

Sustainability Goal

- DWR requires that each GSP include a Sustainability Goal that “...culminates in the absence of undesirable results within 20 years....” (23 CCR § 354.24)
- The GSP will include Basin information used to establish the sustainability goal and a discussion of the measures that will be implemented to ensure that the Basin will be operated to achieve sustainability within the 20-year planning timeframe.
- GSP will set Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs) for each of the six sustainability indicators that will achieve the Basin’s sustainability goal.
- GSP will include a description of projects and management actions necessary to achieve the Basin’s sustainability goal.

Initial Exploration of a Sustainability Goal

1. If groundwater is sustainably managed in the SASb, what has been achieved and what does the groundwater condition look like?
2. What does the worst-case scenario look like in the SASb if groundwater is not managed sustainably?
3. Give us your perspective on how others view the SASb sustainability issue?

Ideas Put Forth by Working Group during May 22 Working Group Meeting

- Comments provided by 10 members of the Working Group categorized by topic:

Drought / Dry-year Resilience ¹	Maintain timing / magnitude of SW flows ²	Maintain existing water allocations ³	Maintain or increase GW levels ⁴	Maintain or increase GW storage ⁵	Protect Env. Sensitive areas and GDEs ⁶	Climate Change Resilience ⁷	Maintain local control ⁸	Collaborative decision-making / including all beneficial users ⁹	Best available science ¹⁰
X	X		X						
		X					X	X	X
		X	X				X		
X			X		X				
			X	X					
		X			X	X			
	X								
X			X	X					
	X				X	X		X	
							X	X	
Totals:	3	3	5	2	3	2	3	3	1

'Straw Man' Sustainability Goal Incorporating all Working Group Categories

Drought / Dry-year Resilience ¹	Maintain timing/ magnitude of SW flows ²	Maintain existing water allocations ³	Maintain or increase GW levels ⁴	Maintain or increase GW storage ⁵	Protect Env. Sensitive areas and GDEs ⁶	Climate Change Resilience ⁷	Maintain local control ⁸	Collaborative decision-making / including all beneficial users ⁹	Best available science ¹⁰
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■ Groundwater sustainability goal is to ...

- Use collaborative decision-making processes⁹ and the best available science¹⁰ to manage the groundwater basin without causing undesirable results by maintaining or enhancing groundwater levels and groundwater storage volumes^{4,5} to:
 - Ensure availability of groundwater for all beneficial users and uses^{3,9}
 - Provide operational flexibility during future drought conditions¹ and under future climate change impacts⁷
 - Maintain or enhance the magnitude and timing of groundwater contributions to streamflow²
 - Maintain or enhance groundwater availability for groundwater dependent ecosystems⁶

Strawman Sustainability Goal Incorporating Working Group Ideas

Drought / Dry-year Resilience ¹	Maintain timing/ magnitude of SW flows ²	Maintain existing water allocations ³	Maintain or increase GW levels ⁴	Maintain or increase GW storage ⁵	Protect Env. Sensitive areas and GDEs ⁶	Climate Change Resilience ⁷	Maintain local control ⁸	Collaborative decision-making / including all beneficial users ⁹	Best available science ¹⁰
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- **Additional points to be further discussed and included into the goal:**
 - Water quality.
 - Coordination with adjacent groundwater basins.
 - Unique cultural, community and business aspects of the basin.

Examples of Sustainability Goals from Other GSPs

■ Mid-County Santa Cruz GSP:

- Manage the groundwater Basin to ensure beneficial uses and users have access to a safe and reliable groundwater supply that meets current and future Basin demand without causing undesirable results to:
 - Ensure groundwater is available for beneficial uses and a diverse population of beneficial users;
Protect groundwater supply against seawater intrusion;
 - Prevent groundwater overdraft within the Basin and resolves problems resulting from prior overdraft;
 - Maintain or enhance groundwater levels where groundwater dependent ecosystems exist;
 - Maintain or enhance groundwater contributions to streamflow;
 - Support reliable groundwater supply and quality to promote public health and welfare;

Examples of Sustainability Goals from Other GSPs

■ Mid-County Santa Cruz GSP (cont.):

- Manage the groundwater Basin to ensure beneficial uses and users have access to a safe and reliable groundwater supply that meets current and future Basin demand without causing undesirable results to:
 - Ensure operational flexibility within the Basin by maintaining a drought reserve;
 - Account for changing groundwater conditions related to projected climate change and sea level rise in Basin planning and management;
 - Do no harm to neighboring groundwater basins in regional efforts to achieve groundwater sustainability.

■ Salinas GSP:

- The goal of this GSP is to manage the groundwater resources of the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin for long-term community, financial, and environmental benefits to the Subbasin's residents and businesses. This GSP will ensure long-term viable water supplies while maintaining the unique cultural, community, and business aspects of the Subbasin. It is the express goal of this GSP to balance the needs of all water users in the Subbasin.