



# Solano Subbasin GSA Collaborative Meeting

September 15, 2022 | 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. | Via Zoom

## Participants

X	<b>Solano GSA</b> Chris Lee Roland Sanford	X	<b>Solano Irrigation District</b> Cary Keaten Paul Fuchslin	X	<b>Sacramento County</b> Chris Hunley
X	Misty Kaltreider	X	Gerardo Santana	X	Rodney Fricke, GEI Consultants
X	"Dick" Chun Tzou				Kerry Schmitz
	<b>Northern Delta GSA</b> Erik Ringelberg	X	<b>City of Vacaville</b> Justen Cole		
X	Chris Thomas				
	<b>Luhdorff &amp; Scalmanini Engineering</b> Vicki Kretsinger Grabert	X	<b>Ag Innovations</b> Jenn Fox		
X	Nick Watterson	X	Judie Talbot		
X	Faithe Lovelace		Guadalupe Garcia		
X	Jacques DeBra				
<b>Guests:</b>					

## AGENDA

1. GSA Updates
2. GSP Implementation
  - a. Upcoming Grant Opportunities
  - b. Project and Management Actions List Review
    - i. Short and Long-term Local Priorities
  - c. RMS Status Template
3. Well Permitting and Drought Related Orders
4. Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach - website review
5. Umbrella GSA Discussion
6. Forecast GSA Roundtable Discussion for October 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting
7. Next Meeting-October 20<sup>th</sup> 1:00-3:00 (need to reschedule date)



## MEETING NOTES

### GSA Updates

- Northern Delta: None
- Sacramento County: A rate study is being considered for 2024
- Solano Irrigation District: None
- Solano: None
- Vacaville: With staffing changes, Justen is the GSA Representative

### GSP Implementation

#### Upcoming Grant Opportunities

- DWR is intending to release the Proposal Solicitation Package for the Round 2 Implementation Grants in October.
- Information on grant eligibility was sent to GSA Collaborative members that included a list of potential project types. Project types included in the GSP have been highlighted.
- The grant cycle is expected to be highly competitive. In-kind contributions will likely increase points in the overall review.
- The projects and management actions (PMAs) included in the application need to be prioritized.

#### Projects and Management Actions

The perspectives and priorities of the GSA Collaborative are needed on PMAs, especially in terms of drought preparedness and response.

- For the Solano GSA, the priority is for a pilot project in the Northwest focus area.
  - There are dry wells around Putah Creek.
  - Funding is available for additional well monitoring activities and would require identifying volunteers for new monitoring sites.
  - The Bureau of Reclamation just released a \$20 million funding opportunity for small surface and groundwater storage projects for drought resilience. Storage capacity must be between 3,000 to 20,000 acre feet. The funding opportunity is available on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov) by searching for funding opportunity number R23AS00019. Applications are due to Reclamation on Dec. 9, at 5 p.m. MST.
- In Vacaville, grant funding would be prioritized to expand recycled water projects
  - The [DWR 2022 Urban Community Drought Relief Program PSP](#) includes funding for water recycling efforts.
- ACTION ITEM: Develop an initial proposal for the PMAs to be included in the Round 2 application and send to the group.

#### Representative Monitoring Site (RMS) Status Update

- A variety of wells are monitored throughout the Subbasin. A template is being developed to display water level trends, nearby groundwater dependent ecosystems, and the respective minimum thresholds for each well. This information could support assessment of conditions in the Northwest focus area.
- The template will be automated and updated by monitoring data. Key Representative Monitoring Site (RMS) wells would ideally have continuous monitoring to more closely track trends and changing conditions.
- ACTION: The template will be refined and circulated for review and comment.



### *Discussion*

- This is very useful and can provide information about what is happening on the ground
- Data will be submitted to DWR twice a year.

### **Well Permitting and Drought Related Orders**

- AB 2201 did not advance. However, a revised bill will likely be introduced. It is important to follow future similar legislative developments.
- Executive Order N-77 is still in place.
- Solano County's Well Permitting Program team is working quickly with Solano GSA to coordinate review of well applications. The County is directing people to report dry wells to the state.
- Monitoring efforts in the Northwest focus area are being reviewed to see if there are any data gaps.
- The County Environmental Health Department has initiated a drought task force to share information.

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

- Inter-basin Coordination: Solano GSA will set up a meeting with Yolo County. Potential discussion topics include:
  - Dry wells in the Northwest focus area
  - Priorities for additional monitoring and implementation of PMAs
  - Coordination on Round 2 grant opportunities
  - Lessons learned
  - Drought response
- State of the Subbasin: Work will continue on refining concepts for this regular update and determining the best timing for its release.
- Website Review: Ag Innovations has reviewed the GSA websites and is working with each GSA on suggested website improvements.

### **Umbrella GSA Discussion**

GSA members were asked for ways to improve collaborative planning and whether any changes should be made to the governance structure. It was agreed to re-evaluate the governance structure in a year to assess whether any changes are needed.

### **Forecast GSA Collaborative Discussion for October Meetings**

- The next Roundtable meeting is October 4; the next GSA Collaborative meeting will need to be rescheduled..
- Possible upcoming topics include a discussion on the Round 2 grant application, a presentation from Freshwater Trust on the Solano County Ag Scenario Planning tool and/or other GSA coordination opportunities.