



Solano Subbasin GSA Collaborative Meeting

March 21, 2024 | 1:00 - 2:45 p.m. | Via Zoom

Participants

x	Solano Subbasin GSA Chris Lee		Solano Irrigation District Cary Keaten		Sacramento County Chris Hunley
x	Misty Kaltreider	x	Paul Fuchslin	x	Austin Miller
x	"Dick" Chun Tzou Alex Rabidoux		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	x	Ag Innovations Jenn Fox		
x	Nick Watterson Faithe Lovelace	x	Suzannah Sosman Guadalupe Garcia Genevieve Taylor		
Guests: Kelly Huff, Dixon Resource Conservation District (RCD)					

AGENDA

1. GSA Updates
2. GSP Implementation
 - a. Draft Annual Report Presentation and Discussion
 - b. Projects and Management Actions
 - c. Updates on Well Permitting, State Activities, and Funding
3. Stakeholder Engagement
4. Forecast next Collaborative meeting (April 18) topics

MEETING NOTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Updates

- Northern Delta GSA: The Board met in February and will be working toward a Proposition 218 process. DWR has reached out about technical assistance opportunities.
- Sacramento County GSA: is looking into a Proposition 218 process. Has been contacted by Reclamation District 3 and has updated the Sacramento County GSA website.



- Solano Irrigation District (SID) GSA: is concerned about the unimpaired flows and the State Water Board process.
- Solano Subbasin GSA: The Bay Delta Plan Update and State Water Board work on unimpaired flows could put a huge strain on the Solano Subbasin groundwater. The Putah Creek Accord is an example of local success and the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Initiative is backed by the governor's Department of Fish and Wildlife and others. Coordination will be important.
- Vacaville GSA: is also concerned about the State Water Board effort, as it could lead to a building moratorium and severe cutbacks. Vacaville GSA Board members have been invited to the Groundwater Workshop

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

Draft Annual Report Presentation and Discussion

Luhdorff & Scalmanini Engineering provide a high-level review of the 2023 Annual Report Draft. The draft report was shared with the Collaborative in mid-March with a folder that included the report, figures, and appendices. The report is due to DWR on April 1 and the group engaged in discussion in several areas.

- 2023 Annual Report and SGMA requirements. The group discussed key requirements. The report incorporates recent annual report guidance by DWR and a discussion of GSP "Recommended Corrective Actions."
- Water Level RMS states. Five wells exceeded minimum thresholds, all in the alluvial (this had been 10 wells the prior year). Dixon Resource Conservation District and The Freshwater Trusts have been helpful with well recruiting and outreach.
- Annual groundwater pumping and storage were shown (groundwater extraction is reflected by water year, and change in storage is from spring to spring season).
- Graphs of the 2023 subsidence amount were shown and discussed in detail. Participants discussed that there was significant noise in these graphs. It was noted that the data is presented by a Department of Water Resources Contractor.
- The group discussed water quality. Significant new nitrate data comes from the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program domestic well sampling. Notable concentration increases are being investigated.

Projects and Management Actions

Additional GSP implementation items were discussed, including expanded automation of water level monitoring, tracing of conditions (including the web map), well and surface water diversion inventory, projects and management actions to enhance recharge and recycled water, resilience planning, education, and outreach.

Updates on Well Permitting, State Activities, and Funding

The group discussed the proposed Assembly Bill 2079 (Bennett) "Groundwater extraction: large-diameter, high-capacity wells: permits" which would apply to medium- and high-priority



subbasins. By imposing additional requirements on a local enforcement agency, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Stakeholder Engagement

Ag Innovations provided an update on stakeholder outreach. As discussed previously, on April 24, 2024, Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency and Solano Irrigation District will host an informational mixer on Groundwater Sustainability Plan implementation in the Solano Subbasin. LSCE and Ag Innovations will share groundwater updates on the State of the Solano Subbasin and the Annual Report - Water Year 2023. The group discussed RSVPs and if anyone has RSVPs that they want Ag Innovations to track, they should include Ag Innovations on the invitations.

The group also discussed a proposed Virtual Town Hall on May 22, 2024 from 5:30-7 pm. The Town Hall goals are to:

- Provide an overview of the State of the Solano Subbasin
- Share context - the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and associated work toward Projects and Management Actions (PMAs)
- Interactive discussion about groundwater recharge and answer questions and share opportunities to get involved

The group reviewed a draft agenda and were encouraged to add this date to calendars.

Additional public outreach efforts include:

- State of the Subbasin updates and translation into Spanish
- An e-newsletter to be sent the week of April 22 and will include promotion of the Virtual Town Hall. Please share any topics that should be included.
- Spanish language updates to the <https://www.solanogsp.com/espanol/>

The Department of Water Resources has also announced a GSA forum on May 23, 2024, 8:30 am -12 pm. The Spring 2024 GSA is focused on “Applications of State Assistance: Leveraging Statewide AEM Data at the Basin Level to Inform GSP Implementation.”

Forecast Upcoming Meeting Discussions

Topics were invited for the next Collaborative meeting on April 18.

Meeting Adjourned