



# Solano Subbasin GSA Collaborative Meeting

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

## Participants

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

## AGENDA

1. GSA Updates
2. GSP Implementation
  - a. Projects and Management Actions
  - b. Updates on Well Permitting, Funding, and Relevant Legislation
3. Stakeholder Engagement
4. Forecast May 16th Meeting Topics



## MEETING NOTES

### Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Updates

- Solano Subbasin GSA: Introduced Maritza Flores Marquez the new grant administrator for Prop 68 grant. Reclamation District (RD) 349 is interested in groundwater sustainability. Will be attending the State Water Resources Board multiday public workshop to discuss voluntary agreements being considered in the process of updating the Sacramento River and Delta components of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Delta Plan
- Solano Irrigation District (SID) GSA: Board reviewed Annual Plan at last week's Board meeting.
- Sacramento County GSA: Working on an outreach flier and will have a hearing on July 9th. RD3 has not contacted them further.
- Northern Delta GSA: beginning process for Proposition 218 election.

### Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

#### Projects and Management Actions

In last month's meeting, GSA staff reviewed the 2023 Annual Report Draft. Luhdorff & Scalmanini Engineering (LSCE) provided an update that the Report was submitted and thanked GSAs for their feedback. An update on last month's presentation was provided: including a graph update showing one less exceedance than had been shown. There was a brief discussion about hydrologic loading. LSCE is also reminding GSA staff to measure spring water levels. LSCE is meeting with RCDs and Solano GSA on Projects and Management Actions.

#### Updates on Well Permitting, Funding, and Relevant Legislation

California Assembly Bill 2799 (AB 2799, Fong. Sustainable groundwater management: state agencies) proposes to amend Section 10720.9 of the Water Code is one to follow. Participants mentioned that it is hard to tell what Bill is trying to do and worth tracking.

Assembly Constitutional Amendment (ACA 16, Byran. Environmental rights) would amend the California Constitution. Participants discussed that safe drinking water is in effect and this amendment is duplicative and may be counterproductive to work. The group also brought up recent developments on Roberts versus Coachella Valley Water District that seek to invalidate tax efforts, including under Propositions 13, 26, and 218. GSAs should likely follow developments in this case.

Assembly Bill 2079 (Bennett, "Groundwater extraction: large-diameter, high-capacity wells: permits") would apply to medium- and high-priority subbasins; and came up at the last meeting. This is a far-reaching bill; the Northern California Water Association is submitting a letter.



## Stakeholder Engagement

### May 22 - Virtual Town Hall

Ag Innovations provided an update on stakeholder outreach. A Virtual Town Hall (VTH) open to the public will be on May 22 from 5:30 - 7 pm, and Spanish simultaneous interpretation will be offered. The event is already shared on [SolanoGSP.com](https://www.solanogsp.com) and registration for the Zoom meeting will begin on April 23. The group reviewed a draft agenda and was encouraged to add this date to calendars. They were asked for input on the draft meeting goals:

- Provide an overview of the State of the Solano Subbasin
- Share context: SGMA, the Solano Subbasin GSP, and associated work toward PMAs
- Interactive discussion about groundwater recharge and answer questions and share opportunities to get involved

The group provided input on panelists that could include growers, describe recharge opportunities, and show the distributed leadership needed for groundwater sustainability. One suggestion was Phil Bachand who has worked on a number of recharge projects including a California Department of Food and Agriculture Specialty Block Grant looking at applied conditions, water quality, and soil samples. The group was asked to send Ag Innovations additional ideas for panelists.

A newsletter promoting the Virtual Town Hall and including links to the Water Year 2023 Annual Report and State of the Subbasin will go out on April 23 along with two e-blasts promoting the public meeting. The group was encouraged to reach out to board members, Spanish speakers, and beneficial user groups about the Town Hall.

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.

## Forecast Upcoming Meeting Discussions

Topics were invited for the next Collaborative meeting on May 16.

### Meeting Adjourned