

Delta-Mendota Subbasin
Coordination Committee Meeting

Monday, September 10, 2018, 10:00 AM
842 6th Street, Los Banos, CA

Meeting Minutes

Representatives in Attendance

Jarrett Martin (Central California Irrigation District)
Glenn Allen (Fresno County)
John Beam (Grassland Water District)
Ben Fenters (San Luis Water District)
Andrew Garcia (San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority)
Zachary Roy (San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority)
Kait Palys (Provost & Pritchard)
Christina Guzman (Fresno County)
Vincent Lucchesi (Patterson Irrigation District)
Lacey Kiriakou (Merced County)
Claire Ward (CivicSpark Fellow – SLDMWA)
Matthew Jackson (CivicSpark Fellow – SLDMWA)
Chris Rogers (Central California Irrigation District)
Kyle Hill (Central California Irrigation District)
Lisa Beutler (Stantec)

By Phone

Judie Talbot
Larry Harris
Rick Iger
Leslie Dumas

1. Introductions

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 AM.

2. Opportunity for Public Comment

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA opened the opportunity for public comment. No

comments were received from members of the public; no public members present.

3. Meeting Minutes Review

There were no comments on the previous meeting minutes held on August 13, 2018. Meeting Minutes were approved.

4. Working Group Updates

a. Communication Working Group and DAC Outreach, Garcia

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA reported that Stantec is back under contract to continue to provide support on communication and outreach-related tasks for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. Stantec is currently working on planning for the October public workshop. CivicSparks Fellows will be used to help support October public workshop preparation. For DAC outreach, Kirsten Pringle/Stantec will reach out to each GSP group to check in about conducting DAC outreach by GSP group, rather than as a subbasin as a whole.

5. Committee to Consider Recommendation on Definable Bottom of Basin, Dumas

Leslie Dumas/Woodard & Curran lead the discussion regarding the definable bottom of the basin. It was proposed that the base of freshwater be used as the definable basin bottom, where TDS is greater than 3,000 μhmos . Ben Fenters/San Luis WD stated that the base of freshwater originally presented in Croft 1972 shows the depth to the bottom of the basin in some of the San Luis WD service area as less than 500 feet, but there are some groundwater users in the area pumping from greater than 700 feet. Zachary Roy/SLDMWA agreed to digitize the contours from Croft 1972 and compare against the shapefiles received from Central California ID. Questions were raised regarding how adjacent subbasins are defining the bottom of the basin. Turlock and Merced Subbasins are using bedrock as the definable bottom of the basin. The definable bottom used by Westlands WD (within the Westside Subbasin) is currently unknown.

6. Committee to Consider Recommendation to Request up to 50% Advanced Funding for Category 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Projects, Garcia

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA presented a recommendation to the Committee to request 50% advanced funding for the two Category 1 projects in the Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant. In particular, Andrew Garcia recommended using advanced funding for the Data Management System (DMS). The Committee agreed to request advanced funding to support the DMS development as well as Stantec's contract for assistance with Task 2 (SDAC Engagement and Education Program) and Task 3 (SDAC Representation), totaling -\$240,000 in expenditures.

7. Discussion on Coordinated Technical Memorandums, Dumas

Leslie Dumas/Woodard & Curran presented the cost estimate for the Coordinated Technical Memorandums that will, in turn, be used to prepare the Common Chapters for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSPs. The Committee requested that, if possible, that portions of the costs of the Technical Memoranda be covered as part of the

Technical Support task under the Category 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning Grant Projects. This will need to be confirmed with DWR.

8. Discussion on Regional ('Interbasin') Coordination Meeting Participation, Garcia

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA drafted a list of topics to coordinate with the adjacent subbasins on during the 8 different Regional Inter-Basin Coordination meetings, which include the definable basin bottom, water levels, and stream losses. Questions were raised about how these meetings will be set up and who will attend the meetings. The Committee agreed to add regional discussion with adjacent subbasins as a standing item to the Delta-Mendota Technical Working Group meetings. The Facilitation Support Services contract is still in effect through the end of 2018 and funds can be used to help facilitate these inter-basin meetings.

9. Update on Coordinated Management Areas and Approach for Monitoring Network, Dumas

The Technical Working Group held a discussion regarding whether to coordinate the development of the basin-wide monitoring network and identification of management areas or simply to compile them after each GSP prepares those sections. The Working Group is recommending using a "sum of the parts" approach to compiling the basin-wide requirements, and then do a reasonableness review of compiled results and modify as appropriate.

10. Update Committee on San Benito County Area, Garcia

Andrew Garcia/SLDMWA provided an update on including the area of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin that falls in San Benito County into the Central Delta-Mendota Region Multi-Agency GSA. A call is planned for this week with the San Benito County interim legal counsel regarding this. Efforts are being made to develop a Memorandum of Understanding between San Benito County, San Benito Water District, and Central Delta-Mendota Regional Multi-Agency GSA to include this area in the de minimis groundwater designation and to roll this area into the Central Delta-Mendota GSA area.

11. Update Committee on GDE Mapping & August 24th GDE Workshop, Dumas

Leslie Dumas/Woodard & Curran provided a synopsis of the August 24th GDE discussion meeting. Grassland, Fresno, and San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors are working to finalize GDEs in their respective GSP regions. Efforts are taking place simultaneously to identify any data gaps. A GDE workshop will be held on September 19th to finalize the GDEs identified in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin.

Part of the GDE identification will be to screen out habitats in areas where depth to groundwater \geq 30 feet. The Technical Working Group agreed to use spring groundwater elevations in doing this GDE screening, however CASGEM started Fall 2015 so don't have Spring 2015 data (CASGEM started 10/2015, spring was March 2016). This is important if we plan to use GDEs as of Spring 2015 as our baseline. The question is, should we use spring 2016 water levels instead? These water levels would be higher than Spring 2015, which would be more conservative. It was recommended that the Spring 2016 groundwater elevation contour maps be compared against Spring 2015 maps from SJREC and Grassland.

12. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3)

At the request of some members, we will be adding Coordination Cost reporting as standing agenda item for the Coordination Committee.

13. Next Steps

The following next steps and action items were agreed upon by the Committee:

- Stantec, along with the CivicSparks Fellows, will continue to plan the October public workshop.
- Kirsten Pringle/Stantec to reach out to GSP groups about preference for DAC outreach approach.
- Zachary Roy/SLDMWA to digitize Croft 1972 base of freshwater contours and compare against shapefile received from Central California ID.
- Westlands WD to be contacted to determine what definition of basin bottom is being used.
- Compare Spring 2016 groundwater elevations from CASGEM with Spring 2015 groundwater level data available for the SJREC and Grassland GSP areas.

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