

# Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Coordination Meeting

Thursday, November 19, 2020  
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

## Teleconference Meeting Only

Teleconference Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/773528605>

Call-In Number: +1 (224) 501-3412

Access Code: 773-528-605

### **NOTICE: CORONAVIRUS COVID-19**

On March 18, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 recognizing that COVID 19 continues to spread throughout our community resulting in serious and ongoing economic harm. Governor Newsom has therefore waived certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act relating to public participation and attendance at public meetings.

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Officer, **effective immediately** and while social distancing measures are imposed, members of the Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and staff will be participating in this meeting remotely from multiple locations. In order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, 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 Michael Callahan, San Joaquin County, at [mcallahan@sjgov.org](mailto:mcallahan@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 August 20 GSP Coordination Meeting and September 17 and October 15 Technical Committee Meetings Minutes. – *Action Item*
  - B. Public Outreach and Engagement Activities. – *Discussion Item*
  - C. Approval to Post Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan Chapter 5 for Public Review. – *Action Item*
  - D. Discussion on DWR Monitoring Wells. – *Discussion Item*
  - E. Discussion on Management Areas, Monitoring Networks, and Sustainable Management Criteria. – *Discussion Item*
  - F. Discussion on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Status and Schedule. – *Discussion Item*
- III. **Public Comment**
- IV. **Agency Comments**
- V. **Next Groundwater Sustainability Plan Coordination Meeting Date – December 17, 2020**
- VI. **Adjournment**

# Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Coordination Meeting

Thursday, August 20, 2020

1:00 PM to 3:00 PM

## Teleconference Meeting Only

Teleconference Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/490788893>

Call-In Number: +1 (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 490-788-893

## MINUTES

### I. Opening of Meeting/Roll Call

Michael Callahan, San Joaquin County Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM.

Roll call found the following GSA representatives present via teleconference:

- David Weisenberger, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District GSA
- Greg Gibson, City of Lathrop GSA
- Lemar Saffi, City of Tracy GSA
- Michael Callahan, San Joaquin County GSA
- Ryan Alameda, Stewart Tract GSA
- Greg Young, Tully and Young on behalf of Byron-Bethany Irrigation District GSA and Westside Irrigation District GSA

Other Attendees:

- Nick Janes, Byron-Bethany Irrigation District GSA
- Bill Brewster, California Department of Water Resources
- Richard Shatz, GEI
- George Hartman, Member of the Public
- Kirsten Pringle, Stantec

### II. Scheduled Items

- A. Approval of June 18 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Coordination Meeting Minutes.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**MOVER:** David Weisenberger, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District GSA

**SECONDER:** Greg Young, Byron-Bethany Irrigation District GSA and West Side Irrigation District GSA

**AYES:** Banta-Carbona Irrigation District GSA, Byron-Bethany Irrigation District GSA, City of Lathrop GSA, City of Tracy GSA, San Joaquin County GSA, West Side Irrigation District GSA

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** Stewart Tract

**ABSTAIN:** None

B. Public Outreach and Engagement Activities.

Kirsten Pringle, Stantec, provided an update on public outreach and engagement activities. Ms. Pringle stated that the subbasin will start a bi-monthly electronic newsletter to keep interested parties informed about updates on development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Tracy Subbasin. She also stated that a recording of first public workshop will be made available on the Tracy Subbasin website.

C. Public Comments Received on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Chapters 1-3

Richard Shatz, GEI, shared that there were no public comments received on draft GSP chapters 1-3. The public comment period for the chapters closes on August 20.

D. Approval to Post Groundwater Sustainability Plan Chapter 4 for Public Review.

Ms. Pringle requested to move the Item D to the front of the agenda to allow for all the GSA members to vote. David Weisenberger, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District GSA, motioned to move Item D to the front of the agenda.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**MOVER:** David Weisenberger, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District GSA

**SECONDER:** Greg Young, Byron-Bethany Irrigation District GSA and West Side Irrigation District GSA

**AYES:** Banta-Carbona Irrigation District GSA, Byron-Bethany Irrigation District GSA, City of Lathrop GSA, City of Tracy GSA, San Joaquin County GSA, Stewart Tract GSA, West Side Irrigation District GSA

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

The GSA representatives voted to approve posting of draft GSP chapter 4 for public review and comment.

**RESULT: APPROVED**

**MOVER:** Greg Young, Byron-Bethany Irrigation District GSA and West Side Irrigation District GSA

**SECONDER:** David Weisenberger, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District GSA

**AYES:** Banta-Carbona Irrigation District GSA, Byron-Bethany Irrigation District GSA, City of Lathrop GSA, City of Tracy GSA, San Joaquin County GSA, Stewart Tract GSA, West Side Irrigation District GSA

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

E. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Status and Schedule.

Mr. Shatz stated that GEI is preparing the draft GSP chapters on monitoring networks and sustainable management criteria. The draft GSP chapter on water budgets is on hold due to the delay in the release of the state's water budget model. The model is anticipated to be released by the end of the month.

**III. Public Comment**

Bill Brewster, California Department of Water Resources, shared that the Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program Draft Proposition 68 Implementation Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) is available for public review and comment. The first round of Proposition 68 grants will be focused on critically overdrafted basins; however, the guidelines identified in the PSP will apply to future funding rounds as well. Mr. Brewster encouraged the GSA representatives to review the Draft PSP if they are interested in applying for future Proposition 68 funds. The comment period for the Draft PSP ends on September 18.

**IV. Agency Comments**

Greg Gibson, City of Lathrop, stated that Mr. Shatz had distributed an article via email and indicated that the article identified some items that the Tracy Subbasin GSAs should

consider during GSP development. Mr. Gibson asked for clarification on what these items are. Mr. Shatz stated the article was summary of a research seminar that was held in June by non-governmental organizations and environmental group on perspectives and trends from evaluation of GSPs submitted in January 2020. Mr. Shatz provided an overview of the topics that were discussed during the seminar. These topics included identification of disadvantaged communities in GSPs, sustainable management criteria and impacts on domestic wells, projects and management actions for water quality, groundwater-dependent ecosystems, outreach to tribal governments, and data gaps.

**V. Next Groundwater Sustainability Plan Coordination Meeting Date – November 19, 2020**

Mr. Callahan stated that the next Technical Committee meeting will be held on September 17, 2020 and the next GSP Coordination meeting will be held on November 19, 2020.

**VI. Adjournment**

Mr. Callahan adjourned the meeting at 1:33 PM.

**Meeting Notes**  
**Tracy Subbasin**  
**Groundwater Sustainability Plan Technical Working Committee**

**September 17, 2020**  
**1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

**Teleconference Meeting Only**

Teleconference Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/560738109>

Phone Number: +1 (646) 749-3122

Access Code: 560-738-109

**I. Introductions**

- i. David Weisenberger, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
- ii. Nick Janes, Byron-Bethany Irrigation District GSA
- iii. Bill Brewster, California Department of Water Resources
- iv. Greg Gibson, City of Lathrop GSA
- v. Lemar Saffi, City of Tracy GSA
- vi. Michael Callahan, San Joaquin County GSA
- vii. Matt Zidar, San Joaquin County GSA
- viii. Kirsten Pringle, Stantec

**II. Scheduled Items**

**A. Technical Coordination Meeting Minutes, July 16, 2020.**

- The draft minutes from the July 16 Technical Coordination Meeting were included in the meeting packet. There were no comments or suggested revisions on the draft minutes.

**B. Public Outreach and Engagement Activities.**

- The next public workshop will be held in November and focus on sustainable management criteria and the groundwater monitoring network.
- There was a reminder that outreach activities, including presentations to governance bodies and boards of directors, should be recorded through the Tracy Subbasin website.

**C. Public Comments Received on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Chapters 1-3 and Chapter 4.**

- There were no public comments received on Chapters 1 – 3 or Chapter 4.

**D. GSA Comments on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Chapter 5.**

- Richard Shatz, GEI, provided an overview of the comments provided by the GSA representatives on the draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Chapter 5. Mr. Shatz received comments from Greg Young, Byron-Bethany Irrigation District and Westside Irrigation District, and Greg Gibson, City of Lathrop. Comments from San Joaquin County are pending. Comments on the draft GSP chapter addressed multiple topics included managed wetlands and groundwater-dependent ecosystems, groundwater quality, and seawater intrusion.
- Mr. Shatz described the differences his team identified between the groundwater contours included in the draft Tracy Subbasin GSP and Final Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSP. The contours suggest a difference in inter-basin flows between the two subbasins. The group decided to schedule a meeting with representatives of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin to discuss further.
- Mr. Shatz also described the differences between the groundwater contours included in the draft Tracy Subbasin GSP and Final Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin GSP. The group decided that the differences were not significant enough to pursue a meeting with the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin.

**E. Chapter 7 – Groundwater Monitoring Network.**

- Chapter 7 of the Tracy Subbasin GSP will discuss the groundwater monitoring network. Mr. Shatz provided an overview of the purpose of representative monitoring wells.

**F. Chapter 8 – Overview and Process for Setting Sustainable Management Goals, Criteria and Thresholds.**

- Chapter 8 of the Tracy Subbasin GSP will discuss the sustainable management criteria (SMC) for the Subbasin. Mr. Shatz provided an overview of the content, purpose, and process for developing the SMC.
- The group discussed approaches for setting SMC for the portion of the Subbasin located in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Delta), due to the region's unique hydrologic and geologic conditions. One approach is to define management areas and set different SMC for each management area. Another approach is to provide a clear explanation in the GSP of why the SMC for the Delta area is set differently. Any approach should take into account the input of the beneficial users and other stakeholders in the Delta area.

**G. Discussion on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Status and Schedule.**

- Next steps to development the draft GSP include developing the SMC and identifying representative groundwater wells for the groundwater monitoring network.
- Development of the water budget is on hold due to the delay in release of the CV2SIM Fina Grid Model Version 1 from DWR. Mr. Shatz suggesting using the CV2Sim Beta Model. The group agreed with this approach.

**III. Agency Updates**

- Greg Gibson, City of Lathrop, noted that new Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook identifies the need for coordination between urban water management plans and groundwater sustainability plans. Mr. Gibson noted that the updated water demand factors for the City of Lathrop would not be available until July 2021. Mr. Shatz and Matt Zidar, San Joaquin County, suggested using the existing water demand factors and including the new factors in future GSP updates.

**IV. Next Groundwater Sustainability Plan Technical Committee Coordination Meeting Date – October 15, 2020****V. Next Groundwater Sustainability Plan Coordination Meeting Date – November 19, 2020**

**Meeting Notes**  
**Tracy Subbasin**  
**Groundwater Sustainability Plan Technical Working Committee**

**Thursday, October 15, 2020**  
**1:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

**Teleconference Meeting Only**

Teleconference Link: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/516953669>

Phone Number : +1 (571) 317-3122

Access Code: 516-953-669

**I. Introductions**

- i. David Weisenberger, Banta-Carbona Irrigation District Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA)
- ii. Bill Brewster, California Department of Water Resources (DWR)
- iii. Greg Gibson, City of Lathrop GSA
- iv. Lemar Saffi, City of Tracy GSA
- v. Richard Shatz, GEI
- vi. Sean Storey, GEI
- vii. Matt Zidar, San Joaquin County GSA
- viii. Roy Valadez, San Joaquin County GSA
- ix. Representative, Sharpe Army Depot
- x. Kirsten Pringle, Stantec
- xi. Ryan Alameda, Stewart Tract GSA

**II. Scheduled Items**

**A. Review of Technical Committee September 17, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

There were no revisions to or comments on the meeting minutes from the September 17, 2020 Technical Committee Meeting.

**B. Discussion on Public Outreach and Engagement Activities**

Kirsten Pringle, Stantec, provided an overview of the concept for the next public workshop, anticipated to be held in January 2021. The workshop will focus on the draft sustainable management criteria and representative groundwater monitoring network

for the subbasin. Prior to the workshop, two educational videos will be available for public review about these topics. Greg Gibson, City of Lathrop, suggested developing key messages on why members of the public should care about these topics.

**C. Discussion of Public Comments Received on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Chapters 1-3 and Chapter 4**

Richard Shatz, GEI, stated that there were no public comments received on draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Chapters 1 – 3 or 4.

**D. Discussion of Groundwater Sustainability Agency Comments on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Chapter 5**

Richard Shatz provided an overview of GSA comments provided on draft GSP Chapter 5 and the proposed approach to addressing these comments. Topics addressed by the GSA comments include groundwater quality and groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs).

The group discussed the managed wetlands and GDEs identified in the draft GSP chapters. Some GSA representatives expressed concerns that the map of GDEs may misrepresent the actual use of certain parcels. The group agreed to add an explanation to Chapter 5 explaining how managed wetlands and GDEs were identified and defined.

**E. Briefing on Groundwater Management Area Approach**

Shatz summarized the briefing on the groundwater management area approach provided in the meeting packet. The group discussed the proposed approach and how to set sustainable management criteria for the portion of the subbasin located in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta (Delta). The group decided to move forward with the approach described in the briefing.

The group also discussed how the Delta area is defined within the subbasin. A member of the public asked if federal lands are included in the GSP. The group decided to use the terms “primary” and “secondary” when referring to the Delta, revise the boundary of the Delta shown in the draft GSP chapters, and add a description of agencies with jurisdiction over the Delta to the GSP.

**Discussion on Chapter 7 – Groundwater Monitoring Network and Chapter 8 – Overview and Process for Sustainable Management Goals, Criteria and Setting Thresholds**

Shatz provided an overview of next steps to develop draft GSP Chapters 7 and 8.

**F. Discussion on Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development Status and Schedule**

Shatz provided overview of that status of the schedule to develop the GSP. He noted that original schedule for water budgets has been delayed and the sustainable management criteria will be developed before the water budget.

**III. Agency Updates**

Bill Brewster, DWR, stated that DWR is dropping some wells that the group relies on for monitoring.

**IV. Next Groundwater Sustainability Plan Coordination Meeting Date – November 19, 2020**

**V. Next Groundwater Sustainability Plan Technical Committee Meeting Date – December 17, 2020**