



MEMORANDUM

TO: SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates

FROM: John Brodie, Water Resource Programs Manager
Joe McGahan, Regional Drainage/Westside Watershed Coalition Coordinator

DATE: April 7, 2022

RE: Activity Agreements – Staff Report for March 2022

This memorandum serves as the Staff Report for March 2022 regarding specified¹ Water Authority activities not separately addressed on the Board meeting agenda.

1. Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Activity Summary

San Joaquin River Funding Area (SJRFA)

Work continues on the Proposition 1, Round 1 grant project. Design work is nearly complete on the pumping plant modernization project for West Stanislaus Irrigation District. Due to the drought, work has been put on hold but construction is expected to start in November 2022.

Tulare-Kern Funding Area (TKFA)

IRWM regions in the funding area are expected to decide in April when they will set application deadlines for Proposition 1, Round 2 funding. The earliest options are paired August and December deadlines in 2022. Other options include the paired October 2022 and February 2023 deadlines. The final PSP and guidelines including application deadlines from DWR should be released this month.

General Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP)

SLDMWA Staff is in the initial stages of work on a plan to engage with Disadvantaged Communities in the Westside San Joaquin Region and learn about each community’s priorities and funding needs that align with the objectives of the WSJ IRWMP.

The goal is to develop tailored initial funding matrices for each DAC that identify potential existing grants, incentives, and other funding opportunities that align with those local communities’ needs and priorities.

¹ For the sake of completeness, this includes those Activity Agreements that have been approved by the Board of Directors, but not yet signed by all interested members and/or participants (i.e., the Los Vaqueros Expansion Project Activity Agreement, the Exchange Contractors 2019-2023 Transfer Program Activity Agreement, and the Westside-San Joaquin Integrated Regional Water Management Activity Agreement).

2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Activity (SGMA) Activity Summary

Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions

The Northern and Central Management Committees reviewed and approved the Water Year 2021 Annual Report for submission to DWR as part of Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Compliance. The report was submitted to meet the April 1, 2022 deadline.

General SGMA Activities

A subcommittee of Delta-Mendota Subbasin representatives met twice with DWR SGMA program staff to discuss the incomplete determination given to the Delta-Mendota Subbasin's six Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). GSP groups have until July 20 to make necessary changes and submit the amended plans to DWR. The changes must be approved and adopted by all 23 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies prior to submission.

GSP groups submitted a preferred spending plan to DWR for SGMA Round 1 Implementation funding. The subbasin was required to submit a request for at least \$10 million which was reduced to \$7.6 million awarded. Most of the funds received will go toward implementing groundwater recharge projects. The grant application was submitted on behalf of the subbasin by Del Puerto Water District/DM-II GSA.

The Spring/Seasonal High Water Level monitoring window is open until April 30, 2022. All GSAs must collect water level measurements at designated representative monitoring wells by that date.

3. Drainage Activity Summary

Grassland Basin Drainage Management Steering Committee Activity Summary

- Prepare agenda and meeting materials and lead March 18, 2022 GBD Steering Committee meeting, including presentation of the proposed treatment projects. Organize and lead mitigation sub-committee meeting.
- Preparation of consultant contract agreements for 22-23 year.
- Work with attorneys in preparation of court documentation for the PCFFA lawsuit.
- Review issues with CDFW on the Mud Slough mitigation project.
- Follow through on requests for treatment suppliers on the SJRIP.
- Proceed with development of installation of monitoring wells and other operational requirements for Grassland Bypass Project.
- Coordinate activities with the Grassland Basin Authority for operation of the SJRIP.
- Participate in conference call regarding CVSalts monitoring requirements.
- Prepare annual monitoring report update.
- Other ongoing activities: Continue to review GBD invoices, prepare annual monitoring reports, support for ongoing litigation and data management and management of the Third Party Group for the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition to implement the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. Work includes participation in activities for groundwater protection values.

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San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority Activity Summary

- Prepare consultant contract agreements.
- Review management zone requirements and develop budget estimates.
- Continue management of the Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition to comply with the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. Begin assembling paperwork requirements for 2021 reporting year. Follow up calls and emails were answered to assist farmers in completing their paperwork requirements. Manage field monitoring program and provide update of the management plan to the Regional Board. Review invoices from consultants and prepare letters to admin staff. Continue to update membership database. Prepare for annual grower meetings including district meetings. Enter farmer evaluation and nitrogen summary reports into coalition database.
- Participate in group conference calls regarding surface and groundwater management plans, groundwater protection formulas and the CVSalts prioritization and optimization studies. Participate in Central Valley Groundwater Monitoring Collaborative conference calls. Participate in management practices effectiveness program conference call. Held meetings on Management Zone development. Manage ongoing monitoring. Revise the QAPP for the monitoring program. Prepare monitoring plan update and management plan.
- Management continued for the Prop 84 Real Time Management Program Grant for compliance with the San Joaquin River Salt and Boron TMDL. Preparation of annual real time management program report. Direct in field monitoring station construction activities. The annual report was submitted to the Regional Board.

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Watershed Coalition Paperwork Compliance Schedule - 2022	
Task	Date
Reminder that INMPSR was due on 4/15 and that this year there is no FE requirement	4/15/2022
Reminder that INMPSR is due on 4/15 and that this year there is no FE requirement	4/29/2022
Request delinquent list from Summers	5/12/2022
Notice to Customers on delinquent list that they have forms due, the District is available to help, and that compliance is a requirement of water service from the District. Any customers still non-compliant by 6/30 will not receive water service until the paperwork is submitted to the District.	5/18/2022
Reminder to complete video and postcard that will replace the annual meeting for this year by 6/30.	5/31/2022
Request delinquent list from Summers	6/9/2022
Notice to Customers on delinquent list that they have forms due, the District is available to help, and that compliance is a requirement of water service from the District. Any customers still non-compliant by 6/30 will not receive water service until the paperwork is submitted to the District.	6/13/2022
Reminder to complete video and postcard that will replace the	6/17/2022
Request delinquent list from Summers for video	6/9/2022
Notice to Customers on delinquent list that they need to watch the video and submit the postcard and that compliance is a requirement of water service from the District. Any customers still non-compliant by 7/31 will not receive water service until the postcard is submitted to the District.	7/15/2022

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GAVIN NEWSOM
GOVERNOR



JARED BLUMENFELD
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Stakeholder Meeting

13 April 2022
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
Zoom Meeting

(email Sue.McConnell@waterboards.ca.gov to request Zoom link)

Agenda

Goal: Provide open forum for communication between water board staff, agricultural coalitions, environmental justice groups, and other interested parties in the Central Valley

1. Agenda Review

2. Concise Updates

- (i) Central Valley Water Board
<www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/index.html>
- (ii) State Water Board
<www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/agriculture/>
- (iii) California Department of Food and Agriculture, FREP
<www.cdfa.ca.gov/is/ffldrs/frep/>
- (iv) Central Valley Agricultural Water Quality Coalitions
<www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_lands/regulatory_information/for_growers/coalition_groups/>
- (v) Environmental Justice Groups
 - Clean Water Action
<www.cleanwateraction.org/states/california>
 - Community Water Center
<communitywatercenter.nationbuilder.com/#gsc.tab=0>
 - Leadership Counsel
<leadershipcounsel.org/about-us/>

3. Focused Discussion: **Groundwater Protection Targets**

Groundwater Protection Values (CVWB Oct 2021 update item will open in YouTube)

4. Next Meeting (13 July 2022)/Action Items

MARK BRADFORD, CHAIR | PATRICK PULUPA, ESQ., EXECUTIVE OFFICER

11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 | www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley

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VIII. C.

Anthea Hansen

From: sgmps@DWR <sgmps@water.ca.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 5, 2022 5:10 PM
Subject: Governor's Drought Executive Order Action 9 Fact Sheet
Attachments: Fact Sheet_March 2022 Drought Executive Order Action 9.pdf



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT OFFICE

Dear GSA Administrators,

On March 28, 2022, the Governor issued Drought Executive Order N-7-22 (Drought EO) due to the record drought conditions California has faced over the last three years. Action 9 of the Drought EO includes new well permitting requirements for local agencies. To help the agencies navigate these new requirements DWR has put together the attached fact sheet. It includes a list of available state resources, such as datasets and web-based platform tools, to support well permitting decision-making, including California's Groundwater Live website which contains current groundwater conditions and land subsidence information.

For more information or questions, please contact DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Office at: SGMPS@water.ca.gov.

For more information about the State's Drought Response and Assistance, please visit drought.ca.gov.

Thank you.

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Drought Well Permitting Requirements

Drought Executive Order N-7-22

On March 28, 2022 Governor Newsom issued Drought Executive Order N-7-22 that included new well permitting requirements for local agencies to prepare for and lessen the effects of drought conditions (Action 9).

Well Permitting Authority and Groundwater Management Oversight
In California, regulatory authority over well construction, alteration, and destruction activities resides with local agencies (cities, counties, or water agencies), who have the authority to adopt a local well ordinance. Well permits are administered and enforced by local agencies (or local enforcing agencies, LEAs), often the Department of Environmental Health within a given county.

With the enactment of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) in 2014, local public agencies – called groundwater sustainability agencies or GSAs – formed to provide specific oversight and management of groundwater resources, and to achieve sustainable groundwater management within 20 years through the development and implementation of groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) and associated projects and management actions. The local GSAs are required to include in their GSPs a discussion of how they will coordinate these efforts with local land use authorities, including local well permitting agencies.

Drought Well Permitting Requirements

Local well ordinances authorize the conditions for agencies to issue a well permit or permit modification. Given the record drought conditions the state has faced over the last three years, Drought Executive Order N-7-22 requires additional actions be taken by local well permitting agencies prior to issuing a well permit.

Excerpt of Action 9 from Drought Executive Order N-7-22:

9. To protect health, safety, and the environment during this drought emergency, a county, city, or other public agency shall not:

a. Approve a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and classified as medium- or high-priority without first obtaining written verification from a Groundwater Sustainability Agency managing the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located that groundwater extraction by the proposed well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program established in any applicable Groundwater Sustainability Plan adopted by that Groundwater Sustainability Agency and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving a sustainability goal for the basin covered by such a plan; or

b. Issue a permit for a new groundwater well or for alteration of an existing well without first determining that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is (1) not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells, and (2) not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

This paragraph shall not apply to permits for wells that will provide less than two acre-feet per year of groundwater for individual domestic users, or that will exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

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Local well permitting agencies retain existing well permitting authorities, including reviewing and administering well permits. Under the Executive Order Action 9, local well permitting agencies must take the following steps during the well permitting process for wells intending to extract groundwater:

1. Consultation with the GSA – If the proposed well would be in a high or medium priority groundwater basin, the well permitting agency must consult with the GSA and receive written verification from the GSA that the proposed well location is generally consistent (not inconsistent) with the applicable GSP and will not decrease the likelihood of achieving the sustainability goals that the GSAs have developed under SGMA.
2. Permit Evaluation – For every well permit application, the local well permitting agency must determine before issuing a well permit that extraction of groundwater from the proposed well is not likely to interfere with the production and functioning of existing nearby wells and is not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

These requirements do not apply to wells that pump less than 2 acre-feet per year (de minimus users) and wells that exclusively provide groundwater to public water supply systems as defined in section 116275 of the Health and Safety Code.

State Resources Available to Local Agencies

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) provides technical and other support services to local agencies to support decision-making. The following resources are available to help local agencies navigate the well permitting requirements in this Drought Executive Order:

- To find the **groundwater basins subject to SGMA** and classified as medium or high priority: [Basin Prioritization Dashboard](#)
- To find the **Groundwater Sustainability Agency** managing the applicable basin or area of the basin: [GSA Map Viewer](#)
- To find the **Groundwater Sustainability Plan** adopted by the local Groundwater Sustainability Agency: [GSP Map Viewer](#)
- To view **existing nearby wells** (domestic, irrigation, public supply and reported dry wells): [California's Groundwater Live – Well Infrastructure](#)
- To view **groundwater levels and trends**: [California's Groundwater Live – Groundwater Levels](#)
- To view **subsidence data** and nearby infrastructure: [California's Groundwater Live – Subsidence Data](#)

For more information or questions, please contact DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Office at: SGMPS@water.ca.gov.

For more information about the State's Drought Response and Assistance, please visit drought.ca.gov.

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VIII.C.

Joint Telephonic Meeting of the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee,
Central Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee, and
Central Delta-Mendota GSA

Thursday, January 27th, 2022, 10:00 AM

The meeting was held via zoom with an in-person option for Committee members.

SLDMWA Boardroom, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA

Management Committee and Central GSA Members and Alternates Present

Northern DM Region Management Committee

Anthea Hansen, Member/Alternate – Del Puerto and Oak Flat Water Districts
Adam Scheuber, Alternate – Del Puerto Water District
Bobby Pierce, Member – West Stanislaus Irrigation District
Vince Lucchesi, Member – Patterson Irrigation District
Maria Encinas, Member – City of Patterson
Walt Ward, Member – Stanislaus County
Robert Kostlivy, Alternate – Stanislaus County

Central DM Region Management Committee

Randy Miles*, Alternate – Eagle Field Water District
Danny Wade*, Member/Alternate – Fresno Slough Water District/Tranquillity Irrigation District
Juan Cadena*, Alternate – Mercy Springs Water District
Aaron Barcellos*, Member – Pacheco Water District
Chase Hurley*, Alternate – Pacheco Water District
Michael Linneman*, Alternate – Panoche Water District
Steve Stadler*, Alternate – San Luis Water District
Amy Montgomery*, Member – Santa Nella County Water District
Augie Ramirez*, Alternate – Fresno County
Damian Aragona, Member – Widren Water District

*Indicates representative, alternate, or 2nd alternate of the Central Delta-Mendota GSA

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Representatives Present

John Brodie
Joyce Machado
Lauren Neves
Claire Howard – Provost & Pritchard

Others Present

Chris Olvera – Department of Water Resources
Mike Stearns – Panoche Water District
Joe Hopkins – Provost & Pritchard
Kait Palys Bautista – Provost & Pritchard

Leslie Dumas – Woodard & Curran
Natalie Cochran – Woodard & Curran
Anona Dutton – EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
Meredith Durant – EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
Jessica Johnson – Baker Manock & Jensen

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**

Aaron Barcellos/Pacheco called the meeting to order at 10:02 AM.

2. **Committees to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.**

No corrections or additions were made to the agenda of items.

3. **Opportunity for Public Comment**

Claire Howard/P&P shared that her last day with P&P will be February 11th.

4. **Committees to Review and Take Action on Consent Calendar, Barcellos**

- a. **Initial Resolution for Remote Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to AB 361 for Next 30 Days**
- b. **Minutes for the December 16th, 2021 Joint Telephonic Meeting of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region Management Committees and Central Delta-Mendota GSA**
- c. **Minutes for the January 12th, 2022 Joint Special Telephonic Meeting of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region Management Committees and Central Delta-Mendota GSA**
- d. **November 2021 Budget to Actual Report**

The GSA considered approval of the consent calendar as presented. Maria Encinas/Patterson provided the motion for the Northern Management Committee and Anthea Hansen/DPWD&OFWD seconded. The Northern Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present. Augie Ramirez/Fresno provided the motion for the Central Management Committee and Steve Stadler/SLWD seconded. The Central Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

5. **Committees to Consider Approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 SGMA Services Activity Agreement Budgets for the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota GSAs, Brodie**

John Brodie/SLDMWA noted that with Claire Howard's departure, SLDMWA is seeking options to fill her staff augmentation roll for the Northern and Central Management Committees as well as the Coordination Committee within the Fiscal Year 2023 budget. John noted that the presented budget includes the higher cost estimate received for this role support, so this budget has a higher total than versions previously reviewed. John and Joyce Machado/SLDMWA provided an overview of other categories within the budget, including the placeholder section for the DWR response to comments process, reserve category for the Five-Year GSP Update, and the positive fund balance reflected from the Fiscal Year 2022 expenses. Joyce also noted the positive fund balance reflects categories from the past budget that are grant reimbursable. John noted that future grants will use special project agreements to more easily track participating agencies, budget status, and cost flow.

Each Management Committee provided approval for the presented Fiscal Year 2023 budgets for their respective funds. Bobby Pierce provided the motion for the Northern Management Committee for Fund 64 and Anthea Hansen/DPWD&OFWD seconded. The Northern

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Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present. Steve Stadler SLWD provided the motion for the Central Management Committee for Fund 65 and Amy Montgomery SNCWD seconded. The Central Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

6. **Committees to Consider Directing Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region Representatives to the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee to Approve the Fiscal Year 2023 SGMA Coordinated Cost-Share Activity Agreement Budget, Brodie**

John Brodie/SLDMWA and Joyce Machado/SLDMWA also provided an overview of the coordinated budget for Fund 63, and noted that the Coordination Committee will consider approval of this budget during their meeting on February 8th. Bobby Pierce provided the motion for the Northern Management Committee and Maria Encinas/Patterson seconded. The Northern Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present. Augie Ramirez/Fresno provided the motion for the Central Management Committee and Amy Montgomery/SNCWD seconded. The Central Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

7. **GSP Group Representatives Report from Subbasin Coordination Committee Meeting on January 18th, 2022, Hurley/Lucchesi**

Chase Hurley/Pacheco, Vince Lucchesi/PID, and John Brodie/SLDMWA shared recent updates from the Coordination Committee, including progress on the SGMA Round 1 application development, approval of budget adjustments and a grant agreement amendment for the Subbasin's ongoing Proposition 1/68 grant, and discussion of the Water Year 2021 Annual Report development.

8. **Committees to Discuss DWR Letter on Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSPs, Brodie**

John Brodie/SLDMWA noted that the Subbasin received its Determination Letter from DWR on the Subbasin's six coordinated GSPs on January 21st. Anona Dutton/EKI provided a detailed review of the content of the Letter and the response process; the response must be submitted to DWR within 180 days of the Letter release. The Committees discussed their intent to share with DWR past recommendations the Subbasin received with regard to Subbasin coordination and technical approaches for sustainable management criteria across the Subbasin's six GSPs and 23 GSAs. John noted that he has reached out to DWR staff to schedule a meeting in mid-February to review the Letter and options for the Subbasin's response.

9. **Committees to Discuss Potential Additional Funding Opportunities, Brodie**

John Brodie/SLDMWA referenced the list of potential funding opportunities included in the meeting materials and requested that Committee members contact him with any questions.

10. **Well Permit Review Process, Howard/County Representatives**

Claire Howard/P&P provided a brief update on recent well permitting developments. The Merced County Board of Supervisors met on January 25th to discuss proposed changes to their well permitting ordinance. This meeting provided clarifications regarding the ordinance changes including: the ordinance will not direct GSAs to conduct CEQA or take on lead agency role, GSAs are to provide consistency determination with their respective GSP for new well requests and, if adopted during the next Board meeting on February 8th, the new well ordinance will become effective May 1st. A primary focus of the meeting included acknowledgement by County staff and the Board of Supervisors regarding the increased level of effort for GSAs to review and process new well permits and provide consistency determinations with their GSP. Jessica

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Johnson BMJ also noted that the Board meeting included a recommendation that individual GSAs seek legal input regarding the well permit review process.

Claire also noted that the McMullin Area GSA (MAGSA) has a well registration policy that requires all wells be registered as of January 1st. This policy is effective for all wells designed to produce more than 2 acre-feet per year. The policy also requires all wells be outfitted with compliant electromagnetic flow metering devices on or before January 31st, 2025.

The Merced County proposed ordinance changes and MAGSA well registration policy will be shared for the Committees' reference following the meeting.

11. **Committees to Discuss 2022 GSP Implementation**
 - a. Three-Month Look-Ahead Schedule, Dutton
 - b. GSP Implementation Tracking Tools, Dutton
 - c. GSP Implementation Monitoring Activities and Status, Dumas
 - d. Inter-Connected Surface Water Monitoring Network Development, Dumas
 - e. WY 2021 Annual Report, Dumas

Anona Dutton/EKI and Leslie Dumas/W&C provided brief updates on GSP implementation activities. Additional follow-up will be conducted with individual agencies to collect information for the Water Year 2021 Annual Report development as needed. The three-month look-ahead schedule will be shared with the Committees for reference following the meeting. Leslie provided a reminder regarding the upcoming spring water level monitoring.

12. **Committees to Discuss Special Projects**
 - a. Well Census and Inventory Project, Howard/O'Leary

The Northern and Central Regions' well census and inventory report has been shared with the GSAs for reference. Data from this project were shared with the GSI Environmental Inc. team to support their subsidence characterization study.

- b. Subbasin Subsidence Characterization Study and Project Feasibility Determination, Brodie

John Brodie/SLDMWA reminded the Committee that a special Technical Working Group and Coordination Committee meeting is scheduled for Friday, January 28th during which the GSI Environmental Inc. team will provide a presentation on the subsidence study status.

13. **Next Steps**
 - The Committees approved the presented Fiscal Year 2023 budgets for Funds 64 and 65, and provided approval for the Northern and Central Region representatives to the Coordination Committee to approve Fund 63.
 - A meeting will be held between Subbasin representatives and DWR staff to review the recently released DWR determination letter.
 - Information on proposed changes to the Merced County well permitting ordinance and the MAGSA well registration policy will be shared after the meeting.
 - The three-month look-ahead schedule will be shared with the Committees for reference following the meeting.

14. **Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)**

No topics were discussed under this item.

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15. Future Meetings
 - a. Thursday February 24th, 2022 at 10:00 AM
 - b. Thursday March 24th, 2022 at 10:00 AM
 - c. Thursday April 28th, 2022 at 10:00 AM

16. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation

The Committees will meet in closed session to confer with legal counsel pursuant to Paragraph (1), Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9.

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Validity of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan, et al., Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CV-20-001748 [Delta-Mendota Subbasin SGMA Challenge].

17. Report Out of Closed Session

No reportable action was taken in closed session.

18. ADJOURNMENT

Aaron Barcellos/Pacheco adjourned the meeting at 12:01 PM.

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Joint Telephonic Meeting of the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee,
Central Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee, and
Central Delta-Mendota GSA

Thursday, February 24th, 2022, 10:00 AM

The meeting was held via zoom with an in-person option for Committee members

SLDMWA Boardroom, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA

Management Committee and Central GSA Members and Alternates Present

Northern DM Region Management Committee

- Vince Lucchesi, Member – Patterson Irrigation District
- Maria Encinas, Member – City of Patterson
- Robert Kostlivi, Alternate – Stanislaus County

Central DM Region Management Committee

- Randy Miles*, Alternate – Eagle Field Water District
- Danny Wade*, Member/Alternate – Fresno Slough Water District/Tranquillity Irrigation District
- Juan Cadena*, Alternate – Mercy Springs Water District
- Aaron Barcellos*, Member – Pacheco Water District
- Chase Hurley*, Alternate – Pacheco Water District
- Mike Stearns*, Panoche Water District
- Amy Montgomery*, Member – Santa Nella County Water District
- Augie Ramirez*, Alternate – Fresno County
- Damian Aragona, Member – Widren Water District

*Indicates representative, alternate, or 2nd alternate of the Central Delta-Mendota GSA

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Representatives Present

- John Brodie
- Scott Petersen
- Lauren Neves

Others Present

- Joe Hopkins – Provost & Pritchard
- Leslie Dumas – Woodard & Curran
- Anona Dutton – EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
- Meredith Durant – EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
- Lauren Layne – Baker Manock & Jensen

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Aaron Barcellos/Pacheco called the meeting to order at 10:01 AM.

2. Committees to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

No corrections or additions were made to the agenda of items.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

Amy Montgomery SNCWD inquired whether this meeting would include a status report on budget to actual, and John Brodie SLDMWA responded that there is no budget update at this time. No other public comment was shared.

4. Committees to Review and Take Action on Consent Calendar, Barcellos

- a. Minutes for the January 27th, 2022 Joint Telephonic Meeting of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region Management Committees and Central Delta-Mendota GSA

A quorum for the Northern Delta-Mendota Management Committee was not present, therefore the consent calendar item was not considered, and will be considered at the next Committees meeting.

5. Central Delta-Mendota Management Committee to Consider Taking Action to Appoint the Secretary for the Central Delta-Mendota Management Committee, Brodie

John Brodie noted that with Claire Howard's departure, the role of Secretary for the Central Delta-Mendota Management Committee is vacant, and referenced the memorandum included in the meeting materials. Aaron Barcellos/Pacheco inquired whether this is a role that John Brodie can fill. John Brodie responds affirmatively. Aaron Barcellos provided the motion for the Central Management Committee to approve John Brodie as the Secretary and Amy Montgomery seconded. The Central Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

6. GSP Group Representatives Reports from Subbasin Technical Working Group & Coordination Committee Meeting on January 28th, 2022 and Subbasin Coordination Committee Meeting on February 8th, 2022, Hurley/Lucchesi

Vince Lucchesi/PID and John Brodie shared recent updates from the Coordination Committee meetings. Key topics during the Subbasin Coordination Committee meeting were to rank projects for inclusion in the SGM Round 1 Spending Plan and to prepare for the meeting with DWR regarding its Incomplete Determination on the Subbasin GSPs.

7. Committees to Discuss Meeting with DWR on February 18th, 2022 re Incomplete Determination on Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSPs, Brodie

Vince Lucchesi reported that the meeting with DWR was relatively brief, and the overall tone and advice from DWR was to provide more detail regarding conclusions and coordination among the GSPs. Leslie Dumas/W&C added that the first DWR meeting focused on Deficiencies 1 (Review of Data and Methodologies) and 4 (Management Areas) identified by DWR. The upcoming meeting with DWR on March 7th, 2022 will seek to address Deficiencies 2 (Need for Common Definitions of Undesirable Results) and 3 (Sustainable Management Criteria not Set According to SGMA Regulations) identified by DWR. She noted that each of the six Subbasin GSP groups has an assignment to prepare for the next meeting with DWR.

8. Committees to Discuss SGMA Round 1 Implementation Funding Application, Brodie

John Brodie noted the team is on track to submit the grant application on February 25th, 2022. There are a few outstanding agency resolutions which will be noted in the application and submitted to DWR when they are adopted and available.

9. Committees to Discuss Potential Additional Funding Opportunities, Brodie

John Brodie referenced the list of potential funding opportunities included in the meeting materials and noted the Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program which may be relevant for local groundwater recharge projects.

10. Well Permit Review Process, Brodie

John Brodie noted that the draft red-line ordinance considered by the Merced County Board of Supervisors on January 25th, 2022, and the Rules and Regulations recently adopted by the McMullen Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency in October 2021 are included in the meeting materials.

11. Committees to Discuss 2022 GSP Implementation

- a. Three-Month Look-Ahead Schedule, Dutton
- b. GSP Implementation Tracking Tools, Dutton
- c. GSP Implementation Monitoring Activities and Status, Dumas
- d. Inter-Connected Surface Water Monitoring Network Development, Dumas
- e. WY 2021 Annual Report, Dumas

Anona Dutton/EKI and Leslie Dumas provided brief updates on GSP implementation activities. Anona Dutton noted the significant activity level in the near future. She reviewed the FY 2022 accomplishments by the Northern and Central Regions and objectives for FY 2023 and she reminded the Committees that it will be important to demonstrate significant progress in GSP implementation in the 5-year Update. Leslie Dumas noted that the inter-connected surface water monitoring wells are included as a component of the SGM Round 1 grant application. Leslie Dumas also provided a reminder regarding the upcoming spring water level monitoring. Additional follow-up will be conducted with individual GSP groups to provide information for the Water Year 2021 Annual Report development as needed.

12. Committees to Discuss Special Projects

- a. Well Census and Inventory Project, Brodie

The Northern and Central Regions' Well Census and Inventory Report has been shared with the GSAs. Data from this project were shared with the GSI Environmental Inc. team to support their subsidence characterization study. This project is complete.

- b. Subbasin Subsidence Characterization Study and Project Feasibility Determination, Brodie

John Brodie stated that GSI Environmental Inc. expects to issue a draft of the Subbasin Characterization Study and Project Feasibility Study Determination Report within the next two business days. To maintain the required schedule for completion of this project, he would like to receive comments on the draft report by February 28th, 2022.

13. Next Steps

- John Brodie will circulate a Doodle poll regarding a potential change in date of March Committees meeting.
- The draft Subbasin Characterization Study and Project Feasibility Study Determination Report will be available for review shortly.
- The SGM Round 1 grant application will be submitted to DWR via ftp access no later than February 28th, 2022, with some resolutions to follow when available.
- The item on the Consent Calendar which was not considered in this meeting will be retained for consideration at the March 2022 meeting.

- A budget to actual report will be prepared for review at the March 2022 meeting.
14. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)
No topics were discussed under this item.
 15. Future Meetings
John Brodie has received a summons for jury duty during the week of March 21st, 2022. The next Management Committees meeting may need to be facilitated by another participant or potentially rescheduled to March 31, 2022. John will send a Doodle poll to solicit feedback regarding availability of Committee members for both dates in March.
 - a. Thursday March 24th, 2022 or March 31st at 10:00 AM
 - b. Thursday April 28th, 2022 at 10:00 AM
 - c. Thursday May 26th, 2022 at 10:00 AM
 16. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation
The Committees will meet in closed session to confer with legal counsel pursuant to Paragraph (1), Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9.
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Validity of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan, et al., Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CV-20-001748 [Delta-Mendota Subbasin SGMA Challenge].
 17. Report Out of Closed Session
A closed session was not conducted.
 18. ADJOURNMENT
Aaron Barcellos adjourned the meeting at 10:42 AM.

Joint Telephonic Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

Tuesday, March 8, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

SLDMWA Boardroom, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA

Coordination Committee Members and Alternates Present

- Vince Lucchesi – Patterson Irrigation District/Northern Delta-Mendota Region
- Chase Hurley – Pacheco Water District/Central Delta-Mendota Region
- Jarrett Martin – Central California Irrigation District/SJREC
- Ric Ortega – Grassland Water District
- Augie Ramirez – Fresno County
- Jim Stilwell – Farmers Water District
- Joe Hopkins – Aliso Water District

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Staff Present

- John Brodie
- Lauren Neves

Others Present

- Anthea Hansen – Del Puerto Water District
- Adam Scheuber – Del Puerto Water District
- Kyle Hill – Central California Irrigation District
- Juan Cadena – Mercy Springs Water District
- Breanne Vandenberg – Merced County Farm Bureau
- Linda Sloan – Provost & Pritchard
- Rick Iger – Provost & Pritchard
- Meredith Durant – EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
- Natalie Cochran – Woodard & Curran
- Ian Jaffe – Woodard & Curran
- Will Halligan – Luhdorff & Scalmanini
- Lauren Layne – Baker Manock & Jensen
- Amanda Peisch-Derby – DWR
- Yvonne

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Jarrett Martin/CCID called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

2. Committee to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

No corrections or additions were made to the agenda of items.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was shared.

4. **Committee to Review and Take Action on Consent Calendar**
 - a. Resolution Extending Remote Teleconference Meetings Pursuant to AB 361 for Next 30 Days
 - b. Minutes
 - i. January 28, 2022 Delta-Mendota Subbasin Joint Technical Working Group and Coordination Committee Meeting
 - ii. February 8, 2022 Delta Mendota Coordination Committee Meeting
 - c. Budget
 - i. January 2022 Budget to Actual Report

The Committee considered approval of the consent calendar as presented. Augie Ramirez/Fresno County provided the motion and Vince Lucchesi/PID seconded. The Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

5. **Committee to Consider Approval of WY 2021 Annual Report, Brodie/Cochran**

John Brodie/SLDMWA discussed that representatives of the Northern & Central Management Committees have not approved the Annual Report and its representatives would be unable to vote on it. Natalie Cochran/Woodard & Curran noted that comments could be incorporated in the draft in time for Northern & Central Committee review if those comments were received by March 18th, 2022.

Vince Lucchesi provided the motion and Chase Hurley/Pacheco WD seconded. The Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

6. **Committee Consider Process and Timeline for Adopting Amended Coordination Agreement and GSPs as Applicable, Layne**

Lauren Layne/BMJ discussed the process and timeline necessary in order to properly adopt amended Groundwater Sustainability Plans as required by the Determination Letter issued to Subbasin GSP groups by DWR. The deadline to have amendments completed and available for the public hearings is June 22, 2022. Lauren noted that no formal action to adopt a process and timeline was necessary.

7. **Report on the Second Meeting with DWR on the Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSP Determination Letter, Martin**

Jarrett Martin/CCID-SJREC discussed the subcommittee's meeting with DWR to talk about the four deficiencies DWR specified in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSPs. He noted the group came to an understanding on how to better address deficiencies one and four, but more work was going to be needed on deficiencies two and three.

John Brodie was directed to schedule a special meeting of the Committee to discuss those deficiencies on Friday, March 11, 2022 at a site to be determined. He was also directed to create a doodle poll seeking the third week of April as a possible fourth meeting with DWR. The third subcommittee meeting with DWR is scheduled March 30, 2022.

8. **Discussion of Draft Report on the Subsidence Characterization and Project Feasibility Study, Brodie**

John Brodie noted that log-in credentials for an ftp site that houses the draft Subsidence Characterization and Project Feasibility Study were previously sent to committee members. Comments on the draft report are due by close of business Friday March 11, 2022 so they

can be compiled and sent to GSI in time to have them incorporated for the next Northern & Central Management Committee meeting.

9. **Discussion of Final Invoice for Prop 68 SGMA GSP Development Grant and Utilization of technical Assistance Funding, Brodie/Jaffe**

John Brodie reminded Committee members that DWR granted an amendment to the Prop 1/68 Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSP Development Grant that moved remaining funds into the technical assistance category in order to utilize as much of the funding as possible. Ian Jaffe/Woodard & Curran said the GSAs could submit invoices for any expenses not already submitted that were for development rather than implementation activities. The deadline to submit those expenses and receive reimbursements is April 30.

10. **Committee to Discuss the Approach for SGMA Round 1 Implementation Funding Negotiations with DWR, Brodie**

John Brodie reported that he anticipated Del Puerto Water District as the lead GSA applicant will soon be contacted by DWR to schedule a meeting on how to trim our request for SGMA Round 1 Implementation funding from \$10 million down to about \$7.6 million. John was directed to send out the scoring matrix used to rank the projects so suggestions on how to make the reductions could be drafted.

11. **Overview of Potential Funding Opportunities, Brodie**

John Brodie directed the attention of Committee members to the meeting packet for a list of currently available funding opportunities.

12. **Discussion of Coordination Committee Meeting Frequency through July 30, 2022, Brodie**

John noted that Coordination Committee generally reverts to quarterly meetings after March, but the Committee might want to meet more frequently in 2022 due to the need to amend the GSPs. He was directed to schedule meetings on the second Tuesday of the month through July, 2022.

13. **Next Steps**

- Committee members have until March 18th to submit comments on the Draft WY 2021 Annual Report.
- John will send out a Doodle poll for scheduling a fourth consultation meeting with DWR on the GSP Determination letters.
- Committee members have until Close of Business on March 11, 2022 to submit comments on the draft Subsidence and Project Feasibility Study.
- John will look into the possibility of utilizing previous Coordination Committee dues as possible reimbursement items for the Prop 1/68 SGMA Development Grant.
- John was directed to send out the SGMA Round 1 Implementation grant scoring matrix for use in trimming down the submitted budget.

14. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)

No topics were discussed under this item.

15. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)

No topics were discussed under this item.

16. Future Meetings and Important Dates, Brodie

- a. February 1st - April 30th, 2022: Delta-Mendota Subbasin Seasonal High (Spring) Water Level Monitoring Window
- b. Monday, March 30th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.: Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSP Consultation Meeting with DWR (subcommittee)
- c. Tuesday, April 12th, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.: Coordination Committee Meeting

17. ADJOURNMENT

Jarrett Martin/CCID adjourned the meeting at 11:59 a.m.

VIII.C.

Special Joint Telephonic Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

Friday, March 11, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

SLDMWA Boardroom, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA

Coordination Committee Members and Alternates Present

- Vince Lucchesi – Patterson Irrigation District/Northern Delta-Mendota Region
- Jarrett Martin – Central California Irrigation District/SJREC
- Ric Ortega – Grassland Water District
- Augie Ramirez – Fresno County
- Jim Stilwell – Farmers Water District
- Joe Hopkins – Aliso Water District

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Staff Present

John Brodie

Others Present

- Adam Scheuber – Del Puerto Water District
- Kyle Hill – Central California Irrigation District
- Ellen Wehr – Grasslands Water District
- Will Halligan – Luhdorff & Scalmanini
- Breanne Vandenberg – Merced County Farm Bureau
- Linda Sloan – Provost & Pritchard
- Rick Iger – Provost & Pritchard
- Leslie Dumas – Woodard & Curran
- Natalie Cochran – Woodard & Curran
- Zachary Roy – Woodard & Curran
- Jessica Johnson – Baker Manock & Jensen
- Andrew Garcia – Santa Clara Valley Water District

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Jarrett Martin/CCID called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was shared.

3. Committee to Discuss Compiled Water Budget Spreadsheet, Martin/Cochran

The Committee discussed changes to the water budget spreadsheet contained in the Common Chapter of the Subbasin GSPs to address Deficiency #1 in the DWR Determination Letter on the Subbasin GSPs.

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4. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**

The Committee met in closed session to confer with legal counsel pursuant to Paragraph (1), Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9.

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Validity of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan, et al., Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CV-20-001748 [Delta-Mendota Subbasin SGMA Challenge].

5. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**

The Committee met in closed session to confer with legal counsel on significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case).

6. **Report Out of Closed Session**

No reportable actions were identified from closed session.

7. **Adjournment**

Jarrett Martin adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

VIII.C.

Special Telephonic Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

Monday, March 28th, 2022, 9:30 AM

SLDMWA Boardroom, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA

Coordination Committee Members and Alternates Present

- Vince Lucchesi – Patterson Irrigation District/Northern Delta-Mendota Region
- Chase Hurley – Pacheco Water District/Central Delta-Mendota Region
- Jarrett Martin – Central California Irrigation District/SJREC
- Augie Ramirez – Fresno County
- John Wiersma – San Luis Canal Company/SJREC
- Ric Ortega – Grassland Water District
- Joe Hopkins – Aliso Water District/Provost & Pritchard

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Members Present

- John Brodie
- Scott Petersen

Others Present

- Anthea Hansen – Del Puerto Water District
- Adam Scheuber – Del Puerto Water District
- Maria Encinas – City of Patterson
- Fernando Ulloa – City of Patterson
- Joel Andrews – City of Patterson
- Steve Stadler – San Luis Water District
- Adriel Ramirez – Merced County
- Chris Rogers – Central California Irrigation District
- Kyle Hill – Central California Irrigation District
- Andrew Garcia – Valley Water
- Rick Iger – Provost & Pritchard
- Anona Dutton – EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
- Meredith Durant – EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
- Leslie Dumas – Woodard & Curran
- Will Halligan – Luhdorff & Scalmanini
- Andrew Francis – Luhdorff & Scalmanini
- Lauren Layne – Baker Manock & Jensen
- Yvonne

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Jarrett Martin/CCID called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was shared.

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3. **Committee to Consider Approval of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Water Year 2021 Consolidated Annual Report, Brodie/Dumas**

The draft WY 2021 Consolidated Annual Report was revised to incorporate received comments and provided to the Committee members for review. The Consolidated Annual Report is due to DWR on April 1st, 2022.

The Committee considered approval of the WY 2021 Consolidated Annual Report. Vince Lucchesi/NCDM-PID provided the motion and Chase Hurley/NCDM-Pacheco seconded. The Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

4. **Committee to Consider Approval of the Subsidence Characterization and Project Feasibility Determination, Brodie**

The Committee considered the draft of the Subsidence Characterization and Project Feasibility Determination Report and concluded that additional revisions are needed prior to approval by the Coordination Committee. The report must be completed by April 30th, 2022, therefore a Special Meeting of the Subbasin Coordination Committee may be necessary to approve the revised Report. Vince Lucchesi provided a motion to table this item and Chase Hurley seconded. The Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

5. **Committee to Discuss Compiled Water Budget Spreadsheet and Projected Water Budget Option, Martin/Dumas**

These items were circulated to the Committee members for review on March 21st, 2022. The historical and projected water budgets have been prepared for review with DWR during discussion of the Subbasin response to the DWR Incomplete Determination.

6. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation**

The Committee met in closed session to confer with legal counsel pursuant to Paragraph (1), Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9.

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Validity of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan, et al., Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CV-20-001748 [Delta-Mendota Subbasin SGMA Challenge].

7. **Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation**

The Committee met in closed session to confer with legal counsel on significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case).

8. **Report out of Closed Session, Martin**

No reportable actions were identified from the Closed Session.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

Jarrett Martin adjourned the meeting at 11:27 AM.

VIII.C.

GSP Group	Floodwater Project	Water Supply	Data Gaps	GSP Update	Outreach & Coordination	Study	Grant Admin	Total	Floodwater Project (100%)	Water Supply (75%)	Data Gaps (32%)	GSP Update (50%)	Outreach & Coordination (50%)	Study (30%)	Grant Admin (0%)	Total
	Request								Recommendation							
North-Central (41.4%)	\$1,000,000	\$666,730	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,666,730	\$1,000,000	\$500,300	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,500,300
SJREC (38.2%)	\$1,000,000	\$400,000	\$0	\$100,000	\$165,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,665,000	\$1,000,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$50,000	\$82,500	\$0	\$0	\$1,432,500
Grassland (13.7%)	\$1,000,000	\$400,000	\$0	\$225,000	\$50,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,675,000	\$1,000,000	\$300,000	\$0	\$112,500	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,437,500
Aliso (3.5%)	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$420,000	\$100,000	\$0	\$150,000	\$0	\$1,670,000	\$1,000,000	\$0	\$134,400	\$50,000	\$0	\$45,000	\$0	\$1,229,400
Fresno County (3.0%)	\$0	\$0	\$200,000	\$275,000	\$155,000	\$0	\$0	\$630,000	\$0	\$0	\$64,000	\$137,500	\$77,500	\$0	\$0	\$279,000
Farmers (0.3%)	\$0	\$1,250,000	\$90,000	\$150,000	\$80,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,570,000	\$0	\$937,500	\$28,800	\$75,000	\$40,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,081,300
Subbasin	\$0	\$0	\$2,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$760,000	\$2,760,000	\$0	\$0	\$640,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$640,000
								TOTAL: \$11,636,730								TOTAL: \$7,600,000

\$4,000,000 \$2,037,800 \$867,200 \$425,000 \$225,000 \$45,000 \$0

DPWD - NURRIIP
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\$438,700

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