

Tracy Subbasin GSP Coordination Committee Meeting

Thursday May 18, 2023
1:00 PM to 2:30 PM

Teleconference Meeting Only

Teleconference Link: <https://stantec.zoom.us/j/94618467229>

Phone Number: +1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 946 1846 7229

The following options are available to members of the public to listen to these meetings and provide comments to the Committee Members before and during the meeting:

CALL-IN

Member of the public are encouraged to use the call-in number, which will allow them to fully participate in the meeting without having to be present in person. **Once connected, we request you kindly mute your phone.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Wednesday prior to the meeting. Please submit your comment via email to Matt Zidar, San Joaquin County, at mzidar@sjgov.org. Your comment will be shared with the Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies members and placed into the record at the meeting. Every effort will be made to read comments received during the meeting into the record, but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting.

DISABILITY-RELATED MODIFICATIONS

If you need disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please call 1 (209) 468-3089 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting.

AGENDA

I. Opening of Meeting/Roll Call

II. Scheduled Items

- A. Approval of the April 20 GSP Coordination Committee Meeting Minutes – *Action Item*
- B. GSA Status Updates – *Round Robin Discussion*
 - 1. Current Groundwater Conditions, Projects and Management Actions, Funding, and General Updates
- C. GSP Implementation Updates
 - 1. FY 23/24 Budget – *Action Item*

2. TSS Update – *Discussion Item*
3. Groundwater Conditions – *Discussion Item*

D. Inter-basin Coordination – *Discussion Item*

1. Adjacent Basin Updates
 - i. Eastern San Joaquin – *Matt Zidar*
 - ii. Delta Mendota – *Lea Emmons*
 - iii. East Contra Costa – *Greg Young*

E. 2023 Public Workshop – *Discussion Item*

F. DWR Status Report – *Discussion Item*

III. **Public Comments**

IV. **Agency Comments**

V. **Next GSP Coordination Committee Meeting Anticipated for June 15, 2023**

VI. **Adjournment**

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AGENDA

I. Opening of Meeting/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM. Roll call found the following Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SMGA) Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) representatives for the Tracy Subbasin (Tsb) present via teleconference for the regular Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Coordination Committee (Committee) meeting:

- Ryan Alameda, Stewart Tract GSA
- Lea Emmons, City of Tracy GSA
- Greg Gibson, City of Lathrop GSA
- Greg Young, Byron Bethany Irrigation District (BBID)
- David Weisenberger, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District (BCID)
- Matt Zidar, San Joaquin County GSA

Other attendees:

- Emily Finnegan, Stantec
- Khandriale Clark, Stantec
- Richard Shatz, GEI
- Bill Brewster, California Department of Water Resources (DWR)
- Mike Cornelius, GEI

II. Scheduled Items

- A. Approval of the March 23 GSP Coordination Committee Meeting Minutes –
Action Item

RESULT: APPROVED

MOVER: David Weisenberger

SECONDER: Lea Emmons

AYES: All

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

- B. GSA Status Updates – *Round Robin Discussion*

1. Projects and Management Actions, Funding, and General Updates
 - i. BCID: The District is currently focused on groundwater recharge using surface water and determining the best physical locations to do that.
 - ii. San Joaquin County: The County has taken an opposition to the proposed legislation AB 460, AB 676, AB 1337, and SB 389. Many of these proposed bills focus on changing the current water rights system. While there is room to change existing water rights, the proposed legislation could be challenging for those who hold pre-1914 and riparian rights as well as for reservoir operations. Mr. Zidar stated that planning around Executive Orders N-7-22, N-3-23, and N-4-23 were also on the County's plate at this time. He also mentioned that the Stockton East Water District is currently undergoing a pilot project with DWR, and this work is demonstrating the need for a more streamlined recharge permitting process. The project needs to prove the presence of 90% flows (along with other technical work) in order to capitalize on an expedited recharge process. Separately, Mr. Zidar stated that community members met at Corral Hallow to

discuss the feasibility of a project focused on using gravel pits and mine spoils for flood risk and recharge improvement operations. This effort could connect with BCID's and BBID's facilities, which could potentially lead to a new Project and/or Management Action in the GSP.

- iii. City of Tracy: The City is focused on the flood season and strategizing how best to capture flood flows at this time. Current strategies under consideration include utilizing gravel pits such as Corral Hollow for recharge. The City noted that AB 828 is a piece of legislation that the Committee should be paying attention to due to its effects on groundwater pumping and the GSAs' authorities.
- iv. BBID: Nothing to report.
- v. City of Lathrop: The City has completed their groundwater monitoring and is making progress on their ASR well project. The new well will be drilled deeper. They are currently waiting to hear about grant awards from DWR as the project is heavily dependent on the grant funds.
- vi. Stewart Tract: Stewart Tract GSA is working with the City of Lathrop on their ASR well effort.
- vii. Mr. Shatz provided an overview of highlights from DWR's 2023 GSA Forum. The Forum occurred the previous day via Zoom. Representatives from the Yolo, Pajaro, and Merced subbasins presented during a panel discussion on projects and management actions. The presentations for the Yolo and Merced Subbasins focused on increased groundwater recharge, and the Pajaro Subbasin presentation focused on the management of water through allocations.
- viii. Mr. Shatz also noted at this time that GEI's proposal for the Tracy Subbasin was inclusive of support for groundwater recharge efforts.

C. GSP Implementation Updates – *Discussion Item*

1. FY 23/24 Budget

- i. Mr. Shatz provided an overview of how the budget for the upcoming fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 had been developed and what changes had been made since the group's last conversation on the topic. He noted that the budget was influenced by data derived from the Annual Report submitted to DWR the previous month. GEI is striving to finalize the budget in May so that it is ready for adoption in June.
 - ii. Mr. Gibson reminded Mr. Shatz that additional changes to the proposed budget would be fine as long as the overall GSA cost shares remained within the projected costs included in the City of Lathrop's bi-annual budget.
 - iii. While discussing costs for evaluating the OpenET data that would be used for GSP implementation, the group noted that the current cost allocation (\$30k) was more expensive than they thought it should be. Mr. Young offered to discuss more cost-effective alternatives with Mr. Shatz offline.
 - iv. Other notes from the budget discussion:
 - a. BBID should be collecting funds from Alameda County. Mr. Young will initiate a conversation with the BBID General Manager about this.
 - b. The San Joaquin County Zone 2 Funding contribution has historically covered all costs related to maintenance of the data management system and data development work; however, the costs for this work are higher than in the past.
 - c. The County is undergoing a larger Zone 2 re-budgeting effort, and as such, will be re-evaluating the Zone 2 assumptions for the Tracy Subbasin. There was a request from BBID to re-evaluate the formula for how Zone 2 funding is being used across GSA revenues.
2. DWR Technical Support Services (TSS) Update
- i. GEI has site visits for the proposed TSS well locations scheduled for April 27. A DWR geologist and additional environmental representatives will be present during the site visits. There are five well locations that will be evaluated.

D. Inter-basin Coordination – *Discussion Item*

1. Upcoming IBC Meetings

- i. This item was not discussed.

2. Adjacent Basin Updates

- i. Eastern San Joaquin – *Matt Zidar*

- a. Mr. Zidar mentioned that the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (ESJGWA) would be moving forward with the development of a Water Accounting Framework and a well mitigation program, which will include a policy/planning analysis. This work is being conducted as part of the ESJGWA's response to DWR's incomplete determination for their GSP.

- ii. Delta Mendota – *Lea Emmons*

- a. This item was not discussed.

- iii. East Contra Costa – *Greg Young*

- a. This item was not discussed.

E. 2023 Public Workshop – *Discussion Item*

- 1. This item was not discussed.

F. DWR Status Report – *Discussion Item*

- 1. Mr. Brewster relayed that DWR is taking groundwater recharge seriously. They are attempting to document all recharge projects underway and use groundwater data to track drought responses.

III. **Public Comments**

- A. No comments to report.

IV. **Agency Comments**

- A. No comments to report.

V. **Next GSP Coordination Committee Meeting Anticipated for May 18, 2023**

- A. No comments to report.

VI. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 PM.