

## Tracy Subbasin Annual Public Workshop: A Water Year In Review Workshop Summary

**Date:** October 17, 2024      **Time:** 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** Tracy City Hall – Room 203 (333 Civic Center Plz, Tracy, CA 95376)

Attendees	
Name	Agency/Organization (if applicable)
Stephanie Reyna-Hiestand	City of Tracy
Daryl Quaresma	2 Q Farming Inc
Antonio E. Awsk	City of Tracy
Benjamin Hall	[unknown]
Kelly Wright-La Force	Banta-Carbona Irrigation District
Mary Hildebrand	South Delta Water Agency
Navi Kahlon	City of Tracy***
GSA Members and Presenters	
Name	Agency
Ashley Couch	San Joaquin County GSA *
Bob Granberg	San Joaquin County GSA **
David Weisenberger	Banta-Carbona Irrigation District GSA *
Lea Emmons	City of Tracy GSA *
Greg Gibson	City of Lathrop GSA *
Ed Pattison	Byron Bethany Irrigation District GSA *
Richard Shatz	GEI **
Khandriale Clark	Stantec **

\*indicates that the person/agency is a Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

\*\*indicates that the person/organization is consultant staff for the Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies

\*\*\*indicates an attendee that briefly attempted to join the meeting virtually but did not stay

### Workshop Purpose

The purpose of Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies' (GSA) annual public workshop was to:

- inform attendees about the Tracy Subbasin and the agencies managing its groundwater resources;
- outline the implementation status of the Subbasin's Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and the projects and management actions;
- provide updates about groundwater conditions for the previous water year and a look ahead at preliminary analysis for the current water year;
- solicit input from attendees about key topics related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA); and
- how interested parties can stay involved and informed about the GSAs' groundwater management activities.

## **Outreach**

### Engagement Prior To Workshop

The workshop was noticed starting approximately four months in advance and through multiple channels, including:

- relayed verbally to any interested parties present during the previous two GSP Coordination Committee meetings where GSA representatives collaboratively planned the workshop's logistics and content (i.e., June 20 and September 19, 2024);
- multiple emails sent to the Subbasin's interested parties database between October 1, 2024 to October 16, 2024;
- postings on the Tracy Subbasin website and the websites of the Cities of Tracy and Lathrop as well as Banta-Carbona Irrigation District;
- direct calls and/or emails to interested parties.

### Engagement During the Workshop

The workshop was held from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 17, 2024; it was held in person at the City of Tracy's City Hall Building (333 Civic Center Plz, Tracy, CA 95376) in room 203. There were six members of the public and eight staff members in attendance. There was one attendee from the City of Tracy who briefly attempted to join the meeting virtually but did not stay. The workshop flyer is included as **Attachment A** to this summary.

The workshop began with opening remarks from Bob Granberg, consultant staff to the County of San Joaquin GSA, and a presentation on SGMA, the Tracy Subbasin, and how the GSAs are working together to implement the Subbasin's Groundwater Sustainability Plan. He was followed by Richard Shatz, GEI (technical consultant for the Subbasin) who provided updates on projects and management actions to help the Subbasin maintain and achieve sustainability, the next stage of SGMA implementation (i.e., the next GSP update), and recent groundwater conditions as well as a look ahead at conditions for the current water year. With the exception of Stewart Tract, representatives from all other Subbasin GSAs were present and provided additional information as well as responses to audience questions throughout the presentation. The PowerPoint slides used to guide the presentation are included as **Attachment B** to this summary. A summary of participant questions and comments is provided below along with GSA responses to questions. It has been organized in the same fashion as the agenda for the workshop.

## **Participant Engagement**

### Sustainable Groundwater Management in the Tracy Subbasin

- An audience member asked why metropolitan areas were able to continue expanding without planning for an appropriate amount of water resources to support the growing population. Mr. Granberg responded in collaboration with staff that metropolitan areas are required to account for all resource needs, including water, in their expansion plans and that if attendees wanted more information on the topic that a housing element for any particular city or county they were interested in should be available online.

- An audience member asked about why there were distinctions between the delta area versus the non-delta area in the GSAs’ planning. They noted that the current labels were potentially misleading and asked if the labels could be changed as there were parts of the legal delta that fell within the “non-delta area” boundaries defined by the GSAs. Mr. Shatz responded that the GSAs were not disputing whether or not those parts of the Subbasin were a part of the legal delta but rather how the GSAs had chosen to label sections of the Subbasin for GSP development. Groundwater pumping was not occurring in some parts of the Subbasin and separating those areas supported a more focused GSP. Mr. Shatz and the GSAs agreed that the name could be changed for clarity in the next iteration of the GSP.

### *GSP Determination and Next Steps*

- No comments or questions.

### *Water Year 2023 Groundwater Conditions*

- While there were no live comments or questions from this section, Mr. Shatz shared that a small follow up discussion was had between an audience member and himself after the workshop concluded. The topics discussed largely focused on groundwater conditions in specific areas in the Subbasin.

### *Updates on Projects, Management Actions and Special Projects*

- A small discussion occurred between GSA staff and presenters about Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) well projects happening in the Cities of Lathrop and Tracy. The conversation largely centered around the scope of those efforts and anticipated outcomes. Prompted by a question from an audience member, Mr. Shatz clarified that the City of Lathrop’s ASR well was considered a special project not included in the GSP but supported the Subbasin’s groundwater management goals; he also clarified that the City of Tracy’s ASR program pre-dated the GSAs’ efforts and is not included in the GSP either.

### *How to Stay Involved*

- When asked by Ms. Clark how they heard about the workshop, all audience members stated that they heard about the meeting through the emails distributed to the interested parties database.
- When asked by Ms. Clark if any attendees had any feedback on either the communication channels used to advertise the workshop or format of the workshop itself, one audience member stated that they have been kept informed through the outreach and engagement used thus far and have no suggested improvements.