



# EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

## Board of Directors Meeting

### AGENDA

Wednesday May 11, 2022

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

San Joaquin County Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center  
2101 E. Earhart Avenue, Stockton, CA 95206

- I. **Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance & Safety Announcement/Roll Call**
- II. **Scheduled Items -**
  - A. Discussion / Action Items:
    1. Approval of the April 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes ([Attachment 1 – Page 2](#))
    2. DWR SGMA GSP Implementation Grant Round 1
    3. Response to DWR GSP Comments; Schedule, Content and Approach
    4. FY 2022-23 Budget
- III. **Staff/DWR Reports**
  - A. Staff Reports
  - B. DWR Report ([Attachment 2 – Page 15](#))
- IV. **Directors' Comments and Project Status Reports**
- V. **Public Comment (non-agendized items)**
- VI. **Future Agenda Items**
- VII. **Adjournment**

### **Next Regular Meeting**

Wednesday, June 8, 2022

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

San Joaquin County Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center

### **Action may be taken on any item**

*Agendas and Minutes may also be found at <http://www.ESJGroundwater.org>*

*Note: If you need disability-related modification or accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, please contact San Joaquin County Public Works Water Resources Staff at (209) 468-3089 at least 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting.*

**EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**  
**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**April 13, 2022**

**I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance & Safety Announcement/Roll Call**

The Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority (GWA) Board Teleconference meeting convened, and Chairman Chuck Winn called the meeting to order, via the online Microsoft Teams Meeting platform, at 9:06 a.m. on April 13, 2022. The meeting was Teleconference only.

Chairman Winn led the agenda.

Mrs. Kristy Smith with San Joaquin County conducted the roll call.

In attendance were Chairman Chuck Winn; Vice Chairman Mel Panizza; Secretary Kris Balaji; Directors Alan Nakanishi, David Breitenbucher, Dan Wright, Gary Tofanelli, Myron Blanton, Mike Henry, Tom Flinn, Eric Thorburn, John Herrick, Robert Holmes. Director Jeremiah Mecham was also in attendance but arrived after roll call was taken.

**II. Scheduled Items**

**A. Discussion/Action Items:**

**1. Approval of the March 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Chairman Winn called for the approval of minutes of the meeting on March 9, 2022. There were no comments by the GWA Board members and no comments by the public.

**Motion:**

Director Robert Holmes moved, and Director John Herrick second, approval of the March 9, 2022 minutes. Roll Call Vote was conducted, the motion passed.

**2. Discussion and Possible Action to Adopt Resolution R-22-XX Determining to Conduct Meetings Using Teleconferencing Pursuant to Government Code 54953 as Amended by AB 361**

Chairman Winn requested input from Mr. Rod Attebery with Neumiller & Beardslee, regarding the status of AB361 and teleconferencing. Mr. Attebery addressed the possibility of a renewal of the teleconference policy via the State. Mr. Attebery noted that other agencies are conducting hybrid meetings and it was his recommendation to approve the resolution for possible future teleconference or hybrid meetings, as unsure of where the State will land after their April 14<sup>th</sup> meeting. additional discussion was had on the Ag Center meeting facility and their electronic capabilities for hybrid meetings.

Chairman Winn asked for a motion to approve the Resolution Determining to Conduct Meetings Using Teleconferencing Pursuant to Government Code 54953 as Amended by AB 361.

**Motion:**

Director Robert Holmes moved, and Director Dan Wright second, adoption of the resolution R-22-XX. Roll Call Vote was conducted, the motion passed unanimously.

### **3. GWA Committee Assignments**

Mr. Matt Zidar with San Joaquin County provided an overview of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Legal/Policy Committee member volunteers, noting that if other GSA representatives wished to participate, they should voice their interest.

Mr. Attebery noted that no action by the Board is needed, as the JPA identifies that Ad Hoc Committee appointments are done through the Chairman. Additionally noted was the fact that now would be the appropriate time for interested parties to represent their GSA and voice their interest in participation.

It was noted that additional GSA member representatives are being sought in addition to the regular TAC member roster. The group suggested that interested parties be provided a list of the TAC members for reference. Director Mike Henry requested to be added to the Legal/Policy Committee.

### **4. FY 2022-23 Budget Discussion, Approach, Programs, and Schedule**

Mr. Zidar provided the Board a brief overview of the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget, noting that development of the budget is in progress and input is requested. Mr. Zidar advised that budget development would continue into May and go through the TAC for input. Mr. Zidar questioned the formation of an Ad Hoc Budget Committee as done in previous years. No definitive response from Board provided. Mr. Zidar discussed the GWA Programs and Projects, noting those that are regular or ongoing and those that are a special study or service. Mr. Zidar opened the discussion for input and thoughts.

Director Tom Flinn expressed the desire for discussions on funding sources, specifically Zone 2 funds, as part of the budget discussions. Mr. Zidar provided some details on the use of Zone 2 funds pertaining to the GWA, the Tracy Subbasin and monitoring networks, noting the need to look at the use of Zone 2 fund strategically to go over the 20-year plan. Mr. Zidar advised that the Zone 2 fund/budget will be taken before the Advisory Water Commission at their May meeting, for discussion.

Director John Herrick noted the need to have conversations with the ILRP Water Quality Coalition before budgeting for monitoring well efforts, as there may be overlap in efforts. Director Herrick additionally questioned if there is a modest expected increase in GSA contribution or a more substantial increase. Mr. Zidar noted some potential increases but advised the Board that additional discussions and work needed to be done before a definitive increase amount could be provided.

### **5. DWR Comments and GWA Response – Status Report and Direction**

Mr. Zidar provided a status report of the work being done in regard to the GWA responses to DWR comments on the GSP and the direction moving forward. Mr. Zidar noted that an initial meeting with DWR was had on April 4<sup>th</sup> and the final workplan and schedule is being developed currently. Additionally noted were the joint TAC and Legal/Policy Committee meeting to be held on April 14<sup>th</sup> and additionally in May and the first part of June, with GWA and GSA action in June. Mr. Zidar noted that the GWA comments are due to DWR by July 27<sup>th</sup> and will require that each GSA adopt the responses and GSP updates. Discussion was had on the timing of GSA Board Meetings to the needed adoption of updates and responses. Mr. Zidar advised that a GWA motion and approval is needed to submit the responses by the July deadline, while the individual GSA adoptions are required but not necessary by the July GWA Board Meeting.

### **6. Funding and Financing Options**

Chairman Winn provided the group an overview of funding and financing options for water related projects, in the form of a sales tax measure to be taken to ballot in November. Chairman Winn noted that documents went out to the group for review and to prompt discussions within the group regarding needed water projects and the funding mechanism for those projects. Chairman Winn briefly reviewed the documents, noting the white paper document contained 2019 Fresno State study and discussed funding resources and options in the form of ballot measures and how they fared. Chairman Winn noted that he is not looking for an endorsement today, but rather input and thoughts from the group. Additionally, he has already met with County Counsel and has had preliminary discussions on the ballot measure efforts. Chairman Winn noted that constituents are asking for resolutions to problems and decisions regarding emergency orders and guidelines, they do not want to hear that nothing can be done and are satisfied when efforts being made to solve their problems. Chairman Winn added that the information provided today will allow for a mechanism to share with the public, allowing them to make decisions on their future related to water issues. Chairman Winn advised that he is requesting discussions over the next month and would like to bring before Board in August for endorsement for the November ballot.

Director John Herrick noted his support of the idea and questioned any leeway in the meaning of Water Infrastructure being used on the potential measure. Could the funds from the measure be a potential funding source for future routing and dredging projects or just new water supply projects? Chairman Winn noted there is the ability for flexibility, to review and adjust verbiage.

Ms. Mary Elizabeth with the Sierra Club noted that for the sake of Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) she would like to see a Property Tax rather than a Sales Tax measure, as this will assess individual property owners with more ability to pay additional tax assessments. Director Dan Wright noted he agreed with the suggested Property Tax or Parcel Tax route, as sales taxes hurt the poor more than it would the middle- or upper-class communities.

Director Tom Flinn noted that NSJWCD is targeting a June ballot measure with a water use tax of their rate payers, allowing for funding of SGMA projects. Director Flinn additionally questioned the boundary of proposed measure, the specific projects of interest, and who the governing body would be.

Chairman Winn discussed the potential revenue with approximately 800,000 residences in San Joaquin County, noting that with a sales tax, people with the ability to purchase products would be paying more than people with lesser means to purchase products. Chairman Winn noted that the assessment needs to be proportional across the County and that if the measure were to move forward, there would be a portion of funds to assist the DAC.

The consensus of the group was there is a desperate need for funding, as everyone's needs require funding and projects need to be done to protect and secure the future of San Joaquin County water. There is a great need to move forward and do something like this to secure funding for the future.

### **III. Staff and DWR Reports**

#### **A. Staff Reports**

Mr. Zidar provided a brief overview of a DWR report showing drought conditions and updates, noting it was just a snapshot of the dire conditions we are facing.

##### **1. Legislation**

Mr. Zidar provided an overview of the Legislative resources and firms available and used for maintaining up to date information on activities in Sacramento and Washington, noting that when items arise that will

affect the GWA, he will provide the details for the group to review and discuss. Ms. Elizabeth noted she found some information interesting from the NGO and Environmentalist stance. Ms. Elizabeth pointed out AB2201 by Bennet and provided link in the chat.

## **2. Executive order N-7-22**

Mr. Zidar discussed the Executive Order N-7-22, included in the agenda package, noting specifically No. 9 of the Order, which states permits for a new or for altering existing groundwater wells in the basin must be approved by the GSA for meeting sustainability and be approved by Environmental Health Department (EHD) as not interfering with existing wells. Ms. Kirin Virk of San Joaquin County Counsel provided additional detail on the Executive Order and noted that the County is moving to get a definitive process in place to meet the expectations of the Executive Order. It was noted that there are two paths to comply with the order, through GSA and through EHD.

Discussion was had on proposed wells being near another GSA boundary and if those surrounding GSAs have a way to comment on a proposed new well. It was advised that there is not current process for public review. Mr. Zidar noted that the entire Executive Order N-7-22 document is included in the agenda package and worth review, for other sections that do apply to GSAs. It was additionally noted that it is a good idea to get out AB2201 for GSA review and comment.

## **3. Grants and Funding**

Mr. Zidar provided a brief overview and review of the grants and funding for the GWA, noting specifically the adjustment required by DWR to the spending plan and projects for the SGMA Implementation Round 1 Grant as the amount was reduced to 7.6 million after application process.

## **B. DWR Report**

Mr. Mattipohto Siltanen with California Department of Water Resources (DWR) provided an overview of the DWR report provided by Ms. Chelsea Spier, noting some of the items of importance being the following.

- A Fact Sheet on the Executive Order N-7-22 was sent via chat for review.
- Reminder to GSAs to update the DWR Portal with their Spring monitoring levels.
- Reminder of the continued AEM flights during April.
- There is a Watersmart Small Scale grant opportunity available, with an application due date of 4/28.
- Note that on March 11<sup>th</sup> DWR release their Groundwater Conditions Report for review.

## **IV. Directors' Comments**

Mr. Scot Moody with SEWD requested letters of support from the GSAs, in regard to SEWD efforts to remove the rate cap for their area.

Mr. Zidar requested recommendation assistance from the GSAs in San Joaquin County Public Work's efforts to fill Engineer vacancies.

## **V. Public Comment**

Ms. Mary Elizabeth with the Sierra Club commented that she provided a link in the chat box related to the SAFER funding opportunities, noting the need to encourage County agencies like Environmental Health and Office of Emergency Service to seek out this funding source to assist with outreach, organization, and mitigation for domestic and small well water systems. Ms. Elizabeth additionally noted her request for the meeting recordings to be posted on the website on a regular basis, for public viewing.

**VI. Future Agenda Items**

None Provided.

**VII. Adjournment:**

Chairman Winn adjourned the April 13, 2022 meeting at 10:56 a.m.

**Next Regular Meeting:**

Wednesday, May 11, 2022

10:30 am – 12:00 pm

San Joaquin County Robert J. Cabral Agricultural Center

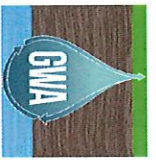
# Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

April 13, 2022

Roll Call

Agency Name	Director First	Director Last		Alternate First	Alternate Last	
Cal Water	Jeremiah	Mecham <span style="color: red;">late</span>				
Central Delta Water Agency	George	Biagi, Jr.		Dante	Nomellini	
Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District	Grant	Thompson		Reid	Roberts	
City of Lodi	Alan	Nakanishi		Charlie	Swimley	
City of Manteca	David	Breitenbucher				
City of Stockton	Dan	Wright		Mel Paul	Lytle Canepa	
Eastside San Joaquin GSA	Gary	Tofanelli		Russ	Thomas	
Linden County Water District	Myron	Blanton		Douglas	Smith	
Lockeford Community Services District	Mike	Henry		Joseph Eric	Salzman Schmid	
North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	Tom	Flinn		Joe	Valente	
Oakdale Irrigation District	Eric	Thorburn, P.E.				
South Delta Water Agency	John	Herrick, Esq.		Jerry	Robinson	
South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Robert	Holmes		Brandon	Nakagawa	
Woodbridge Irrigation District	Andy	Christensen				
San Joaquin County Public Works Secretary (1)	Kris	Balaji				
Stockton East Water District Vice Chair (2)	Melvin	Panizza		Andrew	Watkins	
San Joaquin County Chairman (3)	Chuck	Winn		Kathy	Miller	

We Have Quorum



**EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN  
GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**

**Joint Exercise of Powers  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**MEMBER SIGN-IN SHEET**

Location: Teleconference Call Only Date: 04/13/2022 Time: 9:00 AM

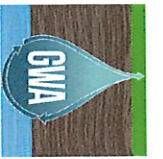
INITIAL	Member's Name	GSA	Phone	Email
<i>Present</i>	Jeremiah Mecham	Cal Water Member		<a href="mailto:jmecham@calwater.com">jmecham@calwater.com</a>
	George Biagi, Jr.	Central Delta Water Agency Member	209-481-5201	<a href="mailto:gbiagi@deltabluegrass.com">gbiagi@deltabluegrass.com</a>
	Dante Nomellini	Central Delta Water Agency Alternate	209-465-5883	<a href="mailto:ngmplcs@pacificbell.net">ngmplcs@pacificbell.net</a>
	Grant Thompson	Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District Member	209-639-1580	<a href="mailto:gtom@velociter.net">gtom@velociter.net</a>
	Reid Roberts	Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District Alternate	209-941-8714	<a href="mailto:reidwroberts@gmail.com">reidwroberts@gmail.com</a>
<i>Present</i>	Alan Nakanishi	City of Lodi Member	209-333-6702	<a href="mailto:ananakanishi@lodi.gov">ananakanishi@lodi.gov</a>
<i>Present</i>	Charlie Swimley	City of Lodi Alternate	209-333-6706	<a href="mailto:cswimley@lodi.gov">cswimley@lodi.gov</a>
<i>Present</i>	David Breitenbucher	City of Manteca Member	209-456-8017	<a href="mailto:dbreitenbucher@ci.manteca.ca.us">dbreitenbucher@ci.manteca.ca.us</a>
		City of Manteca Alternate		
<i>Present</i>	Dan Wright	City of Stockton Member	209-937-5614	<a href="mailto:Dan.Wright@stocktonca.gov">Dan.Wright@stocktonca.gov</a>
	Paul Canepa	City of Stockton Alternate	209-603-7091	<a href="mailto:Paul.Canepa@stocktonca.gov">Paul.Canepa@stocktonca.gov</a>
	Mel Lytle	City of Stockton Alternate		<a href="mailto:Mel.Lytle@stocktonca.gov">Mel.Lytle@stocktonca.gov</a>
<i>Present</i>	Gary Tofanelli	Eastside San Joaquin GSA Member		<a href="mailto:gtofanelli@co.calaveras.ca.us">gtofanelli@co.calaveras.ca.us</a>
	Russ Thomas	Eastside San Joaquin GSA Alternate	209-480-8968	<a href="mailto:russ.thomas@ccwd.org">russ.thomas@ccwd.org</a>



INITIAL	Member's Name	GSA	Phone	Email
Present	Myron Blanton	Linden County Water District Member	209-351-0242	<a href="mailto:myronapp@gmail.com">myronapp@gmail.com</a>
	Douglas Smith	Linden County Water District Alternate		
Present	Mike Henry	Lockeford Community Services District Member	209-712-4014	<a href="mailto:midot@att.net">midot@att.net</a>
	Joseph Salzman	Lockeford Community Services District Alternate	209-727-5035	<a href="mailto:icsd@softcom.net">icsd@softcom.net</a>
	Eric Schmid	Lockeford Community Services District Alternate	209-727-5035	<a href="mailto:icsd@softcom.net">icsd@softcom.net</a>
Present	Tom Flinn	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District Member	209-663-8760	<a href="mailto:tomflinn2@me.com">tomflinn2@me.com</a>
	Joe Valente	North San Joaquin Water Conservation District Alternate	209-334-4786	<a href="mailto:icvalente@softcom.net">icvalente@softcom.net</a>
Present	Eric Thorburn, P.E.	Oakdale Irrigation District Member	209-840-5525	<a href="mailto:ethorburn@oakdaleirrigation.com">ethorburn@oakdaleirrigation.com</a>
		Oakdale Irrigation District Alternate		
Present	Chuck Winn	San Joaquin County Member	209-953-1160	<a href="mailto:cwinn@sigov.org">cwinn@sigov.org</a>
	Kathy Miller	San Joaquin County Alternate	209-953-1161	<a href="mailto:kmiller@sigov.org">kmiller@sigov.org</a>
Present	John Herrick, Esq.	South Delta Water Agency Member	209-224-5854	<a href="mailto:jherrick@aol.com">jherrick@aol.com</a>
	Jerry Robinson	South Delta Water Agency Alternate	209-471-4025	N/A
Present	Robert Holmes	South San Joaquin GSA Member	209-484-7678	<a href="mailto:rholmes@sslid.com">rholmes@sslid.com</a>
Present	Brandon Nakagawa	South San Joaquin GSA Alternate	209-249-4613	<a href="mailto:bnakagawa@sslid.com">bnakagawa@sslid.com</a>
Present	Melvin Panizza	Stockton East Water District Member	209-948-0333	<a href="mailto:melpanizza@aol.com">melpanizza@aol.com</a>
Present	Andrew Watkins	Stockton East Water District Alternate	209-484-8591	<a href="mailto:watkins.andrew@verizon.net">watkins.andrew@verizon.net</a>
	Anders Christensen	Woodbridge Irrigation District Member	209-625-8438	<a href="mailto:widirrigation@gmail.com">widirrigation@gmail.com</a>
		Woodbridge Irrigation District Alternate		

**Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Staff & Support**

INITIAL	Member's Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Present	Kris Balaji	San Joaquin County	468-3100	<a href="mailto:kbalaji@sigov.org">kbalaji@sigov.org</a>
Present	Fritz Buchman	San Joaquin County	468-3034	<a href="mailto:fbuchman@sigov.org">fbuchman@sigov.org</a>
Present	Matt Zidar	San Joaquin County	953-7460	<a href="mailto:mzidar@sigov.org">mzidar@sigov.org</a>
Present	Glenn Prasad	San Joaquin County	468-3089	<a href="mailto:grasad@sigov.org">grasad@sigov.org</a>
	Alicia Connelly	San Joaquin County	468-3531	<a href="mailto:aconnelly@sigov.org">aconnelly@sigov.org</a>
Present	Kristy Smith	San Joaquin County	468-0219	<a href="mailto:kmsmith@sigov.org">kmsmith@sigov.org</a>
Present	Rod Attebery	Neumiller & Beardlee / Legal Counsel	948-8200	<a href="mailto:rattebery@neumiller.com">rattebery@neumiller.com</a>
Present	Patricia Findley	San Joaquin County	953-7948	<a href="mailto:pfindley@sigov.org">pfindley@sigov.org</a>



**EASTERN SAN JOAQUIN  
GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**

**Joint Exercise of Powers  
Board of Directors Meeting**

**OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES - SIGN-IN SHEET**

Location: Teleconference Call Only Date: 04/13/2022 Time: 9:00 AM

INITIAL	Member's Name	Organization	Phone	Email
Present	Jeff Wong		EHD	
Present	Scott Moberly		SEUSD	
Present	Steven Smith		EHD	
Present	Juan Dchoa		SJLPU	
Present	Joy Girolano			
Present	Leslie Dumas		WSTC	
Present	Snidly Abajian			
Present	Mikaula Tran			
Present	Chad Tienken			
Present	Jose Coronado		SJC PD	
Present	Gerald Schwartz			
Present	Jenn Spalitta			
Present	Elb		CJO Manteca	
Present	Starran Mathipom		DUR	



# Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

April 13, 2022

#A.1

Agency Name	Director First	Director Last		Alternate First	Alternate Last	
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Cal Water	Jeremiah	Mecham				
Central Delta Water Agency	George	Biagi, Jr.		Dante	Nomellini	
Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District	Grant	Thompson		Reid	Roberts	
City of Lodi	Alan	Nakanishi	Y	Charlie	Swimley	
City of Manteca	David	Breitenbucher	Y			
City of Stockton	Dan	Wright	Y	Mel Paul	Lytle Canepa	
Eastside San Joaquin GSA	Gary	Tofanelli	Y	Russ	Thomas	
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Lockeford Community Services District	Mike	Henry	Y	Joseph Eric	Salzman Schmid	
North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	Tom	Flinn	Y	Joe	Valente	
Oakdale Irrigation District	Eric	Thorburn, P.E.	Y			
South Delta Water Agency	John	Herrick, Esq.	Y	Jerry	Robinson	
South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Robert	Holmes	Y	Brandon	Nakagawa	
Woodbridge Irrigation District	Andy	Christensen				
San Joaquin County Public Works Secretary (1)	Kris	Balaji				
Stockton East Water District Vice Chair (2)	Melvin	Panizza	Y	Andrew	Watkins	
San Joaquin County Chairman (3)	Chuck	Winn	Y	Kathy	Miller	

Motion - Holmes  
2nd - Herrick  
Approved

**Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority Board of Directors**

**April 13, 2022**

#.A.2

Agency Name	Director First	Director Last		Alternate First	Alternate Last	
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Cal Water	Jeremiah	Mecham				
Central Delta Water Agency	George	Biagi, Jr.		Dante	Nomellini	
Central San Joaquin Water Conservation District	Grant	Thompson		Reid	Roberts	
City of Lodi	Alan	Nakanishi	Y	Charlie	Swimley	
City of Manteca	David	Breitenbacher	Y			
City of Stockton	Dan	Wright	Y	Mel Paul	Lytle Canepa	
Eastside San Joaquin GSA	Gary	Tofanelli	Y	Russ	Thomas	
Linden County Water District	Myron	Blanton	Y	Douglas	Smith	
Lockeford Community Services District	Mike	Henry	Y	Joseph Eric	Salzman Schmid	
North San Joaquin Water Conservation District	Tom	Flinn	Y	Joe	Valente	
Oakdale Irrigation District	Eric	Thorburn, P.E.	Y			
South Delta Water Agency	John	Herrick, Esq.	Y	Jerry	Robinson	
South San Joaquin Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Robert	Holmes	Y	Brandon	Nakagawa	
Woodbridge Irrigation District	Andy	Christensen				
San Joaquin County Public Works Secretary (1)	Kris	Balaji				
Stockton East Water District Vice Chair (2)	Melvin	Panizza	Y	Andrew	Watkins	
San Joaquin County Chairman (3)	Chuck	Winn	Y	Kathy	Miller	

Motion - Holmes  
2nd - Wright.  
Approved.

## April 2022 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

### Grants

#### 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](https://grants.ca.gov) to find funding opportunities for you and your community.

#### **The California Financing Coordinating Committee is hosting two free virtual funding fairs on May 17 and May 25**

This is a great opportunity for local government employees, water industry professionals, city planners, economic development and engineering professionals, water and irrigation district managers, financial advisors, project consultants, and California Native American tribes to learn about current available infrastructure grant, loan, and bond financing programs through federal and state agencies. The afternoon session includes time to speak directly with state and federal program staff about your project and issues affecting your community. [More information here.](#)

#### **DRAFT Prop 68 Groundwater – Drinking Water Treatment Operations and Maintenance Funding Program**

The State Water Resource Control Board has released the program guidelines for the [Prop 68 Drinking Water Treatment Operations and Maintenance Funding Program](#) and is **accepting comments through July 6, 2022**. [Guidelines can be viewed here](#) and 3 in person workshops will be held on the following dates:

- Central Valley Workshop: Tuesday, May 24, 2022, 11:00 am – 12:00 noon, Fresno
- Southern California Workshop: Wednesday, May 25, 2022, 11:00 am – 12:00 noon, Glendale
- Northern California Workshop: Friday, May 27, 2022, 10:30 am – 12:00 noon, Sacramento (in-person and remote participation)
- 

#### **White House Press release**

The White House on January 31<sup>st</sup> released a guide for state, local, tribal and territorial governments to funding under the new bipartisan infrastructure law. The [press release and guide](#) can be found here.

**NEW: April 2022, the White House released a Rural Playbook** to help state, local, Tribal and territorial governments in rural areas unlock the benefits from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (aka the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act). <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/04/BIL-Rural-Playbook-.pdf>

#### **Webinar Series: EPA hosting Grant Webinar Series**

EPA's Office of Grants and Debarment is pleased to announce the launch of a new webinar series. The webinar series, which will take place over three weeks starting in April, is intended for grant applicants and recipients. Participants will hear from EPA staff about key aspects of the grants process and have the opportunity to submit questions. **Click for registration links to the follow webinars: [Competition Process \(April 28\)](#), [Developing a Budget \(May 5<sup>th</sup>\)](#), and [Financial Management \(May 10\)](#). All will be held 2-3 pm Eastern Time.**

#### **CA Wildlife Conservation Board: Pre-Application form now available**

WCB uses a single continuous grant application process for all proposed projects. The process begins with a Pre-Application (Word). Applicants do not need to determine which WCB Grant Program or Funding Source to apply to; rather, WCB staff will determine that during application review. [General grant guidelines](#) and [more information about WCB grants](#) can be found here.

#### **EPA: Webinar for Environmental Finance Center Grants**

EPA has announced a Request for Applications for \$68 million in federal funding through the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) Grant Program. A major priority for this program over the next five years is to provide technical support to disadvantaged communities across the country. **EFCs will support a range of projects**

## April 2022 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

focused on solid waste, clean air, toxic substances, drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater. EPA will also hold an informational webinar to provide an overview of the EFC Grant Program on May 3rd, 2022 from 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm E.T. [Register here.](#)

### USBR: WaterSMART Drought Grants for Fiscal Year 2023

USBR has a number of grants to fund drought response including contingency planning (applications due April 14), resiliency projects (**applications due June 15**) and emergency response. [More information can be found here.](#)

### ICARP Grant Programs

Three new grant programs were authorized under the 2021 State Climate Budget to fund local, regional, and tribal **climate adaptation and resilience efforts** across the state. [More information including registration for listening session webinars can be found here.](#)

- The ICARP Adaptation Planning Grant Program will invest \$25 million over multiple funding rounds for local, regional, and tribal governments to support climate adaptation and resilience planning activities.
- The ICARP Regional Resilience Planning and Implementation Grant Program will invest \$250 million over multiple funding rounds to scale regional climate resilience solutions.
- The ICARP Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Grant Program will support local and regional heat adaptation by investing \$100 million in extreme heat and urban heat island mitigation activities.

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/>

## Upcoming conferences, webinars, new reports and data

### Webinar: LiDAR Stakeholder Workshop

On Monday, **May 16th, from 9 a.m. to Noon PDT**, the [California Water Data Consortium](#) and co-conveners (listed below) will host a virtual cross-sector gathering to build common ground and collaboration on needs and uses of LiDAR derived products in California. [Register here.](#) Goals of the workshop include:

- Launch creation of a common, publicly accessible list of derived product types of interest across sectors, to:
- Stimulate collaboration, where appropriate, on shared derived products

### DWR's Climate Change Program Resources

DWR's Climate change program has lots of initiatives including resources for water managers. Check out their [webpage](#) and [factsheet](#) here.

### Webpage for CA Water Plan Update 2023 Published by DWR

DWR has unveiled the new webpage for [California Water Plan Update 2023](#). The California Water Plan is updated every five years. It is the State's strategic plan for managing and developing California's water resources. Update 2023 will emphasize climate change adaptation, regional and watershed resilience, and water equity. **The second meeting of the Policy Advisory Committee will be May 4th from 9-12, [registration here.](#)**

### Electronic Annual Reports for Public Water System Representatives

The Electronic Annual Report (EAR) to the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Drinking Water (DDW) on the operation of your public water system during the past year (2021) will be released on March 21, 2022. You will be able to access the new [EAR Portal](#) using the following link: <https://ear.waterboards.ca.gov/>.



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Once it is released, the 2021 EAR is due to be submitted by May 21, 2022.

DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board have released [principles and strategies for groundwater management and drinking water wells](#). The document provides a framework for the development of drought-resistant communities. Approximately 82 percent of Californians rely on groundwater for some portion of their drinking water or other household uses. A [Spanish version](#) of the draft is available.

DWR Released California's Groundwater Update 2020 (formerly Bulletin 118) and California's Groundwater Live Online  
The Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the final [California's Groundwater – Update 2020 \(Bulletin-118\)](#), containing information on the condition of the State's groundwater, which is especially important with most of California facing ongoing drought conditions. DWR has also developed a companion web-based application called [California's Groundwater Live](#) (CalGW Live), leveraging the [California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Platform](#) (Open Data) to improve the access and timeliness of statewide groundwater information. The easy-to-use interface will make many of the data sets used in CalGW Update 2020 available in an interactive map format that will be updated regularly for viewing and downloading. For more information, visit the updated [California's Groundwater website](#). Contact: [CalGW@water.ca.gov](mailto:CalGW@water.ca.gov). **NEW drought related features added to domestic and irrigation well dashboards on CA Groundwater Live:** The first new feature is a series of new interactive well density layers that summarize the number of domestic and irrigation well completion reports (WCRs) received by the Department over various time periods since 1977. The other new feature has added monthly well statistics for both domestic and irrigation types. This feature allows users to compare the number of new domestic and irrigation wells installed month-by-month since 1977.

**OpenET** makes tracking water use data easier with satellite data

A space-based tool is ready to help track water in the western U.S. Using data from satellites, [Open Evapotranspiration](#) (OpenET) gives farmers and other water users information on how much of their water loss ends up as evapotranspiration. The OpenET data are available for 17 western states, including the Colorado River basin area. **NEW: Free webinar training series June 1, 8 and 15<sup>th</sup> 2022 ([more information and registration link here](#)).**

## **SGMA**

### **Newly Submitted GSP's Open for 75 Day Public Comment Period**

Groundwater sustainability plans that have recently been submitted to the Department are now posted on the DWR [SGMA Portal](#). These plans are open to public comment for 75 days after the posted date. Below in the table are links to the submitted plans, counties they cover, and the public comment period end date. Information about how to comment on the plans can be found in a fact sheet in [English](#) and [Spanish](#). Public comments are welcomed and encouraged. A SGMA Portal account is not necessary to submit comments.

### **DWR Releases GSP Assessments for COD basins that submitted by January 2020**

**DWR has now released the assessment for all COD basins that submitted GSP's in January of 2020.** The release of incomplete determination begins a 180 day timeline to correct identified deficiencies that that precluded approval. These assessments and notification letters, along with other pertinent information, can be viewed [here on the DWR SGMA Portal](#). **The Department has updated the SGMA Portal's GSP Reporting System to allow the resubmission of incomplete GSPs and, if applicable, Coordination Agreements. The User Manual may also be viewed and downloaded on the [SGMA Portal Resources Page](#) or at the following link: [User Manual](#).**

### **Groundwater Conditions Report for Water Year 2021 Released**

On March 11, 2022, the Department of Water Resources (DWR, Department) released [Groundwater Conditions Report – Water Year 2021](#). The report summarizes groundwater conditions across California and includes information on groundwater levels, land subsidence, new well infrastructure, and dry well reports. The reported

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information is based on available data from DWR databases, as of January 14, 2022. To view the latest groundwater conditions, please visit [California's Groundwater Live](#).

### Dry Well Reporting Site

There is a website available to [report private wells going dry](#). Information reported to this site is intended to inform state and local agencies on drought impacts on household water supplies. The data reported on this site (excluding personal identifiable information) can be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#) or downloaded on the [CNRA Atlas](#). Individuals or local agencies can report water shortages and [a list of resources are included on the webpage](#). The reporting forms are available in both English and Spanish.

### 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](#).

- [AEM webpage](#) contains information on the how the process works, safety, schedule, data submission by GSAs, TAC, pilot study data and more. Public webinar was held **June 8<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 1:00**, a [recording can be viewed here](#) and [handouts can be downloaded here](#). **Sonoma Valley Basins were surveyed in November, 2021 and North San Joaquin and Southern Sacramento surveys completed in April 2022.**
- [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. Water year 2019 is planned to be released in 2022.
- [InSAR subsidence data](#) is now available through January of 2022 and can be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#). The updated GIS services and data reports are also available [online](#). Future data will be released on a quarterly basis.

### Outreach and Educational Materials Available

DWR's [SGMA Assistance and Engagement webpage](#) 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 – [Groundwater: Understanding and Managing this Vital Resource](#)
- [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](#)

### CASGEM to Monitoring Network Module Transition Frequently Asked Questions Available

The [CASGEM to Monitoring Network Module Transition Frequently Asked Questions](#) (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 .

### 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](#). [Written translation services available in 8 languages for outreach materials \(5,000 word maximum\)](#).