

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

AMENDED AGENDA

Wednesday, May 12, 2021 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.

Teleconference Meeting Only Call-In Information Provided

NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19
See Attached Notice Regarding COVID-19

- Call to Order/Roll Call (*Please remember to keep your phone line muted and unmute when announcing yourself for attendance or speaking)
- II. Scheduled Items Presentation materials to be posted on ESJGroundwater.org and emailed prior to the meeting.
 - A. Discussion / Action Items:
 - 1. Approval of the April 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes (attached)
 - 2. Drought conditions and response
 - 3. State and Federal Budgets and Funding
 - 4. Review of FY 2021-22 Budget (attached)
 - 5. Water Budget and Accounting Framework
 - 6. DWR Review Process

III. Staff Reports

- 1. Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
- 2. Drought conditions and response
- 3. State and Federal Budgets and Funding
- 4. DWR update (attached)
- 5. News
- IV. Public Comment (non-agendized items)
- V. Director Comments
- VI. Future Agenda Items
- VII. Adjournment

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY Steering Committee Meeting AGENDA

(Continued)

NOTICE: Coronavirus COVID-19

Important Notice Regarding COVID 19 and Closure of Board Chambers to the Public During Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting

On March 18, 2020, Governor Gavin Newsom issued Executive Order N-29-20 recognizing that COVID 19 continues to spread throughout our community resulting in serious and ongoing economic harm. Governor Newsom has therefore waived certain requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act relating to public participation and attendance at public meetings.

Based on guidance from the California Department of Public Health and the California Governor's Officer, effective immediately and while social distancing measures are imposed, the meetings of the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Steering Committee Meetings are to be conducted via teleconference.

In order to minimize the spread of the COVID 19 virus, the following options are available to members of the public to listen to these meetings and provide comments to the Committee Members before and during the meeting:

1. You are strongly encouraged to listen to the Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee meetings by attending the teleconference:

Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

Click here to join the meeting

Or call in (audio only)

+1 209-645-4071 United States, Stockton

Phone Conference ID: 511 005 914#

Find a local number Reset PIN

<u>Learn More</u> | <u>Meeting options</u>

Once connected, we request you kindly mute your phone.

EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY Steering Committee Meeting AGENDA

(Continued)

2. If you wish to make a comment on a specific agenda item, please submit your comment via email by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the meeting. Please submit your comment to the Secretary of the Board at ksmith@sjgov.org. Your comment will be shared with the Board members and placed into the record at the meeting. Every effort will be made to read comments received during the meeting into the record but some comments may not be read due to time limitations. Comments received after an agenda item will be made part of the record if received prior to the end of the meeting.

Next Scheduled Meeting Wednesday, June 9, 2021 8:30 am to 10:00 am Location TBD

ESJGWA Steering Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Meeting called to order: at 8:32 a.m.

The meeting was conducted via teleconference using Microsoft Teams. Chairman Winn called the meeting to order. Reminders were provided to the attendees regarding meeting procedures.

Roll Call taken:

Roll call taken of members only.

In attendance were Chairman Chuck Winn; Directors Mike Henry; Robert Holmes and Alternate Directors Mel Lytle; Walter Ward; Andrew Watkins.

Others in attendance were logged via their sign in to Microsoft Teams.

Discussion / Action Items:

1. Approval of the February 10, 2021 Meeting Minutes (Attached)

Motion: Director Robert Holmes 2nd: Alternate Director Walter Ward

Chairman Winn asked for any Opposed or Abstains. With none provided, the minutes were approved unanimously.

2. Annual Report Review and Comment (Attached)

Mr. Matt Zidar provided an overview of the Water Year 2020 Annual Report and stated that no comments were received from the TAC so the report has been forwarded to the Steering Committee. Mr. Zidar reviewed portions of the report including groundwater elevation data, extraction information, surface water supply use, total water use, and change in groundwater storage. Mr. Zidar also gave an overview of the status of project and management implementations which include monitoring well siting, preparing water master plan, capital improvements that accommodate micro-irrigation systems, project planning for North System Modernization, Facilities for South System Groundwater Banking Project, City of Stockton Advanced Metering Infrastructure Project, South System Modernization Project, and Surface Water Implementation Expansion Project. Mr. Zidar also provided a timeline of the Annual Report which included receiving written comments from TAC and GSA's and sending a final draft to the Steering Committee.

Chairman Winn asked if Eastern San Joaquin noticed any subsidence. Mr. Zidar answered that no subsidence has been found and that the county has only found minor subsidence in the Northern end near the Tracy Subbasin. Chairman Winn stated there is a lot of work to do to manage deficits; he also

noted that the short term solution is surface water but the long term solution is increased storage especially with next year being a dry year.

Chairman Winn asked for further comments from the committee and public. With none, Chairman Winn asked for a motion to approve.

Motion: Alternate Director Mel Lytle

2nd: Director Robert Holmes

Chairman Winn asked for any Opposed or Abstains. Motion passed unanimously.

3. FY 2021-22 GWA Budget

Mr. Matt Zidar noted that a preliminary draft of the budget is still being constructed and requested that the Chairman ask for a small group of volunteers to review the budget. Mr. Zidar plans on bringing a proposed budget for the May Steering Committee meeting in order to be prepared to adopt the plan in June. Mr. Zidar reminded everyone that it was recommended to use the same approach as last year and does not expect any big changes in the numbers; he noted that grant money is also coming in.

Chairman Winn asked for volunteers. Director Mike Henry recommended using the group from last year. The following members volunteered to be on the budget committee: Walter Ward, Brandon Nakagawa, Mel Lytle, and Andrew Watkins.

4. Water Rights and Project Task Force

Mr. Zidar provided a brief overview of the water rights that are being pursued which include the American River Water Right and Mokelumne River Water Right. Mr. Zidar emphasized the importance of project definition and noting what projects would put the water rights to good use.

Alternate Director Mel Lytle asked if the Mokelumne River water power authority is still active. Mr. Zidar replied that it is still an existing entity but has not been active. Alternate Director Lytle asked for the composition of that Board and if it was still made up of primarily supervisors. Mr. Zidar did not remember but would check in. Director Lytle believes that the committee could help push forward the Mokelumne River application. Mr. Zidar stated that it is important to have the proper infrastructure to convey water to the right users. Director Lytle asked if all that currently exists is the lower river diversions with all the storage components removed. Mr. Zidar replied that is correct.

5. Grants and Funding (Attached)

Mr. Zidar provided a status update on the Prop 68 grant and noted that data management system implementation is moving forwarded as well as the location and design of the wells. Mr. Zidar also noted that they have put together a scope of work for the WaterSmart Applied Science Grant in order to implement satellite imagery measuring crop ET in a broader area. Mr. Zidar asked Scot Moody to provide more information on the Stockton East water grant. Mr. Scot Moody from the Stockton East Water District noted that he believes the state board will eventually require meters on every well and hopes to convince the state board that the satellite imagery is accurate enough to avoid meters and their subsequent costs. Mr. Moody stated that more letters of support from GSAs and the GWA would be helpful. Mr. Zidar commented they should include money to get to the local match requirement and keep the GWA engaged in this work.

Chairman Winn asked Mr. Moody how the monitoring meters and the documentation would be accomplished. Mr. Moody answered that they currently rely on accurate reporting from owners but this would use ET and report surface water delivery. Mr. Moody noted that the southern region is currently billing their customer for groundwater pumping. Ms. Chelsea Spier from DWR noted that it does sound like a good way to investigate and sounds more cost-effective than meters.

Mr. John Lambie, a member of the public, noted that it is important to understand that not all the water use in the ET is surface water or ground water supply. Mr. Lambie explained that residual moisture and atmospheric moisture exchanges are also found in ET but are usually under quantified. Mr. Lambie suggested finding a set of cooperative growers to measure with meters and compare the findings to the ET estimator. Mr. Lambie stated that growers would find that estimates are typically too high from ET compared to what the crops actually use. Alternate Director Mel Lytle thought Mr. Lambie's comments were interesting and noted that the Delta agencies have been working with the state board about metering in the delta which resulted in a lot of issues. Alternate Director Lytle stated that the agencies had moved to using this type of satellite ET analysis. Mr. Lambie stated that the estimates of ET compared to what growers were actually using up in the Scott River Valley was doing fairly well. Mr. Zidar endorsed Mr. Lambie's comments regarding a comparison study of meters, ET and satellite measurement and other methods to quantify ag water demand and use. Mr. Zidar also noted that they need to improve and validate how well the model calculates the groundwater pumping. Mr. Zidar mentioned that they would have to compare the water budgets with the quantification of groundwater extraction in the model and the ET satellite imagery.

Alternate Director Walter Ward commented how some private companies are doing irrigation recommendations solely based on ET measurement at sites and have been proven to be accurate.

Chairman Winn asked for a motion to approve Motion: Director Robert Holmes 2nd: Alternate Director Walter Ward

Chairman Winn asked for any Opposed or Abstains. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Winn asked Mr. Zidar to have a similar discussion in the future with the Steering Committee and eventually have an evaluation of the different monitoring systems. Mr. Zidar noted that he would set aside time in the May meeting to discuss the ET and GIS technologies and relate it to GSP implementation. Alternate Director Walter Ward suggested taking this discussion to the TAC as well. Mr. Zidar agreed and noted similar discussions have already taken place at the TAC meetings.

Alternate Director Walter Ward asked about Prop 68 and the status of funding alternatives analysis. Mr. Zidar stated that there have still been discussions at the TAC and staff level about the best approach for allocating money to implement the GSP and related projects. Alternate Director Ward stated that the beneficiaries are the GSA members of the GWA so each GSA should some understanding of the funding options or methodologies that they can explore. Mr. Zidar noted that he is observing other areas and studies to see how they are creating a basin accounting framework that ties the water budget to a financial mechanism or approach. Alternate Director Ward asked if there was a term limit on the Prop 68 funding. Mr. Zidar answered yes. Alternate Director Ward asked for the term limit. Ms. Chelsea Spier from DWR noted that she recalled the term limit being on October 2022 but was not entirely certain.

6. DREAM Project Monitoring Committee and Project Status

Mr. Zidar stated that the DREAM project is a partnership between the Eastern Water Alliance and East Bay MUD that would allow East Bay MUD to deliver water to agriculture operations in lieu of using groundwater. Mr. Zidar noted facilities are currently being constructed to take water, extract it, and put it in the aqueduct. Mr. Zidar stated that the monitoring committee is part of the permit requirements and noted that there have been some issues with the wells in terms of access and operating criteria. Mr. Zidar said there might be some minor amendments to the permit conditions in order to operate the extraction component of the project.

Staff Reports

1. Technical Advisory Committee Meeting

Mr. Zidar noted that the TAC weighed in on the annual report and scope of work for the WaterSMART grant. Mr. Zidar also mentioned that they had a successful workshop with various speakers covering the FloodMAR recharge concept. DWR explained the FloodMAR concept which is to take wet year water and deliver it to growers so it can percolate in the winter which would provide recharge benefits to the basin. Chairman Winn commented that he thought the workshop was outstanding and gave a thank you to those involved. Mr. Kris Balaji from San Joaquin County gave a special recognition to the last panel that included Director Holmes, Simpson, and Moody. Mr. Balaji stated that hearing that conversation around the water world was very refreshing. Mr. Zidar stated the workshop was recorded and asked Ms. Kristy Smith from San Joaquin County if the video would be put on the website. Ms. Smith stated that it would hopefully be done soon.

Director Robert Holmes gave a thank you for the good comments and mentioned he enjoyed it. Ms. Chelsea Spier from DWR said she learned much and hopes to circle back some perspectives from the two panels to DWR. Ms. Spier also stated that the FloodMAR speakers were excited to have a presentation specifically for a group of GSAs.

2. News (Attached)

Mr. Zidar stated that he would start saving news feeds that he found interesting and relevant similar to Chelsea Spier's news feed from DWR.

3. DWR Update

Ms. Chelsea Spier from DWR provided additional information that was not included in her given report. Ms. Spier noted that there will be an IRWM grant webinar which will go over the solicitation process for the current round. Ms. Spier also stated that a Cal EPA environmental justice small grant program was available and one of the topic areas was disseminating information about environmental challenges. Ms. Spier noted that the California Groundwater Update 2020 which used to be called Bulletin 118 is still open to public comments.

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None.

Director's Comments:

Chairman Winn asked Rod Attebery from Neumiller & Beardslee how long they would have him as the legal counsel. Mr. Kris Balaji from San Joaquin County stated that he was not sure if Rod was in or not to briefly take over.

Future Agenda Items:

Mr. Matt Zidar stated that he took note of the ET water measurement and metering topics and would bring them up in the next Steering and TAC meetings. Chairman Winn stated that it was important to gain more information in order to better answer constituent questions.

Mr. Zidar stated that he has had conversations with a communications consultant and would like to have more conversations about outreach in future meetings.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 9:36 am.

Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting Roll Call / Vote April 14, 2021 8:30 AM Roll Call

Chuck Winn 🤛	San Joaquin County	209-953-1160	cwinn@sjgov.org
Mel Lytle •	City of Stockton	209-937-5614	mel.lytle@stocktonca.gov
Mike Henry 🥏	Lockeford Community Services District	209-712-4014	midot@att.net
Walter Ward •	Eastside San Joaquin GSA	209-525-6710	wward@envres.org
Robert Holmes •	South San Joaquin GSA	209-484-7678	rholmes@ssjid.com
Andrew Watkins •	Stockton East Water District	209-948-0333	watkins.andrew@verizon.net
Tom Flinn	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	209-663-8760	tomflinn2@me.com
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Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting Roll Call / Vote 1. A. I April 14, 2021 8:30 AM

Chuck Winn Y	San Joaquin County	209-953-1160	cwinn@sjgov.org
Mel Lytle	City of Stockton	209-937-5614	mel.lytle@stocktonca.gov
Mike Henry Y	Lockeford Community Services District	209-712-4014	midot@att.net
Walter Ward 💙	Eastside San Joaquin GSA	209-525-6710	wward@envres.org
Robert Holmes Y	South San Joaquin GSA	209-484-7678	rholmes@ssjid.com
Andrew Watkins Y	Stockton East Water District	209-948-0333	watkins.andrew@verizon.net
Tom Flinn	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	209-663-8760	tomflinn2@me.com

motion-Holmes and-Ward

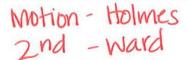
Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting Roll Call / Vote 1. A. 2 April 14, 2021 8:30 AM Approved

Chuck Winn 😾	San Joaquin County	209-953-1160	cwinn@sjgov.org
Mel Lytle 😾	City of Stockton	209-937-5614	mel.lytle@stocktonca.gov
Mike Henry 😾	Lockeford Community Services District	209-712-4014	midot@att.net
Walter Ward 🗡	Eastside San Joaquin GSA	209-525-6710	wward@envres.org
Robert Holmes Y	South San Joaquin GSA	209-484-7678	rholmes@ssjid.com
Andrew Watkins 🏏	Stockton East Water District	209-948-0333	watkins.andrew@verizon.net
Tom Flinn	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	209-663-8760	tomflinn2@me.com

motion-Lytle 2nd - Holmes

Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting Roll Call / Vote 1. A. 5 April 14, 2021 8:30 AM

Chuck Winn 🧡	San Joaquin County	209-953-1160	cwinn@sjgov.org
Mel Lytle	City of Stockton	209-937-5614	mel.lytle@stocktonca.gov
Mike Henry Y	Lockeford Community Services District	209-712-4014	midot@att.net
Walter Ward 🗡	Eastside San Joaquin GSA	209-525-6710	wward@envres.org
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Andrew Watkins 🖌	Stockton East Water District	209-948-0333	watkins.andrew@verizon.net
Tom Flinn	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	209-663-8760	tomflinn2@me.com



Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Steering Committee Meeting Sign-In April 14, 2021 8:30 A.M.

Chuck Winn	San Joaquin County	209-953-1160	cwinn@sjgov.org	present
Mel Lytle	City of Stockton	209-937-5614	mel.lytle@stocktonca.gov	present
Mike Henry	Lockeford Community Services District	209-712-4014	midot@att.net	present
Walter Ward	Eastside San Joaquin GSA	209-525-6710	wward@envres.org	present
Robert Holmes	South San Joaquin GSA	209-484-7678	rholmes@ssjid.com	present
Andrew Watkins	Stockton East Water District	209-948-0333	watkins.andrew@verizon.net	present
Tom Flinn	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	209-663-8760	tomflinn2@me.com	
Kris Balaji	San Joaquin County	468-3100	kbalaji@sjgov.org	present
Fritz Buchman	San Joaquin County	468-3034	fbuchman@sjgov.org	present
Matt Zidar	San Joaquin County	953-7460	mzidar@sjgov.org	present
Brandon Nakagawa *	South San Joaquin GSA - Alternate	209-249-4613	bnakagawa@ssjid.com_	presun t
Steven Shih	Environmental Health Department			present
valerie kincald				present
Rodney Frickle				prefent
Shayan Rehman	San loaquin County			present
Glenn Prasad	Jan loaquin County			present
Kristy Smith	Jan Joaquin County			present
Arieth Pelayo	San loaquin County			present

Stacle Ann	NCWL		prefent
Chelsea Spier	DWR		'present
Chelsea Spier Reed Roberts Gerald Schwartz			present
Gerald Schwartz	EBMVD		present
Rod Attebury	Neumiller & Beardstee		present
Michael Brinton			present
Brad Arnold			present
John lambie			'present
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Table 1. FY 2021-22 Budget Scenarios

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Reserve Costs 200,000 200,000	Professional Services Counsel	40,000		40,000	
TOTAL EXPENSES 1,075,300 165,000 1.175.300	Reserve Costs	200,000			
	TOTAL EXPENSES	1,075,300	165,000	1,175,300	

Minimal Activity

FY 2	1-22	6221100802	
С	ontract /ODC	Staff	Total
\$	300,000		\$ 300,000
\$	225,000		\$ 225,000
			\$ -
\$	175,000		\$ 175,000
			\$ -
			\$ -
\$	700,000		\$ 700,000
	500		500
	500		500
	300		- 300
	5,000		5,000
	3,000		3,000
	4,800		4,800
	4,000		-,000
	1,000		1,000
	1,000		1,000
	1,000	15,000	15,000
	15,000	10,000	25,000
	13,000	10,000	25,000
			-
	12,500	7,500	20,000
	50,000	15,000	65,000
		5,000	45,000
	40,000 130,000	18,000	148,000
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-	175,000	10,000	185,000
-	F0 000	7.500	F7 F00
-	50,000	7,500	57,500
-	5,000		5,000
_	40,000		40,000
	200,000		200,000
	745,300	130,500	875,800

Table 2 Basic Data

GSA	Total Pumping- Projected (AFY)	Total Acreage	Developed Acreage	Population (2017)	Annual	% Total pumping	Class	% pump
CSJWCD	138,809	72,973	62,944	8,047	\$ 40,000	17.4%	1	
NSJWCD	146,158	148,885	70,472	21,977	\$ 40,000	18.3%	1	
SEWD	165,025	99,816	72,708	41,134	\$ 40,000	20.6%	1	56.3%
Eastside SJ GSA	63,500	126,689	22,155	10,498	\$ 30,000	7.9%	2	
SJC #1	74,448	49,714	43,016	16,859	\$ 30,000	9.3%	2	17.3%
OID	39,952	31,785	23,524	1,890	\$ 20,000	5.0%	3	
SSJ GSA	60,031	63,270	59,054	38,080	\$ 20,000	7.5%	3	
WID GSA	31,238	30,378	26,419	8,488	\$ 20,000	3.9%	3	16.4%
Lodi	14,520	9,167	8,981	58,174	\$ 10,000	1.8%	4	
Manteca	18,985	13,596	13,378	64,279	\$ 10,000	2.4%	4	
Stockton	23,035	40,007	39,408	277,120	\$ 10,000	2.9%	4	7.1%
CDWA	9,611	52,394	41,439	1,629	\$ 5,000	1.2%	5	
LCSD	1,153	923	469	1,558	\$ 5,000	0.1%	5	
LCWD	485	650	650	2819	\$ 5,000	0.1%	5	
SDWA	4,532	18,062	16,167	7,136	\$ 5,000	0.6%	5	
SJC #2	8,183	6,713	6,645	39,779	\$ 5,000	1.0%	5	3.0%
Subtotal	799,665	765,022	507,429	599,467	\$ 295,000	100.0%		100.0%

Table 3 FY20-21 Method for Cost Allocation (Higher Activity)

GW Pumping Class (ac-ft/ year)	Agency Type Per Class (Ag/Ur)	Agency Name	Agency Per Class	Cost /GSA (\$)	Total Cost Per Pumping Class	% Cost based on Pumping
100K+	3 - Ag	CSJWCD; NSJWCD; SEWD	3	\$112,545	\$337,635	\$337,635
60K+ to 100K	2 - Ag	Eastside SJ; SJC #1	2	\$51,752	\$103,504	\$103,504
30K+ to 60K	3 - Ag	WID; SSJ; OID	3	\$32,819	\$98,457	\$98,457
10k+ to 30K	3 - Ur	Lodi; Manteca; Stockton	3	\$14,141	\$42,423	\$42,423
0 to 10K	3 - Ur 2 – Ag	LCSD; LCWD; SJC #2; CDWA; SDWA	5	\$3,596	\$17,981	\$17,981
Total					\$600,000	\$600,000

¹Based on Previous

Table 4 FY20-21 Method for Cost Allocation (Minimal Budget and Activity)

Class (so ft) year):	Agency Type	Agency Name	Agency	COST/GOA	Total Cost	// COSt paseu
100K+	3 - Ag	CSJWCD; NSJWCD; SEWD	3	\$56,273	\$168,818	\$168,818
60K+ to 100K	2 - Ag	Eastside SJ; SJC #1	2	\$25,876	\$51,752	\$51,752
30K+ to 60K	3 - Ag	WID; SSJ; OID	3	\$16,409	\$49,228	\$49,228
10k+ to 30K	3 - Ur	Lodi; Manteca; Stockton	3	\$7,070	\$21,211	\$21,211
0 to 10K	3 - Ur 2 – Ag	LCSD; LCWD; SJC #2; CDWA; SDWA	5	\$1,798	\$8,990	\$8,990
Total					\$300,000	\$300,000

California Grants Portal

The California State Library, in partnership with the Department of Water Resources and other state grantmaking agencies, has launched the California Grants Portal – your one destination to find all state grant and loan opportunities provided on a first-come or competitive basis. Visit grants.ca.gov to find funding opportunities for you and your community.

SWRCB Division of Financial Assistance (DFA): Funding for O&M costs for DAC's treating contaminated groundwater DFA is working on a new program to fund the operations and maintenance (O&M) costs of specific disadvantaged community (DAC) drinking water systems over three to five years. There is up to approximately \$27.5 million in remaining Proposition 68 Groundwater funds that may be used for this purpose. For consistency with Proposition 68 requirements, the program will be focused on systems that are treating contaminated groundwater. If your organization would like to participate in this important effort to support DAC systems, the first step is to submit a Letter of Interest by July 12, 2021. The Request for Letters of Interest has more information.

DWR IRWM Funding Webinar

Join us for a virtual workshop, co-hosted by the IRWM Roundtable of Regions and the CA Department of Water Resources. Learn about the Round 1 survey results and proposed concepts for the Round 2 grant solicitation process, which will begin this summer, making **over \$190 million** (**in remaining Prop 1 funds**) available for the implementation of IRWM projects. The webinar will be May 6^{th} , 9:30 - 11:30 and you can register here.

California Financing Coordinating Committee: Virtual Funding Fair

May 20 and 27, 2021. The funding fair will provide the opportunity to learn more about available grant, loan and bond financing options for infrastructure projects from federal, state, and local agencies. Register and learn more here.

CalEPA: Environmental Justice Small Grants Program

These grants may be up to \$50,000. Applications are due **June 30, 2021**. Projects objectives may include:

- Disseminating information about environmental challenges and decision making processes
- Enhancing local capacity to respond, adapt and prepare for climate change impacts
- Ensuring safe drinking water
- Guarding against toxic exposures and increasing resource conversation locally
- Designing and implementing collaborative efforts to preserve the State's natural and cultural resources with an emphasis on traditional ecological knowledge and tribal sciences

CalFIRE: Fire Prevention Grants Now Open

Contingent upon appropriation from the California Climate Investments, or other fund source, up to \$165 million will be awarded. The program provides funding for projects and activities that address the risk of wildfire, reduce wildfire potential, and increase community resiliency. Funded activities include hazardous fuel reduction, wildfire prevention planning, and wildfire prevention education with an emphasis on improving public health and safety while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Applications must be submitted **no later than May 19th, 2021 by 3:00 PM PDT**. Overview of the grant program, application process and workshop details will be posted on the Fire Prevention Grants webpage.

UC Berkeley: Funding Opportunity for Government Innovators

The People Lab at UC Berkeley invites applications from government agencies and nonprofits across California to co-design and test innovative policy ideas that have the potential to meaningfully improve the lives of Californians. Grant awards will include 2 years of technical support from UC Berkeley's The People Lab and \$100,000 - \$150,000 for project implementation. **Applications are due June 15**th, and more info can be found here.

DWR's Floodplain Management, Protection, and Risk Awareness (FMPRA) Grant Program

There is \$25M available to provide financial assistance for flood risk reduction activities related to stormwater, mudslide, and other flash flood related protections. The final grant guidelines are expected to be published in summer of 2021. https://water.ca.gov/Work-With-Us/Grants-And-Loans/Flood-Management-Protection-Risk-Awareness-Program

State Water Resource Control Board, Groundwater Grant Program: Amendment to Funding Guidelines
The SWRCB has recently updated its funding guidelines for administering the \$720 million dollars in prop 1
groundwater grant funding. More info on this grant program can be found here:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/groundwater_sustainability.html

DWR: Prop 68 Round 1 Groundwater Implementation Grant FINAL awards announced

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is pleased to release the final award recommendation for the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's Proposition 68 Implementation – Round 1 grant solicitation. The awards will provide \$26 million in Proposition 68 grant funding to 6 Awardees. DWR received 15 applications requesting a total of approximately \$70 million in grant funds and approximately \$36.5 million in Local Cost Share. For additional information can be found on the SGM Grant Program website.

Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC): Free well assessments for private well owners

Assessments include inspection and vulnerability assessment, potential contamination source identification, well construction inspection, water quality screening for nitrate, a written report with recommendations. To register contact Jerry Tinoco at (661) 401-1857 • jtinoco@rcac.org or register online.

Other state & federal grant websites for resources that may be helpful are:

- California Financing Coordinating Committee -- https://cfcc.ca.gov/, and
- CalOES grants -- https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/grants-management
- US EPA -- https://www.epa.gov/grants/specific-epa-grant-programs, and
- Economic Development Administration -- https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/
- The rollout webinars of FEMA's new grant, Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (risk reduction), started in July 2020 and can be found at: https://www.fema.gov/bric

Upcoming conferences, webinars, new reports and data

Water Board: Drinking water needs assessments

For the first time, the State Water Resources Control Board has completed a comprehensive look at California water systems that are struggling to provide safe drinking water. The needs assessment identifies failing water systems and those at risk of failing. It also offers the most in-depth view of long-term drinking water safety the state has ever had. Details are available in this news release.

SWRCB Releases 2012-2019 Public Water Supply Datasets

The State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water has released the latest round of electronic annual report datasets from public drinking water systems. The release covers reporting years 2012–2019, including more than 7 million records for reporting year 2019.

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/ear.html

DWR has formed a technical advisory committee for the update of California Well Standards

The TAC has 67 members from broad backgrounds. They will meet from March 2021 to March 2022. We anticipate the Public Review Draft will be released in September 2022, followed by the Final Well Standards in

December 2022. Those interested listening into TAC meetings or providing suggestions may email: <u>Bulletin74@water.ca.gov</u>. More information here: https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Wells/Well-Standards

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation: New Data sharing webpage

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has released the new Reclamation Information Sharing Environment (RISE) website. It provides access to Reclamation's water-related data. The site includes maps to help search for data in a particular area. There is also a catalog offering access to datasets and time-series data. https://data.usbr.gov/

Flood-MAR (Managed Aquifer Recharge)

A kickoff meeting to establish a Flood-MAR network was held December 10th, 2020 and a second meeting was held March 5th, 2021. There is also an ongoing <u>Lunch-MAR monthly speaker series</u>. If you are interested in attending or getting involved please email <u>Jennifer.Marr@water.ca.gov</u> (916) 651-9229 to be added to the calendar invite. To join the Flood-MAR listserv follow this link:

https://listservice.cnra.ca.gov/scripts/wa.exe?SUBED1=DWR_FLOODMAR&A=1

SGMA

New Outreach and Educational Materials Available

DWR's <u>SGMA Assistance and Engagement webpage</u> has added new communication and engagement toolkit items including:

- A new video Groundwater: California's Vital Resource now available in English, Spanish, Punjabi, and Hmong
- A Story Map for a non-technical audience <u>Groundwater: Understanding and Managing this Vital Resource</u>
- Guidance on Engaging and Communicating with Underrepresented Groundwater Users
- SGMA Communications: Media Relations and Social Media, including DWR's Groundwater Media Contacts
- "DWR's Assistance Role in Groundwater Management" video: English and Spanish

DWR Releases Draft California's Groundwater - Update 2020, Seeks Public Comment

DWR as released the <u>draft California</u>'s <u>Groundwater – Update 2020 (Bulletin-118)</u>, containing information on the condition of the State's groundwater. DWR encourages community members and water managers to review the publication and provide input. Comments can be submitted to <u>CalGW@water.ca.gov</u> and will be accepted through April 26, 2021. An overview of the document will be presented at a <u>webinar on March 30th</u>, <u>register here</u>

- Informational Video: English, Spanish
- Fact Sheet: English, Spanish
- FAQ: English, Spanish
- California's Groundwater Online
- General Information Video: Groundwater: California's Vital Resource
- English, Spanish recordings of Public Webinar

California Groundwater Conditions Update Report and Maps Available

The <u>California Groundwater Conditions Update – Spring 2020</u> report and accompanying <u>maps</u> are available on the DWR website and present a summary of groundwater level data. The report and maps include a discussion of groundwater level trends with multi-year comparisons which can assist with the development of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs).

CASGEM to Monitoring Network Module Transition Frequently Asked Questions Available

The <u>CASGEM to Monitoring Network Module Transition Frequently Asked Questions</u> (FAQ) document covers questions related to the Groundwater Monitoring Law, the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation

Monitoring (CASGEM) Program, a GSP's required monitoring, the SGMA Portal's Monitoring Network Module (MNM), and a basin's or subbasin's transition from the CASGEM Online System to the SGMA Portal's Monitoring Network Module .

SGMA Water Year Type Dataset Now Available

In the dataset, the water years are labeled as wet, above normal, below normal, dry, or critical based on the amount of precipitation during that water year and the previous one. The information is available for all California watersheds except those underlying the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Hydrologic Regions since that information is already available. Data and a development report are now available.

February 18th Webinar: Joint DWR-State Water Board General SGMA Webinar on Groundwater Sustainability Planning The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Water Resources Control Board held a virtual General Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) A <u>video recording of the meeting</u> is available on YouTube and will be posted to the DWR website, along with additional materials, in the near future.

Dry Well Reporting Site

There is a website available to report private wells going dry at https://mydrywater.ca.gov/report/. This information reported to this site is intended to inform state and local agencies on drought impacts on household water supplies. The Household Water Supply Shortage Reporting System was first created as part of our emergency response efforts to previous droughts, and we are continuing to gather information relating to shortages of household water from private well or surface water sources.

SVSim Beta Model Released

DWR has released the beta version of the <u>Sacramento Valley Groundwater-Surface Water Simulation Model</u> (<u>SVSim</u>) that can be used during GSP development. Instructions for use are included in the <u>Roadmap to Running SVSim</u> document.

C2VSim Fine Grid Update Published April 2021

DWR has released an update to the Fine-Grid California Central Valley Groundwater-Surface Water Simulation (C2VSimFG) Model, which can be used by Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) developing water budgets for their GSPs. C2VSimFG Version 1.01 utilizes the latest version of the Integrated Water Flow Model software and corrects minor errors in the model files. These updates do not significantly affect the overall model calibration; however, resulting changes to simulated groundwater levels may vary by basin.

Draft Handbook for Water Budget Development

The handbook has been posted on the SGMA webpage and can be viewed at the following link under the "reports" tab: https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools. A recent webinar discussing the handbook with a deeper dive on 4 topics can be viewed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U1V4V-SG5jY&feature=youtu.be

DWR is developing eight Proposition 68-funded technical projects

These projects include airborne electromagnetic surveys, improving groundwater elevation and quality monitoring networks, Statewide land use data collection, improved subsidence monitoring network, installing and maintaining stream gauges, maintaining and enhancing statewide well completion reports, managing and reporting sustainable groundwater information, and enhancing and maintaining DWR's modeling tools. Fact sheets on each project can be viewed under the "Prop 68" tab here: https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools

• New Data is available on AEM pilot studies.

• New 2018 Statewide Crop Mapping data dataset builds on the 2014 and 2016 statewide crop mapping datasets DWR previously released and includes multi-cropping information. The 2018 dataset includes agricultural land use and urban boundaries for all 58 counties in California.

Facilitation Support Services (FSS): Funding still available

- GSA's developing GSPs are eligible to receive funding for identification and engagement of interested parties, meeting facilitation, interest-based negotiation/consensus building, and public outreach facilitation
- More information can be found here: https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement New written translation services available in 10 languages for outreach materials (5,000 word maximum).

Technical Support Services (TSS): Funding still available

- COD basins have priority, but this application is open to all high and medium priority basins including those with an approved alternative plan. More information and applications can be found here:

 https://water.ca.gov/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Assistance-and-Engagement
- Funds can be used for monitoring well instillation, geophysical logging, geologic logging, groundwater level monitoring training, borehole video logging, and other field activities.