

Subbasin Announcements

Since receiving an “inadequate” determination for the Subbasin’s six groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs), work has focused on developing a single GSP to achieve “approved” status. Because of the inadequate determination, review of the GSP and determination of compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) in the Subbasin is now under the jurisdiction of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). As 2023 came to a close, SWRCB staff released a proposed hearing schedule for six inadequate San Joaquin Valley GSPs. The proposed hearing date for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin is now the first quarter of 2025.

SWRCB Board Members Tour the Delta-Mendota Subbasin

Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) representatives hosted two tours in the Subbasin for SWRCB members and staff. Each tour reviewed water quality and subsidence topics in the Subbasin. The tours also highlighted the different ways GSAs have been working with disadvantaged communities (DACs) in the region to solve persistent legacy groundwater issues resulting from ancient marine sediments.

Board members were generally receptive to the GSAs’ approach to achieving groundwater sustainability. Both sides acknowledge much work remains.

Water Leader Institute

GSAs are working with Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) and the Rural Community Action Center (RCAC) to conduct a Water Leader Institute in the Subbasin. Anyone interested in building skills for community leadership and current or prospective irrigation district or water district board members are welcome to apply.

Organizers are recruiting 20-30 interested persons to participate in four in-person workshops in Los Banos. The Institute is scheduled for one Saturday a month from March through June, and will be bi-lingual. Meals and travel stipends will be provided. An application is required to attend. You may either nominate someone you know or nominate yourself.

Applications are being accepted now at: www.edf.org/waterleadership

For more information, please contact Mariana Rivera-Torres: mrivertorres@edf.org or (805) 636-0372

Single GSP Development

GSA representatives and consultants are working with SWRCB staff on developing a single GSP that satisfactorily addresses all SGMA sustainability indicators. It’s an arduous task for a subbasin that stretches from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to the Mendota Pool, and is bordered by mountains to the West and the San Joaquin River to the East.

Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates

Coordination Committee
Second Monday
1:00 PM SLDMWA Boardroom

Northern Management Committee
First Wednesday
2:00 PM Patterson City Hall

Central Management Committee
Fourth Thursday
10:00 AM SLDMWA Boardroom

Questions? Contact your local groundwater sustainability agency or send an email to dmsgma@sldmwa.org

Visit deltamendota.org for current and upcoming meeting information