



# Solano Subbasin GSA Collaborative Meeting

September 19, 2024 | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. | Via Zoom

## Participants

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

## AGENDA

1. GSA Updates
2. GSP Implementation
  - a. Projects and Management Actions
  - b. Updates on Well Permitting, State Activities, Funding
3. Stakeholder Engagement
4. Forecast next Collaborative meeting (10/17) topics



# MEETING NOTES

## Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Updates

- Northern Delta GSA: Staff analyzed the Governor's Executive Order N-3-24, which rescinded provisions and regions from previous orders related to emergency authority (no longer) needed to mitigate the effects of drought conditions. Provisions of EO-N-4-23, EO-N-3-23, EO-N-7-22, N-10-21 that are terminated were shared.
- Solano Subbasin GSA: Provided an update related to well permitting in Solano County and communication related to potential changes to well permitting rules. As background, a Sonoma County court case might establish new requirements for well permits. If Sonoma County appeals the recent ruling, the outcome could set a precedent that affects other regions. Solano County is monitoring how developments in Sonoma and San Joaquin County might impact well-permitting programs.
- Sacramento County GSA: The GSA is working with RD3 about their GSA status. The removal request has to go through the Department of Water Resources (DWR) before Sacramento County action is needed. They are working on several projects involving the CEQA process and subdivision splits, which may require new wells. They are considering thresholds for groundwater impacts outside the Solano Subbasin. They are working on permitting process updates to clarify the process and align with the Governor's Executive Order and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
- City of Vacaville GSA: The new assistant utilities director for the city of Vacaville was present and introduced to the rest of the group as a regular participant in GSA Collaborative Meetings.
- Solano Irrigation District: They are wrapping up water quality sampling in wells. Only one well was approved to move forward with construction in the county.

## Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

### Projects and Management Actions

LSCE is working with Solano County Water Agency, and Dixon RCD to reach out to landowners on multi-benefit projects in the Northwest Focus Area. They are coordinating with Solano County Water Agency, Dixon RCD, and a local landowner to monitor precipitation related to a cover cropping effort.

LSCE gave updates on GSP Annual Reporting, Interconnected Surface Waters (ISW) Guidance, and the Subsidence Guidance. They gave a reminder that the water monitoring timing "sweet spot" is around mid-October. The Northern California Groundwater Management Working Group and DWR spoke about the well-permitting Executive Order and the ISW Guidance. The subsidence guidance is anticipated this fall.

### Updates on Well Permitting, Funding, State Activities, and Funding

The DWR grant to Solano County includes a task related to well and surface water diversion inventory. LSCE will present preliminary results and next steps at the next GSA Collaborative



Meeting. They have had several meetings with stakeholders including Solano County, Environmental Health folks, and Sacramento County related to well permit records.

LSCE met with Dixon RCD on well inventory, integrating well permits, well completion report information, parcel information and land use information. The Dixon RCD oversees the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program. Dixon RCD has added survey questions to annual reports about water sources, which will assist in identifying missing wells or surface water diversions. A team member has become skilled in managing E-RIMS data and is now manually reviewing archives to find missing information, such as place-of-use maps for key licenses. This effort is nearing completion and has been beneficial for the well and surface water diversion inventory. The LSCE team will give a presentation next month.

## Stakeholder Engagement

Ag Innovations shared that the California Alliance with Family Farmers has a new groundwater community engagement contractor who reached out to express interest in staying informed about what the GSAs are doing, particularly in the Solano and Yolo subbasins. They offered to be a communication partner, which provides another outlet to share information with the public. This partnership will help keep the Alliance's network updated on developments in the Solano subbasin.

Additionally, Ag Innovations shared that there are upcoming updates to the web map on the GSP website. Dixon RCD shared that they chose a date for the Groundwater Workshop on Thursday, January 30, 2025 from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm.

## Forecast Next Meeting Topics

Next meeting: Thursday, October 17, 2024. Among topics to be included, LSCE will present their preliminary findings on well inventory and surface water diversion inventory.