



Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

Monday, May 19, 2025, 1:00 PM

SLDMWA Board Room 842 6th St., Los Banos, CA 93635

The Public May Join the Meeting at the Zoom Link Below:

<https://zoom.us/j/93486665792>

Meeting ID: 934 8666 5792

May 16, 2025

TO: Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee and Interested Parties
FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group
RE: MEETING OF THE DELTA-MENDOTA SUBBASIN COORDINATION COMMITTEE
MONDAY, MAY 19, 2025 1:00 PM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee has been called for **Monday, May 19, 2025 at 1:00 PM**, on items listed on the attached agenda, which is incorporated by reference and made a part hereof.

Persons with a disability may request disability-related modification or accommodation by contacting Cheri Worthy or Sandi Ginda at the Water Authority Office, 842 6th Street, P.O. Box 2157 Los Banos, CA 93635, via telephone at (209) 826-9696, or via email at cheri.worthy@sldmwa.org or sandi.ginda@sldmwa.org. Requests should be made as far in advance as possible before the meeting date, preferably 3 days in advance of regular meetings or 1 day in advance of special meetings/workshops.



Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

Monday, May 19, 2025, 1:00 PM

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call, Hopkins
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Committee to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as Authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq., Hopkins
4. Opportunity for Public Comment, Hopkins

Consent Calendar

5. Committee to Review and Take Action on the Consent Calendar, Hopkins
 - a. Minutes of the April 14, 2025 Meeting
 - b. Budget to Actual Report

Report Items

6. Committee to Discuss Future Financial and Administrative Structure, Layne
7. Committee to Discuss Response to Red Flag Review of the GSP, Martin/Hurley/Dutton
8. Committee to Discuss Response to Comment Letters on Adjoining Subbasin Periodic Evaluations/Intervention GSPs, Hopkins
9. Committee to Discuss FSS Outreach, Beutler
10. Committee to Discuss SGMA Round 1 Implementation Grant
 - a. ISW Well Construction Management
 - i. Status of Easements and Construction Bidding, Hurley
 - ii. Construction Status for ISW Sites, Francis
 - b. Continuous GPS Subsidence Monitoring Stations Construction Bidding and Contracting, Dumas

11. Committee to Discuss Pumping Reduction Plan Implementation, Dutton
12. Committee to Discuss Scheduling Technical Group Meeting with USBR/USGS to Discuss CVHM2 Model for the San Joaquin Valley, Dutton
13. Committee to Discuss Spring Water Level and Quality Monitoring Results and Second Quarter Water Level Monitoring, Dumas/Cochran
14. Committee to Discuss Potential Updates to the Data Management System, Dumas
15. Next Steps, Hopkins

Closed Session

16. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation
The Committee will meet in closed session to confer with legal counsel on significant exposure to anticipated litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case)

Open Session

17. Report from Closed Session, Layne
18. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3), Layne
19. Next Meeting: June 9, 2025, Hopkins
20. ADJOURNMENT, Hopkins

Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

Monday April 14, 2025, 1:00 PM **DRAFT**

Boardroom, San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority, 842 6th St., Los Banos, CA 93635

Coordination Committee Members and Alternates Present

John Wiersma, Member – Henry Miller Reclamation District/San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors (SJREC)

Jarrett Martin, Alternate – Central California Irrigation District/SJREC

Augustine Ramirez, Alternate – Fresno County

Jim Stilwell, Member – Farmers Water District

Ric Ortega, Member – Grassland Water District

Roy Catania, Alternate – Aliso Water District

Steve Stadler, Member – San Luis Water District/Central Delta-Mendota Region

Vince Lucchesi, Member – Patterson Irrigation District/Northern Delta-Mendota Region

Lacey McBride, Alternate – Merced County*

SLDMWA Staff Present

Scott Petersen

Others Present

Patrick McGowan – Panoche Water District*

Palmer McCoy – Grassland Basin Authority*

Adam Scheuber – DPWD*

Chuck Bergson – City of Los Banos*

Ellen Wehr – Grassland Water District*

Kirk Nelson – U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)

James Lis - USBR

Jon Traum – U.S. Geological Service (USGS)

Lauren Layne – Baker Manock & Jensen*

Chase Hurley – Water and Land Solutions*

John Brodie – Water and Land Solutions*

Katrina Campell – Westlands Water District*

Antonio Solorio – Westlands Water District*

Jason Dean – Westside Ag*

Debbie Gavaghan*

Sarah Boogay – DWR*

Anona Dutton – EKI Environment & Water (EKI)*

Amir Mani – EKI*

Nigel Chen – EKI*

Leslie Dumas – Woodard & Curran*

Lisa Beutler – Stantec*

Rick Iger – Provost & Pritchard (P&P)*

Ethan Andrews – P&P*

Will Halligan – Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE)*

Andrew Francis -LSCE*

* Participated remotely via zoom

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Steve Stadler/SLWD called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Committee to Consider Corrections or Additions to the Agenda of Items, as Authorized by Government Code Section 54950 et seq.

There were no additions or corrections

4. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no public comments.

Action Items

5. Committee to Review and Take Action on the Consent Calendar, Stadler/Brodie

- a) Minutes of the March 10, 2025 Meeting
- b) Minutes of the March 31, 2025 Special Meeting
- c) Budget to Actual Report

Ric Ortega/Grassland Water District made the motion to approve the consent calendar. John Wiersma/SJREC seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by those present.

Action Items

6. Committee to Consider Naming a Plan Manager/Point of Contact for the Subbasin Beginning May 1, 2025, Petersen

Scott Petersen noted that Water and Land Solutions will be ending its work on or about May 1, 2025 and a new Plan Manager/Point of Contact is needed to take over the duties performed by John Brodie. Ric Ortega made the motion to name Jarrett Martin/SCREC-CCID to perform those duties. John Wiersma seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously by those present.

7. Committee to Consider Appointing a Secretary to the Committee Beginning May 1, 2025, Layne

Lauren Layne reported that similar to the previous action item, a new secretary to the Committee must be named. John Wiersma made the motion to appoint Scott Petersen/SLDMWA, with assistance as needed from the Hallmark Group, as secretary. Ric Ortega seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously by those present.

Report Items

8. Presentation on CVHM2 Model and Paper Publication, Brodie/Nelson

John Brodie provided historical context for the CVHM2 model and the subbasins relationship with the model and the model development team in refining the model and using a locally updated version of the model for the Subbasin's adopted 2024 GSP. Kirk Nelson/USBR and Jon Traum/USGS gave a presentation on some model simulations. They also reported that a paper on the model update was accepted for publication. They thanked the Committee for providing ideas for other potential model simulations and study.

9. Committee to Discuss Scope of Work and Task Order for Hallmark Group and Onboarding of Consultant, Hopkins/Petersen

Scott Petersen said the RFP response from Hallmark group is being refined by staff into a task matrix that can be used to avoid redundancies by the multiple consultants utilized in the subbasin. Approximately \$100,000 of the approved budget will be held in reserve to fill gaps in workflow as needed under direction from the Committee.

10. Committee to Discuss Future Financial and Administrative Structure, Layne/Petersen

Scott reported that both the Northern and Central groups held discussions about this topic during their meetings scheduled prior to this Coordination Committee meeting. Some members expressed that their preference was to form a new Joint Powers Authority. Staff will schedule a special workshop for June focused on this issue.

11. Committee to Discuss Response to Red Flag Review of the GSP, Martin/Hurley/Dutton

Edits to the notification process identified in the Well Mitigation Policy were submitted to State Water Board Staff. They requested more time to review the proposed changes. SWRCB staff is in the process of reviewing all the intervention GSPs right now so scheduling individual GSP discussions will be delayed. Ric Ortega will be providing comments during tomorrow's SWRCB meeting for the staff update to the Board.

12. Committee to Discuss FSS Outreach, Beutler

Lisa Beutler reported emails were sent to subcommittee members to schedule a meeting to address dates for meetings with adjoining subbasins and any modifications that might be needed to the ad hoc subcommittee membership. The subcommittee will also be asked to develop a prioritization list for meeting with adjoining subbasins.

13. Committee to Discuss SGMA Round 1 Implementation Grant

a) ISW Well Construction Management

1. Status of Easements and Sole Source Policies, Hurley

Chase reported he is working with the Stanislaus and Merced Counties on bidding for well construction and that they are on track to be able to complete the task prior to grant funding running out. He also continues to work on who will hold ownership of easements for the wells.

2. Construction Status, Francis

Andrew Francis reported work continues on site 2. He is working to secure transducers for the well array.

b) Continuous GPS Subsidence Monitoring Locations

Similar to the issue with the ISW monitoring wells, SLDMWA will not be able to hold construction contracts for the CGPS monitoring installation. These will also most likely have to be done by individual GSAs.

14. Review of Spring Water Level Monitoring Results, Dumas

Leslie Dumas reported some data still is missing from the DMS. All GSAs should upload groundwater level data as soon as possible.

15. Committee to Discuss Pumping Reduction Plan Implementation, Dutton

Anona Dutton reported EKI is working with both the Northern and Central on the pumping reduction plan. She stressed the importance of each GSA having a process to respond either when wells are showing a declining trend or when minimum threshold exceedances occur.

16. Committee to Discuss Potential Updates to the Data Management System, Petersen/Dumas

Committee members requested that the DMS needs memo created a year ago be updated to reflect that improvements that were made, and that items that must be completed be added and redistributed to Committee members for review prior to the next meeting.

17. Next Steps

The following next steps were identified:

- Staff will work on the Task order for Hallmark Group.
- Staff will coordinate with GSAs on CGPS station locations and use sites recommended by EKI via the Subsidence study unless objections are received by the end of the week.
- Jarrett Martin will take over as Plan Manager/Point of Contact on May 1, 2025
- Scott Petersen will be the Committee Secretary as of May 1, 2025
- Staff will look at differences in work effort for repurposing an existing JPA for Committee Program and Financial administration or creating a new JPA.
- Staff will attempt to schedule a workshop on Program and Financial Administration structure and needs for the Committee.
- Woodard & Curran will update and distribute a memo on DMS changes since the last updates were made and additional improvements that are needed going forward.
- A technical subcommittee will be formed to meet with USBR/USGS on updating the modeling.
- Standard Operating procedures will be developed by staff on workflows and MT notifications to the GSAs and Coordination Committee.
- The ad hoc communications Subcommittee will prioritize meetings with neighboring subbasins.

Closed Session

18. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

The Committee will meeting in closed session to confer with legal counsel on significant exposure to anticipated litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case)

Open Session

19. Report from Closed Session

The Committee came out of closed session at 3:05 p.m. and Lauren Layne noted there was no reportable action taken during closed session

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

There were no reports.

21. Future Meetings

The next meeting is scheduled Monday May 19, 2025 at 1:00 PM. Note that this is the third Monday of the month rather than the normal second Monday of the month for the meeting.

22. Adjournment

Steve Stadler adjourned the meeting at 3:06 PM

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY
SGMA ACTIVITIES - COORDINATED COST-SHARE AGREEMENT
MARCH 1, 2025 - FEBRUARY 28, 2026
ACTIVITY AGREEMENTS BUDGET TO ACTUAL
COORDINATED (FUND 63)

Report Period 3/1/25 - 03/31/25

EXPENDITURES	Annual Budget	Paid/ Expense	Amount Remaining	% of Amt Remaining	Expenses Through
<u>Legal:</u>					
Baker Manock & Jensen	\$ 70,000	\$ -	\$ 70,000	100%	
<u>Other Professional Services:</u>					
GSP Implementation Contracts					
Coordinated Annual Report Activities					
(Common Chapter, Water Level Contouring)	\$ 149,675	\$ -	\$ 149,675	100%	
DMS Hosting, Augmentation and Support	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ 12,000	100%	
Staff Augmentation Support	\$ 200,000	\$ -	\$ 200,000	100%	
DAC Outreach and Coordination	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ 20,000	100%	
SGMA Implementation Grant Round 1 SPA (A9)	\$ 175,015	\$ -	\$ 175,015	100%	
Inadequate Determination Response (EKI)	\$ 55,000	\$ -	\$ 55,000	100%	
Interconnected Surface Water	\$ 504,455	\$ -	\$ 504,455	100%	
Domestic Well Mitigation Funds	\$ 100,000	\$ -	\$ 100,000	100%	
<u>Other:</u>					
Executive Director	\$ 750	\$ -	\$ 750	100%	
General Counsel	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	100%	
Water Policy Director	\$ 20,000	\$ 2,267	\$ 17,733	89%	3/21/2025
In-House Staff	\$ 3,000	\$ 158	\$ 2,842	95%	3/7/2025
Conferences & Training	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ 1,000	100%	
Travel/Mileage	\$ 1,500	\$ -	\$ 1,500	100%	
Group Meetings	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000	100%	
Telephone	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ 500	100%	
Equipment and Tools	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ 2,000	100%	
Total Expenditures	\$ 1,320,895	\$ 2,425	\$ 1,318,470	100%	

Delta-Mendota Subbasin DMS Improvements (30Apr2025)

Category	Date Implemented
General Recommended Improvements	
Ability to upload data that crosses water years through import tool	Sep-24
Add sustainable management criteria in tabular and graphical format (on hydrograph or chemograph, as appropriate) for all representative monitoring site types	Sep-24
Identifier for proxy data collected with different symbology displayed on hydrograph or chemograph	
DMS accounts for each GSA representative/agency responsible for monitoring wells with permission to upload data	
Email reminders to specific well contacts to upload data by designated date (i.e., grace period of 1 week following end of month for groundwater levels)	
Add “demand triggers” category to be displayed in tabular and graphical format per the demand management policy for groundwater levels, groundwater quality, and subsidence	
Establish automatic notification emails to be sent to the GSA/responsible monitoring agency for representative wells/sites that have reached the “demand trigger” and/or minimum threshold levels	
Linear trend line on hydrographs calculated by 4-year rolling average of season low measurements for groundwater levels, or other methodology as defined in each Pumping Reduction Plan	
Linear trend line on chemographs calculated by 3-year rolling average concentration for each constituent of concern for groundwater quality, or other methodology as defined in each Pumping Reduction Plan	
Groundwater Levels	
Display submitted measurements identified as questionable measurements with different symbology on hydrographs – for each well entry and as part of Annual Report hydrograph export tool	Sep-24
Data validation checks to identify potential questionable measurements not identified as such during monitoring activities (flag measurements as questionable that fall outside of the historical minimum and maximum for each well)	
Export groundwater levels in tabular form (Excel file) with notes and questionable measurement code	Sep-24
Perform QA/QC of “Export Data” tool from DMS to ensure any calculations and data categories are correct	
Interconnected Surface Water	
DMS to pair particular stream gage with minimum of one well and maximum of four wells and calculate vertical gradient to plot on chart	
For wells in representative monitoring networks for both groundwater levels and interconnected surface water, display the different sustainable management criteria for each unique sustainability indicator	
Groundwater Quality	
Add 1,2,3-TCP and gross alpha radioactivity to the list of constituents (or “characteristic”) in the water quality data import sheet	Sep-24
Add arsenic; 1,2,3-TCP; gross alpha radioactivity, and hexavalent chromium chemographs to each well entry	Sep-24
Determine what “spring” and “fall” should be defined as in terms of range of dates so representative groundwater quality sampling occurs throughout the Subbasin at the same timeframe	Complete - February and August
Modify groundwater quality data import sheet to require associated depth to groundwater measurement	
Modify groundwater quality data import sheet to include entry for field blank samples	
Include sample collected and sample analyzed time to check samples were analyzed within prescribed holding times	
Add Y/N response: Does laboratory report indicate all laboratory blank analyses were determined acceptable by the laboratory?	
Check for agreement in results in constituent detections between field blank and respective practical quantification limit	
Check that field duplicate results and primary sample results agree within 10% or have differences within their respective practical quantification limit. If concentrations vary by more than 25%, GSA to reach out to the laboratory to reanalyze the sample to confirm the result is reasonable	
Calculate anion-cation charge balance using mass-charge concentrations in milliequivalents per liter (meg/L), with the difference between the two sums reported as a percentage (a 5% or less difference is acceptable. If the anion/cation balance difference exceeds 15%, GSA to ask laboratory to reanalyze certain constituents or the entire sample to confirm the result is accurate)	
Other Items for Consideration	
Auto-import latest InSAR layer from DWR’s SGMA Data Viewer to display on DMS Dashboard Map	
Link DMS to UNAVCO (land subsidence), CDEC (stream gages), Water Data Library (groundwater levels), etc. to automatically update the DMS, if possible	
Automatic generation of DMS IDs based on GSA and if possible, cross check with DMS IDs generated as part of Well Census Project and use where applicable	