

**Delta-Mendota Subbasin
Technical Subcommittee Meeting**

**Monday, December 12, 2017, 10:00 AM
541 H Street, Los Banos, CA**

Meeting Minutes

Voluntary Technical Subcommittee Representatives in Attendance

Glenn Allen (Fresno County)

Jason Dean (Meyers Water Bank and Wildlife Project)

Ben Fenters (San Luis WD)

Christina Guzman (Fresno County)

Will Halligan (Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers)

Larry Harris (Turner Island WD)

Joe Hopkins (Provost & Pritchard/ Aliso WD and Grassland WD)

Rick Iger (Provost & Pritchard/ Aliso WD and Grassland WD)

Lacey Kiriakou (Merced County)

Vince Lucchesi (Patterson Irrigation District)

Jarrett Martin (Central California Irrigation District)

Palmer McCoy (San Luis Canal Company)

Adam Scheuber (Del Puerto WD)

Jim Stillwell (Farmers WD)

Authority Representatives Present

Andrew Garcia

Others in Attendance

Leslie Dumas – Woodard & Curran

Kirsten Pringle, Facilitator – Stantec

1. Introductions

Kirsten Pringle, Facilitator, Stantec, called the meeting to order at approximately 10:10

AM.

2. Review of Meeting Minutes from November 11th, 2017

Ms. Pringle stated that the draft meeting minutes from the previous Coordination Committee meeting, held on November 11, 2017, were provided via email. It was requested that the names of the meeting attendees who participated via webinar be added to the minutes.

3. Groundwater Sustainability Plan Updates

Jarrett Martin stated that the San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors Water Authority (Exchange Contractors) are reviewing consumptive use and other data. Vince Lucchesi stated that Patterson Irrigation District is hiring an intern to work on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act tasks. Andrew Garcia stated that the San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (Authority) is signing a contract with Woodard & Curran to provide technical support on coordinated Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) tasks and development of the North and Central Delta-Mendota GSPs. Will Halligan stated that he is developing GSP notification letters to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) for multiple GSAs and would like to resolve GSP outreach tasks, such as the subbasin website. Christina Guzman and Glen Allen stated that Fresno County will be developing two GSPs for each of its management areas within the subbasin. Rick Iger, representing Aliso Water District and Grassland Water District, stated that he is beginning the basin characterization, developing a series of maps to support the characterization, and starting work on the water balance.

4. Coordination Agreement Language Review

The group discussed the revised Coordination Agreement. Ms. Pringle stated that comments from the Technical Subcommittee and Coordination Committee were incorporated into the revised Agreement. The Coordination Agreement will be discussed at the Coordination Committee meeting on December 13, 2017. Mr. Martin stated that the Coordination Agreement will include technical memorandums as attachments. The technical memorandums will describe how the GSP groups developed the coordinated elements of the GSP, such as the water budget, sustainable yield, and coordinated data management system. It is anticipated that these documents will be developed by the Technical Subcommittee, with support from a technical consultant. Mr. Garcia agreed with this approach and noted that page 15 of the revised Coordination Agreement includes language describing these memorandums.

5. Coordinated Plan Expenses

Mr. Garcia provided an overview of the coordinated plan expenses and scope of services, as discussed at the previous Technical Subcommittee meeting. The coordinated tasks include grant coordination, assistance with inter-basin and intra-basin coordination, subbasin-wide outreach, and committee meeting coordination. Mr. Garcia stated that the coordinated plan expenses were developed based on Authority and consultant estimates. There was a question about the process for

reimbursing the Authority for coordinated plan expenses. Mr. Martin stated that the Authority will bill one agency from each GSP group. It will be that agency's responsibility to bill the other GSAs and agencies within its GSP group. Mr. Martin noted that the billing process will be discussed at the Coordination Committee meeting on December 13, 2017.

6. GSP Development

Ms. Pringle led a discussion on key technical activities and milestones for developing the GSPs. Mr. Pringle stated the information provided at the meeting would be used to draft a coordinated GSP development schedule.

The group discussed the methods and tools each group is using to develop its GSP. Mr. Garcia stated that Mr. Martin and other Exchange Contractors representatives met with DWR staff and DWR staff indicated that different methodologies to develop the GSPs would be allowed. Will Halligan stated that Farmers Water District will be using existing ModFlow models and the Central Valley Groundwater Surface Water Simulation Model (C2VSim). Mr. Garcia stated that the North and Central Delta-Mendota GSAs will be using a model approach. Rick Iger stated that Aliso Water District and Grassland Water District will be using a database approach. Mr. Martin stated that the Exchange Contractors GSP group will be using a database approach.

The group discussed sustainability indicators and setting thresholds for the subbasin water budget. There was a question about what "most recent" meant regarding the dataset to develop the water budget. Mr. Martin stated that he would follow-up with DWR staff to clarify the terminology. Several meeting participants expressed concern about the criteria for developing sustainability indicators for the basin, especially those for subsidence.

The group identified key technical tasks and milestones for development of the GSPs. These tasks included: developing tools for basin characterization and water balance; identifying, reconciling, and developing coordinated datasets; identifying and filling data gaps; choosing the timeframe for the calculating the water budget; reconciling inter-basin issues; developing minimum thresholds for sustainability indicators; identifying lead technical resources; calculating sustainable yields; defining management areas; and developing monitoring protocols. The group discussed how to resolve potential inconsistencies in datasets and other key GSP information.

Each GSP group then shared its preliminary GSP development schedule. The Farmers Water District GSP group will conduct technical analysis from the end 2017 until the end of 2018. The group will reconcile its technical approach with the other GSAs from January through May 2019. The public draft GSP will tentatively be available for public distribution in June 2019. The the final GSP will tentatively be adopted in December 2019. The North/Central Delta-Mendota Region GSP Group will conduct and reconcile its technical analysis from the end of 2017 until mid-2018. The draft GSP will tentatively be made publicly available in August 2019 and adopted in December 2019. The Exchange Contractors GSP Group will be conducting and reconciling its technical analysis from the end of 2017 until mid-2018. The public draft GSP will be tentatively available in July 2018 and the final GSP will be tentatively available in November/December 2019. The Aliso Water District and Grassland Water District GSP Groups will follow the same timeline as the Exchange Contractors. Aliso Water

District's draft water balance will be developed in early 2018. Grassland Water District's draft water balance will be developed in March/April 2018.

The group ended the discussion by prioritizing technical tasks and topics for early 2018. Key technical topics to address included: identifying and filling data gaps, especially crop water use and subsidence data; reviewing methodologies and datasets being used for GSP development; setting the timeframe for the coordinated water budget; developing parameters for the water budget; developing data sharing protocols; and discussing the coordinate monitoring network, including developing a coordinated monitoring schedule.

7. Next Steps

The next Technical Subcommittee meeting was tentatively scheduled for Monday, January 22, 2018.

Each GSP group representative should send a revised GSP development schedule to Leslie Dumas, Woodard & Curran, before the next Technical Subcommittee meeting.

Mr. Martin agreed to ask DWR to clarify the meaning of "most recent" regarding data for the subbasin water budget.

8. Adjourn

Kirsten Pringle, Stantec, adjourned the Technical Subcommittee meeting at approximately 12:05 p.m.