

**GSPWG MEETING #15
MEETING SUMMARY
South American Subbasin (SASb)
Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)
May 14, 2021 (9:00 am to 12:30 pm)**

PARTICIPANTS:

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

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Brian Van Lienden	Woodard & Curran	BVL
Rich Pauloo	Larry Walker Associates	RP
Chuck Young	Stockholm Environment Institute	CY
Lisa Beutler	Stantec	LB
Shawn Koorn	HDR	SK

Public Attendees (this may be a partial list based on participants on ZOOM poll and meeting notes – a total of 14 stakeholders were estimated to be on the call):

Suzanne Pecci
 Barb Evoy (SCGA Conservation landowners – alternate)
 Brett Ewart (City of Sacramento)
 Ian McLeod (CDFW)
 Dominic Gutierrez (DWR)
 Jose Ramirez (Regional San)
 Dave Richardson (W&C)
 Jim Blanke (W&C)
 Samantha Salvia (W&C)
 Aditya Sood (Freshwater Trust)
 Gay Jones
 Lynn Wheat
 Tom Nelson

MEETING SUMMARY:

- Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. John Woodling opened the meeting as the facilitator.
- Roll Call was conducted.
- The Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development process was continued through presentations and discussions under three topical areas: Management/Governance, Technical, and Communication and Engagement (C&E), as follows:
 - Management / Governance
 - The SASb GSP Master Meeting Schedule (reflecting topics to be covered in upcoming GSPWG and public meetings) is posted on the sasbgroundwater.org website.
 - An update on information delivery and GSPWG discussions regarding key decisions to be made during the development of the GSP was provided. As noted in prior meetings, the GSPWG has provided or will be asked to provide input to inform these decisions, which the Consultant Team will use in crafting the draft GSP.

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- GSPWG members were reminded to provide comments on the draft of GSP Section 3 (SMC) (which was distributed in mid-April) as soon as possible. Drafts of GSP Sections 4 and 5 (PMAs and Implementation) were provided prior to the meeting and posted on the website. GSPWG members were asked to provide comments on these draft sections by May 24, again using the EXCEL comment form provided.
 - A status report was provided regarding the work by SCGA staff and facilitators from Stantec to develop a governance structure and cost sharing plan for GSP implementation, working with GSA representatives.
 - A status report was also provided regarding the consultant team and SCGA staff efforts to develop a structure for a shallow/vulnerable well protection program to be considered as a proposed management action under the GSP.
- Technical
- A presentation was provided by the consultant team (Ali Taghavi of W&C) to review the work performed to date to assess future projected conditions, followed by a review of the status of modeling scenarios that have been developed and are being run using the CoSANA model to assess the influence of planned Projects and Management Actions on future conditions of groundwater storage and level in the SASb. As noted in prior meetings, two demand reduction scenarios have been run looking at 10 percent urban demand reduction and 5 to 10 percent agricultural demand reductions to understand the impact of such possible strategies on future conditions. It was noted that urban conservation is expected to increase over current baseline levels as a result of the 2020 urban water management planning effort. A total of five additional PMA scenarios will be run, including (1) a combination of Harvest Water and OHWD recharge under the projected future baseline condition, (2,3) a conjunctive use scenario (which has been developed in coordination with the numerous entities involved in conjunctive use projects in the SASb and with the North American subbasin, building off concepts identified in the 2018 Regional Water Reliability Plan), under the projected future baseline condition and also under the median climate change condition, and (4,5) aggregated scenarios which include Harvest Water, OHWD recharge, and conjunctive use, under both the projected future baseline condition and under the median climate change condition. The decision has been made not to include the SAFCA recharge project in the modeling scenarios, since that project is still at the conceptual level and not enough information is available to allow it to be effectively modeled. The results from the scenario runs will provide spatial and temporal output regarding projected future groundwater levels at the representative monitoring points in the proposed SASb groundwater level monitoring network. This information will be used to assess potential future impacts on sensitive users and uses in the SASb, including shallow wells, interconnected surface waters and groundwater dependent ecosystems, and may lead to changes in

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the preliminary Sustainable Management Criteria (minimum thresholds and measurable objectives – as described in the draft Section 3 document) at some locations in the SASb. Questions were raised regarding whether groundwater substitution transfers were directly modeled. The consultant team responded that such transfers are an example of conjunctive use projects considered in the scenarios, but that they were not directly modeled. It was also pointed out that we need to coordinate with the NASb and Cosumnes subbasins to monitor fluxes at the boundaries which will be impacted by implementation of PMAs in each subbasin.

- Tom Grovhoug of LWA provided an overview of the materials contained in the draft of Sections 4 and 5 of the GSP that was distributed for review by the GSPWG prior to the meeting. The draft of Section 4 contains information on projects and management actions that have occurred or are planned to occur which will contribute to the attainment of sustainability goals in the SASb. Specific management actions related to a shallow/vulnerable well protection program and ongoing coordination activities by the GSAs were described. The draft of Section 5 includes a description of activities by the GSAs that will occur during the implementation of the GSP and cost estimates for those implementation activities, including both GSA-specific management and administration costs, as well as joint GSA costs to implement SGMA requirements and proposed management actions. It was noted that the 5-year GSP update should take Delta flow standards and outcomes from Voluntary Agreements into account.
- Erik Ringelberg and Aditya Sood provided a summary of the GDE technical analysis that has been prepared by the Freshwater Trust for the SASb GSP in cooperation with staff from LWA. Work product will be a technical memorandum summarizing methods and assumptions used, maps of GDEs in the SASb, monitoring methods and metrics to track and assess impacts to GDEs.
- A presentation was provided by Dave Ocenosak and Dave Richardson regarding the Harvest Water Project, describing project benefits and proposed measurable objectives and interim milestones that are requested to be incorporated into the GSP to reflect future improvements to groundwater levels in the project area and to help ensure that the Harvest Water project benefits will be maintained. Questions were asked regarding the monitoring that will be performed for the Harvest Water project to assess interim milestones, whether the water rights to the recycled water had been secured, and how much of the water applied in the SASb would flow to the Cosumnes subbasin. The group was informed that several wells in the GSP monitoring network will be used to assess measurable objectives and interim milestones, that the State Water Board had approved the water rights petition for Harvest Water, and that up to 20 percent of the applied water in SASb could go to the Cosumnes subbasin, depending on groundwater levels on the south side of the Cosumnes River.

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- Communication & Engagement (C&E)
 - GSA representatives were reminded to be documenting all GSP communication and engagement activities that are occurring at their GSAs, including Board meetings.
 - Lisa Beutler provided a review of topics covered and input received at a special Farm Bureau workshop held on May 13th.
 - Two additional outreach meetings will be held in May, including a workshop with the Ag-Res community (May 25), and a meeting with members of the environmental community (May 21).
 - Participants were reminded regarding the timing for the next GSPWG meeting, which will be held on June 18th from 9 am to 12:30 pm and which will be a virtual meeting.

- Supporting Materials
 - PowerPoint presentations on the SASb future projections and CoSANA modeling scenarios.
 - PowerPoint presentation on the content of drafts of Sections 4 and 5.
 - PowerPoint presentation on the GDE analysis.
 - PowerPoint presentation on Harvest Water project.
 - PowerPoint presentation regarding GSP development status.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm