



# Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Meeting Materials September 8, 2021 | 9:30 am

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 this meeting will be conducted by teleconference.

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## 1. Call to Order

The Chair will call the meeting to order.

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## 2. Roll Call

Staff will conduct roll call.

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## 3. Meeting Minutes

- a. **\*Approval of June 9, 2021, Meeting Minutes**
- b. **\*Approval of July 14, 2021, Meeting Minutes**
- c. **\*Approval of August 11, 2021, Meeting Minutes**

Draft meeting minutes are attached.

Attachments:

- June 9, 2021, draft meeting minutes
- July 14, 2021, draft meeting minutes
- August 11, 2021, draft meeting minutes



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Regular Meeting of the Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee**  
**Teleconference**  
**June 9, 2021**  
**9:30 am**

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 this meeting was conducted by teleconference.

**1. Call to Order**

John Amaro called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

**2. Roll Call**

	Party Representative	Member Agency
X	Tom Arnold	County of Glenn
X	Grant Carmon	County of Glenn
X	John Amaro	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X	Pete Knight	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X	Julia Violich (joined 10:09)	Monroeville Water District
	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District

Lisa Hunter conducted roll call and confirmed a quorum of members were present, which is noted above.

**3. Meeting Minutes**

- a. **\*Approval of April 14, 2021, Meeting Minutes**
- b. **\*Approval of May 12, 2021, Meeting Minutes**

A motion was made to approve the April 14 and May 12, 2021, meeting minutes as presented.

Motion: Grant Carmon; Second: Tom Arnold; Vote: Unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Arnold: Aye  
Grant Carmon: Aye  
John Amaro: Aye  
Pete Knight: Aye

**4. Period of Public Comment**

No comments were heard.

## 5. Staff Reports

Ms. Hunter provided a brief report about Facilitation Support Services funded by the Department of Water Resources (DWR). Staff is still looking into either an amendment to the task order or a new application to maintain facilitation services with the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) through GSP submittal. The new task order may include more public meetings and additional coordination. Regarding Technical Support Services, staff has no updates since the well has been installed.

Ms. Hunter also provided an update on the status of accommodating in person and hybrid meetings. As the State begins to open on June 15, 2021, staff will be better able to accommodate in person/hybrid meetings.

Related to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development, the technical consultants (Montgomery & Associates) continue to work on drafting GSP chapters, coordinating Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) meetings, and developing Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC). Glenn County is working on amending the contract with Montgomery & Associates to adjust the budget and increase the funding to some tasks, including authorizing the task focused on Funding Mechanisms. No updated information was available on the Proposition 1 grant.

## 6. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Report

Ms. Hunter provided an update from the previous CSAB meeting held on June 2, 2021. The goal of the meeting was to review the SMC for each applicable Sustainability Indicator and come to agreement on recommendations to the GSAs. During the meeting, the CSAB voted on recommendations for all five applicable Sustainability Indicators, which are presented as recommendations in Item 7.

Ms. Hunter pointed CSGSA Committee members to the supporting materials included in the meeting packet, including a brief discussion and table summarizing CSAB recommendations, the CSAB Presentation Slides (6/2/21), and the GSP Development Schedule. Additional CSAB meeting materials, including presentations, agendas, and meeting summaries are available on the website at: [www.corningsubbasingsp.org](http://www.corningsubbasingsp.org). The next meeting is scheduled for July 7, at 1:30 pm.

Mr. Carmon added the CSAB meeting provided a venue to receive public input to help shape the final decisions. In his perspective, the recommendations seem fair for various interests and stakeholders. Brian Mori (CSAB representative) shared the hybrid set up allowed for a productive conversation to achieve compromise. Nonetheless, Mr. Mori advocated for increasing the Groundwater Levels Minimum Threshold (MT) to be set at 30%, as 20% (the current recommendation) would require additional Projects and Management Actions (PMA). Mr. Knight would like to further discuss the rationale for the CSAB's recommendation. This discussion took place during the following agenda item.

## 7. Sustainable Management Criteria

At the June 2, 2021, CSAB meeting, the CSAB voted on recommendations for all five applicable Sustainability Indicators: Degraded Water Quality, Land Subsidence, Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels, Reduction in Groundwater Storage, and Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water. CSAB recommendations were presented and discussed. Discussion highlights and outcomes are summarized below.

a. **\*Consider approval of CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Degraded Water Quality Sustainable Management Criteria**

Sustainability Indicator	Degraded Water Quality SMC
Measurement	Annual TDS measured by water providers at public supply wells in the Subbasin.
Minimum Threshold (MT)	TDS concentration of 750 mg/L at public supply wells.
Measurable Objective (MO)	California lower limit SMCL concentration for TDS of 500 mg/L measured at public supply wells
Interim Milestones	Identical to current conditions
Undesirable Result (UR)	At least 25% of representative monitoring sites exceed the minimum threshold for water quality for 2 consecutive years at each well where it can be established that GSP implementation is the cause of the exceedance.

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Arnold asked whether the numbers and thresholds can be adjusted after initial GSP submission. Ms. Hunter shared the thresholds can be updated and reviewed at each five-year update with additional data or if priorities change based on improved understanding of basin conditions. GSAs need to justify and support any changes with technical information.
- Mr. Mori shared that while there are only 14 wells monitored under the Representative Monitoring Program (RMP), the thresholds selected are consistent with state standards. Looking at historic data, levels are hovering around 250 mg/L, well below MT and MO levels.

A motion was made to approve the CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Degraded Water Quality Sustainable Management Criteria as presented.

Motion: Grant Carmon; Second: Pete Knight; Vote: Unanimous

**Roll Call Vote:**

Tom Arnold: Aye  
 Grant Carmon: Aye  
 John Amaro: Aye  
 Pete Knight: Aye

b. **\*Consider approval of CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Land Subsidence Sustainable Management Criteria**

Sustainability Indicator	Land Subsidence SMC
Measurement	Inelastic land subsidence measured by InSAR data available from DWR, and periodic measurements at the DWR survey monuments.
Minimum Threshold (MT)	No more than 0.5 feet of cumulative subsidence over a five-year period (beyond the measurement error), solely due to lowered groundwater elevations.

Measurable Objective (MO)	Zero inelastic subsidence, in addition to any measurement error. If InSAR data are used, the measurement error is 0.1 ft and any measurement of 0.1 ft or less would not be considered inelastic subsidence.
Interim Milestones	Identical to current conditions
Undesirable Result (UR)	Any exceedance of a minimum threshold that is irreversible and caused by lowering groundwater elevations.

**Discussion:**

- Brandon Davison (DWR) shared DWR released its first assessments of GSPs developed by local agencies to meet the requirements of SGMA. He encouraged GSA members to review those assessments.

A motion was made to approve the CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Land Subsidence Sustainable Management Criteria as presented.

Motion: Tom Arnold; Second: Grant Carmon; Vote: Unanimous

**Roll Call Vote:**

Tom Arnold: Aye  
Grant Carmon: Aye  
John Amaro: Aye  
Pete Knight: Aye

**c. \*Consider approval of CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels Sustainable Management Criteria**

Sustainability Indicator	Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels SMC
Measurement	Annual fall groundwater elevation measured in representative monitoring well network by County or DWR.
Minimum Threshold (MT)	<u>Stable wells</u> : Minimum fall groundwater elevation since 2012 minus 20-foot buffer. <u>Declining wells</u> : Minimum Fall groundwater elevation since 2012 minus 20% of minimum groundwater level depth.
Measurable Objective (MO)	<u>Stable wells</u> : Maximum fall groundwater elevation since 2012. <u>Declining wells</u> : Maximum fall groundwater elevation in 2015.
Interim Milestones	To be determined
Undesirable Result (UR)	20% of groundwater elevations measured at RMP wells drop below the associated minimum threshold during 2 consecutive years. If the water year type is dry or critically dry, then levels below the MT are not undesirable if groundwater management allows for recovery in average or wetter years.

**Discussion:**

- CSGSA Committee members discussed the process and rationale behind choosing 20% for the MT. Mr. Carmon shared that while the group researched both 20% and 30%, the final vote favored 20% since it is more protective of domestic wells, while giving flexibility to agricultural users.

- Mr. Davison, DWR representatives, highlighted the CSAB’s discussion related to the 20% threshold established, which is consistent between the Corning Subbasin and other subbasins in Tehama County.
- Mr. Knight asked about the implications of drought in groundwater levels, hoping the subbasin looking at average rainfall and depletion levels and not solely basing thresholds on worst case scenarios. Mr. Carmon shared Undesirable Results statement includes specific language to accommodate for extremely dry years.
- Mr. Knight expressed concern about setting thresholds too low and diminishing flexibility for agricultural users, which could potentially lead some users to take matters to the court. Further, in his perspective, issues in a specific part of the subbasin should not negatively impact other areas of the subbasin with more stable conditions. Mr. Mori echoed those worries, as 20% may require additional PMAs. However, he shared that other CSAB representative were concerned with the risk and impacts to domestic well users, particularly on the west side. Mr. Mori highlighted current data gaps and assumptions in the west side of the subbasin, which will hopefully be addressed to refine the thresholds at the five-year update. Mr. Carmon shared the basin is divided into two areas (stable and declining) to add flexibility within the basin. Further, he would rather err on the conservative side to protect domestic wells and revising these thresholds when better data is available. Mr. Knight acknowledged the difficulties domestic users are experiencing during drought. Yet, he would rather begin with a higher percentage (lower threshold) and then revise when better information becomes available.

A motion was made to approve the CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels Sustainable Management Criteria as presented.

Motion: Grant Carmon; Second: Tom Arnold; Vote: 3-1

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Arnold: Aye  
 Grant Carmon: Aye  
 John Amaro: Aye  
 Pete Knight: No

- d. **\*Consider approval of CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Reduction in Groundwater Storage Sustainable Management Criteria**

Sustainability Indicator	Groundwater Storage SMC
Measurement	Using groundwater levels as a proxy - Calculated based on groundwater levels and general assumptions about groundwater storage coefficients.
Minimum Threshold (MT)	Amount of groundwater in storage when groundwater elevations are at their minimum threshold.
Measurable Objective (MO)	Amount of groundwater in storage when groundwater elevations are at their measurable objective.
Interim Milestones	To be determined
Undesirable Result (UR)	Same as chronic lowering of groundwater levels.

**Discussion:**

- Groundwater storage SMC is connected to the chronic lowering of groundwater levels SMC discussed previously. Due to the regulatory language, the GSAs need to list them separately.

A motion was made to approve the CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Reduction in Groundwater Storage Sustainable Management Criteria as presented.

Motion: Pete Knight; Second: Tom Arnold; Vote: Unanimous.

**Roll Call Vote:**

Tom Arnold: Aye  
Grant Carmon: Aye  
John Amaro: Aye  
Pete Knight: Aye

**e. \*Consider approval of CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water Sustainable Management Criteria**

Sustainability Indicator	Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water SMC
Measurement	A subset of shallow wells used for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels, consisting of DWR observation wells near streams.
Minimum Threshold (MT)	Same as chronic lowering of groundwater levels.
Measurable Objective (MO)	Same as chronic lowering of groundwater levels.
Interim Milestones	Identical to current conditions.
Undesirable Result (UR)	Same as chronic lowering of groundwater levels.

A motion was made to approve the CSAB recommendation to GSAs on Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water Sustainable Management Criteria as presented.

Motion: Tom Arnold; Second: Grant Carmon; Vote: Unanimous

**Roll Call Vote:**

Tom Arnold: Aye  
Grant Carmon: Aye  
John Amaro: Aye  
Pete Knight: Aye

**8. \* Consider authorizing the CSAB to approve releasing the complete draft Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan once developed**

Ms. Hunter shared the complete draft Corning Subbasin GSP is expected to be released on September 10, 2021, following the September CSAB meeting. The CSGSA considered authorizing the CSAB to approve releasing the complete draft Corning Subbasin GSP to expedite the review process. Once released, members of the public, as well as CSAB,

GSAs, and member agencies will be able to review and provide comments on the complete draft GSP.

A motion was made to approve the CSAB recommendation to GSA as presented.

Motion: Pete Knight; Second: Tom Arnold; Vote: Unanimous

Roll Call Vote:

Tom Arnold: Aye

Grant Carmon: Aye

John Amaro: Aye

Pete Knight: Aye

Julia Violich: Aye

## 9. Inter-basin Coordination Update

### a. Receive update and provide input on Inter-basin Coordination efforts in the Northern Sacramento Valley

Mariana Rivera-Torres from the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) provided an overview of inter-basin coordination efforts. The Consensus Building Institute (CBI) is funded by DWR Facilitation Support Services and has been working with staff of GSAs from the Antelope, Bowman, Butte, Colusa, Corning, Los Molinos, Red Bluff, Sutter, Vina, Wyandotte Creek, and Yolo subbasins continue to meet to discuss inter-basin coordination.

After an initial attempt to compile technical information emerging from the various subbasin's Basin Setting Chapters to better understand basin conditions at boundaries, staff realized that differing timelines for the availability of Basin Setting content meant there would not be the time needed to fully characterize or address major discrepancies during the initial GSP development. Therefore, the goal for inter-basin coordination efforts shifted towards establishing a framework for long-term inter-basin coordination and dialogue (post 2022), while informal coordination discussions amongst staff and consultants between neighboring subbasins continued during the GSP development process.

During the presentation, CBI provided an update on the process of developing recommendations for an inter-basin coordination framework. The draft framework began by identifying priorities and desired outcomes during GSP development, in the near-term (5-year update) and in the long-term (through GSP implementation). Then, staff identified foundational pillars to serve as a menu of options for an inter-basin coordination framework, acknowledging the commitment to honor the individual authorities of GSAs

In terms of next steps, CBI and subbasin staff are drafting a report outlining the framework for inter-basin coordination. Once ready, CBI will bring the draft report to the CSGSA and other GSA public venues to inform discussions and desired priorities at their respective subbasin boundaries.

More information can be found on a webpage hosted by Butte County at: <https://www.buttecounty.net/waterresourceconservation/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act/Inter-basin-Coordination>.

### **Discussion:**

- Ms. Violich asked further clarification as to how the pillars would be implemented and whether the subbasins can identify PMAs at boundaries to, for example, get better information on groundwater conditions at boundaries. Ms. Hunter shared that the report would include additional details to inform discussions at individual GSAs. One option for implementation is to collaborate through coordination groups based on boundaries and shared rivers/creeks, as shown in the map in the meeting packet (P. 29). CSGSA Members would also like to explore shared PMAs to share costs of infrastructure needed to fill data gaps and/or improve understanding of basin conditions at subbasin boundaries.
- In terms of the Coordination Groups, CSGSA members shared the greatest priority/area of concern is the North Sacramento River Corridor (Los Molinos, Red Bluff, Corning Vina, Butte, Colusa).
- Overall, the CSGSA shared staff is headed in the right direction. Mr. Amaro, Mr. Carmon, and Mr. Arnold liked the focus on information sharing and data gaps.

### **10. Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Member Reports and Comments**

Members of the CSGSA Committee were encouraged to share information, reports, comments, and suggest future agenda items.

Mr. Carmon shared an update on drought emergency planning at Glenn County and invited CSGSA members to attend Drought Task Force meetings.

### **11. Next Meeting**

The CSGSA will meet again on July 14, 2021, at 9:30 am.

### **12. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.



**Meeting Minutes**  
 Regular Meeting of the Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee  
 Teleconference  
 July 14, 2021  
 9:30 am

Pursuant to Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-29-20 this meeting was conducted by teleconference.

**1. Call to Order**

John Amaro called the meeting to order at 9:33 am.

**2. Roll Call**

	Party Representative	Member Agency
	Tom Arnold	County of Glenn
X	Grant Carmon	County of Glenn
X	John Amaro	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
	Pete Knight	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X	Julia Violich	Monroeville Water District
	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District

Lisa Hunter conducted roll call. As noted above, a quorum of members was not present.

**3. Meeting Minutes**

**a. \*Approval of June 9, 2021, Meeting Minutes**

No action was taken since a quorum of members was not present. Approval of the June 9, 2021 meeting minutes was deferred to the next meeting.

**4. Period of Public Comment**

No comments were made.

**5. Staff Reports**

Ms. Hunter did not have an update on the Technical Support Services, other than the monitoring well was successfully installed. Regarding Facilitation Support Services, staff is in coordination with the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) to finalize the extension to the task order to include services through GSP submittal.

Related to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development, the technical consultants (Montgomery & Associates) continue to work on drafting GSP chapters, coordinating Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) meetings, developing Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC), focusing on Projects & Management Actions (PMAs), and finalizing other plan components. The funding mechanism task has been authorized and

staff is currently finalizing an amendment to make budget adjustments to reallocate funding to better align with actual costs.

Ms. Hunter provided an update on the status of accommodating in person and hybrid meetings. Staff and the CBI are researching options that would accommodate hybrid meetings for the CSGSA Committee meetings. The team is exploring options and potential venues to host high quality meetings that are located within the GSA boundaries, have sufficient space available to accommodate in person participants in a safe and comfortable manner, have sufficient bandwidth to allow for remote attendance and meaningful virtual engagement, and have a good audio visual set up to minimize background noise to ensure all participants can hear appropriately. Some of the potential venues investigated so far include Capay Harvest, Dream Catcher Ranch, Hamilton City High School, Capay Elementary School, and the North Valley Hockey. Ms. Hunter shared the team is still looking at the logistics and welcome any further suggestions from the Committee. Further, Ms. Hunter highlighted Governor Newsom's Executive Order N-29-20 allowing Brown Act meetings to be conducted via teleconferencing platforms is set to expire September 30, 2021. This may be subject to change. Staff encourage the GSA's feedback on whether they would like to proceed with in-person only meetings which might alleviate some of the technology problems or would prefer using a hybrid format. Ms. Hunter highlighted some of the tradeoffs with each option.

#### **Discussion:**

- Ms. Violich offered the potential use of their board room, which could accommodate 12 to 14 people and have adequate technology set up. Ms. Violich and Ms. Hunter will coordinate after the meeting to determine the feasibility of this option.
- Mr. Amaro inquired about the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District (GCID) Pumping Plant conference room. Ms. Hunter and Ms. Dawley conducted a dry run in that location and realized it may not provide strong enough internet connection. Remote participants would have to rely on printed materials to follow the conversation and use a phone in option.
- Ms. Violich prefers hybrid meetings, if possible, to encourage more public participation. She anticipates it may be harder to get a quorum if meetings transition to in person.
- Mr. Carmon suggested pursuing a hybrid set-up relying on a steady conference line or call-in number to bypass the internet limitations. Mr. Amaro suggested starting with the option of calling-in and then reevaluate based on remote participation.
- Ms. Hunter clarified once the Governor's order expires, remote participation would be more difficult for board members, as the Brown Act requires board members to attend in person, except for special circumstances. If board members cannot attend the meeting location, they would have to make their remote location available to the public and follow other stipulations.
- A member of the public shared he would encourage pursuing hybrid meetings, as many people cannot attend in-person meetings.

## 6. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Report

- a. Receive an overview of Projects and Management Actions discussions and provide feedback
- b. Debrief discussions on Introduction to Funding Mechanisms for GSP Implementation, funding needs and potential approaches and provide feedback

The Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) met on July 7, 2021. The goals of the meeting were to receive updates on GSP Development, review and provide feedback on the revised list and purpose of projects and management actions (PMA) and receive an initial presentation on funding needs for GSP implementation and potential approaches. The CSAB meeting materials, including presentations, agendas, and meeting summaries are available on the website at: [www.corningsubbasingsp.org](http://www.corningsubbasingsp.org). The next meeting is scheduled for August 4, at 1:30 pm.

Since CSGSA Committee members had difficulties attending or accessing the July CSAB meeting, Ms. Hunter provided a detailed update on the presentation slides and discussion highlights.

### Discussion:

- Ms. Violich asked whether all PMAs outlined in the plan will necessarily be funded by the GSA. Ms. Hunter clarified not all PMAs listed are within the GSA's authority and obligation to fund and implement; rather, some PMAs may need to be pursued by other partners, such as the County or districts. PMAs will likely be pursued when needed, based on available funding and partnerships.
- Ms. Violich asked for clarification regarding the relationship between the priority projects listed, funding, and implementation. Specifically, she would like to know whether the implementation-ready projects will be definitely funded as part of the plan implementation, while others are simply listed as conceptual. Ms. Hunter shared some projects will be pursued by the project proponents, some of which (i.e., infrastructure improvements) are already being implemented by the various agencies. Ms. Hunter will clarify with the technical team and report back to the CSGSA Committee on whether the PMAs will be implemented at specific sustainability triggers or whether some projects will be implemented regardless through partnerships.
- Mr. Amaro shared certain areas of the subbasin that benefit from specific projects may require a specific funding mechanism (e.g., fee) for implementation.
- Ms. Violich asked whether some of the funding mechanisms would be billed through special invoicing through the subbasin or to be coordinated with Glenn and Tehama Counties through their property taxes. Ms. Hunter clarified the specific details are yet to be defined. The Glenn Groundwater Authority has previously utilized the County's tax bill process, while some agencies follow different processes. Ms. Violich anticipates people may be shocked if they see districts appear on their property tax bills.
- Mr. Amaro asked whether over-drafted subbasins with higher fees are financing larger projects under the fee structures shown as examples in the CSAB slides. Ms. Hunter

shared the consultants included the number of acres per basin in the examples, and larger basins are able to spread out the costs across the basin. Some administration costs are fixed, regardless of the size of the subbasin; she theorized that many of the examples include basins in critical overdraft and projects are likely included into the calculation.

- Mr. Carmon wondered if it would be possible to establish a basic per acre fee and then also a usage type fee. He acknowledged many wells do not have the monitoring system available, but the GSA could use an industry standard calculation to estimate water demand by using acres and crop-type. Mr. Carmon expressed concern with western portions of the subbasin with limited wells and substantial acres of land. Ms. Hunter will confirm with the technical team; however, she did acknowledge the challenge of having sufficient data and tracking system to establish a usage fee. Further, Ms. Hunter shared the GSA will continue to discuss their preference regarding the various types of fees and funding options available at future meetings and appreciates the comments today.
- Mr. Amaro added some details about the CSAB discussion, particularly related to the complications of setting up and monitoring well meters to estimate water usage. Mr. Carmon would like to consider alternatives to metering to estimate water usage in the near future. Lastly, Ms. Hunter shared the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has set up a fee schedule with a well-head fee and a volumetric fee.

## 7. Draft Groundwater Sustainability Chapters Update and Discussion

Ms. Hunter provided relevant updates on GSP Chapter development and reviewed the schedule. All Chapters that have been released for comments can be found at: <https://www.corningsubbasingsp.org/>. The slide below from the June 2, 2021 CSAB meeting illustrates the review process and schedule.

GSP Section Reviews		
GSP Section	Status	Review Schedule
1 - Introduction	Draft complete, incorporating comments	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
2 - Plan Area	Draft complete, incorporating comments	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
3 - Basin Setting	Draft complete, incorporating comments	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
4 - Water Budgets	Draft complete, incorporating comments	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
5 - Monitoring Network	Draft in review by GSA staff	CSAB review in June
6 - Sustainable Management Criteria	Draft in review by GSA staff	Complete draft for CSAB review in June
7 - Projects and Management Actions	Draft in progress	Complete draft for CSAB review in July
8 - Plan Implementation	Assembling data gaps; reviewing options for funding mechanisms	Discussion at August meeting; include in Public review draft, Sept. 2021
<b>Executive Summary and Draft GSP</b>		Draft to public: 9/10/2021 (CSAB will review complete draft during public review)

6/2/2021

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Ms. Hunter encouraged CSGSA members to review the draft chapters currently available (linked below) to identify any red flags, questions, suggestions, or concerns. The full draft GSP will be available for public review on the website in September prior to adoption. Between November and December, staff and the consulting team will be reviewing and incorporating comments as appropriate and preparing the final GSP for adoption.

- [Section 1 - Introduction](#)
- [Section 2 - Plan Area](#)
- [Section 3.1 - Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model](#)
- [Section 3.2 - Groundwater Conditions](#)
- [Section 4 - Water Budgets](#)
- [Water Budget Reading guide](#)
- [Key Water Budget Takeaways](#)
- [Appendix 4B](#)
- [Section 5 - Monitoring Networks](#)
- [Section 6 - Sustainable Management Criteria](#)

Mr. Amaro encouraged CSGSA members to share information with their respective boards, and educate their fellow board members on the process and content.

## 8. Inter-basin Coordination

### a. Review inter-basin coordination report and provide input on priorities from CBI report to emphasize or include in the Corning GSP

Mariana Rivera-Torres, from the CBI, shared an overview of the recently released draft Northern Sacramento Valley Inter-Basin Coordination Report. The content of the report is the result of staff recommendations resulting from regional inter-basin coordination meetings among staff representatives from 11 subbasins (Antelope, Bowman, Butte, Colusa, Corning, Los Molinos, Red Bluff, Sutter, Vina, Wyandotte Creek, and Yolo), facilitated by the CBI in 2020-2021.

This report outlines a framework for inter-basin coordination for sustainable groundwater management in the Northern Sacramento Valley. It describes a menu of options for ongoing communication and collaboration between and among groundwater subbasins over the twenty-year implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). This framework can be used by GSAs to support GSP development and implementation in several ways.

1. This inter-basin coordination report could be included as an appendix to the GSP and could be updated at regular intervals.
2. Individual subbasins could incorporate sections of the report into the body of the GSP, depending upon specific boundary conditions at adjoining subbasins.
3. Subbasins could draw on the inter-basin coordination framework if they would like to consider entering into one or more voluntary inter-basin agreements during GSP implementation (GSP Regulations in [Article 8, Sec 357.2](#)).

The report is intended to be a supporting document to guide and inform discussions with GSA Boards and at other subbasin-specific public venues, such as advisory committees, groundwater commissions, or other relevant venues. These discussions could help determine GSA priorities and the desired approach each GSA would like to take to draw upon the inter-basin coordination framework within their individual GSPs.

Subbasin staff acknowledge that while this report builds upon a long-standing history of regional collaboration, this is just the beginning of inter-basin coordination efforts under SGMA. Therefore, this framework will be continually refined throughout GSP implementation and inter-basin coordination activities will occur on an ongoing basis. The Northern Sacramento Valley Inter-basin Coordination Report and related information is available on a webpage hosted by Butte County at: <http://www.buttecounty.net/waterresourceconservation/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act/Inter-basin-Coordination>

Ms. Hunter encouraged CSGSA members to review the report, particularly the table of pillars or menu of options outlined on page 6.

**Discussion:**

- Mr. Amaro highlighted the importance of inter-basin coordination for their GSP and supported having the report as an Appendix to the plan.
- Mr. Carmon echoed the importance of showing the GSA is working with other subbasins, willing to collaborate, and ensuring their actions are not affecting others and vice versa.

**9. Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Member Reports and Comments**

Members of the CSGSA Committee were encouraged to share information, reports, comments, and suggest future agenda items.

Mr. Carmon shared an update from the Drought Task Force meeting, attended by their congressional representatives. The Task Force is working to secure state and federal funding to manage current drought conditions. The Board of Supervisors will meet on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, where the Board will make a decision regarding the moratorium for agricultural wells. Mr. Carmon encouraged interested parties to participate in the meeting and share their concerns and preferences. Glenn County is also distributing water bottles for eligible parties that have filled out dry well reports.

Mr. Amaro provide an update from the GCID. The district has been struggling all summer and faced difficult limitations regarding surface water diversions. GCID is using some private wells for emergency pumping. Drought conditions are affecting the northern and southern parts of the district. Wells that had historically been very stable are now showing historic lows.

Ms. Violich shared the GSA will be able to evaluate recharge first-hand by using monitoring wells after these dry conditions. Monroeville Water District has experienced varied conditions. Most of their wells are very stable and are expecting recharge to be consistent. Unfortunately, many domestic wells are drying up. Users are being very collaborative,

working together to improve water use. Lastly, Ms. Violich shared that the west-side may experience very frighting conditions. Mr. Amaro emphasized this year will provide learning opportunities to improve the subbasin’s water management during dry and normal conditions. Further, they are attempting to find ways to support users in the western portion and are facing some challenges with transfers and deliveries to those areas. Lastly, Mr. Carmon shared current drought conditions are highlighting the importance of sustainable groundwater management in the subbasin.

**10. Next Meeting**

The CSGSA will meet again on August 11, 2021, at 9:30 am.

**11. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 am.

DRAFT



# Meeting Minutes

## Regular Meeting of the Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee

### Teleconference

August 11, 2021  
 9:30 am

Pursuant to Governor Newsom’s Executive Order N-29-20 this meeting was conducted by teleconference.

**1. Call to Order**

John Amaro called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

**2. Roll Call**

	Party Representative	Member Agency
	Tom Arnold	County of Glenn
	Grant Carmon	County of Glenn
X	John Amaro	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X	Pete Knight	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X	Julia Violich	Monroeville Water District
	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District

Lisa Hunter conducted roll call. As noted above, a quorum of members was not present.

**3. Meeting Minutes**

- a. **\*Approval of June 9, 2021, Meeting Minutes**
- b. **\*Approval of July 14, 2021, Meeting Minutes**

No action was taken since a quorum of members was not present. Approval of the June 9, 2021 and July 14, 2021, meeting minutes were deferred to the next meeting.

**4. Period of Public Comment**

No comments were made.

**5. Staff Reports**

Ms. Hunter did not have an update on the Technical Support Services. Regarding Facilitation Support Services, staff is in coordination with the Consensus Building Institute (CBI) to finalize the extension to the task order to include services through GSP submittal.

Related to the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) development, the technical consultants (Montgomery & Associates) continue to work on drafting GSP chapters, coordinating Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) meetings, and finalizing plan components. A contract amendment was finalized to adjust the budget to better align funding with actual costs.

## 6. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Report

- a. Receive an overview of Priority Actions for Plan Implementation and Data Gaps discussions; provide feedback on desired role and expectations for the GSA moving forward
- b. Debrief discussions on Funding Mechanisms for GSP Implementation, funding needs, and potential approaches; provide feedback

The Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) met on August 4, 2021. The goals of the meeting were to receive updates on GSP Development, discuss priority actions for plan implementation, including GSA administration and data gaps, continue to evaluate funding mechanisms, and review upcoming grant opportunities. Lastly, CSAB feedback on the Section 5, Monitoring Networks, and Section 6, Sustainable Management Criteria of the draft GSP were summarized and an opportunity for public comments was provided. The CSAB meeting materials, including presentations, agendas, and meeting summaries are available on the website at: [www.corningsubbasingsp.org](http://www.corningsubbasingsp.org). The next meeting is scheduled for September 1, at 1:30 pm.

Committee members began discussing desired expectations for funding and coordinating the GSA moving forward. Through GSP development, Glenn County has taken a leading role in providing staff support, while coordinating closely with other member agency staff. CSGSA Committee members shared initial thoughts and considerations, regarding their preference for funding the GSA administration and Plan implementation.

### Discussion:

- Ms. Violich shared the funding needs outlined in the CSAB presentation are significant. She would like to explore opportunities to leverage funds among neighboring subbasins, particularly when considering the Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) and the data gaps to be filled.
- Mr. Amaro acknowledge concerns voiced by domestic well owners and other users during meetings. The Corning Subbasin looks like a checkered board of uses and users (i.e., rangeland, orchards, etc.), so the GSA will need to consider creative ways to distribute the costs, acknowledging users are concerned about bearing a disproportionate portion of the costs.
- Ms. Violich encouraged pursuing an equitable approach, acknowledging it will be impossible to make everyone happy. Domestic well users will feel concerned about bearing annual cost equal to irrigators. While general administrative costs are relatively fixed, the GSA will need to be sensitive to all users while evaluating fee assessments.
- Mr. Knight suggested pursuing a per acre fee considering future land-use changes (from non-irrigated lands to irrigated agriculture).
- Ms. Violich suggested looking at a per well or per well by well type scenario.

### Public Comment:

- A member of the public shared their experience as both a valley agricultural pumper and a hill country landowner. She encouraged all of those that could not attend the

past CSAB meeting to listen to the recording since they presented information that sheds light on the challenges with a per acre-foot fee structure in the Corning Subbasin.

**Discussion on potential funding mechanism approaches**

Staff encouraged CSGSA members to share their thoughts on their preferred approach and most likely path forward in the Corning Subbasin to meet SGMA compliance requirements. Ms. Hunter encouraged CSGSA members to share which approaches are more desirable or if certain approaches are off the table. She encouraged members to consider focusing efforts on the most equitable, feasible, and fair path. Consultants would then explore the preferred routes in more detail. The slide below summarizing the various funding mechanism approaches was presented at the August 4<sup>th</sup> CSAB meeting.



**Funding Needs & Mechanisms**  
**Approaches Comparison**

Approach Type	Benefit Logic	Revenue Stability	Data Requirements	Other Considerations	Cost Summary (Example Budget \$600k/yr)
Cost-Share	n/a	High	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Burdens existing revenue sources</li> <li>Not a new source of funding</li> <li>Agencies have various obligations and are involved in other basins</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>TCFCWCD: 67%-78% of total</li> <li>CSGSA: 22% - 33% of total</li> </ul>
Acreege-Based	General Benefit	High	Low	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Simple to administer</li> <li>Irrigated and municipal acres can serve as proxy for groundwater use</li> <li>SGMA compliance required for entire basin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$2.90/acre (gross acreage)</li> <li>\$8.60/acre (irrigated, urban, and residential acres)</li> </ul>
Groundwater Use-Based	Users Pay	Low	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revenue would vary by water year type</li> <li>Requires monitoring or reliable estimates</li> <li>Potentially higher cost of administration and data collection</li> <li>SGMA compliance required for entire basin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$3.55/AF - \$4.00/AF, depending on hydrology and total pumping conditions</li> </ul>
Well-Based	Users Pay	High	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Requires substantial data collection</li> <li>Potentially higher cost of administration</li> <li>Equity of charges by well type</li> <li>SGMA compliance required for entire basin</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>\$139.63 per Well</li> </ul>

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August 4, 2021 | For Discussion Purposes Only | 28

• **Well-Based Approach:**

- Mr. Amaro clarified the well-based approach would include irrigation, domestic, and public supply wells. While it may be expensive to go that route at the start, once all the data is collected and new wells permitted are well documented, this approach may be preferred in the long run. He requested more information for how much the initial stage would cost to gather sufficient data.
- Ms. Violich shared there is good historical data available to clean up and information for new wells installed is readily available. Uncertainty remains, some wells may be older than the data base or no longer in use, and the estimates may not be 100% accurate.
- Mr. Knight shared that since most users are domestic well users, it will be key to set the fee in an equitable manner.

- **Acreage-Based Approach:**
  - Mr. Knight acknowledged domestic well owners might be upset about paying the same fee, while pumping less water. Further, people may push back about monitoring. Per acre fee might be a better way to go, as it is more feasible. Consider only charging groundwater users; however, it would be important to find ways to include acres as soon as owners begin pumping.
  - Ms. Violich highlighted there would be no perfect approach and solution. She anticipates push back regarding the acreage-based approach, particularly from users that may not be irrigating their land and not using the same amount of water. That said, per-acre sounds like a simpler and preferred approach.
  - Mr. Amaro would like to keep matters as simple as possible but anticipates resistance.
- **Groundwater Use-Based Approach:**
  - Mr. Knight and Ms. Violich suggested considering removing this approach, given the potential instability of water supplies in the future and the high data requirements. They would rather pursue a simple administrative approach, anticipating surface water cuts from Bureau of Reclamation, and difficult/changing conditions in the future.
- **Hybrid Approach:**
  - CSGSA members would like West Water to explore a potential hybrid approach, including a combination of base fee with a tiered approach that accounts for usage type. This would have to be feasible for the subbasin.
  - Mr. Amaro suggested a hybrid approach that could consider the size of the well or the type of well. For example, different fees would be set for larger irrigation wells, public supply wells, and domestic wells.
- **Cost-share:**
  - Not preferred.

#### **Public Comment**

- A member of the public highlighted the difficulties for users to sustain the costs, particularly on the westside, regarding water and production. The subbasin has a patchwork of types of users and users. In other portions of Glenn County and Tehama County, there is a more universal type of growth. Many users in the area do not have the ability to irrigate their land and would not be able to sustain the fee per acre, since they are unable to recoup those costs. They would like to speak for those individuals that cannot afford such fees and appreciates acknowledging the different types of users. For example, users with unstable access to water and low consumption would not need to pay as much. Users that irrigate and increase use would see an increased fee. They suggested exploring hybrid approaches, reflecting the different dynamics in the subbasin. Further, they prefer the well-based approach if it distinguishes types of pumpers, as it is more equitable. Otherwise, there would be many more individuals “falling through the cracks” in this particular subbasin.
- Mr. Amaro appreciated the public comment received and highlighted the difficulty of the decision to establish a fee. He has experienced difficulties in another subbasin

with per-acre fees. The Corning Subbasin is challenging. More work will be needed at the beginning, due to data needs. After that, would be easier to assess equity considerations.

- Mr. Knight would like to find a way to monitor increased pumping and production, track changes, and then use that information to assess what portions of the subbasin are irrigable and not irrigable. Further, he would like to explore technologies available to map out the areas and distinguish irrigated, urban, and residential acres.

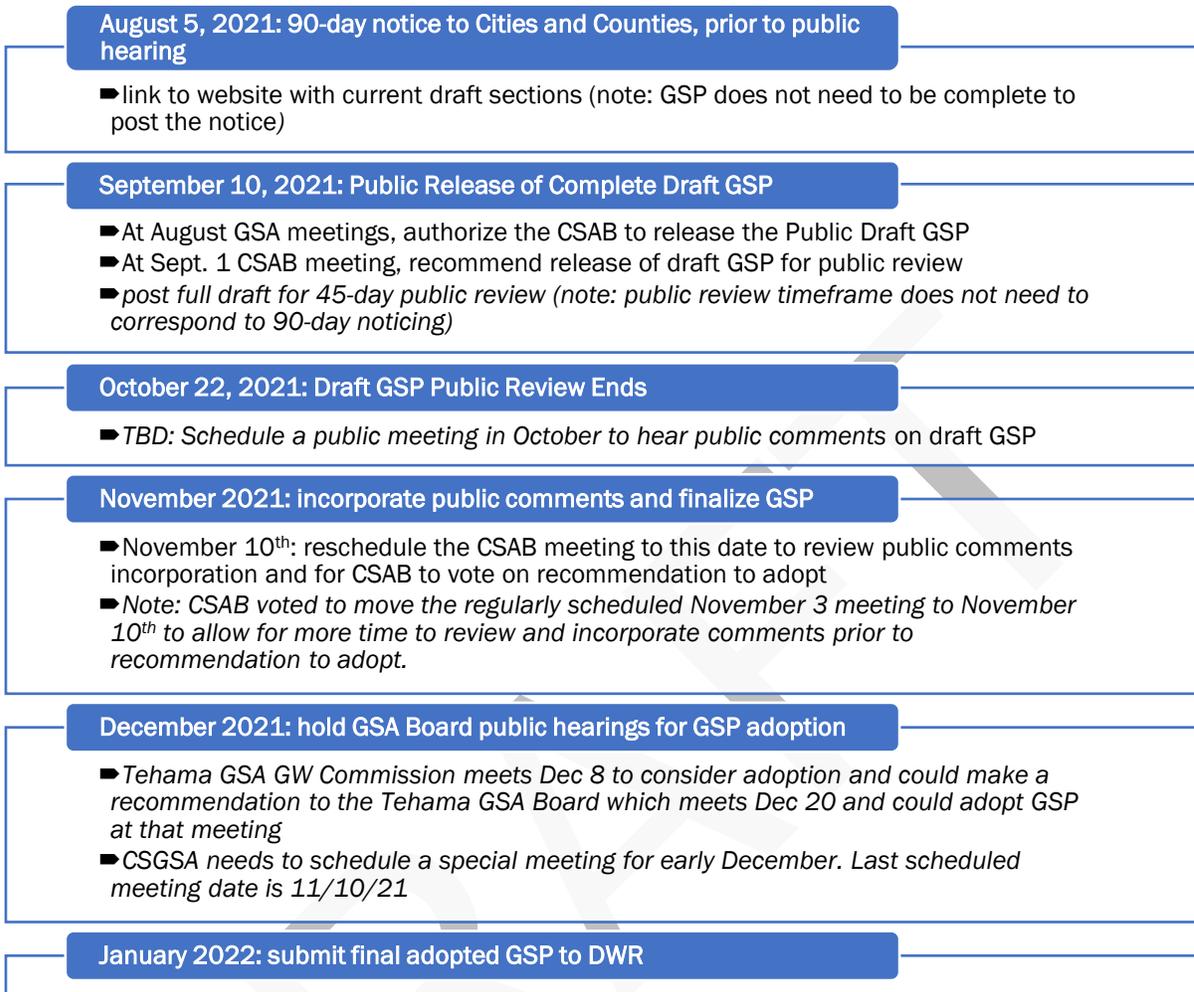
### **Outcomes and Next Steps**

- CSGSA members would like to continue discussing and developing ideas for consideration. Preferred approaches included acreage-based, well-based (identifying well-type and/or size), and a potential hybrid approach. The least preferred options included the groundwater-use based and cost-share approaches.
- Key considerations included how to monitor and regulate irrigated vs. non-irrigated acres, annual administration costs, equity and sensitivity to all users, simplicity, steady and reliable income, and flexibility. The initial approach may change along the way, and some approaches may have more work at the beginning but may be more equitable in the long-run and may get easier after initial work is complete. Other questions to consider is how to ensure the GSA can cover the administrative costs and finance projects while the income available may ebb and flow.
- Ms. Hunter shared the GSA would need to run through all the information with legal counsel before approving a certain approach.

### **7. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update and Discussion**

- a. Review schedule and GSP adoption process and provide feedback**
- b. Draft Groundwater Sustainability Chapters Update and discussion**
- c. Outreach and engagement**
- d. Inter-basin Coordination**

Ms. Hunter presented the **GSP Completion and Adoption Timeline** (summarized in the figure below).



Ms. Hunter is working on providing the 90-day notice to Cities & Counties for consultation and highlighted the submission to DWR in January will take some time. Regarding the adoption process, staff encouraged CSGSA members to continually share information with their Boards. Ms. Hunter highlighted the authority vested in each of the CSGSA members, since the GSP adoption will happen at this forum. Ms. Hunter encouraged each CSGSA member to fully understand what each Board desires relating to GSP approval in order to go through a smooth adoption process. December 8th is the target for the public hearing and adoption. Lastly, Ms. Hunter asked the CSGSA to be prepared to hold special meeting later in December, if needed, to ensure timely submittal.

Ms. Hunter provided relevant updates on **GSP Chapter development** and reviewed the schedule. All Chapters that have been released for comments can be found at: <https://www.corningsubbasingsp.org/>. Ms. Hunter encouraged CSGSA members to review the draft chapters currently available (linked below) to identify any red flags, questions, suggestions, or concerns. The full draft GSP will be available for public review on the website in September prior to adoption. In November and early December, staff and the consulting team will be reviewing and incorporating comments as appropriate and preparing the final GSP for adoption.

- [Section 1 - Introduction](#)
- [Section 2 - Plan Area](#)
- [Section 3.1 - Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model](#)
- [Section 3.2 - Groundwater Conditions](#)
- [Section 4 - Water Budgets](#)
- [Water Budget Reading guide](#)
- [Key Water Budget Takeaways](#)
- [Appendix 4B](#)
- [Section 5 - Monitoring Networks](#)
- [Section 6 - Sustainable Management Criteria](#)

Mr. Amaro encouraged CSGSA members to share information with their respective Boards and educate their fellow Board members on the process and content. He encouraged members to share the chapters available on the website and coordinate in near future to go through the Plan and review chapters carefully.

The CSGSA discussed **outreach and engagement** efforts, including an upcoming GSP public workshop. Members of the CSGSA Committee were encouraged to share ideas and recommendations on strategies to make information accessible and approachable to the public.

Ms. Hunter shared the CSAB meets monthly, the CSGSA meets monthly, and Tehama venues hold regular meetings as well. All meetings are posted and announced through interested parties list. Ms. Hunter asked if there are specific groups that need to be further engaged.

The Corning Subbasin is planning to host a public meeting in October to provide a high-level fly over of the GSP and provide information on how to provide comments. The workshop would also include opportunities to ask questions and provide input. The facilitation team asked for input on thoughts and strategies to encourage participation.

**Input:**

- Mr. Amaro encouraged following a two-step approach, having a Zoom webinar and an in-person meeting. People are now used to Zoom, and some are increasingly concerned with the Covid-19 virus surging again.
- Ms. Violich also supported the idea of having both (virtual and in person). There is a broad group of individuals that do not know about SGMA and how it impacts them, particularly individuals living on the westside and domestic well users that may not be as informed.
- A member of the public appreciates zoom meetings greatly and commended the group for doing a great job of running them and getting the information out.
- Mid-October would be better for stakeholders in the subbasin.
- Ideas for public outreach for the workshop:
  - Continue to use the interested parties list and having information available at the office.

- Press release, articles in the newspaper, and working through the outreach partners
- Social media to reach domestic users (Facebook, Instagram, etc.)
- Share information at Rangeland group meetings for westside landowners.

Regarding **Inter-basin Coordination**, Ms. Hunter pointed to the Northern Sacramento Valley Inter-basin Coordination Report and noted related information is available on a webpage hosted by Butte County at: <http://www.buttecounty.net/waterresourceconservation/Sustainable-Groundwater-Management-Act/Inter-basin-Coordination>

#### **8. Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Member Reports and Comments**

It was suggested to reach out to members the week of the next meeting to remind members of upcoming CSGSA meetings and encourage a quorum to be present.

#### **9. Next Meeting**

The CSGSA will meet again on September 8, 2021, at 9:30 am.

#### **10. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

#### **4. Period of Public Comment**

Members of the public are encouraged to address the Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee. Public comment will be limited to three minutes. No action will be taken on items under public comment.

---

#### **5. Staff Reports**

Staff from members of the Corning Sub-basin GSA will provide relevant updates, such as a brief status update of GSP development, grant agreement, and project agreement. Reminders and clarifications may be made, and direction may be provided to staff.

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#### **6. Corning Subbasin Advisory Board Report**

##### **a. Continue discussions on funding mechanisms, funding needs, and potential approaches for GSP Implementation.**

The Corning Subbasin Advisory Board (CSAB) met on September 1, 2021. The goals of the meeting were to review the status and next steps for final draft GSP, answer any remaining questions and comments, review outreach activities and inter-basin coordination efforts, and discuss next steps for GSP adoption and implementation. The CSAB approved the release of the Draft GSP for public review, contingent on CSAB quick review of the Executive Summary and Section 8 prior to its release on September 10, 2021.

The CSAB meeting materials, including presentations, agendas, and meeting summaries are available on the website at: [www.corningsubbasingsp.org](http://www.corningsubbasingsp.org). The October CSAB meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for November 10, at 1:30 pm.

Advisory Board members may provide additional updates. Committee members will continue discussing expectations for funding and coordinating the GSA moving forward.

Attachments:

- September 1, 2021, CSAB Presentation Slides
- GSP Development Schedule



# Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Technical Presentation



Presented to Corning Subbasin Advisory Board  
09/01/2020 | Teleconference



## Agenda and Meeting Objective

### AGENDA

- ▶ Review status and next steps for final draft GSP
- ▶ Answer any remaining questions and comments
- ▶ Review outreach activities, interbasin coordination and upcoming public workshop information
- ▶ Next steps for GSP adoption and implementation

### MEETING OBJECTIVE

- Approve release of Draft GSP for public review

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# GSP Status and Next Steps



9/4/2021

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## Corning Subbasin GSP Development Update

GSP Section	Status	Next Draft for Review
1 - Introduction	Draft complete, incorporating comments	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
2 - Plan Area	Draft complete, incorporating comments	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
3 - Basin Setting	Public draft ready	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
4 – Water Budgets	Public draft ready	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
5 - Monitoring Network	Public draft ready	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
6 – Sustainable Management Criteria	Draft complete, incorporating comments	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
7 - Projects and Management Actions	Draft complete, incorporating comments	Public review draft, Sept. 2021
8 – Plan Implementation	Public draft ready	Discussion at August meeting; include in Public review draft, Sept. 2021
Executive Summary	Draft under development	Public review draft, Sept. 2021



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## Comments and Input received on Draft GSP Sections while being drafted

- ▶ Direct outreach for data and technical feedback:
  - ▶ Water Districts, Orland Unit Project, Stony Creek Watermaster, County RCDs, City of Corning
- ▶ Public comments at CSAB meetings
- ▶ Direct comments to GSAs on each section by CSAB and stakeholders
- ▶ Unsolicited public input to GSAs on various items – passed on to CSAB and taken into consideration while drafting GSP

## Plan for Release of Public Draft GSP and Review Period

- ▶ Today (Sept 1<sup>st</sup>): respond to any remaining comments and CSAB vote to release draft
- ▶ September 10<sup>th</sup>: release Corning Subbasin GSP Public Draft for a 45-day public review
  - ▶ Will post section by section (including appendixes) on the GSP website for easy review, with complete list of acronyms and references and an Executive Summary
- ▶ October 22<sup>nd</sup>: end public review period – all comments need to be received by that date

## Public Draft GSP Review

### ▶ Stakeholders

- ▶ Comments from stakeholders can be provided directly to GSA staff for each GSA, via an excel comment form (posted on website or e-mailed upon request) or simple e-mail or mailed letter

### ▶ CSAB Members

- ▶ CSAB members are encouraged to review the final sections again to ensure all their comments have been addressed, and the GSP messaging seems consistent
- ▶ 2 sections are new to CSAB members (Section 8 and Executive Summary) and we would welcome feedback on those

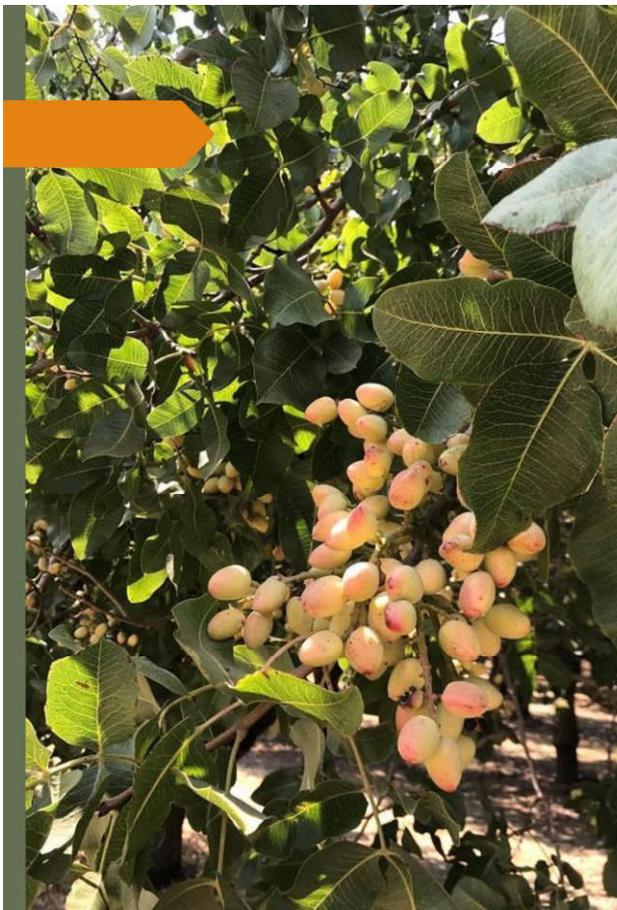
### ▶ GSA Committees/Boards/Member Agencies

- ▶ Importance of review of this full GSP draft by decision makers, to make sure any concerns or comments are incorporated, prior to finalization and adoption, to not delay the process and miss the statutory deadline



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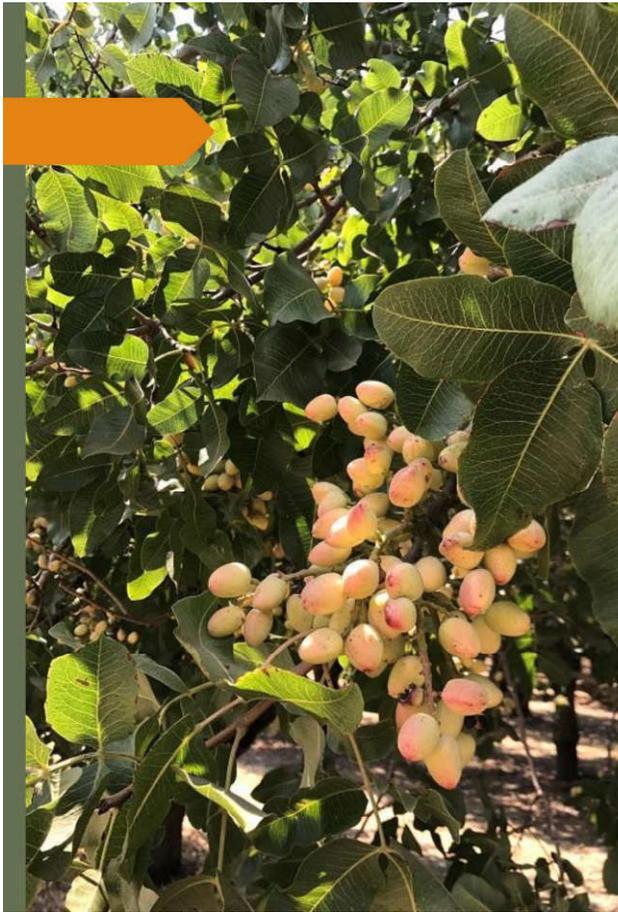


## Remaining Questions and Comments on Draft GSP?

- ▶ GSA Staff remarks
- ▶ CSAB feedback
- ▶ Public comment

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## Potential Action Item

- ▶ Approve release of Draft GSP for 45-day public review on September 10<sup>th</sup>

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## Outreach Activities



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# Corning Subbasin Outreach & Engagement Update

September 1, 2021 | CSAB Meeting

Stephanie Horii, Consensus Building Institute



## Presentation outline

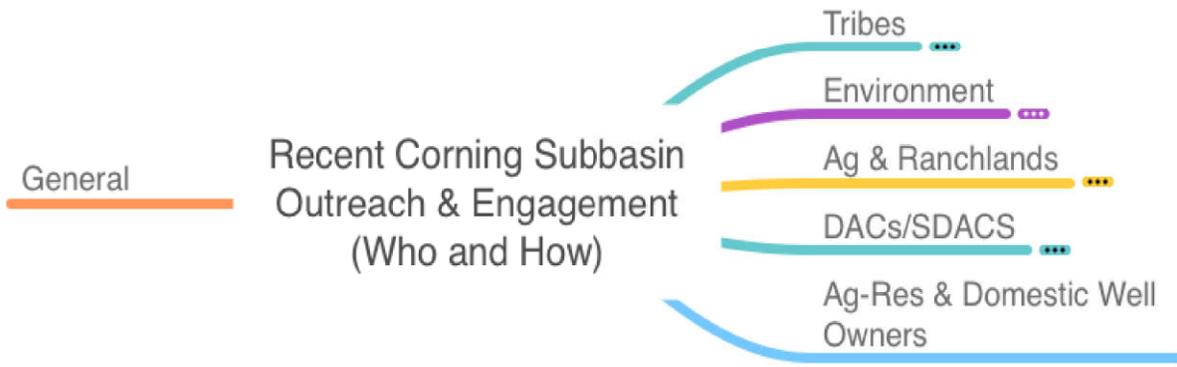


Brief status update on recent activities

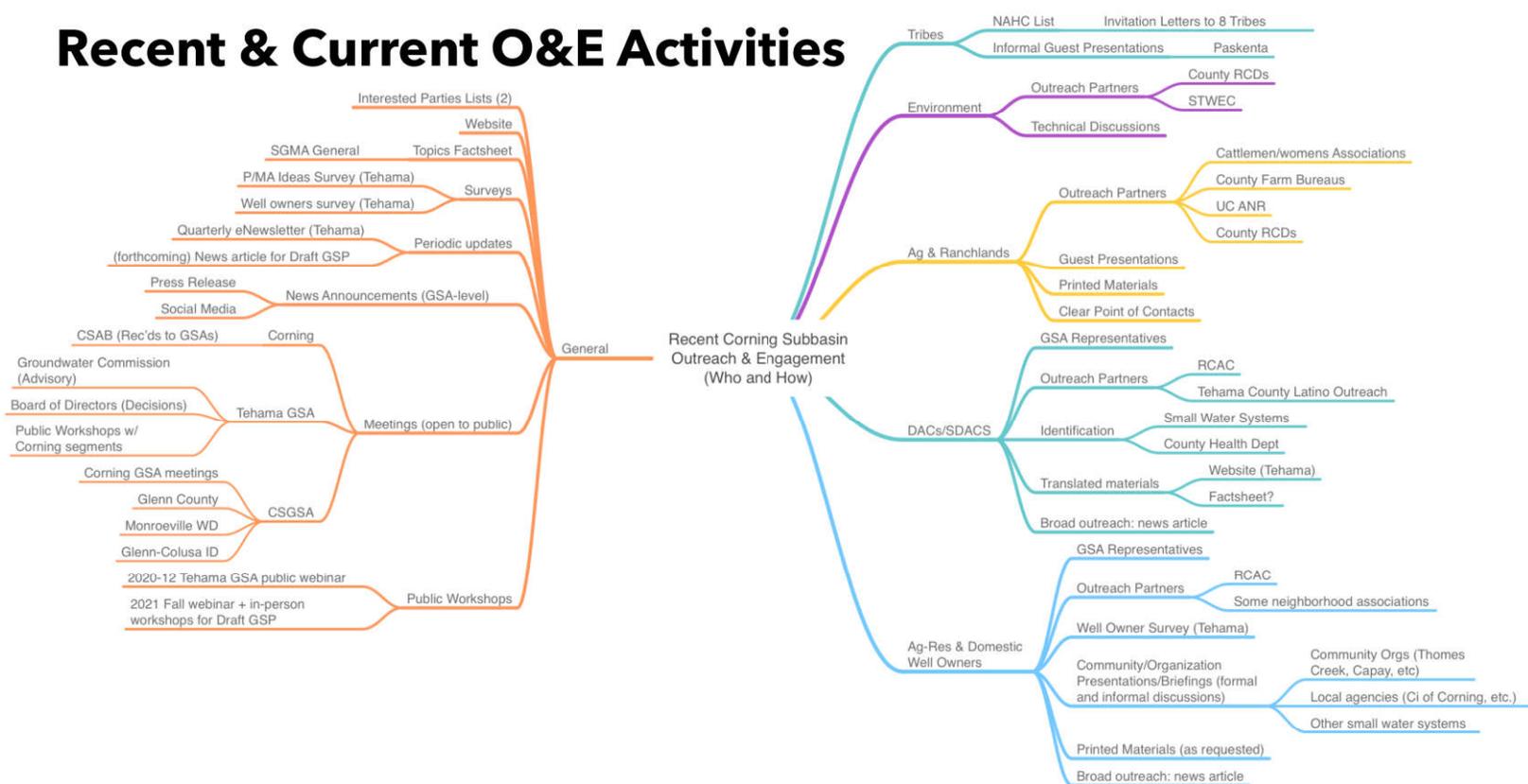


Upcoming activities

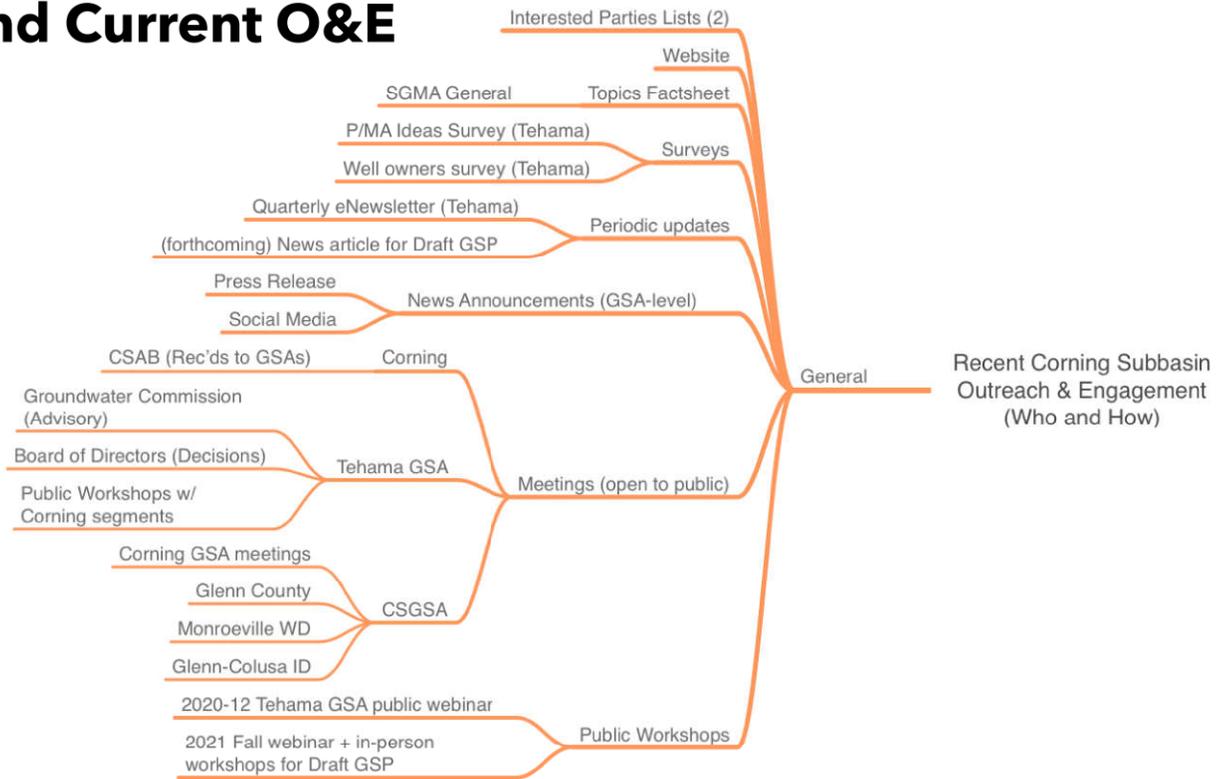
# Recent & Current Outreach and Engagement (O&E) Activities



## Recent & Current O&E Activities



# Recent and Current O&E



## Recent and Current O&E

# Top Methods and Forums

- Briefings upon request (communities, organizations, etc.)
- Outreach partners
- CSAB and GSAs' meetings/workshops and representatives
- Interested parties email lists (2)
- Websites
- Social media (GSA-level and outreach partners)
- Handouts (SGMA 101 factsheet; Draft GSP [forthcoming])
- Tehama County GSA quarterly e-newsletter
- News article (forthcoming)



# Tentative Current and Upcoming Activities

WHAT

HOW (examples)



Announcing the Draft GSP, comment period, and upcoming public workshops

News article, press releases, outreach partners, interested parties list, websites



Communicating involvement opportunities (especially how to comment on the Draft GSP)

(similar as above)  
"How to comment" + public workshops announcement handout



Learning and discussing the Draft GSP

Public in-person workshop and public webinar



Capturing what we've learned

Updating the C&E Plan for GSP implementation - most effective methods, issues to further consider during GSP implementation, suggestions to consider, etc.

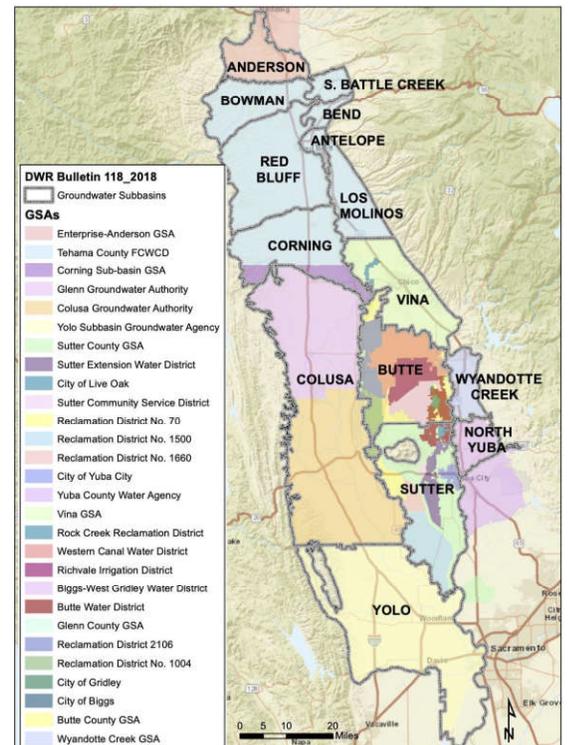
*All these activities are subject to change to accommodate changing needs and circumstances*

## Overview of Facilitation Support for Inter-basin Coordination in the Northern Sacramento Valley

Funded by DWR Facilitation Support Services

Facilitated by Tania Carlone and Mariana Rivera-Torres, Consensus Building Institute

Working with staff of GSAs in about 11 subbasins since spring 2020 (*Antelope, Bowman, Butte, Colusa, Corning, Los Molinos, Red Bluff, Sutter, Vina, Wyandotte Creek, and Yolo*)



# Northern Sacramento Valley Inter-Basin Coordination Report

- CBI released the report outlining the foundational pillars that comprise the framework for inter-basin coordination under SGMA between and among subbasins in the Northern Sacramento Valley. The content of the report is the result of staff recommendations resulting from regional inter-basin coordination meetings among staff representatives.
- Available:  
[http://www.buttecounty.net/wrcdocs/planning/SGWMA/InterbasinCoordination/210707\\_NSV\\_IB\\_Coord\\_Report\\_Final.pdf](http://www.buttecounty.net/wrcdocs/planning/SGWMA/InterbasinCoordination/210707_NSV_IB_Coord_Report_Final.pdf)
- It describes a menu of options for ongoing communication and collaboration between and among groundwater subbasins over the twenty-year implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
- This inter-basin coordination report will be included as an appendix to the GSP.



## Pillars: Menu of Coordination Topics / Activities

1. Information-sharing
2. Joint analysis & evaluation
3. Coordination on mutually beneficial activities
4. Coordinated communication and outreach
5. Issue-resolution process

## DRAFT Corning Subbasin GSP - Public Workshops

### Two options / opportunities for participation

- Offer in-person and virtual participation opportunities, on separate days

### Tentative timing

- Week of Oct 4 - in-person workshop
- Week of Oct 11 - online webinar

### Topics / scope

- Intended to be high-level and non-technical
- Help orient to the Draft GSP
- Provide an opportunity to gather public input
- Provide information on how to comment
- Information on how to be involved going forward through GSP implementation

### Coming prepared

- Developing materials to help attendees prepare (e.g., SGMA 101 short video)

*Note: the in-person option could change depending on local conditions and directives*

## Expected near-term O&E methods

- Outreach partners
- CSAB and GSAs' meetings/workshops and representatives
- Interested parties email lists (2)
- Websites
- Social media (GSA-level and outreach partners)
- Handouts (SGMA 101 factsheet; Draft GSP [forthcoming])
- News article (forthcoming)

### Feedback: What else should be near-term priorities?

Any suggestions on how we can help members of the public be aware, involved, and prepared to meaningfully participate in the public workshops and comment on the Draft GSP?

# Next Steps for GSP Adoption and Implementation



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## Schedule of Activities

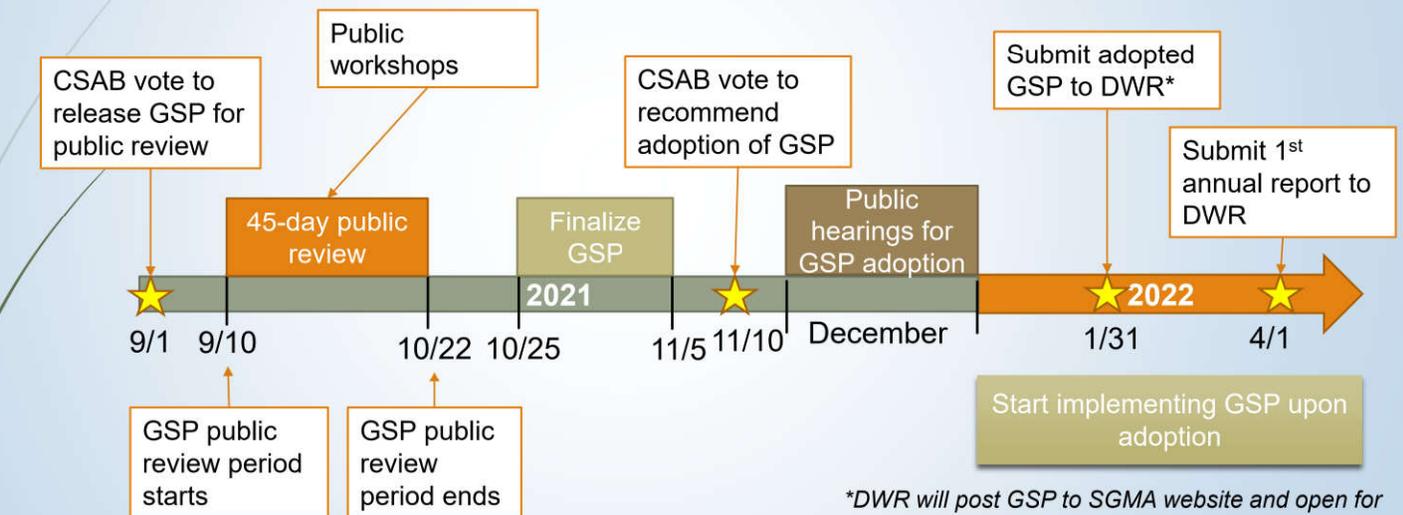
- ▶ **First two weeks of October:** public workshops
- ▶ **October 25<sup>th</sup> - November 5<sup>th</sup> 2021:** incorporate public comments and finalize GSP
- ▶ **November 10<sup>th</sup>:** CSAB meeting to review public comments incorporation and for CSAB to vote on recommendation to adopt Final GSP
- ▶ **December 2021:** hold GSA Board public hearings for GSP adoption
  - ▶ Tehama Groundwater Commission meets **Dec. 8** to consider adoption and could make a recommendation to the Tehama GSA Board which meets **Dec. 20** and could adopt GSP at that meeting
  - ▶ CSGSA meets **Dec. 8** and could adopt the GSP at that meeting
- ▶ **By January 31, 2022:** submit final adopted GSP to DWR
- ▶ **By February 2022:** start implementing the GSP as soon as it is adopted
- ▶ **By April 1, 2022:** submit first annual report to DWR



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## Timeline Recap at a Glance



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*\*DWR will post GSP to SGMA website and open for official public comment period – DWR has 2 years to review the GSP and provide assessment.*

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## What to Expect During GSP Implementation

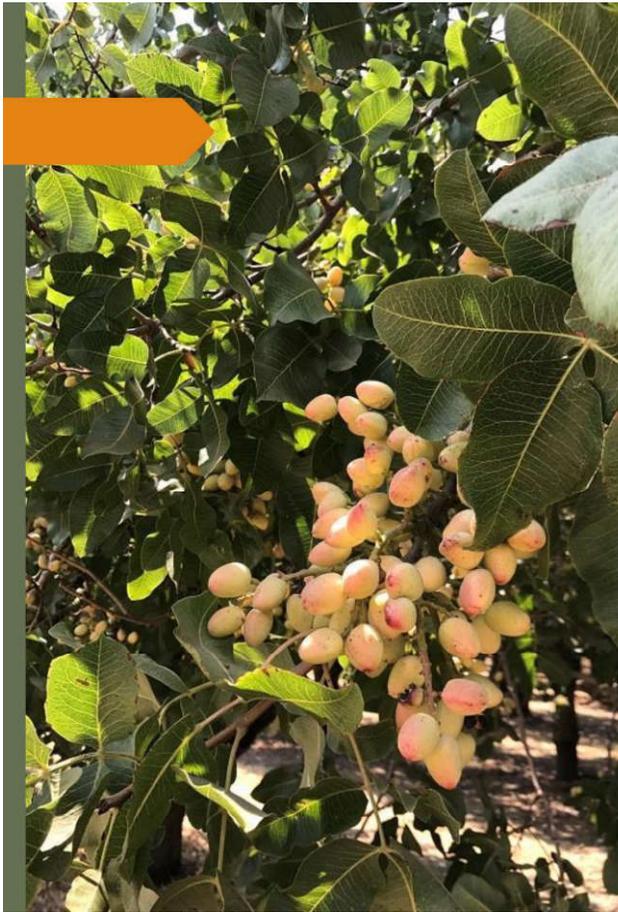
- GSA Governance:**
  - Review MOU/MOA
  - Subbasin GSA Coordination
  - Budget Planning and Funding Oversight
- Outreach and Coordination:**
  - Public Outreach and Notifications
  - Interbasin Coordination
  - CSAB and GSA Committee and Board Meetings
- Monitoring and Reporting**
  - Required annual and 5 yr updates
  - Coordination with DWR
  - Data collection and address data gaps
  - Oversight of consultants or contractors
- Project and Management Actions**
  - Grant applications and management
  - Coordinate with partner agencies

*The CSAB will continue to function as an appointed advisory board comprised of members of both GSAs to advise the GSAs during Plan Implementation.*



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## Questions and Comments on Near-term and Longer term Activities?

- ▶ GSA Staff remarks
- ▶ CSAB feedback
- ▶ Public comment

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## End of Meeting



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# Excerpt from 9/1/21 CSAB Meeting Agenda

## CSAB Schedule & Objectives

The Corning Sub-Basin Advisory Board (CSAB) will meet monthly on the first Wednesday of the month from 1:30 to 3:30 pm (4:00 pm starting March 2021). Meetings are planned from April 2020 through approximately December 2021. This meeting schedule outlines the anticipated schedule and the key discussion topics for each meeting. It will be updated to reflect the most current information, as warranted.

Date	Key Meeting Topics	CSAB Meeting Objectives
<b>2020</b>		
Apr	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSAB Overview</li> <li>• GSP Development</li> <li>• Groundwater Data</li> <li>• Overview of Data Management System and Model</li> <li>• Sustainable Management Goal Example</li> <li>• Interests &amp; Concerns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide background on Corning GSP framework</li> <li>• Collection of groundwater data</li> <li>• Collection of interests</li> <li>• Introduce potential Sustainability Goal for Subbasin</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> </ul>
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model and groundwater conditions</li> <li>• Modeling platform selection</li> <li>• GSP review process</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSAB Recommendations and questions for Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model and Groundwater Conditions</li> <li>• Make a recommendation on model platform to use for GSP work</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> </ul>
July	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current and Historical draft Water Budgets</li> <li>• Model overview</li> <li>• Potential management areas</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of what is perceived as historic and current unsustainable groundwater use based on water budget</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> </ul>
Aug	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring Networks</li> <li>• Overview of Sustainable Management Criteria and approach to development</li> <li>• Draft Sustainability Goal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Answer questions on monitoring networks</li> <li>• Gather initial feedback on process for developing SMCs</li> <li>• Discuss Sustainability Goal</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> </ul>
Sept	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groundwater Level SMC discussion #1 - background on Groundwater Levels SMC</li> <li>• Proposed approaches for MT and MO</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Input on proposed approaches for MT and MO development</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> </ul>
Oct 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Groundwater Level SMC discussion #2 - proposed groundwater level MT and MO</li> <li>• Initial Discussion on Potential Projects and Management Actions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendations on proposed groundwater level MT and MO</li> <li>• Input on Projects and Actions</li> <li>• Public Comment</li> </ul>

Date	Key Meeting Topics	CSAB Meeting Objectives
Nov 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrated Model Updates</li> <li>Overview of current, historical and projected water budgets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Answer questions on modeling and water budgets</li> <li>Public Comment</li> </ul>
Dec 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open Discussion on GSP Sections 1 and 2</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive feedback on Draft GSP Sections 1 and 2 provided and available on Corning GSP website</li> <li>Answer any additional GSP questions</li> </ul>
<b>2021 - Proposed</b>		
Jan 6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Open Discussion on GSP Section 3</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Receive feedback on Draft GSP Section 3 provided and available on Corning GSP website</li> <li>Answer any additional GSP questions</li> </ul>
Feb 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Depletion of interconnected surface water SMC discussion #1 - background on Subbasin streams and introduction to SMC</li> <li>Overview of Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs) approach</li> <li><del>Land subsidence SMC discussion #1 – background on Subbasin conditions and introduction to SMC</del></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input on significant and unreasonable conditions and initial discussion on MT development</li> <li>Public Comment</li> </ul>
Mar 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>Depletion of interconnected surface water SMC discussion #2 – review SMC approaches</del></li> <li>Land subsidence SMC discussion #1 – review SMC approaches</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input on proposed approaches for MT and MO development</li> <li>Discussion of undesirable results</li> <li><b>Potential recommendations to GSA Boards for Lowering of GWLs SMC</b></li> <li><i>Public Comment</i></li> </ul>
Apr 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land subsidence SMC discussion #2 – review SMC approaches</li> <li>Review projected water budgets and GSP requirements; introduction to storage SMC</li> <li>Initial discussion on potential projects and management actions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input on significant and unreasonable conditions and initial discussion on MT development</li> <li><b>Potential recommendations to GSA Boards for subsidence SMC</b></li> <li>Input on potential projects and management actions</li> <li><i>Public Comment</i></li> </ul>
May 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussions and development of SMCs for Groundwater Quality</li> <li>Review SMC approaches for Interconnected SW depletion SMC</li> <li>Continue discussion on projects and management actions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input on significant and unreasonable conditions and initial discussion on SMC development</li> <li><i>Public Comment</i></li> </ul>
June 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recap SMC for all sustainability indicators</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Potential recommendations to GSA Boards on groundwater levels, storage, water quality, subsidence, and depletion of interconnected surface water SMC</b></li> <li><i>Public Comment</i></li> </ul>
July 7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised List of Projects &amp; Management Actions</li> <li>Introduction to funding mechanisms</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Input on revised list of Projects &amp; Management Actions</li> <li>Discussion on potential funding mechanisms</li> <li><i>Public Comment</i></li> </ul>

Date	Key Meeting Topics	CSAB Meeting Objectives
Aug 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review public feedback on Sections 5 and 6</li> <li>Discuss priority actions for plan implementation, including data gaps</li> <li>Evaluate funding mechanisms</li> <li>Review grant opportunities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Solicit feedback on Sections 5 and 6</li> <li>Receive input on Plan Implementation and plans for addressing data gaps</li> <li>Recommendations on funding mechanisms</li> <li>Identify potential grant funding opportunities</li> <li><i>Public Comment</i></li> </ul>
Sept 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review final draft GSP</li> <li>Remaining questions and comments</li> <li>Moving towards GSP implementation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Approve release of Draft GSP for public review</b></li> </ul>
<b>Oct</b>	<b><i>Draft Final GSP posted on website for public review – no CSAB meeting; potential public meeting, to be scheduled</i></b>	
Nov 10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review public comments on GSP</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendations on incorporation of policy-based comments</li> <li><b>Potential recommendations to GSA Boards</b></li> </ul>
<i>Dec (if needed)</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendation for Adoption of Groundwater Sustainability Plan to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendations for Adoption of Groundwater Sustainability Plan to Groundwater Sustainability Agencies</li> <li><i>Public Comment</i></li> </ul>

**Acronyms:**

- CSAB: Corning Subbasin Advisory Board
- GSA: Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- GSP: Groundwater Sustainability Plan
- GWL: Groundwater level
- MT: Minimum Threshold
- MO: Measurable Objective
- RMP: Representative Monitoring Plan
- SGMA: Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- SMC: Sustainable Management Criteria
- UR: Undesirable Result

**Consulting Firms abbreviations:**

- M&A: Montgomery & Associates (Technical lead and GSP development lead)
- K&W: Kearns & West (meeting facilitator)
- CBI: Consensus Building Institute (outreach coordinator)

## 7. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Update and Discussion

### a. Review final draft GSP release schedule, comment period, and GSP adoption process

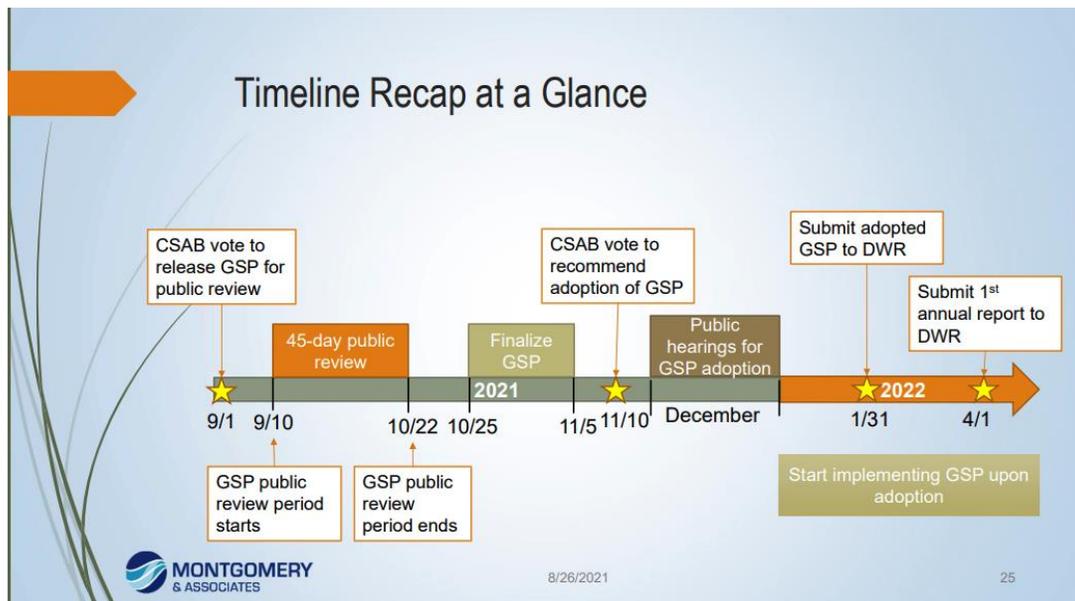
GSA Staff will provide an update on the approved GSP completion and adoption timeline (attached with notes). Committee members may share their desired process to engage with member agencies prior to GSP adoption.

The final draft GSP will be released for public review on September 10, 2021. The complete draft GSP will be posted to the Corning Subbasin GSP website at: <https://www.corningsubbasingsp.org/>. A public review hard copy will be available for viewing at the Glenn County Planning and Community Development office at 225 North Tehama Street in Willows.

Comments from stakeholders can be provided directly to GSA staff via an excel comment form, which will be posted on the website or e-mailed upon request, or via e-mail or mailed letter. The 45-day comment period will conclude October 25, 2021.

Committees, Boards, and Member Agencies' decision makers are strongly encouraged review of this full GSP draft and provide input, to make sure any concerns or comments are incorporated, prior to finalization and consideration of adoption. This focused review will minimize the potential for delays in the process that limit the GSAs ability to meet the statutory deadline.

A slide from the September 1, 2021 CSAB meeting provides a timeline recap:



Attachments:

- GSP Completion and Adoption Timeline (approved 3/10/21)
- 90-Day Notice to Cities and Counties

## Approved - GSP Completion and Adoption Timeline (with status update notes)

- ▶ **August 5, 2021: 90-day notice to Cities and Counties, prior to public hearing -complete 8/27/21**
  - ▶ *link to website with current draft sections (note: GSP does not need to be complete to post the notice)*
- ▶ **September 10, 2021: Public Release of Complete Draft GSP**
  - ▶ At August GSA meetings, authorize the CSAB to release the Public Draft GSP -complete 6/9/21
  - ▶ At Sept. 1 CSAB meeting, recommend release of draft GSP for public review -complete 9/1/21
  - ▶ *post full draft for 45-day public review (note: public review timeframe does not need to correspond to 90-day noticing)*
- ▶ **October ~~22~~ 25, 2021: Draft GSP Public Review Ends (updated after 9/1/21 CSAB meeting- to make a 45-day public comment period)**
  - ▶ *TBD: Schedule a public meeting in October to hear public comments on draft GSP in progress*
- ▶ **November 2021: incorporate public comments and finalize GSP**
  - ▶ November 10<sup>th</sup>: reschedule the CSAB meeting to this date to review public comments incorporation and for CSAB to vote on recommendation to adopt
  - ▶ *Note: CSAB voted to move the regularly scheduled November 3 meeting to November 10<sup>th</sup> to allow for more time to review and incorporate comments prior to recommendation to adopt.*
- ▶ **December 2021: hold GSA Board public hearings for GSP adoption**
  - ▶ *Tehama GSA GW Commission meets Dec 8 to consider adoption and could make a recommendation to the Tehama GSA Board which meets Dec 20 and could adopt GSP at that meeting*
  - ▶ *CSGSA needs to schedule a special meeting for early December. Last scheduled meeting date is 11/10/21- meeting scheduled for December 8, 2021.*
- ▶ **January 2022: submit final adopted GSP to DWR**



August 27, 2021

City of Corning  
794 Third Street  
Corning, CA 96021

RE: Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Dear Honorable City Council,

The Corning Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (CSGSA), in conjunction with the Tehama County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, is preparing a draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Corning Subbasin, as required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

Water Code § 10728.4. reads in part:

*A groundwater sustainability agency may adopt or amend a groundwater sustainability plan after a public hearing, held at least 90 days after providing notice to a city or county within the area of the proposed plan or amendment. The groundwater sustainability agency shall review and consider comments from any city or county that receives notice pursuant to this section and shall consult with a city or county that requests consultation within 30 days of the receipt of the notice.*

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the CSGSA will hold a Public Hearing in December 2021 to consider adopting the GSP for the Corning Subbasin.

Pursuant to SGMA, representatives of the CSGSA are available to provide consultation with, and receive comments on the GSP from your organization should consultation be requested. Comments may also be provided in writing during the public comment period beginning on September 10, 2021 and continue for 45 days closing on October 22, 2021.

Components of the plan and the complete plan, when available, may be reviewed at the Corning Subbasin GSP website at: <https://www.corningsubbasingsp.org/>

Consultations can be arranged, or questions can be answered by contacting Lisa Hunter, Glenn County Water Resources Coordinator, at [lhunter@countyofglenn.net](mailto:lhunter@countyofglenn.net) or by phone at 530-934-6540.

Sincerely,

Lisa Hunter  
Glenn County Water Resource Coordinator



August 27, 2021

County of Tehama  
P.O. Box 250  
Red Bluff, CA 96080

RE: Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

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Sincerely,

Lisa Hunter  
Glenn County Water Resource Coordinator



August 27, 2021

County of Glenn  
525 West Sycamore Street, Suite B1  
Willows, CA 95988

RE: Corning Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Dear Honorable Board of Supervisors,

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Sincerely,

Lisa Hunter  
Glenn County Water Resource Coordinator

Cc: Scott DeMoss, CAO

## b. Outreach and engagement update

Discussion will take place on upcoming outreach and engagement efforts, including the October GSP public workshop (in-person) a webinar. Members of the CSGSA Committee are encouraged to share ideas and recommendations.

A slide from the September 1, 2021 CSAB meeting provides an overview of planned activities for the October public workshops.

**DRAFT Corning Subbasin GSP - Public Workshops**

- Two options / opportunities for participation**
  - Offer in-person and virtual participation opportunities, on separate days
- Tentative timing**
  - Week of Oct 4 - in-person workshop
  - Week of Oct 11 - online webinar
- Topics / scope**
  - Intended to be high-level and non-technical
  - Help orient to the Draft GSP
  - Provide an opportunity to gather public input
  - Provide information on how to comment
  - Information on how to be involved going forward through GSP implementation
- Coming prepared**
  - Developing materials to help attendees prepare (e.g., SGMA 101 short video)

*Note: the in-person option could change depending on local conditions and directives*

## 8. Corning Sub-basin GSA Committee Member Reports and Comments

Members of the CSGSA Committee are encouraged to share information, reports, comments, and suggest future agenda items. Action cannot be taken on matters brought up under this item.

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## 9. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be **October 13, 2021, at 9:30 am.**

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## 10. Adjourn

The meeting will be adjourned.