

Subbasin Announcements

As the new water year begins, the Delta-Mendota Subbasin continues with groundwater sustainability plan (GSP) implementation, consistent with SGMA requirements, despite the GSPs being deemed “Inadequate” by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). During the third quarter of 2023, the Subbasin completed mandatory summer water quality monitoring.

Progress on the Delta-Mendota Subbasin Single GSP Approach for SGMA Compliance

Delta-Mendota Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) put policy and technical issues on parallel tracks as they seek approval for a single GSP for the entire 750,000-acre Subbasin. On the policy side, the Coordination Committee agreed to a revised cost allocation to pay a consultant to revise the six previous GSPs into a single GSP for the Subbasin. Under a single GSP, a Coordination Agreement is no longer required. However, GSA representatives want a framework in place for working cooperatively, so a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) will replace the Coordination Agreement once the single GSP is adopted. The MOA will have a stronger focus on GSP implementation.

The Subbasin’s Coordination Committee will remain intact. Previously it consisted of eight seats with a total of six votes. Under the MOA, there will be seven seats with each seat having a vote. However, the MOA will

not take effect until the single GSP is adopted by all the GSAs in the Subbasin. That is anticipated to be presented to the GSAs for adoption in July of 2024.

On the technical track, a limited number of Committee members, staff, and consultants are meeting with State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) staff on a monthly basis to discuss achieving “approved” status for the Subbasin’s GSP and addressing deficiencies identified by DWR. SGMA legislation requires that once a GSP is determined “inadequate” by DWR, it moves to the jurisdiction of the SWRCB for approval.

SGMA Grant Activities

Activities continue on the SGMA Round 1 Implementation Grant, funded through DWR. The \$7.6 million grant is being administered by Del Puerto Water District on behalf of the Subbasin.

Grant-funded activities are focused on a variety of projects and management actions that will assist local GSAs in complying with the requirements of SGMA. These projects and management actions were prioritized by the local GSAs to help achieve groundwater sustainability across the Subbasin.

Water Level Monitoring

GSAs are in the process of collecting fall water level monitoring data. Data will be submitted to DWR as required by SGMA in the fall.

Upcoming Meetings and Important Dates

Coordination Committee
Second Monday
1:00 PM SLDMWA Boardroom

Northern Management Committee
First Wednesday
2:00 PM Patterson City Hall

Central Management Committee
Fourth Thursday
10:00 AM SLDMWA Boardroom

Questions? Contact your local groundwater sustainability agency or send an email to dmsgma@sldmwa.org

Visit deltamendota.org for current and upcoming meeting information