



## **STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

### **AGENDA**

**Wednesday, October 13, 2021**

**8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.**

**Teleconference Meeting Only  
Call-In Information Provided**

**NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19**

**See Attached Notice Regarding COVID-19**

- I. Call to Order/Roll Call** (\*Please remember to keep your phone line muted and unmute when announcing yourself for attendance or speaking)
- II. Scheduled Items – *Presentation materials to be posted on ESJGroundwater.org and emailed prior to the meeting.***
  - A. Discussion/Action Items**
    1. Approval of the August 11, 2021 Meeting Minutes (Attached)
    2. Using Teleconference Pursuant to AB 361 During a Proclaimed State of Emergency
    3. TAC Report and Status of Model Development
    4. Basin Accounting Framework: Next Steps
- III. Staff Reports**
  1. Project Selection Process for Proposition 68 Round 2 Funding (Attached)
  2. DWR GSP Review
  3. American River Water Right Hearing Application and Next Steps
  4. DWR Report
- IV. Public Comment (non-agendized items)**
- V. Director Comments**
- VI. Future Agenda Items**
- VII. Adjournment**

# EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

## Steering Committee Meeting

### AGENDA

(Continued)

---

#### **NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19**

#### **Important Notice Regarding COVID 19 and Closure of Board Chambers to the Public During Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting**

In accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 *et seq.*), as amended by Assembly Bill 361 (2021), the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Members and staff will be participating in this meeting via teleconference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public may participate in the meeting by teleconference.

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:

1. You are strongly encouraged to listen to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee meetings by attending the teleconference:

### Microsoft Teams meeting

**Join on your computer or mobile app**

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

**Or call in (audio only)**

[+1 209-645-4071,,511005914#](#) United States, Stockton

Phone Conference ID: 511 005 914#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#) [Learn](#)

[More](#) | [Meeting options](#)

**ADD TEAMS INVITE**

***Once connected, we request you kindly mute your phone.***

2. 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 Tuesday prior to the meeting. Please submit your comment to the Secretary of the Board at [ksmith@sjgov.org](mailto:ksmith@sjgov.org). Your comment will be shared with the Board members and placed

**EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**  
**Steering Committee Meeting**  
**AGENDA**  
*(Continued)*

---

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.

**Next Scheduled Meeting**  
Wednesday, November 10, 2021  
8:30 am to 10:00 am  
Location TBD

## **ESJGWA Steering Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, August 11, 2021**

**Meeting called to order:** at 8:31 a.m.

The meeting was conducted via teleconference using Microsoft Teams. Chairman Winn called the meeting to order. Reminders were provided to the attendees regarding meeting procedures.

### **Roll Call taken:**

Roll call taken of members only.

In attendance were Chairman Winn; Directors Mike Henry; Robert Holmes; Tom Flinn and Alternate Directors Walter Ward; Andrew Watkins.

Others in attendance were logged via their sign into Microsoft Teams.

### **Discussion / Action Items:**

#### **1. Approval of the July 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes**

No amendments to the minutes requested.

Motion: Director Tom Flinn

2<sup>nd</sup>: Director Walter Ward

Chairman Winn asked for any Opposed or Abstains. With none provided, the minutes were approved unanimously.

#### **2. August 5, 2021 TAC Discussion and Model Development**

Mr. Matt Zidar provided an overview of the August 5<sup>th</sup> TAC Meeting discussions and presentation, where the Model Update was discussed. Mr. Zidar provide details on the 2021 Model Update and Calibration Refinement outline, with an overview of the water budgets – historical, current, and projected. Charts and details were provided and discussed related to projected hydrology and hydrologic water budgets, local scale water budgets, as well as annual recharge and extraction figures that provided details on net rechargers versus extractor. Mr. Zidar provided next steps in the model update and provided tentative dates.

#### **3. DWR GSP Review and Response Plan and Team**

Mr. Zidar provided an overview of the proposed DWR GSP Review and Response Plan, previously discussed during the June 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The proposed plan for response to DWR comments included review by the TAC with a referral to the Steering Committee (SC) for their review. A recommendation to the Board would then be made. GSA input from their Boards and Counsel would also be included. Mr. Zidar noted an Ad-Hoc Team would coordinate SC, staff, and consultant responses into one draft response. Additionally, Mr. Zidar suggested a possible organization of the teams to include an Ad Hoc Response Team, Legal and Technical Team, and a smaller team to dialog with DWR.

Mr. Zidar suggested a task order with Woodard & Curran to be executed by the GWA Secretary.

Director Mike Henry questioned the Ad Hoc formation and having the Steering Committee members step into that role, noting that too large of a group is unnecessary and that the SC is organized and formal enough to step into the role. Mr. Zidar noted that these response team meetings would need to occur more frequently than monthly and there would need to be availability of members. Chairman Winn added that the SC has been quite effective and inclusive in regards to recommendations made to the Board. Chairman Winn noted, that from an organizational standpoint, he would consider the SC to act as the Ad-Hoc Response Team. Mr. Zidar noted he was comfortable with that approach.

Chairman Winn asked to clarify Mr. Zidar's request for task order authorization: approval requested today or come back in September with additional details. Mr. Zidar noted that he is requesting a \$25,000.00 Not to Exceed general task order today to mobilize Woodard & Curran. The question of Woodard & Curran's role and what they would be doing prior to receipt of DWR comments arose. It was noted that they would be needed for their legacy knowledge when responding to DWR.

Steering committee members noted that they were not comfortable authorizing a task order now, without receipt of DWR comments and review of those comments. Should Woodard & Curran assist with the response to DWR, the corresponding task order would be secured when there is definitive need for them in the response process. There was a general member concurrence. It was additionally noted that funds were already appropriated for the DWR comments response.

Mr. Zidar added that September meetings were scheduled and that would be a good time to discuss comments. Chairman Winn agreed, noting that the desire of the group was to save funds to put towards the formal response to DWR. The final determination was that the SC would be the conduit and vehicle for preparing responses to DWR comments, and that the Task Order to Woodard & Curran would be considered once the DWR comments were received and reviewed.

#### **4. Tracy Subbasin GSP Status – Richard Shatz**

This agenda item was moved to second item presenting, due to scheduling of presenter Richard Shatz with GEI.

Mr. Richard Shatz with GEI provided a status update on the Tracy Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and the progress being made. Mr. Shatz provided an overview of the timeline, including dates of Public Draft GSP release and comment period, Public Workshop, GSP Adoption and Submittal to DWR. A brief overview of the historical groundwater conditions and management areas were provided, including details on the water budgets for the non-Delta area; a summary of the planned projects and potential management actions. Also discussed Interbasin Coordination between the Tracy Subbasin and the Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin, stating that there was a need to coordinate findings, annual reports, modeling results and groundwater level measurement times. The group agreed. Mr. Shatz questioned if there was a need to have a formal agreement drafted between the two basins. It was determined that was not necessary and that the groups should continue to work together as they have been. Mr. Shatz requested a letter of support from the ESJ GWA and continued coordination.

Director Mike Henry asked for additional explanation on slide showing to work being done to modify the well ordinance. Mr. Shatz explained that the development of high-capacity wells in Alameda County

was being evaluated and they are working to create protection zones near rivers and sloughs to create surface water depletion protection.

Mr. Shatz provided additional details on the dividing of the Tracy Subbasin into two management zones and the status of the inflows and outflows.

Chairman Chuck Winn noted that he was envious of the Basin's water supply and lack of significant overdraft and questioned if there were concerns or challenges foreseen with moving forward and implementation. Mr. Shatz noted there were concerns with comments coming from NGO's, discussions regarding the fiscal split of the plan, as well as concerns with the groundwater model used and the need to modify.

## **5. Request for Qualifications for Accounting Framework and Funding/Finance Alternatives Evaluation**

Mr. Matt Zidar provided details on the Draft Request For Qualifications (RFQ) Accounting Framework and Funding/Finance Alternatives Evaluation, via slide presentation. Additionally, discussed was the scheduled meeting of the smaller volunteer workgroup, consisting of Director Flinn and Alternate Directors Ward, Watkins, and Nakagawa. Mr. Zidar provided an outline of the timeline for RFQ release through start date.

## **6. DWR Facilitation Support Services**

Mr. Zidar provided the group with an overview of the DWR Facilitation Support Services program and what that means for the ESJ GWA. It was noted that the support from DWR will help the GWA avoid some costs and work within the budget. Mr. Zidar explained the key activities supported, including stakeholder surveys, preparation of stakeholder assessments, case studies of water accounting practices and editorial support for preparation of the ESJGWA Water Accounting Framework Strategy document.

Chairman Winn noted that it was obvious leveraging DWR, and their knowledge would be a good thing.

## **7. American River Water Rights Application 29657 GWA Policy Statement for September 8<sup>th</sup> Board Consideration**

Mr. Zidar briefly discussed the status of the American River Water Rights Application, providing an overview of the history of efforts and rights. Mr. Zidar advised that the San Joaquin County (SJC) Board of Supervisors has endorsed moving forward through the hearing. Mr. Zidar expressed to the group a need for policy statements (from peers and the GWA) to support the Watershed of Origin claim and the County's position. It was noted that Mr. Zidar would like to come back at September Board meeting for the letter from the GWA.

Chairman Winn added that the SJC Board of Supervisors would like to pursue and support the right through this hearing and reevaluate once the SWRCB has made a determination as to whether they would deny the application.

### **Staff Reports:**

#### **1. DWR Report**

Chelsea Spier with DWR provided details to the group via her monthly status report, noting a reminder on the SGMA Survey for Funding Needs to be completed. Ms. Spier additionally noted the guidelines for the upcoming Drought Funding will be out soon.

**Public Comment:**

None Provided.

**Director Comment:**

Director Mike Henry provided kudos and thanks to Sara at Woodard & Curran for assisting him in updating the figures for Lockeford while she worked to complete the water budget and update the model. Director Henry noted that the figures for Lockeford have always been high for a small group and the corrections were received well.

Chairman Winn advised the group that the SJC Board of Supervisors finalized a digital records plan, going back to 1850, which will make historical documents more readily available to the public and agencies.

**Future Agenda Items:**

Mr. Zidar noted some of the items for further discussion at the next SC Meeting, including the RFQ status and future meetings. Mr. Zidar recommended combining the September Steering Committee and Board Meetings. Alternate director Watkins noted that we have had both a SC and Board Meeting in the past and they have functioned well. It was decided to keep the September meetings as is, with an 8:30am Steering Committee meeting and a 10:30am Board meeting.

**Adjournment:** Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

# Roll call

[illegible]

Quorum

## Minute Approval

[illegible]

Approved

[RETURN TO SEARCH](#)

# Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation Round 2

**Grantor:** [Department of Water Resources](#)

**Portal ID:** 4414

**Status:** Forecasted

**Opportunity Type:** Grant

**Last Updated:** September 1, 2021, 11:44 am | [View change notes](#)

**CATEGORIES:** [DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES](#), [ENVIRONMENT & WATER](#)



**Purpose:**

The SGM Grant Program's Implementation grants will utilize funds authorized by Proposition 68 to assist Groundwater Sustainability Agencies and entities with an approved Alternative to implement their Groundwater Sustainability Plans or Alternative. The program will provide financial assistance for investments in groundwater recharge and projects that prevent or clean up contamination of a groundwater that serves as a source of drinking water.

**Description:**

Prop 68 authorizes the Legislature to appropriate a total of at least \$120 million is for drought and groundwater investments to achieve regional sustainability through investments in groundwater recharge with surface water, stormwater, recycled water, and other conjunctive use projects, and projects to prevent or clean up contamination of groundwater that serves as a source of drinking water (Public Resources Code § 80146(a)). After program delivery and bond issuance costs, at least \$103 million will be made available for grant awards broken up into two rounds of grant solicitations. Round 2 will include \$77 million for grant awards to medium and high priority basins only. \$15 million of the \$77 million available in Round 2 will be for projects that solely benefit Underrepresented Communities. DWR will solicit proposals to award funding on a competitive basis for tasks and activities that help the basins reach sustainability through investments in groundwater recharge and/or projects that prevent or clean up contamination of a groundwater that serves as a source of drinking water. Eligible projects include those activities associated with the implementation of an adopted GSP or approved Alternative Plan and must also be listed within an adopted GSP or approved Alternative Plan. Eligible applicants for the Round 2 Implementation Grant Solicitation are GSAs; member agencies

of GSAs; an entity that represents a GSA(s) which can include public agencies, non-profit organizations, public utilities, Federally recognized Indian Tribes, State Indian Tribes listed on the Native American Heritage Commission's Tribal Consultation list, or mutual water companies; and agencies with an approved Alternative to a GSP. Those entities representing a GSA(s) must have a letter of support from each GSA they represent. All Round 2 applicants must be within a medium and high priority basin with an adopted GSP that has been submitted to DWR for review and deemed complete by DWR or approved Alternative to a GSP. Basins that are adjudicated, in the process of becoming adjudicated, or considered probationary under SGMA by the State Water Resources Control Board at or after the time of application submittal are not eligible to apply for or receive grant funding. The project area and service area must be within the most current DWR Bulletin 118 basin or a non-adjudicated portion of a basin that is designated as medium or high priority by the latest SGMA Basin Prioritization at the time of application submittal. Only one application will be accepted per basin. Applicants who apply on behalf of a GSA(s) are required to obtain and submit a letter of support from each GSA they represent. The application process, application review process, schedule, program preferences, and definitions are outlined within the PSP. Applicants will apply through DWR's GRanTs portal and must follow the requirements established in the PSP. We recommend interested parties to review the 2019 SGM Grant Program Guidelines and the 2020 Implementation PSP for all details. They can be found on our website at: [www.water.ca.gov/sgmgrants](http://www.water.ca.gov/sgmgrants)

## Eligibility Requirements

### Eligible Applicants:

Other

Any applicant that is not a GSA, member agency of a GSA, or an agency with an approved Alternative to a GSP MUST provide letters of support indicating that they are applying on their behalf and that the work proposed is fully supported by the GSA they represent.

### Eligible Geographies:

The Implementation Round 2 grant solicitation is for projects located within medium and high priority basins (excluding critically overdrafted) that are not adjudicated, seeking adjudication, or are listed as probationary by the State Water Resources Control Board.

### Matching Funding Requirement:

There is a match reduction or match waiver described in the Proposal Solicitation Package and the reduction or waiver is dependent upon whether the project is located within and solely benefits an underrepresented community.


IMPORTANT DATES

FUNDING DETAILS

HOW TO APPLY

RESOURCES


Similar to This Grant

 CONSUMER PROTECTION

Governor's Office of Emergency Services

**2021-22 Unserved/Underserved Child and Youth Advocacy (XY) Program RFP**

4 months ago


 DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES

Board of State and Community Corrections

**Proud Parenting Grant Program**

4 months ago

[More Details](#)

 DISADVA COMMUNIT

Governor's Office of

**2021-22 S Assault R Team (XS RFP**

4 months ago

[More Details](#)

[More Details](#)



CALIFORNIA

[Privacy Policy](#)

[Use Policy](#)

[Data](#)

[Accessibility Certificate](#)

[Subscribe to Updates](#)



Copyright © 2021 State of California



## September 2021 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

### Grants

#### California Grants Portal

The California State Library, in partnership with the Department of Water Resources and other state grantmaking agencies, has launched the California Grants Portal – your one destination to find all state grant and loan opportunities provided on a first-come or competitive basis. Visit [grants.ca.gov](https://grants.ca.gov) to find funding opportunities for you and your community.

#### **DWR: \$200 Million Drought Funding to Support Small Communities**

DWR released [guidelines](#) for how small water systems may apply for funds as part of the Small Community Drought Relief Program. Eligible projects must be designed to benefit small communities (< 3,000 connections or 3,000 AFY) located in counties under Governor Newsom's drought emergency proclamations or which the SWRCB may determine that drought conditions necessitate urgent and immediate action. Small communities impacted by the drought are encouraged to apply as soon as possible as funds will be dispersed on a first come first serve basis and can submit applications or questions to [SmallCommunityDrought@water.ca.gov](mailto:SmallCommunityDrought@water.ca.gov). This grant will fund projects that provide immediate or interim drinking water supplies such as hauled or bottled water deliveries, deepening of wells, new or temporary water tank storage, new pipelines and connections to more reliable nearby systems, etc. No local cost share is required.

#### **DWR: DRAFT PSP for \$200 Million Drought Funding for Urban and Multibenefit Projects**

We are pleased to announce the release of the [DRAFT 2021 Guidelines/Proposal Solicitation Package](#) for the Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant Program for public review. Release of the Draft GL/PSP commences a 15-day public comment period, which will close at 5:00 pm on October 8, 2021. This solicitation will make approximately **\$190 million in grant funding** available for interim or immediate relief in response to conditions arising from drought across California. The drought relief goal is to address immediate impacts on human health and safety and on fish and wildlife resources, and to provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies.

#### **Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC): Free well assessments for private well owners**

Assessments include inspection and vulnerability assessment, potential contamination source identification, well construction inspection, water quality screening for nitrate, a written report with recommendations. To register contact Jerry Tinoco at (661) 401-1857 • [jtinoco@rcac.org](mailto:jtinoco@rcac.org) or [register online](#).

#### **UC Berkeley: Funding Opportunity for Government Innovators**

[The People Lab](#) at UC Berkeley invites applications from government agencies and nonprofits across California to co-design and test innovative policy ideas that have the potential to meaningfully improve the lives of Californians. Grant awards will include 2 years of technical support from UC Berkeley's The People Lab and \$100,000 - \$150,000 for project implementation. **Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis**, and [more info can be found here](#).

Other state & federal grant websites for resources that may be helpful are:

- California Financing Coordinating Committee -- <https://cfcc.ca.gov/>, and
- CalOES grants -- <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/grants-management>
- US EPA -- <https://www.epa.gov/grants/specific-epa-grant-programs>, and
- Economic Development Administration -- <https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>

## September 2021 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

### Upcoming conferences, webinars, new reports and data

#### Diversity in the California Water Sector

Join this panel of water leaders for an FREE in-depth discussion about new workforce development programs, new DEI efforts and a discussion about what can hold back diversity efforts and the champions we need to move these efforts forward. Panelists include Wade Crowfoot, Jose Martinez, Felicia James, Rick Callender, Joone Lopez and Jasim Hall. The event will be held 12 – 1 pm on October 7<sup>th</sup>. [Learn more and register here](#).

#### California Financing Coordination Committee 2021 Fall Virtual Funding Fair

The California Financing Coordinating Committee (CFCC) is pleased to invite you to attend a free virtual funding fair on October 21 and 28, 2021 (see attached flyer for more information). The funding fair will provide the opportunity to learn more about available grant, loan, and bond financing options for infrastructure projects from federal, state, and local agencies. [Learn more here](#), registration coming soon.

#### National Imagine a Day without Water

The seventh annual [Imagine a Day Without Water](#) will be **Thursday, Oct. 21**. It is a day dedicated to raising awareness about the value of water. The national education campaign will include special events, contests, and social media engagement. A list of [ways to participate](#) is available on the event website.

#### Water Board: Drinking water needs assessments

For the first time, the State Water Resources Control Board has completed a comprehensive look at California water systems that are struggling to provide safe drinking water. [The needs assessment](#) identifies failing water systems and those at risk of failing. It also offers the most in-depth view of long-term drinking water safety the state has ever had. Details are available in this [news release](#).

#### SWRCB Releases 2012-2019 Public Water Supply Datasets

The State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water has [released the latest round of electronic annual report datasets](#) from public drinking water systems. The release covers reporting years 2012–2019, including more than 7 million records for reporting year 2019.

#### U.S. Bureau of Reclamation: New Data sharing webpage

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has released the new Reclamation Information Sharing Environment (RISE) website. It provides access to Reclamation's water-related data. The site includes maps to help search for data in a particular area. There is also a catalog offering access to datasets and time-series data. <https://data.usbr.gov/>

#### Flood-MAR (Managed Aquifer Recharge)

A kickoff meeting to establish a Flood-MAR network was held December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2020 and a second meeting was held March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021. There is also an ongoing [Lunch-MAR monthly speaker series](#). If you are interested in attending or getting involved please email [Jennifer.Marr@water.ca.gov](mailto:Jennifer.Marr@water.ca.gov) (916) 651-9229 to be added to the calendar invite. To join the [Flood-MAR listserv follow this link](#).

#### SGMA

#### Draft Drinking Water Well Principles and Strategies Document Open for Public Comment

The Draft Groundwater Management and Drinking Water Well Principles and Strategies are now available for public review and can be found at the [Drinking Water Wells Principles website](#). The State will host a 30-day public comment period and public webinar to review the draft principles and strategies and accept formal public comments. Public comments are due no later than **Thursday, October 7, 2021 by 5:00 PM PDT**. You can submit a public comment by the deadline or ask us questions anytime by sending an email to [sgmps@water.ca.gov](mailto:sgmps@water.ca.gov).

## September 2021 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

### Dry Well Reporting Site

There is a website available to report private wells going dry at <https://mydrywatersupply.water.ca.gov/report/>. This information reported to this site is intended to inform state and local agencies on drought impacts on household water supplies. The data reported on this site (excluding personal identifiable information) can be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#) or downloaded on the [CNRA Atlas](#). Individuals or local agencies can report water shortages and [a list of resources are included on the webpage](#). The reporting forms are available in both English and Spanish.

DWR is developing eight Proposition 68-funded technical projects

These projects include airborne electromagnetic surveys, improving groundwater elevation and quality monitoring networks, Statewide land use data collection, improved subsidence monitoring network, installing and maintaining stream gauges, maintaining and enhancing statewide well completion reports, managing and reporting sustainable groundwater information, and enhancing and maintaining DWR's modeling tools. Fact sheets on each project can be viewed under the "Prop 68" tab [here](#).

- [AEM webpage](#) contains information on how the process works, safety, schedule, data submission by GSAs, TAC, pilot study data and more. Public webinar was held **June 8<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 1:00**, a [recording can be viewed here](#) and [handouts can be downloaded here](#).
- [New 2018 Statewide Crop Mapping data](#) dataset builds on the 2014 and 2016 statewide crop mapping datasets DWR previously released and includes multi-cropping information. The 2018 dataset includes agricultural land use and urban boundaries for all 58 counties in California.
- [InSAR subsidence data](#) is now available [through October of 2020](#) and can be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#). The updated GIS services and data reports are also available [online](#).

DWR Releases First Assessments of GSPs

On June 3<sup>rd</sup>, DWR released its first assessments of groundwater sustainability plans, which includes the approval of GSPs for the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin and the 180/400-Foot Aquifer Subbasin. In addition, DWR also notified GSAs in the Cuyama Valley Basin and Paso Robles Subbasin that their GSPs lack specific details and are not yet approved. These assessments and notification letters, along with other pertinent information, can be viewed [here on the DWR SGMA Portal](#). Alongside the assessments, DWR has also prepared:

- A [video message](#) summarizing the current groundwater landscape, including drought conditions, and recent efforts to advance the development of principles and strategies related to groundwater management and drinking water well impacts, as described in Governor Newsom's [Drought Executive Order](#) issued on April 21, 2021.
- A [GSP Evaluation fact sheet](#) summarizing SGMA's determination pathways for GSPs.
- A [press release](#) providing an overview of this initial release.
- A [Live Question and Answer Session](#) on **Thursday, June 24, 2021 from 11:30am to 1:00pm** to bring the SGMA community together to answer questions related to these first groundwater sustainability plan determinations. To participate in the Live Question and Answer Session, please see the [registration link](#).

Outreach and Educational Materials Available

DWR's [SGMA Assistance and Engagement webpage](#) has added new communication and engagement toolkit items including:

- A new video – [Groundwater: California's Vital Resource](#) now available in [English](#), [Spanish](#), [Punjabi](#), and [Hmong](#)
- A Story Map for a non-technical audience – [Groundwater: Understanding and Managing this Vital Resource](#)
- [Guidance on Engaging and Communicating with Underrepresented Groundwater Users](#)
- [SGMA Communications: Media Relations and Social Media](#), including [DWR's Groundwater Media Contacts](#)
- "DWR's Assistance Role in Groundwater Management" video: [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

DWR Releases Draft California's Groundwater – Update 2020

## September 2021 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

DWR has released the [draft California's Groundwater – Update 2020 \(Bulletin-118\)](#), containing information on the condition of the State's groundwater. DWR encourages community members and water managers to review the publication and provide input. The final document is expected to be released summer of 2021.

- Informational Video: [English](#), [Spanish](#)
- Fact Sheet: [English](#), [Spanish](#)
- FAQ: [English](#), [Spanish](#)
- [California's Groundwater Online](#)
- General Information Video: [Groundwater: California's Vital Resource](#)
- [English](#), [Spanish](#) recordings of Public Webinar

## CASGEM to Monitoring Network Module Transition Frequently Asked Questions Available

The [CASGEM to Monitoring Network Module Transition Frequently Asked Questions](#) (FAQ) document covers questions related to the Groundwater Monitoring Law, the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program, a GSP's required monitoring, the SGMA Portal's Monitoring Network Module (MNM), and a basin's or subbasin's transition from the CASGEM Online System to the SGMA Portal's Monitoring Network Module.

## SGMA Water Year Type Dataset Now Available

In the dataset, the water years are labeled as wet, above normal, below normal, dry, or critical based on the amount of precipitation during that water year and the previous one. The information is available for all California watersheds except those underlying the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Hydrologic Regions since that information is already available. [Data](#) and a [development report](#) are now available.

## SVSim Beta Model Released

DWR has released the beta version of the [Sacramento Valley Groundwater-Surface Water Simulation Model \(SVSim\)](#) that can be used during GSP development. Instructions for use are included in the [Roadmap to Running SVSim](#) document.

## C2VSim Fine Grid Update Published April 2021

DWR has released an update to the Fine-Grid California Central Valley Groundwater-Surface Water Simulation (C2VSimFG) Model, which can be used by Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) developing water budgets for their GSPs. [C2VSimFG Version 1.01](#) utilizes the latest version of the Integrated Water Flow Model software and corrects minor errors in the model files. These updates do not significantly affect the overall model calibration; however, resulting changes to simulated groundwater levels may vary by basin.

## Draft Handbook for Water Budget Development

The handbook has been posted on the SGMA webpage and can be [viewed at the following link](#) under the "reports" tab. A recent webinar discussing the handbook with a deeper dive on 4 topics [can be viewed here](#).

## California Groundwater Conditions Update Report and Maps Available

The [California Groundwater Conditions Update – Spring 2020](#) report and accompanying [maps](#) are available on the DWR website and present a summary of groundwater level data. The report and maps include a discussion of groundwater level trends with multi-year comparisons which can assist with the development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs).

## Facilitation Support Services (FSS): [Funding still available](#)

- GSA's developing GSPs are eligible to receive funding for identification and engagement of interested parties, meeting facilitation, interest-based negotiation/consensus building, and public outreach facilitation
- More information [can be found here](#). [New written translation services available in 10 languages for outreach materials \(5,000 word maximum\).](#)

BEFORE THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF  
EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

R E S O L U T I O N

R-21-##

**A RESOLUTION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY (ESJGWA) DETERMINING TO CONDUCT MEETINGS OF THE ESJGWA STEERING COMMITTEE USING TELECONFERENCING PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE 54953 AS AMENDED BY AB 361 FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 13, 2021 TO NOVEMBER 15, 2021.**

-----

WHEREAS, the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (the “Authority”) Steering Committee is committed to preserving and nurturing public access and participation in meetings of the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, all meetings the Authority’s legislative bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code 54950 – 54963)(the “Brown Act”), so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and watch the District’s legislative bodies conduct their business; and

WHEREAS, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), as amended by AB 361 (2021), makes provisions for remote teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions; and

WHEREAS, a required condition is that a state of emergency is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by conditions as described in Government Code section 8558; and

WHEREAS, it is further required that state or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, the Governor proclaimed a State of Emergency to exist in California as a result of the threat of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, Cal-OSHA adopted emergency regulations (Section 3205) imposing requirements on California employers, including measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, an Order of the San Joaquin County Public Health Officer acknowledges that close contact to other persons increases the risk of transmission of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, currently the dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of

COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations, therefore, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Authority Steering Committee as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The Recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by this reference.

Section 2. Finding of Imminent Risk to Health or Safety of Attendees. The Authority Steering Committee does hereby find that the current dominant strain of COVID-19 in the country, is more transmissible than prior variants of the virus, may cause more severe illness, and that even fully vaccinated individuals can spread the virus to others resulting in rapid and alarming rates of COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations has caused, and will continue to cause, conditions of peril to the safety of persons, thereby presenting an imminent risk to health and/or safety to the Authority's staff and attendees of the Authority's public meetings; and

Section 3. Teleconference Meetings. The Authority Steering Committee does hereby determine as a result of the State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor, and the recommended measures to promote social distancing made by State and local officials that the Authority Steering Committee may conduct their meetings without compliance with paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Government Code section 54953, as authorized by subdivision (e)(1)(A) and (B) of section 54953, and shall comply with the requirements to provide the public with access to the meetings as prescribed in paragraph (2) of subdivision (e) of section 54953; and

Section 4. Direction to Staff. The Authority staff are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

PASSED AND ADOPTED \_\_\_\_\_, by the following vote of the Authority Steering Committee, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

---

CHUCK WINN, Chairman