

Solano Subbasin GSA Collaborative Meeting

July 18, 2024 | 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. | Via Zoom

Participants

Northern Delta GSA Erik Ringelberg X City of Vacaville Justen Cole	onsultants
x Chris Thomas	
Luhdorff & Scalmanini Engineering Vicki Kretsinger Grabert X Nick Watterson Faithe Lovelace Ag Innovations Jenn Fox Guadalupe Garcia X Jessie Holtz	

AGENDA

- 1. GSA Updates
- 2. GSP Implementation
 - a. Projects and Management Actions
 - b. Updates on Well Permitting, State Activities, Funding
- 3. Stakeholder Engagement
- 4. Forecast next Collaborative meeting (August 15) topics

MEETING NOTES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Updates

- Northern Delta GSA: Has an upcoming public hearing on July 31 related to Proposition 218 and a board meeting to review the budget for the upcoming fiscal year.
- Solano Subbasin GSA: Working on materials and gathering information related to the first Proposition 68 grant invoice.
- Sacramento County GSA: Presented to the Isleton City Council with Cal-Am and shared the annual report, graphs, and findings. Discussed potentially doing a workshop and a



tour in the fall. In conversations with Reclamation District (RD) 3 and it will be important to stay in touch with RDs in the Solano Subbasin.

City of Vacaville GSA: No Updates

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Implementation

Projects and Management Actions

LSCE shared ongoing efforts. A response letter was sent by Solano Subbasin GSA on behalf of all the GSAs in the Solano Subbasin, stating they did not see the need to go over the CV Salts report in detail.

LSCE has been coordinating closely with Solano County. California Forever requested the Subbasin's Integrated Hydrologic Model results and they were sent. A note from Northern Delta GSA was attached specifying important additional qualifiers.

The group talked about additions to the public Webmap at: https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/bcf6baddd9014bf98b81917b5b2b2051.

Ag Innovations gave background on context about the Webmap. The interactive Webmap presents monitoring program information and current groundwater conditions in the Subbasin. It was shared with the public on SolanoGSP.com including RMS Wells in February of 2024.

The group discussed including a second tranche of wells where water level water and water quality wells' monitoring entity is a GSA or they don't expect concern. One next step is to touch base with a handful of entities, namely Calwater, Dixon, and Rio Vista, to confirm they know the next wave of wells may include some of their data. Solano Irrigation District (SID) might want to check the agreements for their wells.

For a third tranche of wells, communication with well owners will be important. These include wells where outreach might be an opportunity to reestablish or grow well-owner relationships. A question was asked about how to get more well-owner participation, especially in the Northwest Focus Area, and if there is a possibility of doing facilitated outreach with some of the landowners.

Solano Subbasin shared that they are working on outreach. It may be useful to have a broader outreach/education type of meeting including topics such as the Bay Delta Plan updates, unimpaired flows, etc.

A question was asked about well permitting and the elements or enhancements that would be needed for permitting. LSCE is looking at taking an inventory of the lengthy list of fields in the database of fields maintained and coordinating with the County. LSCE shared they are doing additional mapping of wells along Putah Creek.



Solano Subbasin shared an update on the Northwest Focus area, seeing walnuts and almonds are being taken out of production, and crop patterns are changing. There may be an opportunity for farmers to be more open to Flood-MAR or similar approaches.

Ag Innovations shared that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) is doing a webinar on July 30 on their GSP PMA module. They shared the DWR portal and link to register in the chat:

- https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/
- https://stantec.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_V8OuwHC4RE0jxlW6rlQjHA#/registration

Updates on Well Permitting, Funding, State Activities, and Funding

Solano Subbasin GSA shared that they are continuing to implement the Governor's Executive Order on well permitting. They also shared that there was a lot of money in the budget for Healthy Rivers and Landscapes program initiatives.

The group shared updates on possible funding. The amount of funding for infrastructure for the proposed Climate Resilience Bond has been reduced. Given budget limitations and competing voter priorities, funding for GSP Implementation projects will likely be limited in the coming years.

Stakeholder Engagement

Ag Innovations reminded the group that Virtual Town Hall resources are available in English and Spanish on the web. In addition to the full recording, short videos featuring Dixon RCD, Sacramento County GSA, and a Solano Subbasin grower are available to all at: www.solanogsp.com/outreach/events-archive/

Ag Innovations shared that they are supporting LSCE to add to the Webmap. An outreach tracker is also being developed - to support reporting, improve coordination, and track projects and management action conversations around the Subbasin.

Forecast Upcoming Meeting Discussions

The next GSA Collaborative meeting is scheduled for August 15. The group was asked for input on the August agenda. Ag Innovations is keeping a calendar to keep track of future topics. If you have ideas for future agendas, or feedback on these Collaborative meetings, email jessie@aginnovations.org. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 pm Pacific time.