

Glenn Groundwater Authority

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

PO Box 351, Willows, CA 95988 | 530.934.6501

Board of Directors Meeting Materials

March 9, 2021 | 1:30 PM

LOCATION: Teleconference

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

The meeting can be accessed via telephone at +1 (786) 535-3211 or by computer, smartphone, or tablet at:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/132628165>

Meeting Access Code: 132-628-165

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Chairperson will call the meeting to order.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call will be conducted.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. *Approval of meeting minutes from February 8, 2021.

Draft meeting minutes are attached.

Attachment

- Meeting minutes from February 8, 2021

Glenn Groundwater Authority

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

PO Box 351, Willows, CA 95988 | 530.934.6501

Meeting Minutes

Glenn Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

February 8, 2021 | 1:30 pm

LOCATION: Teleconference

Pursuant to Governor Newsom's Executive Orders N-29-20 this meeting was conducted by teleconference. The meeting was accessible via telephone, computer, smartphone or tablet.

Director Members Present:	Alternate/2 nd Alternate Directors	Agency Representing:
X Grant Carmon	Tom Arnold	County of Glenn
X Bruce Roundy	Pete Carr	City of Orland
	Ed Vonasek (2 nd)	City of Orland
X Gary Hansen (Vice Chair)	X Evan Markey	City of Willows
George Nerli	X Leslie Nerli	Glide Water District
X John Amaro (Chair)	Thad Bettner	Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
X Charles Schonauer	X Emil Cavagnolo	Orland-Artois Water District
	X Andrea Jones (2 nd)	Orland-Artois Water District
X Randy Hansen	Wade Danley	Kanawha Water District
	Michael Alves (2 nd)	Kanawha Water District
X Mark Lohse	Seth Fiack	Monroeville Water District
X Gary Enos	X Lance Boyd	Princeton-Codora-Glenn Irrigation District/ Provident Irrigation District

Others in attendance:

Lisa Hunter, GGA/Glenn County; Valerie Kincaid, GGA Counsel; Jaime Lely; Joshua Dowell; Mary Fahey, CGA; Byron Clark, Davids Engineering, Inc.; Arne Gustafson; Cork McIsaac; Gina Nicholls, Nossaman; Holly Reimers

1. CALL TO ORDER

Gary Hansen called the meeting to order at 1:51 pm.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken and indicated above.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- *Approval of meeting minutes from January 11, 2021.

The meeting minutes from January 11, 2021 were approved as presented.

Motion: Bruce Roundy, Second: Gary Enos, Vote: 8-0 (one member- no audio)

Roll Call Vote

Grant Carmon: AYE

Bruce Roundy: AYE

Gary Hansen: AYE

John Amaro: NO AUDIO

Charles Schonauer: AYE

Randy Hansen: AYE

Mark Lohse: AYE

Gary Enos: AYE

Leslie Nerli: AYE

4. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

5. STAFF UPDATES

Lisa Hunter indicated a Program Manger Report is included in the meeting packet. She highlighted the Golden State Risk Management Authority trainings and reminded Board members that Fair Political Practices Commission Form 700s are due April 1. Ms. Hunter will be sending invoices to the self-bill parcels for tax year 2020/2021 which also includes the City of Orland and City of Willows agreed upon amounts for parcels within the cities. The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and Department of Water Resources (DWR) presented on a multi-benefit recharge pilot project in January. Staff met with the group to narrow down potential areas within the GGA that may benefit from this program and is also coordinating a meeting between TNC/DWR and GGA Counsel to discuss the potential project and review questions raised at the GGA Executive Committee. Staff will report the outcomes of the meetings.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. *Review and accept Monthly Activities Report.
- b. *Review and consider approval of claims.

Ms. Hunter reviewed the Monthly Activities Report. There was a motion to approve the Monthly Activities Report as presented.

Motion: Grant Carmon, Second: Bruce Roundy, Vote: 8-0 (one member- no audio)

Roll Call Vote

Grant Carmon: AYE

Bruce Roundy: AYE

Gary Hansen: AYE

John Amaro: NO AUDIO

Charles Schonauer: AYE

Randy Hansen: AYE

Mark Lohse: AYE

Gary Enos: AYE

Leslie Nerli: AYE

There was a motion to approve the claims as presented.

Motion: Bruce Roundy, Second: Gary Enos, Vote: 8-0 (one member- no audio)

Roll Call Vote

Grant Carmon: AYE

Bruce Roundy: AYE

Gary Hansen: AYE

John Amaro: NO AUDIO

Charles Schonauer: AYE

Randy Hansen: AYE

Mark Lohse: AYE

Gary Enos: AYE

Leslie Nerli: AYE

7. FISCAL YEAR 2019/2020 ANNUAL AUDIT

- a. *Accept *Glenn Groundwater Authority Groundwater Sustainability Agency Financial Statements and Supplementary Information Year Ended June 30, 2020.*

Ms. Hunter stated Joey Judson, CliftonLarsonAllen Staff, provided a presentation on the draft report at the December meeting. She has provided input on the Management Discussion and Analysis portions and completed review of the report. The report is included in the meeting packet. Leslie Nerli asked a question regarding the change in position and whether it related to the lapse in billing and receiving. Ms. Hunter noted it is the changes from last year to this year and billings and amounts received may have a role in that figure. She indicated she could follow up on a more specific response if desired. Mr. G. Hansen stated it appears to be a thorough audit and looks good.

There was a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Annual Audit as presented.

Motion: Bruce Roundy, Second: Charles Schonauer, Vote: 8-0 (one member- no audio)

Roll Call Vote

Grant Carmon: AYE

Bruce Roundy: AYE

Gary Hansen: AYE

John Amaro: NO AUDIO

Charles Schonauer: AYE

Randy Hansen: AYE

Mark Lohse: AYE

Gary Enos: AYE

Leslie Nerli: AYE

8. REQUEST EXTENSION TO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN DEADLINE

- a. *Consider approving a letter or directing Staff to draft a letter to the Governor requesting an extension to the January 31, 2022 deadline to submit the Groundwater Sustainability Plans for medium and high priority subbasins.

Ms. Hunter indicated there are some that feel the COVID-19 restrictions have made public engagement throughout the SGMA process difficult and limited. At the December 2020 CGA meeting, the Board directed staff to write a letter to the Governor requesting an extension to the January 31, 2022 deadline to submit the GSP. The letter was approved in January and a copy was sent to the GGA.

Valerie Kincaid mentioned a few agencies have sent similar letters. The GSP deadline is a statutory deadline and therefore, the request would be sent to the Governor rather than DWR. She was not sure if an extension would be granted. It has been difficult to sit face-to-face and discuss the plan, but she thinks the GGA is doing a great job of getting stakeholder input and the process takes time.

Bruce Roundy asked if this has been done throughout the State and how long would the extension be? Ms. Kincaid replied that others have requested an extension, but none have been given to date. You could ask for six months or one year. It seems unlikely that it would be granted because it is statutory. Mr. Roundy suggested

checking with the consultants to see where we are in the process and what they recommend. Ms. Kincaid noted that would be appropriate. Ms. Nerli referenced the CGA letter included in the meeting packet and said it was less about the technical work and more about the outreach and public participation. Ms. Hunter confirmed CGA has already submitted the request for a one-year extension. She also confirmed Ms. Nerli's analysis that the CGA letter is more about the outreach and less about technically being able to complete the GSP by the deadline. Mr. Roundy suggested it would be helpful for GGA to submit a letter to be in lock-step with the CGA. Grant Carmon agreed that it would be in our benefit to submit a letter as long as we are still on track to meet the deadline if it is denied. Gary Enos agreed.

Chuck Schonauer made a motion to write a letter similar to the CGA requesting a one-year extension due to the lack of outreach as a reason for the request. It was clarified the letter references the COVID pandemic.

Motion: Charles Schonauer, Second: Randy Hansen, Vote: 8-0 (one member- no audio)

Roll Call Vote

Grant Carmon: AYE

Bruce Roundy: AYE

Gary Hansen: AYE

John Amaro: NO AUDIO

Charles Schonauer: AYE

Randy Hansen: AYE

Mark Lohse: AYE

Gary Enos: AYE

Leslie Nerli: AYE

9. COLUSA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

- a. Receive update on Plan development, activities, and outreach.
- b. Receive update on GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68).
- c. Receive update on Project Agreements.
- d. Receive an update on the Well Monitoring Pilot Program.
- e. Discussion on Management Areas.

Ms. Hunter mentioned updates can be found in the Program Manager Report as well as the synopsis in the meeting packet for this item. The January Davids Engineering memo is included which provides a summary of activities. Collecting and considering public comments is an important component of GSP development. The consultant team has created a spreadsheet called the Administrative Record spreadsheet to track comments as they are received. A copy of the spreadsheet is included in the meeting packet and this information will be shared at future meetings as well. The document is being maintained in a "box" account and can be viewed at the following link: <https://app.box.com/s/2w5ewrd7qmw3b8ngcslbg9wlsithey40>. She also noted the Projects and Management Actions submittal form is available online and she encouraged sharing the form with others and submitting project ideas.

Ms. Hunter referenced the **GSP Development Grants** and **Project Agreements** summaries that are included in the meeting packet including the amounts expended and remaining for each. She mentioned the invoice to DWR for the grant was submitted in January 2021. CGA holds the contract with DWR, but works closely with the GGA. She also highlighted that DWR retains 10% of the total invoiced. CGA currently bears the burden of holding the 10% retention and the GGA has been reimbursed fully for project work. Future discussion may take place to share that burden. Project Agreements include the two agreements with Davids Engineering for the

Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model and Water Budget Project and for the GSP Development Project. Summaries for the projects are included in the meeting packet and a summary of activities is included in the monthly status update memo.

Ms. Hunter shared that the public workshop for the **Well Monitoring Pilot Program** took place January 25 and the recording can be found on the Colusa Subbasin SGMA Facebook page. The program flyer and application are in the meeting packet and she encouraged all to share the information. A few applications have been received.

Ms. Hunter noted that David Kehn, the GGA TAC representative, had a conflict and is unable to participate in today's **Management Areas (MA)** discussion, although, he has been communicating with staff and legal counsel on the pros, cons, and considerations in preparation of this item. She referenced the materials included in the meeting packet. The CGA is holding a special board meeting to have focused discussion on this item. GGA may wish to do the same, in which consultant support would be available. Mary Fahey, CGA staff, summarized the discussion from the Joint TAC meeting which is included in the meeting packet as well.

Ms. Nerli noted we don't have any thresholds yet and it is unclear where an MA would make sense. She also asked for confirmation that the GSP could be amended. Ms. Kincaid responded that if it is not obvious as to where a MA would be, the discussion usually comes up after Minimum Threshold (MT) discussions. If different MTs are needed for certain areas, that usually drives the need to establish an MA. The GGA could learn about MAs, discuss pros and cons and then weave in discussions during MT development. If it becomes apparent that different MT should be set, then an MA might be needed. If not, you can usually achieve your goals through governance and separate projects without MAs. Some desire MAs for jurisdictions with a sense they can implement SGMA in their own area more than another. MAs can help you distinguish areas within a plan or subbasin, but there are other ways to do that as well. With MAs there are additional requirements such as mapping, reporting, and separate monitoring networks, as well as providing as reason to DWR why MAs were made. It is possible to identify them in a five-year update, now, or during MT development.

Mr. Roundy indicated he liked the latter option. What we don't know is what we don't know yet. As we go, we can determine if we need them. There is a lot of extra work and money to develop MAs.

Byron Clark shared some views with Ms. Kincaid, but offered that the GSP regulations don't say a whole lot about MAs. They can be based on physical characteristics, or other considerations, or facilitate implementation of Projects and Management Actions (PMAs). The establishment of Sustainable Management Criteria must be based on consistent definition of what would be an Undesirable Result throughout the basin. Some basins formed MAs as soon as they started the process in anticipation of needing them, and for others, it has been more of a process. With regard to uncertainty, that will be challenging in initial GSP with or without MAs. The Colusa Subbasin is approximately three-quarters of a million acres. Initial water budgets are projecting a long-term overdraft of about 7,000 acre-feet. Another topic for future discussion is the way the system responds physically due to the inter-connectedness of the Sacramento River and Colusa Drain. Thresholds will be set uniquely at each monitoring site based on same principals for determining Undesirable Results. He provided some examples of how thresholds could be developed with or without MAs. For PMAs, it has been noted that existing institutions could champion a project which might be more efficient with an MA, but it is not necessary to carry it out. Additionally, the benefits of the project may not coincide identically with the MA. He also noted the GSA has authority to delegate with regard to projects and a MA is not necessarily needed to do that. Regarding raising funds for projects, a benefit assessment would likely be needed with or without an MA.

Mr. G. Hansen noted at this time it seems that there are more negatives than positives, but time will tell if MAs are needed. Mr. Clark added that this is an adaptive management process as conditions are monitored

throughout the basin over time. Additionally, you cannot have an Undesirable Result until 2042, so there is time to track conditions and make adjustments.

Ms. Hunter read a question from Jamie Lely asking if a management area is needed to help with the different imposed fees in different areas if that should be an issue later on. Ms. Kincaid stated it could help, but it is not required. For instance, if a fee structure is developed based on groundwater extraction, an MA is not needed to treat different parcels differently. Different fee structures can be developed with or without MAs.

Ms. Kincaid stated that in determining if you want MAs or not, some may consider if there are certain natural jurisdictions. If you choose to make management areas by these jurisdictions, inherently, it creates an MA outside of those areas. The County is usually the agency left for the remainder of those areas, and the County will need to pay special attention to what it means for its membership and weigh in appropriately given that interest.

Ms. Hunter recapped that the GGA would like to continue to discuss MAs, but is not currently interested in holding a special meeting to have a focused discussion. Mr. G. Hansen recommended that MAs remain a discussion topic for future agendas, but there is currently no need for a special meeting. Mr. Lohse said that from the TAC discussions, it seems that some of the districts would really like to have MAs which needs to be considered and we need to know what their thoughts are. Mr. Clark referenced a draft memo from Davids Engineering outlining the possibility of two types of MAs. Ms. Hunter will distribute the memo. The Board agreed with the approach stated.

10. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee
- b. Stakeholder Engagement Committee
- c. Technical Advisory Committee

Ms. Hunter stated the **Executive Committee** summary is provided in the meeting packet. They last met January 27. Several topics were discussed in previous items. Topics included MA, annual audit, inter-basin coordination, how to bring TAC meeting information to the board, the Well Monitoring Pilot Program, Projects and Management Actions solicitation form, and the discussion with TNC/DWR multi-benefit recharge project. Ms. Nerli asked if the coordination with water district would be delayed until the meeting between counsel and TNC and DWR. Ms. Hunter stated the project could move forward with or without the GGA and the introductions to the water districts could be delayed until the logistics questions are answered if that was desired. However, it seems that it might be more efficient to have a parallel process. The CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee meeting has not met.

The **Stakeholder Engagement Committee** has not met and has nothing to report. Ms. Hunter suggested reviewing the purpose and goals of this committee at a future meeting.

Ms. Hunter said David Kehn, the TAC representative to the GGA Board, normally provides the **Technical Advisory Committee** reports. The TAC met jointly with the CGA January 8. Many of those topics have been discussed already. There have been many discussions on MAs, and some questions on the TACs' roles versus the Boards' roles. Finding the balance between the technical and policy portions is ongoing. The TAC presentation and Davids Engineering memo are included in the meeting packet and she encouraged members to review the materials which provides a good synopsis of activities. She also noted that she will meet with Mr. Kehn after

TAC meetings to prepare and frame up items for Board discussion. Ms. Hunter also noted the February 12, 2021 TAC meeting has been cancelled and the meeting will be rescheduled soon.

11. MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

None.

12. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday**, March 9, 2021 at 1:30 pm.

13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm.

DRAFT

4. PERIOD OF PUBLIC COMMENT

Members of the public are encouraged to address the GGA Board of Directors on items relevant to the GGA. Public comments are limited to no more than 5 minutes. No action may be taken on public comments.

5. STAFF UPDATES

The program manager will provide brief status updates. Reminders and/or clarifications may also be made at this time.

6. FINANCIAL REPORT

- a. *Review and accept Monthly Activities Report.
- b. *Review and consider approval of claims.

The Monthly Activities Report and Claims Summary are attached.

Attachments

- Monthly Activities Report
- Claims Summary

Monthly Activities Report

Glenn Groundwater Authority
 Monthly Activities Report
 January 2021

Description	Amount
Beginning Balance	\$ 1,045,368.52
Revenue	
PY DIRECT ASMTS 1/20/21 (PENALTIES/COST DELQ TAXES)	\$ 45.63
PY DIRECT ASMTS 1/20/21 (PENALTIES/COST DELQ TAXES)	\$ 46.93
INTEREST (CY SEC 2ND QTR INT 20-21)	\$ 306.06
PY DIRECT ASMTS 1/20/21 (SPECIAL ASSESSMENT)	\$ 457.16
.....	
.....	
.....	
Total Revenue	\$ 855.78
Expenses	
Davids Engineering Inv 1178.01-4147	\$ 2,630.50
Davids Engineering Inv 1178.01-4283	\$ 3,030.25
Davids Engineering Inv 1178.03-4248	\$ 27,991.00
Davids Engineering Inv 1178.03-4291	\$ 30,637.75
Olaughlin & Paris LLP Inv. 1253	\$ 595.00
Davids Engineering Inv 1178.01-4195	\$ 11,200.00
A-87 COST	\$ 220.75
.....	
.....	
Total Expenses	\$ 76,305.25
Ending Balance	\$ 969,919.05

Monthly Activities Report

Glenn Groundwater Authority
 Monthly Activities Report
 February 2021 DRAFT

Description	Amount
Beginning Balance	\$ 969,919.05
Revenue	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
Total Revenue	\$ -
Expenses	
Davids Engineering Inv 1178.01-4331	\$ 8,572.50
Olaughlin & Paris LLP Inv. 1298	\$ 1,925.00
WATER RESOURCE HRS REIMBURS INV 21-WR-01	\$ 19,414.79
A-87 COST	\$ 220.75
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
.....	
Total Expenses	\$ 30,133.04
Ending Balance	\$ 939,786.01

Claims Summary

Glenn Groundwater Authority
Invoices to be paid
Meeting Date: March 9, 2021

Invoice Date	Invoice Number	Description	Amount
1/31/2021	1178.03-4407	Davids Engineering, Inc. (GSP Development)	\$ 40,869.50
1/31/2021	1178.01-4406	Davids Engineering, Inc. (HCM & Water Budget)	\$ 1,396.50
3/1/2021	1361	O'Laughlin & Paris LLP	\$ 1,995.00
Total			\$ 44,261.00

7. REQUEST EXTENSION TO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN DEADLINE

- a. *Consider approving the draft letter to the Governor requesting an extension to the January 31, 2022 deadline to submit the Groundwater Sustainability Plans for medium and high priority subbasins.

Limitations in public meetings, public participation, and engagement due to COVID-19 pandemic restrictions has led to challenges in obtaining stakeholder input and obtaining Board direction. At the February 8, 2021 meeting, the Board approved a letter be written to the Governor requesting an extension to the January 31, 2022 GSP deadline, consistent with the letter submitted to the Governor by the Colusa Groundwater Authority (CGA). The draft letter is attached for the Board’s input and consideration.

Attachment

- Draft Letter Requesting Extension to GSP Deadline

Glenn Groundwater Authority

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

PO Box 351, Willows, CA 95988 | 530.934.6501

March 9, 2021

Governor Gavin Newsom
Governor's Office
State Capital
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for an Extension of the January 31, 2022 Deadline to Submit Groundwater Sustainability Plans

Dear Governor Newsom:

The Glenn Groundwater Authority (GGA), in coordination with the Colusa Groundwater Authority, is in the process of developing the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Colusa Subbasin, a portion of the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin. As defined by the California Department of Water Resources, the Colusa Subbasin is considered a high priority basin, not in critical over-draft. The deadline to submit the GSP is January 31, 2022.

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) sets an extremely high bar for public engagement. We strongly agree that public outreach and stakeholder engagement are critical components to the GSP development process. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the GGA has not been able to provide the level of public engagement that we had planned. We have been restricted to holding public meetings and workshops on a virtual platform since March, 2020.

The GGA has noticed a lack of public participation and a decline in substantive discussion since meetings have moved from in-person to a virtual platform. While it can be said, the virtual platform has allowed some interested parties to attend meetings that were not able to travel to in person meetings, there are a great number of stakeholders that prefer to meet in person and are unable to attend via virtual platforms. It has been particularly difficult to engage stakeholder in rural and disadvantaged communities throughout our 720,000 acre Subbasin. Some difficulties are due to limited internet access and others due to a barrier in familiarity or ability to learn how to utilize the virtual meeting platforms. Even in a well-facilitated meeting, many stakeholders have difficulty sharing their input through virtual means.

The GGA is keeping on schedule to comply with the January 31, 2022 GSP submittal deadline, but we remain concerned that not all of our stakeholders are able to be engaged and provide input to this important process to the degree they deserve. Because of this, the GGA Board respectfully requests your consideration of appropriate administrative action to extend the GSP submittal deadline to January 31, 2023, for the GSAs in the non-critically over-drafted groundwater basins. We appreciate your

Glenn Groundwater Authority

Groundwater Sustainability Agency

PO Box 351, Willows, CA 95988 | 530.934.6501

consideration of our request and welcome the opportunity to speak to your administration about this important issue.

Sincerely,

John Amaro
Chair, Glenn Groundwater Authority

cc: Senator Jim Nielsen
Assembly Member James Gallagher
Taryn Ravazzini, CA Department of Water Resources
Michelle Dooley, CA Department of Water Resources, NRO
Paul Smith, Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)
Denise Carter, Chair, Colusa Groundwater Authority

DRAFT

8. COLUSA SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILTY PLAN

- a. Receive update on Plan development, activities, and outreach.
- b. Receive update on GSP Development Grants (Proposition 1 and Proposition 68).
- c. Receive update on Project Agreements.
- d. Well Monitoring Pilot Program.
 - i. *Consider approving or authorize the Program Manager to approve selection of program sites based on ranked application list.
 - ii. *Consider approving the CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) and all costs associated with filing the notice and authorize the Program Manager to submit the NOE.
- e. *Review and approve approach for distribution of GSP Chapters.
- f. Discussion on Management Areas.

GSP Development, Activities, and Outreach

The Davids Engineering GSP Development Status Update Memo will be distributed once available. The GSP development schedule is currently being updated and will be shared when complete. This update will ensure shared vision of expectations, milestones, and deliverables. This will also inform the outreach schedule including public meetings. The first four chapters of the GSP are expected to be released in early April. This is a slight change to what was discussed before. The GSP development team (staff/consultants) has decided the release the four chapter together will create a better understanding of the components of each chapter and reduce confusion on how they fit together. These chapter include the Introduction, Plan Area, Basin Setting, and Monitoring Networks. The GSP development team will likely suggest a CGA/GGA Joint Board meeting be held in April relating to these chapters.

The facilitation team is continuing to update the social media. Next steps include developing posts highlighting member or member agency profiles if the board is not opposed. It may help the public understand who is representing them in the SGMA processes. Additionally, re-posts/re-tweets of DWR or other relevant organizations' materials are being utilized. For instance, National Groundwater Awareness Week in March 7-13. This topic will be shared in the Colusa Subbasin SGMA social media.

An important component of GSP development is the collection and consideration of public comments and input relating to the GSP. Public input is being tracked by the outreach team and is currently being compiled in an Administrative Record spreadsheet in order to provide regular updates to the Colusa Subbasin GSAs to consider during GSP development. The Administrative Record spreadsheet will be provided at Board meetings and Board feedback on these items will be documented as part of the GSP. The spreadsheet is being maintained and updated regularly and is housed online in a "Box" account which can be viewed at the following link: <https://app.box.com/s/2w5ewrd7qmw3b8ngcslbg9wlsithey40>

GSP Development Grants

(No changes from last report) The Proposition 1 and Proposition 68 GSP development grants are managed by the CGA. GGA staff coordinates regularly with CGA staff on grant processes and to complete necessary documentation. Progress report and invoice 9 were submitted to DWR in January 2021. The invoice totaled \$118,175.75.

Proposition 1 Grant Funds: \$1,000,000.00

Expended: \$484,420.32 (through December 2020- Invoice 9)

Remaining: \$515,579.68

Proposition 68 Grant Funds: \$999,600.00

Expended: \$5,667.75 (through December 2020- Invoice 9)

Remaining: \$993,932.25

Project Agreements

The GGA holds the agreements with Davids Engineering for two projects. Work from these projects is invoiced to CGA to include in the grant reimbursement requests (grant invoices). CGA reimburses the GGA after payment from DWR is received. Highlights of project work will be included in the Davids Engineering GSP Development Status Update Memo (to be distributed soon).

The Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model & Water Budget Project

Contract Amount: \$378,000.00

Expended: \$362,149.65

Remaining: \$15,850.35

Colusa Subbasin GSP Development Project

Contract Amount: \$1,261,400.00

Expended: \$170,225.25

Remaining: \$1,091,174.75

Well Monitoring Pilot Program

The solicitation period for the Well Monitoring Pilot Program ended February 26, 2021. Cataloguing and ranking the applications is underway. Davids Engineering staff are following up with applicants to collect additional information if needed to complete the ranking process. Applications were received for 22 wells. The applications are being ranked using the criteria discussed in previous meetings and the January 25, 2021 public workshop. The relevant presentation slides from the December 11, 2020 CGA/GGA Joint TAC are attached. The proposed approach for selection of sites will begin with the highest ranked well and move down the list until the allocated funding is depleted.

If the ranking is complete prior to the GGA meeting, staff will distribute the spreadsheet for the Board to review. If the ranking has not been completing, staff is requesting the Board consider approving the selection process and authorize the Program Manager to approve the ranked list when finalized.

Staff is working with CGA and GGA Legal Counsel to review and finalize a draft landowner agreement.

This program also requires CEQA compliance. Davids Engineering staff has drafted an initial Notice of Exemption (NOE). Legal Counsel has reviewed and provided input on the draft NOE. The CGA and GGA will each submit an NOE to the County Clerk in their respective counties to be filed. There is generally a fee associated with the filing. The CGA shared the filing fee for the TNC recharge pilot project was approximately \$50.00.

Approach for Distribution of GSP Chapters

As noted above, the first four chapters are expected to be released in early April. It is important to understand and agree on the distribution of the GSP chapters as they become available for review. Staff would like feedback on how the Board would like to review process to proceed.

Options include:

1. Staff/Joint TAC review first and provide comments, then Boards review and provide comments, then release updated version to public with deadline for comments
2. Staff/Boards review and provide comments, then release updated version to public with deadline for comments

3. Release to TAC/Boards/public at the same time with deadline for public comments

It is important to also recognize the amount of time required for each review process, which must be accounted for in the schedule. Option #3 is the most time-efficient option. The other options give TAC/Board members a chance to review the documents prior to public review; however, documents are available to the public once the TAC or Board receive them.

Note: There will also be another opportunity for review when the entire draft GSP is released for public review prior to adoption and submittal to DWR.

The CGA reviewed these options on February 23 and expressed their preference for Option #3.

Management Areas

At the February 8, 2021 meeting, the Board discussed the topic of Management Areas (MA) in detail.

Ultimately, the Board decided to have standing agenda item to continue MA discussions without the need to hold a special meeting for a focused discussion at this time. The CGA continues to discuss some members' desire to form MAs. The GSP development team is putting together key questions for the CGA to reflect upon to inform their next discussion on March 24. These questions can also be shared with the GGA when finalized. The TAC representative, staff, and legal counsel will may provide additional updates or facilitate discussion as needed.

Attachments

- Administrative Record Spreadsheet (Public Comments received on GSP development)
- Well Monitoring Pilot Program 12/11/20 Joint TAC slides
- Well Monitoring Pilot Program Notice of Exemption (draft)

**Colusa Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Outreach
Comment Tracking Table
Last Revised: March 5, 2021**

Comments with an * have been abridged. The entirety of this input including any reference documents provided may be found in column H
Comment Categories: General input, Question, Request, Suggestion, Clarification

#	Date Submitted	Commenter Name (if available)	Commenter Organization (if applicable)	Venue Received	Subject	Comment	Link to Full Comment/ Reference Materials (if applicable)	Categorized Comment	Response Needed
1	7/6/2020	Ben King	Land Owner	Email	Connate Water	My concern is that the connate seawater under the Sutter Buttes is contaminating groundwater and drinking water quality....My suggestion would be to pick up where the SWRCB left off in 1952 and examine salt water and arsenic levels within a 15 mile circumference around the Buttes and set up a monitoring network to monitor changes in ground water quality going forward. This would not only focus on the southern part of the Buttes but within the whole circumference.*	https://app.box.com/s/auy1v5yuwg oesm5dttz489jg41r7zl5b	General Input	Response included in Administrative Record Files
2	8/9/2019	Brian Cahill	Land Owner		Projects	While there will be private landowner sites for groundwater recharge ponds, private sites would be most effective if they augment a public effort by Colusa county to revamp road crossing drainage culverts such that storm flows are re directed to intermittent streams like Salt creek via trenching the side road ditches. At present, the road culverts facilitate storm flows crossing the public road (necessary) but because there is no attempt to re-direct the storm flows the volumes accumulate such that the volumes arriving on private property are difficult to manage.		General Input	Comments will be logged for consideration when the PMAs portion of the GSP is being developed. Will need to coordinate also with land use entities.
3	10/20/2020	Ben King	Land Owner	Email	Water Quality	I want to highlight the C 14 dating results and trace metal contamination levels for IASC 21 generally. See the Tables for IASC 21 at the end of the Report. (Referencing USGS Middle Sacramento Valley 2006 Water Quality Report)...Perhaps we can work with the USGS to expand its network around the Sutter Buttes. Even if we get USGS testing every 10 years that may be enough to detect water quality trends. We just need a baseline because this may be 100 year issues. My concern is how the increased pumping to support permanent crops may effect the lateral and upward movement of natural contaminants. I think that recharge probably can mitigate this and may have contained the issue before the levees were built. With recharge we can tactically simulate some of the the natural benefits of the historical benefits of flooding in the Sacramento Valley while benefiting from the State's investment in flood control and reclamation.*	https://app.box.com/s/45i9kz30hb3 ci2qxah7r66dgrvi8s0iy	General Input	Response included in Administrative Record Files
4	11/18/2019	Ben King	Land Owner	Email	Water Quality	I am concerned about the potential for further later movement of the salt water northward towards the Butte Sink that may be cause by future groundwater substitution on east side of the Sacramento River near Colusa. As you know Colusa, Grimes, Sutter and Meridian use groundwater. The other issue that came to my mind was the potential for further deterioration due to future earthquake activity. Perhaps – this area might be a good candidate for an Aerial mapping if the mapping could detect higher chloride levels in the groundwater? References: SWRCB Bulletin #6 (1952), Hydrogeology of the Sutter Basin (George Curtin 1920), USGS Geochemistry of groundwater in the Sacramento Valley (1984), USGS Late Cenozoic Tectonism of the Sacramento Valley (1987) *	https://app.box.com/s/7l3fswdsa97 yzxm84zidnwylyf18jze29	General Input	Response included in Administrative Record Files

**Colusa Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Outreach
Comment Tracking Table
Last Revised: March 5, 2021**

Comments with an * have been abridged. The entirety of this input including any reference documents provided may be found in column H
Comment Categories: General input, Question, Request, Suggestion, Clarification

5	12/9/2020	Ben King	Land Owner	Email	Water Quality	I want to make the point that the current law is that the SWRCB will curtail Sacramento River and Sacramento River tributary diversions during critically dry years. This is the legal status quo after the 2015 year drought and the curtailments should be included in the Water Budget. The reason I am making this point is the recent decision regarding diversions from Deer Creek during the 2014/15 drought. This litigation was appealed to the California Appellate court which confirms the current power to curtail water supplies for the Colusa Basin. The California Supreme Court declined to review the Appellate Courts decision on September 23, 2020. I have attached the Appellate Court decision confirming existing law and current limitations of surface water supplies for the Colusa Basin. Just to reiterate the current law gives the SWRCB to enforce the current instream minimums under the Bay Delta Plan. Any voluntary settlement that may be less restrictive is speculative and does not represent the in stream requirements currently enforced.		General Input	
6	12/9/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Aquifer Depths	Has the consultant team ground-truthed the freshwater aquifer depths across the basin? Due to the seawater aquifer under the subbasin's groundwater system, these depths are an important consideration. The interplay between the two has resulted in areas where there are no wells due to water quality being impacted by the saltwater.		Question	Answer provided in 12/09 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.
7	12/9/2020	Ben King	Land Owner	Public Meeting	Water Quality	I am concerned about drinking water quality and availability in Colusa county including arsenic contamination.*	https://app.box.com/s/xf8ke3p5morifcmy870xays1liqnnzwp	General Input	
8	12/9/2020	Ben King	Land Owner	Email	Subsidence	I would suggest that our most critical infrastructure is the transportation infrastructure of I-5 and the residential infrastructure of Arbuckle including the Arbuckle cemetery. The cemetery is very close to the greatest level of subsidence and I -5 crosses adjacent to the area of greatest subsidence. I believe we have to look at the potential for multi-foot subsidence over decades and we need to look at the subsidence potential in the context of historical events. *	https://app.box.com/s/jgldb714deysi7rn3ofevevelu7egu8v	General Input	
9	12/9/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Funding	What type of studies might be done with Proposition 68 funds?		Question	Answer provided in 12/09 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.
10	12/9/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Water Supply	Under the Bay-Delta Plan, aren't we going to have only 40-50% of the surface water we had in the past? Have you tracked how much water we lose from the basin through water transfers? How much do we pump for groundwater substitution? These do not appear to be included in the budget.		Question	Answer provided in 12/09 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.
11	12/9/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Water Supply	Do models show any significant variation in storage in some parts of the subbasin compared to others, and if so, would some areas have more issues than others?		Question	Answer provided in 12/09 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.
12	12/9/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Water Budgets	Have zone water budgets been created at this point for sub areas of the basin and if not, are they are planned?		Question	Answer provided in 12/09 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.

**Colusa Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Outreach
Comment Tracking Table
Last Revised: March 5, 2021**

Comments with an * have been abridged. The entirety of this input including any reference documents provided may be found in column H
Comment Categories: General input, Question, Request, Suggestion, Clarification

13	12/9/2020	Leslie Nerli	GGA Board Member Alternate	Public Meeting	Thresholds	Since conditions vary between wet years and dry years, will you take into account dry years vs wet years when setting thresholds? Can you set multiple thresholds?		Question	Answer provided in 12/09 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.
14	12/9/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Water Supply and Quality	The residents in Colusa County rely on groundwater for drinking water. The County faces issues around water availability, such as when domestic wells run dry in critically dry years as a result of competition with agricultural use. Domestic use should be the priority and that use should grow in a reasonable way. Colusa County also faces issues around maintaining groundwater quality in critically dry years. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standard for arsenic is ten parts per million, and there are areas that exceed that. This issue will continue due to the connate water coming out of Sutter Buttes and can't be mitigated. In the future, Colusa County may need water from the Sacramento River, which is very expensive, but may be a good investment.		General Input	
15	12/9/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Sites Project	Regarding his concerns about the Sites Reservoir project and the proposed interconnect between the Tehama-Colusa Canal and Colusa Basin Drain, the speaker stated that this project should be in Colusa County, because Sites Reservoir is in Colusa, and it needs to promote safe drinking water supply in Williams and Arbuckle. It should be close to Williams and Arbuckle. The Tehama-Colusa Canal jags southeast of Arbuckle. One of the closest distances between the canal and drain is south of Arbuckle. The County needs to push for the interconnect to be in Colusa County.		General Input	
16	12/10/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems	The Nature Conservancy (TNC) cuts off groundwater dependent ecosystems at a depth of 30 feet. However, the U.S. Department of Agriculture notes that Valley Oak groves can tap into groundwater as deep as 80 feet and are groundwater dependent. Thus, the GSP should take into consideration that Valley Oak woodlands may be tapping deeper than the TNC guidelines suggest. This information has also been presented to the Butte County Department of Water and Resource Conservation and should be shared in the upcoming Interbasin Coordination Group meeting.		General Input	
17	12/10/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Interbasin Coordination	There have been discrepancies between basin setting and water budget reports during the initial stages of groundwater sustainability planning. The Interbasin Coordination Group stated in their December 1st meeting agenda that they would review compiled data, identify significant differences, and discuss potential ways to reconcile those differences. Has there been an update? For example, is there an update on reconciling the discrepancies from the various water models used, since consistency is critical to the foundation of groundwater planning.		Question	Answer provided in 12/10 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.
18	12/10/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems	Was the map on groundwater ecosystem also based on soil mapping based on the lines along with west side of the basin?		Question	Answer provided in 12/10 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.
19	12/10/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	Subbasin Mapping	Are the 38 subareas tools for data collection for management of the whole basin or 38 separate Management Areas?		Question	Answer provided in 12/10 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.

**Colusa Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Outreach
Comment Tracking Table**
Last Revised: March 5, 2021

Comments with an * have been abridged. The entirety of this input including any reference documents provided may be found in column H
Comment Categories: General input, Question, Request, Suggestion, Clarification

20	12/10/2020	Member of the Public	N/A	Public Meeting	SGMA	Are other regions in the state where the State of California has taken over the monitoring--the thing we are trying to avoid?		Question	Answer provided in 12/10 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.
21	12/10/2020	Mathew E. Jones	T&P Farms	Email	Subbasin Mapping	In regards to the 38 subbasins, how can we access the interactive mapping for these? How were they determined etc.*	https://app.box.com/s/c4xl3rj9tdsfpr4ailf91gnp5ta90tz8	Question	Byron Clark followed up directly with Mathew Jones
22	12/10/2020	Mathew E. Jones	T&P Farms	Email	Recharge	Recharge was touched upon in the public meeting. I did not see or hear discussion regarding banking of in-lieu or recharged water within the basin. I am sure it would be a minimal amount, but may think about using within the water budget. Is banking being addressed in the GSP? *	https://app.box.com/s/c4xl3rj9tdsfpr4ailf91gnp5ta90tz8	Question	Byron Clark followed up directly with Mathew Jones
23	12/10/2020	Antionette Marsh	N/A	Public Meeting	GDEs	Was the map on groundwater exosystem also based on soil mapping? Based on the lines along the West side?		Question	Answer provided in 12/10 public meeting. See meeting summary for full response.
24	12/17/2020	Karen Biane	"Stakeholder" in the Glenn County subwatershed basin	Email	Outreach Approach	I have attached a memo outlining my commentary on specific areas about the presentations and plans. I am aware of the incredible complexity and challenges the planning and implementation of the program will involve. The ideas presented are designed to potentially improve the communications to, and understanding by, the water community. *	https://app.box.com/s/8gnkuuq4xnuznj5e13cixv028xjlkdx	General Input	
25	12/17/2020	Sharon Wiggin	N/A	Email	General Input	One of our concerns is on Sand Creek. 50 years ago, that Creek spread out very wide and we believe that gave us recharge for out underground runs very fast. We can't do anything about it because of the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. They will allow some low berms as long as one side has no berm. This isn't much help.		General Input	
26	1/12/2021	Mathew E. Jones	T&P Farms	Email	Management Areas	Wanted to follow up regarding "management areas". It is a tough discussion and should include laying out the facts regarding areas of concern. I vague statement regarding an area does not do anybody justice and leads to speculation and possibly inaccurate conclusions. The attached maps paint a clearer picture of "areas" of concern, but more importantly it emphasizes how our basin is interconnected and impacts of "areas" not within the "management areas"? I would also like to follow up regarding recharge and banking. I am trying to get an understanding of how it will play a roll in the GSP or if it will be addressed within the GSP.*	https://app.box.com/s/c4xl3rj9tdsfpr4ailf91gnp5ta90tz8	General Input	
27	1/21/2021	Ben King	Land Owner	PMA Form	PMA	See PMA suggestion using link in Column H	https://app.box.com/s/lu6rphiyxs6bhqg7g7t6ljjcztnyhax	Suggestion	

**Colusa Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Outreach
Comment Tracking Table
Last Revised: March 5, 2021**

Comments with an * have been abridged. The entirety of this input including any reference documents provided may be found in column H
Comment Categories: General input, Question, Request, Suggestion, Clarification

28	2/2/2021	Ben King	Land Owner	Email	Geographical Features	I believe that it is important to have the correct location of the Willows Fault regarding the proximity of the Fault to the City of Colusa. As you will see in the attached Figure 7 from the Sutter County GMP it looks like a wishbone like structure near the City with one fork trending south east away from the City on the east side of the Sacramento River and another fork on the west side of the River nearer to the City trending more in a north south direction... The reason I think it is important to get the best information on this fork in the Willows Fault is the potential for the movement of arsenic contamination along the Willows Fault from the desorption of arsenic from the metal and iron oxides in the volcanic rock of the Sutter Buttes. So far the public water supply for the City does not seem to be contaminated but the location of this fork may be problematic for the future risk profile.*	https://app.box.com/s/lan700issfbfgeis565rjz6caxrarzqj	General Input	
29	2/8/2021	Ben King	Land Owner	Email	Geographical Features	The location of the Willows Fault appears to have a fork north of the Colusa State Park and ironically appears to run under the Colusa County Courthouse. I have included three photos from the link. https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/fam/app/ I believe this is a different location than set out in the Geologic Figure in the HCM. It seems to be very close to the City of Princeton and the Colusa Rancheria. It actually runs through Colusa and towards Grimes and Meridian along Hwy 20. As I mentioned before I wanted to raise the issue of the Fault as the mechanism whereby the arsenic and seawater contamination from the Sutter Buttes may be translocating.*	https://app.box.com/s/k6l7gg1slg0ghv23gx343pafk3tx0o8j	General Input	
30	2/27/2021	Ben King	Land Owner	Email	Maps	I wanted to point out that there are two different versions of the Presentation for the 2/17/21 on the CGA Website*	https://app.box.com/s/s0wz3qrux0gvlnabxdkn97h9u4uloyd	Clarification	
31	2/28/2021	Ben King	Land Owner	Emai	Water Quality	I was finally able to get access to Stephen Springhorn's paper on the Sutter Buttes Rampart.I want to make sure that Mr. Clark and Mr. Loy are aware of his recommendations and concerns as they draft the Basin Setting for the Colusa Basin especially in light of the work highlighted in a recent USGS Paper on arsenic contamination.*	https://app.box.com/s/fw2ie13mxvwqctb5zw9i0n29isg5wszx	General Input	

4.d. Well Monitoring Pilot Program Screening Criteria

12/11/2020

Joint TAC

35

Background

- Applications Open in January, Followed by Landowner Workshop
- Selection and Deployment in February – April
- Implementation for 2021 – 2023 Growing Seasons
- Today's Discussion: Development of Participant Selection Criteria

Eligibility Requirements

- Potential Participants Agree to:
 - Allow GSAs to make information collected publicly available
 - Allow GSA representatives to make site visits
 - Participate for a period of three years
 - Install approved flow meter and access tube for pressure transducer in well casing, if not already present
 - Maintain cellular service for monitoring equipment telemetry during three-year enrollment period
 - Manually report pumping data during three-year enrollment period, in the event of device failure

12/11/2020

Joint TAC

37

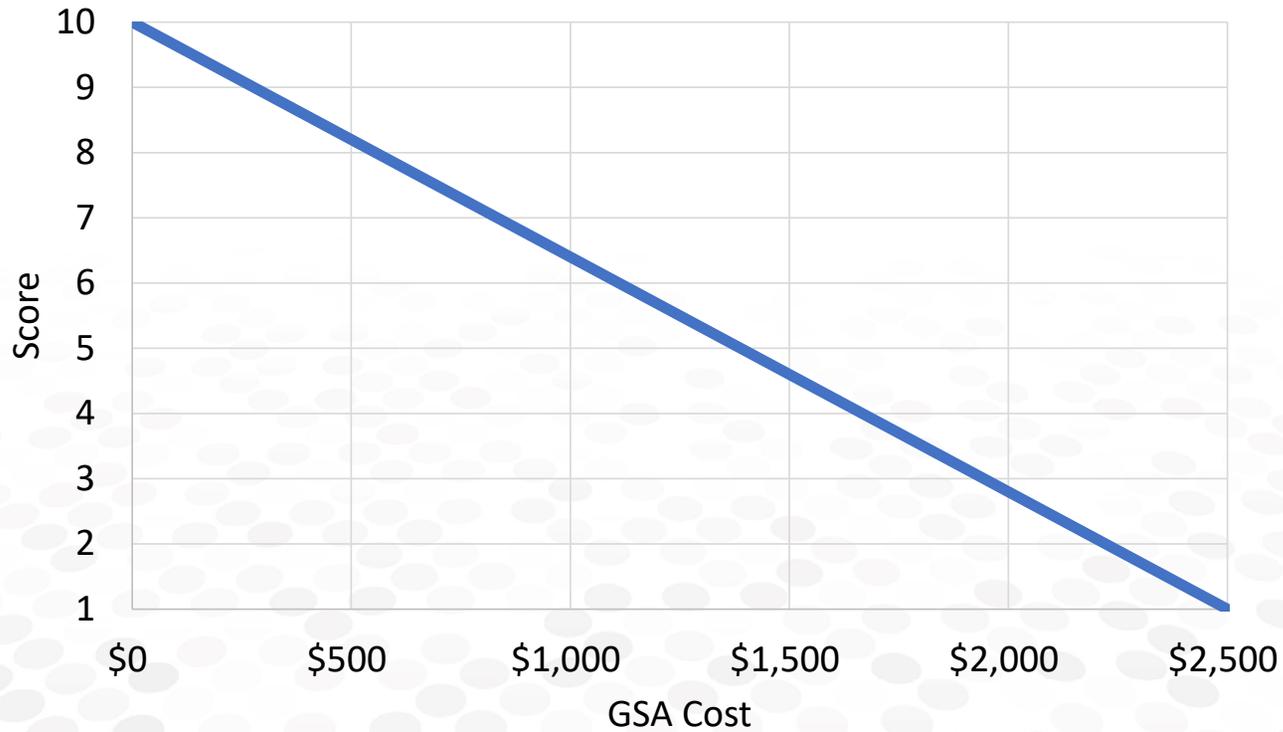
Selection Criteria

- Selection will Consider
 - Location within the subbasin (desire to enroll participants in both Glenn and Colusa counties)
 - Water source (fields relying primarily on groundwater preferred)
 - Presence of an existing flow meter installed per manufacturer specifications
- Other Possible Considerations
 - Number of wells per participant
 - First come – first served

Ideas for Discussion

- Location within the subbasin (desire to enroll participants in both Glenn and Colusa counties)
 - Equal number of wells in each county
- Water source
 - Score from 1 to 10 based on percent of supply from groundwater vs. surface water
- Presence of an existing flow meter
 - Score from 1 to 10 based on flowmeter costs to GSA
 - \$2,500 = 1 → \$0 = 10

Flowmeter Cost Score



12/11/2020

Joint TAC

40

Other Considerations

- Number of Wells per Participant
 - Limit to one well per participant, unless funding remains after initial selection is complete
 - For participants submitting multiple applications, highest scoring well included in initial round of selection
- First Come – First Served
 - If more than one well has the same score, and only one can be funded, select first application submitted

Hypothetical Example

Applications Received

Applicant	% Ground-water	Flow-meter Cost	Date	% Ground-water Score	Cost Score	Total Score
A	65%	\$2,000	1/31	6.5	2.8	9.3
B	100%	\$2,000	1/28	10.0	2.8	12.8
C	75%	\$1,500	1/16	7.5	4.6	12.1
C	100%	\$2,500	1/21	10.0	1.0	11.0
D	25%	\$0	1/25	2.5	10.0	12.5
D	100%	\$2,500	1/19	10.0	1.0	11.0
E	25%	\$2,000	1/19	2.5	2.8	5.3
F	80%	\$2,500	1/30	8.0	1.0	9.0



Application Ranking and Selection

Round	Rank	Applicant	Total Score	GSA Cost ¹	Available Funding	Date	Selected
1	1	B	12.8	\$6,250	\$42,000	1/28	Yes
	2	D	12.5	\$4,250	\$35,750	1/25	Yes
	3	C	12.1	\$5,750	\$31,500	1/16	Yes
	4	A	9.3	\$6,750	\$25,750	1/31	Yes
	5	F	9.0	\$6,750	\$19,000	1/30	Yes
	6	E	5.3	\$6,250	\$12,250	1/19	Yes
2	1	D	11.0	\$6,000	\$6,000	1/19	Yes
	1	C	11.0	\$6,750	\$0	1/21	No

1. GSA Cost Includes Flow Meter, Pressure Transducer, and Telemetry

Notice of Exemption

To: County Clerk and Recorder
516 W Sycamore Street, 2nd Floor
Willows, CA 95988

From: Glenn Groundwater Authority
225 N Tehama St.
Willows, CA 95988

Project Title: Glenn Subbasin Well Monitoring Pilot Program

Name of Person or Agency Carrying Out Project:

Glenn Groundwater Authority
225 N Tehama St.
Willows, CA 95988

Phone Number: (530) 934-6540

Name of Public Agency Approving Project: Glenn Groundwater Authority

Project Location: Glenn County – in unincorporated areas.

Project Description: The Colusa and Glenn Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) are implementing an incentive-based pilot program to work with interested growers and landowners to continuously monitor groundwater use and water levels at participating wells. This voluntary, non-regulatory program is intended to support the GSAs in gathering information regarding groundwater use in the subbasin while providing participants with near-real time access to information on well production and groundwater levels at their wells to support irrigation management. The pilot project will purchase flow meters and telemetry equipment to integrate existing private groundwater wells into a public well pump flow database. This program is being funded through a Proposition 68 Sustainable Groundwater Management grant from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).

Exempt Status: (check one):

- Ministerial (Sec. 21080(b)(1); 15268);
- Declared Emergency (Sec. 21080(b)(3); 15269(a)); Emergency Project (Sec. 21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c));
- Categorical Exemption.** State type and section number: Section 15306 (Class 6) Information Collection
- Statutory Exemptions. State code number: _____

Reasons Why the Project is Exempt: The pilot project qualifies for a CEQA Class 6 Categorical Exemption because: Glenn Groundwater Authority is installing flow measurement and telemetry on existing groundwater wells for the purpose of data collection to support the groundwater sustainability efforts in the Colusa subbasin

pursuant to SGMA and to provide real-time access to pumping information to support efficient irrigation management. Project activities would occur intermittently over a temporary three-year period; existing infrastructure would be used for water conveyance and no construction activities are required; the project will not result in a serious or major disturbance to any environmental resources.

Lead Agency Contact Person: Lisa Hunter, Glenn Groundwater Authority
Phone Number: (530) 934-6540

This Notice of Exemption is filed by the lead agency approving the project.

Signature: _____ Date: _____ Title: _____

Date Received for filing at County Clerk: _____

DRAFT

9. THE NATURE CONSERVANCY AND DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FLOOD-MAR MULTI-BENEFIT RECHARGE PILOT PROJECT

- a. Receive update on project activities.
- b. *Consider approving partnership to with The Nature Conservancy and Department of Water Resources on the Flood-MAR Multi-benefit Recharge Pilot Project.
- c. *Consider appointing an ad hoc committee to develop a workplan with The Nature Conservancy on the Multi-benefit Recharge Pilot Project.

The Board received a presentation on a multi-benefit recharge pilot project from The Nature Conservancy (TNC) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) January 11, 2021. Staff has met with the TNC/DWR team on several occasions to learn more about the program and narrow down potential areas that may be suitable for pilot projects. The site areas that fit the criteria best are within the Orland-Artois Water District, Kanawha Water District, Glide Water District, and Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District. Staff has connected TNC staff with the managers of those districts.

At the request of the Executive Committee, Legal Counsel and staff met with the TNC/DWR team to understand more about the logistics of the program. Discussion included project funding, CEQA, water rights, water sources, water availability, necessary agreements, and the GGA's potential role in the pilot project. It was also confirmed this pilot project only utilizes surface water for recharge and does not intend to pump groundwater.

10. *CONSIDER APPOINTING AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO DEVELOP A FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 DRAFT BUDGET

Staff is requesting the Board appoint an ad hoc committee to assist in the development of the Fiscal Year 2021/2022 Draft Budget. This will also require reviewing the property-related fee.

11. COMMITTEE UPDATES

- a. Executive Committee
 - i. CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee
- b. Stakeholder Engagement Committee
- c. Technical Advisory Committee

The **GGA Executive Committee** last met January 27, 2021. Meeting topics were discussed at the February 8, 2021 Board meeting. There are no addition updates. The next meeting is scheduled for March 24, 2021. The CGA/GGA Joint Executive Committee has not met.

The **Stakeholder Engagement Committee** has not met and has nothing new to report.

The **Technical Advisory Committee** (TAC) met jointly with the Colusa Groundwater Authority (CGA) Technical Advisory Committee on February 24, 2021. Discussion topics included Subarea Water Budgets and Sustainable Management Criteria. The next CGA/GGA Joint TAC meeting is scheduled for April 9, 2021.

Full page slides of TAC presentations and other meeting materials, including the Technical Memorandum on the Subarea Water Budgets (over 100 pages of water budget summaries by subarea) are available on the GGA website at:

<https://www.countyofglenn.net/dept/planning-community-development-services/water-resources/glenn-groundwater-authority/gga>

Attachments

- CGA/GGA Joint TAC meeting presentation (2/24/21)

Water Budget Components: Land Surface

- Inflows
 - SW Diversions – Diversions of surface water for irrigation
 - GW Pumping – Pumping to meet agricultural, managed wetlands, and urban/rural residential demands not met by surface water
 - Precipitation – Direct precipitation on the land surface
- Outflows
 - Evapotranspiration (ET) – Consumptive use of applied water and precipitation
 - Seepage – Seepage to the groundwater system from canals and drains
 - Percolation – Percolation of applied water and precipitation below the root zone
 - Irrigation Return Flow – Surface outflow from irrigation tailwater and drainage of rice and wetlands ponds
 - Precipitation Runoff – Surface outflow from precipitation
- Change in Storage – Change in root zone soil moisture storage
- * Net Recharge – (Percolation + Seepage) – Pumping

2/24/2021

Joint TAC

7

Water Budget Components: Groundwater System

- Inflows
 - GW Pumping – Pumping to meet agricultural, managed wetlands, and urban/rural residential demands not met by surface water
 - Net Subsurface Inflows – Net groundwater inflows from neighboring areas
- Outflows
 - GW Pumping – Pumping to meet agricultural, managed wetlands, and urban/rural residential demands not met by surface water
- Change in Storage – Change in aquifer storage

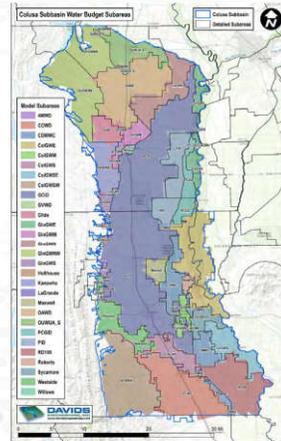
2/24/2021

Joint TAC

8

Four Water Budget Examples

- Primarily Rangeland
- Primarily Groundwater
- Mixed Supply
- Primarily Surface Water

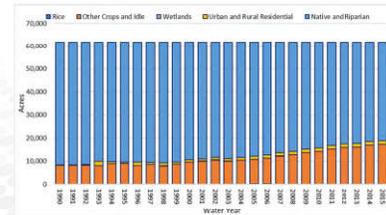


2/24/2021

Joint TAC

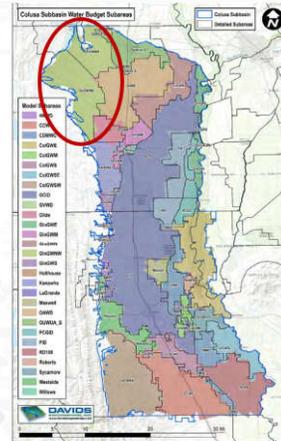
Water Budget Example: Primarily Rangeland

- Acres (61,700 Total)
 - 49,300 Native
 - 11,200 Non-Ponded Crops (orchards)
 - 1,200 Other



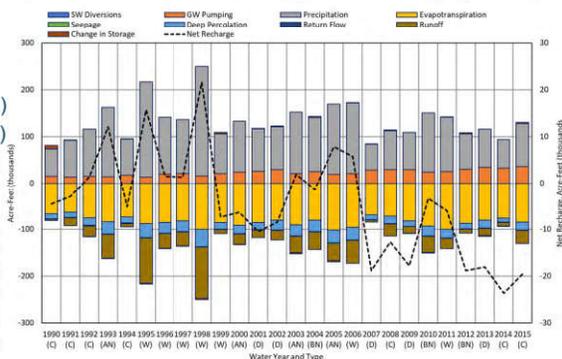
2/24/2021

Joint TAC



Land Surface: Rangeland Example

- Water Supplies
 - Surface Water (0%)
 - Groundwater (18%)
 - Precipitation (82%)
- Net Recharge; -4,500 acre-feet per year



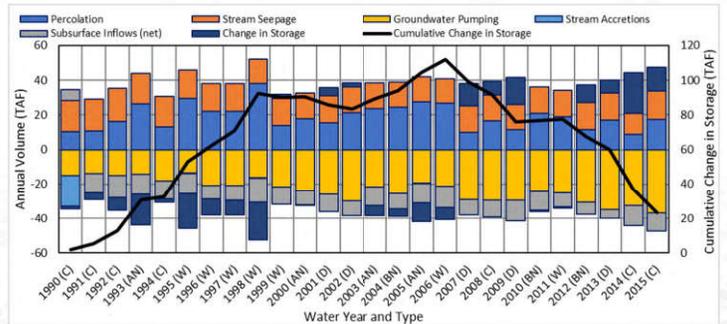
2/24/2021

Joint TAC

11

Groundwater System: Rangeland Example

- Change in Groundwater Storage: 900 acre-feet/year



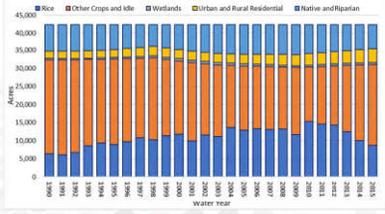
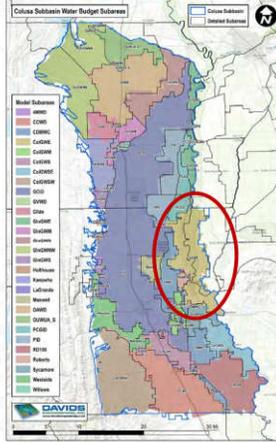
2/24/2021

Joint TAC

12

Water Budget Example: Primarily Groundwater

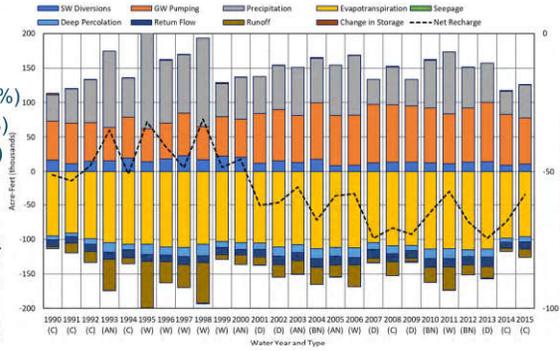
- Acres (61,700 Total)
 - 49,300 Native
 - 20,500 Non-Ponded Crops (orchards)
 - 11,000 Rice
 - 10,900 Native/Riparian/Other



2/24/2021 Joint TAC 14

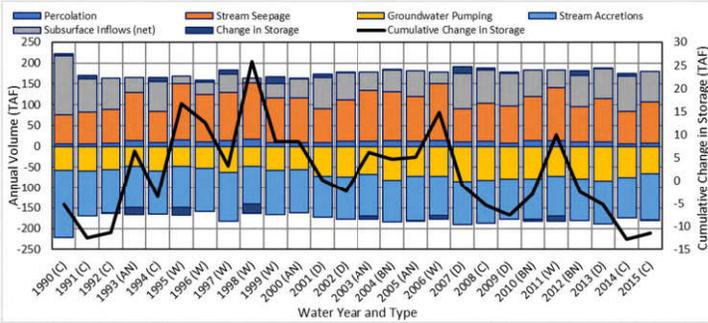
Land Surface: Primarily Groundwater Example

- Water Supplies
 - Surface Water (10%)
 - Groundwater (45%)
 - Precipitation (45%)
- Net Recharge;
 - 56,300 acre-feet per year



2/24/2021 Joint TAC 14

Groundwater System: Primarily Groundwater Example

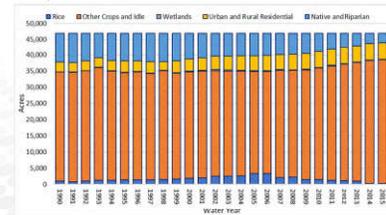
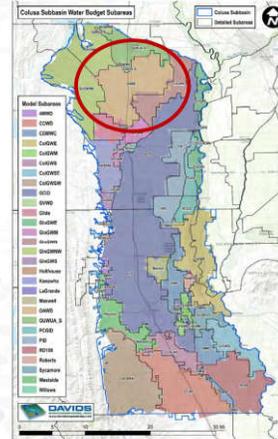


- Change in Groundwater Storage: -400 acre-feet/year

2/24/2021 Joint TAC 15

Water Budget Example: Mixed Supply

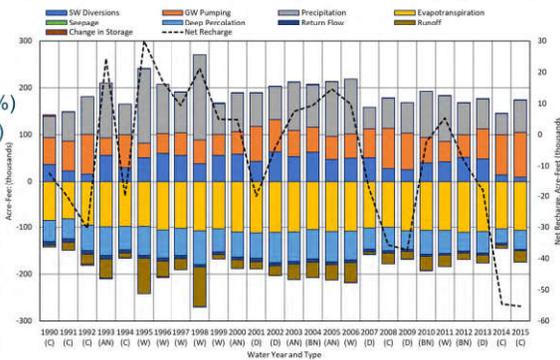
- Acres (47,000 total)
 - 33,900 Non-Ponded Crops (orchards)
 - 7,200 Native
 - 4,100 Urban/Rural Residential
 - 1,800 Other



2/24/2021 Joint TAC 15

Land Surface: Mixed Supply Example

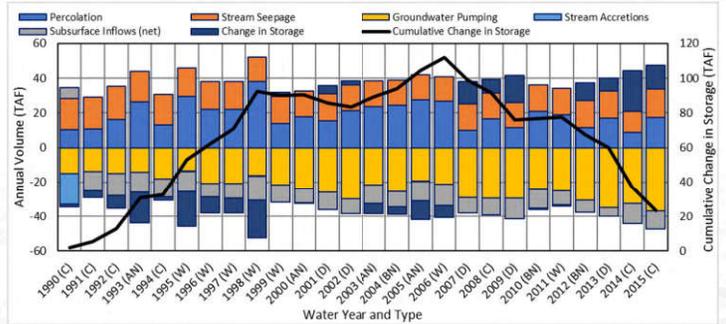
- Water Supplies
 - Surface Water (23%)
 - Groundwater (32%)
 - Precipitation (45%)
- Net Recharge;
 - 6,900 acre-feet per year



2/24/2021 Joint TAC 17

Groundwater System: Mixed Supply Example

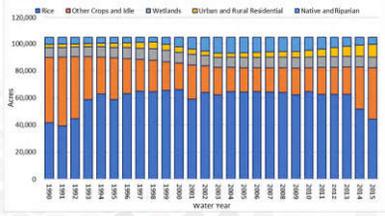
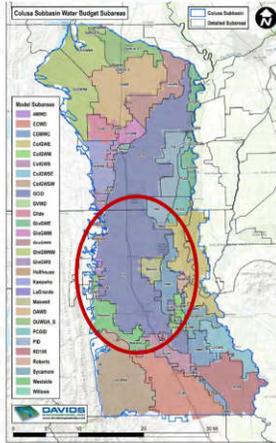
- Change in Groundwater Storage: -2,900 acre-feet/year



2/24/2021 Joint TAC 18

Water Budget Example: Primarily Surface Water

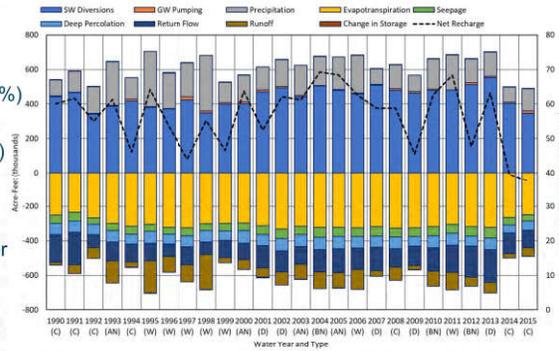
- Acres (105,200 total)
 - 59,500 Rice
 - 25,700 Non-Ponded Crops (orchards)
 - 7,900 Native
 - 12,100 Wetlands/Other



2/24/2021 Joint TAC

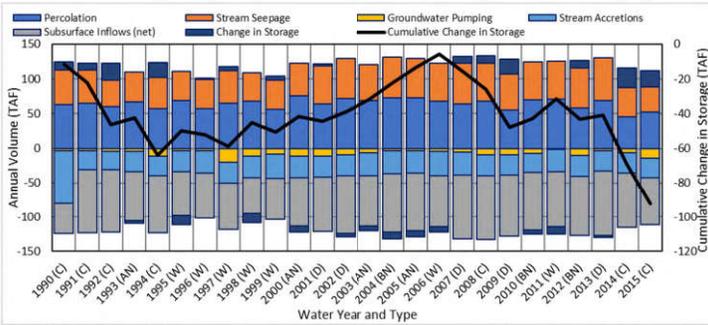
Land Surface: Primarily Surface Water

- Water Supplies
 - Surface Water (72%)
 - Groundwater (1%)
 - Precipitation (27%)
- Net Recharge; 105,000 acre-feet per year



2/24/2021 Joint TAC

Groundwater System: Primarily Surface Water



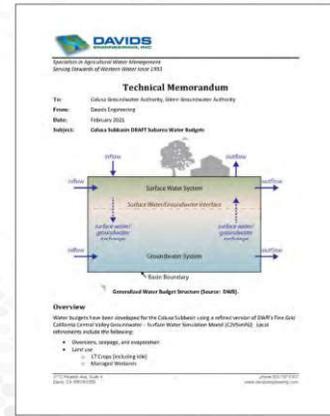
- Change in Groundwater Storage: -3,600 acre-feet/year

2/24/2021 Joint TAC

Subarea Water Budget Draft Tech Memo

- Overview
- Glossary of Water Budget Components
- Water Budget Subareas List and Map
- Uncertainties and Limitation
- Subarea Water Budget Results

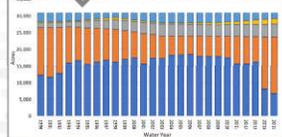
2/24/2021 Joint TAC



Subarea Water Budget Draft Tech Memo

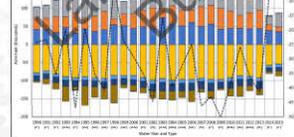
- Three Sections per Subarea
 - General land use
 - Land surface water budget
 - Groundwater system water budget
- Water Budgets Summarized by Water Year Type
 - C = Critical
 - D = Dry
 - BN = Below normal
 - AN = Above normal
 - W = Wet

Water Year	Non-Ponded Ag	Rice	Wetlands	Urban	Native	Total
1990	15,420	17,210	1,890	310	1,140	36,970
1991	14,960	17,440	1,400	340	2,180	36,320
1992	13,840	12,840	1,450	310	2,110	30,550
1993	10,790	16,970	1,390	300	2,190	30,640
1994	10,020	16,120	1,390	310	2,170	30,010
1995	10,940	15,540	2,010	400	1,990	30,880
1996	10,020	16,120	1,450	300	2,170	30,060
1997	9,420	16,800	2,270	500	1,540	30,540
1998	9,810	16,300	1,810	400	1,130	30,450
1999	8,590	17,690	1,010	510	1,660	30,460
2000	7,740	17,670	1,110	510	1,990	30,040
2001	9,010	15,740	1,160	410	2,140	30,460
2002	7,940	17,460	1,440	410	2,110	30,360
2003	6,570	17,010	1,550	400	2,360	30,890
2004	5,770	18,130	1,550	400	2,910	30,760
2005	5,620	18,430	1,510	410	2,910	30,880
2006	5,450	18,600	1,610	410	2,910	30,980
2007	6,020	17,460	1,440	500	2,680	30,500
2008	6,040	17,420	1,460	400	2,870	30,190
2009	6,480	17,400	1,410	400	2,870	30,560
2010	6,170	17,110	1,270	790	2,680	30,040
2011	6,710	16,700	1,100	2,210	2,680	30,400
2012	8,140	15,510	1,480	3,080	2,270	30,480
2013	7,120	16,700	1,100	2,210	2,680	30,410
2014	7,540	16,790	1,260	1,480	1,870	30,940
2015	7,870	16,740	1,240	1,480	1,870	30,940
Average	7,970	15,790	1,440	400	2,140	30,740



2/24/2021 Joint TAC

Water Year	Non-Ponded Ag	Rice	Wetlands	Urban	Native	Total
1990	15,420	17,210	1,890	310	1,140	36,970
1991	14,960	17,440	1,400	340	2,180	36,320
1992	13,840	12,840	1,450	310	2,110	30,550
1993	10,790	16,970	1,390	300	2,190	30,640
1994	10,020	16,120	1,390	310	2,170	30,010
1995	10,940	15,540	2,010	400	1,990	30,880
1996	10,020	16,120	1,450	300	2,170	30,060
1997	9,420	16,800	2,270	500	1,540	30,540
1998	9,810	16,300	1,810	400	1,130	30,450
1999	8,590	17,690	1,010	510	1,660	30,460
2000	7,740	17,670	1,110	510	1,990	30,040
2001	9,010	15,740	1,160	410	2,140	30,460
2002	7,940	17,460	1,440	410	2,110	30,360
2003	6,570	17,010	1,550	400	2,360	30,890
2004	5,770	18,130	1,550	400	2,910	30,760
2005	5,620	18,430	1,510	410	2,910	30,880
2006	5,450	18,600	1,610	410	2,910	30,980
2007	6,020	17,460	1,440	500	2,680	30,500
2008	6,040	17,420	1,460	400	2,870	30,190
2009	6,480	17,400	1,410	400	2,870	30,560
2010	6,170	17,110	1,270	790	2,680	30,040
2011	6,710	16,700	1,100	2,210	2,680	30,400
2012	8,140	15,510	1,480	3,080	2,270	30,480
2013	7,120	16,700	1,100	2,210	2,680	30,410
2014	7,540	16,790	1,260	1,480	1,870	30,940
2015	7,870	16,740	1,240	1,480	1,870	30,940
Average	7,970	15,790	1,440	400	2,140	30,740



2/24/2021 Joint TAC

Discussion

2/24/2021

Joint TAC

25

4.b. Sustainable Management Criteria

2/24/2021

Joint TAC

26

Sustainable Management Criteria

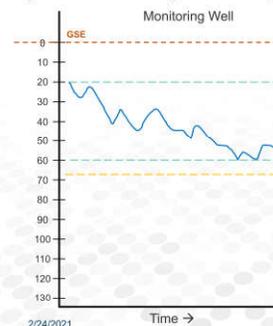
- MTs and MOs set for:
 - **Water levels (Today)**
 - Water quality
 - Land subsidence
 - Depletions of interconnected streams
- Considerations for groundwater level thresholds for individual monitoring wells
 - Historical groundwater levels
 - Depth of nearby wells
- Model use and potential impacts of reduced surface water deliveries

2/24/2021

Joint TAC

27

Percent of Range Groundwater Levels (20% of range example)



- Observed GW, plus buffer based on historical trends
- Percent of range buffer can vary based on what is considered significant and unreasonable (e.g. 10%, 20%, 30%, etc.)

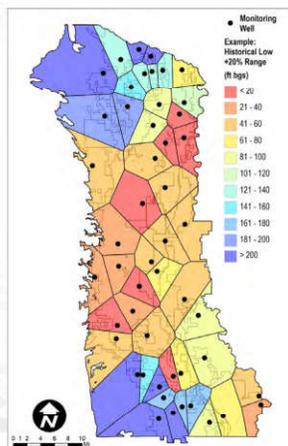
2/24/2021

Joint TAC

28

Percent of Range Groundwater Levels (20% of range example)

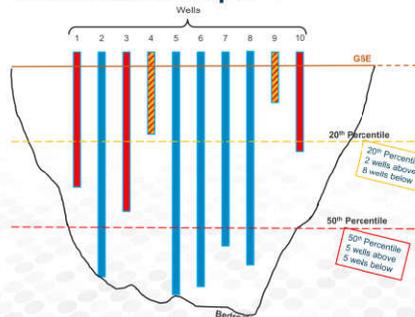
- Observed historical low GWL, plus buffer based on historical trends
- Percent of range buffer can vary based on what is considered significant and unreasonable (e.g. 10%, 20%, 30%, etc.)



2/24/2021

Joint TAC

Well Depth Percentiles Construction Depth



- Well construction depths surrounding each monitoring well
- Percent of wells to be protected can vary based on what is considered significant and unreasonable (e.g. 10%tile, 20%tile, 30%tile, etc.)

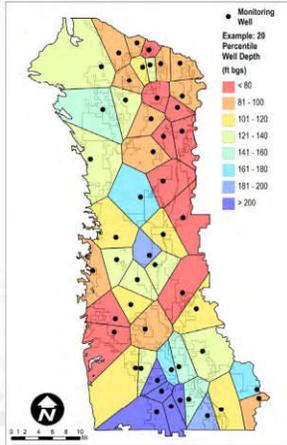
2/24/2021

Joint TAC

30

Depth of Existing Wells (20% percentile depth example)

- Percentile well depth baes on available Well Completion Reports
- 20% of range = depth at which 80% of wells are deeper
- Percentile can vary based on what is considered significant and unreasonable (e.g. 10%, 20%, 30%, etc.)

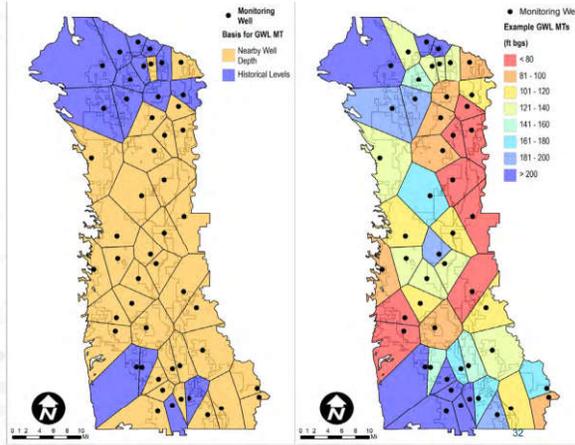


2/24/2021

Joint TAC

Proposed Approach

- Set MTs based on lower of historical low plus percent range and percentile depth of nearby wells
- Well depths used to set MTs in most areas
- Historical water levels used to set MTs in areas of greatest drawdown



2/24/2021

Ongoing / Next Steps

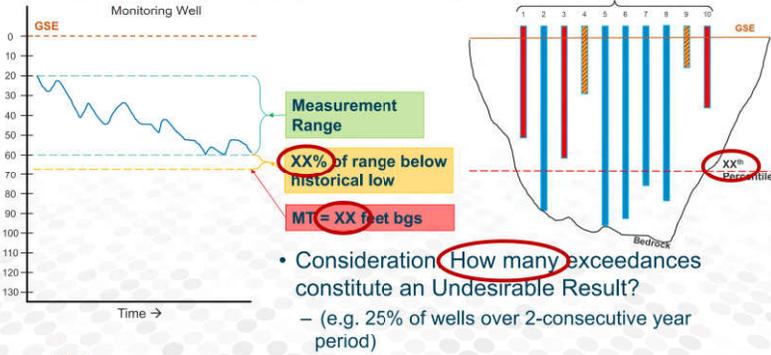
- Consider Approaches to Set Measurable Objectives
 - Historical water levels (e.g. 2015, historical low, etc.)
 - Depth of nearby wells (e.g. minimum depth, 10th percentile, etc)
 - Combination approach
- Sensitivity / Risk Assessment of MT Exceedance
 - Projected water budgets
 - Surface water supply reliability
- Economics Impact Analysis
 - Well replacement
 - Increased pumping cost
 - Avoidance of lost production
 - Regional economic costs / benefits

2/24/2021

Joint TAC

33

Options in Setting MTs and Defining URs



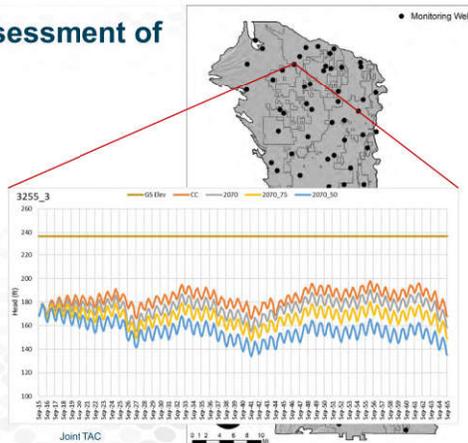
2/24/2021

Joint TAC

34

Sensitivity / Risk Assessment of MT Exceedance

- Consider Impacts of Hypothetical Reductions in SW Supplies
 - 10%, 25%, etc. reduction; other scenarios
 - Build on 2070 baseline scenario (e.g. potential climate change)
 - Map exceedances of potential MTs

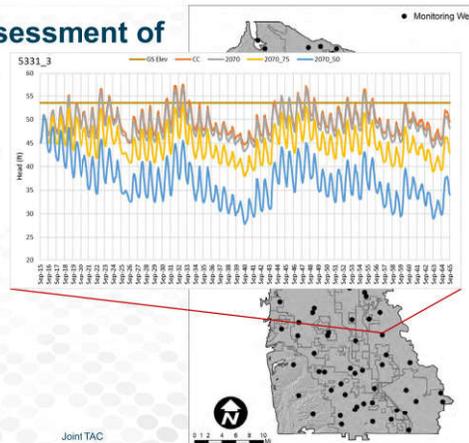


2/24/2021

Joint TAC

Sensitivity / Risk Assessment of MT Exceedance

- Consider Impacts of Hypothetical Reductions in SW Supplies
 - 10%, 25%, etc. reduction; other scenarios
 - Build on 2070 baseline scenario (e.g. potential climate change)
 - Map exceedances of potential MTs



2/24/2021

Joint TAC

Economic Impact Analysis

- Build Upon Baseline Economic Setting
 - Establish baseline conditions in the Subbasin, highlighting economically important water-dependent industries
 - Establish market conditions for major Subbasin crops; variability in cropping, trends, and returns; and jobs, income, local economic activity that depends on farming and related industries
- Quantify Relative Costs and Benefits of Alternative MTs and MOs
 - Well replacement
 - Increased pumping cost
 - Avoidance of lost production
 - Regional economic costs / benefits
- Provide a Basis for Evaluating Potential Projects and Management Actions

2/24/2021

Joint TAC

37

Considerations for Discussion

- Technical Framework for Setting GWL MTs
- Locally Defined Parameters:
 - Historical GWLs
 - Well depth percentiles
 - Definition of URs
- Hypothetical Scenarios / Risk Assessment
- Economic Drivers / Considerations
- Others

2/24/2021

Joint TAC

38

Discussion

2/24/2021

Joint TAC

39

12. MEMBER REPORTS AND COMMENTS

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

13. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 12, 2021 at 1:30 PM.

14. ADJOURN

The meeting will be adjourned.

*Indicates Action Item