



Solano Subbasin GSA Collaborative Meeting

January 18, 2024 | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. | Via Zoom

Participants

X	Solano Subbasin GSA Chris Lee Misty Kaltreider	X	Solano Irrigation District Cary Keaten Paul Fuchslin	X	Sacramento County Chris Hunley Austin Miller
X	"Dick" Chun Tzou Alex Rabidoux	X	Gerardo Santana	X	Rodney Fricke, GEI Consultants Kerry Schmitz
X	Northern Delta GSA Erik Ringelberg Chris Thomas	X	City of Vacaville Justen Cole		
X	Luhdorff & Scalmanini Engineering Vicki Kretsinger Grabert Nick Watterson Faithe Lovelace	X	Ag Innovations Jenn Fox Suzannah Sosman Guadalupe Garcia Genevieve Taylor		
Guests: Kelly Huff, Dixon Resource Conservation District (RCD)					

AGENDA

1. GSA Updates
 - a. Discussion on GSA Board Meet Up
2. GSP Implementation
 - a. Projects and Management Actions
 - b. Upcoming Legislation, Well Permitting, Funding and Related Topics
3. Stakeholder Engagement
4. Forecast next meeting topics



MEETING NOTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Updates

- Solano Irrigation District (SID) GSA: Currently assembling final annual data requests.
- Northern Delta GSA: Annual Board meeting scheduled for February 13th. Also planning for a Proposition 218 process with a public hearing possible in June.
- Sacramento County GSA: Also working toward a Proposition 218 process with notices to be sent in the spring. Working to update the County's SGMA website based on recommendations and discussions with the Ag Innovations team.
- Solano Subbasin GSA: Received approval for Facilitation Support Services through DWR, including interbasin coordination support and outreach to Spanish-speaking communities.
- City of Vacaville GSA: No updates.

DWR Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Determination

DWR released its approval for the Solano Subbasin GSP.

- Participants celebrated the good work done by the Collaborative and consultants to develop the GSP and acknowledged Solano Subbasin GSA's leadership.
- The list of recommended corrective actions included in the determination letter is short compared to other GSP approvals. There are three recommended corrective actions listed and the group discussed that they will be straightforward to address.
- The GSA Collaborative and project team will work to address these recommended corrective actions.

GSA Board Meet-Up

At the last Collaborative meeting, the group discussed the idea of a workshop where GSA Board members could meet each other. The group continued this discussion and the idea of a workshop which might include an overview of the annual report and a look forward to the 5-year update.

Members were asked to think about interest in a springtime workshop. It was suggested that an agenda and goals would be useful and the workshop could offer an informal forum for education. The group discussed aiming for an evening workshop in April.

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

Annual Reporting

Luhdorff & Scalmanini Engineering (LSCE) provided updates on work, including:

- LSCE is compiling data from each GSA for the annual report, due April 1, 2024.
- Davids Engineering will be doing some of the water budget analyses.



- LSCE will share a draft of the annual report with the Collaborative in March and will aim to present the report for discussion at the March GSA Collaborative meeting.
- LSCE requested summaries of groundwater sustainability-related activities individual GSAs are undertaking to be included in the annual report.

Projects and Management Actions

LSCE provided updates on work, including:

- Conducting a preliminary comparative study of cover cropping. Coordinating with UC Extension in Salinas to learn about recharge at their Salinas field study site.
- Moving forward with tasks under DWR Prop 68 grant.
- Well and surface water diversion and inventory underway: coordinating with Solano County Environmental Health to support broader county-wide efforts.
- Met with Sustainable Conservation to discuss a possible floodplain recharge study.

Groundwater Monitoring Web Map

The Collaborative is preparing to release an interactive web map showing the 67 water level and water quality RMS wells within the subbasin. The web map will be previewed at the upcoming Groundwater Workshop on January 23rd.

Groundwater Workshop, January 23, 2024

The Dixon and Solano RCDs are hosting a [Groundwater Workshop](#) on January 23rd, primarily for members of the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. The workshop will include presentations from LSCE and Chris Lee on SGMA in the Solano Subbasin, water quality and nitrate issues, a local grower panel discussion about farm practices, recharge case studies, and lessons from California's groundwater recharge pilot program.

Well permitting, upcoming legislation, funding, and related updates

- Bay Delta Plan Update: The State Water Quality Control Board is considering an "unimpaired flow approach" as going beyond voluntary agreements. This alternative does not address groundwater. Some members of the Collaborative are drafting a comment letter on this update.
- State Budget: Funding cuts are expected, including hiring freezes over the next few months.
- The subbasin continues coordination with Yolo Subbasin, particularly around activities across Putah Creek, as well as coordination within the Solano Subbasin with One Water coordination efforts.

Stakeholder Engagement

Ag Innovations provided updates on work, including:

- A newsletter announcing both the GSP determination as well as the DWR grant award will be sent this month and SolanoGSP.com will be updated.



- The outreach plan for communication with private well owners included in the groundwater monitoring web map was discussed. The plan includes coordination with the Dixon RCD. The interactive web map will be posted at solanogsp.com/subbasin_conditions. Collaborative members should contact Ag Innovations with questions or concerns.
- Ag Innovations provided recommended updates to each of the GSA's websites last year. Recently met with Sacramento County GSA to go over revised recommendations and would be happy to support other GSAs with website improvements.

Forecast Upcoming Meeting Discussions

- Agenda topics for the February Collaborative meeting were sought. The March Collaborative meeting will include a discussion of the draft Annual Report.
- The group decided to remove monthly Roundtable meeting events moving forward as there is no longer a need to meet twice monthly.

Meeting Adjourned