

Initial Notification for Preparation of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the South American Subbasin 5-21.65 of the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin

This is to notify the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) and interested parties of the intent to prepare a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the South American Subbasin (SASb) 5-21.65 of the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin (see attached figure). Also being notified are the applicable cities and county in the SASb, as well as the California Public Utilities Commission. At this time five Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) interests: Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority (SCGA) GSA 1; Omochumne-Hartnell Water District GSA; Sloughouse Resource Conservation District GSA 1; Northern Delta GSA (NDGSA)¹; and County of Sacramento GSA have signed the *Memorandum of Understanding Establishing a South American Subbasin SGMA Working Group and Identifying Cost Share Provisions for GSP Development* (MOU). The MOU establishes the *South American Subbasin SGMA Working Group* (Working Group) as responsible for coordinating the development of a single GSP for the SASb. The MOU establishes SCGA as the initial Administrative Agency responsible for implementing the recommendations of the Working Group in GSP development; engaging and providing direction to consultants at the election and direction of the Working Group; and administering grants for the benefit of the SASb. SCGA has been authorized by the SASb GSAs² to submit the GSP Initial Notification to DWR. (Please note that the attached SASb figure reflects GSA boundaries agreed upon in the MOU and are in-progress of being modified for submittal to State DWR. The County of Sacramento, a MOU signatory, is currently the exclusive GSA over the Sloughouse Resource Conservation District and Omochumne-Hartnell Water District areas indicated on SASb figure.)

The process for development of the GSP will be driven by the Working Group. It is envisioned that the Working Group will meet on a monthly basis, or as needed, formatted as “working” meetings open to Working Group members. Updates on the progress of GSP development will be provided by Working Group members and technical staff at calendared publicly noticed meetings of the respective GSA boards and special meetings of the Working Group. Special meetings of the Working Group will update the public on specific topics related to the progress of GSP development with the initial meeting planned for the evening of July 23, 2020. Also envisioned, depending on need, are a series of special stakeholder meetings to target, among others, representatives of Disadvantaged Communities, Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems, agriculture-residential, Native American tribes, remediation entities, and adjacent subbasins. A draft Communication and Engagement Plan has been developed for the subbasin to facilitate the Working Group, technical and administrative staff, and GSA outreach to interested parties. A dedicated SASb GSP development webpage (sasbgroundwater.org) has also been created to facilitate public outreach and access to publicly available information.

The initial phase of GSP development will focus on filling of critical data gaps to improve the understanding of conditions relative to groundwater within the SASb and development of the Cosumnes – South American – North American Water Resources Model (CoSANA) to assess current and future sustainability of the SASb

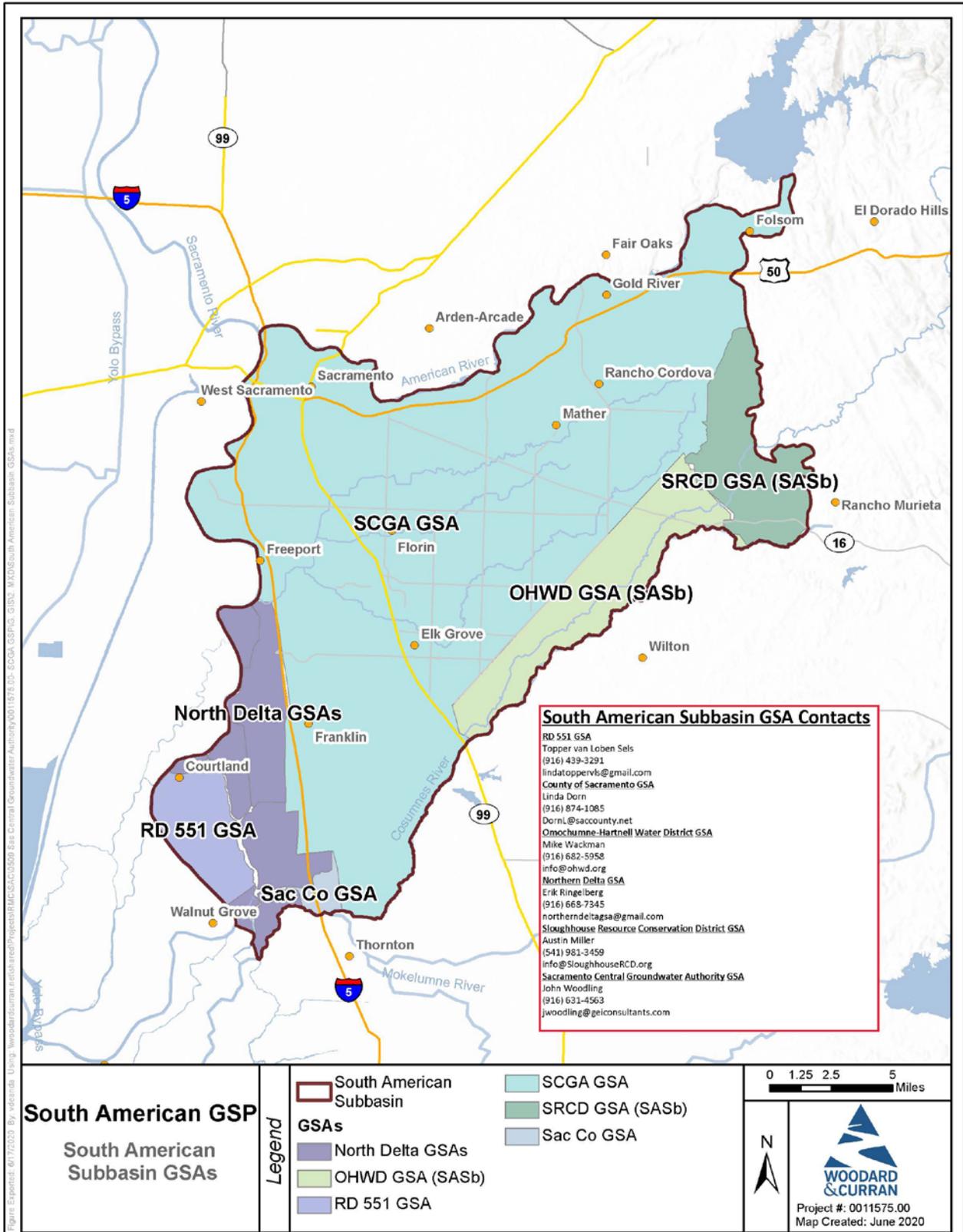
¹ NDGSA is a Joint Powers Agreement between the following exclusive GSAs:

1. Reclamation District (RD) No. 744 GSA
2. Franklin Drainage District GSA
3. RD No. 813 GSA
4. RD No. 755 GSA
5. RD No. 369 GSA
6. RD No. 2110 GSA
7. RD No. 1002 GSA

² Reclamation District 551 has opted to not participate in the MOU and has instead provided a letter acknowledging SCGA as the initial Administrative Agency and authorizing SCGA’s submittal of the Initial Notification to develop a GSP.

groundwater resources. Sustainable Management Criteria for Water Quality, Subsidence, and Groundwater/Surface Water Interconnectedness will also be an early focus. The overall schedule calls for initiation of GSP development in early July 2020 with a planned public draft release in mid-2021 and a final GSP adopted by each of the GSAs in late-2021.

Stakeholders interested in the development and future implementation of the SASb GSP may contact John Woodling of the SCGA GSA at jwoodling@geiconsultants.com or (916) 631-4563. Additionally, stakeholders interested in a specific GSA area within the SASb can contact the individuals listed on the enclosed map of the SASb area and GSA boundaries. Interested parties may also register their contact information at sasbgroundwater.org to receive updates and notifications.



Third Party GIS Disclaimer: This map is for reference and graphical purposes only and should not be relied upon by third parties for any legal decisions. Any reliance upon the map or data contained herein shall be at the users' sole risk. Data Sources: