



Merced Subbasin GSA

Governing Board Meeting

February 24, 2021



Workshop on GSP Implementation

Workshop on GSP Implementation

- Merced GSP Sustainability Goals and review
- First Five Implementation Plan
- Current demand conditions and relation to groundwater use and levels
- Potential Actions to reduce groundwater use in the Merced Subbasin GSA
- Expanding First Five Implementation Actions for demand reduction
- Next steps

Merced GSP Sustainability Goals and Review

“Achieve sustainable groundwater management on a long-term average basis by increasing recharge and/or reducing groundwater pumping, while avoiding undesirable results.”

- Reduction in groundwater use necessary in the basin and in the MSGSA
 - Merced Subbasin Sustainable Yield approximately 570,000 AFY
 - Allocation Framework
 - MSGSA has agreed to substantial reduction through the MSGSA Demand Reduction Management Action in the GSP
- Surface water supply projects anticipated in the basin and MSGSA
 - Water Rights application
 - FloodMAR
 - GSP Projects



Implementation Budget

- Financing implementation activities
- Current budget driven by First Five Plan
 - SGMA Compliance Landowner Fee (Prop 218)

First Five Implementation Plan

Category	2019 thru early 2020	2020	2021
GSP	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Write GSP and Implementation Agreement for Merced Subbasin; Hold meetings/workshops for input 2) Submit GSP by Jan 31, 2020 for three GSA 	Annual monitoring, data collection, analysis and preparation of State Report by April 1	Annual monitoring, data collection, analysis and preparation of State Report by April 1 (on-going)
Financing & Revenue	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Prop 218 Landowner Fee For SGMA Compliance Proceeding 2) Apply for grants (Prop 68, DWR Technical Support Services Funding) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Apply for grants 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Apply for grants 2) Initiate Prop 218 proceeding for project and demand reduction financing 3) Establish enforcement fines related to parcel-based water use program
Studies	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Inventory of domestic wells; voluntary reporting 2) Estimation of extraction per parcel (baseline) 3) Explore demand reduction approaches (gw extraction charge or parcel fee, allocations, water trading, innovation) 4) Identify lands for recharge (information from DWR and other studies/sources) 5) Assess water rights permitting (Flood MAR) 6) Assess need for domestic well mitigation program 7) Identify Sustainability Zones for specific studies and actions 8) Verify non-groundwater sources of water 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recharge project feasibility analysis (FloodMAR) 2) Prepare parcel-based water use history (2019 use) 3) Identify extraction based water assessment method 4) Next steps in joint water rights permitting process 5) Identify Sustainability Zones and projects and management actions specific to sustainability zones 6) Inventory of wells completed 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Complete recharge feasibility studies and pilot projects
Projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Identify monitoring wells to fill data gaps 2) Identify current wells for video logs for inclusion in monitoring program (or wells already logged by others) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Installation of monitoring wells through DWR TSS or grant funding 2) Video log through TSS or state funding 3) Recharge pilot projects on lands identified for recharge 4) Acquire additional surface water for recharge and in lieu use 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Pursue additional recharge projects per study finding 2) Pursue water rights application for flood water 3) Continue acquiring additional surface water for recharge and in lieu use
Programs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Demand reduction outreach and education 2) Potential domestic well mitigation program 3) Outreach regarding local knowledge of recharge basins and other characteristics 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Demand reduction outreach and education - share historical use per parcel 2) Continue design of domestic well mitigation program 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Initiate domestic well mitigation program 2) Demand reduction outreach and education 3) Initiate parcel-based water use accounting
Demand Reduction	N/A	TBD	TBD

Current Activities

- Ad hoc committee with other GSAs
 - Demand reduction targets
 - Baseline
 - Definition of developed supply
- Coordination Committee
 - Basinwide monitoring
- Technical and Advisory Committee
- Developing and implementing demand reduction methods



Current Demand Conditions and Relation to Groundwater Use and Levels

Potential Actions to Reduce Groundwater Use

- Highlights of other GSA activities
- Allocation approaches
 - Examples
 - Preliminary actions
 - Geographic focus
- Other innovations
 - Incentive programs for land resting/repurposing
- Fees related to approaches
 - Available fee approaches
 - Preliminary actions necessary

Expanding First Five Implementation Actions for Demand Reduction

- Budgetary needs
- Near term vs. long term approaches

Next Steps

- Prepare details for initial demand reduction activities
- Technical and Advisory Committees discussions
- Updates to Technical and Advisory Committees structure
- Next regular Board meeting April 8, 2021

Contract for Auditor Services



Basin-Wide Well Monitoring Consultant

Consultant for Basin-wide Monitoring

- Technical support services may include
 - Monthly monitoring of groundwater levels in CASGEM wells
 - Coordinating groundwater quality and subsidence monitoring with other entities
 - Assisting in filling data gaps through the installation of new monitoring sites
 - Refinement of existing monitoring programs
- Coordination Committee recommends the GSAs select QK as consultant for monitoring work under SGMA for Merced Subbasin. Authorize MIUGSA to enter into an agreement with QK. Provide QK with initial budget of \$10,000 to conduct spring monitoring.



Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Recommended Stakeholder Advisory Committee

Applicant	Organization	Alternate	Alternate Organization
Mark Maxwell	UC Merced		
Reyn Akiona	River Partners		
Arlan Thomas	Chairman MIDAC	Ben Migliazzo	Live Oak Farm
Robert Weimer	Weimer Farms		
Joe Scoto	Scoto Brothers/McSwain School Dist.		
Nav Athwal	TriNut Farms		
Rick Drayer	Merced/Mariposa Cattlemen		
Susan Walsh	City of Merced	Bill Spriggs	Resident City of Merced
Lisa Kayser-Grant	Sierra Club		
Gil Cardon	Merced Co. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce		
Lacy Carothers	Cal Am Water		
David Belt	Foster Farms		
Thomas Dinwoodie	Master Gardener/McSwain		
Jean Okuye	E Merced RCD		
Jose Moran	Livingston City Council		
Perry Klassen	ESJWQC		
Maxwell Norton	Unincorporated area		
Darren Olguin	Resident of Merced County		
Breanne Ramos	MCFB		
Emma Reyes	Martin Reyes Farm/Land Leveling		
Joe Sansoni	Sansoni Farms/MCFB		
Simon Vander Woude	Sandy Mush MWC		
Trevor Hutton	Valley Land Alliance		
Wes Myers	Merced Grassland Coalition	Lou Myers	Benjamin Land LP
Greg Olzack	Atwater Resident		
Olivia Gomez	Community of Planada	Amanda Monaco	Leadership Council
Craig Arnold	Arnold Farms		
Bob Kelley	Stevinson Representative	Blake Nervino	Stevinson/Merquin
Dave Serrano	Le Grand Area Grower		
Lisa Baker	Clayton Water District		



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