

Glenn County Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation

Revised Common Principles

Introduction

Common principles reflect shared beliefs. They hold Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) mutually accountable to commitments that are made through the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) process. These principles help participants find common understanding and avoid misconceptions. They help participants create focused and consistent messages that can be communicated to all stakeholders in Glenn County and neighboring areas.

Revised Common Principles

1. Ensure local control of groundwater resources

- All citizens and beneficial users (Water Code §10723.2)* will work collaboratively to comply with SGMA and avoid State intervention.

2. Foster a partnered approach to groundwater management

- Beneficial users and GSAs will seek to pool resources (when feasible) for the common benefit of all.
- Eligible GSAs will avoid duplication of efforts, limit bureaucracy, and seek efficient ways to implement and fund SGMA implementation.
- Eligible GSAs will capitalize on skills and strengths of various partners to create and maintain effective and efficient governance.
- The GSA should facilitate shared understanding of groundwater authorities and responsibilities under SGMA, and consistent with other State laws and regulations.
- Water abundance should be enjoyed by, and water scarcity must be addressed by all beneficial users and citizens.

3. Achieve sustainable groundwater conditions that support all beneficial uses and users

- Honor the common and unique interests of diverse groundwater users.
- Regulation of well permits and water extraction will honor protection of all beneficial users.
- All citizens and beneficial users of groundwater have a responsibility to ensure basin-wide sustainable groundwater resources.
- Groundwater management solutions will vary by location and water year type. While all beneficial users hold a responsibility to achieve sustainability objectives, solutions may differ between various parts of the County and users within those areas.
- Groundwater decisions will always be driven by best available information and the GSA will simultaneously support the collection of new information.

4. Preserve and enhance the economic viability of beneficial uses and users

- Maintain and support existing surface water rights.
- Pursue collaborative solutions to increase groundwater availability, recharge through sound groundwater use, and achieve sufficient surface water available at market rates.

*Water Code §10723.2 – Beneficial Users

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All Groundwater Users• Holders of Overlying Rights (agriculture and domestic)• Municipal Well Operators and Public Water Systems• Tribes• County• Planning Departments / Land Use | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Local Landowners• Disadvantaged Communities• Business• Federal Government• Environmental Uses• Surface Water Users (if connection between surface and ground water) |
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