

VIX.



MEMORANDUM

TO: SLDMWA Board of Directors, Alternates

FROM: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director
Joe McGahan, Regional Drainage/Westside Watershed Coalition Coordinator

DATE: March 4, 2021

RE: Activity Agreements – Staff Report for February 2021

This memorandum serves as the Staff Report for February 2021 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 is underway for one of the projects approved under the Phase 2 SJRFA Disadvantaged Community Involvement Program (DACIP). Phase 2 focuses on projects for DAC technical assistance and capacity building. SLDMWA staff had previously coordinated with the City of Newman on the Newman Environmental Wetland System (NEWS) project. Contra Costa Water District, as the SJRFA DACIP grantee, is coordinating with the City of Newman and SLDMWA staff to move the project forward. CCWD also coordinated the timely submission of required quarterly reports and invoicing for the project due at the end of February.

Tulare-Kern Funding Area (TKFA)

SLDMWA staff also continues to coordinate with DWR regarding the development of the Westside-San Joaquin IRWM Region Grant Agreement for the Proposition 1 Round 1 funding, which includes funding for four projects within the SJRFA and one project within the TKFA.

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

SLDMWA staff participated in a webinar on the benefits of integrating IRWM and SGMA programs. For example, SGMA projects were added to IRWM updates in a few of the IRWM Regions highlighted in the webinar. Some webinar participants shared that IRWM groups provide good sources of contact for SGMA outreach. It was also pointed out that integrating IRWM and SGMA provides more opportunity for grant funding. With SLDMWA supporting both IRWM and

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).

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SGMA activities in the Westside-San Joaquin Region and Delta-Mendota Subbasin, respectively, staff will continue to leverage opportunities for integrating project goals and outreach efforts.

2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Activity (SGMA) Activity Summary

Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions

The first draft of the upcoming Water Year 2020 (Oct. 1, 2019 -Sep. 30, 2020) Annual Report was sent to Northern and Central Management Committees at the beginning of March. The Coordination Committee will provide feedback on the draft for the Woodard & Curran and Provost & Pritchard teams at the March 8th Committee meeting.

Those comments will be incorporated in time for the March 25th Northern and Central Management Committees to review and make final recommendations. Those recommendations will be incorporated into the final version of the report, which is due for submittal to the Department of Water Resources by April 1, 2021.

County representatives in the Northern and Central Regions continue discussing a process for having GSAs screen well permit applications. GSA representatives in Stanislaus County are still waiting to do a test run of their review process once a new well application is received. A similar meeting for Merced County was held in early February. Merced County officials intend to hold meetings with individual GSAs as they look to possibly rewrite the county's well ordinance. The ordinance rewrite could occur as soon as the middle of the year. Fresno County officials are reviewing a legal decision before deciding how to proceed on this topic.

General SGMA Activities

SLDMWA staff finalized task orders for Fiscal Year 2022 with consultants on a variety of tasks for SGMA implementation. In addition to the continuation of staff augmentation activities and a well census and inventory for the Northern and Central Regions, GSI Environmental Inc. will begin a subsidence characterization and project feasibility study for the Subbasin. The study will be supported by funds from the Subbasin's Proposition 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) grant.

Subbasin GSAs have started to collect seasonal high groundwater level data for representative monitoring sites. The seasonal high monitoring period is February-April. These data will be incorporated into the next Annual Report.

The first of three planned inter-basin coordination meetings is scheduled for this week. The Subbasin's Facilitation Support Services (FSS) program provides support for inter-basin coordination efforts through a program with DWR and facilitators from Stantec. Representatives from the Delta-Mendota Subbasin are meeting with counterparts from the Chowchilla, Madera, and Merced Subbasins. The first meeting will focus on development of goals, schedule, roles, and ground rules; identifying and defining SGMA terminology of regional importance; and identifying topics and developing an agenda for the next meeting.

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3. Drainage Activity Summary

Grassland Basin Drainage Management Steering Committee Activity Summary

Prepare for the February meeting of the Grassland Basin Drainers Steering Committee. Prepare final FY 22 budget. Lead ZOOM GBD Steering Committee meeting. Develop profile of the San Luis Drain to develop operations plan related to managing discharge from the San Luis Drain. Prepare new task orders for consultants.

Research information related to the San Luis Drain O&M agreement between the Water Authority and Panoche Drainage District.

Review Regional Board comments on Drainage Management Plan.

Begin development of response required by the Regional Board on fish tissue data available in Mud Slough and the San Joaquin River between Salt Slough and the Merced River. Coordinate review with Panoche Drainage District.

Prepare monitoring data to respond to request by Contra Costa stakeholders. Manage field monitoring including data reporting and EDD and QAPP requirements. Begin preparation of annual report. Review storm flow issues and provide guidance to field personnel. Review and prepare invoice letters to admin staff.

Coordinate work related to the agreement with Newman Land Company and State Fish and Wildlife for restoration of Mud Slough to conditions prior to the Grassland Bypass Project. Work is ongoing to submit permit application in January and circulate CEQA documents. Coordinate additional data needed regarding paleontology. Ongoing monitoring for discharges from the Grassland Bypass Project and data entry continued. Work to administer the Prop 84 grant for the Long-Term Storm Water Plan and reuse area upgrades continued. Continue to manage monitoring plan.

Activities also included management of the Third Party Group for the Grassland Drainage Area Coalition to implement the Irrigated Lands Program. Support was provided to farmers for completing their paperwork requirements. Review draft revisions to groundwater management plan. Prepare paper work for mailing to members for reporting.

San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority Activity Summary

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.

Organize and participate in ZOOM SJVDA meeting on February 2, 2021. Prepare materials for the February 2, 2021 SJVDA meeting. Prepare revisions to FY 21-22 SJVDA budget.

Assemble and distribute FY 21-22 Task Orders to consultants.

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Memo to SLDMWA Board of Directors

March 4, 2021

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Participate in group conference calls regarding surface and groundwater management plans. Prepare outreach plan. Meet with Regional Board and consultants on status of compliance issues including monitoring and management plans.

Prepare mailing to farmer members regarding need for continuing education for nitrogen plan self-certification. Respond to phone calls regarding the new reporting requirements resulted in significant number of phone calls to respond to questions. Work included consultants revising the web portal so farmers could report on line. Prepare reports due to the Regional Board.

Prepare 2021 monitoring plan update. Prepare annual chlorpyrifos and diazinon report.

Management continued for the Prop 84 Real Time Management Program Grant for compliance with the San Joaquin River Salt and Boron TMDL. Follow up and direct field work in northerly stations.

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VIX. A.

Anthea Hansen

From: Lindsey Wilcox <lwilcox@woodardcurran.com>
Sent: Friday, March 12, 2021 10:53 AM
To: Claire Howard; J. Scott Petersen; Adam Scheuber; Anthea Hansen; David Vang; Antonio Solorio; bobby.pierce@weststanislausid.org; Jarrett Martin; John Brodie; alfonso.manrique@am-ce.com
Cc: Jennifer Kidson
Subject: P1R1 Westside San Joaquin Grant Agreement

Morning all, just wanted to give you an update on the status of the Prop 1 Round 1 IRWM Implementation Grant Agreement. DWR and SLDMWA are nearly ready to sign. DWR is routing the agreement through DocuSign, so hopefully we will have an executed agreement pretty soon. We will keep you posted. After that, we will have a kickoff to discuss grant administration requirements (invoicing, progress reporting, submittal of deliverables).

Thanks!

Lindsey Wilcox, P.E. (NY)
914.513.2212

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VIX. B.

Adam Scheuber

From: Water Updates
Sent: Monday, March 01, 2021 1:58 PM
Subject: 2020 Farm Evaluations

Dear Landowners and Water Users:

This is a friendly reminder that your 2020 Farm Evaluations are due today to the Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition. The packets were mailed on January 12, 2021, but if you are in need of your packet please reach out to Adam Scheuber, 209-892-4470 or ascheuber@delpuertowd.org, at Del Puerto Water District. Also, as a reminder, your 2020 Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report will be due April 15, 2021. Let us know if you have any questions or need assistance.

Thanks,

Adam Scheuber, P.E.

Water Operations and Resources Manager
Del Puerto Water District
ascheuber@delpuertowd.org
T 209.892.4470 | C 209.985.2186



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NORTHERN &
CENTRAL
DELTA-
MENDOTA

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

Thursday, February 25th, 2021, 10:00 AM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call
2. Committees to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.
3. Opportunity for Public Comment

Consent Calendar

4. Committees to Review and Take Action on Consent Calendar, Barcellos
 - a. Minutes for the January 28, 2021 Joint Telephonic Meeting of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region Management Committees and Central Delta-Mendota GSA
 - b. December 2020 Budget to Actual Report

Action Items

5. Committees to Consider Authorization of Execution of the Following Task Orders for Services Included in the Approved Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region Budgets, and to Authorize Northern and Central DM Representatives to the Coordination Committee to Authorize Execution of the Following Task Orders for Services Included in the Approved FY22 Coordinated SGMA Budget, Petersen/Brodie
 - a. Activities for the Northern and Central Regions:
 - EKI Environment & Water, Inc. (EKI):
 - o GSP implementation support for the Northern and Central Regions
 - Woodard & Curran
 - o GSP implementation support for the Northern and Central Regions
 - P&P
 - o Well census and inventory for the Northern and Central Regions (ongoing from Fiscal Year 2021)
 - o Staff augmentation support for the Northern and Central Regions

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- b. Activities for the Coordination Committee:
 - Woodard & Curran
 - o Proposition 68 grant administration for supplemental GSP development, well census and inventory, and subsidence characterization study (ongoing from Fiscal Year 2021)
 - GSI Environmental Inc.
 - o Subbasin-wide subsidence characterization study and project feasibility determination
 - Houston Engineering Inc.
 - o Data management system (DMS) hosting, staff support and approved enhancements
 - Provost & Pritchard
 - o Staff augmentation support for the Coordination Committee

Report Items

6. GSP Group Representatives Report from Subbasin Coordination Committee on February 8, 2021, Fenters/Lucchesi
7. Committees to Discuss 2021 Work Plan, Petersen/Dutton
8. Committees to Discuss Planned DMS Enhancements and Potential Development of N-C Data Management System (DMS), Brodie/Fischer
9. Committees to Discuss Three-Month Look-Ahead Schedule, Dutton
10. GSP Group Representatives to Discuss Well Census and Inventory Project Status, Howard
11. GSP Group Representatives to Discuss Subsidence Project Status, Howard
12. Committees to Discuss Well Permit Review Process, Howard/County Representatives
13. Committees to Discuss Monitoring Activities and Responsibilities, Changes to Representative Monitoring Network Presented in GSP, and Access Agreements, Dumas/Howard
14. Committees to Discuss Water Year 2020 Annual Report, Dumas
15. Committees to Discuss Inter-basin Coordination Update, Brodie
16. Next Steps
17. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)

Closed Session

18. 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.

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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].

Open Session

19. Report Out of Closed Session
20. ADJOURNMENT

Persons with a disability may request disability-related modification or accommodation by contacting Cheri Worthy at the Water Authority, 842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA 93635, and telephone: (209) 826-9696 at least 3 for regular or 1 for special day(s) before the meeting date.

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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, January 28th, 2021, 10:00 AM

Click here to join Zoom meeting
Call-in Number: +1-669-900-6833
Meeting ID: 826 3900 9415
Passcode: 338816

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
Fernando Ulloa, Alternate – City of Patterson
Walt Ward, Member – 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 and Pacheco Water Districts
Aaron Barcellos*, Member – Pacheco Water District
Mike Wood*, Member – San Luis Water District
Ben Fenters*, 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

Scott Petersen
John Brodie
Claire Howard – Provost & Pritchard

Others Present

Hughie Bennett – Eagle Field Water District
Leslie Dumas – Woodard & Curran
Anona Dutton – EKI Environment & Water, Inc.
Joe Hopkins – Provost & Pritchard

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.

Claire Howard/P&P noted that no closed session section will be held in this meeting. This agenda correction is reflected in the meeting minutes.

3. Opportunity for Public Comment

No public comment was shared.

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

- a. Minutes for the December 17, 2020 Joint Telephonic Meeting of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Region Management Committees and Central Delta-Mendota GSA

The Committees considered approval of the December 17th meeting minutes with no proposed edits. Vince Lucchesi/PID provided the motion for the Northern Management Committee and Bobby Pierce/WSID seconded. The Northern Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present. Randy Miles/EFWD provided the motion for the Central Management Committee and Mike Wood/SLWD seconded. The Central Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

- b. November 2020 Budget to Actual Report

Claire Howard/P&P provided a brief overview of the November 2020 budget to actual report. The Committees expressed concerns regarding the varying dates reflected in the "Expenses Through" column, and the lag between invoices and reporting. Anthea Hansen/DPWD noted that although there have been presentations regarding the budget in past meetings, the Committees need to have clearer information on the fiscal year budget status, especially regarding grant funding and use. Other Committee members also expressed a strong interest in having additional detail regarding how grant funding is reflected in the reports and how this funding affects the budget, dues collection, and agencies' ratepayers.

Scott Petersen/SLDMWA explained that the SLDMWA is shifting to a new accounting platform, which is intended to increase the level of transparency for agencies regarding dues, budgeting, and grant programs. Scott suggested that the Committee members share budgeting questions via email to Claire Howard so these can be compiled and shared with the accounting team for review. Anthea and Amy Montgomery/SNCWD offered to represent the Northern and Central Management Committees in a meeting with the SLDMWA accounting team to share questions and feedback regarding the budget reporting process.

The Committees approved the November 2020 budget to actual report. Vince Lucchesi/PID provided the motion for the Northern Management Committee and Walt Ward/Stanislaus seconded. The Northern Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present. Amy Montgomery/SNCWD provided the motion for the Central Management Committee and Augie Ramirez/Fresno seconded. The Central Management Committee voted by roll call; the motion was passed unanimously by those present.

5. Committees to Consider Directing Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regional Representatives to the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee to Authorize

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SLDMWA to Execute an Agreement with a Consultant to Prepare the Subsidence Characterization and Project Feasibility Determination, Howard/Petersen

Claire Howard/P&P provided an overview of the Subbasin's subsidence characterization study and project feasibility determination project to date. The request for proposals (RFP) was issued December 21st and two proposals were received by the January 22nd deadline. The Subbasin Technical Working Group (TWG) and some Coordination Committee members met on Tuesday, January 26th to discuss and review the received proposals: one was from a Provost & Pritchard and Ken D Schmidt & Associates team, and the second was from GSI Environmental, Inc. (GSI). During this discussion, a small group of Coordination Committee members agreed to meet with references listed in the GSI proposal to obtain additional context on the GSI team. The TWG/CC group provided a recommendation to select GSI pending the discussion with references.

John Brodie/SLDMWA noted that two Coordination Committee members, Ric Ortega/Grassland and Augie Ramirez/Fresno, attended the reference discussions. The action item for today's meeting is to seek direction from the Management Committee members to provide Ben Fenters/SLWD and Vince Lucchesi/PID with direction on this item to vote at the upcoming Coordination Committee on February 8th.

The Committees provided direction to Ben and Vince to authorize selection of the GSI team for the Subbasin's subsidence characterization study. Bobby Pierce/WSID provided the motion for the Northern Management Committee and Walt Ward/Stanslaus 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.

6. Committees to Discuss GSP Implementation: 2020 Review and 2021 Look-Ahead, Petersen

Anona Dutton/EKI and Leslie Dumas/W&C reviewed a set of activities and tasks the Northern and Central Management Committees accomplished in 2020 and a proposed set of action items for 2021. Anona and Leslie noted that the 2021 items are not binding, but could be used as a framework for a 2021 strategic plan to guide the Management Committees' efforts this year.

Ben Fenters/SLWD noted that some agencies may be experiencing a deficit of incoming revenue this year, which may impact the ability to achieve some of the targeted items. The Committee members are requested to review the summary and share feedback on the set of 2021 target items during the February meeting.

7. GSP Group Representatives Report from Subbasin Coordination Committee on January 11, 2021, Fenters/Lucchesi

Ben Fenters/SLWD and Vince Lucchesi/PID shared an overview of topics from the January 11th Coordination Committee meeting. The Coordination Committee provided final recommendation for the SLDMWA Board to adopt the Fiscal Year 2022 coordinated budget, which the SLDMWA Board will consider in February. During this meeting the Coordination Committee also reviewed the timing and data needs for the Annual Report, including the process for uploading data to the Subbasin's data management system (DMS). Leslie Dumas/W&C noted that a DMS User Guide was developed by Woodard & Curran and Houston Engineering Inc., and has been shared with GSP Group representatives to support the Annual Report data sharing process.

8. Committees to Discuss Three-Month Look-Ahead Schedule, Dutton

Anona Dutton/EKI reviewed the three-month look-ahead schedule. She noted that no Tracking Tool or quarterly report will be developed this quarter because the Annual Report will address GSP implementation progress and data. Anona reminded the Committees that the spring water level monitoring window starts at the beginning of February, so representative water level sites must be monitored to obtain the data to report to DWR and include in next year's Annual Report.

9. **Committees to Discuss GSP Implementation Tracking Tools, Dutton**

No Tracking Tool has been developed for this quarter because of the upcoming Annual Report deadline.

10. **GSP Group Representatives to Discuss Well Census and Inventory Project Status, Howard**

Claire Howard/P&P noted that Gavin O'Leary/P&P has communicated with the Central GSA regarding their well census efforts and compiling data from the GSA's landowner survey. Gavin has also been coordinating with some Northern Region GSAs to collect data and support map development. Bobby Pierce/WSID noted that he is using a platform called GeoJot to map wells within the WSID area.

11. **Committees to Discuss Well Permit Review Process, Howard/County Representatives**

Claire Howard/P&P provided an overview of recent well permitting review process. GSA representatives in Stanislaus County met the previous Friday. Walt Ward/Stanislaus reviewed the County's proposed post-GSP well permitting review process. The group discussed opportunities for GSA involvement in the review process, during which a GSA would evaluate an applicant's proposed well within their respective jurisdiction. The Stanislaus County group aims to meet again at the end of February to review a submitted well permit together using the County's proposed review process and provide feedback to Walt.

GSA representatives from Merced County are scheduled to meet on Monday, February 1st to review the Merced process. Augie Ramirez/Fresno noted that Fresno County is not proposing any changes to its review process unless the CA Supreme Court case decision suggests otherwise.

12. **Committees to Discuss Monitoring Activities and Responsibilities, Changes to Representative Monitoring Network Presented in GSP, and Access Agreements, Dumas/Howard**

Leslie Dumas/W&C reviewed the latest quarterly report and an updated list of proposed changes to the representative monitoring network monitoring sites. Leslie also reviewed a set of maps that highlight sites that have exceeded the minimum threshold values for water level or water quality monitoring and are areas that should be watched in the future to determine if the trends are long-term. These maps will be shared with the Committee members for review after the meeting. Leslie noted that the water quality trends are based on only one round of water quality data.

13. **Committees to Discuss Water Year 2020 Annual Report, Dumas**

Leslie Dumas/W&C provided an update on the Annual Report development. She explained that water surface elevation point maps are being finalized this week that have water level data from the Northern & Central Regions, Aliso, Grassland, and SJREC GSP Groups. Once complete, these will be shared with Ken Schmidt, who will develop water level contour maps and incorporate draft maps prepared by the Farmers and Fresno GSP Groups.

A draft version of the Annual Report will be shared March 1st without the final water level contour maps. The Coordination Committee will conditionally approve the Annual Report during their March 8th meeting. Any proposed revisions will be incorporated into the Annual Report. The Management Committees will consider approval of the report during the March 25th meeting, and the final Annual Report will be submitted to DWR by the April 1st deadline.

14. **Committees to Discuss Inter-basin Coordination Update, Howard**

Claire Howard/P&P provided an update on inter-basin coordination meeting approach. Kirsten Pringle/Stantec shared that neighboring Subbasin representatives requested establishing regional inter-basin meetings with representatives from Delta-Mendota, Merced, Madera, and Chowchilla Subbasins, rather than holding one-on-one inter-basin meetings between each of the Subbasins as was originally proposed. SLDMWA staff will contact Coordination Committee representatives regarding interest in attending the regional meeting to confirm no issues of Brown Act quorums arise.

15. **Next Steps**

- Anthea Hansen/DPWD and Amy Montgomery/SNCWD will meet with SLDMWA accounting team to discuss budget format and reporting process.
- Committee members are encouraged to share questions regarding the budgeting process via email to Claire Howard.
- The Management Committees provided direction to Ben Fenters/SLWD and Vince Lucchesi/PID at the upcoming Coordination Committee meeting to authorize SLDMWA to execute a contract with GSI Environmental, Inc. to develop the Subbasin's subsidence characterization study.
- Committee members are requested to review the 2020 accomplishments and 2021 proposed tasks. These items will be reviewed again during the February meeting.
- County representatives continue to meet with GSA members in Stanislaus and Merced Counties to discuss the well permit review process.
- Development of the Annual Report is underway. The Management Committees will consider approval of the report at the end of March.

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

No topics were discussed under this item.

17. **ADJOURNMENT**

Aaron Barcellos/Pacheco adjourned the meeting at 11:18 AM.

VIX. C.

Anthea Hansen

From: Claire Howard <claire.howard@sldmwa.org>
Sent: Monday, March 08, 2021 9:13 AM
Cc: John Brodie; J. Scott Petersen
Subject: FW: SGM Grant Program's Prop 68 Implementation Round 1 Draft Award Recommendation
Attachments: p68_imp-r1_draft-award-list_mar2021 final.pdf

Good morning,

DWR released draft award recommendations on Friday for the Proposition 68 Implementation grant. Unfortunately, the Delta-Mendota Subbasin's proposal was not included in this recommended list.

Claire

From: sgmps@DWR [mailto:sgmps@WATER.CA.GOV]
Sent: Friday, March 5, 2021 5:18 PM
To: DWR_SGMP@LISTSERVICE.CNRA.CA.GOV
Subject: FW: SGM Grant Program's Prop 68 Implementation Round 1 Draft Award Recommendation



Dear Interested Parties,

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is pleased to release the draft award recommendation as outlined in Table 1 (attached) for the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation – Round 1 grant solicitation. The recommended awards will provide \$26 million in Proposition 68 grant funding to 6 Awardees. DWR received 15 applications requesting a total of approximately \$70 million in grant funds and approximately \$36.5 million in Local Cost Share.

DWR received 15 applications requesting over \$70 million in grant funding. Of the \$26 million available from Proposition 68, \$5 million will be used towards projects that are within and solely benefit underrepresented communities.

The six recommended awards are comprised of 16 individual construction projects within COD basins that will construct 7 new and expand 3 existing recharge basins covering over 130 acres, several serving communities with limited access to safe, affordable drinking water. An additional 3 projects will cover over 45,000 acres of agricultural land (e.g., row crops, vineyards, orchards) in an innovated approach referred to as Flood Managed Aquifer Recharge (Flood-MAR). All of these projects will improve groundwater conditions, increase water supply reliability, increase drought resiliency, reduce flood risk, improve groundwater quality, and reduce surface subsidence.

All of the recommended awards will benefit underrepresented communities, defined broadly in this grant program to more equitably include Tribes and other at-risk communities who may not meet the narrow definitions used in previous programs. The projects recommended for award will result in improved conditions to make wells more reliable and less

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likely to dewater, reduced risk of subsidence, increased drought resiliency, reduced flood risks, more reliable dry year water supplies for future droughts, and enhanced groundwater quality.

These funding recommendations are subject to public review for a minimum of 15 calendar days beginning on March 5, 2021 and ending on March 22, 2021. **Public comments on the draft funding awards must be submitted to sgwp@water.ca.gov no later than Tuesday, March 22, 2021 by 5 PM.** Any comments received after that date and time will not be considered when developing the final funding awards.

For more information on the SGM Grant Program, visit the SGM Grant Program [website](#).



Department of Water Resources

Division of Regional Assistance

901 P Street

P.O. Box 942836

Sacramento, CA 94236-0001

SGWP@water.ca.gov

916.651.9613 (office)

916.651.9292 (fax)

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Table 1 – Proposition 68 SGM Grant Program's Implementation – Round 1 Draft Award List

Disclaimer: The Recommended Award and Total Project Cost are conditional until final terms and conditions are agreed upon and an agreement has been executed. The awarded grant amount listed in the executed agreement can be less than the Recommended Award amount listed here based upon final negotiations between the Awardee and DWR. DWR staff may determine certain tasks are not eligible or do not meet the requirements outlined in the 2019 SGM Grant Program Guidelines and 2020 SGM Grant Program Implementation PSP and are subject to change.

Basin No./ Name	Organization Name	Proposal Title	Notes	Recommended Award	Minimum Required Local Cost Share	Total Project Cost	Percent Local Cost Share
5-022.08/ Kings	Fresno Irrigation District	Kings Basin 2021 GSP Implementation Projects	A	\$4,866,600	\$0	\$4,866,600	0%
5-022.05/ Chowchilla	Madera, County of	Eastside Bypass Recharge for Subsidence and Flood Risk Reduction Phase I	B	\$4,197,600	\$0	\$4,197,600	0%
5-022.06/ Madera	Madera, County of	East Madera Subbasin Recharge Project Phase I	B	\$4,197,600	\$0	\$4,197,600	0%
5-022.04/ Merced	Merced Irrigation District	Southern Merced Subbasin Groundwater Recharge Project	A	\$4,999,800	\$0	\$4,999,800	0%
5-022.11/ Kaweah	Mid-Kaweah GSA	Kaweah Subbasin Groundwater Recharge and Sustainability Projects		\$3,776,400	\$200,000	\$3,976,400	5.00%
5-022.09/ Westside	Westlands Water District GSA	The Pasajero Groundwater Recharge Project		\$3,962,000	\$210,000	\$4,172,000	5.00%
				\$26,000,000			

A - A portion of this award will be provided by the \$5 million Underrepresented Community funds reserved for projects that are located within an Underrepresented Community (-les).
 B - Recommended Award reduced based upon application score and funding available.

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VIX. C.

**DELTA -
MENDOTA
SGMA**

**DRAFT Consolidated
WY2020 Annual Report**

For the Delta-Mendota Subbasin

Prepared by:



February 2021

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Executive Summary

In 2014, the California legislature enacted the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) in response to continued overdraft of California's groundwater resources. The Delta-Mendota Subbasin (Subbasin) (5-022.07) is one of 21 alluvial basins and subbasins identified by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as being in a state of critical overdraft. Beginning in 2017, Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) within the Subbasin formed to address the long-term reliability of groundwater through the development of six Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for the following regions: Aliso Water District, Farmers Water District, Fresno County Management Areas A and B, Grassland, Northern & Central Delta-Mendota Region, and San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors. The six Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSPs were developed in a coordinated fashion with the goal of achieving sustainability for the Subbasin as a whole. The GSPs were adopted by their respective member GSAs and submitted to DWR on January 23, 2020, ahead of the January 31, 2020 deadline.

This Water Year 2020 (WY2020) Annual Report for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin has been prepared as a consolidated effort for the entire Subbasin and is in compliance with California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 23, Division 2, Chapter 1.5, Subchapter 2, Article 7 Annual Reports and Periodic Evaluations by the Agency. WY2020 includes the period from October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020. This Annual Report also contains historical information for the period between WY2014 and WY2020, as available and appropriate, in order to provide information and data following the Subbasin's selection of WY2013 as its "current" year in GSP development and to present an understanding of Subbasin conditions through the current reporting year.

Throughout the Subbasin, groundwater elevations during WY2020 were largely above their respective minimum thresholds with the majority of wells operating between their minimum threshold and measurable objective, and some wells operating above their measurable objective. There are a few wells that are currently operating below or fluctuating around their minimum threshold; each GSP region will assess if undesirable results are observed at the locations of those wells and will respond with the appropriate projects and management actions as described in their respective GSPs. All of the six GSP regions are currently on track to either meet their interim goals by 2025 for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels sustainability indicator and change in storage sustainability indicator or will work to implement projects and management actions in order to meet the 2025 interim goals established.

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California Code of Regulations - GSP Regulation Sections	Annual Report Elements	Section(s) and page numbers(s) where requirements for Annual Report elements are included
Article 7	Annual Reports and Periodic Evaluations by Agency	
§ 356.2	Annual Reports	
	Each Agency shall submit an annual report to the Department by April 1 of each year following the adoption of the Plan. The annual report shall include the following components for the preceding water year:	
	(a) General information, including an executive summary and a location map depicting the basin covered by the report.	Executive Summary and General Information Figure 1
	(b) A detailed description and graphical representation of the following conditions of the basin managed in the Plan:	--
	(1) Groundwater elevation data from monitoring wells identified in the monitoring network shall be analyzed and displayed as follows:	--
	(A) Groundwater elevation contour maps for each principal aquifer in the basin illustrating, at a minimum, the seasonal high and seasonal low groundwater conditions.	1. Groundwater Elevation Data Figure 2, Figure 3, Figure 4, Figure 5
	(B) Hydrographs of groundwater elevations and water year type using historical data to the greatest extent available, including from January 1, 2015, to current reporting year.	Appendix A
	(2) Groundwater extraction for the preceding water year. Data shall be collected using the best available measurement methods and shall be presented in a table that summarizes groundwater extractions by water use sector, and identifies the method of measurement (direct or estimate) and accuracy of measurements, and a map that illustrates the general location and volume of groundwater extractions.	2. Groundwater Extraction Data Table 1, Figure 6
	(3) Surface water supply used or available for use, for groundwater recharge or in-lieu use shall be reported based on quantitative data that describes the annual volume and sources for the preceding water year.	3. Surface Water Supply Table 2
	(4) Total water use shall be collected using the best available measurement methods and shall be reported in a table that summarizes total water use by water use sector, water source type, and identifies the method of measurement (direct or estimate) and accuracy of measurements. Existing water use data from the most recent Urban Water Management Plans or Agricultural Water Management Plans within the basin may be used, as long as the data are reported by water year.	4. Total Water Use Table 3
	(5) Change in groundwater in storage shall include the following:	--
	(A) Change in groundwater in storage maps for each principal aquifer in the basin.	5. Change in Groundwater Storage Figure 9, Figure 10
	(B) A graph depicting water year type, groundwater use, the annual change in groundwater in storage, and the cumulative change in groundwater in storage for the basin based on historical data to the greatest extent available, including from January 1, 2015, to the current reporting year.	5. Change in Groundwater Storage Figure 7, Figure 8
	(c) A description of progress towards implementing the Plan, including achieving interim milestones, and implementation of projects or management actions since the previous annual report.	6. Plan Implementation

2021 RURAL COMMUNITIES WATER MANAGERS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Why should community residents and leaders sign up for the Leadership Institute? Hear from our previous Leadership Institute graduates:

- "As community leaders we are charged with serving our communities as best we can. The Leadership Institute provides us with training and resources to help us do a better job of serving as well as understanding rules and regulations we must comply with." - Jim Maciel, Armona
- "My overall experience was very enriching. I learned the importance of leadership and community outreach and about those who need this resource the most. I loved the group dynamics that taught us to put what we learned into practice." Keila Davila



During the six-month program, participants will:

- Foster relationships through a supportive cohort of water leaders in the Central Valley.
- Gain valuable information about water management and planning programs and agencies in California.
- Develop tools and gain resources, including a professional bio and communication materials, to enhance your participation and better represent your community.
- Participate in a water tour to learn how different water users leverage their resources and work with others to reach sustainability, dependent on public health guidelines and recommendations.
- Partner with engineers to identify projects and work on enhancing project development.
- Practice skills needed to effectively participate in regional/State water management and planning programs.

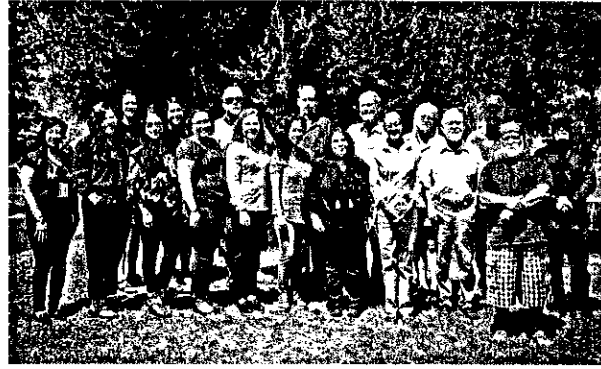


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This Leadership Institute is offered for free to interested participants. Funding for the Institute is provided by Water Foundation and the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development.

BE PART OF THE 2021 RURAL COMMUNITIES WATER MANAGERS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE



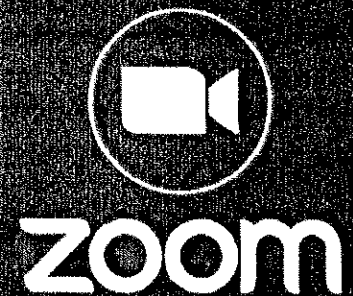
The Rural Communities Water Managers Leadership Institute offers a one-of-a-kind capacity building program specifically for residents and leaders from disadvantaged communities to gain the skills and knowledge to better participate in regional water management programs.

Self-Help Enterprises invites you to participate in the 2021 Leadership Institute, which will take place virtually on the following dates:

Cohort Meeting Dates:

**April 24, May 8 & 22, June 12 & 26, July 10 & 24,
August 14 & 28, and September 18.**

Dates subject to change; virtual meetings will be approximately 2 hours.



**COMMUNITY WATER BOARD MEMBERS, STAFF, RESIDENTS, AND OTHER WATER
LEADERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY!**

STIPENDS UP TO \$500 PROVIDED TO ALL GRADUATES!*

If you are interested in participating in the 2021 Leadership Institute, please apply today at https://bit.ly/RCWMLI2021_ENG or complete and return the attached application.

You may also contact Manuel Leon at ManuelL@SelfHelpEnterprises.org or (553) 602-4911 to sign up or for more information.

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* Participation stipends are provided to cover costs incurred while participating in the Institute and will be dispersed at the end of the program. If you require financial assistance to cover costs during the Institute, please contact Manuel Leon after applying.

Adam Scheuber

From: Claire Howard <claire.howard@sldmwa.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 2:07 PM
To: J. Scott Petersen; John Brodie
Subject: FW: DWR Publishes Draft California's Groundwater – Update 2020, Seeks Public Comment

Hi all,

Please see information below from DWR on the draft version of *California's Groundwater – Update 2020*. Public comments will be accepted through April 26, 2021. A webinar will be held March 30, 2021 at noon that will provide an overview of the publication.

Please reach out if we can help answer any questions.

Thank you,
Claire

From: DWR Water News List [mailto:DWR_NEWSRELEASES@LISTSERVICE.CNRA.CA.GOV] **On Behalf Of** Emard, Joyia@DWR
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 1:38 PM
To: DWR_NEWSRELEASES@LISTSERVICE.CNRA.CA.GOV
Subject: DWR Publishes Draft California's Groundwater – Update 2020, Seeks Public Comment



NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 11, 2021

Contact:
Joyia Emard, Information Officer, Public Affairs, Department of Water Resources
916.698.6135 | Joyia.Emard@water.ca.gov

DWR Seeks Public Comment on Draft *California's Groundwater – Update 2020*

Publication provides communities with information about their groundwater

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – The Department of Water Resources (DWR) today released the draft *California's Groundwater – Update 2020*, containing information on the condition of the state's groundwater, which is especially important as California faces a critically dry water year. DWR encourages community members and water managers to review the publication and provide input.

"Water touches nearly every aspect of our lives. Groundwater provides drinking water to millions of Californians, sustains natural environments and farms, and helps support jobs," said DWR Director Karla Nemeth. "The information in *California's Groundwater – Update 2020* is vital to local water agencies and communities as they work on locally driven solutions for the long-term reliability of their groundwater."

This version of *California's Groundwater* provides a comprehensive look at statewide groundwater activities, compiling technical information and data from 2003 to 2020. This bulletin recognizes the historic passage of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) in 2014 and builds a statewide framework to share new information and progress made by locals who are managing groundwater basins across the state. It also highlights emerging topics such as water markets and the impacts of climate change on groundwater and summarizes groundwater information for each of the state's 10 hydrologic regions.

The publication contains a Highlights overview section in English and Spanish, Regional Summaries and a detailed Statewide Report, which features current knowledge of groundwater resources including information on the location, characteristics, use, management status and conditions of the state's groundwater. The publication also presents findings and recommendations that support the future management and protection of groundwater.

This information can help communities and local water managers work together to find unique ways to manage their groundwater basins for long-term reliability and support actions being implemented as part of Governor Gavin Newsom's 2020 California Water Resilience Portfolio.

California's Groundwater is organized to share the growing body of groundwater data that is available now and will continue to be submitted by local agencies in the future as part of the implementation of SGMA. DWR is developing a companion *California's Groundwater* web-based dashboard leveraging the California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Platform to improve the access and timeliness of statewide groundwater information, making it easily available for water managers and the public to use.

DWR will present an overview of *California's Groundwater* at a public webinar meeting on March 30, 2021, at noon.

A 45-day public comment period is now open on the draft report and companion web content. All comments will be reviewed and will provide valuable feedback to DWR to improve the analysis, reporting and access to California's groundwater information. Public comments can be emailed to CalGW@water.ca.gov and will be accepted through April 26, 2021.

The final version of *California's Groundwater* is expected to be released in summer 2021.

For more information, visit the California's Groundwater webpage.

DELTA - MENDOTA SGMA

2021 First Quarter Newsletter

Subbasin Announcements: 2020 Review and 2021 Goals

The Delta-Mendota Subbasin successfully completed its first year of groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) implementation. Following submission of the Subbasin’s six GSPs in January 2020, GSP Group representatives began implementation efforts including regular monitoring, data reporting, and project initiation for activities supported through the Subbasin’s Proposition 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) grant award.

The Subbasin’s ongoing monitoring activities include groundwater level, groundwater quality, and subsidence. GSP Group representatives uploaded monitoring data to the Subbasin’s data management system and the Monitoring Network Module on DWR’s SGMA Portal.

Subbasin representatives collaborated to develop the Water Year 2020 Annual Report, which will be submitted to DWR by the April 1st deadline. The Report provides an overview of monitoring and implementation activities completed between October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020.

Entering 2021, Subbasin representatives continue to support monitoring efforts and activities supported through the Subbasin’s Proposition 68 SGM grant award. These activities include well census and inventory projects for each GSP Group and a Subbasin-wide subsidence characterization study and project feasibility determination.

This year, Subbasin representatives will meet with neighboring subbasins to discuss inter-basin coordination efforts. These meetings will be supported through the Subbasin’s Facilitation Support Services (FSS) program with DWR.

The Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee will meet quarterly in 2021, and will hold special meetings when needed. All Delta-Mendota Subbasin meetings continue to be held virtually. Meeting details including agendas, materials, and virtual access information can be found on the Subbasin’s website at deltamendota.org



Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates

Water Year 2020 Annual Report Submission Deadline
Thursday, April 1st

Coordination Committee Quarterly Meeting
Monday, June 14th: 9:30 AM– 12:00 PM

Coordination Committee Quarterly Meeting
Monday, Sept 13th: 9:30 AM– 12:00 PM

Questions? Contact your local groundwater sustainability agency or send an email to dmsgma@sldmwa.org

Learn more at deltamendota.org

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