Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

Monday, December 8, 2025, 1:00 PM

Grassland Water District Board Room
200 W. Willmott Avenue, Los Banos, CA 93635

The Public May Join the Meeting at the Zoom Link Below:
https://zoom.us/j/93491446604
Webinar ID: 934 9144 6604
Call-In: +16694449171,,93491446604# US

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Meeting of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee has been called for **Monday, December 8, 2025 at 1:00 PM**, on items listed on the attached agenda, which is incorporated by reference and made a part hereof.

Teleconference Locations:

200 W. Willmott Ave., Los Banos, CA 93635	948 Orange Ave., Patterson, CA 95363

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.

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Roll Call (Hopkins)
2. Pledge of Allegiance (Hopkins)
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 November 10, 2025 Meeting
    b. Budget to Actual Report

Closed Session

6. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation (Layne)

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

7. Report from Closed Session (Layne)

Action Items

8. Committee to Review and Consider Recommendation that the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Water Resources Committee and Board of Directors Approve the Draft Fiscal Year 2027 Budget for the Coordinated Delta-Mendota Management Region Activity Agreement (Fund 63) (Blakslee)
9. Committee to Consider Authorizing Water Authority Staff to Execute First Amendment to Task Order 011-F26-AA63-TO001 with Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers (Blakslee)
10. Committee to Review and Provide Direction on the Development of Revised Standard Operating Procedures for Groundwater Monitoring (Palys)

Report Items

11. Program Management Report (Blakslee)
    a. Review of Previous Meeting Action Items
    b. Schedule of Key Milestones
12. GSP Implementation Updates
    a. Update on Q4 Groundwater Levels and Groundwater Quality and DMS Upload (Dumas)
    b. Update on Pumping Reduction Plan and GSP Implementation Tracking and Exceedance Reporting (Dutton/Mani)
    c. Update on Water Year 2025 Annual Report Development (Blakslee) – *Verbal*
    d. Report from GSAs with Exceedances (Blakslee/GSAs)
13. Update on Facilitation Support Services Outreach Activities (Beutler) – *Verbal*
    a. Update on Status of Meetings with Adjoining Subbasins Regarding Comment Letters on Periodic Evaluations (Beutler)
14. SWRCB Updates
    a. Update on SWRCB Coordination (Martin/Hurley/Dutton) – *Verbal*
15. SGMA Round 1 Implementation Grant
    a. Update on Status of Interconnected Surface Water (ISW) Well Construction Project (Francis)
    b. Update on Status of Subsidence Monitoring Project (Martin) – *Verbal*
    c. Update on Status of All Grant Projects (Dumas) – *Verbal*

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16. Next Steps (Blakslee)
17. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3) (Layne)
18. Next Meeting(s): (Hopkins)
    a. **SPECIAL MEETING – Friday, December 19, 2025, 1pm PST.** SLDMWA Board Room 842 6th St., Los Banos, CA 93635

19. Adjournment (Hopkins)

2025 DELTA-MENDOTA SUBBASIN COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING DATES *(2nd Monday)*

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
DMS	Data Management System
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
FSS	Facilitation Support Services
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
ISW	Interconnected Surface Water
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MT	Minimum Threshold
PRP	Pumping Reduction Plan
RMW	Representative Monitoring Wells
SLDMWA	San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (Authority)
SMC	Sustainable Management Criteria
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board

DELTA-MENDOTA SGMA

TO: Coordination Committee
Agenda Item No. 5

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Committee to Review and Take Action on the Consent Calendar

Recommendation
Approve the consent calendar.

Discussion
The documents below are included in the consent calendar for consideration of approval:

a. Minutes of the November 10, 2025 Coordination Committee Meeting (**Attachment 1**)
b. Budget to Actual Report through October 2025 (**Attachment 2**)

Attachment 1

Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

Monday, November 10, 2025, 1:00 PM
SLDMWA Board Room 842 6th St., Los Banos, CA 93635

Draft Meeting Minutes

PARTICIPANTS:

Committee Members
Augustine Ramirez, Fresno County A&B
John Wiersma, San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors
Chase Hurley, Central DM Region
Christy McKinnon, Northern DM Region
Roy Catania, Aliso Water District

Absent:
Jim Stillwell, Farmers GSA

Others Present
Ric Ortega, Grassland Water District
Lauren Layne, Legal Counsel, Baker Manock & Jensen
Scott Petersen, San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority
Kait Palys, INTERA
Damian Aragona, Widren Water District
Juan Cadena, Panoche Water District
Lacey McBride, Merced County
Steve Stadler, San Luis Water District

Present Via Zoom/Phone
Adam Scheuber, Del Puerto Water District
Amir Mani, EKI
Andrew Francis, LSCE
Anona Dutton, EKI
Ellen Wehr, Grassland Water District
Jacinta Cabral, Madera County
John Brodie
Leslie Dumas, Woodard & Curran
Liam's iPhone

Lisa Beutler, Stantec
Manny Amorelli, James Irrigation District
Matt Garcia, Del Puerto Water District
Patrick McGowan, Panoche Water District
Rick Iger, Provost & Pritchard

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**
   Committee Member Hurley called the meeting to order at 1:01 pm.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   Committee Member Hurley led the 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 corrections or additions to the agenda items.

4. **Opportunity for Public Comment**
   Committee Member Hurley opened the floor for public comment, and no public comments were provided.

Consent Calendar

5. **Committee to Review and Take Action on the Consent Calendar**
   - **a.** Minutes of the October 13, 2025 Meeting
   - **b.** Budget to Actual Report

   MOTION
   Committee Member Wiersma made a motion to approve the consent calendar, including the October 13, 2025 Meeting Minutes and Budget to Actual Report. Committee Member Ramirez seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Closed Session

6. **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: (2 cases)

   The Committee entered closed session at 1:08 p.m.

Open Session

7. **Report from Closed Session**
   The Committee returned from closed session at 1:34 p.m. and legal counsel Lauren Layne stated there was no reportable action.

Action Items

8. Review and Take Action to Submit the Application with DWR for Facilitation Support Services

Hallmark Group Project Manager Taylor Blakslee and Stantec Outreach Facilitator Lisa Beutler presented the scope of work and application to the California Department of Water Resources for facilitation support services. Staff sought Committee feedback and approval to submit the application form.

Committee Member Christy McKinnon asked if the focus of the facilitation support services work is to facilitate outreach at the Subbasin level or regional level. Ms. Beutler specified the application is for the Subbasin.

MOTION

Committee Member Wiersma made a motion to approve and submit the application to the California Department of Water Resources for facilitation support services. Committee Member Ramirez seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Report Items

9. Update on Draft Budget Development

Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director, San Luis Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA), and Mr. Blakslee provided an update on the development and distribution of the Delta-Mendota Subbasin's draft budget. Mr. Blakslee stated that the draft budget would be routed through the committees before being presented to the SLDMWA Board, beginning with the Central committee on November 20, 2025. He outlined that the draft budget will be proposed to the JPA Board, once established, but that the SLDMWA will carry out administrative tasks if the JPA is not stood up by March 1, 2026. Lastly, he stated that the draft budget would be informed by consultant responses to the Request for Proposals for Joint Powers Authority/ Program Administration Support and Technical Support for Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation.

Mr. Petersen added that he anticipates sending additional information to GSA representatives regarding the draft budget by the end of the week, based on feedback he receives by then.

10. Program Management Report

a. Review of Previous Meeting Action Items

Mr. Blakslee provided an update on the status of the previous meeting's action items.

Committee Member Hurley asked for an update on action item 8, regarding the number of GSAs that have adopted the JPA. Karlee Liddy (Project Coordinator, Hallmark Group) stated that 21 of the 23 GSAs have adopted and signed the JPA

or have committed to sign by the November 21, 2025 deadline. Mr. Blakeslee added that staff is following up on the remaining two GSAs.

b. Schedule of Key Milestones

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the schedule of key milestones, which was provided in the packet. Committee Member Hurley urged GSA representatives to work with Mr. Petersen regarding any budget-related questions to ensure the draft budget can be approved through the committees before the SLDWMA Board meeting on January 8, 2026.

11. GSP Implementation Updates

a. Update on Q3 and Q4 Groundwater Levels and Groundwater Quality and DMS Upload

Leslie Dumas, Woodard & Curran (W&C), provided an update on the third and fourth quarter (July-November) groundwater level and groundwater quality data collection. She reminded GSA representatives to submit water use data to W&C by the end of the month for the annual report, and to upload any other data (e.g. subsidence data) to the data management system (DMS) by the end of December 2025. Regarding the annual report, Ms. Dumas stated that W&C is working with Provost & Pritchard on updating groundwater contouring maps and told GSA representatives to expect a supplemental data request from Natalie Cochran by the end of the week.

b. Update on Pumping Reduction Plan and GSP Implementation Tracking and Exceedance Reporting

EKI's Anona Dutton and Amir Mani provided background and summary of the fall groundwater level exceedances and well watchlist reminders. Ms. Dutton asked that GSA representatives continue to confirm measurements are accurate and that data is QA/QC'd before entering it into the PRP dashboard.

Ms. Dutton reviewed the water quality exceedance compliance decision tree to help GSA representatives navigate PRP and GSP implementation and to avoid undesirable results.

Committee Member McKinnon asked if staff could walk through an example scenario where there is a nitrate exceedance in an area where there is no historical data for nitrate.

Ms. Dutton stated since nitrate is a primary MCL (maximum contaminant level), the first step would be to take a confirmation sample to confirm there is an exceedance. Then, GSA staff would need to send a notification to domestic well users within a two to three-mile radius of the nitrate exceedance.

Committee Member McKinnon then asked if it would be the same process for TDS, and Ms. Dutton confirmed that it would be the same process. Mr. Mani added that the exceedance notification to domestic well users and the investigation of the exceedance in the PRP can happen simultaneously. Ms. Dutton stated that staff can send out a flow chart example with nitrate and other COCs that are primary MCLs.

Public Comment:
Steve Stadler from San Luis Water District expressed appreciation to the Committee Members and consultants for developing a plan that is protective of water quality and well users in the subbasin.

Ms. Dutton provided a reminder of future deadlines for PRP monitoring and reporting and was included in the meeting packet. She urged GSA representatives to help respond to the EKI request for water use data for the annual report.

c. Update on Water Year 2025 Annual Report Development

Mr. Blakslee provided an update on the annual report development, including a timeline for receiving data and submitting the report to DWR.

Committee Member Hurley flagged that the GSAs committed to the State Water Resources Control Board that the 2025 PRPs would be integrated into the annual report starting this year.

d. Report from GSAs with Exceedances

Mr. Blakslee provided an overview of the 2025 third and fourth quarter groundwater level and quality exceedances. He noted that EKI will develop notification capabilities in the PRP dashboard, but in the interim, staff developed an initial exceedance reporting template for GSA's to ensure consistency.

He shared a summary of exceedances and noted that GSA representatives will be able to report on action plans to address the exceedances at the next Coordination Committee meeting on December 8, 2025.

Committee Member Hurley asked if any GSA representatives had questions or wanted to elaborate on their initial exceedance reports that were provided in the meeting packet. There was no additional discussion on the initial exceedance reports.

The exceedance action plan for Aliso Water District was presented by Member Roy Catania and the action plan for the DM-II GSA was presented by Adam Scheuber. He noted the GSA will increase their monitoring frequency to quarterly to determine if there is a correlation between water level and water

quality. The action plan for the Panoche Water District wells was included in the meeting packet but there was no oral report provided during the meeting.

12. Update on Facilitation Support Services Outreach Activities

a. Direction on Domestic Well Mitigation Policy Outreach

Mr. Blakslee and Ms. Beutler provided an update on the facilitation support services outreach activities for the domestic well mitigation policy. He stated that during the October 13 meeting, the Coordination Committee directed Ms. Beutler to carry out the first four recommended outreach items (press release, newsletter, posting informational flyers, and coordinating the translation of those fliers for online access) and asked that she prepare an outline of the costs and potential structure of a policy briefing workshop.

Ms. Beutler outlined the format of the public briefing, which is available in the meeting packet. Committee Member Hurley recommended that Ms. Beutler develop and execute the well mitigation policy briefing in the Spring of 2026, as was discussed during the communication subcommittee meeting.

b. Update on Status of Meetings with Adjoining Subbasins Regarding Comment Letters on Periodic Evaluations

Ms. Beutler provided an overview of the status of the interbasin meetings, which was included in the meeting packet. She noted that the Modesto/ Turlock and Kings meetings will be pushed to early next year. She also provided a summary of the Westside meeting, including attendees and discussion topics, which were included in the meeting packet.

Committee Member Hurley added that Westside expressed their willingness to work together and share data on boundary conditions and water quality.

13. SWRCB Updates

a. Update on SWRCB Coordination

Committee Member Hurley provided a summary of coordination efforts with the State Water Resources Control Board.

14. SGMA Round 1 Implementation Grant

a. Update on Status of Interconnected Surface Water (ISW) Well Construction Project

Andrew Francis (LSCE) provided updates on the status of the ISW well construction project. He stated that Living Water Well Drilling was awarded the contract to carry out the well construction and that he will be submitting a

budget increase request to Mr. Petersen regarding the well construction management by the end of the week.

b. Update on Status of Subsidence Monitoring Project

Mr. Blakslee reminded the Committee that at the October 13 meeting, there was a question regarding the need for CEQA documentation for this project, and it was determined that the consultant on this project would be responsible for understanding those requirements.

Adam Scheuber (Del Puerto WD) stated that they are working with the Water Authority to identify priority sites that may be exempt from CEQA requirements or already have documents filed.

Mr. Blakslee stated that Del Puerto WD would purchase the equipment and that the installation of the monitoring wells would be assisted by Provost and Prichard. Committee Member Hurley asked how many sites would potentially be included as priorities, and Mr. Scheuber responded that depending on costs, ten to fifteen sites would be included.

c. Update on Status of All Grant Projects

Ms. Dumas provided an update on the grant projects, stating that Amendment 5 was approved by DWR, and that one last amendment will be submitted in December. She added that component completion reports will be written and submitted in January 2026 and that reimbursement requests are due in February 2026.

Mr. Francis asked what would happen if the last ISW well was not installed by December 31, 2025. Ms. Dumas responded that the absolute deadline would technically be the end of January, given the timeline to submit reimbursement requests.

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15. Next Steps

- Submit the facilitation support services application to DWR.
- EKI develop a decision tree on nitrate and other COCs.
- Staff will work with the Central D-M GSAs to provide EKI RFI responses as soon as possible.
- Plan and execute a well mitigation policy briefing for Spring 2026.
- Staff will continue to monitor the ISW completion deadline and will provide anticipated overages at the next Coordination Committee meeting.

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

Nothing to report.

17. Next Meeting(s):

a. Regular Coordination Committee Meeting: December 8, 2025, with changed location to the Grassland Water District Board Room.

Mr. Blakslee stated that the Northern D-M meeting will be on December 10, 2025, and staff will coordinate with Northern Committee Members regarding reviewing the draft budget.

Committee Member Hurley asked how the December meeting dates to review the draft budget would be impacted by consultant responses to the RFP. Mr. Blakslee stated that proposals are due November 21, 2025, and he will follow up with Mr. Petersen for details.

18. Adjournment

Committee Member Hurley adjourned the meeting at 2:28 p.m.

DELTA-MENDOTA SGMA

2025 DELTA-MENDOTA SUBBASIN COORDINATION COMMITTEE MEETING DATES *(2nd Monday)*

December 8, 2025	1:00pm	*Grassland Water District Board Room*

LIST OF ACRONYMS

CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
DMS	Data Management System
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
FSS	Facilitation Support Services
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
ISW	Interconnected Surface Water

JPA	Joint Powers Authority
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MT	Minimum Threshold
PRP	Pumping Reduction Plan
RMW	Representative Monitoring Wells
SLDMWA	San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (Authority)
SMC	Sustainable Management Criteria
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board

Attachment 2

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

Report Period 3/1/25 - 10/31/25

EXPENDITURES	Annual Budget	Paid Expense	Amount Remaining	% of Amt Remaining	Expenses Through
Legal:					
Baker Manock & Jensen	$ 70,000	$ 55,596	$ 14,404	21%	10/2/25
Other Professional Services:					
GSP Implementation Contracts					
Coordinated Annual Report Activites					
(Common Chapter, Water Level Contouring)	$ 149,675	$ 128,761	$ 20,914	14%	10/9/25
DMS Hosting, Augmentation and Support	$ 12,000	$ 4,490	$ 7,510	63%	9/29/25
Staff Augmentation Support	$ 200,000	$ 136,917	$ 63,083	32%	10/29/25
DAC Outreach and Coordination	$ 20,000	$ -	$ 20,000	100%	
SGMA Implementation Grant Round 1 SPA (A9)	$ 175,015	$ 65,197	$ 109,818	63%	10/9/25
Inadequate Determination Response (EKI)	$ 55,000	$ 50,868	$ 4,132	8%	10/29/25
Interconnected Surface Water	$ 504,455	$ 93,542	$ 410,913	81%	10/17/25
Domestic Well Mitigation Funds	$ 100,000	$ -	$ 100,000	100%	
Other:					
Executive Director	$ 750	$ -	$ 750	100%	
General Counsel	$ 1,000	$ 78	$ 922	92%	4/4/25
Water Policy Director	$ 20,000	$ 17,709	$ 2,291	11%	10/31/25
In-House Staff	$ 3,000	$ 1,834	$ 1,166	39%	10/31/25
Conferences & Training	$ 1,000	$ -	$ 1,000	100%	
Travel/Mileage	$ 1,500	$ 70	$ 1,430	95%	4/14/25
Group Meetings	$ 5,000	$ 52	$ 4,948	99%	6/5/25
Telephone	$ 500	$ -	$ 500	100%	
Equipment and Tools	$ 2,000	$ -	$ 2,000	100%	
Total Expenditures	$ 1,320,895	$ 555,114	$ 765,781	58%	

Agenda Item No. 8

MEMORANDUM

TO: Central Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee

FROM: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

DATE: November 20, 2025

RE: Committee to review and consider recommendation that the Coordination Committee and the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Water Resources Committee and Board of Directors approve the draft FY27 budget for the Coordinated Delta-Mendota Management Region Activity Agreement (Fund 63)

BACKGROUND

The San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority ("Water Authority") prepares draft budgets for all Activity Agreements for the preliminary review of the relevant governance Committee (Water Resources or Finance and Administration) during its December meeting, which will take place on December 8, 2025. Prior to the review of the SGMA Activity Agreements (Funds 63, 64, and 65) by the Water Resources Committee, staff is requesting review and soliciting the potential recommendation of approval of the Central Region Management Committee on the preliminary draft budget for Coordinated Delta-Mendota Subbasin Activities.

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether the Management Committee should recommend that the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee and the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Water Resources Committee and Board of Directors approve the FY27 budget for the Coordinated Delta-Mendota Activity Agreement (Fund 63)

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the Central Region Management Committee recommend approval of the draft Fund 63 FY27 budget to the Coordination Committee and Water Resources Committee and Board of Directors of the San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority.

ANALYSIS

	Final FY25	Final FY26	Estimated FY26 Expenses	Draft FY27
Fund 63	$1,852,428	$1,320,895[1]	$1,081,534	$1,607,500[2]

The FY26 Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordinated Activity Agreement budget (Fund 63) was approved for $1,320,895, including $100,000 in collections to add to reserved funds for the Domestic Well Mitigation Program, $504,455 in funds to cash flow the activities under Component 8 – Data Gaps (Interconnected Surface Water well installation and subsidence monitoring installation), and $175,015 for Grant Management services for the Prop. 1 SGMA Grant held by Del Puerto Water District on behalf of the subbasin. This means that core program functions were estimated to be $541,425.

Projected actual expenditures are estimated at $1,081,534, including $90,000 in funds to cash flow the activities under Component 8 – Data Gaps (Interconnected Surface Water well installation and subsidence monitoring installation), and $175,015 for Grant Management services for the Prop. 1 SGMA Grant held by Del Puerto Water District on behalf of the subbasin. This means that core program functions, under the current structure, were delivered at a projected actual expense of $816,519.

The difference in actual expenses vs. projected expenses can be attributed to program management transitioning from Water Authority staff to consultants, the development and implementation of Pumping Reduction Plans, including a dashboard, engagement necessary for engagement with the State Water Resources Control Board associated with a potential probationary designation for the Subbasin, and an unbudgeted groundwater model extension that is needed on an annual basis (approximately $50,000). These previously unbudgeted items are included in the draft FY27 budget.

Despite the variances above, as a result of GSA's taking over the installation of interconnected surface water wells, projected actual expenses came in under the collected budget by $239,361, against a projected $100,000 remaining to include as reserved funds. This is an approximate overcollection between budget expenses and actual expenses of 10 percent.

Expenses included in this budget that are single-year expenses include:

- $525,000 for groundwater model subsidence calibration,
- $30,000 for completing the grant management for the SGMA Proposition 1 Round 1 Implementation grant, and
- $100,000 in collections for the Domestic Well Mitigation Fund (year 2 of 3)

Staff believes this budget provides sufficient resources to perform all necessary activities for the Coordinated SGMA Program Activities for FY27 under the new Subbasin JPA.

[1] Note that this line includes $100,000 in reserved collections for the Domestic Well Mitigation Fund and $504,455 in funds to cash flow the activities under Component 8 – Data Gaps (Interconnected Surface Water well installation and subsidence monitoring installation) under the Prop. 1 SGMA Grant held by Del Puerto Water District on behalf of the subbasin.

[2] This includes $100,000 in reserved collections for the Domestic Well Mitigation Fund and $525,000 for Subbasin groundwater model subsidence calibration.

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

FY26 Projections & FY27 Budget Draft
Draft 1

EXPENDITURES	Annual Budget	Paid/ Expense	Additional Pending	Total Expenses	Amount Remaining	% of Amt Remaining	Expenses Through	FY26 Projected Expenses		FY27 Draft 1
Legal:										
Baker Manock & Jensen	$ 70,000	$ 49,228	$ -	$ 49,228	$ 20,772	30%	9/3/25	$ 100,000	C	$ 130,000
Other Professional Services:										
GSP Implementation Contracts										
Coordinated Annual Report Activites										
(Common Chapter, Water Level Contouring)	$ 149,675	$ 126,894	$ 6,726	$ 133,620	$ 16,055	11%	9/24/25	$ 149,765	A	$ -
DMS Hosting, Augmentation and Support	$ 12,000	$ 4,490	$ -	$ 4,490	$ 7,510	63%	9/29/25	$ 12,000	A	$ -
GSP Approval - DWR Response to Comments	$ -			$ -		0%		$ -		
Staff Augmentation Support	$ 200,000	$ 121,250	$ -	$ 121,250	$ 78,750	39%	9/30/25	$ 501,619	C	$ -
DAC Outreach and Coordination	$ 20,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 20,000	100%		$ 2,000	C	$ -
SGMA Implementation Grant Round 1 SPA (A9)	$ 175,015	$ 55,318	$ -	$ 55,318	$ 119,697	68%	8/8/25	$ 175,015	A	$ 30,000
Inadequate Determination Response (EKI)	$ 55,000	$ 48,563	$ -	$ 48,563	$ 6,437	12%	9/24/25	$ 25,000	C	$ -
Interconnected Surface Water	$ 504,455	$ 68,214	$ -	$ 68,214	$ 436,242	86%	9/11/25	$ 90,000	C	$ -
Single GSP Development (EKI)	$ -			$ -		0%		$ -		
Domestic Well Mitigation Funds	$ 100,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 100,000	100%		$ -		$ 100,000
Program Manager/Executive Director										$ 275,000
Annual Report										$ 125,000
Technical Consultant(s) Support										$ -
Data Management System Support										$ 27,500
Outreach Support										$ 35,000
Model Extension										$ 50,000
GSP Implementation Support										$ 250,000
Model Calibration (Optional)										$ 525,000
Administrative Costs										
Insurance (D&O)										$ 20,000
Audit (FY27)										$ 10,000
Miscellaneous Startup (website, accounts, etc)										$ 15,000
Other:										
Executive Director	$ 750	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 750	100%		$ 750	A	$ -
General Counsel	$ 1,000	$ 78	$ -	$ 78	$ 922	92%	4/4/25	$ 134	B	$ 1,000
Water Policy Director	$ 20,000	$ 14,116	$ -	$ 14,116	$ 5,884	29%	9/19/25	$ 22,000	C	$ 10,000
Water Resources Program Manager	$ -			$ -				$ -		
In-House Staff	$ 3,000	$ 1,517	$ -	$ 1,517	$ 1,483	49%	9/30/25	$ 2,600	B	$ 4,000
License & Continuing Education	$ -	$ -		$ -	$ -					
Los Banos Administrative Office (LBAO)	$ -	$ -		$ -	$ -					
Conferences & Training	$ 1,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 1,000	100%		$ -	C	$ -
Travel/Mileage	$ 1,500	$ 70	$ -	$ 70	$ 1,430	95%	4/14/25	$ 150	C	$ -
Group Meetings	$ 5,000	$ 52	$ -	$ 52	$ 4,948	99%	6/5/25	$ 500	C	$ -
Telephone	$ 500	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 500	100%		$ -		$ -
Software	$ -			$ -	$ -					
Equipment and Tools	$ 2,000	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,000	100%		$ -		$ -
Total Expenditures	$ 1,320,895	$ 489,790	$ 6,726	$ 496,516	$ 824,379	62%		$ 1,081,534		$1,607,500

A=Based on Budget

B=Simple Extrapolation

C=Updated Information

For discussion purposes only

MODELING CALIBRATION

BACKGROUND

- GSP included commitments to update/calibrate model:
  - *Page 19 "Key Plan and related groundwater management implementation activities to be undertaken by the GSAs over the next five years through 2040 include: … model refinement and calibration to improve local representation of Basin conditions, including groundwater levels and subsidence"*
  - *Page 223 "the subsidence representation in the Model will need to be adjusted upon availability of better data and further adjustments to the Model (i.e., subsidence calibration).*
- Development and application of a calibrated model is consistent with DWR BMPs for water budget, interconnected surface water, and subsidence, and §352.4 (f)(2) of GSP Regulations.
- GSP implementation and PRP compliance are tied to "subsidence caused by basin", only reasonably demonstrable by modeling scenario analyses or long-term lower-aquifer pumping shutoffs.
  - Large portion of the Subbasin is under PRP Subsidence hotspot trigger since January 2025.
- Entities concerned about critical infrastructure are relying on models to assign attribution.

BACKGROUND (CONT.)

- All basins in the Southern Central Valley (other than Kings) have calibrated local models.
- Both draft Subsidence and Interconnected Surface Waters BMPs published by DWR have clear indications of a need for a model (best available) for compliance.

QUESTIONS THAT GSAS HAVE BEEN ASKING THAT CAN ONLY BE ANSWERED BY A CALIBRATED MODEL

- Attribution of subsidence and impacts to critical infrastructure caused by in-basin pumping v.s. neighboring basins/GSAs.
- Accurate simulation of groundwater levels, subsidence, and stream flows with the resolution needed for basin and GSA-level planning, PRP implementation, Annual Report development and operational decision-making.
  - Evaluating if GWL, depletion of ISWs, and Subsidence MTs are caused by Basin and therefore, count towards URs, and/or are subject to PRP or Well Mitigation actions.
  - Demonstrate compliance with Depletion of ISWs SMC defined in GSP.
- Presentation of more accurate estimates of storage change and depletion of ISWs and simulation of progress towards sustainability for Periodic Evaluations and Annual Reports.
  - Including benefits expected and/or accrued from P/MAs.
- Coordination with neighboring basins and ground-truthing data and modeling results presented.
- Demonstration of SGMA compliance.

For discussion purposes only

KEY ASPECTS OF CALIBRATION

- Refine model grid, extent, and boundary conditions.
- Define an effective calibration parameter set for staged calibration:
  - Hydraulic/aquifer parameters: hydraulic conductivity, specific storage/yield etc.
  - Subsidence parameters, elastic/inelastic specific storage, preconsolidation heads, interbed conductivity and delayed subsidence parameters
  - Boundary conditions
  - Stream parameters
  - Refine land use and implement direct ET estimations from Satellite data
  - Refine representation of SW delivery points to align with GSAs/Water district operations
- Define calibration and validation periods based on information value, focused on mor recent periods.
- Implement a staged, supervised parameter estimation informed (PEST) informed by staged sensitivity analyses
- Evaluate goodness-of-fit and verify conceptual model consistency and water budget reasonableness.

Agenda Item No. 9

DELTA-MENDOTA SGMA

MEMORANDUM

TO: Delta-Mendota Coordination Committee

FROM: Scott Petersen, Water Policy Director

DATE: December 8, 2025

RE: Committee to Consider Authorizing Water Authority Staff to Execute First Amendment to Task Order 011-F26-AA63-TO001 with Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers

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BACKGROUND

In February, the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee ("D-M CC") approved the Fund 63 budget and in March, the D-M CC and San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority ("Water Authority") Board authorized execution of necessary agreements for SGMA Program implementation services, including construction management services necessary to implement the Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Well installation associated with Component 8 of the Proposition 1, Round 1 grant awarded to the Delta-Mendota subbasin by the California Department of Water Resources.

Specifically, the FY 26 approved budget for Fund 63 includes $504,455 for Component 8 – Data Gaps, which was originally scheduled for collections of funds needed to cover construction of Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Wells and Continuous GPS stations that were ultimately not installed by the Water Authority. In March, the D-M CC recommended and the Water Authority Board approved the execution of a number of task orders for Staff Augmentation Support services necessary to implement SGMA in the D-M subbasin, using funds from the Staff Augmentation Support line item and the Interconnected Surface Water line item in the adopted FY26 budget.

Since that action, work has progressed on the installation of the Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring wells, under the existing Agreement and Task Order the Water Authority has with Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers ("LSCE").

As a result of a number of changes to the scope and requirements for well installation and construction management, the services provided by LSCE for installation of ISW-1, ISW-2, and ISW-3 have grown in cost, and LSCE is requesting an increase of $40,000 to the existing Task Order to complete work necessary with installation of these wells[1].

ISSUE FOR DECISION

Whether the Coordination Committee should authorize execution of the First amendment to 011-F26-AA63-TO001 to increase the Task Order amount from $49,607.34 to $89,607.34.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Committee authorize execution of the First amendment to 011-F26-AA63-TO001 to increase the Task Order amount from $49,607.34 to $89,607.34.

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[1] See attached Budget Request letter.

ANALYSIS

LSCE has adapted to changes in the requirements to implement Component 8 with professionalism and a willingness to address challenges as they arise. It is staff's opinion that the changes to scope are the major cost driver and that LSCE could not have done much to reduce costs resulting from changes in actual service delivery compared to estimates when the proposal was prepared.

Staff has prepared the following table detailing impacts on the adopted FY26 budget:

Service	Consultant	Task Order Amount	Projected Actual	Adopted FY26 Budget	Variance
Staff Augmentation Support	Water and Land Solutions	$30,000	$23,925	$200,000	-$275,925
	Hallmark Group	$247,760	$190,000		
	EKI Environment and Water	$262,000	$262,000		
Outside Counsel	Baker, Mannock, and Jensen	$70,000	$100,000	$70,000	-$30,000
Annual Report Preparation	Woodard & Curran (annual report)	$149,675	$149,675	$149,675	$--
Interconnected Surface Water	Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers	$49,607	$89,607[2]	$504,455	$414,848
Inadequate Determination Response	EKI Environment and Water	$55,000	$55,000	$55,000	$--
				Net	**$108,923**

With the proposed increase in Task Order expenses, total expenditures for the budgeted activities are projected to come in under total budgeted amounts, largely as a result of the expenses of ISW well installation and subsidence monitoring equipment being purchased by GSA's directly and reimbursed by the SGMA grant directly, rather than through the Water Authority budget.

[2] Proposed Increase in Task Order of $40,000

Agenda Item No. 9

Luhdorff & Scalmanini
Consulting Engineers

November 12, 2025 Project No. 24-2-003

J. Scott Petersen
Water Policy Director
San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

SUBJECT: Request for Budget Increase – Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Well Construction Management (Task Order 011-F25-AA63TO01)

Dear Mr. Petersen,

Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers (LSCE) respectfully requests a budget increase from the San Luis & Delt-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA) for construction management services under the above referenced task order.

The original budget table is provided below in **Table 1**. The original scope anticipated construction of three interconnected surface water (ISW) monitoring wells using a single competitively bid contract awarded to a single driller. Bradley and Son's, Inc. was originally awarded this work in November 2024. LSCE completed Tasks 2 (Environmental Compliance and Permitting) and 3 (Advertise, Bid, and Award) for all three sites prior to determination that SLDMWA funding could not be used for wells outside its boundaries.

Task.	Budget	Amount Billed
Task 1. Construction Management	$48,205	$45,188
Task 2. Environmental Compliance and Permitting	$9,062	$21,108
Task 3. Advertise Bid and Award	$4,060	$1,183
Task 4. Grant Administration	$5,640	$183
Task 5. Project Management	$9,036	$17,401
Total	$75,999	$85,063

The funding restriction necessitated separate procurement and permitting process for each well:

- ISW-1 - Stanislaus County
- ISW-2 - Patterson Irrigation District
- ISW-3 – Merced County (on California Department of Fish and Wildlife land)

Only PID was able to retain the original bidder (Bradley and Son's, Inc.). Stanislaus and Merced Counties required new bid packages due to their procurement process, and additionally, ISW-1 required the identification of a new site and re-submittal of environmental documentation.

Task 1. Construction Management

Based on the level of effort of ISW-2, which was the first well constructed, LSCE was on track to complete construction management for all three wells under the proposed budget of $48,105. The following summarizes the expenses associated with construction of ISW-2 and ISW-3.

ISW-2 (PID)

- Constructed: March 3-13, 2025 (9 working days)
- Drilling Contract (Bradley & Son's): $117,180
- LSCE Construction Management & Reimbursables: $10,343.74
- Total Cost: $127,523.74

ISW-3 (Merced County)

- Constructed: September 4 -25, 2025 (16 working days)
- Drilling Contract (Living Water Well Drilling): $155,000
- Charged Standby Time: $4,000
- LSCE Construction Management & Reimbursables: $30,528.34
- Total Cost: $189,528.34

Task 2. Environmental Compliance and Permitting

LSCE is currently over budget on this task due to the additional efforts required after LSCE was unable to use the originally selected well driller. The following bullet points identify those efforts

- Coordination with CDFW staff and Merced County for ISW-3
- Preparation of two NOEs for ISW-1
- Identification of new site for ISW-1 which included a site visit and meetings with representatives from Stanislaus County, Hallmark Group, and SLDMWA.

Task 3. Advertise Bid and Award

LSCE has not exceeded the budget for this task.

Task 4. Grant Administration

LSCE has not exceeded the budget for this task.

Task 5. Project Management

More time than originally anticipated has been spent on this task. The budget was developed for all work to be completed by November 2024. DWR granted an extension for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant through December 2025. In its original scope of work, LSCE identified attendance at a minimum of two coordination committee meetings. The progress of ISW well construction has been a standing item at all Coordination Committee meetings through 2025 which has required preparation of meeting materials.

Basis for Budget Increase

Construction of ISW-3 required 16 working days of on-site management due to extended drilling duration. Additional, LSCE submitted two NOEs for ISW-1 and required multiple meetings to coordinate with Stanislaus County, Merced County, and the Delta-Mendota Subbasin due to the change circumstances of this work. LSCE has already exceeded the original project budget by $9,064.

While it is anticipated that drilling duration and oversight time will be less than ISW-3, to complete ISW-1 under similar conditions through well development and testing, LSCE requests an additional $40,000 in construction management funds. This amount is based on the exceeded project budget and the time expected on ISW-3 and anticipates comparable effort for ISW-1.

We appreciate your consideration and are available to discuss the request at your convenience.

Sincerely,

LUHDORFF AND SCALMANINI
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

Andrew Francis, PG
Project Hydrogeologist

SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY

FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT
FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
FOR
SGMA Support – Construction Management for Well Installation for an Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Network

Agreement No.: 011-F26-AA63-TO001

This First Amendment to Agreement No. 011-F26-AA63-TO001 is made and entered into effective December 18, 2025 by and between San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority ("SLDMWA") and Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers., ("Consultant").

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2025, SLDMWA and Consultant entered into a Task Order Agreement Whereby Consultant would perform SGMA Support – Construction Management for Well Installation for an Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Network; and

WHEREAS, the parties now agree that a First Amendment to said Task Order Agreement is advisable;

NOW, THEREFORE, THE PARTIES ENTER INTO THIS FIRST AMENDMENT TO AGREEMENT WITH THE CHANGES OUTLINED BELOW:

1. **Increase Task Order 1 – SGMA Support – Construction Management for Well Installation for an Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Network total budget maximum by $40,000.00**
    a. **From: $49,607.34**
    b. **To: $89,607.34**

All other tasks, terms and conditions on original agreement remain unchanged.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this Amendment has been executed by and on behalf of the parties hereto, the day, month and year so indicated above. If Consultant is a corporation, partnership or limited liability company, documentation must be provided that the person signing below for Consultant has the authority to do so and to so bind Consultant to the terms of this Agreement.

Consultant	San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority
By: _____ Scott Lewis, PG President Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers	By:_____ Scott Petersen Water Policy Director San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority

SLDMWA – Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers
SGMA Support – Construction Management for Well Installation for an Interconnected Surface Water Monitoring Network

Task Order 011-F26-AA63-TO001

This Task Order is a continuation of remaining services pursuant to Task Order 011-F25-AA63-TO001.

TASK 1 – Construction Management

Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers (LSCE) will perform all aspects of construction management for the drilling of monitoring wells for an interconnected surface water (ISW) monitoring network. As construction manager, LSCE will ensure the monitoring wells are sited and installed per the November 2023 Basis for Design Report (Appendix A) and requirements of the grant agreement task specifications (Appendix B).

Subtask 1.1: Project Field supervision and Construction Oversight

LSCE will provide oversight and supervision of all work performed by the contractor during drilling and construction of the monitoring wells. Oversight and inspection of well drilling and construction will be overseen by a California Professional Geologist (PG) or someone working under the direct supervision of a PG. LSCE personnel will have the authority to stop work at any time if situations arise or identified as potential safety or property damage issues or if the contractor is out of compliance with permit, project specification(s), or site-specific restrictions.

Subtask 1.2: Monitoring Well Drilling and Installation

A subsurface investigation at each site will include test hole drilling, collection of lithogic samples, performing down-hole geophysical surveys, monitoring well construction, and piezometer development. Based on the information developed as part of the test hole investigation, LSCE will prepare monitoring well designs for final approval by an ad hoc subcommittee of the Coordination Committee. The ad hoc subcommittee will inform the Coordination Committee of any substantial changes. Monitoring well designs will adhere to California Department of Water Resources Water Well Standards as outlined in Bulletin 74-81 and 74-90 and the applicable local well permitting agency.

Each monitoring well will be completed at the surface with either an above-ground completion (lockable enclosure, concrete pad, bollards) or an at-grade completion (manhole with security bolts and concrete apron), depending on the site. All water generated during development will be contained and disposed of according to site-specific requirements.

Task 1 Deliverables:

- Construction field notes
- Photo documentation
- Lithologic and geophysical logs
- Well Completion Reports
- As-built monitoring well diagrams
- Development records

Online Document Accessibility: Consultant will provide electronic copies of documents and materials designated for public access on the Authority's public website consistent with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2 Level AA Conformance and/or current state and federal standards for accessibility. If Consultant has any question as to whether a deliverable is subject to these requirements, Consultant shall confirm with the Authority whether the deliverable is anticipated to be posted to the Authority website. Consultant may reference the California Department of Technology's Web Accessibility Assessment Checklist at SIMM 25 IT Accessibility Resource Guide (ca.gov) to help Consultant comply with State and WCAG standards and requirements. Consultant should ensure documents and materials created for the Authority are compatible with most major Internet browsers, including Chrome, Firefox, and Safari. The Authority reserves the right to return to Consultant for correction any deliverable that is required to be website accessible, and that the Authority determines not be compliance, in accordance with these standards. Any such modification shall be done at Consultant's cost and without further charge to the Authority.

This is a "Not to Exceed" Task Order. Consultant will not exceed its submitted budget estimate for the scope of work and tasks as detailed below without prior approval from SLDMWA. Consultant may request to amend the submitted budget of $49,607.34 prior to the end of the fiscal year. If such a request is made, Consultant agrees to reimburse reasonable expenses incurred by SLDMWA in preparation of the Task Order Budget Amendment, including but not limited to: staff time, legal review, and scheduling and conducting special meetings and consultations with LPSs and GSAs.

Basis for Payment: Time and Materials

Budget Maximum: $49,607.34

Estimate of Time Schedule: March 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026

SLDMWA Project Lead: Scott Petersen scott.petersen@sldmwa.org

Consultant Project Lead: Scott Lewis slewis@lsce.com

Special Instructions: (1) All invoices should be sent to Project Lead, as well as Felicia Luna at accounts.payable@sldmwa.org pursuant to Article 6 of Exhibit B to the Agreement; (2) All invoices shall reference: **"0011-F26-AA63-TO001 SGMA Support – ISW Construction Management"**.

Accepted:

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority	Consultant
By: _____ Scott Petersen Water Policy Director San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority Date: 3/1/25	By: _____ Will Halligan, PG Senior Principal Hydrologist, President Luhdorf & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers Date: 6-24-2025

DELTA-MENDOTA SGMA

TO: Coordination Committee
Agenda Item No. 10

FROM: Kait Palys / Taylor Blakslee

DATE: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Committee to Review and Provide Direction on the Development of Revised Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Groundwater Monitoring

Recommendation

Committee direction requested to review and provide direction on the development of revised Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for groundwater monitoring.

Discussion

During the October 13, 2025, Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee (CC) meeting, draft budget components were discussed, including an item on continued groundwater monitoring. It was recommended that staff develop a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for collecting and uploading groundwater data to the data management system within the current fiscal year.

Staff developed the monitoring SOP and received feedback from the Delta-Mendota Committees at subsequent meetings. Staff incorporated committee feedback and the options for revised SOPs to ensure consistent groundwater monitoring data is uploaded in the DMS are provided as **Attachment 1**.

Existing Monitoring Process

- Each GSA is responsible for:
  - Arranging seasonal sampling at respective RM wells
  - Identifying need for re-sampling or proxy well sampling
  - Review of data prior to submittal
  - Submittal to consultants
- Laboratory and field staff are responsible for:
  - Following sampling and laboratory standards SOP outlined in the GSP
  - Monitoring, documenting, reporting to GSA

Optional *New* Standard Operating Procedure would support GSAs with these steps

Optional *NEW* Data Validation Standard Operating Procedure

Who would use it?

GSAs

Who would develop it?

Subbasin Technical Consultants

Why develop it?

Minimize anomalous data reducing the overall dataset quality and reduce risk inaccurate representations of groundwater conditions

When would it be used?

Immediately upon receiving laboratory results or groundwater level readings

Standardized procedure intended to support GSAs in evaluating if representative monitoring results are:

1. *Representative of the ambient aquifer*
2. *May have a sampling error*
3. *Requires further action such as removal from RMS network, resampling, new sampling protocol, or adding a note for reporting purposes*

Purpose of the *optional* Data Validation SOP

Provide clear, consistent Subbasin-wide guidance to help GSAs reduce uncertainty and improve accuracy in groundwater datasets.

- **Guidance when existing RMS is unsampleable**
  - **When to assign** a proxy well vs. when a new RMS well replacement is needed
  - **Defining criteria** for proxy wells and replacement RMS (consistent with GSP)
- **Guidance on assessing if results are valid BEFORE submittal**
  - **How to tell if a result appears to be anomalous**
    - Groundwater Levels: non-static, measurement error, etc
    - Groundwater Quality: well needs to be purged longer, potential for sampling/lab error, etc.
  - **Standard protocol to follow if result is anomalous**
    - Need a confirmation resample?
    - Need new sampling equipment before next event?
    - Need to select a new site? (site is unrepresentative)

DELTA-MENDOTA SGMA

TO: Coordination Committee
Agenda Item No. 11

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: Program Management Report

Recommendation

None; information only.

Discussion

Provided as **Attachment 1** is an update on the following items:

a. Review of Previous Meeting Action Items
b. Schedule of Key Milestones

Attachment 1

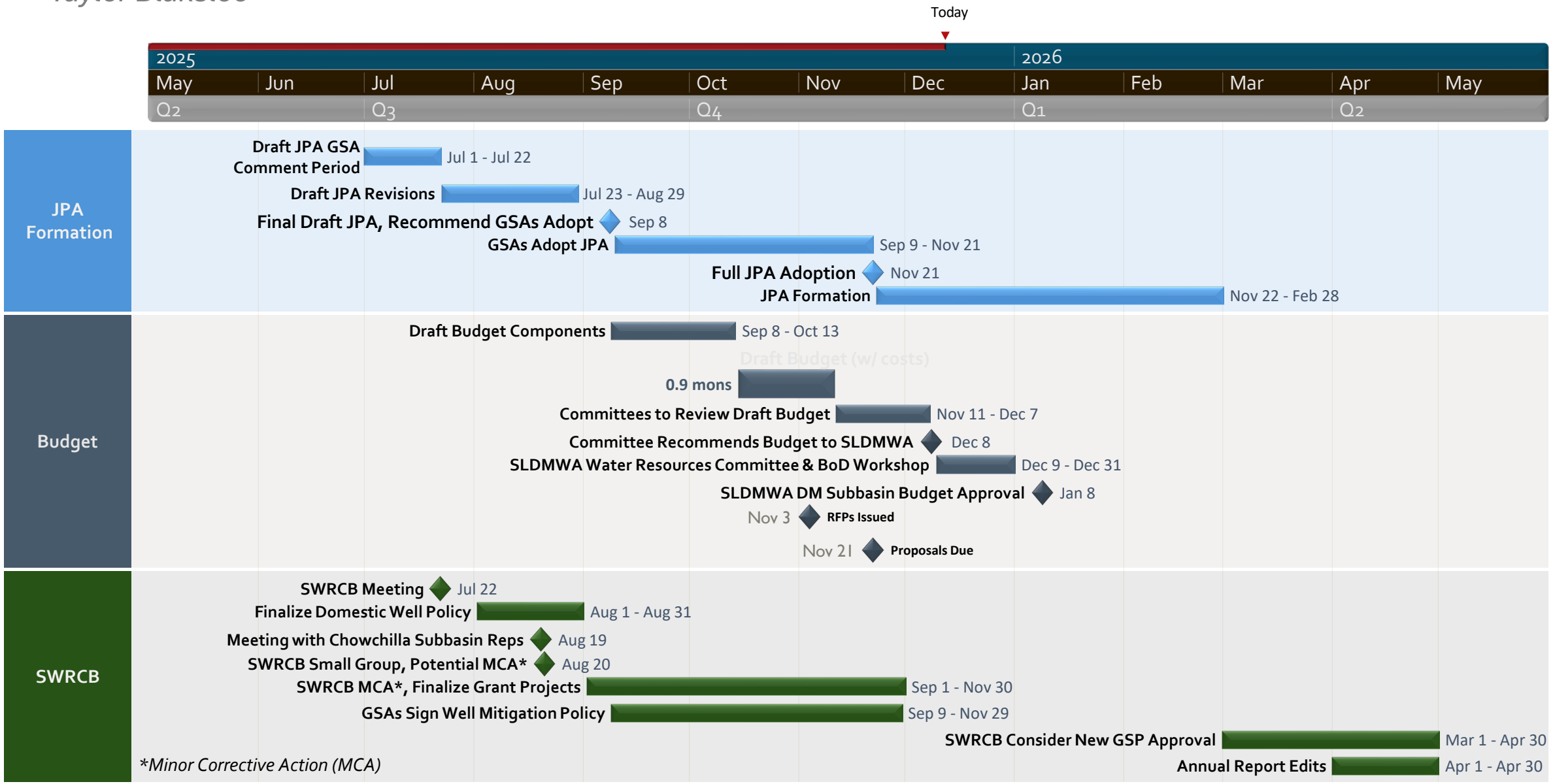
11a. Review of Previous Meeting Action Items

Taylor Blakslee

Meeting Date	Agenda Item	Action Item	Assigned	Due Date	Status	Status & Notes
9/8/2025, 10/13	8	GSAs to adopt the JPA by November 21, 2025.	K. Liddy	11/21/2025	*In Progress*	21 entities have signed. 2 are still being communicated with.
9/8/2025	16b	Del Puerto to facilitate purchase of subsidence equipment.	J. Martin	9/12/2025	*In Progress*	
11/10/2025	8	Submit the Application with DWR for Facilitation Support Services.	L. Beutler	11/21/2025	Done	L. Beutler submitted the application on November 12, 2025.
11/10/2025	11b	EKI to develop an example of the water quality exceedance compliance decision tree for nitrate and other COCs to GSAs. Staff to work with remaining GSAs to respond to water data RFI as soon as possible.	A. Dutton/ K. Liddy	ASAP	Done	
11/10/2025	11d	Staff to coordinate with GSAs on initial exceedance reports and action plans.	K. Liddy	11/21/2025	*In Progress*	
11/10/2025	12	Staff to develop a policy briefing outline/ presentation for review by the communication subcommittee.	L. Beutler	12/8/2025	*In Progress*	Policy briefing to be prepared for Spring 2026.
11/10/2025	14a	Continue to monitor the ISW completion deadline and agendize anticipated overages for the December 8, 2025 meeting.	K. Liddy / Consultants	12/8/2025	Done	

11b. Delta-Mendota Coordination Committee Schedule of Key Milestones

Taylor Blakslee



DELTA-MENDOTA SGMA

TO: Coordination Committee
Agenda Item No. 12

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: GSP Implementation Updates

Recommendation
None; information only.

Discussion

a. Update on Q4 Groundwater Levels and Groundwater Quality Monitoring and DMS Upload
Groundwater levels for the fourth quarter (October-December) are due December 31, 2025. Measurements are still being updated in the data management system. A reminder of the monitoring protocols is provided as **Attachment 1**.

b. Update on Pumping Reduction Plan and GSP Implementation Tracking and Exceedance Reporting
An update on PRP reporting is provided as **Attachment 2**.

c. Update on Water Year 2025 Annual Report Development
A verbal update will be provided on the status the Annual Report development and Groundwater Sustainability Agency information requests.

d. Report from GSAs with Exceedances
Per Appendix C of the MOA "Adaptive Management Framework for the Subbasin" initial minimum threshold exceedances are required to be reported at Coordination Committee as well as action plans to address exceedances at a subsequent Coordination Committee meeting.

While the PRP dashboard is expected to provide noticing functionality in the future, a simple initial exceedance reporting template has been created in the interim to assist GSAs in providing their initial exceedance reports to the Coordination Committee.

Upon second review of the initial exceedance reports provided in the meeting packet for the November 10th Coordination Committee, it was determined that many reports had included action plan language. Provided as **Attachment 3** are the remaining exceedance action plans staff received from GSA representatives.

Summary of GSA MT Exceedances

No.	DMS Site ID	GSA/Member Agency	GWL MT Exceedance	GWQ MT Exceedance	Initial Report	Action Plan
4	22-002	City of Gustine		X		X
6	19-004	County of Merced GSA - Delta- Mendota		X		X
8	07-028	Eagle Field Water District		X		X
15	14-005	San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors		X		X
16	14-007	San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors		X		X
17	14-022	San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors	X			X
18	14-027	San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors		X		X
19	07-031	San Luis Water District		X		X
20	07-032	San Luis Water District		X		X
21	07-016	Santa Nella County Water District		X		X

Attachment 1

Groundwater Level and Quality Monitoring Reminder:

Natalie Cochran / Leslie Dumas, Woodard & Curran

A reminder that the single GSP indicates groundwater levels will be monitored on a quarterly basis and groundwater quality will be monitored on a biannual basis. The target months for groundwater level monitoring are February, May, August, and November and groundwater quality will be monitored in February and August. GSA Group representatives are required to collect at least one measurement/sample during each target month at each representative monitoring site.

For groundwater quality, constituents to be analyzed for are arsenic; nitrate; 1,2,3-TCP; gross alpha radioactivity; TDS; and hexavalent chromium (lab analytical methods attached).

Please refer to Table MN-1 for your respective monitoring responsibilities and Section 14.3 for monitoring protocols in the single GSP: https://deltamendota.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/0729GSPDocs/14_Monitoring%20Network.pdf

Please upload your data to the DMS one month following the close of the monitoring/sampling event (i.e., September 30th for the August monitoring/sampling event).

Reminder Please continue to monitor RMN wells and if wells cannot be monitored, please submit a no measurement code to the DMS. It is critical for newly monitored wells to conduct monitoring to build a historical record for eventual numeric SMC development.

For discussion purposes only

PRP REMINDER #1: FUTURE DEADLINES

- **Component #1: Monitoring & Reporting**
  - Well registration and Well Metering deadline is January 2026 → *Needs to be tracked and submitted to Dashboard to be included in the Annual Report*
  - Need to replace composite or production wells used as RMWs by 2030.
- **Component #2: Overdraft Reduction**
  - Zones are required to reduce pumping by the totals provided as part of the PRP → *How does the Coordination Committee intend to receive report and track this item?*
  - Baseline for comparison used to calculate the overdraft reduction was the projected average annual pumping under CC-2030 scenario.
- **Components #3 & #4:** SMC Update and Revision by 2025 Annual Report

Projected Baseline Pumping with P/MAs

	Upper Aquifer (AFY)	Lower Aquifer (AFY)
Zone 1	-93,120	-18,947
Zone 2	-152,995	-20,609
Zone 3	-29,650	-59,242
Zone 4	-33,901	-114,501
Basin	**-309,666**	**-213,299**

Required Reduction for Overdraft Mitigation

	Upper Aquifer Reduction (AFY)	Lower Aquifer Reduction (AFY)
Zone 1	2,798	2,886
Zone 2	4,619	3,139
Zone 3	803	9,023
Zone 4	1,303	17,440
Basin	**9,523**	**32,487**

For discussion purposes only

PRP REMINDER #2: GWL MONITORING

- We recommend taking confirmation samples as soon as feasible if you see measurements showing significant declines in these wells.

GSA	Site Name	DMS ID	Investigation Status ▲
County of Merced GSA - Delta-Mendota	1ML-6	11-006	Watchlist
Grasslands GSA	3PL-2	11-019	Watchlist
San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors GSA	Elrod #4 Well #21	14-022	Watchlist
DM-II GSA	MP045.78R	01-003	Watchlist
Northwestern Delta-Mendota GSA	P259-3	06-002	Watchlist
Central Delta-Mendota GSA	TW-4 Upper	07-033	Watchlist
Central Delta-Mendota GSA	Well 31	07-212	Watchlist

For discussion purposes only

PRP REMINDER #3: WQ MONITORING

- We recommend taking confirmation samples as soon as feasible if you see measurements showing exceedances in these wells.
- Investigation needed for wells with exceedances to determine whether the exceedance is due to basin management.

GSA	DMS ID	COC	Inv. Deadline	Action
DM-II GSA	01-002	tds	9/19/2025	Investigation Done and Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation. Recommend more frequent Monitoring.
DM-II GSA	01-004	nitrate	9/19/2025	Investigation Done and Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation. Recommend more frequent Monitoring.
City of Patterson GSA	02-002	tds	9/19/2025	Investigation Done and PRP Not Required: Statistical Correlation Cannot Be Established between GWL and GWQ.
County of Merced GSA - Delta-Mendota	07-016	tds	9/19/2025	Investigation Needed, Correlation with GW Levels, and Need for Pumping Reduction
Central Delta-Mendota GSA	07-028	tds	9/19/2025	Investigation Done and Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation. Recommend more frequent Monitoring.
Central Delta-Mendota GSA	07-031	tds	12/20/2025	Investigation Done and Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation. Recommend more frequent Monitoring.
Central Delta-Mendota GSA	07-032	tds	12/20/2025	Investigation Done and Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation. Recommend more frequent Monitoring.
Central Delta-Mendota GSA	07-036	tds	9/19/2025	Investigation Done and Not Enough Samples to Establish Correlation. Recommend more frequent Monitoring.
Widren Water District GSA	08-002	tds	9/19/2025	Investigation Needed, Correlation with GW Levels, and Need for Pumping Reduction
Grasslands GSA	11-018	tds	12/20/2025	Investigation Needed, Correlation with GW Levels, and Need for Pumping Reduction

For discussion purposes only

WATER QUALITY EXCEEDANCES - COMPLIANCE AND NOTIFICATIONS

For discussion purposes only

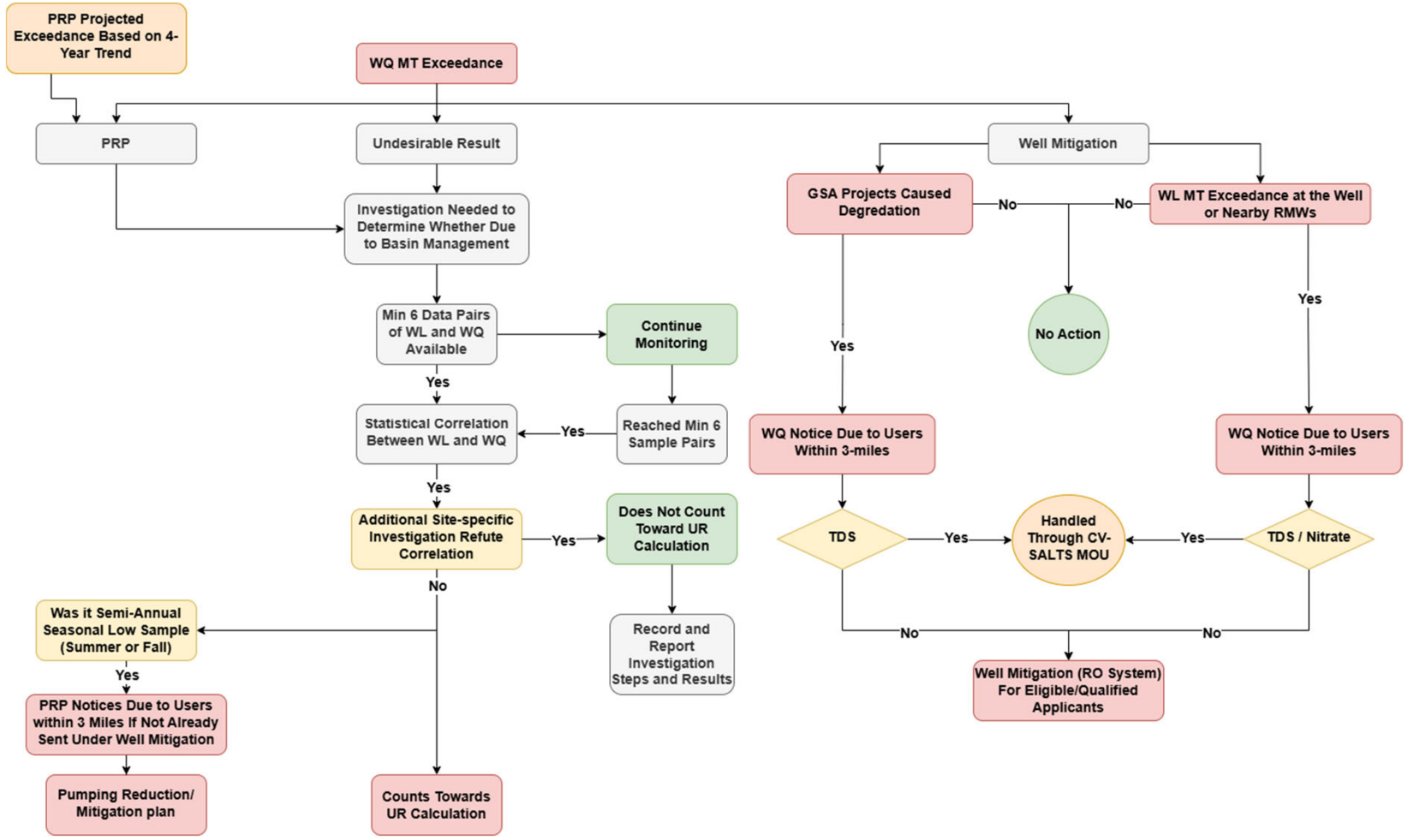
WQ EXCEEDANCE COMPLIANCE: PRP/MOA/WELL MITIGATION

- Well Mitigation
  - Additional compliance measures are needed only if WQ exceedance is caused by a GSA Project or WL exceedance (drops below 2015).
  - If TDS MT exceedance, when caused by a project, or TDS or Nitrate MT exceedance when caused by WL exceedance, mitigation will fall under the MOU with CV-SALTS. Mitigation will be provided by GSAs for other COC if criteria are met.
- PRP Action and UR Definition
  - Semi-annual (seasonal low/high) WQ MT Exceedances count towards an UR and trigger PRP action **if due to basin management**.
  - Basin Management
    - GW Decline → Pumping Reduction
    - P/MA → GW Recharge → Pause and Mitigation Plan
  - Central GSA PRP requires investigation of correlation between GWL and WQ to determine action.
- Noticing
  - Notice to beneficial users within 3-miles is required if exceedances are investigated and determined to be caused by the GSA.

Attachment 2

For discussion purposes only

WQ EXCEEDANCE COMPLIANCE FLOWCHART



Attachment 3

Santa Nella County Water District
12931 State Highway 33 • Santa Nella, CA 95322
PH: (209) 826-0920 • FAX: (209) 826-8359

December 2, 2025

To: Delta-Mendota Subbasin Coordination Committee

RE: Santa Nella County Water District
Member: Central Delta-Mendota Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Well No. 1; DMS: 07-016
TDS Exceedance Action Plan

Dear Committee Members,

The Santa Nella County Water District (District) provides drinking water to the community of Santa Nella. The District has two water supplies for making drinking water. The dominant water supply is CVP surface water pumped from the San Luis Canal. The raw surface water is treated and disinfected and is then blended with treated groundwater, from Well No. 1, that is distributed to our customers.

The above-referenced well is the District's groundwater supply and has always had high TDS. This is a secondary drinking water standard that is regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW). As mentioned, the groundwater is blended with surface water before being served to the customers. This blending reduces the high TDS in the finished water. The high TDS from the groundwater source is not consumed or used for any type of irrigation.

The District conducts in-house testing for TDS on the finished blended water on a weekly basis. TDS levels are evaluated every 36-months during the General/Mineral testing required under the District's drinking water permit. As long as the finished blended water maintains TDS below 500 mg/L, DDW does not have a concern with the higher TDS at the source site. The most recent General/Mineral test for TDS in the finished water was 200 mg/L. The District has not received any drinking water violations for TDS.

The District respectfully requests that the Coordination Committee approve the District's drinking water method that is required by DDW as the Action Plan for addressing TDS exceedance and find the District exempt from continually responding with an Action Plan if future TDS exceeds limits as long as the District is still blending out the TDS with surface water.

If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Amy Montgomery
General Manager

EAGLE FIELD WATER DISTRICT

GROUNDWATER QUALITY ACTION PLAN

Well ID: 07-028
Prepared For: Central Delta-Mendota Coordination Committee
Prepared By: Hugh Bennett
Date: 12/2/2025

1. Purpose of the Action Plan

This action plan outlines the steps that will be taken to monitor, document, and manage groundwater quality in the well. It also clarifies that the groundwater quality issues identified during recent reviews are not the result of recent operational changes, but reflect long-standing baseline conditions of the aquifer.

2. Background

- The aquifer underlying this well is known to have **naturally poor water quality**, including elevated levels of total dissolved solids (TDS).
- Recent notifications indicating "poor water quality" do not represent a new degradation event; the water quality has been **consistently poor** since original installation and long before current operations.
- Despite the naturally low water quality, the well has only extracted water for the purposes capturing water quality samples in the last two years.

3. Scope of the Plan

This plan focuses on:

- Continued water quality monitoring
- Operational practices to prevent water quality degradation done by people.

This plan **does not** attempt to improve naturally occurring groundwater chemistry that is inherent to the aquifer and outside the control of the well operator.

4. Goals

1. Maintain records of extraction and/or maintenance.

2. Document variances in water quality so that naturally poor conditions are clearly distinguished from potential operational impacts.
3. Ensure that no site practices contribute to water quality degradation.

5. Action Steps

Step #	Action	Responsible Party	Frequency / Timeline
1	Continue participation in groundwater monitoring program	Well operator / district	Ongoing
2	Maintain accurate sampling logs, including dates, parameters analyzed, and lab results	Operator / district	Ongoing, per monitoring schedule
3	Compare each new dataset to historical data to track trends and show the stability of long-standing poor water quality	Operator / district	After each sampling event
4	Inspect the wellhead, pad, and surrounding area for potential contamination pathways (spills, runoff, equipment leaks)	Operator / Consultant	Quarterly
5	Ensure proper maintenance of pumps, electrical components, and seals to prevent cross-contamination	Operator / Consultant	Annually or as needed
6	Implement best management practices (BMPs) near the well such as spill prevention, secure chemical storage, and controlled access	Operator	Ongoing

6. Risks / Challenges

- Aquifer contains naturally elevated levels of certain constituents that **cannot be improved** through surface actions.
- Hydrogeologic conditions may cause seasonal variation, but these are natural and not related to operations.
- Misinterpretation of data may lead to the belief that water quality is worsening without proper historical context.

7. Monitoring and Documentation

- Laboratory analysis will follow the existing testing protocols.
- All results will be compared to historical data to demonstrate consistency over time.
- Records will be maintained on site and made available upon request.

8. Conclusion

The groundwater quality at this well has historically been poor due to natural aquifer conditions, and the well's operator has **not contributed to any degradation**. This action plan ensures continued compliance, responsible well management, and clear documentation demonstrating that the water quality issues are longstanding and naturally occurring.

DELTA-MENDOTA SGMA

Groundwater Sustainability Agency Exceedance Action Plan

Date	December 8, 2025
GSA Entity	SJREC and City of Gustine GSA
GSA Representative	John Weirsma, Jarrett Martin

No further action is needed. Pumping cutbacks (or what I would consider an action plan) are only required when a direct linkage or correlation has been established. See below excerpt from our PRP.

Excerpt 1

> This WQ-MT Exceedance Plan triggers pumping cutbacks only when a direct relationship or convincing linkage is established between changes in water quality concentrations exceeding or projected to exceed their MTs and management actions of the GSAs in the Basin, or changes in groundwater levels. In the absence of such correlations or due to data gaps, continued monitoring and data collection are prioritized.

At this point, no relationship has been established. We are still in the investigation phase, with a lack of data points. Our plan is to continue monitoring to determine if a correlation exists. Once we have 6 samples, we will be able to make the determination. See below excerpt from our PRP.

Excerpt 2

> occurs. At least six (6) WQ/GWL sample pairs from the same or nearby wells are required, with pairs consisting of samples collected within the same year and season (e.g., Fall of a specific year) or within a sufficiently close timeframe.[4] If there are not enough samples, monitoring will continue until sufficient data is available. For groundwater management projects (e.g., recharge facilities) with known operational

There are currently (3) sample pairs for well 14-007 and (2) sample pairs for well 22-002. We will continue to monitor until we get (6) pairs, then move forward with a Kendall Tau coefficient analysis if determined necessary based on the data.

DELTA-MENDOTA SGMA

TO: Coordination Committee
Agenda Item No. 15

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: December 8, 2025

SUBJECT: SGMA Round 1 Implementation Grant

Recommendation
None; information only.

Discussion

a. Update on Status of Interconnected Surface Water (ISW) Well Construction Project
LSCE Project Hydrogeologist Andrew Francis will provide a verbal update.

b. Update on Status of Subsidence Monitoring Project
Grant-funded equipment is being purchased and a verbal update will be provided at the Committee meeting.

c. Update on Status of All Grant Projects
A verbal update will be provided.