Special Meeting of the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee

Thursday, November 12, 2026, 10:00 AM

In person:
Patterson City Council Chambers
1 Plaza Circle, Patterson, CA 95363

Zoom Webinar Link:
https://zoom.us/j/97464044803
Webinar ID: 974 6404 4803
Call-In: +16694449171,,97464044803# US

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Special Meeting of the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee has been called for **Thursday, November 12, 2026, 10:00 AM**, on items listed on the attached agenda, which is incorporated by reference and made a part hereof.

Teleconference Locations:

1 Plaza Cir.
Patterson, CA 95363

Persons with a disability may request disability-related modification or accommodation by contacting Karlee Liddy at the Hallmark Group Office, 500 Capital Mall Suite 2350, Sacramento CA 95814, via telephone at (916) 767-4287, or via email at kliddy@hgcpm.com. 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 (Pierce)
2. Pledge of Allegiance (Pierce)
3. Opportunity for Public Comment (Pierce)

Consent Calendar

4. Review and Take Action on the Consent Calendar (Pierce)
    a. Minutes of the October 7, 2026 Meeting
    b. Budget to Actual Report

Closed Session

5. 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)

6. Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Layne)
   The Committee will meet in closed session to confer with legal counsel pursuant to Paragraph (1) of Subdivision (d) of Government Code Section 54956.9: (1 case)
   California Sportfishing Protection Alliance v. All Persons Interested in the Matter of the Validity of the Northern and Central Delta-Mendota Regions Groundwater Sustainability Plan, et al., Stanislaus County Superior Court, Case No. CV-20-001748, Merced County Superior Court, Case No. 21CV-01691.

Open Session

7. Report from Closed Session (Layne)

Action Items

8. Direction to Northern DM Representative to the DM JPA Board to Approve EKI Scope of Work to Develop a Concept Proposal for the DWR SGM Grant (Blakslee/Dutton)
9. Direction on a Draft Fiscal Year 2028 Budget for the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee (Liddy)
10. Direction on Fiscal Year 2028 Budget Components for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSAs Joint Powers Authority (Liddy)
11. Approve the 2027 Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee Meeting Calendar (Liddy)

Report Items

12. Update on Model Phase 1 Schedule and Status of GSA Data Reporting (Mani)
13. Update on the Development of the Water Year 2026 Annual Report (Mani)
14. Update on Pumping Reduction Plan (PRP) Implementation, Q4 Monitoring Event and Exceedance Reporting (Mani)
15. Program Management Report (Blakslee)
16. Next Steps (Blakslee)
17. Reports Pursuant to Government Code Section 54954.2(a)(3) (Layne)
18. Next Meeting(s): (Pierce)
    a. Wednesday, December 11, 2026, 1 p.m. PST, Patterson City Council Chambers
19. Adjournment (Pierce)

NORTHERN
DELTA-MENDOTA

TO: Northern DM Region Management Committee
Agenda Item No. 4

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 12, 2026

SUBJECT: 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 October 7, 2026 Northern DM Region Management Committee Meeting (**Attachment 1**).
b. Budget to Actual Report (**Attachment 2**).

Attachment 1

Meeting of the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
Wednesday, October 7, 2026, 1:00 PM
Patterson City Council Chambers, 1 Plaza Circle, Patterson, CA 95363

Draft Meeting Minutes

In-Person Attendees (Members):
Adam Scheuber, Del Puerto Water District
Christy McKinnon, Stanislaus County
Lacey McBride, Merced County
Vince Lucchesi, Patterson Irrigation District

Absent:
Bobby Pierce

Other Attendees:
Karlee Liddy, Hallmark Group
Kathryn Dixon, Hallmark Group
Larrisa Camara, City of Patterson
Matt Garcia, Del Puerto Water District

Online Attendees:
Amir Mani, EKI
Anthea Hansen, Del Puerto Water District
Brittany Harker, Stanislaus County
Christopher Olvera, California Department of Water Resources
Debbie Gavaghan
Hailey Rowbatham, EKI
Lauren Layne, Baker Manock & Jensen
Michael Miller, WaterOne
Rachel Alstrom, Baker Manock & Jensen
Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call**
   Member Lucchesi called the meeting to order at 1:07 pm PST.

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**
   Member Lucchesi led the Committee in the pledge of allegiance.

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

No corrections or additions were made.

4. Opportunity for Public Comment

There were no comments from members of the public at this time.

Consent Calendar

5. Review and Take Action on the Consent Calendar

- **a.** Minutes of the September 2, 2026 Meeting
- **b.** Budget to Actual Report

Motion:

Member Scheuber made a motion to approve the consent calendar, which was seconded by Member McKinnon and passed unanimously.

Closed Session

6. Conference with Legal Counsel – Anticipated Litigation

The Committee did not enter closed session.

Open Session

7. Report from Closed Session

The Committee did not enter closed session.

Action Items

8. Direction on Fiscal Year 2028 Budget Components

Karlee Liddy (Hallmark Group) introduced this item and stated that staff takes a two-step approach to the budget development process, the first step being the presentation of the budget components to the Committee for feedback. She added that cost estimates for those budget components will be presented at the next Northern Committee meeting, along with the budget components for the DM Subbasin JPA Board.

Amir Mani (EKI) recommended potentially adding a budget item for annual report coordination at the Northern Committee level and Member Scheuber stated that if support is needed on a GSA level, that should be handled at the GSA budget level. The Committee stated that if members have any additional budget components to add, they can contact staff who will work with the Chair if they feel further Committee action is needed on any additional components. The Committee directed staff to build out cost estimates based on the budget components presented at the next meeting.

Member Scheuber noted that he would prefer to maintain a monthly meeting cadence, with the flexibility to notice cancellations if a meeting is not needed in each month.

Report Items

9. Update on Potential Grant Projects

Liddy gave background that the grant projects were due September 30, and that a table of the projects from GSAs was included in the packet, including a list of Projects and Management Actions from the Groundwater Sustainability Plan that EKI collated. Mani stated that February is the month in which the Subbasin would need to submit the concept proposal for the SGM Grant. Member Scheuber stated that he uploaded his projects to the Egnyte folder, and staff will be sure that his projects are captured for the DM JPA Board, including any planned projects for the City of Patterson. Member McKinnon stated that she would like to pursue the Multi-Benefit Land Repurposing Program funding at the county level and is exploring potentially coordinating with Modesto and Turlock Subbasins, but nothing has been decided yet. She stated that there is a workshop being held on November 2nd at Harvest Hall which will focus on well registration and metering and GSP implementation. She added that Stanislaus County has opened a call for projects and staff will distribute the flyer with the workshop information to the DM Subbasin GSAs.

10. Update on Model Phase 1 Schedule and Status of GSA Data Reporting

a. Update from the Model Calibration Ad Hoc

Mani provided an overview of the model calibration discussion at the Technical ad-hoc meeting, which took place on September 24, 2026. He highlighted the key reasons for the MODFLOW 6 platform recommendation are that it offers more flexibility when managing variable data quality and availability issues to achieve project's objectives and is the most current/state-of-the-art subsidence modeling code available from USGS. He stated that EKI will need to work with GSAs to evaluate the surface water budget at GSA or sub-GSA scale into the model.

b. Update on the Request for Information

Mani stated that there is a request for information that will be sent out, the information for which is due in Egnyte shared folders on November 13, 2026, to inform both the model calibration and the annual report. He added that staff highly prefers estimates and data from Water Years 2003-2026, if available. Member Scheuber asked if e-logs are needed for all wells over 200 ft. deep and Mani stated that ideally, they need that information to help fill data gaps.

11. Update on the Development of the Water Year 2026 Annual Report

Mani provided an overview on this item and stated that the data requested should be provided by the GSAs in the templates available in the Egnyte folders by November 13, 2026. Member Scheuber asked if there is a delay in getting data from the GSAs how that may impact the annual report schedule and Mani stated that it will cause more budget to be used but is planning to keep GSAs on schedule and plans to provide the GSAs a draft annual report by the end of February. Taylor Blakslee (Hallmark Group) stated that the Hallmark team will continue to report on the status of the data received by GSAs at each DM JPA Board meeting.

12. Update on Pumping Reduction Plan (PRP) Implementation, Q3 Monitoring Event and Exceedance Reporting

Hailey Robatham (EKI) provided a summary of the PRP implementation and stated that Q3 groundwater level and water quality data was submitted to the data management system (DMS) by September 30. She added that the Q4 groundwater level monitoring event target is October, with data due to the DMS by **November 30.** Lastly, she stated that there were some Q3

exceedances but no PRP triggers, and Hallmark Group will work with EKI to get initial exceedance reports from the GSAs to present at the DM Subbasin JPA Board meeting in November. Member Scheuber stated that well 01-008 has demonstrated swings (2-4ft. differences) in groundwater level and water quality data within days and is not sure if the well behavior is representative of the area. He stated he can work with EKI offline to potentially identify a more representative well.

13. Program Management Report

Blakslee provided a summary of the action items completed since the last Northern DM Region Management Committee meeting. There were no additional questions from the Committee.

14. Next Steps

Liddy outlined the following next steps to the Committee:

- Staff develop cost estimates for FY 2028 budget components and present at next Committee meeting.
- Staff ensure all Northern DM GSA projects in the Egnyte folder are presented to the DM JPA Board. Work with City of Patterson if planned projects for Prop 4 funding.
- Distribute Stanislaus County workshop flyer to the DM Subbasin GSAs.
- GSAs upload the model calibration and annual report information using EKI templates in the Egnyte folders by **November 13, 2026**.
- GSAs upload well registration and metering forms, along with Well Registration and Metering Policies/ Resolutions via Egnyte by **November 30, 2026.**
- Hallmark Group report on the status of the data received by GSAs at each DM JPA Board meeting.
- GSAs conduct Q4 groundwater level monitoring in October, upload GWL data to DMS by **November 30, 2026**.
- Hallmark and EKI work to obtain initial exceedance reports from GSAs.
- Scheuber work with EKI regarding well 01-008.

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

Nothing to report.

16. Next Meeting(s):

The next meeting of the Northern DM Region Management Committee is scheduled for November 4, 2026, at 1 p.m. PST at Patterson City Council.

Member Lucchesi stated he will not be available to attend the November 4, 2026 meeting.

17. Adjournment

Member Lucchesi adjourned the meeting at 2:15 p.m.

Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee

Report on Financial Transactions as of November 5, 2026

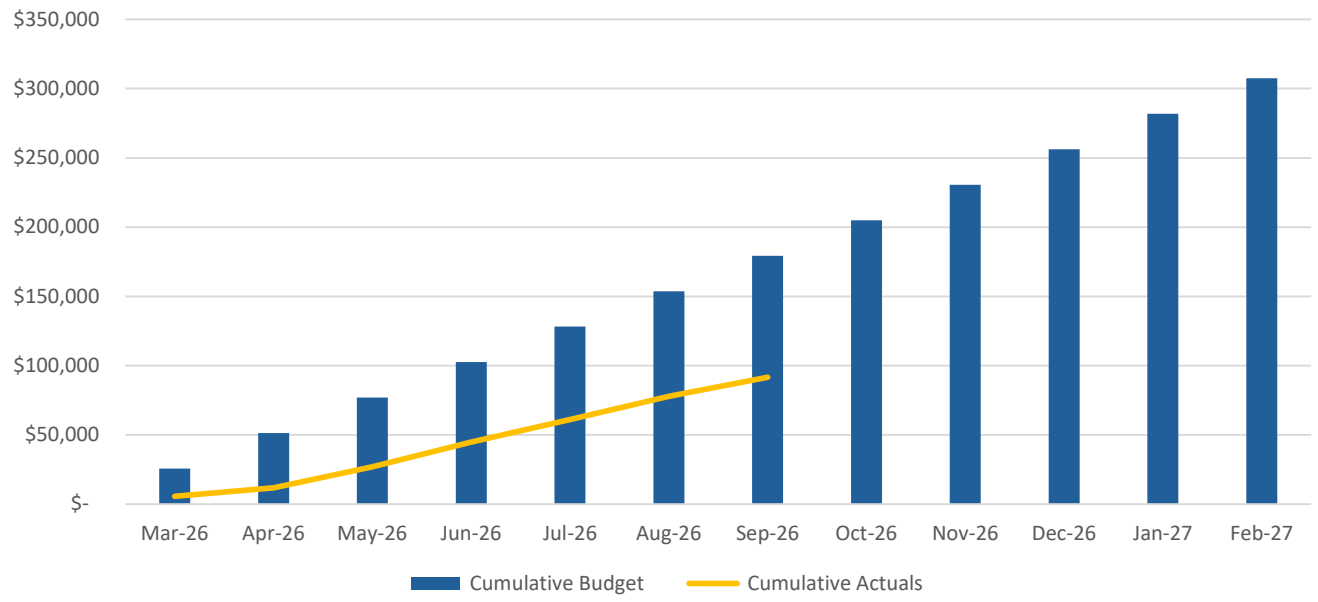
Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
Budget Variance Report
Fiscal Year-to-Date Through November 5, 2026

Operating Expenses	Actual	Budget	Variance
Legal Counsel	$ 9,675	$ 11,667	$ (1,992)
Program Manager/Executive Director	44,246	62,698	(18,452)
Technical Consultants	37,481	46,667	(9,186)
Annual Report	-	43,750	(43,750)
Insurance	205	-	205
Contingency	-	14,583	(14,583)
Total Operating Expenses	**$ 91,607**	**$ 179,365**	**$ (87,757)**

FY27 Operating Budget

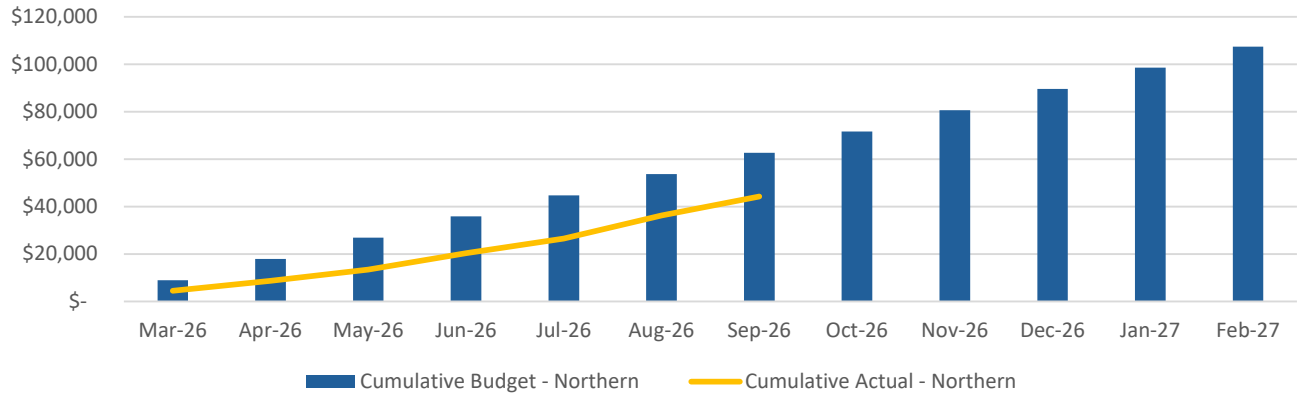
	FY27 Budget	FYTD Actual	Remaining Budget
Legal Counsel	$ 20,000	$ 9,675	$ 10,325
Program Manager/Executive Director	107,482	44,246	63,236
Technical Consultants	80,000	37,481	42,519
Annual Report	75,000	-	75,000
Insurance	-	205	(205)
Reserve Fund for GSP Update	100,000	100,000	-
Contingency	25,000	-	25,000
Subtotal	**$ 407,482**	**$ 191,607**	**$ 215,875**
Reserve Funds (Restricted Cash Deposits):			
Reserve Fund for GSP Update	100,000	100,000	-
Net Total	**$ 307,482**	**$ 91,607**	**$ 215,875**

Cumulative Budget-to-Actual

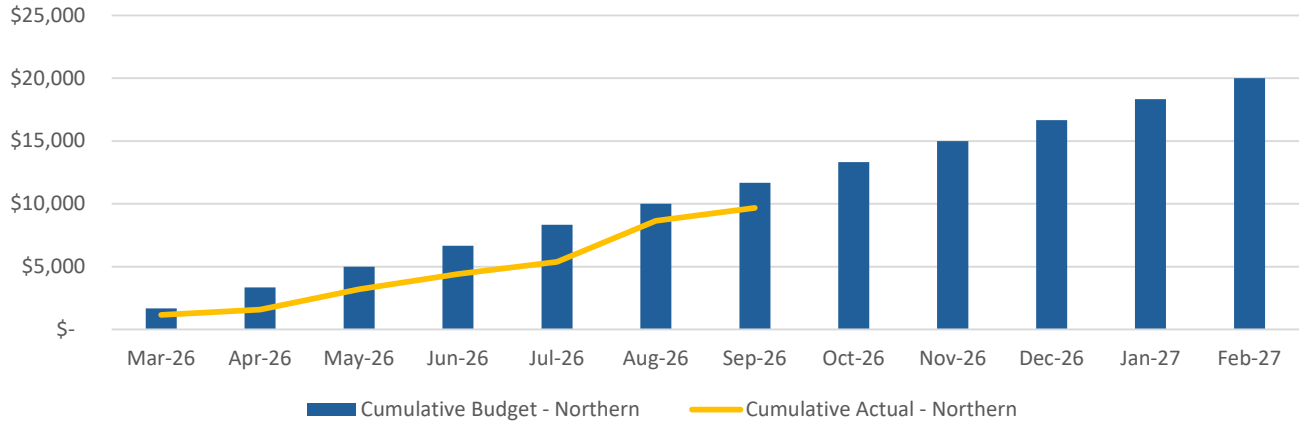


Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
Primary Contracts

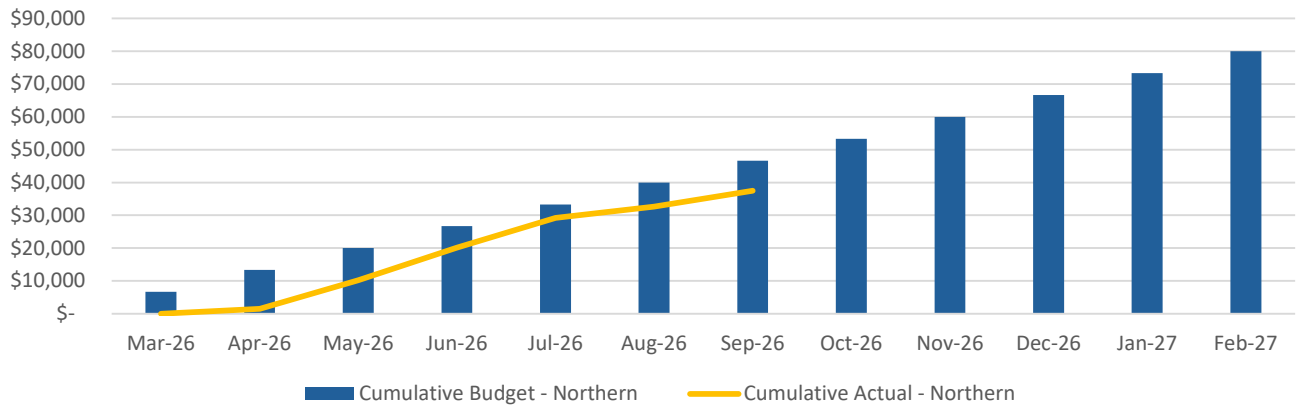
Hallmark Group
Cumulative Budget-to-Actual



Baker Manock & Jensen
Cumulative Budget-to-Actual



EKI Environment & Water
FYTD Budget-to-Actual



Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
Receipts and Disbursements - Checking Account
Fiscal Year-to-Date Through November 5, 2026

Transaction Date	Transaction Type	Name	Amount
04/14/26	Payment	Merced County	$ 3,056.12
04/14/26	Payment	West Stanislaus ID GSA	32,598.56
04/14/26	Payment	Patterson ID GSA	28,523.74
04/27/26	Payment	Stanislaus County	58,066.19
05/12/26	Transfer[1]	Transfer From JPA to Northern	76,606.62
05/29/26	Bill Payment	Baker Manock & Jensen	(1,575.00)
05/29/26	Bill Payment	EKI Environment & Water	(1,487.98)
05/29/26	Bill Payment	Hallmark Group	(8,689.06)
06/16/26	Payment	Oak Flat Water District	4,889.78
06/24/26	Transfer	Fund Northern GSP Update Reserve	(50,000.00)
06/30/26	Bill Payment	Baker Manock & Jensen	(1,627.50)
06/30/26	Bill Payment	EKI Environment & Water	(8,720.14)
06/30/26	Bill Payment	Hallmark Group	(4,809.92)
07/31/26	Bill Payment	Baker Manock & Jensen	(1,207.50)
07/31/26	Bill Payment	EKI Environment & Water	(9,911.20)
07/31/26	Bill Payment	Hallmark Group	(6,798.60)
08/31/26	Bill Payment	Baker Manock & Jensen	(967.50)
08/31/26	Bill Payment	EKI Environment & Water	(9,082.84)
08/31/26	Bill Payment	Hallmark Group	(6,195.99)
09/11/26	Payment[2]	West Stanislaus Irrigation District GSA	46,074.72
09/24/26	Payment[2]	Patterson irrigation District GSA	40,315.38
09/29/26	Payment[2]	Stanislaus County	82,070.60
09/29/26	Bill Payment	Baker Manock & Jensen	(3,262.50)
09/29/26	Bill Payment	EKI Environment & Water	(3,437.98)
09/29/26	Bill Payment	Hallmark Group	(9,801.14)
09/30/26	Transfer	Transfer From Northern to JPA	(93,147.21)
10/07/26	Payment[2]	Merced County	4,319.51
10/28/26	Bill Payment	Baker Manock & Jensen	(1,035.00)
10/28/26	Bill Payment	EKI Environment & Water	(4,840.94)
10/28/26	Bill Payment	Hallmark Group	(7,950.93)
10/28/26	Payment[2]	Del Puerto Water District	79,478.90
11/05/26	Transfer	Transfer From Northern to JPA	(46,334.77)
			$ 175,116.42

[1] *Member Agency payments received for JPA and Northern on a single check. Checks were deposited into the JPA checking account and the appropriate Northern funds were subsequently transferred to the Northern checking account.*

[2] *Member Agencies payments received for JPA and Northern on a single check. Checks were deposited into the Northern checking account and the appropriate JPA funds were subsequently transferred to the JPA checking account.*

As of November 5, 2026, the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee checking account balance at JPMorgan Chase Bank was $175,116.42. The Committee's GSP Update Reserve account balance was $50,001.75.

Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
Accounts Receivable
As of November 5, 2026

Agency	Invoice Total
City of Patterson GSA	$ 28,796.70
Oak Flat Water District	6,911.20
Total	**$ 35,707.90**

Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
Summary of Invoices Memo
As of November 5, 2026

The invoices below were reviewed and approved for payment by the Executive Director and were paid on October 28, 2026.

Vendor/Consultant	Billing Period	Invoice Total
Baker Manock & Jensen	Sep-26	$ 1,035.00
EKI Environment & Water	Sep-26	4,840.94
Hallmark Group	Sep-26	7,950.93
Total		**$ 13,826.87**

NORTHERN
DELTA-MENDOTA

TO: Northern DM Region Management Committee
Agenda Item No. 8

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Approval of a Scope of Work with EKI to Develop and Submit a DWR SGM Grant Concept Proposal

Recommendation

Direction to the Northern DM Representative to the DM JPA Board to approve the scope of work with EKI for an amount not to exceed $30,000 to develop and submit a concept proposal for the DWR SGM grant.

Discussion

The Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSAs JPA is considering applying for the upcoming California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Management grant.

A draft scope of work from EKI to prepare for, develop and submit a concept proposal for the DWR SGM grant is provided as **Attachment 1** and is for a not-to-exceed amount of $30,000. This scope also includes submitting a comment letter to DWR on the draft grant guidelines that were recently released.

The proposed project prioritization approach and grant concept proposal details is provided as **Attachment 2**.

Committee feedback needed:

Does the Committee direct the Northern DM representative to the DM JPA Board to approve EKI's scope of work to develop a concept proposal and related tasks for the DWR SGM grant?

27 October 2026

To: Taylor Blakslee
Delta-Mendota Subbasin Joint Powers Authority / Hallmark Group Capital Project Management
4900 California Avenue,
Tower B, 2nd Floor
Bakersfield, CA 93309

Subject: Task Order for Proposition 4 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Application Concept Proposal Support
(EKI C50346.07)

Dear Mr. Blakslee:

EKI Environment & Water, Inc. (EKI) is pleased to provide this proposal to provide grant application support services to the Delta-Mendota Subbasin (Basin) Joint Powers Authority (JPA, Client) for Proposition 4 (Prop 4) funding through the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program. Because final program guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) have not been released, the scope follows the Draft Guidelines released on 5 October 2026, and emphasizes activities that will remain useful as program details develop, including: organizing and prioritizing the JPA's project portfolio, developing reusable project concepts, and preparing the SGM Concept Proposal. Support for a Full Application, if DWR invites the JPA to submit one, will be scoped under a separate task order.

BACKGROUND

Under EKI's existing agreement with the JPA, EKI prepared a Project Form to solicit information on upcoming projects within the Basin that may be eligible for funding through the SGM Grant Program. EKI reviewed Tier 1 through 3 Projects and Management Actions (P/MAs) identified in the Basin's 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) and Water Year (WY) 2025 Annual Report to identify projects with potential grant eligibility and prepared a Project Form for each identified project. In August 2026, EKI distributed the Project Form to GSAs through the GSAs' shared Egnyte folders to solicit additional projects not identified as Tier 1 through 3 P/MAs that GSAs are actively pursuing. GSAs were requested to submit completed forms by 30 September 2026, and several GSAs submitted projects for consideration prior to the deadline.

The proposed Scope of Work outlined below will build on these efforts to identify and prioritize Basin-wide and GSA-led projects for inclusion in the SGM Concept Proposal, prepare project concept summaries, and complete and support submitting the SGM Concept Proposal to DWR.

SCOPE OF WORK

Task 1 - Grant Program Monitoring and Coordination

EKI will monitor DWR's development of the SGM Grant Program and provide grant-specific coordination needed to keep the JPA informed and ready to act. Services performed under Task 1 will include, but are not limited to:

- Review released Draft and Final guidelines, PSPs, schedules, frequently asked questions, and related DWR program materials.
- Attend up to two (2) DWR workshops or webinars and summarize material requirements, changes, decisions, and near-term JPA actions.
- Prepare and submit a comment letter to DWR by the 4 December 2026 public comment deadline, summarizing key concerns and considerations relevant to the Basin.
- Maintain a grant action schedule identifying anticipated program milestones, required JPA decisions, information needs, and responsible parties.

Task 1 Deliverables

- Brief written guidance and workshop summaries and/or presentation materials, as warranted by program developments.
- Meeting and presentation material.
- Comment letter on the Draft Guidelines.

Task 1 Key Assumptions

- EKI will present meeting materials and presentations prepared under Task 1 as agenda items at regularly scheduled JPA Board meetings, as needed.
- The comment letter will be submitted to DWR via email by the 4 December 2026 deadline for public comment.
- All meetings under this proposal are held remotely unless otherwise noted.

Task 2 - Basin-wide Project Identification, Prioritization, and Concept Development

EKI will build on the information in the 2024 GSP, WY 2025 Annual Report, and completed Project Forms shared by GSAs via their shared Egnyte folders to develop a project portfolio of the top priority projects within the Basin for consideration of inclusion in the SGM Concept Proposal. Based on the Draft Guidelines released by DWR, it is understood that there is a one-application-per-basin requirement for SGM Concept Proposal and Full Application submittal. As such, the portfolio will include both Basin-wide and GSA-led projects for consideration by the JPA.

Under Task 2, EKI will identify high-priority Basin-wide projects to address data gaps identified in the 2024 GSP, such as expanding existing monitoring networks to improve spatial coverage, updating the Basin's hydrogeologic conceptual model, calibration of the Basin's numerical groundwater flow model, conducting special studies, and filling gaps in well construction information for wells in the Basin's existing monitoring networks. Services performed under Task 2 will include:

- Review Section 16.1.3 (Data-Gap Filling Efforts) of the 2024 GSP and other applicable sections to identify up to five (5) Basin-wide projects for consideration of inclusion in the SGM Concept Proposal.
- Complete Project Forms for the five (5) identified top priority Basin-wide projects.
- Conduct up to two (2) one-hour remote working sessions with a technical ad-hoc committee to obtain feedback and confirm any missing project-specific information for Basin-wide projects.

- Present a summary of the proposed Basin-wide projects (up to five [5]) at a regular JPA Board meeting to obtain feedback and identify final Basin-wide projects for inclusion in the SGM Concept Proposal.
- Following JPA confirmation of Basin-wide projects for inclusion in the SGM Concept Proposal, prepare concise, reusable project concept summaries for up to five (5) prioritized Basin-wide projects. Number of projects can be increased or decreased based on mutual agreement between the JPA and EKI.

Task 2 Deliverables

- Up to five (5) standardized Basin-wide project concept summaries suitable for adaptation to the applicable grant program forms.

Task 2 Key Assumptions

- The JPA and GSAs will assist, as needed, in providing existing project descriptions, cost information, schedules, benefit estimates, maps, and supporting materials in a timely manner.
- EKI will compile, evaluate, and improve existing information but will not prepare new feasibility studies, designs, engineering cost estimates, modeling, environmental documentation, or other technical studies under this task.

Task 3 - GSA-led Project Portfolio Screening, Prioritization, and Concept Development

As noted above, EKI prepared Project Forms for existing Tier 1 through 3 P/MAs that may be eligible for SGM funding. GSAs also completed and submitted Project Forms for existing P/MAs and additional projects for consideration. Under Task 3, EKI will identify and prioritize GSA-led projects for consideration in the SGM Concept Proposal, in addition to the Basin-wide projects identified under Task 2. Services performed under Task 3 will include:

- Coordinate with GSAs to confirm their interest in pursuing SGM funding for P/MAs identified by EKI but not submitted by GSAs through a completed Project Form.
- Review completed Project Forms submitted by GSAs to assess project eligibility for SGM funding.
- Screen candidate GSA-led projects against available and, when released, final eligibility and ranking criteria, including GSP nexus, applicant and partner eligibility, readiness, cost and schedule, permitting status, water source and quantifiable benefits, regional benefits, and benefits to disadvantaged communities and vulnerable populations.
- Present the ranked GSA-led projects to a technical ad-hoc committee to identify up to three (3) GSA-led projects for inclusion in the SGM Concept Proposal (single one-hour ad-hoc meeting).
- Recommend project priorities, the most appropriate primary funding track, and potential project packaging; identify overlapping opportunities while avoiding duplicate funding or duplicate-benefit claims.
- Conduct up to three (3) thirty-minute remote working sessions with lead GSAs to resolve priority data and information gaps.
- Prepare concise, reusable project concept summaries for up to three (3) prioritized GSA-led projects. Number of projects can be increased or decreased based on mutual agreement between the JPA and EKI.

Task 3 Deliverables

- GSA-led project screening and prioritization matrix.
- Up to three (3) standardized GSA-led project concept summaries suitable for adaptation to the applicable grant program forms.

Task 3 Key Assumptions

- The JPA and GSAs will provide existing project descriptions, cost information, schedules, benefit estimates, maps, and supporting materials in a timely manner.
- EKI will compile, evaluate, and improve existing information but will not prepare new feasibility studies, designs, engineering cost estimates, modeling, environmental documentation, or other technical studies under this task.

Task 4 - SGM Concept Proposal Preparation

Following release of the applicable SGM PSP, EKI will support the JPA in preparing one (1) SGM Concept Proposal. The proposal is assumed to include a prioritized bundle of up to five (5) Basin-wide and three (3) GSA-led projects. Services performed under Task 4 will include:

- Confirm the proposed lead applicant, project bundle, requested funding amount, and application strategy with the JPA after review of the final PSP.
- Develop the proposal narrative and assemble a consolidated grant budget, schedule, benefit summary, and supporting-document checklist using information provided by the JPA and GSAs.
- Prepare one template draft letter of support.
- Prepare draft resolution to be adopted by the applicant's governing body designating an authorized representative to submit the application and execute an agreement with the State of California for the SGM grant application.
- Assist the JPA with the self-certification forms, as needed.
- Prepare for and attend up to two (2) one-hour remote proposal working meetings with the JPA staff and/or the designated lead applicant.
- Provide an administrative draft for JPA review, incorporate one (1) consolidated set of comments, and coordinate with the designated lead applicant on submission-ready files and submittal logistics.

Task 4 Deliverables

- Administrative Draft and Final SGM Concept Proposal package, including the narrative, consolidated budget and schedule, benefit summary, and supporting-document checklist required by the released PSP.

Task 4 Key Assumptions

- The scope assumes one (1) SGM Concept Proposal on behalf of the JPA, consistent with DWR's one-application-per-basin requirement. More than eight (8) total projects or additional review cycles will require a task order amendment. The number of project concept summaries may be adjusted by mutual agreement, subject to the authorized budget.

- The designated lead applicant will complete applicant certifications and formally submit the proposal; EKI will provide submission support but will not execute certifications on the applicant's behalf.

Overall Assumptions and Exclusions

- This scope is based on program information available as of the date of this Task Order. Final eligibility, scoring, application limits, required forms, and solicitation schedules may differ from current expectations.
- Work is limited to the Proposition 4 SGM Program. Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program and Watershed Resilience Program application preparation is excluded, except for coordination needed to avoid conflicting or duplicative funding requests.
- Preparation of the SGM Full Application is excluded from this Task Order. If DWR invites the JPA to submit a Full Application, EKI will provide a separate task order for that work.
- The JPA will designate decision-makers and a lead applicant, establish needed agreements for administering projects from different member agencies and entities, provide timely access to existing information, and provide one consolidated set of comments for each deliverable.
- Unless otherwise authorized, meetings will be remote. Public outreach, landowner engagement, legal review, negotiation of interagency or cost-sharing agreements, new technical studies, design, California Environmental Quality Act or National Environmental Policy Act documentation, and post-award services are excluded.

SCHEDULE

EKI will initiate performance immediately upon receipt of written authorization to proceed. The Task Order will follow the existing contract term and will remain in effect through 28 February 2027, or until the $30,000 authorized budget is expended, whichever occurs first. Work will be sequenced to respond to DWR deadlines as follows:

- Tasks 1, 2, and 3 will begin upon authorization. EKI will target completion of the initial screening and prioritization deliverables within eight (8) weeks, subject to timely receipt of the JPA and GSA information.
- Task 4 will follow the SGM solicitation schedule (Concept Proposals anticipated to open in early 2027).

For JPA budgeting purposes, this authorization covers services and deliverables through 28 February 2027, the end of the JPA's current fiscal year. Any services or deliverables required after that date, including work resulting from a delayed solicitation, will require separate written authorization from the Client, even if funds remain under the $30,000 not-to-exceed amount.

COMPENSATION

Inasmuch as the exact level of effort cannot be known before final grant guidelines and PSPs are released, EKI proposes to perform the work on a time-and-materials expense-reimbursement basis in accordance with the Schedule of Charges applicable under the existing agreement. The total compensation for this Task Order will not exceed $30,000 without additional written authorization. The planning allocation by task is provided in **Table 1**. EKI's standard Schedule of Charges is provided in **Attachment A**. EKI's rates

will be adjusted at the beginning of 2027 in accordance with its annual rate adjustment within the authorized Task Order budget.

Table 1. Budget

Task	Estimated Cost
Task 1 - Grant Program Monitoring and Coordination	$3,000
Task 2 - Basin-wide Project Identification, Prioritization, and Concept Development	$8,400
Task 3 - GSA-led Project Portfolio Screening, Prioritization, and Concept Development	$3,200
Task 4 - SGM Concept Proposal Preparation	$15,400
TOTAL	**$30,000**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

All work performed by EKI under this proposal will be pursuant to the Terms and Conditions of our existing Agreement with the JPA, executed on 24 February 2026. A separate agreement will be needed if a member agency is designated by the JPA to pursue the grant.

If you approve of this Agreement, please sign where noted below and return a fully executed copy to our office to confirm your authorization to proceed. We look forward to working with you on this project. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Very truly yours,

EKI Environment & Water, Inc.

Anona L. Dutton, PG, CHg
Chief Executive Officer

AUTHORIZATION
Delta-Mendota Subbasin Joint Powers Authority

By_____

Title_____

Date_____

Attachments

Attachment A – EKI 2026 Schedule of Charges

ATTACHMENT A

EKI 2026 Schedule of Charges

Proposal/Agreement Date: Oct 27, 2026 **EKI Proposal/Project # C50346.07**

SCHEDULE OF CHARGES FOR EKI ENVIRONMENT & WATER, INC. **1 January 2026**

Personnel Classification	Hourly Rate (2026)	Hourly Rate (2027 estimate)
Officer and Chief Engineer-Scientist	366	377
Principal Engineer-Scientist	353	364
Supervising I, Engineer-Scientist	343	353
Supervising II, Engineer-Scientist	329	339
Senior I, Engineer-Scientist	315	324
Senior II, Engineer-Scientist	304	313
Associate I, Engineer-Scientist	291	300
Associate II, Engineer-Scientist	275	283
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 1	255	263
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 2	241	248
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 3	221	228
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 4	199	205
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 5	175	180
Engineer-Scientist, Grade 6	152	157
Project Assistant	143	147
Technician	137	141
Senior GIS / Database Analyst	180	185
CADD Operator / GIS Analyst	157	162
Senior Administrative Assistant	172	177
Administrative Assistant	136	140
Secretary	114	117

Direct Expenses

Reimbursement for direct expenses, as listed below, incurred in connection with the work will be at cost plus fifteen percent (15%) for items such as:

a. Maps, photographs, reproductions, printing, equipment rental, and special supplies related to the work.

b. Consultants, soils engineers, surveyors, drillers, laboratories, and contractors.

c. Rented vehicles, local public transportation and taxis, travel, and subsistence.

d. Special fees, insurance, permits, and licenses applicable to the work.

e. Outside computer processing, computation, and proprietary programs purchased for the work.

A Communication charge for e-mail access, web conferencing, cellphone calls, messaging and data access, file sharing, local and long distance telephone calls and conferences, facsimile transmittals, standard delivery U.S. postage, and incidental in-house copying will be charged at a rate of 4% of labor charges. Large volume copying of project documents, e.g., bound reports for distribution or project-specific reference files, will be charged as a project expense as described above.

Reimbursement for use of personal vehicles will be at the federally allowed rate plus fifteen percent (15%). Reimbursement for company-owned vehicles used in connection with the work will be at the federally allowed rate. There will be an additional charge of thirty dollars ($30.00) per day for company-owned vehicles used for field work.

CADD and other specialized software computer time will be charged at twenty dollars ($20.00) per hour. In-house material and equipment charges will be in accordance with the current rate schedule or special quotation. Excise taxes, if any, will be added as a direct expense.

Rate for professional staff for legal proceedings or as expert witnesses will be at a rate of one and one-half times the Hourly Rates specified above.

The foregoing Schedule of Charges is incorporated into the Agreement for the Services of EKI Environment & Water, Inc. and may be updated annually.

For discussion purposes only

REMINDER OF UPCOMING GRANT OPPORTUNITIES

Dam Safety & Climate Resilience Local Assistance (DSCR)

Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM)

Water Desalination Grant Program

Watershed Resilience Program (WRP)

Multibenefit Land Repurposing Program (MLRP)

$3.5M Small Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs)*

$6.5M Underrepresented Community Technical Assistance (URCTA)**

- *Directed by Legislature*
- *Draft Guidelines available; Final expected Oct 2026*

Full Program (>$300M)

- **Storage and Banking): $193.125M**
- **Conjunctive Use and Recharge: $193.125M**

- *Draft Guidelines & PSP released October 2026; Final expected Feb 2027*

**Small GSA: average annual pumping <10,000 acre-feet (basin-level).*
***Underrepresented community: includes DAC, SDAC, Vulnerable Populations, Tribes, & more*

eki

SGM – CONCEPT PROPOSAL & TIMELINE

Step 1 – Concept Proposal

- Submitted via webpage (link to be provided in final Proposal Solicitation Package [PSP])
- Applicant Info: Organization, point of contact, proposal name, total request
- For each project:
  - Name, Local Project Sponsor, grant request
  - Description (≤ ½ page)
  - Quantified benefit toward GSP goals (e.g., AFY recharged)
  - Progress to date (design, site control, CEQA, permits)
  - Completion date and collaborative group
- Attachment 1: Governing body authorization, GSA letter(s) of support, eligibility self-certification

Step 2 – Full Application

- By invitation only; submitted in GRanTS (PSP "P4SGM")

Program Timeline	
Draft Amended Guidelines & PSP	Oct 2026
Public Comment Workshop	Nov 5, 2026
Tribal Public Comment Workshop	Nov 17, 2026
Final Guidelines & PSP	Feb 2027
Concept Proposals Open	Early 2027
Full Applications	Summer 2027
Review Period	TBD
Award Announcement / Execution	TBD

DWR reviews each concept for eligibility and program fit, then invites a full proposal, asks for revisions, or declines (and may refer to other programs).

SGM DRAFT GUIDELINES REVIEW

- Per the 2026 SGM Grant Proposal PSP, "only one application will be accepted per basin."
  - Proposals may be made up of multiple projects, including basin-wide projects and projects from individual GSAs.
  - The total maximum request is $15M/proposal.
- Questions to clarify with DWR:
  - Confirm eligibility for Basin given DWR process;
  - Clarify whether all projects included in the Basin's application must fall under the same funding category (i.e., Storage and Banking or Conjunctive Use and Recharge); and
  - During the previous workshop, DWR indicated that only existing P/MAs were eligible for SGM funding. However, this restriction is not explicitly stated in the draft guidelines or PSP.
    - Clarify whether projects that are not explicitly defined as P/MAs but support the GSP's goals are eligible for funding.

SGM CONCEPT PROPOSAL SUPPORT

- EKI Task Order for support in preparing and submitting the Basin's SGM Concept Proposal has been prepared and is included in your packet.
- Scope:
  - Attend DWR SGM General Workshop on 5 November 2026 to clarify eligibility and strengthen positioning
  - Prepare and submit a comment letter to DWR, if needed, identifying main questions and concerns regarding the SGM Draft Guidelines
  - Identify Basin-wide projects based on identified data gaps in the GSP for inclusion in the Concept Proposal (see next slide)
  - Work with JPA and tech ad-hoc to screen / rank / identify GSA-led projects for inclusion in the Concept Proposal
  - Preparation of and assistance in submittal of the Concept Proposal

BASIN-WIDE PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

- As Task 2 of the scope, EKI will review the GSP to identify up to five potential projects to fill existing data gaps, such as:
  - Expanding the Basin's existing monitoring networks to improve spatial coverage;
  - Updating the Basin's hydrogeologic conceptual model;
  - Calibration of the Basin's numerical groundwater flow model;
  - Conducting special studies (ex. Subsidence and ISW); and
  - Filling gaps in well construction information for existing RMWs.
- Under Task 2, EKI will complete Project Forms for the identified Basin-wide projects and present identified projects to the JPA for approval of inclusion in the Concept Proposal.

GSA-LED PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

- GSAs were asked to identify potential grant candidate projects by completing and uploading a Project Form to their shared GSA Egnyte folder by 30 September 2026.
- In addition to the projects identified by GSAs, EKI reviewed projects identified as P/MAs in the GSP and WY 2025 Annual Report (AR) to compile additional potential candidates.
- Project Candidate Review Considerations:
  - Reviewed Tier 1, 2, and 3 P/MAs*;
  - Reviewed projects that were not completed or anticipated to be completed in 2026 (based on information in the WY 2025 AR);
  - Identified projects that potentially meet the criteria for at least one of the three upcoming grant opportunities; and
  - Reviewed projects submitted by GSAs through completed Project Forms in the shared GSA folders.

**The GSP defines four tiers of P/MAs. Tier 4 P/MAs are conceptual projects that will be implemented after 2040 or on an as-needed basis to meet sustainability after Tier 1, 2, and 3 P/MAs have been implemented..*

IDENTIFIED GSA-LED PROJECTS IN NDM

Project Name	Existing P/MA?[1]	GSA	EKI Identified[2]	GSA Identified[3]
City of Patterson Percolation Ponds for Stormwater Capture and Recharge	Yes (NDM-10)	City of Patterson	Yes	No
City of Patterson Groundwater Quality Improvement and Chromium-6 Treatment Project	No	City of Patterson	No	Yes
North Valley Regional Recycled Water Program (NVRRWP) Expansion	Yes (GWD-4 / NDM-3)	DM-II	Yes	Yes
Del Puerto Canyon Reservoir Project	Yes (NDM-11)	DM-II, SJREC	Yes	Yes
Little Salado Creek Groundwater Recharge and Flood Control Basin	Yes (NDM-9)	NDM (Stanislaus County)	Yes	No
PID Groundwater Bank (Northside Groundwater Bank)	Yes (NDM-7)	PID	Yes	Yes
WSID Lateral 4 - South Recapture and Recirculation Reservoir	Yes (NDM-6)	WSID	Yes	Yes

Notes
1. The P/MA ID for existing P/MAs corresponds to the P/MA ID in the WY 2025 AR
2. Indicates projects identified by EKI as potential candidates for grant opportunities based on existing P/MAs in the 2024 GSP and WY 2025 AR
3. Indicates projects identified by the GSAs as potential candidates for grant opportunities either based on completion of the Project Form or verbally

NORTHERN
DELTA-MENDOTA

TO: Northern DM Region Management Committee
Agenda Item No. 9

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Direction on a Draft Fiscal Year 2028 Budget for the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee

Recommendation

Provide direction on the Fiscal Year 2028 budget for the Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee.

Discussion

On October 7, 2026, staff presented the draft Fiscal Year 2028 (March 1, 2027 – February 28, 2028) budget components for Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee (Northern DM Committee) review and received Committee feedback. Staff developed cost estimates for the draft budget, which are provided as **Attachment 1**.

One significant omission from the draft budget is the Northern DM's share of the Subbasin JPA costs. The basin costs are still being developed, and once approved by the DM Subbasin GSA JPA Board, they will be updated in the Northern DM budget.

Therefore, the presented draft budget represents the costs that the Northern DM budget directly develops and is provided for the following Committee action/direction:

Committee direction options:

1. Approve FY 2028 Northern DM budget as drafted and the subbasin costs will be added once approved by JPA Board (Northern's share).
2. Provided initial feedback on draft budget but defer budget approval until subbasin costs included.

Attachment 1

Northern DM Committee

DRAFT Fiscal Year 2027-2028 Budget

March 1, 2027 - February 28, 2028

	Budget Item	Approved 2/09/2026 FY 26-27 Budget	FY 26-27 Est. Actual	FY 27-28	%	Notes
	Operational Budget					
1	Cost Share of DM Subbasin JPA FY 2028 Budget (1/7th)			*To be updated when available*		1/7th cost share was maintained separately from the Northern DM budget for FY 2027, includes model cal. Committee approved including this item on 10/7/2026.
2	Legal Counsel (Baker Manock & Jensen)	$ 20,000	$ 14,811	$ 22,000	10%	General Counsel services; remote attendance at committee meetings; litigation coordination
3	Program Manager/Executive Director (Hallmark Group)	$ 107,482	$ 62,220	$ 80,000	-26%	Monthly Meetings, DMS upload, Financial reporting.
4	Technical Consultant (EKI)	$ 80,000	$ 55,954	$ 80,000	0%	Meeting support, PRP Implementation, DMS Support, P/MA and well mitigation program support, SMC and RMN support, ISW and data gap evaluations to address comment letters, Project management
5	Annual Report - Data Coordination	$ 75,000	$ -	$ -	-100%	Committee direction to remove this item on 8/5/2026, covered in DM JPA costs. Approved to remove by Committee on 10/7/2026.
6	Administrative Expenses			$ 7,000		Northern share of insurance/audit fees/bank fees, etc.
7	Contingency	$ 25,000	$ -	$ -	-100%	
	Total Operational Budget	**$ 307,482**		**$ 189,000**	-39%	
	Reserve Funds (Restricted)					
8	Reserved Funds for GSP Update	$ 100,000	$ -	$ 100,000	0%	
9	Operational Reserve (20% operational budget)	-	-	$ 37,800		20% operational reserve policy adopted from Committee on 9/2/2026. Approved by Committee on 10/7/2026. Reserve policy at DM JPA level already cost split.
	Total	**$ 407,482**	**$ 132,986**	**$ 326,800**	-20%	

NORTHERN
DELTA-MENDOTA

TO: Northern DM Region Management Committee
Agenda Item No. 10

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Direction on Fiscal Year 2028 Budget Components for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSAs Joint Powers Authority

Recommendation

Provide direction to the Northern DM representative to the DM JPA Board on the Fiscal Year 2028 budget component.

Discussion

The draft Fiscal Year 2028 (March 1, 2027 – February 28, 2028) budget component list for the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies JPA is provided as **Attachment 1** for Committee review and consideration of approval.

Once the Committee and DM JPA Board provide feedback on the budget components, staff will price items out and bring back a draft budget for consideration of approval at a subsequent Committee meeting.

Board feedback needed:

1. Should any budget components be added or removed before staff prices items out?

Delta-Mendota Subbasin GSAs Joint Powers Authority

DRAFT Fiscal Year 2027-2028 Budget Components

March 1, 2027 - February 28, 2028

Green text represents potential new budget categories for FY 2028

	FISCAL YEAR 2028	Assumptions/Notes:
	ADMINISTRATIVE	
1	Legal Counsel - Baker Manock & Jensen	Budget for potential litigation?
2	Grant Development*	Budget for 1-2 grants each year? *May be cost-shared by Special Activities Agreement.
3	Grant Admin*	*Likely funded by Special Activities Agreement
4	Grant Project Implementation	Only if JPA manages grant project (basin-wide item, etc.) and costs required up-front.
5	Program Manager/Executive Director (Hallmark Group)	Public meeting faciliation, inter-basin coordination, outreach support, consultant mgmt./contracting, financial reporting, audit coordination, website updates, POC/DWR coordination, DMS quarterly upload support and semiannual DWR upload support, domestic well mitigation support.
6	Outreach Activities	Budget for outreach outside of Stantec? Mailers, etc.?
7	Insurance (D&O)	
8	Audit	Cost share with Northern.
9	Website/Email Hosting	
10	Membership Contributions	Participation in regional funding requests.
	TECHNICAL	
	Technical Support Services (EKI)	
12	Annual Report and Model Extension	Including model extension, SMC review, monitoring network evaluation.
13	Model Calibration	
14	Meeting Support	
15	PRP Implementation and Monitoring Network Support	Dashboard and DMS support, SMC review/evaluation, confirm GSA data support needs.
16	Response to DWR Corrective Actions	
17	Actions, Technical Studies and Response to Stakeholder Comments on GSP	Coordination/meetings with CASP, DM Pool, etc., FWA
18	ISW Approach Development	Pending DWR BMP.
19	GSP Implementation	Regulatory support, P/MA and Domestic Well mitigation support
20	Interbasin Coordination	Outreach with neighboring basins, reivew of annual reports/periodic evals, review DWR determinations
21	Data Management System Support (Houston)	
22	USBR Subsidence Benchmark Monitoring	Continue participation in regional cost share for benchmark surveys? 1-2 times per year?
	OTHER	
23	Domestic Well Mitigation Funds	Final year (3rd) of collection of $300,000.
	SUBTOTAL	
24	Operational Reserve	Pending JPA direction.
	TOTAL	

NORTHERN
DELTA-MENDOTA

TO: Northern DM Region Management Committee
Agenda Item No. 11

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Approve the 2027 Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee Meeting Calendar

Recommendation

Approve the 2027 Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee Meeting Calendar.

Discussion

The NDM Committee currently meets on the first Wednesday of each month. Staff has drafted a NDM Committee meeting calendar for 2027, maintaining that cadence. For any holiday conflicts, staff has recommended the next available Wednesday, which is denoted by a red outline in **Attachment 1** for Committee consideration of approval.

Attachment 1

Northern Delta-Mendota Region Management Committee
Meeting Calendar 2027

Northern DM Holiday

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	**6**	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	**3**	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	**3**	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	**7**	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	**5**	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	**2**	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	**7**	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

August

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	**4**	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	**6**	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	**3**	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

NORTHERN
DELTA-MENDOTA

TO: Northern DM Region Management Committee
Agenda Item No. 12

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Update on Model Phase 1 Schedule and Status of GSA Data Reporting

Recommendation
None; Information only.

Discussion
On June 8, 2026, the DM Subbasin JPA Board authorized the cost share allocation for EKI to perform a phased model calibration. During the July and August Committee and Board meetings, EKI requested well registration and pumping data from the GSAs to inform the model calibration effort.

On July 1, 2026, the NDM Committee approved EKI's information request to the NDM Committee to provide well registration, meter registration, and pumping data by **November 30, 2026.** In July, staff distributed the information request forms to submit information via the Egnyte platform.

In October 2026, EKI distributed a more detailed information request list to GSAs for the model and Annual Report development with a preferred deadline of November 13, 2026.

A summary of the information requested is provided as **Attachment 1** and is **due to the Egnyte shared folders by November 13, 2026.**

PROGRESS TO DATE

- Model tech ad-hoc met on 10/24; direction on Model platform, grid, and structure confirmed at JPA's October meeting
- Work completed (Phase 1, Task 1):
  - Model development pathway established
  - Model grid and resolution are set up and will be delivered to Tech Ad-Hoc for review
  - Model layering and lithology is established and undergoing final review; will be delivered to Tech Ad-Hoc for review
  - SW budget framework is established through a Technical Memorandum and will be delivered to Tech Ad-Hoc for review
  - RFI is progressing with short calls with GSAs/ Districts to optimize level of effort and data quality
  - Tech Ad-Hoc meeting will be set up after delivering materials for review, likely in early December and after ACWA

HIGH-LEVEL PHASE 1 SCHEDULE



Task	Deliverables
Task 1 - Technical Coordination, Data Review and Model Framework Refinement	• RFI • TM documenting model platform and framework • Ad-Hoc meeting materials
Task 2 - Hydrostratigraphic Framework, Well Inventory, Lithologic Interpretation, and Subsidence Representation	• Refined model packages • Refined Leapfrog • TM documenting analyses • Presentation of 1-D modeling results
Task 3 - Refinement of Land Surface Inputs and Water Budget Representation	• Quality-controlled transient inputs for WY 2003 - WY 2026 • Draft TM • Repeatable workflow for SW budgets
Task 4 - Historical Model Development, Verification, and Calibration Plan	• Update historical model • Presentation of results and diagnostics • Calibration plan

Final Deliverable: A constructed, verified MODFLOW 6 model and calibration plan, ready for Phase 2 by July 2027.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

- One RFI has been developed to request data needed for both the phased refinement of the model and the WY 2026 Annual Report (AR).
- The RFI identifies:
  - Requested data categories (e.g., surface water supplies and deliveries, pumping data, land use information, P/MA updates)
  - Data descriptions; and
  - Preferred file types.
- The RFI was shared with GSAs earlier this week.
  - Data provided in response to the RFI should be uploaded to each GSA's shared Egnyte folder ***by 13 November 2026.***
- Please communicate with us if a short call would be helpful to align efforts in responding to the RFI

DATA REQUEST

- Historical records for WY 2003–2026, monthly and at the finest resolution available

Existing models
Input/output files, documentation, and processing data

Hydrogeology
Logs for wells over 200 ft, cross sections, aquifer tests, hydraulic properties

Supply system layout
Shapefile of supply and use areas (parcels, districts, or GSAs)

Groundwater levels
Monthly local data with well depth, screen, location, and aquifer

Surface water
Source and use, delivery type, losses, drains, return flows, transfers

Pumping
By well and aquifer, tied to well registration, with estimation method

Recharge and banking
Source and recharge volumes, basin boundaries, recovery wells

Land use and ET
Crop maps, local ET, crop coefficients, irrigation efficiency

Subsidence
Benchmarks, CGPS, and extensometers with locations and records

Streamflow and stage
Local gauges not in USGS or CDEC, stream surveys, lining, dry reaches

Projects and actions
Project operations, demand reduction, and well mitigation updates

How to submit
Due 13 Nov 2026 via GSA Egnyte Folders; please use EKI templates; skip public data

RFI RESPONSE TRACKING

- As of 11/5, RFI response materials have not yet been received for the majority of the NDM GSAs.
- EKI is available to respond to any questions regarding the RFI request via email or would be happy to schedule a brief call to discuss further.

RFI Item	Northern DM GSA	West Stanislaus Irrigation District GSA	DM-II GSA	Patterson Irrigation District GSA	City of Patterson GSA
RFI Materials	Missing	Missing	Missing	Evaluating Response	Missing

* *Note that not all RFI items are expected to be applicable to every GSA.*

NORTHERN
DELTA-MENDOTA

TO: Northern DM Region Management Committee
Agenda Item No. 13

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Update on the Development of the Water Year 2026 Annual Report

Recommendation
None; Information only.

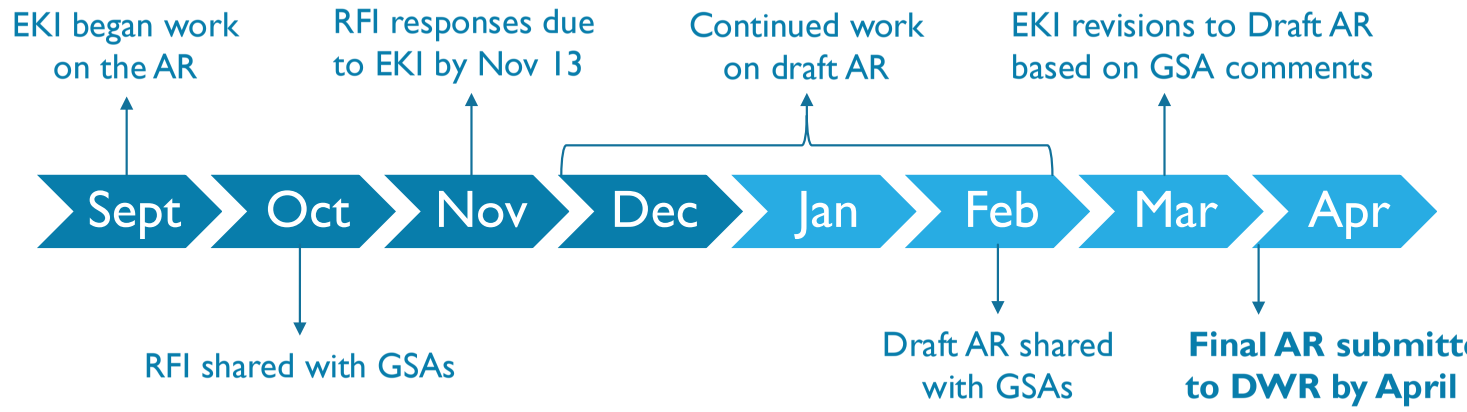
Discussion
Technical staff has begun the development of the Water Year 2026 Annual Report (covering October 1, 2025 - September 30, 2026), which is due to DWR by April 1, 2027.

EKI distributed a request for information to the Northern DM entities and is due November 13, 2026, and an update on the progress of the annual report is provided as **Attachment 1.**

Attachment 1

WY 2026 ANNUAL REPORT DEVELOPMENT

- Work has begun on the development of the WY 2026 AR, which is due to DWR **by 1 April 2027**.
  - An outline for the AR has been prepared, and general sections are currently being drafted.
  - Data provided in response to the RFI is due to EKI ***by 13 November 2026***.
  - A draft AR will be provided to the GSAs for review in February 2027, and a final AR will be prepared upon addressing comments and submitted to DWR prior to the deadline.



NORTHERN
DELTA-MENDOTA

TO: Northern DM Region Management Committee
Agenda Item No. 14

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Update on Pumping Reduction Plan (PRP) Implementation, Q4 Monitoring Event and Exceedance Reporting

Recommendation
None; information only.

Discussion
The target month for Q3 groundwater level and water quality sampling was August. An update on PRP Implementation, Q3 Monitoring Event and Exceedance Reporting is provided as **Attachment 1**, and groundwater level exceedance maps are provided as **Attachment 2**.

Fourth quarter groundwater level measurements for October are required to be uploaded to the Data Management System (DMS) by November 30, 2026.

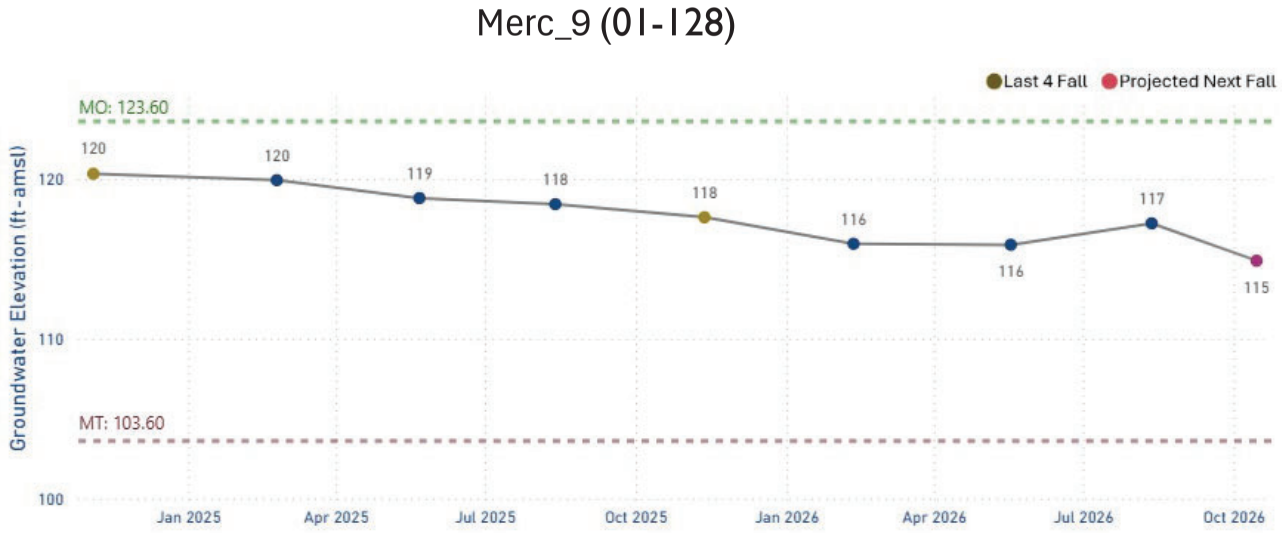
Attachment 1

PRP REMINDER #1: MONITORING & REPORTING

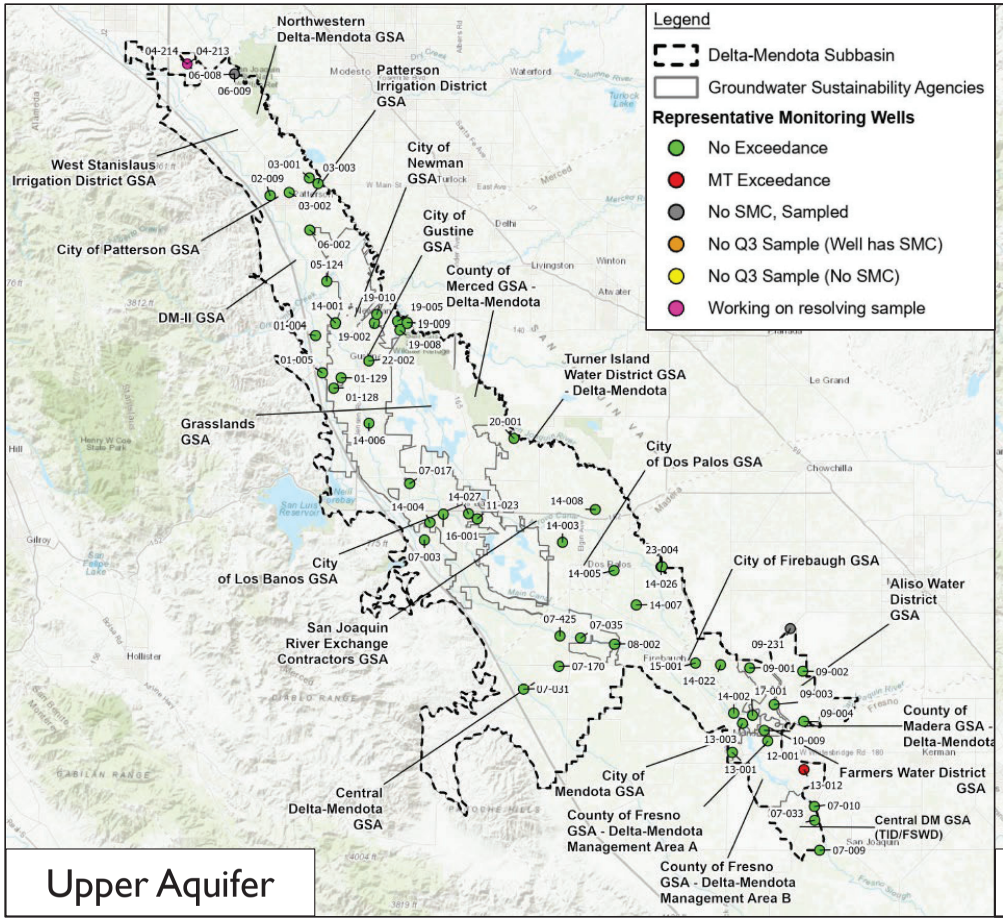
- Q4 WL sampling should have been completed **by October 31st**, with data QAQC and upload to the DMS **by November 30th**
- Continue with pending investigation or required actions:
  - Dashboard now sends automated notifications of exceedances and triggers. GSA will receive a notification regardless of the RMW status in previous quarters.
  - Submit your investigations to the PRP Dashboard within 60-day investigation period
  - Submit monthly pumping volumes (reduction) if pumping reduction is triggered and required; provide quarterly updates on other courses of action determined by investigation
  - Conduct required higher frequency monitoring for WQ Exceedance Mitigation based on Fall 2025 samples, unless investigation resulted in finding of no GSA cause

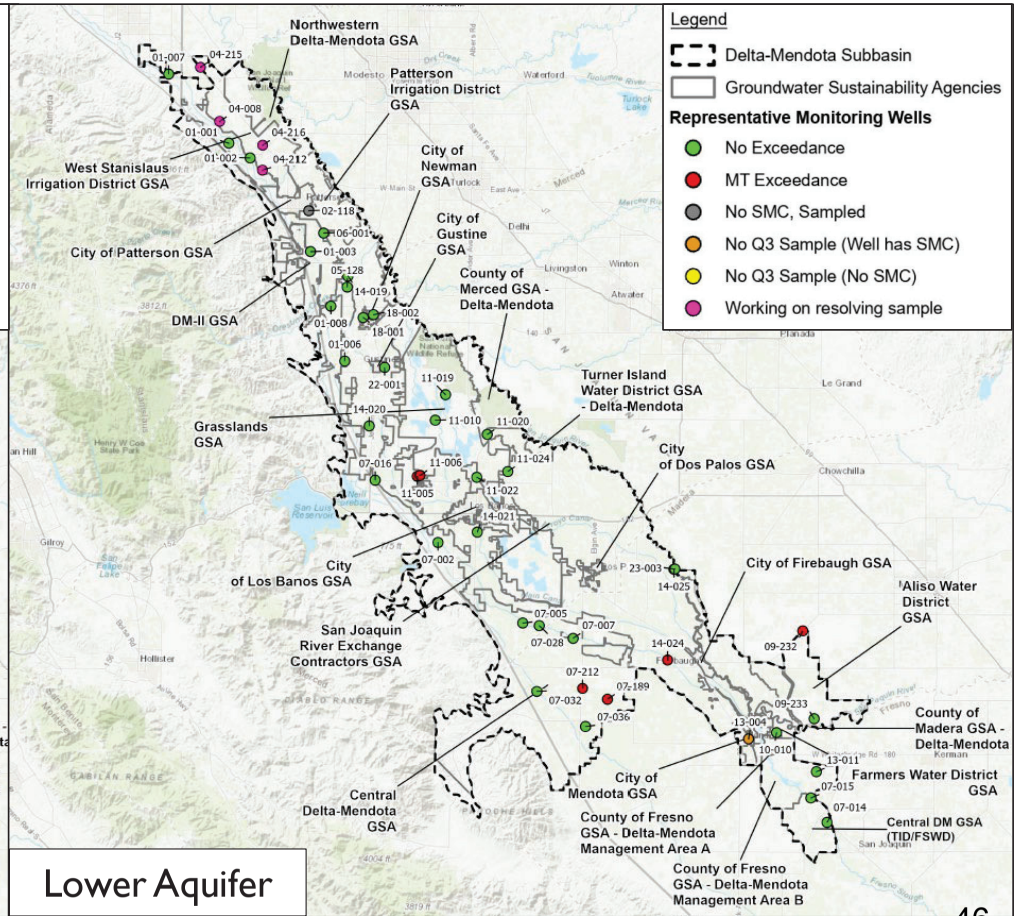
GWL EXCEEDANCES & TRIGGERS: 2026 Q3 (AUG)

- **No quarterly GWL exceedances occurred during Q3 2026.**
  - No watchlist wells were added in August, and NDM remains without a GWL watchlist.
  - WSID WL measurements have been collected, and the data will be uploaded to the DMS once resolved.
- Well 01-128 in DM-II GSA triggered investigation in spring.
  - Q3 2026 (August) measurement shows slight recovery in water levels since Q1 and Q2.
  - RMW lacks enough historical data to establish a Spring target and is triggered based on a declining trend and comparison with previous year's Spring measurement.



Q3 WL MT EXCEEDANCES





GWQ EXCEEDANCES & TRIGGERS: 2026 Q3 (AUG)

- No missing Q3 WQ samples in NDM!
- Q3 2026 sampling event showed two repeat nitrate exceedances, one new TDS exceedance, and two Cr6 exceedances (see next slides).
  - Per MOA, investigation and reporting of verified exceedances is needed within 60 days.
  - RMW-WQs with PRP investigation triggered require more frequent monitoring unless recommended otherwise.

GWQ EXCEEDANCES & TRIGGERS: 2026 Q3 (AUG)

- TDS

DMS ID	COC	Local Name	GSA	Aquifer	Watchlist Reason	Q3 Results
01-008	TDS	MP051.66L	DM-II GSA	Lower	Statistically significant increasing trend	Watchlist
01-128	TDS	Merc_9	DM-II GSA	Upper	Exceeded in Q3 but did not trigger PRP	MT Exceedance; Increased from Q1

- Nitrate

DMS ID	COC	Local Name	GSA	Aquifer	Watchlist Reason	Q3 Results
01-002	Nitrate	MP033.71L	DM-II GSA	Lower	Statistically significant increasing trend	Watchlist
01-004	Nitrate	MC10-2	DM-II GSA	Upper	Exceeded in Q3 but did not trigger PRP	MT Exceedance; Decreased from Q1
01-128	Nitrate	Merc_9	DM-II GSA	Upper	Exceeded in Q3 but did not trigger PRP	MT Exceedance; Increased from Q1
05-124	Nitrate	6S8E3405124U	Northwestern Delta-Mendota GSA	Upper	Exceeded in Q1	Watchlist

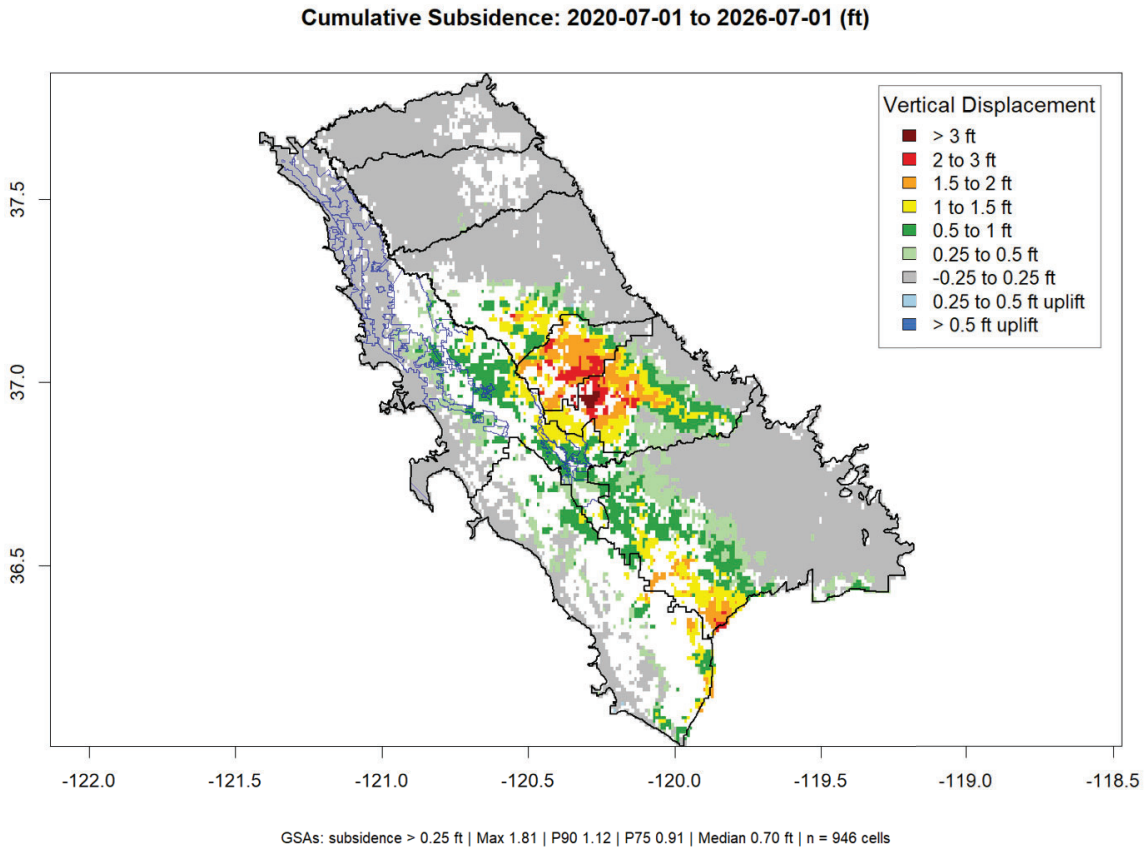
GWQ EXCEEDANCES & TRIGGERS: 2026 Q3 (AUG)

- Cr6

DMS ID	COC	Local Name	GSA	Aquifer	Watchlist Reason	Q3 Results
01-002	Cr6	MP033.71L	DM-II GSA	Lower	Statistically significant increasing trend	Watchlist
04-212	Cr6	ARRA 120	West Stanislaus Irrigation District GSA	Lower	Exceeded in Q3 but did not trigger PRP	MT Exceedance; Increased from Q1
05-124	Cr6	6S8E3405124U	Northwestern Delta-Mendota GSA	Upper	Exceeded in Q3 but did not trigger PRP	MT Exceedance; Increased from Q1

PRP REMINDER #2: SUBSIDENCE AVOIDANCE

- **Updates on actions taken by the GSAs were due to the Dashboard by August 31st**
  - **GSAs who did not upload actions should do so *as soon as possible***
- 2030 Subsidence IM = 1.5 ft since 2020
- 2040 Subsidence MT = 2 ft since 2020
- Maximum subsidence between Jan 2020-July 2026 within Delta-Mendota Subbasin = **1.81 ft**
- Remaining allowed subsidence from MT ~ 0.19 ft (22 months→ June 2028)



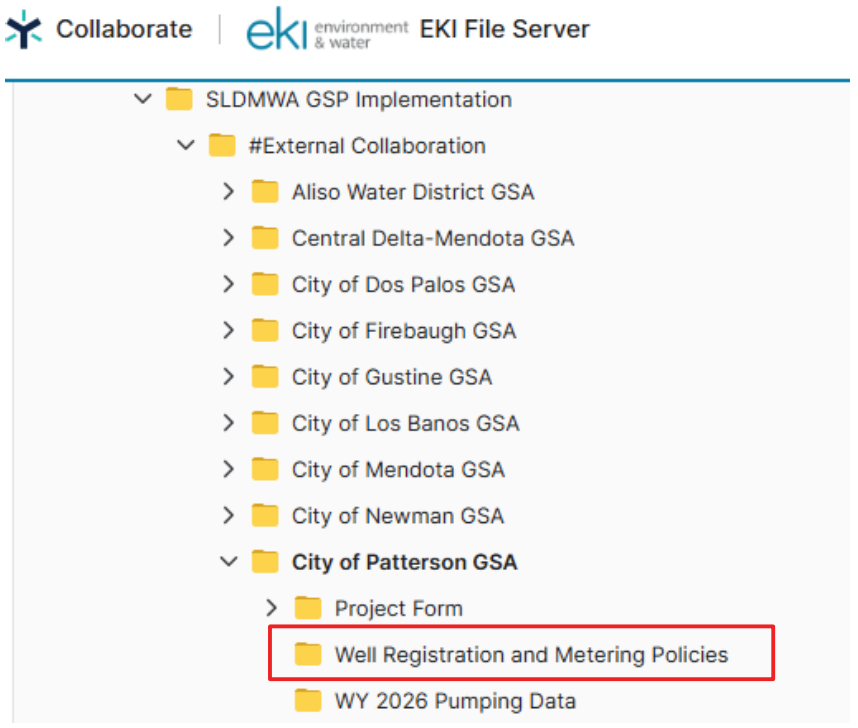
*May-July 2026 InSAR exhibits a greater number of spatial data gaps compared to preceding monthly datasets, which may result in an underestimation of subsidence across the Basin. EKI is still evaluating the refinements DWR made to InSAR in this latest batch and will update the GSAs accordingly.

PRP REMINDER #2: SUBSIDENCE AVOIDANCE



PRP REMINDER #3: WELL REGISTRATION AND OVERDRAFT REDUCTION

- **Component #1: Monitoring & Reporting**
  - Well registration and Well Metering deadline was January 2026
  - *Please upload your well registration and metering resolutions to your shared Egnyte folders.*
  - 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 → *Updates should be tracked by GSAs.*



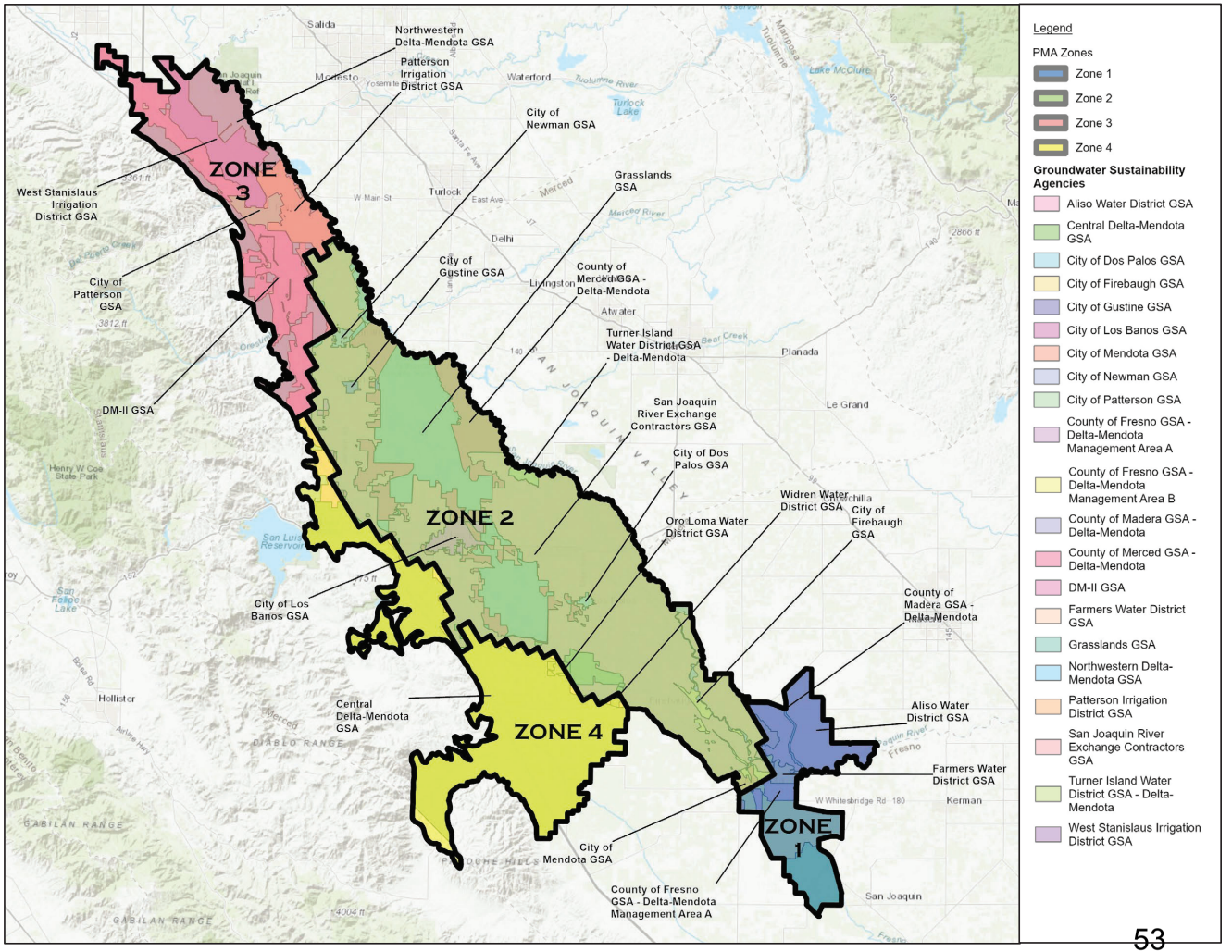
COMPONENT #2: OVERDRAFT REDUCTION

Required Reduction for Overdraft Mitigation by end of WY 2030

	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**

"Allowable" Pumping in WY 2026

	Upper Aquifer (AFY)	Lower Aquifer (AFY)
Zone 1	87,022	15,073
Zone 2	129,293	13,408
Zone 3	27,522	49,555
Zone 4	31,787	84,683
Basin	**275,624**	**162,720**



COMPONENT #2: OVERDRAFT REDUCTION

- Overdraft reduction planned based on projected implementation of effective P/MAs in the Basin.
- Additional pumping reduction after 2030, or a modification of annual reductions, may be required depending on Basin's progress towards its WL and Subsidence targets.

Required Reduction and Allowable Pumping Per Aquifer for Overdraft Mitigation by end of WY 2030

Year	Upper Aquifer		Lower Aquifer	
	Total Reduction (AFY)	Allowable Pumping(AFY)	Total Reduction (AFY)	Allowable Pumping(AFY)
Zone 1 (Aliso WD, Farmers WD, Fresno County, Tranquility ID)				
2026	560	87,022	577	15,073
2027	1,119	86,462	1,154	14,496
2028	1,679	85,902	1,732	13,919
2029	2,238	85,343	2,309	13,342
2030	2,798	84,783	2,886	12,764
Zone 2 (SJREC, Grasslands, Merced County)				
2026	924	129,293	628	13,408
2027	1,848	128,369	1,256	12,781
2028	2,771	127,445	1,883	12,153
2029	3,695	126,521	2,511	11,525
2030	4,619	125,597	3,139	10,897
Zone 3 (Northern DM)				
2026	161	27,522	1,805	49,555
2027	321	27,362	3,609	47,750
2028	482	27,201	5,414	45,946
2029	642	27,041	7,218	44,141
2030	803	26,880	9,023	42,336
Zone 4 (Central DM)				
2026	261	31,787	3,488	84,683
2027	521	31,527	6,976	81,195
2028	782	31,266	10,464	77,707
2029	1,042	31,006	13,952	74,219
2030	1,303	30,745	17,440	70,731

Attachment 2

Northwestern Delta-Mendota GSA
Patterson Irrigation District GSA
City of Newman GSA
West Stanislaus Irrigation District GSA
City of Gustine GSA
City of Patterson GSA
County of Merced GSA - Delta-Mendota
DM-II GSA
Turner Island Water District GSA - Delta-Mendota
Grasslands GSA
City of Dos Palos GSA
City of Los Banos GSA
City of Firebaugh GSA
Aliso Water District GSA
San Joaquin River Exchange Contractors GSA
County of Madera GSA - Delta-Mendota
Central Delta-Mendota GSA
City of Mendota GSA
Farmers Water District GSA
County of Fresno GSA - Delta-Mendota Management Area A
Central DM GSA (TID/FSWD)
County of Fresno GSA - Delta-Mendota Management Area B

04-214, 04-213, 06-008, 06-009, 03-001, 03-003, 02-009, 03-002, 06-002, 05-124, 19-010, 14-001, 19-005, 19-009, 01-004, 19-002, 19-008, 22-002, 01-005, 01-129, 01-128, 14-006, 20-001, 07-017, 14-027, 11-023, 14-004, 14-008, 14-003, 16-001, 07-003, 23-004, 14-005, 14-026, 14-007, 07-425, 07-035, 08-002, 07-170, 07-031, 09-231, 15-001, 09-001, 09-002, 14-022, 17-001, 14-002, 09-003, 09-004, 13-003, 10-009, 12-001, 13-001, 13-012, 07-010, 07-033, 07-009

Legend

- Delta-Mendota Subbasin
- Groundwater Sustainability Agencies

Representative Monitoring Wells

- No Exceedance
- MT Exceedance
- No SMC, Sampled
- No Q3 Sample (Well has SMC)
- No Q3 Sample (No SMC)
- Sampled, Not yet in DMS

Abbreviations
DMS = Data Management System
GSA = Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP = Groundwater Sustainability Plan
Q3 = Quarter 3 (Aug-Sept 2026)
RMW = Representative Monitoring Well
SMC = Sustainable Management Criteria

Notes
1. Measurements for the West Stanislaus Irrigation District GSA's RMWs have been collected, and the data will be uploaded and evaluated once resolved.

Sources
1. GSA boundaries. California Department of Water Resources. August 25, 2023.
2. Groundwater basins and subbasins. California Department of Water Resources, August 25, 2023.

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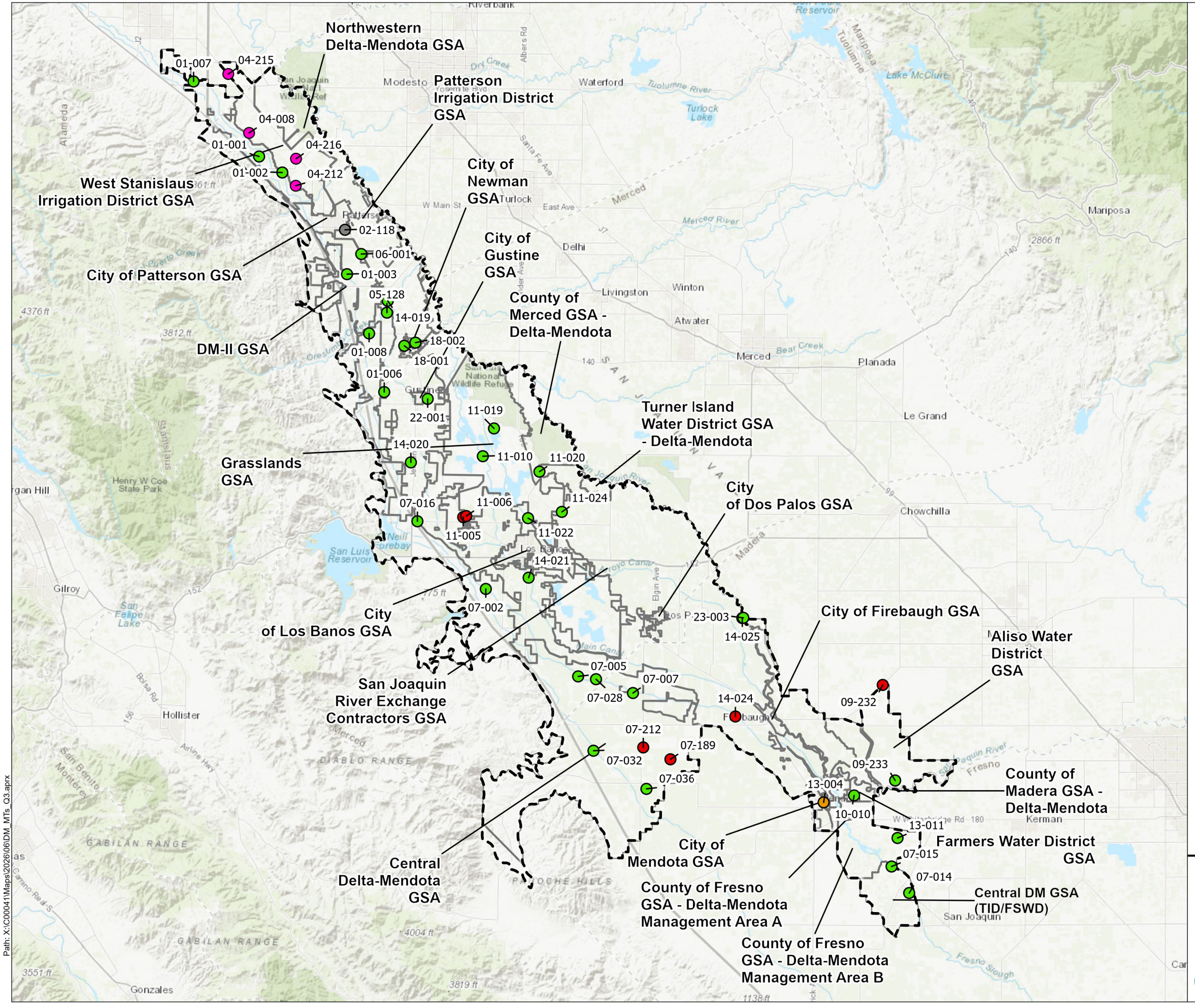
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Delta-Mendota RMW MT Exceedances
Upper Aquifer
Quarter 3 (August-September 2026)

Delta-Mendota Subbasin
October 2026
C50346.00
Figure 1

eki environment & water

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Northwestern Delta-Mendota GSA
Patterson Irrigation District GSA
City of Newman GSA
City of Gustine GSA
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Turner Island Water District GSA - Delta-Mendota
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City of Los Banos GSA
Grasslands GSA
DM-II GSA
City of Patterson GSA
West Stanislaus Irrigation District GSA
01-007
04-215
04-008
01-001
04-216
01-002
04-212
02-118
06-001
01-003
05-128
14-019
18-002
18-001
01-008
01-006
22-001
11-019
14-020
11-010
11-020
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11-006
11-005
07-016
14-021
07-002
23-003
14-025
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07-007
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07-036
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09-233
13-004
10-010
13-011
07-015
07-014
Modesto
Waterford
Turlock
Delhi
Livingston
Winton
Atwater
Merced
Planada
Le Grand
Mariposa
Chowchilla
Hollister
Gilroy
Gonzales
Kerman
San Joaquin
Fresno
Tuolumne River
Merced River
Bear Creek
Fresno Slough
DIABLO RANGE
GABILAN RANGE
PACHECHE HILLS
Lake McClure
Turlock Lake
San Luis Reservoir
Henry W Coe State Park
San Felipe Lake
Los Banos
Firebaugh
Stanislaus
Tuolumne
Merced
Madera
Fresno
Kings
San Joaquin River
Main Canal
Ingram Canal
Delta-Mendota Canal
Santa Fe Ave
East Ave
W Main St
Albers Rd
Dry Creek
Orestimba Creek
Panoche Creek
Salt Slough
Bolsa Rd
Airline Hwy
Camino Real S
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Delta-Mendota RMW MT Exceedances
Lower Aquifer
Quarter 3 (August-September 2026)
Delta-Mendota Subbasin
October 2026
C50346.00
Figure 2
eki environment & water
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NORTHERN
DELTA-MENDOTA

TO: Northern DM Region Management Committee
Agenda Item No. 15

FROM: Taylor Blakslee, Hallmark Group

DATE: November 12, 2026

SUBJECT: Program Management Report

Recommendation
None; Information only.

Discussion
An update on the action items carried out since the last Northern DM Region Management Committee Meeting is provided below.

Action item	Responsible	Status / Deadline
Agendize year end cash balance discussion with Committee in subsequent meetings.	Hallmark	In Progress
Complete well registration and metering forms, send existing policies/ resolutions to EKI by **November 30, 2026.**	GSA entities	In Progress
Develop cost estimates for FY 2028 budget components and present at next meeting.	Hallmark	Complete
Work with City of Patterson for Prop 4 planned projects.	Hallmark	Complete
Distribute Stanislaus County workshop flyer to the DM Subbasin GSAs.	Hallmark	Complete
Upload model calibration and annual report information to Egnyte by **November 13, 2026**.	GSA entities	In Progress
Conduct Q4 groundwater level monitoring in October and upload results to the DMS by **November 30, 2026**.	GSA entities	In Progress
Obtain initial exceedance reports from GSAs for Q3 exceedances.	Hallmark/EKI	In Progress