

MINUTES

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

Board Members:

EASTERN SIERRA CSD	Ron Stone	COUNTY OF MONO	Fred Stump
INDIAN CREEK-WESTRIDGE CSD	Luis Elias	CITY OF BISHOP	Chris Costello
		COUNTY OF INYO	Dan Totheroh
		BIG PINE CSD	BryAnna Vaughan

March 12, 2020

The Owens Valley Groundwater Authority meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. at the Bishop City Council Chambers, Bishop, CA.

1. Pledge of allegiance

The Chairman led the pledge of allegiance.

The Chairman stated he would be moving item 7 after Public Comment to accommodate a request from the Executive Director.

2. Public Comment

The Chairperson opened the public comment period and there was no one wishing to address the Board.

3. Introductions

The Board introduced themselves with all Board members present.

4. Approval of minutes from the February 13, 2020 OVGA Board meeting

The Chairperson requested a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2020 meeting. Motion to approve the minutes as presented by Ron Stone, seconded by Chris Costello. Motion passed, 6 yes.

5. Board Member Reports

The Chairperson suspended this item.

6. OVGA staff reports

- Financial Report
- Report on Indian Wells Valley Groundwater Authority activities

Laura Piper, Inyo County Water Department, provided the financial report and stated the OVGA cash balance is \$213,219.94, \$101,241.19 was moved from the grant advance to the OVGA operating budget; transactions since the previous meeting were consultant charges in the amount of \$39,085.85, \$24,660.93, and Inyo staff services for Oct-Dec 2019 in the amount of \$11,624.67. The Chairman asked what the total grant award was, Ms. Piper stated \$713,155; the grant advance amount, Ms. Piper stated \$316,530 that needs to be expended by May 9, 2020. John Vallejo stated that at the last IWVGMD meeting there was consternation regarding Rose Valley and that BLM has proposed to open up new lands for geothermal leasing; and he stated they are waiting to see when the IWVGMD gets sued, which is likely. Philip Anaya stated a related item on the Inyo Board of Supervisors agenda was [Inyo Code, Chapter] 7.02, the groundwater ordinance and stated the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority is named in the ordinance. John Vallejo stated the Inyo County Board had its first reading of a groundwater pumping ordinance this past Tuesday. He explained these activities will be regulated under police power and not land use authority.

7. Presentation of draft 2020-2021 OVGA budget

Aaron Steinwand stated the three year developmental budget would be reviewed annually according to the JPA. He stated he has provided a staff report with the proposed budget for the upcoming year, 2020-2021; the budget is similar to the previous year; it assumes the budget shortfall from Wheeler Crest and Tri Valley will be made up; all of the consultants GSP costs will be reimbursed by the Prop 1 grant; the website development is included again in this year's budget; and the final budget will be submitted with any recommended changes at the April meeting. Chris Costello stated he calculated that \$7,500 was being spent per each monthly meeting; he suggested quarterly meetings; having one lawyer for each meeting instead of two; and limiting the consultants to conference calls and attendance only when necessary. John Vallejo stated the frequent meetings are based on the steps necessary to put the GSP together; the Board could reduce effort on staff's part in the respective contracts; and also have the attorney's alternate. Stacey Simons stated with the Governor's executive order, it will enable meetings by teleconference and not requiring that the locations be open to the public with the current public health issues. Ron Stone concurred with Chris Costello. Philip Anaya stated he is not in favor of fewer meetings.

8. Consideration of Members' Funding the GSP Development Budget in accordance with Article IV, section 1.1 of the OVGA JPA and Amendment of Member Funding Agreements to provide for revised funding contributions

The Chairperson provided a brief overview of the options available to the Board due to the departure of former Board Members. Eastern Sierra stated no comment; Indian Creek and Big Pine stated they would continue at the current level; Inyo stated they would fund up to 50% of the shortfall; Bishop stated no additional funding at this time; Mono stated they would cover the entire shortfall for the current year from Tri-Valley and Wheeler Crest; and also participate in the following years to split with Inyo County. John Vallejo stated the immediate refund will be \$18,878 to Tri Valley/Wheeler Crest and expect to lose \$45,378 from future contributions; it appears Inyo and Mono will split the shortfall for the coming year (\$22,689 each); and the draft agreement will be updated and finalized between both counties. The Chairman asked when the upcoming contribution invoices will be sent out, Ms. Piper stated after the budget is finalized, approximately in May.

9. Consideration and possible approval of Associate and Interested Party applications for Meadowcreek Mutual Water Co. and Wilson Circle Mutual Water Co., Owens Valley Committee, and the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation contingent upon entry into an agreement(s) as required by Article V Sections 1.2 and 1.3 of the OVGA JPA. Provide direction to staff regarding agreement terms

John Vallejo stated at the April 2019 meeting, direction to staff was to negotiate with the Lone Pine Tribe; offer Owens Valley Committee an Interested Parties seat; with one mutual water company for a shared or their own Associate member seat; and what to require for minimum funding for the mutual water company to join the JPA is a policy decision before the Board. Ken Toy stated he would need to know the exact particulars of the financial aspect to bring back to his Board for a decision whether to join the OVGA or not and they would only be representative of themselves, the Meadowcreek Mutual Water Company. The Board decided the contribution for Meadowcreek Mutual Water Company to join the JPA as a two vote Associate member would be \$22,654 for the 2020-2021 year and if they joined in April, it would be $\$1887.83 \times 3$ months this fiscal year for a total of \$5,663.49. Ken Toy stated Meadowcreek would not be interested in being an Interested Party. Philip Anaya stated the difference between the two votes with Eastern Sierra CSD and the mutual water company is that Eastern Sierra CSD is an eligible GSA, whereas the mutual water company is not and he would like the mutual water company to make an offer of funding. Dave Tanksley stated the mutual water companies have the right to be part of the association; his opinion is two votes with no fee or minimal funding; and what about other mutual water companies that wish to join. The Board stated the local water companies were contacted; Meadowcreek is the only one to show interest; and there is one Associate seat being offered for mutual water companies. The Board and staff discussed this item in great detail. Director Vaughn suggested putting the various options together so the Board has time to evaluate them. A motion was made by BryAnna Vaughn with a second by Dan Totheroh for staff to provide a brief summary staff report next meeting to include the following options for Meadowcreek membership:

- 2 votes as Associate member with \$1.00 fee to join
- 2 votes as Associate member funding half of the regular contribution
- 2 votes as Associate member with full funding pro-rated for this year and full funding next year
- 1 vote as an Interested Party w/no financial contribution

Motion passed 5 yes, 1 abstention.

Debbie Murphy inquired about the voting shares; John Vallejo stated it will need to be recalculated based on the formula in the JPA due to the changing composition of the Board.

The Chairperson called a break at 3:39 pm and reconvened the meeting at 3:48 pm.

John Vallejo stated at the previous meeting staff was directed to enter into discussions with the Lone Pine Tribe regarding their application to become an Associate member; there was issue whether the GSA would be implemented on the sovereign tribal lands; the JPA states any associate member will implement the GSP on their lands; based on that discussion, they applied as an Interested Party. He stated the decision before the Board today is whether to allow the Lone Pine Tribe a seat on the Board as an Interested Party. Mel Joseph stated the tribe was unwilling to provide the groundwater data on tribal lands and therefore decided to apply as an Interested Party. Philip Anaya stated the tribes are the traditional actual inhabitants of this basin; they should be an Associate member without compliance with the GSP; and have a management area. April Zrelak stated the Board needs a tribal voice that covers the entire basin; it's the voice and presence on the Board that counts; and stated some of the tribes have no control over their groundwater, it's LADWP. Keith Rainville stated there is sufficient monitoring data outside the tribal area. Luis Elias stated there is cultural history throughout the valley and the tribes should have a seat on the Board. Motion by BryAnna Vaughan to accept Lone Pine Tribe as a non-funding Interested Party on the OVGA Board with one vote and provide an agreement approved by Lone Pine Tribe by next meeting for Boards approval, seconded by Dan Tothoroth. Motion passed, 6 yes.

Dr. Steinwand stated the Owens Valley Committee applied to be an Interested Party as well as the Sierra Club; the Sierra Club withdrew; it was the Boards intent at that time, April 2019, to offer the OVC an Interested Party seat. Mary Roper stated the OVC would like a voice on the Board; the SGMA is to protect the environment. Chris Costello stated one concern he has is that there is a misconception that this Board can make a change to how LADWP functions; Mary Roper stated the OVC knows better and is aware they are an adjudicated basin. He stated if that was the case, it would muddy the waters of what they are trying to sustain. The majority of the Board stated they supported the addition of OVC on the Board. The Chairman expressed his concern regarding special interest groups having a seat on the Board. Mary Roper stated that DWR sent representatives to the valley of which OVC was interviewed three times; the intent was to involve environmental groups; she expressed her concern that she hopes the Board knows she will not filibuster; she will give her input and not obstruct; and will bring another perspective; the goal is to produce the best GSP that can be done which can't be done by eliminating important voices. Philip Anaya stated he supports the OVC inclusion. Eddie Trimmer, Bristlecone Chapter, Ca Native Plant Society stated the health of the vegetation was part of the LTWA; and she feels the voice of the environmental community is important. BryAnna Vaughan made a motion to invite the OVC on the OVGA Board as an Interested Party, one vote, and have staff prepare the necessary agreement, seconded by Luis Elias. The Board requested a roll call vote; Ron Stone – Y, Luis Elias – Y, BryAnna Vaughan – Y, Dan Tothoroth – Y, Chris Costello – N, Fred Stump – No, motion passed, 4 Yes, 2 No.

10. Consideration of Communications and Engagement Plan Guiding Principles

The Chairperson suspended this item. Dan Tothoroh stated since the Board composition has increased, would the Board like to add an additional Ad hoc group member, The Chairperson stated that would come forth as a future agenda item.

11. Presentation from Daniel B. Stephens and Associates on elements of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Tony Morgan provided a PowerPoint presentation regarding upcoming events; groundwater model review; data files from LADWP not received as of yet; needs additional results for DPWM; the April meeting will be ecosystems; some of future presentations will be achieved remotely; reviewed the sustainable management criteria; defining management areas; and minimum threshold exceedances. Sally manning asked if climate change is going to be documented as part of the plan; Tony Morgan stated yes and they are working on it now to determine what those change factors will look like. Eddie Trimmer asked how vegetation is going to be monitored when groundwater is the main focus. The Chairperson stated the documents for past presentations are available on the webpage and would assist with this information. Tony Morgan stated the guidance documents on the DWR website are a good start as well.

12. Owens Lake update

Dr. Steinwand stated LADWP withdrew the notice of exemption that they filed for their six month pumping test; and cancelled the meetings of the Owens Lake working groups and will probably revisit this in the future. John Vallejo mentioned they stated there is no current project at the moment; Inyo questioned was there a project; and if so how was it approved with no response from LADWP at this time.

13. Discussion regarding future agenda items

The Board and staff stated the upcoming agenda items will be; Owens Lake update; formalizing new members; reconsideration of Meadowcreek Mutual Water Company; final budget; list of goals that are necessary to obtain quarterly meetings; and discussion regarding additional Ad Hoc member.

14. Set next meeting

The next meeting was not discussed due to the current situation of the Corona virus.

15. Adjourn

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 5:04 pm.

DRAFT

SORT ORDER: OBJECT within BUDUNIT

SELECT BUDGET UNIT: 621601

Ig BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description	SS Ref	Date	Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
GL 621601-1000	YEAREND	3. Balance Forward 2018/2019	JE	07/01/19	02639692	136,576.20	0.00	136,576.20
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD18628A Job:2483097	OH	07/18/19	02483097	0.00	450.00	136,126.20
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19715A Job:2484520	OH	07/19/19	02484520	0.00	4,450.97	131,675.23
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19723C Job:2487316	OH	07/24/19	02487316	0.00	23,467.45	108,207.78
GL 621601-1000	INTRCBL	AutoID: JA19802E Job: 2496015	JE	08/02/19	02496015	1,196.59	0.00	109,404.37
GL 621601-1000	JE35066	AutoID: JH19C07J Job: 2540790	JE	10/07/19	02540790	0.00	13,714.77	95,689.60
GL 621601-1000	JE35095	AutoID: JH19C11C Job: 2544343	JE	10/11/19	02544343	0.00	4,500.00	91,189.60
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OW19C14B Job:2545637	OH	10/15/19	02545637	0.00	844.50	90,345.10
GL 621601-1000	JE35239	AutoID: JA19C31G Job: 2556858	JE	10/31/19	02556858	0.00	9,767.85	80,577.25
GL 621601-1000	INTERSTA	AutoID: JA19B26B Job: 2571260	JE	11/04/19	02571260	1,853.04	0.00	82,430.29
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:OW19N04A Job:2559123	OH	11/05/19	02559123	0.00	29,180.45	53,249.84
GL 621601-1000	JE35319	AutoID: JA19B08A Job: 2562429	JE	11/08/19	02562429	52,859.66	0.00	106,109.50
GL 621601-1000	TTLCR	AutoID: OB19N22A Job: 2571198	CR	11/22/19	02571198	22,654.00	0.00	128,763.50
GL 621601-1000	JE35428	AutoID: JI19N25B Job: 2571702	JE	11/25/19	02571702	22,654.00	0.00	151,417.50
GL 621601-1000	TTLCR	AutoID: CR19D02A Job: 2574746	CR	12/02/19	02574746	98,167.66	0.00	249,585.16
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19D02A Job:2580033	OH	12/10/19	02580033	0.00	8,959.00	240,626.16
GL 621601-1000	IS1019	AutoID: IS1019 Job: 2580196	JE	12/10/19	02580196	0.00	144.34	240,481.82
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: IB20102B Job:2596569	OH	01/07/20	02596569	0.00	48,631.61	191,850.21
GL 621601-1000	JE35780	AutoID: JI20107A Job: 2597217	JE	01/07/20	02597217	0.00	4,500.00	187,350.21
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: JS20205A Job: 2617276	JE	02/05/20	02617276	0.00	11,624.67	175,725.54
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: IB20206A Job:2618612	OH	02/07/20	02618612	0.00	39,085.86	136,639.68
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: IB20227 Job:2630373	OH	02/27/20	02630373	0.00	24,660.93	111,978.75
GL 621601-1000	JE36226	AutoID: JA190309 Job: 2638502	JE	03/09/20	02638502	101,241.19	0.00	213,219.94
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19309B Job:2643603	OH	03/19/20	02643603	0.00	1,542.50	211,677.44
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: IB20327B Job:2650656	OH	04/01/20	02650656	0.00	30,305.78	181,371.66
GL 621601-1000	JE36431	AutoID: JI20408A Job: 2655780	JE	04/09/20	02655780	0.00	4,500.00	176,871.66
GL 621601-1000	JE36503	AutoID: JI20414B Job: 2660173	JE	04/15/20	02660173	0.00	12,828.34	164,043.32
GL 621601-1000	IS0320	AutoID: PC200401 Job: 2661129	JE	04/16/20	02661129	0.00	181.49	163,861.83
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID: IB20422A Job:2666334	OH	04/24/20	02666334	0.00	75,800.67	88,061.16
GL 621601-1000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19417A Job:2667036	OH	04/27/20	02667036	0.00	9,439.16	78,622.00
GL 621601-1000	INTEREST	AutoID: JA19428B Job: 2668196	JE	04/27/20	02668196	2,698.62	0.00	81,320.62
GL 621601-1000	INTEREST	AutoID: JA19428E Job: 2668297	JE	04/27/20	02668297	1,974.40	0.00	83,295.02
GL 621601-1000	JE36603	AutoID: JI20429A Job: 2669333	JE	04/30/20	02669333	9,439.16	0.00	92,734.18
GL 621601-1000	JE36625A	AutoID: JR20504B Job: 2671484	JE	05/04/20	02671484	0.00	13,290.00	79,444.18
GL 621601-1000	JE36625B	AutoID: JR20504B Job: 2671484	JE	05/04/20	02671484	215,288.81	0.00	294,732.99
*****Total *OBJT 1000		CLAIM ON CASH			DR	666,603.33	371,870.34	294,732.99
GL 621601-1160	YEAREND	3. Balance Forward 2018/2019	JE	07/01/19	02639692	1,196.59	0.00	1,196.59
GL 621601-1160	INTRCBL	4th QTR INTEREST RVRS	JE	08/02/19	02496015	0.00	1,196.59	0.00
*****Total *OBJT 1160		INTEREST RECEIVABLE			DR	1,196.59	1,196.59	0.00
GL 621601-1200	YEAREND	3. Balance Forward 2018/2019	JE	07/01/19	02639692	2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
GL 621601-1200	JE34537	UA386949:GOLDEN STATE RISK MAN	JE	07/09/19	02475759	0.00	2,500.00	0.00
*****Total *OBJT 1200		PREFPAID EXPENSES			DR	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	YEAREND	4. Balance forward 2018/2019	JE	07/01/19	02639692	0.00	27,918.42	27,918.42
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD18628A Job:2481900	OH	07/16/19	02481900	0.00	450.00	28,368.42
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD18628A Job:2483097	OH	07/18/19	02483097	450.00	0.00	27,918.42
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19715A Job:2484520	OH	07/19/19	02484520	4,450.97	0.00	23,467.45
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OW19723C Job:2487316	OH	07/24/19	02487316	23,467.45	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OW19C14B Job:2544634	OH	10/14/19	02544634	0.00	844.50	844.50

SORT ORDER: OBJECT within BUDUNIT

SELECT BUDGET UNIT: 621601

Ig BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description	SS Ref	Date	Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OW19C14B Job:2545637	OH	10/15/19	02545637	844.50	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OW19N04A Job:2558022	OH	11/04/19	02558022	0.00	29,180.45	29,180.45
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:OW19N04A Job:2559123	OH	11/05/19	02559123	29,180.45	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19D02A Job:2579315	OH	12/09/19	02579315	0.00	8,959.00	8,959.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19D02A Job:2580033	OH	12/10/19	02580033	8,959.00	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:IB20102B Job:2593644	OH	01/02/20	02593644	0.00	48,631.61	48,631.61
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:IB20102B Job:2596569	OH	01/07/20	02596569	48,631.61	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:IB20206A Job:2617676	OH	02/06/20	02617676	0.00	39,085.86	39,085.86
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:IB20206A Job:2618612	OH	02/07/20	02618612	39,085.86	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:IB20227 Job:2630048	OH	02/27/20	02630048	0.00	24,660.93	24,660.93
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19309B Job:2642397	OH	03/18/20	02642397	0.00	1,542.50	1,542.50
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19309B Job:2643603	OH	03/19/20	02643603	1,542.50	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:IB20327B Job:2649421	OH	03/31/20	02649421	0.00	30,305.78	30,305.78
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:IB20327B Job:2650656	OH	04/01/20	02650656	30,305.78	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19417A Job:2665374	OH	04/23/20	02665374	0.00	9,439.16	9,439.16
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:IB20422A Job:2666081	OH	04/23/20	02666081	0.00	75,800.67	75,800.67
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:IB20422A Job:2666334	OH	04/24/20	02666334	75,800.67	0.00	0.00
GL 621601-2000	TTLOH	AutoID:WD19417A Job:2667036	OH	04/27/20	02667036	9,439.16	0.00	0.00
*****Total *OBJT 2000		ACCOUNTS PAYABLE			CR	296,818.88		0.00
GL 621601-2200	YEAREND	4. Balance forward 2018/2019	JE	07/01/19	02639692	0.00	52,859.66	52,859.66
GL 621601-2200	JE34553	CR113320:CITY OF BISHOP	JE	07/09/19	02475759	52,859.66	0.00	0.00
*****Total *OBJT 2200		DEFERRED REVENUE			CR	52,859.66		0.00
GL 621601-3000	YEAREND	1. Balance Forward 2018/2019	JE	07/01/19	02639692	0.00	235,193.56	235,193.56
GL 621601-3000	YEAREND	2. Balance Forward 2018/2019	JE	07/01/19	02639692	175,698.85	0.00	59,494.71
*****Total *OBJT 3000		FUND BALANCE AVAILABLE			CR	175,698.85		0.00
GL 621601-4301	INTERESTA	1ST QRT 19/20 INTEREST	JE	11/04/19	02571260	0.00	1,853.04	1,853.04
GL 621601-4301	INTEREST	2ND QRT 19/20 INTEREST	JE	04/27/20	02668196	0.00	2,698.62	4,551.66
GL 621601-4301	INTEREST	3RD QRT 19/20 INTEREST	JE	04/27/20	02668297	0.00	1,974.40	6,526.06
*****Total *OBJT 4301		INTEREST FROM TREASURY			CR	0.00	6,526.06	0.00
GL 621601-4599	JE34553	CR113320:CITY OF BISHOP	JE	07/09/19	02475759	0.00	52,859.66	52,859.66
GL 621601-4599	JE35319	19-20 INYO OVGA CONTRIBUTION	JE	11/08/19	02562429	0.00	52,859.66	105,719.32
GL 621601-4599	CR115470	11/13/19 I#2 OVGA-COB	CR	11/22/19	02571198	0.00	22,654.00	128,373.32
GL 621601-4599	JE35428	I#2 OVGA GSP DEVELOPMENT	JE	11/25/19	02571702	0.00	22,654.00	151,027.32
GL 621601-4599	CR115556	I#2 WHEELER CREST	CR	12/02/19	02574746	0.00	22,654.00	173,681.32
GL 621601-4599	CR115556	I#2 TRI-VALLEY GWD	CR	12/02/19	02574746	0.00	22,654.00	196,335.32
GL 621601-4599	CR115557	I#2 COUNTY OF MONO	CR	12/02/19	02574746	0.00	52,859.66	249,194.98
GL 621601-4599	JE36603	19/20 OVGA REIMB TO MONO CO	JE	04/30/20	02669333	0.00	9,439.16	258,634.14
*****Total *OBJT 4599		OTHER AGENCIES			CR	0.00	258,634.14	258,634.14
GL 621601-4998	JE36226	JAN-JUN 2019 DWR GRANT FUNDING	JE	03/09/20	02638502	0.00	101,241.19	101,241.19
GL 621601-4998	JE36625B	JUL20-APR20 TRANS BAL OF DWR G	JE	05/04/20	02671484	0.00	215,288.81	316,530.00
*****Total *OBJT 4998		OPERATING TRANSFERS IN			CR	0.00	316,530.00	316,530.00
GL 621601-5129	IS1019	IS CANON BILLING Q1	JE	12/10/19	02580196	144.34	0.00	144.34
GL 621601-5129	IS0320	IS PHOTOCOPIES	JE	04/16/20	02661129	181.49	0.00	325.83
*****Total *OBJT 5129		INTERNAL COPY CHARGES (NON-IS)			DR	325.83	0.00	325.83

SORT ORDER: OBJECT within BUDUNIT

SELECT BUDGET UNIT: 621601

Lg BUDGET UNIT	Primary Ref	Transaction Description	SS Ref Date Job No	Debit	Credit	NET
GL 621601-5155	JE34537	UA386949:GOLDEN STATE RISK MAN JE 07/09/19 02475759		2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
*****Total *OBJT 5155		PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE DR		2,500.00	0.00	2,500.00
GL 621601-5265	JE35066	UA390613:DANIEL B. STEPHENS JE 10/07/19 02540790		13,714.77	0.00	13,714.77
GL 621601-5265	237187	DANIEL B STEPHE PROJECT#DB18.1 OH 10/14/19 02544634		844.50	0.00	14,559.27
GL 621601-5265	238057	DANIEL B STEPHE PROJECT#DB18.1 OH 11/04/19 02558022		29,180.45	0.00	43,739.72
GL 621601-5265	239100	DANIEL B STEPHE INYO CO PN#DB1 OH 01/02/20 02593644		48,631.61	0.00	92,371.33
GL 621601-5265	239619	DANIEL B STEPHE INYO CO OVGA P OH 02/06/20 02617676		39,085.86	0.00	131,457.19
GL 621601-5265	239953	DANIEL B STEPHE PROJ#DB18.1418 OH 02/27/20 02630048		24,660.93	0.00	156,118.12
GL 621601-5265	240640	DANIEL B STEPHE INYO CO PROJ#D OH 03/31/20 02649421		30,305.78	0.00	186,423.90
GL 621601-5265	241173	DANIEL B STEPHE INYO CO OVGA P OH 04/23/20 02666081		75,800.67	0.00	262,224.57
*****Total *OBJT 5265		PROFESSIONAL & SPECIAL SERVICE DR		262,224.57	0.00	262,224.57
GL 621601-5291	10117	WHISKEY CREEK R 7/11/19 OVGA M OH 07/16/19 02481900		450.00	0.00	450.00
*****Total *OBJT 5291		OFFICE, SPACE & SITE RENTAL DR		450.00	0.00	450.00
GL 621601-5539	JE35095	JUL-SEPT19 COUNTY COUNSEL JE 10/11/19 02544343		4,500.00	0.00	4,500.00
GL 621601-5539	JE35239	JUL-SEPT19 OVGA STAFF SERVICES JE 10/31/19 02556858		9,767.85	0.00	14,267.85
GL 621601-5539	2018190420192	MONO COUNTY 4/19-9/19 OVGA STA OH 12/09/19 02579315		8,959.00	0.00	23,226.85
GL 621601-5539	JE35780	OCT-DEC19 OVGA LEGAL JE 01/07/20 02597217		4,500.00	0.00	27,726.85
GL 621601-5539	JE35990	OCT-DEC19 OVGA STAFF JE 02/05/20 02617276		11,624.67	0.00	39,351.52
GL 621601-5539	201902	MONO COUNTY OCT-DEC19 STAFF SE OH 03/18/20 02642397		1,542.50	0.00	40,894.02
GL 621601-5539	JE36431	JAN-MAR20 OVGA LEGAL SVC JE 04/09/20 02655780		4,500.00	0.00	45,394.02
GL 621601-5539	JE36503	JAN20-MAR20 OVGA STAFF JE 04/15/20 02660173		12,828.34	0.00	58,222.36
GL 621601-5539	041720	MONO COUNTY WC & Tri Valley Te OH 04/23/20 02665374		9,439.16	0.00	67,661.52
*****Total *OBJT 5539		OTHER AGENCY CONTRIBUTIONS DR		67,661.52	0.00	67,661.52
GL 621601-5801	JE36625A	CONTINGENCY TO RESERVE JE 05/04/20 02671484		13,290.00	0.00	13,290.00
*****Total *OBJT 5801		OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT DR		13,290.00	0.00	13,290.00
*****Total *BUDG 621601		OVGA-OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER DR-CR		1,542,129.23	1,542,129.23	0.00
** G R A N D T O T A L **				1,542,129.23	1,542,129.23	0.00

COUNTY OF INYO
UNDESIGNATED FUND BALANCES

AS OF 06/30/2020

	Claim on	Accounts Receivable	Loans Receivable	Prepaid Expenses	Accounts Payable	Loans Payable	Deferred Revenue	Computed Fund Balance	Fund	
									Encumbrances	Undesignated
	Cash 1000	1100,1105,1160	1140	1200	2000	2140	2200			
WDIR - WATER										
6272	294,733							294,733	18,415	276,318
WDIR Totals	294,733							294,733	18,415	276,318
Grand Totals	294,733							294,733	18,415	276,318

COUNTY OF INYO
Budget to Actuals with Encumbrances by Key/Obj

Ledger: GL

As Of 5/11/2020

Object	Description	Budget	Actual	Encumbrance	Balance	
Key: 621601 - OVGA-OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER						
Revenue						
4301	INTEREST FROM TREASURY	4,000.00	6,526.06	0.00	(2,526.06)	163.15
4498	STATE GRANTS	261,551.00	0.00	0.00	261,551.00	0.00
4599	OTHER AGENCIES	249,195.00	258,634.14	0.00	(9,439.14)	103.78
4998	OPERATING TRANSFERS IN	0.00	316,530.00	0.00	(316,530.00)	0.00
Revenue Total:		514,746.00	581,690.20	0.00	(66,944.20)	
Expenditure						
5129	INTERNAL COPY CHARGES	1,500.00	325.83	0.00	1,174.17	21.72
5155	PUBLIC LIABILITY INSURANCE	2,500.00	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	100.00
5263	ADVERTISING	2,000.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00	0.00
5265	PROFESSIONAL & SPECIAL	309,771.00	262,224.57	18,414.77	29,131.66	84.65
5291	OFFICE, SPACE & SITE RENTAL	1,500.00	450.00	0.00	1,050.00	30.00
5311	GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSE	500.00	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00
5539	OTHER AGENCY	97,500.00	67,661.52	0.00	29,838.48	69.39
5801	OPERATING TRANSFERS OUT	0.00	13,290.00	0.00	(13,290.00)	0.00
5901	CONTINGENCIES	13,290.00	0.00	0.00	13,290.00	0.00
Expenditure Total:		428,561.00	346,451.92	18,414.77	63,694.31	
621601	Key Total:	86,185.00	235,238.28	(18,414.77)	(130,638.51)	

OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY

Big Pine CSD – City of Bishop – County of Inyo – County of Mono – Eastern Sierra CSD – Indian Creek-Westridge CSD

Staff Report

Date: May 14, 2020

Subject: Agenda item # 7: Presentation of draft 2020-21 OVGA Budget

On October 23, 2017, the Board of Directors adopted an initial budget in effect during the preparation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). That three-year Development Budget (GSPDB) outlined expected expenditures necessary for the OVGA to fulfill its SGMA obligations and guided members' decisions regarding funding contributions. It was expected that the GSPDB would be reviewed and adjusted annually. The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) requires the Executive Manager present a draft annual budget to the OVGA Board of Directors and each of the Members by April 1 each year (Article III, Section 3.1.7). The Board reviewed the draft budget at its March 12 meeting. This agenda item is for the Board to consider for adoption the proposed 2020-2021 final annual budget. The 2020-2021 budget amends the GSPDB (Article II, Section 4.1).

The draft budget for the period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021 is presented in Table 1. The 2020-21 budget is substantially the same as last year's annual budget with adjusted assumptions regarding revenues and expenditures contained in the GSPDB. The OVGA relies on locally derived funding from member contributions as well as state-derived funding provided by the Proposition 1 grant for GSP preparation. Revenues and expenditures for both are included in Table 1. Expected expenditures for 2020-21 include fiscal and staff services, GSP and independent contractors, the reserve fund contribution, and miscellaneous expenses. In accordance with the OVGA Bylaws (Article VII, Section 1), the projected expenses do not exceed projected revenues.

As mentioned above, the primary funding sources include the member contributions and the Proposition 1 grant (Grant Agreement #4600012668). Member contributions are deposited with the Inyo County Treasurer each year and can be expended at the discretion of the OVGA Board. An Advance Payment of \$316,530 on the Proposition 1 grant was received June 7, 2019 and deposited in a separate fund by Inyo County. The Advance Payment was applied to grant administration (category A), stakeholder engagement (category B) and GSP development (category C). Because of the uncertainty in basin status and delays obtaining approval to finalize the fiscal reports to DWR, member contributions were used to reimburse GSP consultant expenses in 2019 and early 2020. Approval from DWR to transfer the Advance Payment to cover 2019-20 GSP expenses through March 2020 was obtained in April. In the future, expenditures for grant administration, stakeholder engagement, and GSP preparation will be incurred and then reimbursed from DWR. Because of the distinct funding sources, the

remainder of this budget discussion will focus on the two revenue sources and their related expenditures presented in Tables 2 and 3.

In accordance with the Development Budget and the OVGA Bylaws (Article VII, Section 4), member annual contributions provided at the beginning of the fiscal year total \$249,194.98 (Table 2). In 2019-20, \$18,878.32 was reimbursed to funding members whose memberships were terminated; however, a potential revenue reduction in 2020-21 will be avoided by increased contributions from Inyo and Mono Counties that was agreed to in March 2020. Other anticipated revenues include interest and grant reimbursement from DWR for GSP expenses. The anticipated carry over from 2019-20 fiscal year into next year should reflect the unexpended member contributions (approximately \$60,000) and the transfer from the Grant Advance.

A summary table detailing how Member's funds will be expended in 2020-21 is presented in Table 2. Proposed expenditures are similar to last year's budget. Anticipated fiscal expenditures include general liability insurance and a contribution to the reserve fund. The OVGA entered into not-to-exceed contracts for staff services with Inyo County, City of Bishop, and Mono County in 2019 including acting as fiscal agent for the OVGA. The contract limits included in the draft 2020-21 budget are unchanged from the existing contracts (including the amendment to the Executive Manager contract in January) as they are adequate to fulfill staffing requirements. While the staffing model exceeds the assumptions and costs in the original GSPDB, no additional contributions are needed from Member Agencies to fund this staffing model. The primary advantages of the collaborative staffing model have been the ability to rely on geographic and technical expertise beyond that provided by the Water Department and the ability to delegate tasks among a larger staff. Miscellaneous expenses in the budget are the same as last year.

Professional Services in the 2019-2020 Draft Budget that will be paid by member contributions include costs for website development and the audit by Fechter and Company (Table 2). The Board approved a three year contract with the auditing firm last year. Website development was included in the GSPDB, but the OVGA has relied on a page linked to the Inyo County Water Department website. Given the uncertainty in the OVGA status for much of last year, the Water Department webpage was adequate and this task was shelved. The Communications and Engagement Plan, however, will require a more substantial website to comply with SGMA, and website development was again included in the 2020-21 budget.

The term of the Proposition 1 grant and the GSP consultant contract extend into 2022. A summary budget for the three-year period of the GSP development is presented in Table 3. Values in Table 3 represent the three-year totals for each budget category within the Proposition 1 grant agreement. This information was presented last year and is included again for your information.

The Proposition 1 grant will provide \$713,155 towards the GSP development distributed according to the budget categories of the Grant Agreement. The member contributions listed

under revenues represents the portion of the GSP development that the OVGA will have to fund because the grant award for GSP development (\$651,500) is less than the Daniel B. Stephens & Associates contract for that particular task (\$696,550). The difference should appear in the OVGA annual budget in 2022 when the \$651,500 from the grant has been fully invoiced and reimbursed. The amount contributed towards GSP development funded by the OVGA members (\$45,050), however, is essentially offset by the Proposition 1 grant reimbursing for staff time to administer the grant agreement (\$46,655). Grant Administration includes staff time to prepare management plans and schedules, review and prepare invoices, prepare progress and final reports, and prepare Proposition 1 grant information to update the OVGA board. The \$622 balance is the difference between the grant and the Daniel B. Stephens & Associates contract for stakeholder engagement.

Invoices submitted by the consultant to date and broken out by task are shown in Table 4. As of May 14, DBSA has invoiced \$365,133. Staff and the consultant revised the original budget in January 2020 largely to accommodate changes to the number of attended meetings and to recognize the lower priority or over-estimation in the original budget for some tasks. Overall expected expenditures remained the same, but funds were shifted between GSP tasks (category C). The revised consultant budget is presented in blue text in Table 4.

Table 1. Draft OVGA 2020-2021 Budget.

Revenues	
Interest from treasury	\$4,000.00
Other Agencies (member contributions)	\$249,194.98
Grant Funding	
(a) Grant Administration	\$13,000.00
(b) Stakeholder Engagement Plan	\$0.00
(c) GSP Development	\$298,284.00
Total Revenue	\$564,478.98
Expenditures	
Fiscal Services	
Insurance	\$2,500
Reserve Fund	\$13,290
Subtotal	\$15,790
Staff Services	
Agency: Inyo, Executive Manager	
(a) Staff services	\$33,970
(b) Grant Administration	\$13,000
Agency: Inyo, Legal	\$18,000
Agency: Inyo, Fiscal Agent/Financial Services	\$4,000
Agency: Mono, Administrative & Legal	\$33,000
Agency: Bishop, Administrative	\$5,500
Subtotal	\$107,470
Professional Services	
Website Development	\$11,700
Outside Audit	\$4,850
DBS&A	\$298,284
Subtotal	\$314,834
Miscellaneous Expenses	
Internal Copy Charges	\$1,500
Advertising	\$2,000
Office, Space & Site Rental	\$1,500
General Operating	\$500
Subtotal	\$5,500
Total Expenditures	\$443,594
Anticipated carry over balance	\$120,884.58

Table 2. Summary budget detailing how OVGA member contributions will be expended in 2020-2021.

Revenues	
Interest from treasury	\$4,000.00
Other Agencies (member contributions)	\$249,194.98
Total Revenue	\$253,194.98
Expenditures	
Fiscal Services	
Insurance	\$2,500
Reserve Fund	\$13,290
Subtotal	\$15,790.40
Staff Services	
Agency: Inyo, Executive Manager	\$33,970.00
Agency: Inyo, Legal	\$18,000.00
Agency: Inyo, Fiscal Agent/Financial Services	\$4,000.00
Agency: Mono, Administrative & Legal	\$33,000.00
Agency: Bishop, Administrative	\$5,500.00
Subtotal	\$94,470.00
Professional Services	
Website Development	\$11,700.00
Outside Audit	\$4,850.00
Subtotal	\$16,550.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	
Internal Copy Charges	\$1,500.00
Advertising	\$2,000.00
Office, Space & Site Rental	\$1,500.00
General Operating	\$500.00
Subtotal	\$5,500.00
Total Expenditures	\$132,310.40
Anticipated carry over balance	\$120,884.58

Table 3: Three year summary budget of Proposition 1 Grant and GSP development 2020-2021.

Revenues	
Interest from treasury	\$0.00
Proposition 1 Grant	
Grant Administration	\$46,655.00
Stakeholder Engagement	\$15,000.00
GSP Development	\$651,500.00
Subtotal	\$713,155.00
Other Agencies (member contributions)	\$45,050.00
Total Revenue	\$758,205.00
Expenditures	
Staff Services	
Grant Administration, OVGA staff	\$46,655
Subtotal	\$46,655
Professional Services	
Daniel B Stephens & Assoc., Stakeholder Engagement	\$14,378
Daniel B Stephens & Assoc., GSP Development	\$696,550
Subtotal	\$710,928
Total Expenditures	\$757,583.00
Balance	\$622.00

Table 4. DBSA invoices for GSP development and public engagement submitted as of April 2020.

Proposition 1 Grant Agreement #4000015688 Budget		Payable transaction by vendor Inv. Date through																Task Balance remaining	3/28/2020 Budget column
Task #	Task Description	Budget for task	Revised budget 2/23/2020	2/10/2019 DBSA Invoice #0237792	3/11/2019 DBSA Invoice #0234000	4/7/2019 DBSA Invoice #0234463	5/5/2019 DBSA Invoice #0235095	6/2/2019 DBSA Invoice #0235485	6/30/2019 DBSA Invoice #0236020	8/18/2019 DBSA Invoice #0236896	9/9/2019 DBSA Invoice #0237187	10/28/2019 DBSA Invoice #0238057	12/18/2019 DBSA Invoice #0239100	1/21/2020 DBSA Invoice #0239619	2/12/2020 DBSA Invoice #0239863	3/17/2020 DBSA Invoice #0240640	4/14/2020 DBSA Invoice #0241175	Invoice sum to date	
	School Administration DBSA staff	\$46,450	\$46,450															\$15,795.81	\$1,518.17
	Tasks listed below performed by contractor																		
1	Initial site visit	\$15,185	\$15,185															\$1,500.79	\$1,500.79
2	Public engagement plan	\$15,378	\$15,378															\$15,378.77	\$15,378.77
3	Data & document collaboration & review	\$46,413	\$46,413															\$15,378.77	\$15,378.77
4	Develop interagency agreements	\$15,185	\$15,185															\$15,185.76	\$15,185.76
5	GSP area and GSA information	\$23,904	\$23,904															\$23,904.76	\$23,904.76
6	Basin setting	\$154,333	\$154,333															\$154,333.76	\$154,333.76
7	Sustainable management criteria	\$28,460	\$28,460															\$28,460.76	\$28,460.76
8	Progress report public meeting	\$14,813	\$14,813															\$14,813.76	\$14,813.76
9	Develop/refine capitalizing program	\$25,327	\$25,327															\$25,327.76	\$25,327.76
10	Identify and describe projects to be sustainable																	\$0.00	\$0.00
11a	Cost and rate study	\$23,000	\$23,000															\$23,000.76	\$23,000.76
11b	Assess & revise GSP models	\$28,460	\$28,460															\$28,460.76	\$28,460.76
12a	Coordinate w/ Inyo LA Water Agreement	\$23,000	\$23,000															\$23,000.76	\$23,000.76
12b	Coordinate w/ stakeholders	\$23,000	\$23,000															\$23,000.76	\$23,000.76
13a	Monitoring network improvement	\$28,460	\$28,460															\$28,460.76	\$28,460.76
13b	Studies & plans for Owens Lake	\$23,000	\$23,000															\$23,000.76	\$23,000.76
13c	GSP threshold out of 10 values	\$23,000	\$23,000															\$23,000.76	\$23,000.76
13d	Examine west Bishop GW	\$23,000	\$23,000															\$23,000.76	\$23,000.76
13e	Recommend other studies	\$4,504	\$4,504															\$4,504.76	\$4,504.76
14	Develop GSP schedule/budget	\$23,000	\$23,000															\$23,000.76	\$23,000.76
15	Develop annual reporting	\$15,185	\$15,185															\$15,185.76	\$15,185.76
16	GSP consultation potential	\$113,536	\$113,536															\$113,536.76	\$113,536.76
17	Address DWR comments/requests	\$15,378	\$15,378															\$15,378.76	\$15,378.76
18	Coordination/meetings/calls	\$25,327	\$25,327															\$25,327.76	\$25,327.76
		\$710,895	\$710,895															\$710,895.76	\$710,895.76

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
AND THE LONE PINE PAIUTE-SHOSHONE TRIBE FOR PARTICIPATION ON THE
OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AS AN INTERESTED PARTY**

Whereas, the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority ("OVGA") is a joint powers authority duly formed under the laws of the State of California for the purpose of implementing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, Part 2.74 (commencing with Section 10720) of Division 6 of the California Water Code, in the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin; and

Whereas, Article V of the OVGA joint powers agreement provides for the possibility of certain entities to participate as an Associate or Interested Party on the OVGA Board and the method by which those entities may apply to participate; and

Whereas, the Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe (the "Lone Pine Tribe") applied to participate on the OVGA Board as an Interested Party; and

Whereas, the OVGA Board desires to allow the Lone Pine Tribe to participate on the OVGA Board subject to the terms of this Agreement.

Now, therefore, the OVGA and the Member Agency agree as follows:

1. Effective upon entry into this Agreement, and continuing until this Agreement is terminated, pursuant to the OVGA JPA Article V, and subject to Article IV.2.2, the Lone Pine Tribe shall be an Interested Party of the OVGA entitled to one (1) vote.
2. The Lone Pine Tribe shall be entitled to vote on all matters except as provided in the OVGA JPA and the OVGA Bylaws. The OVGA and the Lone Pine Tribe acknowledge that such JPA and Bylaws are subject to change.
3. Either Party may terminate this Agreement upon 30 days written notice.
4. This Agreement may be modified, amended, changed, added to, or subtracted from, by the mutual consent of the Parties, if such amendment or change is in written form and executed with the same formalities as this Agreement, and attached to the original Agreement to maintain continuity.
5. Any notice, communication, amendment, addition, or deletion to this Agreement, including any change of address of either Party during the term of this Agreement, which the Parties shall be required or may desire to make, shall be in writing and may be personally served or sent by prepaid first-class mail to the respective Party as follows:

OVGA:
ATTN: Aaron Steinwand
Inyo County Water Department
P.O. Box 337
Independence, CA 93526

Lone Pine Tribe:
Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Reservation,
PO Box 747
Lone Pine, CA 93545

6. This Agreement is the joint product of the OVGA and the Lone Pine Tribe and each provision hereof has been subject to the mutual consultation, negotiation, and agreement of the Parties and shall not be construed for or against any Party.

This Agreement is entered into this ____ day of _____ by:

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

Fred Stump, Chairman

Lone Pine Paiute-Shoshone Tribe

[name][title]

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
AND THE OWENS VALLEY COMMITTEE FOR PARTICIPATION ON THE OWENS
VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS
AS AN INTERESTED PARTY**

Whereas, the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority ("OVGA") is a joint powers authority duly formed under the laws of the State of California for the purpose of implementing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, Part 2.74 (commencing with Section 10720) of Division 6 of the California Water Code, in the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin; and

Whereas, Article V of the OVGA joint powers agreement provides for the possibility of certain entities to participate as an Associate or Interested Party on the OVGA Board and the method by which those entities may apply to participate; and

Whereas, the Owens Valley Committee (the "OVC") applied to participate on the OVGA Board as an Interested Party; and

Whereas, the OVGA Board desires to allow the OVC to participate on the OVGA Board subject to the terms of this Agreement.

Now, therefore, the OVGA and the Member Agency agree as follows:

1. Effective upon entry into this Agreement, and continuing until this Agreement is terminated, pursuant to the OVGA JPA Article V, and subject to Article IV.2.2, the OVC shall be an Interested Party of the OVGA entitled to one (1) vote.
2. The OVC shall be entitled to vote on all matters except as provided in the OVGA JPA and the OVGA Bylaws. The OVGA and the OVC acknowledge that such JPA and Bylaws are subject to change.
3. Either Party may terminate this Agreement upon 30 days written notice.
4. This Agreement may be modified, amended, changed, added to, or subtracted from, by the mutual consent of the Parties, if such amendment or change is in written form and executed with the same formalities as this Agreement, and attached to the original Agreement to maintain continuity.
5. Any notice, communication, amendment, addition, or deletion to this Agreement, including any change of address of either Party during the term of this Agreement, which the Parties shall be required or may desire to make, shall be in writing and may be personally served or sent by prepaid first-class mail to the respective Party as follows:

OVGA:
ATTN: Aaron Steinwand
Inyo County Water Department
P.O. Box 337
Independence, CA 93526

OVC:
P. O. Box 77
Bishop, CA 93515

6. This Agreement is the joint product of the OVGA and the OVC and each provision hereof has been subject to the mutual consultation, negotiation, and agreement of the Parties and shall not be construed for or against any Party.

This Agreement is entered into this _____ day of _____ by:

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

Fred Stump, Chairman

Owens Valley Committee

Mary Roper, President, Owens Valley Committee

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY
AND THE MEADOW CREEK MUTUAL WATER COMPANY FOR PARTICIPATION
ON THE OWENS VALLEY GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY'S
BOARD OF DIRECTORS AS AN ASSOCIATE**

Whereas, the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority ("OVGA") is a joint powers authority duly formed under the laws of the State of California for the purpose of implementing the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, Part 2.74 (commencing with Section 10720) of Division 6 of the California Water Code, in the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin; and

Whereas, Article V of the OVGA joint powers agreement provides for the possibility of certain entities to participate as an Associate or Interested Party on the OVGA Board and the method by which those entities may apply to participate; and

Whereas, the Meadow Creek Mutual Water Company ("Meadow Creek") applied to participate on the OVGA Board as an Associate Member; and

Whereas, the OVGA Board desires to allow Meadow Creek to participate on the OVGA Board subject to the terms of this Agreement.

Now, therefore, the OVGA and the Member Agency agree as follows:

1. Effective upon entry into this Agreement, and continuing until this Agreement is terminated, pursuant to the OVGA JPA Article V, and subject to Article IV.2.2, Meadow Creek shall be an Associate Member of the OVGA entitled to two (2) votes provided that Meadow Creek shall not be entitled to vote at any time during which it has not made its required Annual Contribution
2. Meadow Creek shall make an annual contribution to the OVGA of _____ dollars (\$) (the "Annual Contribution"). Notwithstanding that Annual Contribution amount, for purposes of Meadow Creek's contribution for the 2019/2020 fiscal year only, Meadow Creek shall pay _____ dollars (\$). Thereafter, Meadow Creek shall pay its Annual Contribution on July 1st, or within 30 days after an invoice is sent by the OVGA, whichever is earlier. Meadow Brook shall make payment in the full amount of the Annual Contribution to the OVGA, in care of its treasurer and fiscal agent.
3. Meadow Creek shall be entitled to vote on all matters except as provided in the OVGA JPA and the OVGA Bylaws. The OVGA and Meadow Creek acknowledge that such JPA and Bylaws are subject to change.
4. Either Party may terminate this Agreement upon written notice effective July 1 of the following fiscal year. The OVGA may terminate this Agreement upon thirty (30) days written notice in the event that Meadow Brook has not made its Annual Contribution as required by this Agreement.

5. This Agreement may be modified, amended, changed, added to, or subtracted from, by the mutual consent of the Parties, if such amendment or change is in written form and executed with the same formalities as this Agreement, and attached to the original Agreement to maintain continuity.

6. Any notice, communication, amendment, addition, or deletion to this Agreement, including any change of address of either Party during the term of this Agreement, which the Parties shall be required or may desire to make, shall be in writing and may be personally served or sent by prepaid first-class mail to the respective Party as follows:

OVGA:
ATTN: Aaron Steinwand
Inyo County Water Department
P.O. Box 337
Independence, CA 93526

Meadow Creek:

7. This Agreement is the joint product of the OVGA and Meadow Creek and each provision hereof has been subject to the mutual consultation, negotiation, and agreement of the Parties and shall not be construed for or against any Party.

This Agreement is entered into this ____ day of _____ by:

Owens Valley Groundwater Authority

Fred Stump, Chairman

Meadow Creek Mutual Water Company

[name][title]

Management Area Outreach Leads | Tools to Support Targeted Outreach Activities

Companion Document to: Owen's Valley Groundwater Basin Stakeholder Communication & Engagement Plan
05.09.2020

I. Process for Targeted Stakeholder Outreach

The purpose of this strategy is to help Management Area Outreach Leads identify and engage stakeholders that are not currently active in SGMA activities, or are more difficult to engage. The OVGA acknowledges that for some groups, community leaders must go to their local stakeholders, build trust, and present information in a way that is culturally acceptable and understandable.

PROPOSED ACTION: Management Area Outreach Leads may use the following table, and complete the "next steps" column as a tool to aid in development of their targeted stakeholder outreach plans.

#	Task	Recommendations	Next Steps
1.	Identify stakeholder groups to engage – These will be people who are designated "beneficial users" who are not currently involved or participating in SGMA or GSA related discussions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Refer to and expand upon Table 1 found in <i>Communication and Engagement Plan</i>	
2.	Identify who at the OVGA are responsible to develop communications with different stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Identify single staff for coordination of activities.As feasible, identify additional individuals with pre-existing relationships as Point Contact with specific groups.	
3.	Identify ongoing meetings, or other opportunities to coordinate and communicate with different stakeholders (i.e. pre-existing meeting that these groups already attend)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Develop a list of meetings to attend and give presentations about the OVGA and SGMA.	
4.	Identify cadre of staff to develop presentation and other communication materials.	Cadre to include: <ol style="list-style-type: none">Technical expertCommunications expert to identify how to adapt materials to be relevant to	

#	Task	Recommendations	Next Steps
5.	Update outreach materials to correlate with specific Groups. For example, provide materials that groups will understand and relate to.	<p>specific audiences.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use standing communication materials about SGMA and GSAs formation, and revise/tailor to address different stakeholder group's needs/questions. • Utilize Images, work with members of that community or group in developing materials and assessing issues of interest. 	
6.	Create list of meetings/outreach opportunities, and track meetings attended and the meeting/outreach opportunity contact	<p>Tracking table or list should include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What group's meeting or event (e.g. Farm Bureau or school board) and when • Who gave the presentation • Which presentation or information shared • Who was the group contact that you worked with to setup/ coordinate the presentation or outreach participation? 	
7.	Confirm schedule for regular interaction and updates to these groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilizing Tracking Table confirm frequency of interactions, plan on multiple meetings with groups 	
8.	Identify when groups trust the OVGA's engagement process and understand issues to participate in Public Workshops and standard engagement strategies.	<p>The goal is to transition these groups into the public workshops. This may take less time with some groups than others. Likewise, due to cultural differences ongoing targeted outreach may be required.</p>	

II. SGMA GSA/GSP Stakeholder Constituency – “Lay of the Land” Exercise

To assist in determining the topics, types and sequencing of outreach vis-à-vis specific stakeholder interests, DWR has recommended conducting a “Lay of the Land” exercise. **PROPOSED ACTION:** Management Area Outreach Leads complete the following table as part of DWR’s recommended “Lay of the Land” exercise.

Organization/ Individual (Name of stakeholder organization or individual)	Type of Stakeholder (Based on Water Code §10723.2)	Key Interests (Stakeholder’s key interests related to groundwater)	Key Issues (Documented issues [media coverage, statements, reports, etc.] or specific issues such as past events)	GSP (Which section(s) of the GSP may this interest be applicable to?)	Rationale (Reasons why this is a stakeholder that requires a certain level of engagement)

III. Media & Information Dissemination Outlets by Management Area
PROPOSED ACTION: Management Area Outreach Leads maintain updated tables.

Regional and Local Media Outlets

Type of Media	Name of Outlet	Point of Contact	Contact Information
Print Publication	Inyo County Register		
Print Publication	The Reader		
Print Publication	The Sheet		
Print Publication	Sunday Paper		
Print Publication	CSD Consumer Confidence Report		
Radio			
Radio			
Radio			

Locations for Posting Meeting Flyers & Information

Establishment Type	Name	Location	Point of Contact	Contact Information
Feed supply store				
Postal annex				
Grocery Store				
Library				

Owens Valley Subbasin

DRAFT Communication and Engagement Plan

Updated: May 9, 2020

NOTE: In order to ensure an adaptive, responsive approach to stakeholder outreach and engagement, it is intended that the components of this plan be developed in collaboration with the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin stakeholders, beginning with the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority board members, staff and consultants. This process has already begun, and this version incorporates the results of that collaboration to date. The plan will be updated as the collaborative process continues.

At the date of this publication, the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin was categorized as a low priority basin by the California Department of Water Resources.

Prepared by
California State University Sacramento

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Owens Valley Groundwater Basin Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Plan

Draft for Review and Comment

Updated: May 9, 2020

Purpose

The purpose of this Communication and Engagement Plan is to assist the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA) in its efforts to develop general and strategic communications to engage stakeholders in groundwater management activities.

Background

California's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014 requires broad and diverse stakeholder involvement in Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) activities and the development and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) for 127 groundwater basins around the state that are listed at high or medium priority. While the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin has recently been characterized by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as a low priority basin (as of December 2019)¹, it has elected to move forward with development of a GSP. The OVGA was created to comply with the SGMA requirement that local agencies sustainably manage groundwater in the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin (OVGB).

The intent of SGMA is to ensure successful, sustainable management of groundwater resources at the local level. Success will require cooperation by all stakeholders, and cooperation is far more likely if stakeholders have consistent messaging of valid information and are provided with opportunities to help shape the path forward.

To that end, the intention of the Communications and Engagement Plan (Plan) is to make transparent to stakeholders their opportunities to contribute to the development of a GSP that can effectively address groundwater management within the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin. At the same time, the intention of the Plan is to provide community leaders and the OVGA with a roadmap to follow to ensure stakeholders have meaningful input into OVGA decision-making, including GSP development, through a process widely seen as fair and respectful to interested parties.

¹ At the date of this publication, the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin was categorized as a low priority basin by the California Department of Water Resources.

Basin Overview

The OVGB is a large basin – 1,030 square miles - with a number of jurisdictional, legal, and water management considerations specific to the basin. The Basin includes the Owens, Round, Chalfant, Hammil, and Benton Valleys as well as Fish Slough. Owens Valley is currently identified as a low priority Basin by DWR, and not in a critically overdrafted condition. However, in 2014 the Basin was considered a medium priority basin, but an approved basin boundary modification in 2016 triggered a reassessment of basin priority. In 2018 DWR proposed the basin be classified as high priority due largely to out-of-basin groundwater exports. The OVGA objected to that draft DWR designation and in May 2019, the DWR released phase II of its prioritization proposing to designate the basin low priority. That designation was finalized in December 2019.

Basin Governance and Decision-Making

The GSA for the Basin was formally established as the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority in May 2018. The OVGA is a joint exercise of powers agency composed of Inyo County, Mono County, City of Bishop, Indian Creek-Westridge Community Service District (CSD), Big Pine CSD, and Eastern Sierra CSD. Each of these members has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities, and is thus eligible to individually form a GSA. The document forming the Owens Valley Groundwater Authority allows for tribes, federal agencies, the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, PUC regulated private water companies, and other interested parties to have a voting role in GSA decision making. Currently, the OVGA has tentatively offered Interested Party seats for one Tribe and one environmental group. A decision regarding mutual water companies that have requested board seat(s) is pending.

The OVGA is administered by a governing board consisting of one primary appointment and one alternate from each member agency. The OVGA Board of Directors meets the second Thursday of each month. All meetings are public, noticed, held and conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act open and public meeting law. The Board may occasionally establish ad hoc committees for the purpose of making recommendations to the Board on the various activities of the Authority.

OVGA decisions will be informed through staff direction, development of recommendations from ad hoc committees, and input from technical consultants. Furthermore, the OVGA and their staff representatives will engage with Basin stakeholders through the strategies outlined in this plan to help inform the OVGA's decisions.

Communication and Engagement Plan Goals

The intention of the Communication and Engagement Plan is as follows:

- To provide the OVGA, community leaders, and other beneficial users a roadmap to follow to ensure consistent messaging of SGMA requirements and related Basin information and data.

- To provide a roadmap to the OVGA and community leaders to follow to ensure stakeholders have meaningful input into OVGA decision-making, including GSP development.
- To ensure the roadmap demonstrates a process that is widely seen by stakeholders as fair and respectful to the range of interested parties.
- To make transparent to stakeholders their opportunities to contribute to the development of a GSP that can effectively address groundwater management within the Basin.

The Plan seeks to accomplish the following goals:

1. Educate stakeholders about:
 - a. SGMA and its requirements.
 - b. Potential changes to current groundwater management under SGMA.
 - c. OVGA member agencies within the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin.
 - d. How stakeholders are represented in the OVGA.
2. Communicate important deadlines and dates pertinent to GSP development.
3. Articulate strategies and channels for gaining ongoing stakeholder input and feedback to inform GSP design and development.
4. Coordinate outreach and engagement activities between OVGA member agencies, and between Basin management areas, to ensure efficiencies and to support stakeholders in GSP development.
5. Encourage stakeholder engagement by advertising dedicated SGMA outreach channels, including meeting and workshop dates and content, as opportunities for stakeholders to provide input in the OVGA decision-making process and GSP planning process.
6. Gain early and continuing feedback to inform GSP design and development.

Opportunities for Engagement

Opportunities for stakeholder input will be provided throughout the GSP development process, by way of public participation at OVGA Board of Directors meetings, hosted public workshops, direct outreach to constituent groups, and other mechanisms as outlined in this document. Timely notification of opportunities for interested parties to participate in the development and implementation of the GSP should be given via the channels and strategies described within.

Major Audiences

A Basin stakeholder is a “beneficial user” as described by SGMA. Under the requirements of SGMA, all beneficial uses and users of groundwater must be considered in the development of GSPs, and GSAs must encourage the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population. Beneficial users, therefore, are any stakeholder who has an interest in groundwater use and management in the Basin community. Their interest may be GSA activities, GSP development and implementation, and/or water access and management in general.

To assist in determining who the specific SGMA stakeholders and beneficial users are, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has issued a Stakeholder Engagement Chart (Table 1) for GSP Development in their 2017 *GSP Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Guidance Document*. This table was modified to fit the circumstances and stakeholders of the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin, and will continue to be updated during the planning process. Furthermore, Management Area Outreach Leads may maintain more exhaustive lists respective to their management area, for targeted stakeholder outreach efforts.

Table 1: Stakeholder Engagement Chart for GSP Development. This table will continue to be updated during the GSP planning process. Note: The groups and communities referenced are those identified during initial assessment. OVGA shall maintain current and more exhaustive lists of stakeholders fitting into these groups.

Category of Interest	Examples of Stakeholder Groups	Engagement Purpose
Land Use or Water Management Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Municipalities (City, County planning departments)<ul style="list-style-type: none">- City of Bishop- Mono County- Inyo County- Los Angeles Department of Water and Power• Water Management Authorities<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tri Valley Groundwater Management District• Regional Agencies<ul style="list-style-type: none">- California Fish & Wildlife Service- Great Basin Air Pollution Control District- State Lands Commission- United States Forest Service• Community Service Districts<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Big Pine- Keeler- Lone Pine- Sierra Highlands- Sierra North- Starlite	Consult and/or involve to ensure land use policies are supporting the GSP

	- Wheeler Crest	
Private Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Interests & Private Pumpers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cattlemen's Association - Crystal Geysers Roxane LLC - Rio Tinto Minerals - Southern California Edison - Zack Ranch • School Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bernasconi Education Center - Bishop Unified School District - Eastern Sierra College Center - Eastern Sierra Unified School District - Lone Pine Unified School District - Round Valley School District • Domestic Users 	Inform and/or involve to avoid negative impact to these users
Urban/ Agriculture Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Water Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Aberdeen Water System - Benton Community Center - Benton Station - Bird Industrial Complex LLC - Bishop Country Club - Boulder Creek Trailer Park - CDCR Owens Valley Conservation Camp - Chalfant Community Center - Comfort Inn - Eastern Sierra Regional Airport - Glenwood Mobile Home Park - Highland Mobile Home Park - Horseshoe Meadow Campground - Inyo County Parks and Recreation - Keoughs Hot Springs - Meadowlake Apartments - Mountain View Trailer Court - Park West - Pine Creek Village - Rolling Green - SCE Bishop Creek Plant 4 - Sunland Village Mobile Home Park - Van Loon Water Association • Mutual Water Companies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brookside Estates - Cartago - Chalfant Valley West - Meadowcreek - Mountain View Estates - North Lone Pine 	Collaborate to ensure sustainable management of groundwater

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Owens Valley - Park West - Ranch Road Estates - Rawson Creek - Rocking K Ranch Estates - R and V - Sierra Grande Estates - Valley Vista - Van Loon - White Mountain - Wilson Circle • Resource Conservation Districts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inyo Mono RCD • Farm Bureau <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inyo-Mono County 	
Environmental and Ecosystem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal and State Agencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bureau of Land Management - California Department of Fish and Wildlife - California Department of Water Resources - California State Lands Commission - Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control District - Inyo County Agricultural Commissioner's Office - Los Angeles Department of Water and Power - Mono County Agricultural Commissioner's Office - National Park Service <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NPS Manzanar National Historical Site - Owens Valley Radio Observatory - United States Forest Service - White Mountain Research Center • Environmental Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - California Native Plant Society, Bristlecone Chapter - Eastern Sierra Audubon - Eastern Sierra Land Trust - Friends of the Inyo - Owens Valley Committee - RCRC - Sierra Club • Land Trusts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Eastern Sierra Land Trust • Special Interest Groups <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cattleman's Association - Sierra Nevada Alliance 	Inform, involve and/or collaborate to sustain a vital ecosystem and ensure basin sustainability.
Tribes & Tribal Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tribes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Benton Paiute Tribe - Big Pine Tribe - Bishop Paiute Tribe 	Inform, involve, and/or consult with tribal government

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Fort Independence Paiute Tribe - Kutzadika'a Tribe - Lone Pine Tribe - Timbisha Shoshone Tribe - Cabazon Band of the Mission Indians • Tribal Organizations • Owens Valley Indian Water Commission 	
Industrial Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial and Industrial Self-supplier • Local Trade Association or Group 	Inform and/or involve to avoid negative impact to these users
Economic Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chambers of Commerce • Business Groups/Associations • Elected Officials (Board of Supervisors, City Council) • State Assembly Members • State Senators • Civic Clubs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Altrusa of the Eastern Sierra - Big Pine Civic Club - Bishop Lions Club - Ind. Civic Club - Rotary Club of Bishop 	Inform and/or involve to support a stable economy
Integrated Water Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional water management groups (IRWM regions) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Inyo Mono IRWMP • Recycled Water Coalition 	Inform, involve, and collaborate to improve regional sustainability
General Public	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens Groups • Community Leaders • Recreational Users <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bishop Golf Course - Lone Pine Golf Course 	Inform to improve public awareness of sustainable groundwater management
Human Right to Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disadvantaged Communities • Environmental Justice Groups • Latino Communities* • Remote private pumpers • Small Community Water Systems* 	Inform and/or involve to provide a safe and secure groundwater supplies to all communities reliant on groundwater
<i>*stakeholders referenced in other categories above</i>		

Key Messages

As the OVGA is reaching out to stakeholders to inform and engage them in groundwater management issues and items, it is critical to share clear and consistent key messages to avoid confusion and misunderstanding. Key messages are as follows:

1. The OVGA is committed to proactively and sustainably managing groundwater in the Basin through locally tailored management of groundwater resources to protect and sustain the environment, local residents and communities, agriculture, and the economy.
2. The OVGA is committed to proactive and transparent outreach and engagement with stakeholders and Basin community members throughout GSP planning and SGMA implementation.
3. Local control of groundwater should be preserved to the maximum extent practicable, and State intervention to implement SGMA should be avoided.
4. Sustainable groundwater conditions in the Basin are critical to support, preserve, and enhance the economic viability, social well-being, environmental health, and culture of all Beneficial Users and Uses including tribal, domestic, municipal, agricultural, environmental, and industrial users.
5. The OVGA is committed to conducting sustainable groundwater practices that fairly consider the needs of and protect the groundwater resources for all Beneficial Users in the Basin.
6. To support SGMA objectives and Basin-wide water needs, the OVGA will pursue an integrated water management approach for the Basin. An integrated water management approach will honor the social, cultural, natural, and economic diversity of the Basin.
7. While the Basin is currently categorized as low priority, Basin water managers recognize the value in being proactive about groundwater management. Issues resulting from groundwater extraction may become apparent in future, potentially resulting in another recategorization of the Basin by DWR. Foresight and planning can prevent high costs and major water cut backs in the future.
8. The OVGA recognizes its duty to Basin residents, and future generations to ensure that financial resources are used effectively and responsibly to promote sustainable groundwater conditions. The OVGA is committed to carefully and prudently use funds to fully comply with SGMA and to avoid expanding beyond the scope of SGMA in a manner that might create undue costs to Beneficial Users.
9. The OVGA is committed to designing sustainability indicators that avoid significant and unreasonable impacts to groundwater dependent ecosystems (GDEs).
10. The OVGA is committed to responsible water management, but it cannot regulate LADWP activities or surface water rights.

Recommended Communication Strategies and Mechanisms

OVGA representatives and staff will engage with Basin stakeholders, and will be responsible to track the needs of their local communities. The OVGA will consider stakeholder input gathered from outreach efforts as they move through GSP development and SGMA implementation processes. Four sets of strategies are important to consider when planning outreach and engagement activities, included in the following categories:

- **SGMA-required** strategies that GSAs must legally undertake during different phases of GSA formation, GSP development and implementation. [See Appendix VI for complete description.]
- **Essential strategies** centrally communicated at the Basin and OVGA management area level that are proven to successfully engage stakeholders.
- **Localized strategies** coordinated among member agencies working in OVGA management areas through existing, trusted channels.
- **Secondary strategies** that will enhance engagement efforts locally, at the beneficial user level, and on as needed basis.

Essential Communication Strategies

The following strategies are meant to ensure successful engagement of Basin stakeholders during the GSP development and implementation process. The OVGA shall incorporate these strategies to ensure that “interested parties” (as defined under SGMA) and other Owens Valley Groundwater Basin stakeholder interests are considered in the development of the GSP and implementation of SGMA.

- 1. Integrate and Expand on Existing SGMA Communication and Outreach Efforts:**
 - a. The OVGA Board Meetings and are open to the public. Other outreach activities already conducted to date include regularly scheduled public meetings of the OVGA Board, to be completed.
- 2. Develop and Maintain a List of Interested Parties:**
 - a. A list of stakeholders and beneficial users is to be developed and updated throughout the GSP planning, implementation and enforcement processes (see Table 1 above).
 - b. This list should be reviewed for updates every three to six months.
- 3. Maintain a Centralized Website and Social Media Accounts:**

While individual OVGA member agencies may seek to maintain separate websites, a centralized location for activities that are basin-wide or related to GSP development will demonstrate coordination and provide consistency in messaging.

 - a. Allocate staff and resources to maintain a stand-alone website with information about SGMA and GSP planning efforts and other relevant information.

- i. As of April 2020, an RFP for a web developer is awaiting approval by the OVGA Board.
- b. Provide easily accessible list of upcoming planning activities, meetings and opportunities for public involvement.
- c. Provide a place where stakeholders can add their name to the interested parties list.
- d. Include Resources and materials:
 - i. Links to external sites (DWR and State Water Resources Control Board)
 - ii. Links to individual OVGA member agency websites, relevant blogs, etc.
 - iii. Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and/or white papers
 - iv. OVGA documents (MOUs, bylaws, etc.)
 - v. GSP documents (draft GSP documents, notices and meeting calendars for GSP workshops)
- e. Establish corresponding social media accounts, such as FaceBook, Twitter, and Instagram profiles.
 - i. Social media accounts should be used for information dissemination purposes primarily, and limit or exclude the ability for general public to engage in “sideline conversations” about SGMA, etc.

4. Provide Regular Public Notices and Updates. Ensure Brown Act Compliance:

- a. Provide consistent messaging and outreach regarding SGMA information and GSP updates as they relate to Owens Valley Groundwater Basin. Topics to be noticed include and are not limited to:
 - i. GSP development and planning updates
 - 1. GSP workshops
 - 2. GSP work plan and timeline
 - ii. GSP implementation and enforcement updates (if/when applicable)
 - iii. General OVGA updates, including without limitation:
 - 1. OVGA Board meetings
 - 2. Public workshops and/or stakeholder roundtables
 - 3. OVGA annual reports (if applicable)
 - 4. Other SGMA-related updates
 - iv. As the work evolves, new items could be added to the list of update topics that stakeholders are provided, to help highlight their importance (for example, an event like an annual forum, or an ongoing activity like groundwater monitoring).
- b. Schedule notices to be sent on a regular schedule, for example, bi-monthly, monthly or as needed.
- c. Meetings subject to the Brown Act, such as OVGA Board meetings, must provide public notice and post an agenda 72 hours in advance of each regularly scheduled meeting (emergency meetings require 24-hour advance notice).
- d. Develop content appropriate to the audience and their interests, ensuring information is articulated in a way that is easily understood.

- e. Notices to community members with less SGMA or technical experience should be easily understood, with streamlined, relatable and repetitive information.
- f. Updates and messages should be condensed to one page when possible, providing a succinct summary of the issues discussed, and including links for further or additional information.
- g. As applicable, specific items should have an estimated timeline and a designated point of contact, including the person's position, email and telephone.
- h. Updates and information are needed in both English and Spanish.
- i. Designate responsible staff and appropriate resources for ongoing interagency coordination regarding joint messaging, consistent outreach and communication with stakeholders.
- j. Determine appropriate dissemination channels.
 - i. Utilize Constant Contact or similar email marketing platform for management of interested party stakeholder lists.
 - ii. Utilize member agency listservs delivered via standard email and/or U.S. Mail.

5. Provide Notices and Updates in Print Publications:

- a. Notices can take the form of public notices, op-ed articles, letters to the editor, advertisements or earned media.
 - i. Send information and/or media releases to regional and local media outlets and contacts.
 - 1. Trusted radio stations in the region, including stations broadcasting in languages other than English.
 - 2. Organization and community newsletters and periodicals.
 - 3. Identify trusted bi-lingual and/or Spanish speaking media outlets.
 - ii. Provide follow-up or wrap-up articles written by staff when appropriate.
 - iii. Notices and information may also be provided via:
 - 1. Mailers:
 - a. Send to PO boxes in Mono County
 - b. As bill inserts via utility districts
 - c. As an insert in the Saturday Inyo Register
 - 2. Print publications, including but not limited to:
 - a. Inyo County Register
 - b. The Reader
 - c. The Sheet
 - d. Sunday Paper
 - e. CSD Consumer Confidence Report
 - 3. Posted flyers at:
 - a. Libraries
 - b. Feed supply stores
 - c. Grocery stores
 - iv. Include notices for:
 - 1. Public workshops

2. Specific stakeholder meetings (targeted or special topic meetings)
3. OVGA Board meetings
4. Other standing meetings of particular interest related to SGMA
5. GSP development and planning updates
6. GSP implementation and enforcement updates (if/when applicable)
7. General OVGA and SGMA related updates
- v. Schedule
 1. Advertisements (if applicable): allow 21 to 30 days advance (with content approved)
 - a. Identify advertisement space
 - b. Develop content
 2. Letters to Editor: allow up to two weeks for preparation of letter and posting. Letters to the Editor can be published easily without advertisement space.
 3. Posting: minimum of one week in advance of meetings for placement final advertisement.
- vi. Dissemination

6. Institute Regular Stakeholder Outreach and Engagement Opportunities:

- a. Stakeholder engagement opportunities include but are not limited to:
 - i. OVGA Board meetings
 - ii. Mono County Regional Planning Advisory Committee
 - iii. County Board of Supervisors meetings
 - iv. GSP Technical Workshops
 - v. Public Workshops and Roundtables
 - vi. Owens Lake Groundwater Working Group
- b. Public workshop or roundtable content includes but is not limited to:
 - i. Updates on OVGA activities
 - ii. Updates on GSP development and planning activities
 - iii. Opportunities for interested parties to participate in the development and implementation of the GSP (i.e., technical workshops on specific GSP components)
 - iv. Notice of OVGA intent to adopt or amend a GSP
 - v. Updates on groundwater management activities in the Basin
 - vi. Notice to impose fees
- c. Logistics Considerations
 - i. Schedule in evenings and/or near community areas as feasible.
 - ii. Provide translation and facilitation services in English and Spanish

7. Strategically Engage Local, Special SGMA Identified Groups

- a. Identify Management Area Outreach Leads for each management area defined in the GSP to coordinate and direct localized public outreach and engagement efforts for their areas.

- b. Develop a targeted communication strategy to engage difficult to reach communities and community members that may be impacted by SGMA. This may include activities such as:
 - i. Door-to-door engagement
 - ii. Speaking at pre-existing community meetings
 - iii. Coordination with existing advisory groups or non-profit organizations as part of roundtable discussions.
 - c. Groups include:
 - i. Disadvantaged Communities (DACs)
 - ii. Underrepresented communities
 - iii. Latino communities
 - iv. Remote private pumpers
 - d. Recommendation: GSP Management Area Outreach Leads to manage targeted audience outreach activities, and coordinate activities among outreach team.
- 8. Develop and Update Basin Outreach and Engagement Resources Table**
 - a. Assess and define coordinating OVGA member agencies' outreach tools and resources available for Basin-wide outreach and engagement activities.
- 9. Develop Consistent, Coordinated Messages and Talking Points**
 - a. Define the key messages needed to effectively convey SGMA related information to various audiences and ensure consistency in a coordinated outreach effort to all stakeholders.
 - i. For each GSP topic being discussed, develop a set of talking points that can be used by OVGA members when speaking to specific stakeholder groups or audiences. Talking points and messaging may be customized to specific stakeholder groups as appropriate.
 - ii. Develop tools, such as a Q&A document and a SGMA 101 document, that contain easy to understand information as well as likely questions and responses you anticipate from stakeholder groups.
 - iii. Identify and communicate opportunities for public engagement and/or public comment during meetings on GSP development.
 - iv. Provide clear messaging that the OVGA retains legal responsibility for final OVGA and GSP related decisions.

Localized Outreach and Engagement Strategies

While consistent messaging is to be coherently coordinated at the Basin level, localized outreach should be coordinated among member agencies working in management areas through existing, trusted channels.

- 1. Utilize Local Agencies with Standing Meetings:** The most effective way to inform and engage many stakeholders and beneficial users regarding SGMA requirements and soliciting feedback is through trusted local agencies and community organizations with standing meetings and communication channels.

- a. Support local agencies and community organizations in disseminating information and engaging stakeholders in the following ways:
 - i. During standing board and/or community meetings
 - ii. Through monthly information pieces in newsletters or included in bills
 - iii. Disseminating information in both English and Spanish
- b. Local trusted agencies and community organizations include but are not limited to [refer to Table 1 for specific groups]:
 - i. Civic Groups
 - ii. Mutual water companies
 - iii. DAC community meetings and leaders
 - iv. Growers associations and industry organizations
 - v. Resource conservation groups
 - vi. Local and regional environmental justice groups
 - vii. Inyo-Mono County Farm Bureaus
- c. Leverage local, trusted resources for community meetings, such as schools, churches, and community centers.
 - i. Organize public meetings around explicit topics to specific stakeholders, including:
 - 1. As needed or requested, SGMA 101 meeting to inform stakeholders of important changes in groundwater management and how it may impact them.
 - 2. Meetings that explain components of the GSP, so that stakeholders can later provide meaningful input in the GSP development process.
 - 3. Meetings that detail when and how opportunities to provide input to the OVGA decision making and GSP development processes will occur.
 - 4. Public meetings regarding fee structures to help people understand how to interpret the impacts on them (if/when applicable).
- d. Logistics Considerations:
 - i. Make information and meetings accessible to various stakeholder groups.
 - ii. Provide information in easy to understand and streamlined terms.
 - iii. Provide information and facilitation in both English and Spanish.
 - iv. Hold meetings during hours that do not impede with regular work schedules (i.e., nights and weekends).

2. Utilize Existing Local Agency Resources

- a. Effectively inform and engage diverse beneficial users in SGMA through trusted local agencies and community organizations with existing communication channels such as newsletters, websites and social media.
- b. Disseminate consistent, coordinated messages and talking points through existing local newsletters, websites and social media.
- c. Customize messages to audiences, providing easy to understand updates.

- d. Provide information in both English and Spanish (most websites and social media allow users to set preferred translation).

3. Build on Strategies to Engage Local, Special SGMA Identified Groups

- a. To build on the Basin-wide outreach referenced above, it is recommended that each OVGA Management Area Outreach Lead develop additional locally-targeted communication strategies to engage difficult-to-reach communities and community members that will be impacted by SGMA. Groups include Disadvantaged Communities (DACs), underrepresented communities, Latino communities, and remote private pumpers.
- b. Some groups may need to be engaged through channels that do not require internet access, via door-to-door outreach and other opportunities for face-to-face engagement.
- c. OGVA member agencies may offer “office hours” or posted open times where interested members of the public can come in to casually discuss SGMA on their own schedule.

Secondary, Conditional Communication Strategies

The following strategies and activities are options for increased stakeholder engagement, or to address particularly difficult discussions (either due to political factors or limited stakeholder knowledge of content). These are for consideration on an as-needed basis to generate more or specialized stakeholder engagement and participation.

1. Develop and update Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page on website
2. Create an inexpensive informational brochure
3. Develop a strategic media plan
4. Actively cultivate relationships and updates with state and local elected officials
5. Participate in related planning efforts in the local area and region
6. Create an annual electronic newsletter (annual report)
7. Engage stakeholders through personal outreach of members of the OVGA
8. Participate in local events with an informational booth, such as:
 - ChooChoo Swamp Meet (Bishop)
 - The Lone Pine Film Festival
 - The City Park
 - Earth Day Events

Recommended Milestones for Engaging Stakeholders

To employ the Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Plan effectively, the GSA will need to develop a schedule for outreach and engagement activities. The below table (Table 2) identifies milestones required by SGMA, as well as centralized and localized engagement strategies. This schedule shall be updated into a task-oriented work plan and timeline as communication and engagement tasks are allocated.

Table 2: Summary of Engagement Opportunities and Milestones

Timeframe	Milestone or Stage	Required Community Engagement Under SGMA	Essential & Localized Communication Strategies
Between Notice of GSP Planning and June 30, 2021	During GSP Development	Public Workshops and other opportunities providing stakeholder avenues to participate in GSP development	<p><i>Essential</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public workshops on GSP development (e.g. basin conditions, sustainable management criteria, etc.) Develop and maintain centralized website and social media accounts Email notices of public meetings Newspaper notices of public workshops <p><i>Localized</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make time in standing meetings for updates and information on GSP development Develop newsletter updates Disseminate updates via website and social media
Between Notice of GSP Planning and December, 2021	During GSP development	Active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the Basin	<p><i>Essential</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide regular email notices and updates Update website regularly Convene bimonthly meetings of OVGA and technical consultants Identify and communicate opportunities for public engagement and/or public comment during meetings on GSP development Develop consistent, coordinated messages and talking points to effectively convey SGMA-related information to various audiences Develop content appropriate to the audience and their interests, ensuring information can be easily understood Update area legislative bodies at strategic milestones (and any other groups upon request) <p><i>Localized</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Utilize local channels and meetings to identify and communicate opportunities for public engagement and/or

Timeframe	Milestone or Stage	Required Community Engagement Under SGMA	Essential & Localized Communication Strategies
			public comment during meetings on GSP development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage and support local agencies and community organizations in disseminating information and engaging stakeholders, including through existing community meetings, newsletters, websites, and social media • Organize public meetings around concrete impacts to specific stakeholders • Develop additional, locally-targeted communication strategies to engage difficult-to-reach communities and community members
GSP adoption no later than December, 2021	Prior to GSP adoption or amendment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide notice to cities and counties within area encompassed by the proposed plan or amendment • Consider comments provided by the cities and counties • Accommodate requests for consultation received from the cities and counties within 30 days 	SEE ABOVE
GSP adoption no later than December, 2021	Prior to GSP adoption or amendment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No sooner than 90 days following public notice, hold public hearing/ Public Workshop 	SEE ABOVE
Prior to GSA imposing fee or increasing fee	If GSA intends to impose or increase a fee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide public with access to the data serving as the basis for the proposed fee, the time and place of explanatory public meeting, and general explanation of topic to be discussed. • Post on project website and mail to any interested party who submits written request for mailed notice of 	SEE ABOVE

Timeframe	Milestone or Stage	Required Community Engagement Under SGMA	Essential & Localized Communication Strategies
		meetings on new or increased fees. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No sooner than 10 days following public notice, hold a public meeting. 	

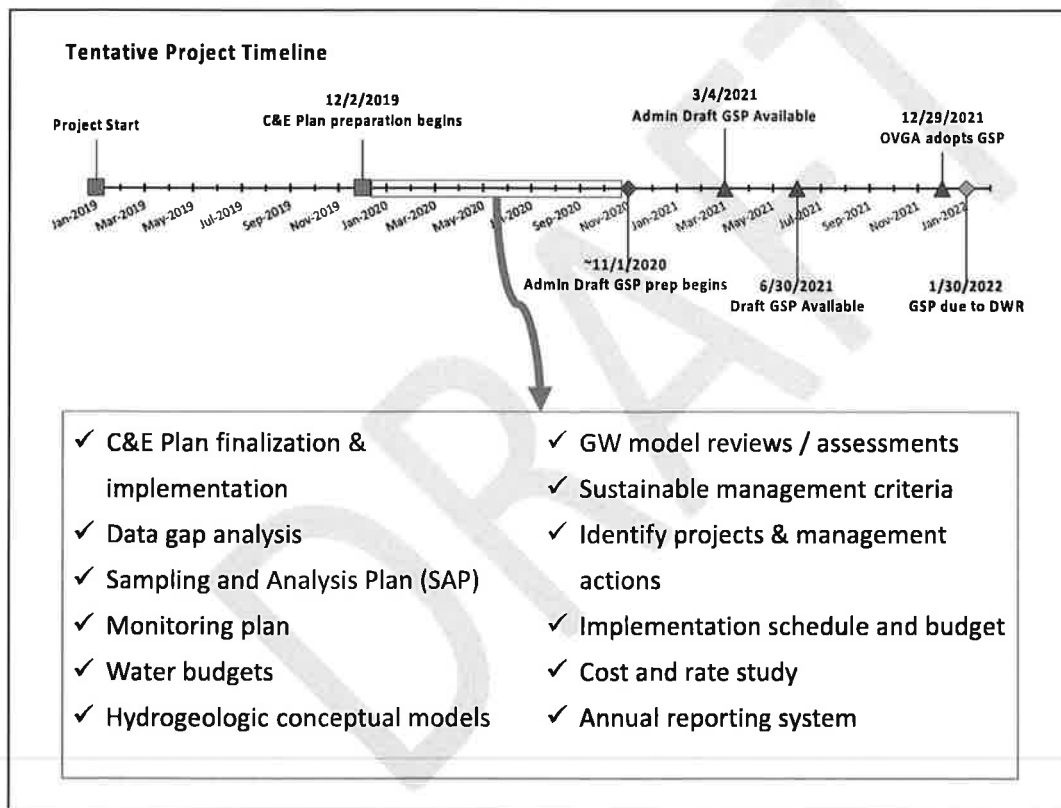
Evaluation and Assessment

Any communication strategy should include opportunities to check in at various points during implementation to ensure that it is meeting the communication and engagement goals and complying with SGMA law. These check-ins can include:

- ✓ What worked well?
- ✓ What didn't work as planned?
- ✓ Meeting recaps with next steps
- ✓ Listing lessons learned ... and developing mid-course corrections
- ✓ (As relevant) communications budget analysis

Appendix I: Project Timeline for GSP Development

Figure 1. Approximate project timeline for GSP development.



Appendix II: GSP Outreach and Engagement Process Overview and Example Public Workshop Planning Process

Figure 2. GSP Outreach and Engagement Process Overview

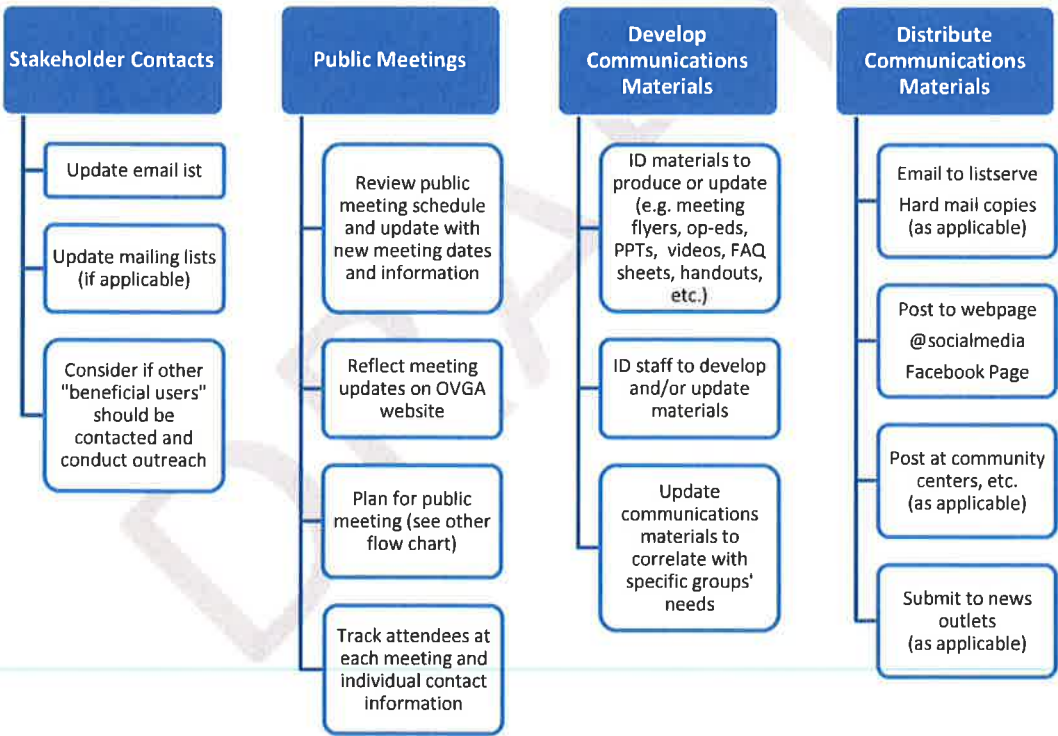
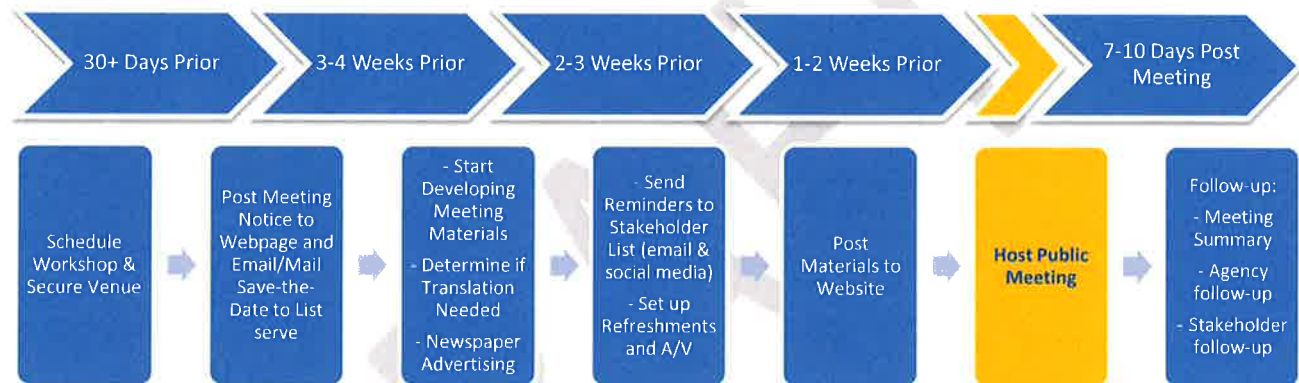


Figure 3. Example Public Workshop Planning Process



Appendix III: Recommendations for Public Workshop Planning

Workshop Logistics Planning Example

- A. **Schedule Workshop:** with 21-30 days advanced notice; all parties agree on a suitable date and time for workshop(s). Consider timing of workshops based on target audiences. Alternatively consider hosting identical workshops one in the morning and one in the evening to target multiple audiences.
- B. **Venue:** select the venue with at least 30 days in advance, giving time to complete contracts (if not free). Utilize Member agency locations throughout Subbasin. Some location resources include: *Table to be completed.*

Mgmt. Area	Venue	Location	Capacity	Point of Contact

- C. **Refreshments** (optional): 7-14 days prior to the meeting, determine what food will be necessary. Depending on the length of the meeting and timing (i.e. a six-hour workshop from 10am-4pm would require lunch, evening meetings should include snacks or dinner) determine if simple refreshments, lunch, or dinner are required. Consider arranging for delivery or pick-up prior to the meeting.
- D. **Materials:** develop materials 7-14 days prior to the meeting. Determine if translation services are required.
- E. **Translators:** may include Spanish speakers. Translation may include translation of materials and/or in-person translation. If the meeting will require in-person translators, identify these persons 30 days in advance.

Workshop Outreach Strategies Example

- A. **Newspaper advertising:** with 14-21 days advance notice and clear messaging approved by GSA.
- B. **Stakeholder Interested Parties list dissemination:** GSA and member agencies send information to customers via standard outreach protocols (posting in buildings, Board meetings, websites, newsletters, customer flyers, etc.)
- C. **E-mail notice** to existing interested parties list.
 - 1. Also promote to specific stakeholder groups. See list of Beneficial Users / Interested Parties (Table 1)
- D. **Social media:** Utilize existing or created Facebook or Twitter accounts.
- E. **GSA website:** Post materials and update homepage with call to action.

Workshop Follow-up Example

- A. **Meeting Summary:** within 7-10 business days, develop a meeting summary highlighting action items, presentation content, stakeholder questions, and any discussion held. Include list of attendees for documentation.
- B. **Agency Follow-up:** within 7 business days, contact agency staff to debrief on workshop. Identify pros and cons of the meeting, lessons learned, and any improvements to make. Discuss roles, responsibilities, and deadlines for action items. Identify and obtain GSA approval on key messages for stakeholder follow-up.
- C. **Stakeholder Follow-up:** at the meeting or within 7 days, distribute a workshop evaluation for feedback on communication practices, content, and improvements to make. Create a summary of the evaluation responses.

Example of Public Workshop Planning Table

Date & Time	Meeting Name	Location	Major Topics
	Public Workshop #1		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review GSP Components, Milestones, Action Plan• Review of GSP development activities, including Plan Area and Basin Setting, etc.
	Public Workshop #2		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Technical review of GSP components, such as sustainable management criteria, etc.
	Public Workshop #3		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review proposed projects and management plans

Appendix IV: Tribal Engagement

The OVGA recognizes the value and importance of directly engaging with tribes in GSP planning and SGMA implementation. Every tribal nation will have its own preferred level and method of engagement. The OVGA shall communicate directly with each tribe to collaboratively develop a communication and engagement plan that suits their needs. The OVGA will operate following these **key outreach principles**:

- Engage early and often
- Consider tribal beneficial uses in decision-making; identify and seek to protect tribal cultural resources
- Share relevant documentation with tribal officials
- Conduct meetings at times convenient for tribal participation with ample notifications
- Request relevant process input/data/information from tribes
- Designate a tribal liaison(s) where appropriate
- Share resources for tribal involvement as is feasible

Tribes and tribal organizations within the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin are:

- Benton Paiute Tribe
- Big Pine Tribe
- Bishop Paiute Tribe
- Fort Independence Paiute Tribe
- Kutzadika'a Tribe
- Lone Pine Tribe
- Timbisha Shoshone Tribe
- Owens Valley Indian Water Commission

Relevant DWR Information

- **SGMA Section 10720.3.** ...any federally recognized Indian Tribe, appreciating the shared interest in assuring the sustainability of groundwater resources, may voluntarily agree to participate in the preparation or administration of a groundwater sustainability plan or groundwater management plan under this part through a joint powers authority or other agreement with local agencies in the basin. A participating Tribe shall be eligible to participate fully in planning, financing, and management under this part, including eligibility for grants and technical assistance, if any exercise of regulatory authority, enforcement, or imposition and collection of fees is pursuant to the Tribe's independent authority and not pursuant to authority granted to a groundwater sustainability agency under this part.
- **Draft Discussion Paper Tribal Participation with Groundwater Sustainability Agencies**
http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/pdfs/SGMA_Tribal_GSAs.pdf

- **Must a local agency exclude federal and tribal lands from its service area when forming a GSA?** No, federal lands and tribal lands need not be excluded from a local agency's GSA area if a local agency has jurisdiction in those areas; however, those areas are not subject to SGMA. But, a local agency in its GSA formation notice shall explain how it will consider the interests of the federal government and California Native American tribes when forming a GSA and developing a GSP. DWR strongly recommends that local agencies communicate with federal and tribal representatives prior to deciding to become a GSA. As stated in Water Code §10720.3, the federal government or any federally recognized Indian tribe, appreciating the shared interest in assuring the sustainability of groundwater resources, may voluntarily agree to participate in the preparation or administration of a GSP or groundwater management plan through a JPA or other agreement with local agencies in the basin. Water Code References: §10720.3, §10723.2, §10723.8

Tribal Outreach Resources

The follow are links to agency tribal outreach resources and considerations, each of which captures important principles and resources for tribal outreach. A short summary of key outreach principles can be found below.

- [Draft Discussion Paper Tribal Participation with Groundwater Sustainability Agencies](#)
- [CalEPA Tribal Consultation Policy Memo \(August 2015\)](#)
- [DWR Tribal Engagement Policy \(May 2016\)](#)
- [CA Natural Resources Agency Tribal Consultation Policy \(November 2012\)](#)
- [SWRCB Proposed Tribal Beneficial Uses](#)
- [Butte County Associate of Governments: Policy For Government-To-Government Consultation With Federally Recognized Native American Tribal Governments \(a model from the transportation sector\)](#)
- [CA Court Tribal Outreach and Engagement Strategies](#)
- [Traditional Ecological Knowledge resources](#)
- [Water Education Foundation Tribal Water Issues](#)

Appendix V: Disadvantaged Community (DAC) Engagement

The OVGA plans to implement outreach strategies and translatable lessons learned from DAC involvement in the 2008-2011 Inyo-Mono Integrated Regional Water Management Program. Pertinent excerpts from the published report, *Disadvantaged Communities and the Inyo-Mono IRWM Program: A study of the engagement of disadvantaged communities in Integrated Regional Water Management*, are below for quick reference. The complete report is available online at: https://inyo-monowater.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/IM_DAC_whitePaper_20140930_FINALcopy4Submittal.pdf

Lessons Learned from 2008-2011 IRWM DAC Outreach

- Understand who the target audience is (e.g., with whom you will be meeting) to understand where and when to meet (such as during the day vs. evening meetings)
- Target outreach materials and approach appropriately (e.g., is a Powerpoint presentation appropriate for the audience, or perhaps paper copies of simple handouts and maps along with a verbal description of the Program and time for questions?)
- DAC (and other) audiences are often interested in what other stakeholders are involved in the IRWM Program, what funding opportunities are available, technical trainings, and engineering assistance
- One-on-one meetings with individual communities and stakeholders may be more appropriate than trying to meet with several entities in one location
- It is important to be able to travel to the target community as there may not be time or funds for them to travel to outreach meetings
- Though there may be commonalities across regions, each community/DAC/tribe/water system/stakeholder has unique and individualized water-related concerns
- Several meetings may be required to engage new communities and involve them in the IRWM process. IRWM is a complex concept to explain to new stakeholders, and it is important to follow up from meetings to answer questions and provide additional information.
- It is important to recognize that outreach to and engagement of Native American tribes should not be “lumped in” with outreach to DACs. IRWM groups need to use outreach and communication techniques appropriate for tribes. These might include in-person communications, reaching out to tribal council members, and regular follow-up communications.
- Disadvantage can mean more than low income. There are other socioeconomic and cultural factors to consider when characterizing DACs and working to make resources available. The current simple definition affects what communities are engaged as DACs and to whom resources and funding are targeted.

This report also discusses outreach tools, stating that the **project webpage** was the most effective tool for information sharing. A **mobile-device version** of the website was also developed as many DAC members do not have home computers but can access the internet through cellular data.

With regard to printed materials, they found a **one-page, tri-fold brochure** offering IRWMP-specific information in a very brief format, directing reader to the website for more information, to be most useful to stakeholders.

Appendix VI: SGMA-Required Outreach and Engagement Strategies

SGMA strongly encourages broad stakeholder engagement in development and implementation of GSPs. According to SGMA:

- “The groundwater sustainability agency shall encourage the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the groundwater basin prior to and during the development and implementation of the groundwater sustainability plan.” [CA Water Code Sec. 10727.8(a)]
- “The groundwater sustainability agency shall consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater.” [CA Water Code Sec. 10723.2]

GSAs are given broad discretion in the methods and processes utilized to meet engagement requirements. SGMA explicitly authorizes GSAs to form Public Advisory Committees if they choose, but does not require them to do so. The decision to form an advisory committee is left to the individual GSA based on need and effectiveness of these processes within their communities. However, SGMA does have several GSA-specific requirements regarding public notice, public hearings, and public meetings. Requirements include:

1. **Local agencies seeking to become a GSA²** must issue public notice and hold a public hearing before doing so. The public notice must be consistent with Section 6066 of the Government Code. The hearing must take place in a county overlying the groundwater basin of interest. [CA Water Code Section 10723 (b)]

Within 30 days of electing to be (or forming) a GSA, the GSA must inform the State of this development and its intent to manage groundwater sustainably. In doing so, the GSA must:

- a. Include a list of parties who wish to receive “plan preparation, meeting announcements, and availability of draft plans, maps, and other relevant documents”; and
- b. Explain how the interested parties’ perspectives will be considered, both during the development and operation of the GSA and during development and implementation of the GSP. This information must also be sent to the legislative bodies of any city and county in the area covered by the plan.

Illustrating the term “interested parties,” SGMA requires that GSAs consider the interests of “all beneficial uses and users of groundwater,” along with entities expected to share responsibilities for implementing GSPs. As a starting point, SGMA specifies a number of types of “interested parties.” The GSA must maintain its list of interested parties on an ongoing basis. Anyone who wishes to be put on this list can

² This item (1) has already been complied with for the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin.

do so upon making this request in writing. [CA Water Code Section 10730. (b) (2); 10723.2; 10723.4; and 10723.8. (a)]

2. **GSA's planning to develop a GSP³** must provide notice of their intent to do so to the public and the state before proceeding. The notice must describe opportunities for interested parties to participate in the development and implementation of the GSP. This written notice must be provided to the legislative bodies of any city or county located within the basin to be managed by the GSP. [CA Water Code Section 10727.8. (a)]
3. **A GSA seeking to adopt or amend a GSP** must provide notice to cities and counties within the area encompassed by the proposed plan or amendment, and consider comments provided by the cities and counties. Cities and counties receiving the notice may request consultation with the GSA, in which case the GSA must accommodate that request within 30 days. The GSA also must hold a public hearing prior to adopting or amending a GSP. There must be at least 90 days between the notice issued to cities and counties and the public hearing. [CA Water Code Section 10728.4]
4. **If a GSA intends to impose or increase a fee**, it must first hold at least one public meeting, at which attendees may make oral or written comments. This public notice must include:
 - a. Information about the time and place of the meeting and a general explanation of the topic to be discussed.
 - b. Public notice must be posted on the GSA's website and mailed to any interested party who submits a written request for mailed notice of meetings on new or increased fees. (The GSA must establish and maintain a list of interested parties, and the list is subject to renewal by April 1 of each year.)
 - c. The public notice must also be consistent with Section 6066 of the Government Code.
 - d. In addition, the GSA must share with the public the data upon which the proposed fee is based, and this must be done at least ten days before the public meeting takes place. [CA Water Code Section 10730.(b)(1),(2), and (3)]

³ This item (2) has already been complied with for the Owens Valley Groundwater Basin.

Appendix VII: Published Educational Materials

DWR has developed various educational materials about SGMA and GSA/GSP development. In addition to DWR materials, academic institutions and foundations have published useful reports about SGMA implementation. While not comprehensive, Table 3 lists some essential SGMA educational and reference materials.

Table 3. Educational and Reference Documents for SGMA Implementation

Educational/Reference Document Titles	Publishing Entity	Date
Groundwater Sustainability Agency Frequently Asked Questions http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/pdfs/DWR_GSA_FAQ_2016-01-07.pdf	DWR	January 2016
Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Emergency Regulations Guide http://www.water.ca.gov/groundwater/sgm/pdfs/GSP_Final_Regs_Guidebook.pdf	DWR	July 2016
Collaborating for Success: Stakeholder Engagement for Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Implementation http://waterfoundation.net/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/SGMA_Stakeholder_Engagement_White_Paper.pdf	Community Water Center Clean Water Fund Union of Concerned Scientists	July 2015
The 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: A Handbook to Understanding and Implementing the Law http://www.watereducation.org/sites/main/files/file-attachments/groundwatermgthandbook_oct2015.pdf	Water Education Foundation	October 2015
SGMA Engagement With Tribal Governments https://www.water.ca.gov/LegacyFiles/groundwater/sgm/pdfs/GD_Tribal_Final_2017-06-28.pdf	DWR	June 2017

Owens Valley GSP Update

May 14, 2020



Questions from April Meeting?

- Topics covered:
- Sustainable Management Criteria (SMCs)



Today's Topics...

- Board Discussion Topics
- GSP Status
- Distributed Parameter Watershed Model (DPWM)
- Database Management System (DBMA)

Board Discussion Topics / Schedule

	Topic 1	Topic 2	Topic 3
May-2020	GW model review	DPWM Tri-Valley Results	Data Base Management System Update/Demo
Jun-2020	Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs)	West Bishop Hydrology Tech Memo	
Jul-2020	Management Areas	Monitoring Plan & Data Gaps	
Aug-2020	Sustainable Management Criteria	Sampling & Analysis Plan (SAP)	

June 2020 Reference / Background Materials

GDEs are frequently addressed in the following sections of the Regulations:

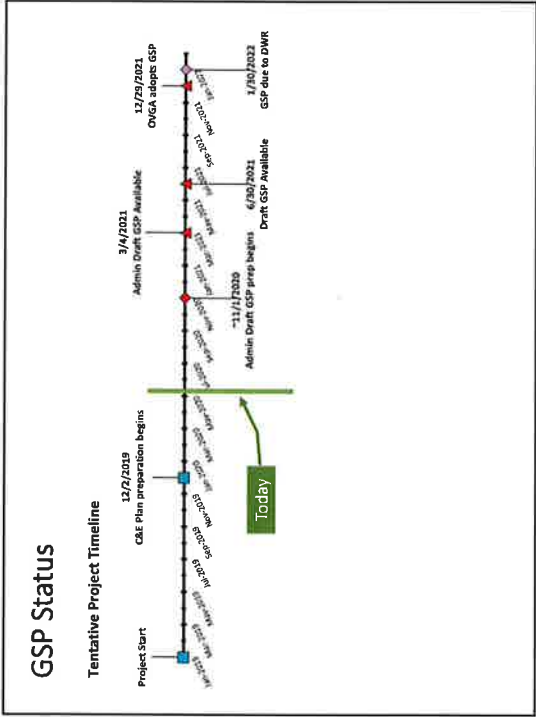
- § 351 Definitions
- § 354.8 Description of Plan Area
- § 354.10. Notice and Communication
- § 354.16. Groundwater Conditions
- § 354.18. Water Budget
- § 354.26. Undesirable Results
- § 354.28. Minimum Thresholds
- § 354.34. Monitoring Network
- § 354.38 Assessment and Improvement of Monitoring Network
- § 355.4 Criteria for Plan Evaluation
- § 355.8 Department Review of Annual Reports

June 2020 Reference / Background Materials

<https://groundwaterresourcehub.org/what-are-gdes/importance-of-gdes/>

https://groundwaterresourcehub.org/public/uploads/pdfs/GWR_Hub_GDE_Guidance_Doc_2-1-18.pdf

https://groundwaterresourcehub.org/public/uploads/pdfs/TNC_NCdataset_BestPracticesGuide_2019.pdf



GSP Status - Proposed GSP Outline

Executive Summary	
1. Introduction	3. Sustainable Management Criteria
1.1 Purpose of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP or Plan)	3.1 Sustainability Goal (Reg. § 354.24)
1.2 Sustainability Goal	3.2 Measurable Objective (Reg. § 354.30)
1.3 Agency Information (Reg. § 354.6)	3.3 Minimum Thresholds (Reg. § 354.28)
1.3.1 Organization and Management Structure of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA or Agency)	3.4 Undesirable Results (Reg. § 354.26)
1.3.2 Description of the GSA's	3.5 Monitoring Network
1.3.3 Estimated Cost of Implementing the GSP and the GSA's Approach to Meet Costs	3.5.1 Description of Monitoring Network, (Reg. § 354.34)
1.4 GSP Organization	3.5.2 Monitoring (Reg. § 352.2)
	3.5.3 Representative Monitoring (Reg. § 354.36)
	3.5.4 Assessment and Improvement of Monitoring Network (Reg. § 354.38)
2. Plan Area and Basin Setting	
2.1 Description of the Plan Area (Reg. § 354.8)	
2.1.1 Summary of Jurisdictional Areas and Other Features (Reg. § 354.8 b)	
2.1.2 Water Resources Monitoring and Management Programs (Reg. § 354.8 c, d, e)	
2.1.3 Land Use Elements on Topic Categories of Applicable General Plans (Reg. § 354.8 f)	
2.1.4 Additional GSP Elements (Reg. § 354.8 g)	
2.1.5 Notice and Communication (Reg. § 354.10)	
2.2 Basin Setting	
2.2.1 Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model (Reg. § 354.14)	
2.2.2 Current and Historical Groundwater Conditions (Reg. § 354.16)	
2.2.3 Water Budget Information (Reg. § 354.18)	
2.2.4 Management Areas (as Applicable) (Reg. § 354.20)	
	4. Projects and Management Actions to Achieve Sustainability Goal (Reg. § 354.44)
	4.1 Project 1 Description
	4.2 Project 2 Description
	4.3 Project 3 Description
	5. Plan Implementation
	5.1 Estimate of GSP Implementation Costs (Reg. § 354.6)
	5.2 Schedule for Implementation
	5.3 Annual Reporting
	5.4 Periodic Evaluations
	6. References and Technical Studies (Reg. § 354.4)

GSP Status - Technical Appendices

1. Interbasin and Coordination Agreements (as applicable) (Reg. § 357)

2. List of Public Meetings (Reg. § 354.10)

3. Joint Powers Authority

4. Long-Term Water Agreement

5. Communication and Engagement Plan (CBEP)

6. Water Budgets

7. Hydrographs (streamflow and water levels)

8. Water Quality (SW and GW) Time Series

9. Monitoring Plan/Network and Data Gaps Analysis

10. Sampling and Analysis Plan

11. Sustainable Management Criteria

12. Subsidence

13. Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs)

14. West Bishop Shallow Groundwater Evaluation

15. Climate Change Analysis

16. Distributed Parameter Watershed Model (DPMW)

17. Projects/Management Actions

18. Owens Lake GW project

19. GSP Implementation Costs

20. Groundwater Model Documentation

21. Comments and Responses to Comments (Reg. § 354.10)

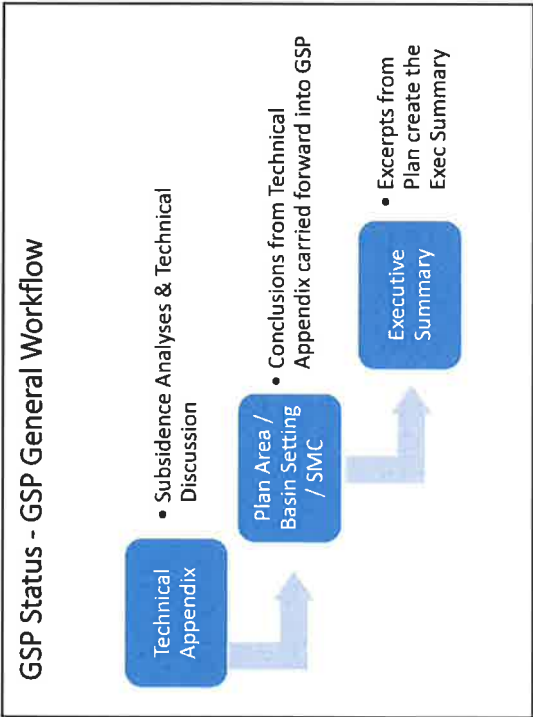
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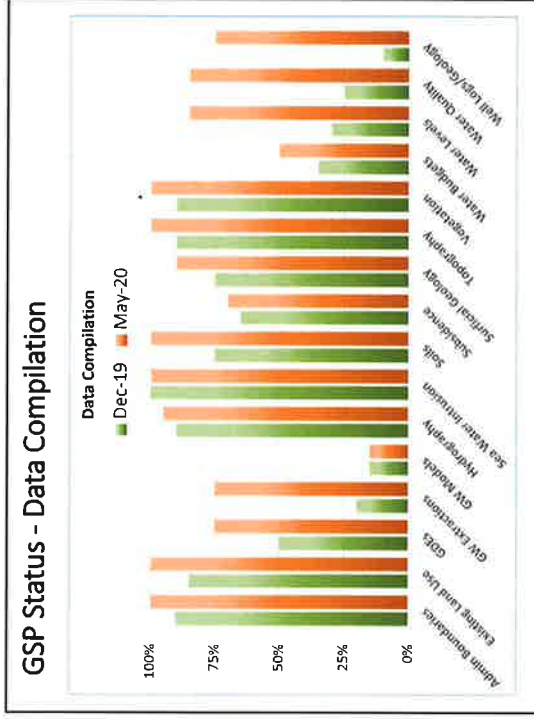
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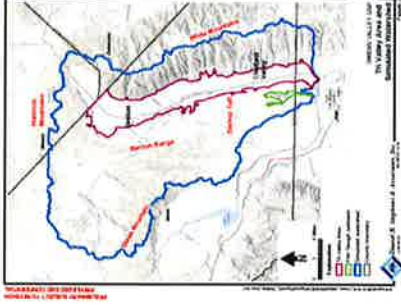


Distributed Parameter Watershed Model (DPWM)

- **What is it?**

Soil-water balance model that estimates the daily water balance components of:

- ✓ precipitation
- ✓ transpiration
- ✓ evaporation
- ✓ net infiltration (e.g., recharge)
- ✓ snow accumulation
- ✓ snow melt
- ✓ snow sublimation
- ✓ run-on
- ✓ runoff



Distributed Parameter Watershed Model (DPWM)

- **How is it used in the GSP?**
 - ✓ Evaluate the magnitude of various components of the hydrologic cycle as it is applied to the soil
 - ✓ Provide basic hydrologic information to assist groundwater model development
 - ✓ Simulate water within a certain depth of soil and recognize topography, the hydraulic properties of soil and bedrock, and meteorological data to distribute precipitation among snow sublimation, evapotranspiration, runoff, soil moisture storage, and deep percolation
 - ✓ *Estimate infiltration from precipitation, irrigation, overland water flow*

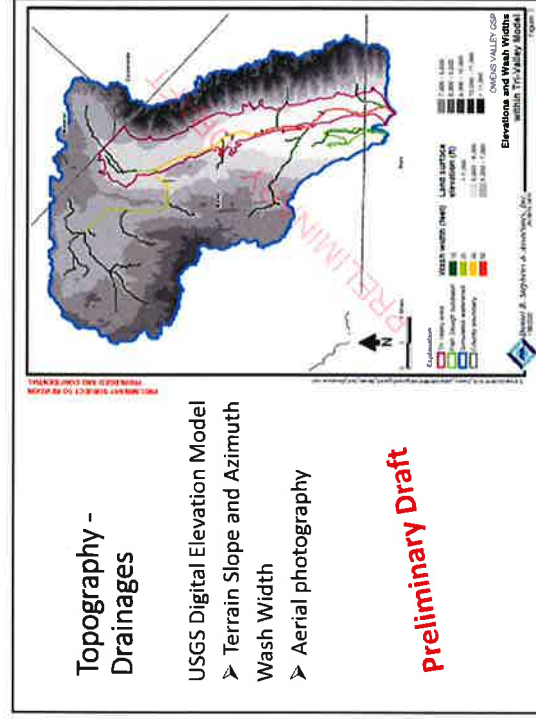
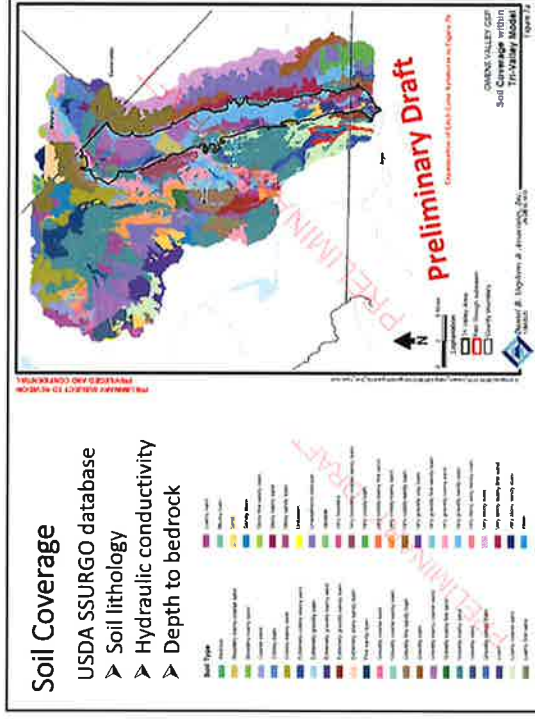


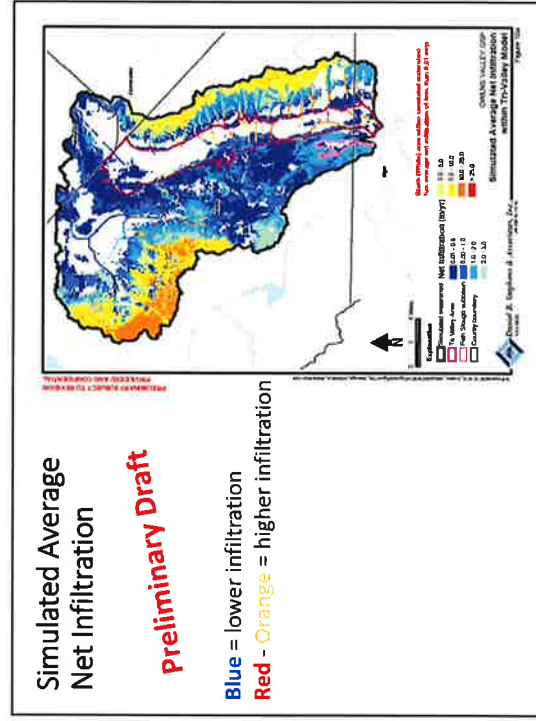
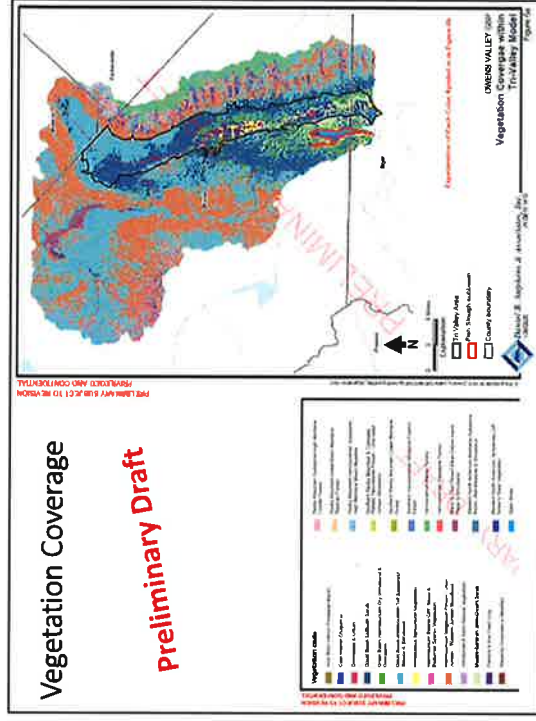
Distributed Parameter Watershed Model (DPWM)

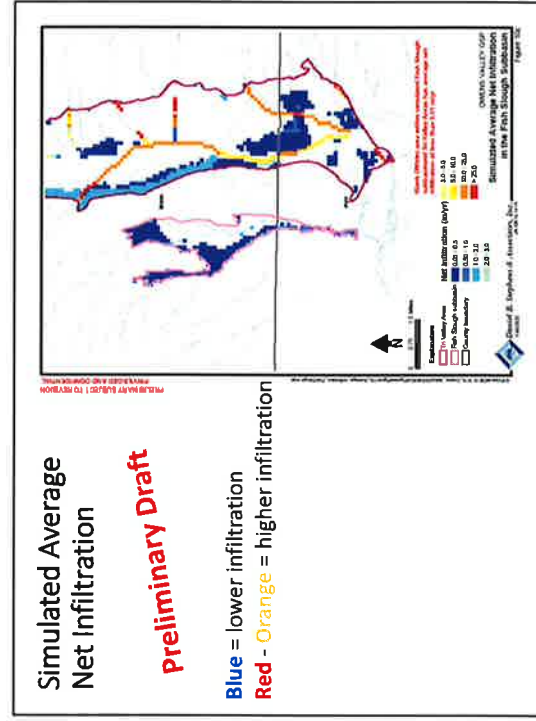
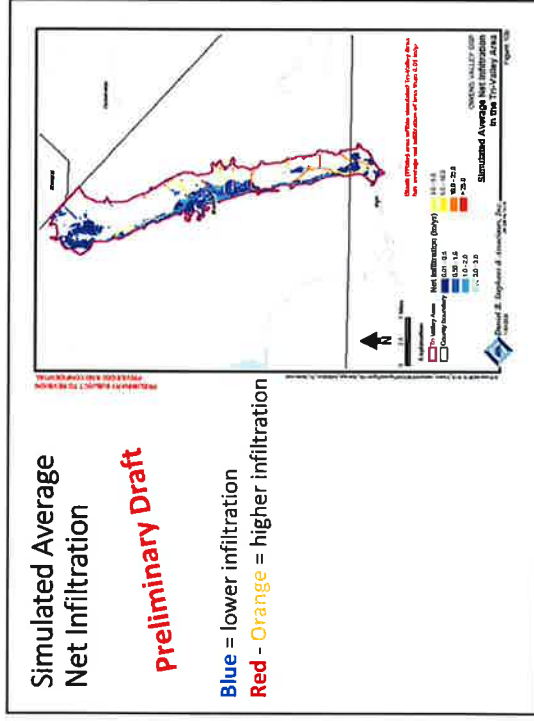
- **Where was it applied?**
DPWM is being used to develop basic water balance parameters for Tri-Valley and Fish Slough areas
- **Where does the information for DPWM come from?**
Pre-existing data sets are used by DPWM. Examples of these data sets include:
 - ✓ USDA Soil Survey Geographic Database (SSURGO) (soils and their hydraulic properties)
 - ✓ US Digital Elevation Models (topography, slope, and azimuth)
 - ✓ Published geologic maps
 - ✓ CIMIS (CA Irrigation Management Information System) and RAWIS (Remote Automatic Weather Stations) data (precipitation, air temperature, wind speed)
 - ✓ GAP/LANDFIRE National Terrestrial Ecosystems 2011 (USGS) (rooting depths, plant heights)

Distributed Parameter Watershed Model (DPWM)

- **What DPWM does NOT do...**
 - ✓ It is NOT a groundwater flow model. It cannot predict or track groundwater movement
 - ✓ It does NOT predict groundwater elevations

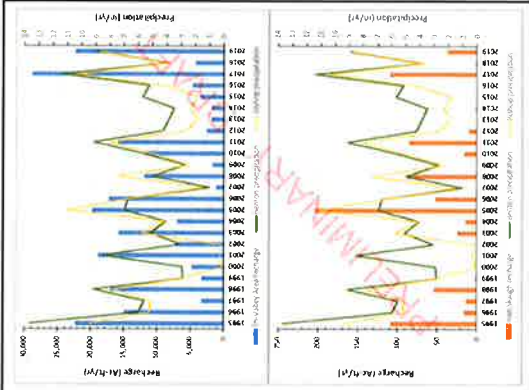






Simulated Infiltration (Recharge)

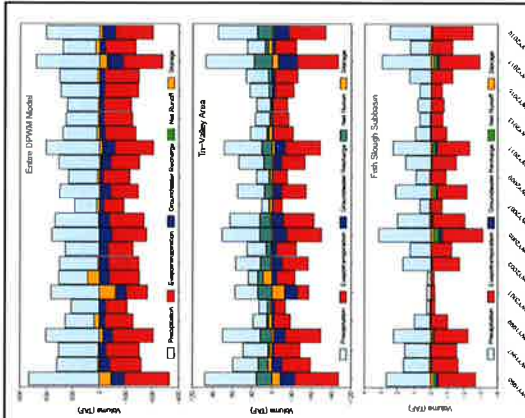
- Tri-Valley - top graph (blue bars)
- Fish Slough - lower graph (orange bars)



Preliminary Draft

DPWM Annual Water Budget

- Note: Vertical Axes have different scales
- Evapotranspiration (Et) is significant variable
- Fish Slough: Minor amounts of groundwater recharge from infiltration of SW or precipitation



Preliminary Draft

Water Balance - 25 Year Average Simulated Water Balance Components Preliminary Draft			
Water Balance Component	Average Simulated Volume (ac-ft/yr) Entire Watershed	Average Simulated Volume (ac-ft/yr) Tri-Valley area	Average Simulated Volume (ac-ft/yr) Fish Slough subbasin
Precipitation	457,167	36,637	1,435
Surface water runoff from upstream cells	0	12,271	2
Actual Evapotranspiration	319,744	35,465	1,330
Snow Sublimation	34,243	1,020	20
Surface water runoff leaving the area	3,353	1,529	48
Change in storage of the soil	7,174	332	4
Net Infiltration (Recharge)	92,653	10,563	33

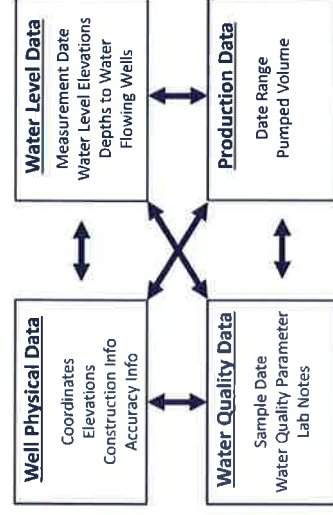
Questions ?



Database Management System (DBMS)



Data is stored in a SQL database that is accessible via a publicly available website.



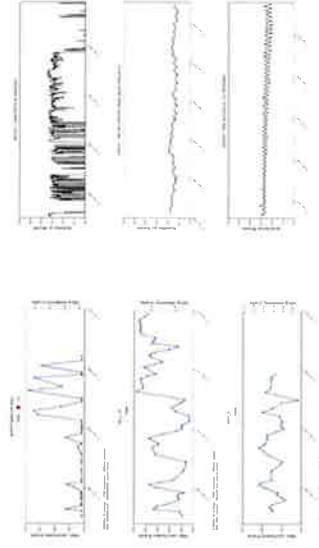
Owens Valley Database Stats (as of May 14, 2020)

- 5,713 monitoring points
 - Wells, piezometers, surface-water gages, and springs
 - 57% are missing coordinates or have poor location accuracy
- 530,605 water level observations
 - Collected from 1,286 wells (1,223 with 3+ observations)
 - ~50% are from the Owens Lake area
- 63,346 water quality observations
 - Collected from 407 wells (399 with 3+ observations)
 - 183 constituents analyzed for (92 with detections)
- 84,864 pumping observations
 - From 224 wells



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Computer scripts can be used to extract data and make plots automatically.



Water Level Plots

Stream and Ditch Flow Plots



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Online Database Demonstration...

- Currently in "Beta testing" and will be made available after approval from OVGA Board
- "Living" database - data may change pending more detailed QA/QC analysis
- Please refer any comments or suggestions to Gus Tolley (gtolley@geo-logic.com)



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