the Groundwater BASIN Authority as the first two hits on Google, so right now it looks like you haven't done anything since July. There IS a featured link to the new groundwater authority, but it is somewhat inconspicuous, and there's no indication of why anyone should click on that link with the confusingly similar name.


This new website is visually appealing but thin on user-friendly content for an uninformed member of the public. It doesn't even say where the subbasin is. There should be a straightforward explanation of the purpose of SGMA and why overdraft here is a problem. There are a lot of links to technical data but no easy-to-access maps, descriptions of the subbasin, or general overview of what the technical advisory committee is doing.

There's no information on the website about how an interested member of the public can get involved. There are meeting agendas, but these JPA meetings are not held at a time convenient for people working outside the water field.

Not only is it hard for the public to find this authority, but the GSAs haven't been reaching out to the public, which the SGMA statute said should happen at the time of GSA formation. I serve on the board of directors of the League of Women Voters of San Joaquin County, which is an organization listed as an NGO for outreach purposes in the 2014 Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. The League was never contacted for input on that plan, and that makes me skeptical about the plan for outreach and engagement under the current Work Plan.

I see that in Central Lodi, I live in what you've identified as a Disadvantaged Community, or even a Severely Disadvantaged Community, depending on which map I look at. If you're serious about DAC outreach, I should by now have received through my mail slot some kind of notice about this whole process. But actually, I

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wonder if DAC is truly a useful designation in this subbasin. As far as I know, we don't have communities with inadequate or unsafe drinking water. On the other hand, will there be outreach to rural landowners or small farmers whose income levels fit the definition of "disadvantaged" but who would not self-identify that way? 

It doesn't seem to have been the intent of SGMA that engaging stakeholders would first involve putting them into silos. But right now, the Work Plan refers to JPA members and GSAs as separate from a broader stakeholder community of agricultural groups, community organizations, environmental groups, and DACs. And at what point will you engage local land use planning agencies?

Many of you are probably familiar with economist Elinor Ostrom, who was awarded a Nobel Prize in for her work on governing common pool resources. She argued for a decentralized approach. The WID proposal for management areas for each of the 17 GSAs seems very much in line with this approach, although ideally a management area would engage more than just groundwater extractors. It would include the broader group of stakeholders in discussions beginning at the individual GSA level. This may mean bringing together people who don't initially like or trust each other. But you need to listen to all of them and, equally important, they need to listen to each other.

By the way, I understand that you could invite 100 people to a public informational meeting, and you would be lucky if 20 showed up. The League sponsored a forum on groundwater in San Joaquin County in March of 2015 in which some of your agencies participated, and it was reasonably well-attended, but it was held at O'Connor Woods, and the audience included a large number of residents.

I also understand that most people don't become involved in this kind of process unless it affects their wallet or their health. But when they realize that a groundwater sustainability plan WILL affect them, you certainly want to be able to show that you made a good-faith effort to engage them in the planning process.

I urge you not to consider any resident of this subbasin to be "outside" of a GSA because the GSP you develop will ultimately impact everyone in this basin.

When it comes to water, we're all stakeholders

We've had rain at last. But people who live in agricultural regions know better than to count too

much on rain. And now, we can't count on groundwater, either. Groundwater levels under much of California's Central Valley have dropped, sometimes dramatically, making the water more difficult and more expensive to reach. This is bad news for cities and farms in a drought-prone region that is used to relying on groundwater to meet, on average, about 40 percent of its water needs.

Looking at just the surface of the ground, it's easy to assume that every well drilled has an equal chance of producing sufficient groundwater. California has usually treated groundwater as a property right, whatever water is under the surface belongs to the person who owns the land on top, as if the water underground would stay in one place and always be there.

That's not how groundwater behaves. Beneath the flat landscape of the Central Valley lies a giant trough that, over the past million years, has filled with marine sediments, mountain erosion, and materials deposited in fans by rivers in their changing courses. This process left sand, silt, clay, peat, mud and gravel in varying combinations and arrangements, de-



JANE WAGNER-TYACK

GUEST COLUMNIST

pending on the region. You could have loam while your neighbor has hardpan.

Groundwater saturates and moves through these deposits in complicated ways. UC Davis hydrogeologist Graham E. Fogg compares an aquifer system to the human body, where fluids move rapidly through veins and arteries, but the surrounding organs and tissues are mostly water also, and fluid moves and exchanges through the whole system.

Take too much out of one area, and the whole system suffers. In 2014, the California Legislature passed the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) to manage groundwater in basins that are not already adjudicated to be managed according to court-ordered rules.

The Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin that underlies most of San Joaquin County, including much of the Delta, is on the Department of Water Resources list of subbasins that are in critical overdraft. SGMA gives these subbasins until 2020 to come up with Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) to manage groundwater.

Otherwise, the state will come in and do it. Each subbasin has until June 2017 to come up with one or more Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to administer the plan.

Over 20 cities, counties, and water districts share responsi-

bility for groundwater in this sub-basin. It will be devilishly difficult to determine how to share underground water sustainably. Groundwater ignores district, city, and county lines. But SGMA's 2017 deadline has kept water managers focused for the past year on surface political boundaries.

In northern San Joaquin County, four districts have filed to be Groundwater Sustainability Agencies: Woodbridge Irrigation District, North San Joaquin Water Conservation District, the City of Lodi, and Lockeford Community Services District. Overlaps will need to be dealt with. San Joaquin County has also filed as a GSA, not because the County wants to control this process but because under SGMA, the county is a default GSA for any area that doesn't act or that isn't covered by any other agency.

Many of us get part of our water from underground, whether we realize it or not; until fairly recently, Lodi relied entirely on groundwater. Directly or indirectly, we will all see costs associated with SGMA. Water itself may be free, but finding, treating, and delivering it are not. Monitoring groundwater and meeting reporting requirements will not be free. But when it comes to water, we're all stakeholders, and we're in this together.

Jane Wagner-Tyack follows San Joaquin County and California water issues for the League of Women Voters. She can be reached at JaneTyack@gmail.com.

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North San Joaquin water official explains upcoming groundwater project

By John Bays/News-Sentinel Staff Writer | Posted: Saturday, January 13, 2018 4:00 pm

Joe Valente's gray Chevrolet pickup truck drove down Tretheway Road in Lodi on Friday afternoon as the president of the North San Joaquin Water Conservation District Board of Directors pointed out large concrete cylinders, known as stand pumps, that provide air to a seven-mile pipeline stretching from the Mokelumne River to Pixley Creek Slough.

Installed approximately 60 years ago, the pipeline was intended to provide surface water from the river to farms in the southern part of the water district, according to Valente. Although the pipeline functioned properly for flood irrigation, it was unable to meet the farmers' needs when they switched to drip irrigation, requiring them to tap into the groundwater supply, he explained.

"Think of it like a hose: If you don't have anything on one end, it just floods. The next step in irrigation is like adding a sprinkler. You need pressure for water to flow through it, and the current pipeline is not able to create that pressure," Valente said.

To address this issue, the water district board proposed the South System Groundwater Improvement Project, which would involve installing seven miles of PVC pipe as well as a new pump station. This would allow farmers in the area, primarily vineyards and cherry orchards, to utilize surface water from the Mokelumne River to irrigate their farms instead of groundwater, which Valente explained takes longer to replenish.

The board has held several public meetings since announcing the project in 2017 to solicit input from landowners whose property will be assessed based on size to help cover its cost of \$18.75 million. Although the district was awarded \$5.75 million in grants, they still need to raise \$13 million to begin the project by 2019, or risk losing the grant money, Valente said.

As he drove to the existing pump station on the Mokelumne River, Valente outlined the three methods for installing the new pipeline that the board is exploring with help from Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group.

One option is to completely remove the existing cement pipeline and replace it with PVC, which he said would likely mean digging up many people's land. Another method would be to install the new pipeline next to the existing pipeline, which he felt would create the same problem.

After parking his truck, Valente walked down to the river and explained the third option, known as "slip-lining," which would involve feeding the new pipeline directly into the existing pipeline at its starting point near the river. This would mean that roadways and other land in the area would likely not need to be excavated, saving time and money and minimizing the inconvenience to landowners, he said.

"It could be a combination of all three options, it all depends on what's the most cost-effective way to do it," Valente said.



01_12_18_PIPELINE_01.JPG

BEA AHBECK/NEWS-SENTINEL North San Joaquin Water Conservation District director Joe Valente talks about the South System Groundwater Improvement Plan by the fish strainer at the water pump station in the Mokelumne River in Lodi Friday, Jan. 12, 2018.

The project will also involve replacing the five existing pumps at the pumping station, some of which Valente said were installed in the 1960s, with a single variable-speed pump.

“If we need to max out the water flow, it can do that. If we need it to go slower, it can do that, too. It just makes the process a whole lot more efficient,” Valente said.

Another factor that motivated the board to pursue the project is the district’s water rights, Valente added. The district currently has the right to 20,000 acre-feet of water per year. Every few years, it must show the State of California that it is either utilizing that water, or has plans to use it, or it risks losing that right.

“By 2025, we have to show the state that we’re doing something with that water, or trying to do something, or else we could lose it,” Valente said.

The project has already gained the support of Steve Schwabauer, the city manager for Lodi. Schwabauer explained that the plan could benefit the entire county, whose groundwater basin is among the most overdrafted basins in California.

“I think the North San Joaquin project is good for all of San Joaquin County. San Joaquin County has one of the most overdrafted groundwater basins in the state. It’s in critical overdraft, and we have to act sooner than other basins if we plan to become sustainable in the face of a 100,000 acre-feet-per-year overdraft,” Schwabauer said.

Valente added that the City of Lodi already has a similar practice in place, pumping water through its treatment center at Lodi Lake before using it to supply the city. If approved by the water district’s voters, the project would result in even less groundwater being used during years with heavy rain, saving it for dry years.

“If we all pull water out of the same cup, it’ll get empty a lot sooner whereas if we manage that cup or bucket responsibly, it won’t run out,” Valente said.

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As California Groundwater Regulation Unfolds, Some Feel Left Out

The state's new Sustainable Groundwater Management Act is setting up a new ecosystem of water utilities. But with deadlines looming to satisfy the law, some low-income groundwater users say their needs are being ignored.

WRITTEN BY
[Matt Weiser](#)

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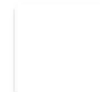


A new water well is drilled in an almond orchard in Tulare County in November 2014. During California’s severe drought, a record number of well-drilling permits were granted as farmers and others struggled to keep up with shrinking groundwater levels. Citizens of the Planet/Education Images/UIG via Getty Images

CALIFORNIA’S SWEEPING EFFORT to regulate groundwater extraction is still in its infancy. But many community groups are already concerned that too little is being done to involve low-income and disadvantaged residents in managing aquifers dominated by agriculture.

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, adopted in 2014, was a Herculean achievement for California. Until that time, it was the only Western state with virtually no regulations on groundwater use. The new law requires critically overdrafted groundwater basins to adopt plans by 2020 to sustainably manage their aquifers. Basins identified as medium and high priority have an additional two years.

Sustainability, however, is a loose term under the law. Each newly formed groundwater sustainability agency can define it for themselves, depending on local needs. The stakes inherent in defining that term are huge. If



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“sustainability” considers only agricultural interests, for example, small water users with shallow wells could get short-changed.

For this reason, involvement by low-income groups, Native American tribes and domestic well owners is critical as the groundwater sustainability agencies are getting organized, said Jennifer Clary, California water programs manager at [Clean Water Action](#), a nonprofit. Waiting to involve these groups until the groundwater sustainability plan is developed is too late, she said.

But that seems to be what’s happening in many situations.

“In disadvantaged communities, one of the reasons they are in the situation they’re in is because they’ve never had power and influence,” she said. “I think we see that pattern continuing. Smaller water users could end up losing out again.”

A total of 266 groundwater sustainability agencies have been formed across the state so far. Of these, 117 are in areas designated as critically overdrafted, primarily in the San Joaquin and Salinas valleys.

Clary said many groundwater sustainability agencies are fixated on meeting the 2020 deadline to complete their groundwater sustainability plans. It’s a monumental task that requires gathering data on groundwater volume in each basin, measuring recharge and extraction rates and assessing effects on nearby streams and other surface water, among other things.

This work often requires hiring consultants, installing water meters on wells and, in some cases, drilling new

In Tucson, Subsidies for Rainwater Harvesting Produce Big Payoff

The Arizona city has spent more than \$2 million subsidizing rainwater harvesting systems. Consultant Gary Woodard explains that results from a new study he is leading show such systems don't just collect water, they also change behavior. [Jan. 9, 2018](#)

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monitoring wells. To pay for this work, many groundwater sustainability agencies are assessing fees on property owners, which requires a special election under the state's Proposition 218 tax law. The groundwater sustainability agency would conduct the election and every property owner within the mapped boundaries of the agency would get to vote in the election. And according to Prop. 218, their votes are weighted according to how much land they own (large landowners get more votes).



Eduardo Espino, center, fills water containers he carried inside of a horse trailer on June 24, 2015, using a free water line paid for by the Porterville Area Coordinating Council in California's San Joaquin Valley. The rural poor depend on groundwater and as farmers drilled deeper wells during the drought to water their fields, communities relying on groundwater struggled. (Patrick T. Fallon for The Washington Post via Getty Images)

Caught up in all that work, some have put off reaching out to disadvantaged communities that rely on groundwater, private well owners who extract water for their own household use and even small domestic water utilities. All these groups have a role in achieving groundwater sustainability, but might know nothing of the process and its complexity.

“A lot of groundwater sustainability agencies are feeling pressure, and they’re nervous about being able to produce an adequate plan in time,” said Adriana Renteria, regional water management coordinator at Community Water Center, a nonprofit based in Visalia. “But that’s not an excuse for a complete lack of inclusion of all beneficial users of water. They are very much taking a hands-off approach in terms of engagement.”

That could become a serious problem down the road, because the groundwater sustainability agency may not have complete information on well status as it develops its sustainability plan.

For example, Renteria said, irrigation wells are typically much deeper than domestic wells. So defining sustainable groundwater elevation based on agricultural wells could leave domestic wells high and dry.

“Having those diverse perspectives in the room will help you have more sustainable plans,” said Renteria, who is working with a number of groundwater sustainability agencies to involve community members. “If people are not voicing their concern early on, there might be legal disputes they have to deal with once their plans are complete.”

Each groundwater sustainability agency is managed by a board of directors, which tends to be dominated by the largest water users in each basin: farmers and the irrigation districts that serve them. They are accustomed to managing canals and pumps and responding to orders for irrigation water from their customers. But working hand-in-hand with disadvantaged communities on water issues is not part of their historical skillset.

“Trying to bring these different perspectives together and form an agency out of those is obviously a challenge,” said Eric Osterling, water resources manager for the Kings River Conservation District, which helps manage water supplies and flood control in Fresno, Kings and Tulare counties.

Osterling’s district was hired as program administrator for two new groundwater sustainability agencies in critically overdrafted areas: the South Fork and North Fork Kings River groundwater basins.

In the process, he has worked closely with nonprofits like Community Water Center, Self-Help Enterprises and the Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability, which have helped reach out to people who rely on groundwater to keep their towns vibrant, to bathe their children and grow their own food. He has also worked to get informational materials translated for Hmong and Punjabi radio stations, and translations are in the works for Spanish radio.

He has made evening meetings a priority so that residents can attend after work. Unfortunately, he said, that’s not the usual practice among many groundwater sustainability agencies. Instead, many groundwater sustainability agencies meet during the day because that’s when farm managers and irrigation district employees are on the clock anyway.

Clary said approaches like Osterling’s are more the exception than the rule, at least so far.

The state’s regulations don’t require disadvantaged communities to be represented on groundwater

sustainability agency boards, said Trevor Joseph, a sustainable groundwater management agency manager at the state Department of Water Resources. But they do require groundwater sustainability agencies to engage with low-income communities, small well owners and Native American tribes and to prepare a communication strategy for doing so.

He said sustainability plans that are lacking these components are unlikely to be approved.

“It’s an important provision that should not be taken lightly,” Joseph said. “The regulations are very clear that these stakeholder interests need to be considered. The practical reality is, you’re not going to reach sustainability in many of these basins without inclusion of these entities.”



Grape vineyards near Porterville California, August 24, 2016. Use of agricultural fertilizers, as well as cow manure from dairy farms, have led to domestic wells in California’s Central Valley having dangerously high levels of nitrates, making the water unsafe to drink. (ROBYN BECK/AFP/Getty Images)

The Department of Water Resources offers “facilitation services” to help groundwater sustainability agencies reach out to small and low-income groundwater users. And the department even offers to provide professional facilitators – at no charge – to help manage community meetings and encourage constructive dialogue.

However, only 10 groundwater groups have sought the help of these free facilitators, according to the Department of Water Resources, and only six of these are in critically overdrafted basins.

Another concern in many areas is water quality. Aquifers in many areas are severely degraded by decades of intensive farming, resulting in heavy concentrations of pesticides and nitrates in groundwater that can harm human health.

In the Salinas Valley, hundreds of small domestic water systems are plagued by high nitrate concentrations linked to farming. It remains to be seen if the new groundwater sustainability agencies in the region will do anything about contamination issues.

Horacio Amezcua isn't hopeful. He is general manager of the San Jerardo Cooperative, which provides water and other services to one community of 350 people – mostly farmworkers and their families – in the Salinas Valley. High nitrate levels in the town's groundwater made residents sick for years, until Monterey County agreed to connect the community to a new water source 2 miles away.

Amezcua said there are at least 35 other communities and 300 small water systems in the region with

similar problems.

“There’s a lot of information that is missing,” he said.

“And I don’t think the new groundwater sustainability agency is going to do that. They’re more concerned on the quantity (of water) and they’re talking very little on the quality. In reality, nobody is facing the problem.” ■

About the Author

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Lathrop seeks to switch basins for groundwater rules

Jason Campbell
jcampbell@mantecabulletin.com
209-249-3544
January 29, 2018

In addition to showing just how much California is lacking in long-term water storage, the most recent California drought also exposed how dependent cities across the state are on groundwater to keep the taps flowing.

And Lathrop is working to make sure that the next time California goes through an extended dry period, those taps never run dry.

Tonight, during a special session of the Lathrop City Council, the city will request approval for a \$50,000 contract with EKI Environment and Water Inc. to provide technical support services for a basin boundary modification that would move Lathrop out of the critically overdrawn basin shared with Stockton and into a much more plentiful – and regulation-friendly – basin near Tracy.

If approved, the move will be one step closer to a finding of compliance by the California Department of Water Resources and long-term cost reductions associated with maintaining compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act – the legislative effort that seeks to preserve critical groundwater reserves in the wake of the most recent drought.

According to the staff report, the proposal to the council is simply to approve an authorization already made by Lathrop City Manager Steve Salvatore to allow EKI to perform the necessary preparations – an authorization that was necessary after the cancellation of the Lathrop City Council meeting last week.

And if the state signs off on Lathrop's work, it could pay sweeping dividends.

"As part of the SGMA, DWR has established a process for local agencies to revise boundaries of groundwater basins or subbasins that would allow the city to consolidate fully into the Tracy Subbasin," the city's report reads. "This is a one-time opportunity that would be beneficial to reduce the costs of the city's SGMA compliance efforts."

The window for submitting those requests opened at the start of 2018, and will remain open through June.

Lathrop currently overlies two subbasins of the San Joaquin Valley basin – the Tracy subbasin, which they're trying to move exclusively into, and the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin, which DWR has identified as high-priority and critically overdrafted. Tracy, on the other hand, is a medium-priority basin where SGMA compliance, the city feels, would be more straightforward and much more easily achievable.

The \$50,000 cost of the contract will be funded from money already allocated to achieving compliance with the SGMA.

To contact reporter Jason Campbell email jcampbell@mantecabulletin.com or call 209.249.3544.