

**Groundwater Sustainability Commission**  
***for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin***

**Agenda**  
**September 11, 2019**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the Groundwater Sustainability Commission for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin will hold a meeting at **3:30 P.M. on Wednesday, September 11, 2019** at the **Ludwick Community Center**, 864 Santa Rosa St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

NOTE: If you need disability-related modifications or accommodations, including translation services, to participate in this meeting, please contact Joey Steil at (805) 781-4076. The Groundwater Sustainability Commission reserves the right to limit each speaker to three (3) minutes per subject or topic.

**Adam Hill**, Member, County of San Luis Obispo  
**Bob Schiebelhut**, Chair, EVGMWC  
**Dennis Fernandez**, Member, ERMWC/VRMWC  
**Mark Zimmer**, Vice Chair, GSWC  
**Andy Pease**, Member, City of San Luis Obispo

**Bruce Gibson**, Alternate, County of San Luis Obispo  
**George Donati**, Alternate, EVGMWC  
**James Lokey**, Alternate, ERMWC/VRMWC  
**Toby Moore**, Alternate, GSWC  
**Aaron Floyd**, Alternate, City of San Luis Obispo

- 
- 1. Call to Order (Chair)**
  - 2. Roll Call (County Staff: Dick Tzou)**
  - 3. Pledge of Allegiance (Chair)**
  - 4. Public Comment – Items not on Agenda (Chair)**
  - 5. Approval of Meeting Minutes (Chair)**
    - a) June 12, 2019
  - 6. Project Status Updates (County Staff: Dick Tzou)**
    - a) Overview of Governance
    - b) Outreach Efforts
      - i. Draft C&E Plan
      - ii. Stakeholder Targets
      - iii. Online Portal
      - iv. Workshop #1
  - 7. Draft GSP Chapters 1 & 2 for Review and Comment (WSC Consultant Team: Michael Cruikshank)**

Recommendation

    - a) Consider recommending that each GSA receives and files Draft GSP Chapters 1 & 2 and provide direction as necessary.
      - Chapter 1 – Introduction to the SLO Basin GSP
      - Chapter 2 – Agency Information

**8. A Presentation on Basin Setting** (WSC Consultant Team: Dave O'Rourke)

Recommendation

- a) Receive a presentation on the hydrogeologic characterization of the basin.

**9. Integrated Groundwater/Surface Water (GW/SW) Modeling Update** (WSC Consultant Team: Dave O'Rourke and Spencer Harris)

Recommendation

- a) Receive an update on the integrated GS/SW modeling efforts and associated geophysical investigation.

**10. A Preview of What's Next?** (WSC Consultant Team: Michael Cruikshank)

Recommendation

- a) Receive a preview of upcoming SGMA activities and provide direction as necessary.
  - i. Timeline of Events
  - ii. Newsletter #2
  - iii. Upcoming Chapters to review
  - iv. Workshop #2

**11. An Update on the GSP Review Process** (County Staff: Dick Tzou)

Recommendation

- a) Receive an overview of GSP chapter/section review and comment process and provide direction as necessary.

**12. Future Items** (Chair)

- a) Review of Draft Chapters 3, 4, 5
- b) Data Management System

**13. Next Regular Meeting: December 11, 2019**

**14. Adjourn** (Chair)

**Groundwater Sustainability Commission**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)**  
**June 12, 2019**

The following members or alternates were present:

- Bob Schiebelhut**, Chair, EVGMWC
- Mark Zimmer**, Vice Chair, GSWC
- Dennis Fernandez**, Member, ERMWC/VRMWC
- Andy Pease**, Member, City of San Luis Obispo

<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Chair Schiebelhut: calls the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.																									
<b>2. Roll Call</b>	City Staff, Mychal Boerman: calls roll.																									
<b>3. Pledge of Allegiance</b>	Chair Schiebelhut: leads the Pledge of Allegiance																									
<b>4. Public Comment – Items not on Agenda</b>	Chair Schiebelhut: opens the floor for public comment on items not on the Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>																									
<b>5. Approval of Meeting Minutes</b> a) April 10, 2019	<p>Chair Schiebelhut: opens discussion for Agenda Item 5 – Approval of Meeting Minutes for the April 10, 2019 Groundwater Sustainability Commission Special Meeting and asks for comments from the Commission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><b>Motion By:</b> Member Pease  <b>Second By:</b> Vice Chair Fernandez  <b>Motion:</b> The Commission moves to approve the April 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;">Members</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Ayes</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Noes</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Abstain</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Recuse</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bob Schiebelhut (Chair)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Zimmer (Vice Chair)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andy Pease (Member)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dennis Fernandez (Member)</td> <td style="text-align: center;">X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	Bob Schiebelhut (Chair)	X				Mark Zimmer (Vice Chair)	X				Andy Pease (Member)	X				Dennis Fernandez (Member)	X			
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<b>6. Draft Communication and Engagement (C&amp;E) Plan</b>  <u>Recommendation</u> a) Consider recommending that each GSA receives and files draft C&E Plan	<p>GEI Consultants, Michael Cornelius: recommends that each GSA receive and file the draft Communication &amp; Engagement (C&amp;E) Plan. The C&amp;E Plan describes the planned activities for engaging interested parties in SGMA implementation efforts in the San Luis Obispo Valley Basin. This includes the use of workshops hosted during key points in the development of the GSP, GSC meetings and the Groundwater Communication Portal, which is still being developed and will be available to the public in the coming months. The consultant team plans to present Chapters 1 to 3 of the draft GSP at the next regular GSC meeting in September.</p> <p>Chair Schiebelhut: opens the floor for public comment.</p>																									

	<p>Karen Crawl, Keith Miller, Joe Rulow, Pamela Crawl, Nick Guriel, Ron Ellers, Tony Schwek, Brad Clark, Aaron Floyd and John Madonna: speak.</p> <p>- End of public comment -</p> <p><b>Motion By:</b> Member Pease  <b>Second By:</b> Vice Chair Zimmer  <b>Motion:</b> Receive and file the Draft Communication &amp; Engagement Plan for Groundwater Sustainability Plan development in the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="540 562 1508 751"> <thead> <tr> <th>Members</th> <th>Ayes</th> <th>Noes</th> <th>Abstain</th> <th>Recuse</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Bob Schiebelhut (Chair)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mark Zimmer (Vice Chair)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Andy Pease (Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Dennis Fernandez (Member)</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse	Bob Schiebelhut (Chair)	X				Mark Zimmer (Vice Chair)	X				Andy Pease (Member)	X				Dennis Fernandez (Member)	X			
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<p><b>7. Presentation on the Selection of an Integrated Surface and Groundwater Flow Model</b></p> <p><u>Recommendation</u>  a) Receive an update on the selection of an integrated surface and groundwater flow model platform</p>	<p>GSI Water Solutions, David O'Rourke: Provides an update on the selection of an integrated surface and groundwater flow model platform. The model will be used to estimate future groundwater levels in the basin, and to demonstrate the effect that various proposed management actions will have on the goal of achieving sustainability by 2042. The WSC team selected the GSFLOW modeling package as the integrated groundwater/surface water model to support the SLO Basin GSP.</p> <p>Chair Schiebelhut: opens the floor for public comment.</p> <p>Ron Ellers and Keith Miller: speak.</p> <p>- End of public comment -</p>																									
<p><b>8. Future Items</b></p>	<p>Chair Schiebelhut: discusses the following Future Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basin setting update.</li> <li>• SGMA 101 Workshop will be held on August 14, 2019 from 6:00 – 8:00 PM at a location TBD.</li> <li>• Next regular meeting on September 11, 2019.</li> </ul> <p>Chair Schiebelhut: opens the floor for public comment</p> <p>Member Fernandez: asks the consultant team to clarify those encompassed under “GSA Staff”, as stated in Item 6.</p> <p>Chair Schiebelhut: clarifies that the “GSA Staff” includes the City and the County.</p> <p>- End of public comment -</p>																									
<p><b>9. Adjourn</b></p>	<p><b>Motion By:</b> Member Fernandez  <b>Second By:</b> Vice Chair Zimmer</p>																									

	<b>Motion:</b> The Commission moves to adjourn the meeting at 5:30 PM				
	Members	Ayes	Noes	Abstain	Recuse
	Bob Schiebelhut (Chair)	X			
	Mark Zimmer (Vice Chair)	X			
	Andy Pease (Member)	X			
Dennis Fernandez (Member)	X				

DRAFTED BY: City Staff: Megan Wilbanks

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**  
*for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin*  
**September 11, 2019**

**Agenda Item 6 – Project Status Update  
(Presentation Item)**

**Prepared By**

Dick Tzou, County of San Luis Obispo

**Discussion**

The purpose of this item is to provide a status update on the GSP project. A brief overview on the GSA governance structure and timeline will also be presented. The GSP development process is well underway and we are on track both in tasks and budget. The project is progressing in two parallel tracks: outreach and technical. The outreach efforts are the focus of this update item. This is crucial in the initial start-up of the project. Updates on the technical efforts will be presented in separate agenda items by the consultant team.

The comment period for the draft C&E Plan is now closed (August 31, 2019) and has been submitted to the County Board of Supervisors to receive and file. Any written comments on the C&E Plan will be collected and compiled for public viewing on the Portal. The consultant team is currently implementing the draft C&E Plan by utilizing an Implementation Plan that will eventually be incorporated in the Appendices.

Multiple stakeholder groups belonging to various sectors have been identified in the SLO Basin. Specifically, three stakeholder groups have been targeted as needing focused engagement: disadvantaged communities, bilingual residents, and agricultural groundwater users. Flyers, rack cards, and newsletters have been developed and printed to be distributed among the disadvantaged communities as well as to all stakeholders in general. Postal mailers have been mailed out to all parcel owners in the unincorporated areas of the basin to reach out to the agricultural users and others that may not either use the internet or have access to it. Spanish translation services will be made available for those who requested it. Such notices are included in all of the public meeting announcements as well on the web Portal to comply to the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Service Act.

Workshop #1 – SGMA and Groundwater 101 was held on August 14, 2019. It was a success with more than 50 attendees. Presenters from the consultant team provided an educational presentation that was well received by attendees. Topics covered include: an overview of SGMA requirements and how groundwater flows; current groundwater conditions and data gaps within the SLO Basin; and details on how stakeholders can help by providing well data and actively participating in the development of the SLO Basin GSP.

**Attachment:**

1.Presentation

# GSC QUARTERLY MEETING

For the Development of the SLO Basin  
Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

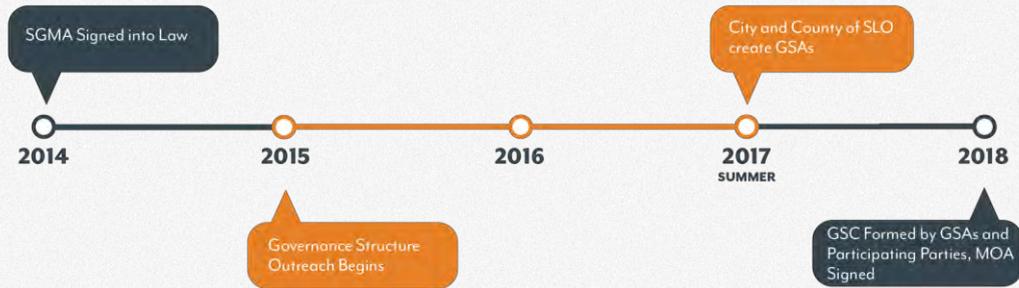
PREPARED BY WATER SYSTEMS CONSULTING



## PROJECT STATUS UPDATE

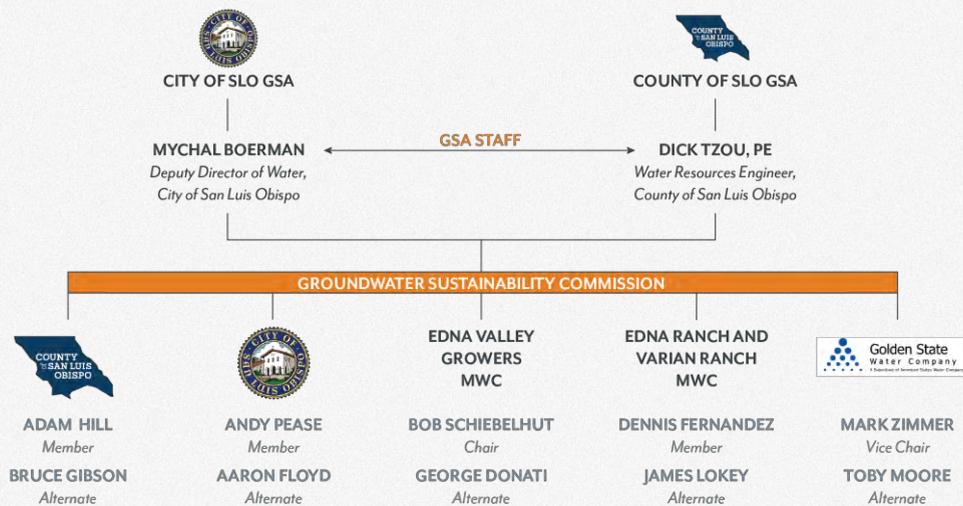
Dick Tzou, County of San Luis Obispo

# GOVERNANCE TIMELINE

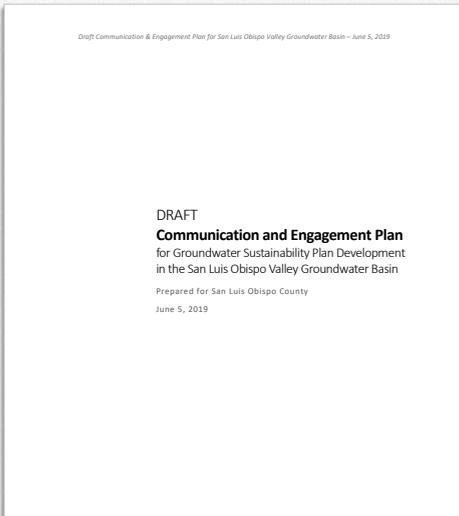


# GSP GOVERNANCE

Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) | Groundwater Sustainability Commission



# COMMUNICATION AND ENGAGEMENT PLAN



- Public commenting period closed Aug. 31
- All comments will be considered and published online
- Implementation Plan will be incorporated into the Appendices

## SLO BASIN STAKEHOLDERS



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## HOW TO PARTICIPATE



**REGISTER.**  
Register as an interested party at [SLOWaterBasin.com](https://SLOWaterBasin.com) to receive email alerts.



**MEETINGS.**  
Join quarterly GSC meetings to receive project news and to share your input.



**WORKSHOPS.**  
Join interactive workshops to learn about and inform the development of the GSP.



**REVIEW AND COMMENT.**  
Review and comment on sections/chapters of the GSP.

[SLOWaterBasin.com](https://SLOWaterBasin.com)

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### **AUGUST 14 STAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP: SGMA AND GROUNDWATER 101**

- About 50 people in attendance
- Representation from more than 50% of target stakeholder segments
- Educational in nature
- **Topics Covered:**
  - SGMA 101
  - Groundwater 101
  - Groundwater Conditions
  - Opportunities for stakeholders to participate and Q&A.
- Download recording and presentation slides at [SLOWaterBasin.com/resources](https://SLOWaterBasin.com/resources)

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**  
*for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin*  
**September 11, 2019**

**Agenda Item 7 – Draft GSP Chapters 1 & 2 for Review and Comment**  
**(Action Item)**

**Recommendation**

- a) Consider recommending that each GSA receives and files Draft GSP Chapters 1 & 2 and provide direction as necessary.

**Prepared by**

Michael Cruikshank, Water Systems Consulting, Inc.

**Discussion**

The WSC Team, has been tasked with the preparation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the SLO Basin to meet the requirements of SGMA. Chapter 1: Introduction to the SLO Basin GSP and Chapter 2: Agency Information have been released as part of this Agenda packet. Chapter 1 provides the purpose of the GSP, a description of SLO Basin, and the basin prioritization process. Chapter 2 describes the basic agency information and legal authorities.

The Chapters will be uploaded to SLOWaterBasin.com for review and public comment. The WSC Team will present an overview of Chapters 1 and 2 and show the attendees how to use SLOWaterBasin.com to download and provide comments.

**Attachments:**

1. Presentation
2. Draft GSP Chapters 1 & 2

# GSC QUARTERLY MEETING

For the Development of the SLO Basin  
Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

PREPARED BY WATER SYSTEMS CONSULTING



## SLO BASIN GSP: DRAFT CHAPTERS 1 & 2

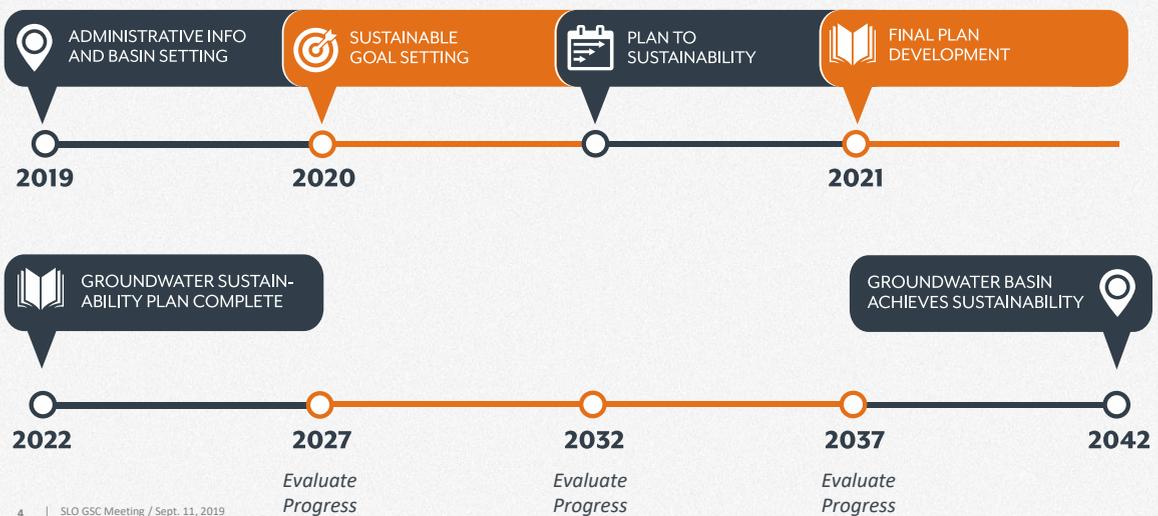
Michael Cruikshank, WSC

## GSP DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE



3 | SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019

## GSP DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

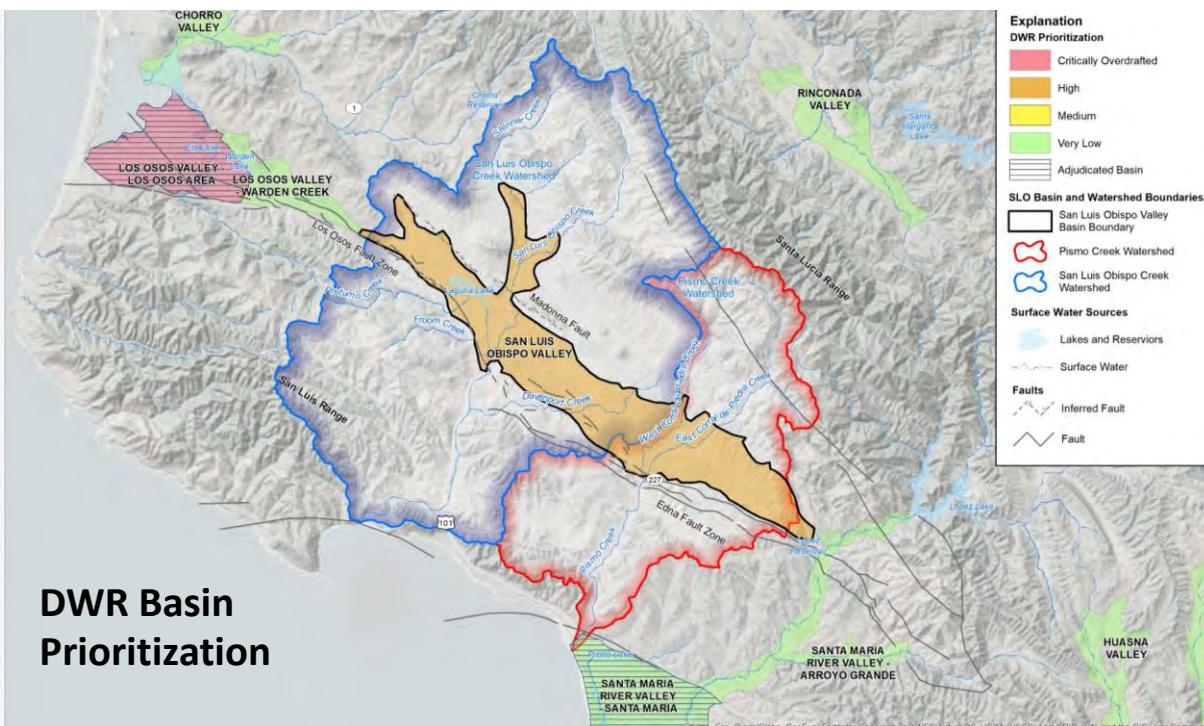


4 | SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019

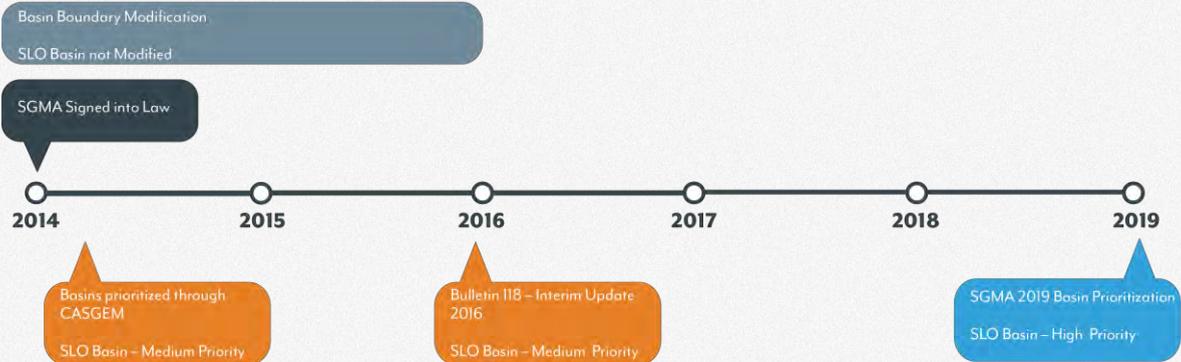
# GSP CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION



- Chapter 1 – Introduction to SLO GSP
  - Purpose of the GSP
  - Description of SLO Basin
  - Basin Prioritization



# SLO BASIN PRIORITIZATION TIMELINE



# SLO Basin Prioritization

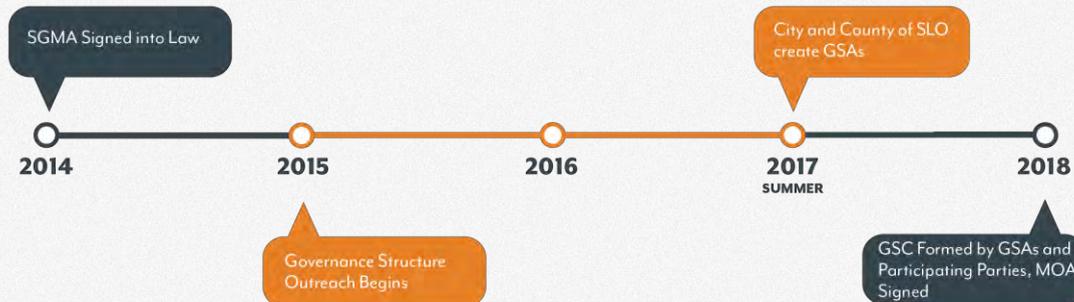
**OPEN INTERACTIVE MAP**  
<https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/bp-dashboard/p2/>

## GSP CHAPTER 2: AGENCY INFORMATION



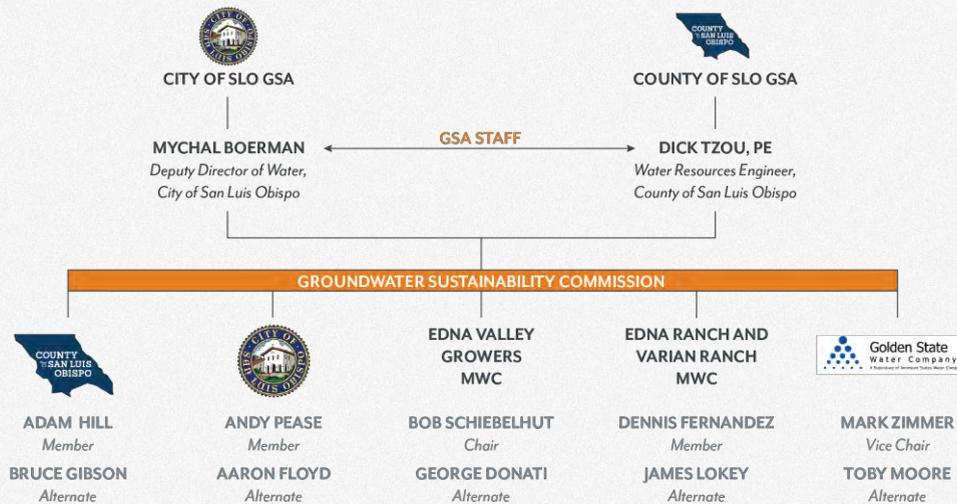
- Chapter 2 – Agency Information
  - Agencies Organization
  - Authority of Agencies
  - Coordination Agreements
    - MOA (Memorandum of Agreement)

## GOVERNANCE TIMELINE



# GSP GOVERNANCE

Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSA) | Groundwater Sustainability Commission



## HOW TO SUBMIT PUBLIC COMMENT



### REVIEW AND COMMENT.

**GSP Chapters 1 & 2**  
Public comment closes  
10/27/2019 -- 45 days

Download the chapters from the homepage. Click on "Comment" to submit your comment(s).



### MEETINGS.

**GSC Public Meeting**  
Dec. 11 • 3:30pm-5:30pm

Learn more or take action at  
[SLOWaterBasin.com](http://SLOWaterBasin.com)

Draft  
**Groundwater Sustainability Plan**

for the

**San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin  
Groundwater Sustainability Agency**



Prepared by



8/30/2019

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No table of figures entries found.

## **APPENDICES**

- A. City of San Luis Obispo Resolution to form GSA
- B. County of San Luis Obispo Resolution to form GSA
- C. Memorandum of Agreement – Preparation of GSP

## LIST OF TERMS USED

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Definition</b>
AB	Assembly Bill
ADD	Average Day Demand
AF	Acre Feet
AFY	Acre Feet per Year
Basin Plan	Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin
Cal Poly	California Polytechnic State University
CASGEM	California State Groundwater Elevation Monitoring program
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CCRWQCB	Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
CCGC	Central Coast Groundwater Coalition
CDFM	Cumulative departure from the mean
CDPH	California Department of Public Health
CIMIS	California Irrigation Management Information System
City	City of San Luis Obispo
County	County of San Luis Obispo
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CPWS-52	Cal Poly Weather Station 52
CRWQCB	California Regional Water Quality Control Board
CWC	California Water Code
DDW	Division of Drinking Water
Du/ac	Dwelling Units per Acre
DWR	Department of Water Resources
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ERMWC	Edna Ranch Mutual Water Company
ET <sub>0</sub>	Evapotranspiration
EVGMWC	Edna Valley Growers Ranch Mutual Water Company
°F	Degrees Fahrenheit
FAR	Floor Area Ratio
FY	Fiscal Year
GAMA	Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment program
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
GMP	Groundwater Management Plan
GPM	Gallons per Minute
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSC	Groundwater Sustainability Commission
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
GSWC	Golden State Water Company
IRWMP	San Luis Obispo County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan
kWh	Kilowatt-Hour
LUCE	Land Use and Circulation Element
LUFTs	Leaky Underground Fuel Tanks
MAF	Million Acre Feet
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MG	Million Gallons

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Definition</b>
MGD	Million Gallons per Day
Mg/L	Milligrams per Liter
MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MWR	Master Water Report
NCDC	National Climate Data Center
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NWIS	National Water Information System
RW	Recycled Water
RWQCB	Regional Water Quality Control Board
SB	Senate Bill
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SGMP	Sustainable Groundwater Management Planning
SGWP	Sustainable Groundwater Planning
SLO Basin	San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin
SLOFCWCD	San Luis Obispo Flood Control and Water Conservation District
SCML	Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level
SOI	Sphere of Influence
SNMP	Salt and Nutrient Management Plan
SWRCB	California State Water Resources Control Board
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
USGS	United States Geological Survey
USFW	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USTs	Underground Storage Tanks
UWMP	Urban Water Management Plan
UWMP Act	Urban Water Management Planning Act
UWMP Guidebook	Department of Water Resources 2015 Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook
VRMWC	Varian Ranch Mutual Water Company
WCS	Water Code Section
WMP	Water Master Plan
WPA	Water Planning Areas
WRF	Water Reclamation Facility
WRCC	Western Regional Climate Center
WRRF	Water Resource Recovery Facility
WSA	Water Supply Assessment
WTP	Water Treatment Plant
WWTP	Wastewater Treatment Plant

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This section to be completed after GSP is complete.

# 1 INTRODUCTION TO THE SLO BASIN GSP

## 1.1 PURPOSE OF THE GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA), Section 10720, et. al., of the State Water Code, requires sustainable groundwater management in all high and medium priority basins. The San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin (SLO Basin) was designated as a high priority basin. To comply with and satisfy the requirements of SGMA, the following activities are mandated:

- Forming one or more Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) by June 30, 2017 to cover the entire SLO Basin. In May 2017, both the City of San Luis Obispo (City) and the County of San Luis Obispo (County) each formed GSAs within their jurisdictions, resulting in full coverage of the SLO Basin.
- Developing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) by the GSAs that covers the entire SLO Basin by January 31, 2022.
- Implementing the GSP to achieve quantifiable objectives and sustainability within 20 years by 2042.
- Annual reporting of groundwater conditions in the basin to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR).
- Periodic (every five years) evaluation of the GSP implementation by the GSAs.

This document fulfills the GSP development requirement for the SLO Basin. This GSP describes and assesses the groundwater condition of the SLO Basin, develops quantifiable management objectives that account for the interests of the SLO Basin's beneficial groundwater uses and users, and identifies a group of projects and management actions that will allow the SLO Basin to achieve and maintain sustainability in the future.

## 1.2 DESCRIPTION OF SLO BASIN

This GSP covers the entire SLO Basin identified as Basin No. 3-009 in the DWR's Bulletin 118 (DWR, 2016). The SLO Basin lies in the southern portion of San Luis Obispo County. The SLO Basin is comprised of valleys of gentle flatlands and rolling hills ranging in elevation from approximately 100 to 500 feet above mean sea level, surrounded by larger mountain ranges. A terrain map displaying the SLO Basin boundaries is presented in Figure 1-1, which also displays the watershed areas of the San Luis Obispo Creek and Pismo Creek drainages, faults, and nearby groundwater basins symbolized by the SGMA 2019 Basin Prioritization Phase 1. Average annual precipitation ranges from approximately 18 inches throughout most of the SLO Basin to about 22 inches in relatively higher elevation areas near the City and Cal Poly. The SLO Basin is within the watershed areas of the San Luis Obispo Creek and Pismo Creek drainages, which are bounded on the northeast by the Santa Lucia Range and on the southwest by the formations of the San Luis Range and the Edna Fault. The SLO Basin is commonly referenced as being composed of two distinct valleys, with the San Luis Valley in the northwest and the Edna Valley in the southeast. The San Luis Valley lies within the San Luis Obispo Creek drainage and the Edna Valley lies within the Pismo Creek drainage.

There is a bedrock high that underlies between the San Luis Valley and Edna Valley. The watershed divide and the bedrock high divide are not coincident. The sediments of the Edna Valley have significantly greater thickness than those of the San Luis Valley. Precipitation that falls west of the watershed divide ultimately flows to Davenport and San Luis Obispo Creeks, and precipitation that falls

east of that divide flows to Corral de Piedras Creek or the other small tributaries, which ultimately flow to Pismo Creek south of the SLO Basin.

San Luis Obispo and Pismo Creeks are the primary surface water features within the SLO Basin. Significant tributaries to the San Luis Obispo Creek within Basin include Prefumo Creek, Stenner Creek, and Davenport Creek. Significant tributaries to Pismo Creek include both East and West branches of the Corral de Piedras Creek. Urban areas within the SLO Basin include the City of San Luis Obispo, Cal Poly, Edna, and Verde. Highway 101 is the most significant north-south highway in the Basin.

### 1.3 BASIN PRIORITIZATION

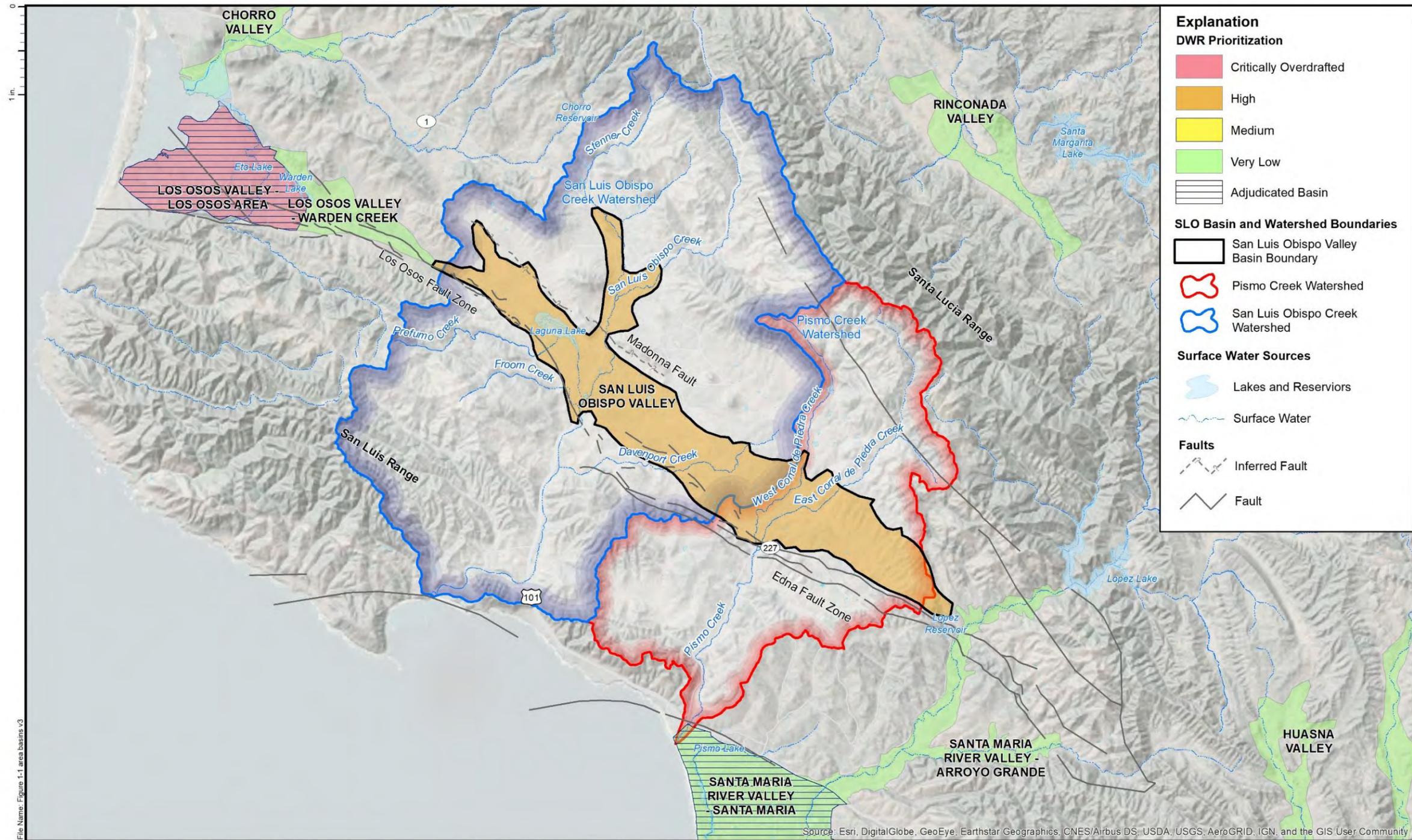
The DWR prioritized California's groundwater basins through the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program and released the results in 2014. With the passage of SGMA, DWR redefined 54 groundwater basins based on requests for basin boundary modifications and classified the basins into four categories; high, medium, low, or very low priority. The SLO Basin was classified as a medium priority basin.

The DWR reassessed the priority of the groundwater basins following the 2016 basin boundary modification, as required by the Water Code and documented the results in the SGMA 2019 Basin Prioritization (DWR, 2019). DWR followed the process and methods developed for the CASGEM 2014 Basin Prioritization and incorporated new data, to the extent data was available, and amended the language of Water Code Section 10933(b)(8) (component 8) included an analysis of adverse impacts on local habitat and local streamflow. DWR prioritized the basins based on the following components specified in Water Code Section 10933(b):

1. The population overlying the basin or sub-basin.
2. The rate of current and projected growth of the population overlying the basin or sub-basin.
3. The number of public supply wells that draw from the basin or sub-basin.
4. The total number of wells that draw from the basin or sub-basin.
5. The irrigated acreage overlying the basin or sub-basin.
6. The degree to which persons overlying the basin or sub-basin rely on groundwater as their primary source of water.
7. Any documented impacts on the groundwater within the basin or sub-basin, including overdraft, subsidence, saline intrusion, and other water quality degradation.
8. Any other information determined to be relevant by the department, including adverse impacts on local habitat and local streamflow.

With the addition of component 8, the SLO Basin moved from a medium priority basin to a high priority basin not in critical overdraft and is required to submit a GSP to DWR by January 31, 2022. The change in priority is inconsequential, as medium priority basins are also required to submit a GSP to DWR by January 31, 2022.

Additional information about how each of these components were analyzed can be found in the 2019 SGMA Basin Prioritization Process and Results Document (DWR, 2019). DWR is required to provide updates on basin boundaries, basin priority and critically overdrafted basins every 5 years beginning in 2020 as part of the Bulletin 118 updates.



File Name: Figure 1-1 area basins v3

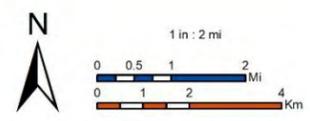
Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Prepared for:




Author: EC  
Date: 8/28/2019

**SAN LUIS OBISPO VALLEY BASIN GSP**



**References:**

- Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane California V FIPS 0405 Feet
- Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
- Datum: North American 1983

**Notes:**

- 
- 
- 

**San Luis Obispo Valley Basin and Surrounding Basins**

Figure 1-1

## **2 AGENCY INFORMATION (§ 354.6)**

On May 16, 2017, the City formed the City of San Luis Obispo Groundwater Sustainability Agency (City GSA) for the portion of the SLO Basin that lies within its city boundary. On May 23, 2017, the County formed the San Luis Obispo Valley Basin – County of San Luis Obispo Groundwater Sustainability Agency (County GSA) to cover all otherwise unrepresented areas within the SLO Basin. The County, City, the Edna Valley Growers Mutual Water Company (EVMWC), the Varian Ranch Mutual Water Company (VRMWC), the Edna Ranch Mutual Water Company (ERMWC) and the Golden State Water Company (GSWC) (each referred to individually as a " Party" and collectively as the "Parties") entered into a Memorandum of Agreement Regarding Preparation of a GSP for the SLO Basin (MOA) effective as of January 25, 2018. The MOA's purpose is for the City and County, with input from the Participating Parties, to coordinate preparation of a single GSP for the entire SLO Basin pursuant to SGMA and other applicable provisions of law. Figure 2-1 shows the service area boundaries of each of the MOA Parties and the GSA areas.

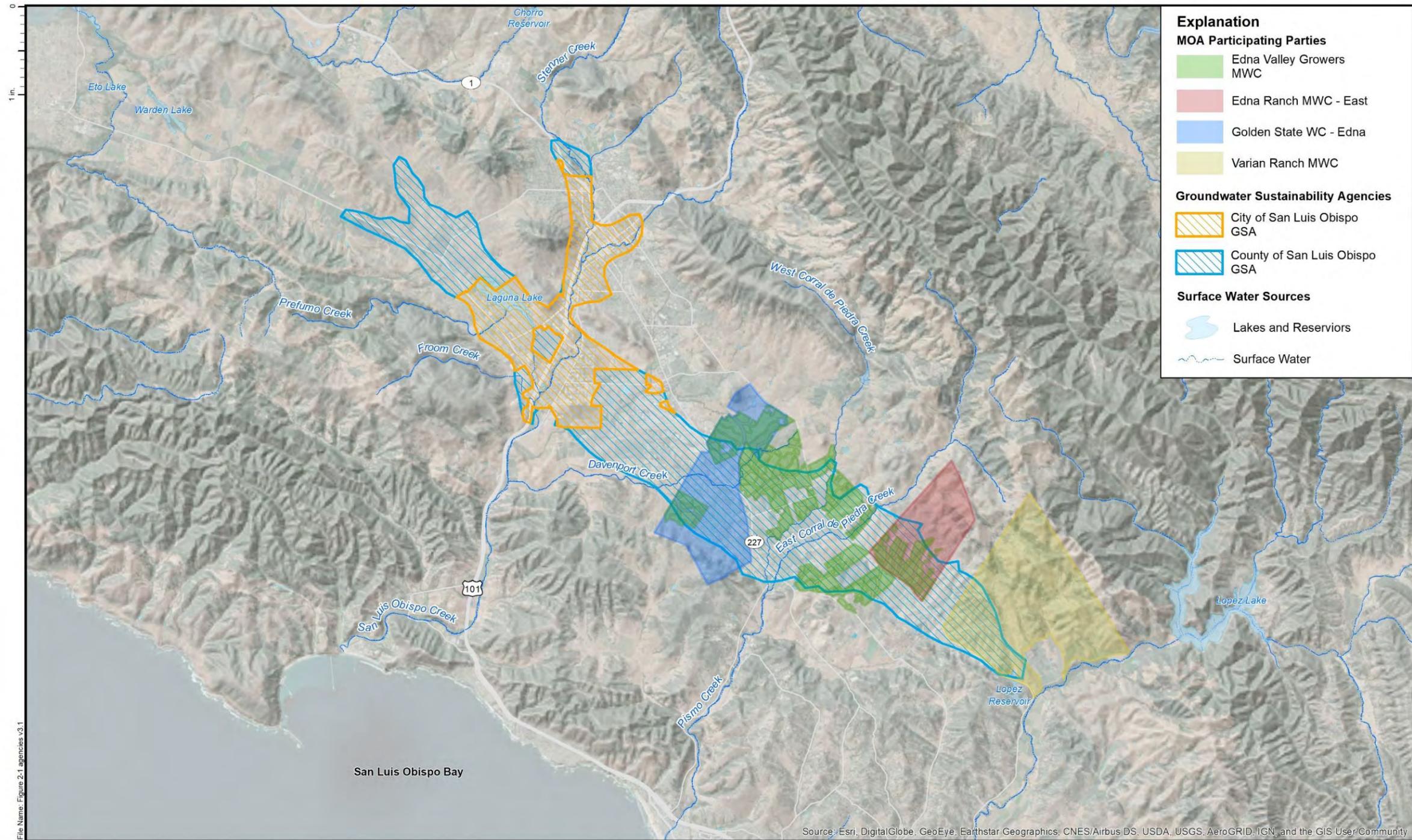
On October 16, 2018, the County GSA gave notice to DWR that it intends to develop a GSP in collaboration with the City GSA for the SLO Basin in accordance with California Water Code (CWC) Section 10727.8 and the Title 23, Section 353.6 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR).

### **2.1 AGENCIES NAMES AND MAILING ADDRESSES**

The following contact information is provided for each groundwater sustainability agency for the SLO Basin pursuant to California Water Code §10723.8.

County of San Luis Obispo  
County Government Center, Room 206  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408  
Attention: John Diodati , Public Works Interim Director

City of San Luis Obispo  
Utilities Department  
879 Morro Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-2710  
Attention: Aaron Floyd, Utilities Director



**Explanation**

**MOA Participating Parties**

- Edna Valley Growers MWC
- Edna Ranch MWC - East
- Golden State WC - Edna
- Varian Ranch MWC

**Groundwater Sustainability Agencies**

- City of San Luis Obispo GSA
- County of San Luis Obispo GSA

**Surface Water Sources**

- Lakes and Reservoirs
- Surface Water

File Name: Figure 2-1 agencies v3.1

Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community

Prepared for:

COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

SAN LUIS OBISPO VALLEY BASIN GSP

Author: EC  
Date: 8/28/2019

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0 0.75 1.5 3 Km

**References:**

1. Coordinate System: NAD 1983 StatePlane California V FIPS 0405 Feet
- Projection: Lambert Conformal Conic
- Datum: North American 1983
- 2.
- 3.

**Notes:**

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

**San Luis Obispo Valley Basin GSA And Participating Parties**

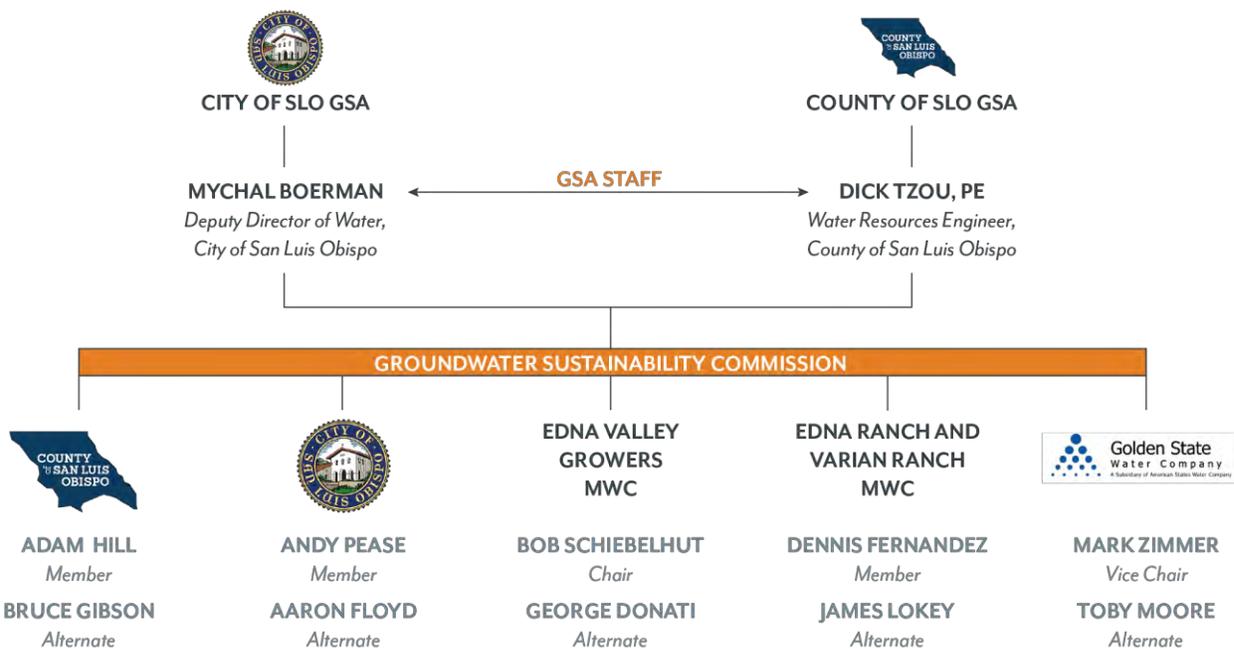
Figure 2-1

## 2.2 AGENCIES ORGANIZATION AND MANAGEMENT STRUCTURES

The MOA establishes the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC) as an advisory body to the GSAs and the terms under which the City GSA and County GSA will jointly develop a single GSP, in coordination with the GSC. The GSC consists of representatives of the GSAs and the Participating Parties (i.e., EVGMWC, VRMWC, ERMWC, and GSWC). Each member of the GSC shall be entitled to one vote on any matter under consideration by the GSC. All recommendations submitted by the GSC to the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors shall be supported by a majority of the members, except for the recommendation to adopt the GSP or any amendments which shall be supported by at least four of the members.

City and County staff will collaboratively participate in developing a GSP through, among other things, providing guidance to consultant, coordinating with the GSC, and engaging SLO Basin users and stakeholders. Once the GSP is developed, it will be considered for adoption by the GSAs (i.e., City Council and County Board of Supervisors) and subsequently submitted to DWR for approval. The MOA automatically terminates upon approval of the GSP by DWR. The organization and management structures of each of the Parties are described in the following sections. The MOA does not specify the appointment of officer positions. However, Figure 2-2 shows the names of the appointed representative members and alternates and depicts the relationship of the GSAs and the Participating Parties and the overall governance structure for developing the GSP:

**Figure 2-2: Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC)**



### **2.2.1 County of San Luis Obispo**

The County is a GSA and Party of the MOA. Members of the County Board of Supervisors sit on the GSC as a member and alternate member. The County is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors representing five districts in the County. Board of Supervisor members are elected to staggered four-year terms.

### **2.2.2 City of San Luis Obispo**

The City is a GSA and Party of the MOA. A member of the City Council and the Director of Utilities sit on the GSC as a member and alternate member, respectively. The City is an incorporated charter city and operates under the "Council-Mayor-City Manager" form of municipal government. The five-member City Council consists of the directly-elected Mayor and four City Council Members. The Mayor is elected to a two-year term and Council Members are elected to four-year terms.

### **2.2.3 Other Participating Parties in the MOA**

#### ***2.2.3.1 Edna Valley Growers Mutual Water Company***

EVGMWC is a Party of the MOA and its representative is designated as Chair of the GSC. EVGMWC provides water to the residents of unincorporated San Luis Obispo County within the SLO Basin.

#### ***2.2.3.2 Varian Ranch Mutual Water Company***

VRMWC is a Party of the MOA and a member of the GSC. VRMWC provides water to the residents of unincorporated San Luis Obispo County and serves an area within the SLO Basin as shown in Figure 2-1.

#### ***2.2.3.3 Edna Ranch Mutual Water Company***

ERMWC is a Party of the MOA and a member of the GSC. ERMWC provides water to the residents of unincorporated San Luis Obispo County and serves an area within the SLO Basin as shown in Figure 2-1.

#### ***2.2.3.4 Golden State Water Company***

GSWC is a Party of the MOA and its representative is designated as a Vice Chair of the GSC. GSWC is an Investor Owned Utility regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and subject to federal Sarbanes-Oxley requirements that hold companies to the highest levels of transparency. CPUC's authority to regulate water, electric, natural gas, and other public utilities subject to its jurisdiction derives from the California state constitution.

## **2.3 AUTHORITY OF AGENCIES**

The GSAs developing this coordinated GSP were formed in accordance with the requirements of California Water Code §10723 et seq. The resolutions of formation for the GSAs and the Memorandum of Understanding (MOA) are included in Appendices A - C. The specific legal authorities for GSA formation and GSP implementation are summarized below.

### **2.3.1 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies**

"Local agency" is defined pursuant to CWC§ 10721 as a local public agency that has water supply, water management, or land use responsibilities within a groundwater basin.

#### ***2.3.1.1 County of San Luis Obispo***

The County was created as described in Government Code Section 460 which states that the state is divided into counties, the names, boundaries and territorial subdivisions of

which are declared in Title 3 of the Government Code. The County has land use authority over the unincorporated areas of the county, including areas overlying the SLO Basin. The County is therefore a local agency under CWC§ 10721(n) with the authority to establish itself as a GSA. Upon establishing itself as a GSA, the County retains all the rights and authorities provided to GSAs under CWC§ 10725 et seq. The City and the County shall each be responsible for adopting the GSP and implementing the GSP within their respective service areas.

### **2.3.1.2 City of San Luis Obispo**

The City is incorporated under the laws of the State of California. The City provides water supply and land use planning services to its residents. The City is therefore a local agency under CWC§ 10721(n) with the authority to establish itself as a GSA. Upon establishing itself as a party of the GSA, San Luis Obispo retains all the rights and authorities provided to GSAs under CWC§ 10725 et seq. The City and the County shall each be responsible for adopting the GSP and implementing the GSP within their respective service areas.

### **2.3.2 Memorandum of Agreement**

The MOA Parties entered into the MOA effective as of January 25, 2018. The MOA establishes the GSC as an advisory body to the GSAs and the terms under which the City GSA and County GSA will jointly develop a single GSP, in coordination with the GSC pursuant to SGMA and other applicable provisions of law. The GSC members consists of representatives of the GSAs and the Participating Parties (i.e., EVGMWC, VRMWC, ERMWC, and GSWC). City and County staff will collaboratively participate in developing a GSP through, among other things, providing guidance to the consultant, coordinating with the GSC, and engaging SLO Basin users and stakeholders. Each GSC member has one vote on the GSC. The County Board of Supervisors and the City Council may approve or reject any advisory opinion submitted by the GSC provided that in every case that the County Board of Supervisors or City Council rejects an advisory opinion of the GSC related to the contents or adoption of the GSP it shall do so only after holding a public hearing, at which time the members of the GSC shall have the right to appear and address the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors. The MOA automatically terminates upon approval of the GSP by DWR. A copy of the MOA is included in Appendix B.

### **2.3.3 Coordination Agreements**

Only a single GSP is developed by the City and County GSAs to cover the entire SLO Basin. Therefore, no coordination agreements with other GSAs are necessary because there is no multiple GSPs.

## **2.4 CONTACT INFORMATION FOR PLAN MANAGER**

The plan manager is Chung-te "Dick" Tzou. His contact information is provided below.

Chung-te "Dick" Tzou, Water Resources Engineer  
San Luis Obispo Valley Basin - County of San Luis Obispo Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
976 Osos Street, Room 206 | San Luis Obispo, CA 93408  
805-781-4473 | [dtzou@co.slo.ca.us](mailto:dtzou@co.slo.ca.us)  
<https://slocountywater.org/site/Water%20Resources/SGMA/>

### 3 REFERENCES

- Carollo. 2012.** *San Luis Obispo County Master Water Report.* 2012.
- City of San Luis Obispo. 2016.** *2015 Urban Water Management Plan.* 2016.
- County of San Luis Obispo. 2014.** *San Luis Obispo County Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP).* 2014.
- Cuesta Engineering Corporation. 2007.** *San Luis Obispo Creek Watershed Calibration Study.* 2007.
- DWR. 2016.** *California's Groundwater: Bulletin 118 - Interim Update 2016, Working Towards Sustainability.* 2016.
- **2003.** *California's Groundwater: Bulletin 118 - Update 2003, Groundwater Basin Descriptions.* 2003.
- **2019.** *Sustainable Groundwater Management Act 2019 Basin Prioritization - Process and Results Document.* 2019.
- GSI Water Solutions. 2018.** *San Luis Obispo Valley Basin Characterization and Monitoring Well Installation.* 2018.
- WSC. 2018.** *Salinas and Whale Rock Reservoirs Safe Annual Yield TM.* 2018.

## **4 APPENDICES**

### **APPENDIX A - CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO RESOLUTION TO FORM GSA**

**RESOLUTION NO. 10796 (2017 SERIES)**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO, CALIFORNIA, AUTHORIZING THE CITY TO BECOME A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY FOR THE SAN LUIS OBISPO VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN FOR THE AREA THAT LIES BENEATH AND WITHIN THE JURISDICTIONAL BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

**WHEREAS**, in 2014 the California Legislature and the Governor passed into law the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) for local management of groundwater resources in California through the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and through preparation and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs); and

**WHEREAS**, the City overlies a portion of the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin (SLOVGB), which is subject to SGMA, and thus one or more GSAs must be formed for the SLOVGB by June 30, 2017, or the SLOVGB may be subject to regulation by the State Water Resources Control Board; and

**WHEREAS**, the City is a "local agency" as that term is defined by SGMA, and as such is authorized to form a GSA to manage groundwater resources in the SLOVGB and within the City's jurisdictional boundaries in accordance with SGMA and other applicable laws and authorities; and

**WHEREAS**, the City desires to form a GSA to manage groundwater resources in the SLOVGB beneath and within the City's jurisdictional boundaries; and

**WHEREAS**, the City intends that its GSA will work cooperatively with the other GSAs that have formed or will be formed in the SLOVGB to prepare one or more GSPs by January 31, 2022, so that groundwater resources in the SLOVGB will be properly managed and sustainable in accordance with the provisions of SGMA; and

**WHEREAS**, it is essential that the City form this GSA because SGMA grants GSAs substantial additional powers and authorities to ensure sustainable groundwater management. Acting as the GSA within the City's jurisdictional boundaries will, among other things, confirm the City's role as the local groundwater management agency, ensure access to SGMA authorities, and preserve access to grant funding and other opportunities that may be available to GSAs; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the requirements of SGMA, the City held a public hearing on this date after publication of notice pursuant to California Government Code section 6066 to consider adoption of this Resolution.

R 10796

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of San Luis Obispo as follows:

**SECTION 1.** All of the above recitals are true and correct and incorporated herein by reference.

**SECTION 2.** The City of San Luis Obispo hereby elects to become the Groundwater Sustainability Agency in accordance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act over the portion of the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin which lies under and within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City of San Luis Obispo.

**SECTION 3.** The City Manager is authorized and directed to submit a notice of this Resolution along with all other required information to the California Department of Water Resources in accordance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

**SECTION 4.** The City Groundwater Sustainability Agency shall consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of the groundwater within the jurisdictional boundaries of the City and will develop an outreach program for all such stakeholders. The City Groundwater Sustainability Agency will continue to coordinate with other local agencies and stakeholders that overlie the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin in order to manage groundwater resources.

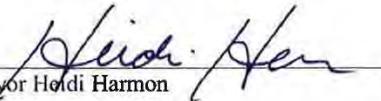
**SECTION 5.** The City Groundwater Sustainability Agency shall establish and maintain a list of persons interested in receiving notices regarding the City's involvement in the preparation of one or more Groundwater Sustainability Plans in the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin, where any person may request in writing to be placed on the City's list of interested persons.

**SECTION 6.** Resolution Number 10777 (2017 Series) is hereby repealed.

Upon motion of Council Member Pease, seconded by Council Member Christianson, and on the following roll call vote:

AYES: Council Members Christianson, Gomez, and Pease  
Vice Mayor Rivoire and Mayor Harmon  
NOES: None  
ABSENT: None

The foregoing resolution was adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017.

  
Mayor Heidi Harmon

ATTEST:

  
Carrie Gallagher  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
J. Christine Dietrick  
City Attorney

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the official seal of the City of San Luis Obispo, California, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2017.

  
Carrie Gallagher  
City Clerk

**APPENDIX B - COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO RESOLUTION TO FORM GSA**

**IN THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

County of San Luis Obispo, State of California

Tuesday, May 23, 2017

**PRESENT:** Supervisors Bruce S. Gibson, Adam Hill, Lynn Compton, Debbie Arnold, and Chairperson John Peschong

**ABSENT:** None

**RESOLUTION NO. 2017-146**

**RESOLUTION FORMING THE SAN LUIS OBISPO VALLEY BASIN – COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY AND FINDING THAT THE PROJECT IS EXEMPT FROM SECTION 21000 ET SEQ. OF THE CALIFORNIA PUBLIC RESOURCES CODE (CEQA)**

The following Resolution is hereby offered and read:

**WHEREAS**, in 2014, the California Legislature adopted, and the Governor signed into law, three bills (SB 1168, AB 1739, and SB 1319) collectively referred to as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) (Water Code §§ 10720 *et seq.*), that became effective on January 1, 2015, and that have been subsequently amended; and

**WHEREAS**, the intent of SGMA, as set forth in Water Code Section 10720.1, is to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater basins at a local level by providing local groundwater agencies with the authority, and technical and financial assistance necessary, to sustainably manage groundwater; and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA requires the formation of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) for the purpose of achieving groundwater sustainability through the adoption and implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) for all medium and high priority basins as designated by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR); and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA requires that a local agency or collection of agencies decide to become a GSA for all medium and high priority basins on or before June 30, 2017 and that the GSA or GSAs for basins DWR has not designated as “subject to critical conditions of overdraft” develop a GSP or coordinated GSPs on or before January 31, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin) has been designated by DWR as a medium priority basin, but not subject to critical conditions of overdraft; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of San Luis Obispo and the City of San Luis Obispo are each a “local agency” within the Basin as defined in Water Code Section 10721(n) and thus are eligible to form GSAs; and

**WHEREAS**, it is anticipated that the City of San Luis Obispo will form a GSA for the portion of the Basin within the City boundary; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of San Luis Obispo intends to form a GSA to cover all other portions of the Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA authorizes certain entities, specifically water corporations regulated by the Public Utilities Commission and mutual water companies, to participate in a GSA through a memorandum of agreement or other legal agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, a number of such entities overlie the Basin, including the Edna Valley Growers Mutual Water Company, the Edna Ranch Mutual Water Company, the Varian Ranch Mutual Water Company and the Golden State Water Company, and it is anticipated that such entities will desire to enter into a memorandum of agreement with the County and City of San Luis Obispo establishing a process by which such entities will participate in the preparation of the GSP for the Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of San Luis Obispo published a notice of public hearing consistent with the requirements contained within Water Code Section 10723(b); and

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Supervisors conducted such a public hearing on May 23, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, the County of San Luis Obispo is committed to the sustainable management of groundwater within the Basin and intends to consider the interests of all beneficial users and uses of groundwater within the Basin through, among other things, coordination with the City of San Luis Obispo and the entities eligible to participate in SGMA as described above.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDERED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, that:

Section 1: The foregoing recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

Section 2: The County of San Luis Obispo hereby decides to become the GSA for, and undertake sustainable groundwater management within, the Basin, with the exception of the portions of the Basin located within the City of San Luis Obispo (“GSA Boundary”). The GSA shall be known as the San Luis Obispo Valley Basin – County of San Luis Obispo Groundwater Sustainability Agency, and a map of the GSA Boundary is attached hereto as Exhibit A and incorporated herein.

Section 3: The Director of Public Works of the County of San Luis Obispo, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to submit notice of adoption of this Resolution in addition to all other information required by SGMA, including but not limited to, all

information required by Water Code Section 10723.8, to DWR, and to develop and maintain an interested persons list as described in Water Code Section 10723.4 and a list of interested parties as described in Water Code Section 10723.8(a)(4).

Section 4: The Director of Public Works of the County of San Luis Obispo, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to take such other and further actions as may be necessary or appropriate to implement the intent and purposes of this Resolution.

Section 5: The Board of Supervisors finds that the adoption of this Resolution is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code §§ 21000 et seq.) (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Section 6: The Environmental Coordinator of the County of San Luis Obispo is hereby directed to file a Notice of Exemption in accordance with the provisions of CEQA.

Upon motion of Supervisor Hill, seconded by Supervisor Gibson, and on the following roll call vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Hill, Gibson, Compton, Arnold and Chairperson Peschong

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAINING: None

the foregoing resolution is hereby adopted on the 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2017.

John Peschong  
Chairperson of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

TOMMY GONG  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: Annette Ramirez  
Deputy Clerk  
[SEAL]

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:

RITA L. NEAL  
County Counsel

By: /s/ Erica Stuckey  
Deputy County Counsel

Dated: May 1, 2017

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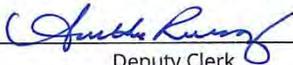
STATE OF CALIFORNIA,            )  
  )    ss.  
COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO    )

I, Tommy Gong, County Clerk and ex-officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, in and for the County of San Luis Obispo, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a full, true and correct copy of an order made by the Board of Supervisors, as the same appears spread upon their minute book.

**WITNESS** my hand and the seal of said Board of Supervisors, affixed this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of May, 2017.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Tommy Gong  
County Clerk and Ex-Officio Clerk  
of the Board of Supervisors

(SEAL)

By:   
Deputy Clerk

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**APPENDIX C - MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT – PREPARATION OF GSP**

DICK 1.

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT REGARDING PREPARATION OF A  
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR  
THE SAN LUIS OBISPO VALLEY GROUNDWATER BASIN**

This Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") is entered into by and between the City of San Luis Obispo ("City"), the County of San Luis Obispo ("County"), the Edna Valley Growers Mutual Water Company ("EVGMWC"), the Varian Ranch Mutual Water Company ("VRMWC"), the Edna Ranch Mutual Water Company ("ERMWC") and the Golden State Water Company ("GSWC") (each referred to individually as a "Party" and collectively as the "Parties") for purposes of coordinating preparation of a single groundwater sustainability plan for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin.

**Recitals**

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law Senate Bills 1168 and 1319 and Assembly Bill 1739, known collectively as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA"), which became effective on January 1, 2015 and which have been and may continue to be amended from time to time; and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA requires the establishment of a groundwater sustainability agency ("GSA") or agencies for all basins designated as medium- or high-priority by the Department of Water Resources ("DWR") on or before June 30, 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, SGMA further requires the adoption of a groundwater sustainability plan ("GSP") or coordinated GSPs for all basins designated by DWR as medium- or high-priority and not subject to critical conditions of overdraft on or before January 31, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, DWR has designated the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin (Basin No. 3-9) ("Basin") as a medium-priority basin not subject to critical conditions of overdraft; and

**WHEREAS**, the County and the City have each decided to become the GSA within their respective service areas overlying the Basin and have informed DWR of their decision and intent to undertake sustainable groundwater management therein; and

**WHEREAS**, the County and the City desire to collectively develop a single GSP to sustainably manage the Basin; and

**WHEREAS**, the County and the City further desire to include the other Parties to this MOA who each constitute entities eligible to participate in a GSA (sometimes referred to individually as a "Participating Party" or collectively as the "Participating Parties") in the development of the GSP through the creation of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** it is mutually understood and agreed as follows:

**Section 1  
Purpose**

This MOA is entered into by the Parties for the purpose of establishing the manner in which the City and the County, with input from the Participating Parties, will coordinate in the development of a single GSP for the Basin that will be considered for adoption by the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors and subsequently submitted to DWR for approval. This MOA may also serve as the basis for continued cooperation among the City and the County in the management of the Basin during the period between adoption of the GSP by the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors and approval of the GSP by DWR. As more specifically set forth in Section 10.3 below, this MOA shall automatically terminate upon DWR's approval of the GSP for the Basin.

**Section 2  
Term**

This MOA shall become effective on the date that the last of the six (6) Parties signs ("Effective Date") and shall remain in effect until terminated in accordance with Section 9.2 or Section 10.3 below.

**Section 3  
City and County Roles and Responsibilities**

3.1 The City and the County shall work jointly to meet the objectives of this MOA.

3.2 The City and the County shall retain the services of a consultant(s) to meet the objectives of this MOA, including, but not limited to, preparation of a GSP for the Basin in accordance with the provisions set forth in Section 7 below.

3.3 The City and the County shall each designate a staff person(s) to participate in the development of the GSP and related technical studies through, without limitation, the provision of guidance and available data, in coordination with the consultant(s), and to administer the Groundwater Sustainability Commission (e.g. to, among other things, timely publish all agendas and take minutes).

3.4 The City and the County shall each be responsible for adopting the GSP and implementing the GSP within their respective service areas. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing contained in this MOA shall be construed as obligating either the City Council or the County Board of Supervisors to adopt the GSP developed pursuant to this MOA or as preventing either the City Council or the County Board of Supervisors from adopting the GSP developed under this MOA in the event that the other elects not to adopt it or in the event that the Groundwater Sustainability Commission fails to recommend approval.

3.5 The City and the County may lead certain Basin-wide public outreach and stakeholder involvement to improve development of the GSP.

3.6 The City shall be responsible for taking all legally required actions associated with its appointment of the member and alternate member to the Groundwater Sustainability Commission representing the City as set forth in Section 4.5, including, without limitation, all applicable requirements under the Maddy Act (Government Code §§ 54970 et seq.) and the County shall be responsible for taking all such actions associated with its appointment of the member and alternate member to the Groundwater Sustainability Commission representing the County and its confirmation of the members and alternate members to the Groundwater Sustainability Commission representing the Participating Parties as set forth in Section 4.4 and Section 4.3, respectively.

#### **Section 4**

##### **Establishment of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission**

4.1 The City and the County hereby establish the Groundwater Sustainability Commission to serve as an advisory committee to the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors in connection with preparation of the GSP and interim Basin management actions subject to each Participating Party making its required contributions under Section 6(B).

4.2 The Groundwater Sustainability Commission shall be composed of five (5) members: one (1) member representing the City, one (1) member representing the County, one (1) member representing EVGMWC, one (1) member collectively representing VRMWC and ERMWC and one (1) member representing GSWC.

4.3 Each of the Participating Parties shall nominate a member and an alternate member to represent it on the Groundwater Sustainability Commission subject to confirmation by the County Board of Supervisors with the exception that VRMWC and ERMWC shall jointly nominate a member and an alternate member to represent them subject to confirmation by the County Board of Supervisors. Said members shall serve at the pleasure of the County Board of Supervisors and may be removed at any time provided that the County Board of Supervisors shall have no authority to replace a removed member with an individual who has not been nominated by the relevant Participating Party or collection of Participating Parties.

4.4 The County Board of Supervisors shall appoint the member and alternate member representing the County and said members shall serve at the pleasure of the County Board of Supervisors.

4.5 The City Council shall appoint the member and alternate member representing the City and said members shall serve at the pleasure of the City Council.

4.6 All meetings of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission shall be conducted in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code §§ 54950 et seq.).

4.7 A majority of the members of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission shall constitute a quorum for purposes of transacting business, except that less than a quorum may vote to adjourn the meeting.

4.8 Each member of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission shall be entitled to one (1) vote on any matter under consideration by the Groundwater Sustainability Commission.

4.9 All advisory opinions submitted by the Groundwater Sustainability Commission to the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors shall be supported by a majority of the members, except for the recommendation to adopt the GSP or any amendments thereto which shall be supported by at least four (4) of the members.

4.10 The County Board of Supervisors and the City Council may approve or reject any advisory opinion submitted by the Groundwater Sustainability Commission provided that in every case that the County Board of Supervisors or City Council rejects an advisory opinion of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission related to the contents or adoption of the GSP it shall do so only after holding a public hearing, at which time the members of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission shall have the right to appear and address the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors.

4.11 None of the members or alternate members shall be entitled to any compensation from the County or the City for their service on the Groundwater Sustainability Commission.

## **Section 5 Establishment of Additional Advisory Committees**

The City Council and the County Board of Supervisors may from time to time jointly establish one or more additional advisory committees or establish standing or ad hoc committees to assist in carrying out the purposes and objectives of this MOA. Without limiting the foregoing, it is anticipated that the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors will establish a stakeholder advisory committee to the Groundwater Sustainability Commission to consider the interests of beneficial uses and users not already represented on the Groundwater Sustainability Commission consistent with Water Code Section 10723.2.

**Section 6  
Funding**

The City and the County agree to jointly fund the costs associated with implementation of this MOA in accordance with and subject to the following:

A. Within sixty (60) days of the Effective Date and prior to each anniversary of the Effective Date, City and County staff shall prepare an annual budget for the GSAs to implement this MOA for approval by the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors.

B. Each of the Participating Parties shall be responsible for contributing the following funds to help defray the costs of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission and in consideration for their participation thereon within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date and within thirty (30) days of each anniversary of the Effective Date:

EVGMWC	\$28,200
VRMWC	\$4,550
ERMWC	\$4,550
GSWC	\$12,700

C. Subject to City Council and County Board of Supervisor approval of the annual budget, the City and County agree to fund the annual budget (less the contributions set forth in Section 6(B)) in accordance with the percentage allocations set forth below. Notwithstanding the foregoing and Section 10.1, the City Council and the County Board of Supervisors may amend said percentage allocations without the agreement of the Participating Parties.

County	70%
City	30%

D. It is anticipated that the vast majority of budgeted costs to be paid by the City and the County will involve costs for consultant services. Consequently, most City and County contributions will be paid in the manner described in Section 7 below.

**Section 7  
Retention of Consultants**

7.1 The County agrees to act as the contracting agent to retain the services of a consultant(s) as described in Section 3.2 above.

7.2 Notwithstanding the foregoing, the County agrees that the City and one (1) member of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission not representing the City or the County designated by the Groundwater Sustainability Commission shall be included in the selection of any consultant retained by the County pursuant to this MOA. More specifically,

a staff representative from the City and the designated member of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission shall be given an opportunity to review and approve all requests for proposals prior to their release and to participate in the various stages of the selection process, including, but not limited to, review of proposals and participation on interview panels.

7.3 All consultant contracts entered into by the County pursuant to this MOA shall include the following: (1) a provision requiring that the consultant name the City as an additional insured, (2) an expected spend plan estimating the amount of the not to exceed contract amount that the consultant expects to invoice each month, and (3) a provision requiring that the consultant calculate both the County and City's share of each invoice consistent with Section 6(C) and send monthly invoices to both the County and the City showing the foregoing calculation.

7.4 Both the City and the County shall be responsible for remitting payment of their share of each monthly invoice directly to the consultant within thirty (30) days of receipt or within the time frame otherwise set forth in the consultant contract.

## **Section 8 Notice**

8.1 To provide for consistent and effective communication among the Parties, each Party shall designate a representative as its central point of contact on matters relating to this MOA.

8.2 All notices, statements, or payments related to this MOA shall be deemed to have been duly given if in writing and delivered electronically, personally or mailed by first-class, registered or certified mail to the Parties at the addresses set forth in Exhibit A. The Parties may update Exhibit A from time to time without formal amendment to this MOA.

## **Section 9 Withdrawal and Termination**

9.1 Any Participating Party may unilaterally withdrawal from this MOA without causing or requiring termination of this MOA. Withdrawal shall become effective upon thirty (30) days written notice to the remaining Parties' designated addresses as listed in Exhibit A. A Participating Party that has withdrawn from this MOA shall remain obligated to pay its allocation of the current annual budget. If a Participating Party withdraws, the Groundwater Sustainability Commission shall automatically be reconstituted to no longer include a member or alternate member representing the withdrawing Participating Party. In addition, the withdrawing Participating Party's annual contribution as set forth in Section 6(B) for all subsequent years shall be allocated among the remaining Participating Parties on a pro rata basis.

9.2 This MOA may be terminated by either the City or the County upon thirty (30) days written notice to all Parties' designated addresses as listed in Exhibit A. Upon termination, any unused portion of the cost contributions described in Section 6(B) and Section 6(C) as of the effective date of termination shall be returned to each Party on a pro rata basis. If the City terminates this MOA, it shall remain obligated to pay its cost share obligation under any existing consultant contract entered into by the County pursuant to this MOA.

### **Section 10 Miscellaneous**

10.1 Subject to the exception set forth in Section 6(C), this MOA may be amended only by unanimous written consent of all current Parties.

10.2 This MOA may be executed in counterparts.

10.3 This MOA shall automatically terminate upon DWR's approval of the adopted GSP. Depending on the content of the GSP, the Parties may decide to enter into a new agreement to coordinate GSP implementation.

10.4 This MOA is made in the State of California, under the Constitution and laws of said State and is to be so construed.

10.5 If any provision of this MOA is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining provisions shall remain in full force and unaffected to the fullest extent permitted by law and regulation.

10.6 This MOA constitutes the sole, entire, integrated and exclusive agreement between the Parties regarding the contents herein. Any other contracts, agreements, terms, understandings, promises or representations not expressly set forth or referenced in this writing are null and void and of no force and effect.

10.7 The Parties agree and acknowledge that this MOA has been developed through negotiation, and that each Party has had a full and fair opportunity to revise the terms of this MOA. Consequently, the normal rule of construction that any ambiguities are to be resolved against the drafting party shall not apply in construing or interpreting this MOA.

[signatures to follow on next page]

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this MOA by authorized officials thereof on the dates indicated below.

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDNA VALLEY GROWERS  
MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDNA RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: [Signature]

Its: EDNA COUNTY COUNCIL

Date: NOV. 6, 2017

**VARIAN RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this MOA by authorized officials thereof on the dates indicated below.

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDNA VALLEY GROWERS  
MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

By: [Signature]

Its: President

Date: 11/2/17

**EDNA RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: **JOHN PESCHONG**

Its: Chairperson, Board of Supervisors, County  
of San Luis Obispo, State of California

Date: January 9, 2018

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**ATTEST:**

Tommy Gong, County Clerk-Recorder and  
Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: SANDY CURRENS  
Deputy Clerk

**VARIAN RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this MOA by authorized officials thereof on the dates indicated below.

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: [Signature]  
Its: Mayor  
Date: 1/26/18

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: [Signature]  
Its: Asst. City Attorney  
Date: 1/25/18

**EDNA VALLEY GROWERS MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDNA RANCH MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: [Signature]  
Its: Deputy County Counsel  
Date: NOV. 6, 2017

**VARIAN RANCH MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Its: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EXHIBIT A**  
**PARTY ADDRESS LIST**

County of San Luis Obispo  
County Government Center, Room 206  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408  
Attention: Wade Horton, Public Works Director

City of San Luis Obispo  
Utilities Department  
879 Morro Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-2710  
Attention: Carrie Mattingly, Utilities Director

Edna Valley Growers Mutual Water Company  
4910 Edna Road  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
Attention: Bob Schiebelhut, President

Varian Ranch Mutual Water Company  
2060 Varian Circle  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
Attention: James Lokey

Edna Ranch Mutual Water Company  
5665 Edna Ranch Circle  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
Attention: Andy Mangano

Golden State Water Company  
2330 A Street, Suite A  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
Attention: General Manager, Coastal District

**EXHIBIT A**  
**PARTY ADDRESS LIST**

County of San Luis Obispo  
County Government Center, Room 206  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408  
Attention: Wade Horton, Public Works Director

City of San Luis Obispo  
Utilities Department  
879 Morro Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-2710  
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Edna Valley Growers Mutual Water Company  
4910 Edna Road  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
Attention: Bob Schiebelhut, President

Varian Ranch Mutual Water Company  
2060 Varian Circle  
Arroyo Grande, CA 93420  
Attention: James Lokey

Edna Ranch Mutual Water Company  
5665 Edna Ranch Circle  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401  
Attention: Andy Mangano

Golden State Water Company  
2330 A Street, Suite A  
Santa Maria, CA 93455  
Attention: General Manager, Coastal District

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Parties have executed this MOA by authorized officials thereof on the dates indicated below.

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDNA VALLEY GROWERS  
MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDNA RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**VARIAN RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: *[Signature]*

Its: *President*

Date: *10/31/2017*

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this MOA by authorized officials thereof on the dates indicated below.

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

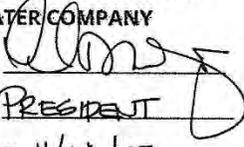
**EDNA VALLEY GROWERS  
MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDNA RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: 

Its: PRESIDENT

Date: 11/14/17

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**VARIAN RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the Parties have executed this MOA by authorized officials thereof on the dates indicated below.

**CITY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDNA VALLEY GROWERS  
MUTUAL WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDNA RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND  
LEGAL EFFECT:**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**VARIAN RANCH MUTUAL  
WATER COMPANY**

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Its: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY**

By: Denise Kuy

Its: Sr. Vice President

Date: November 3, 2017

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**  
***for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin***  
**September 11, 2019**

**Agenda Item 8 – A Presentation on Basin Setting**  
**(Presentation Item)**

**Recommendation**

a) Receive a presentation on the hydrogeologic characterization of the basin.

**Prepared by**

Dave O'Rourke, GSI

**Discussion**

The WSC Team, has been tasked with the preparation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the SLO Basin to meet the requirements of SGMA. Chapters 4 and 5 (not yet submitted) will deal with the basin setting and groundwater conditions in the basin. In 2017-2018 the County sponsored the development of a summary report on the hydrogeologic characterization of the SLO Basin. This presentation will present a summary of the major findings of that report as they pertain to the development of the GSP under SGMA. The presentation will include discussion of the geology and hydrogeology of the SLO Basin. It will include presentation of geologic cross sections, hydrographs, groundwater elevation maps, areas of recharge and discharge, data gaps, and areas of known and potential subsidence.

**Attachments:**

1. Presentation

# GSC QUARTERLY MEETING

For the Development of the SLO Basin  
Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

PREPARED BY WATER SYSTEMS CONSULTING

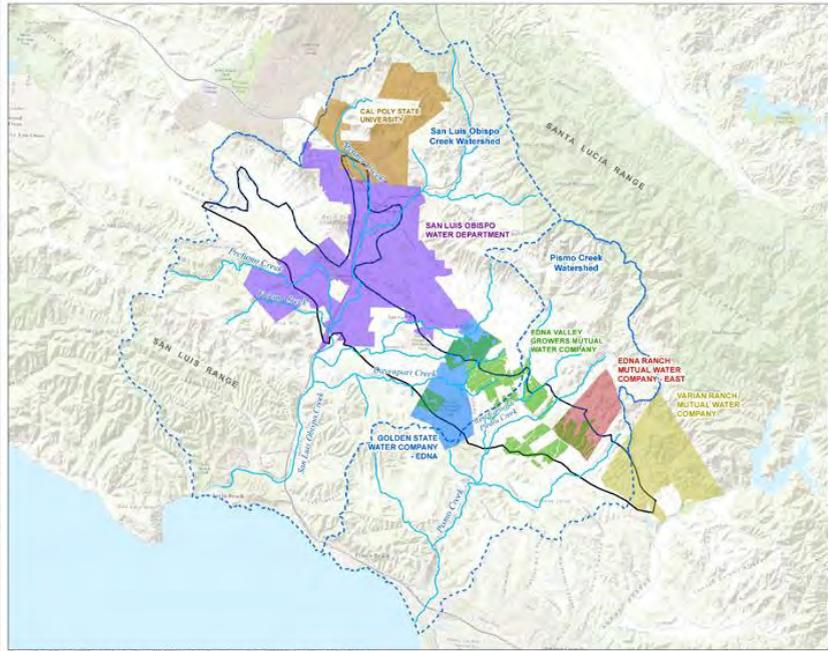


## Basin Setting

Dave O'Rourke, GSI

## Basin Boundary

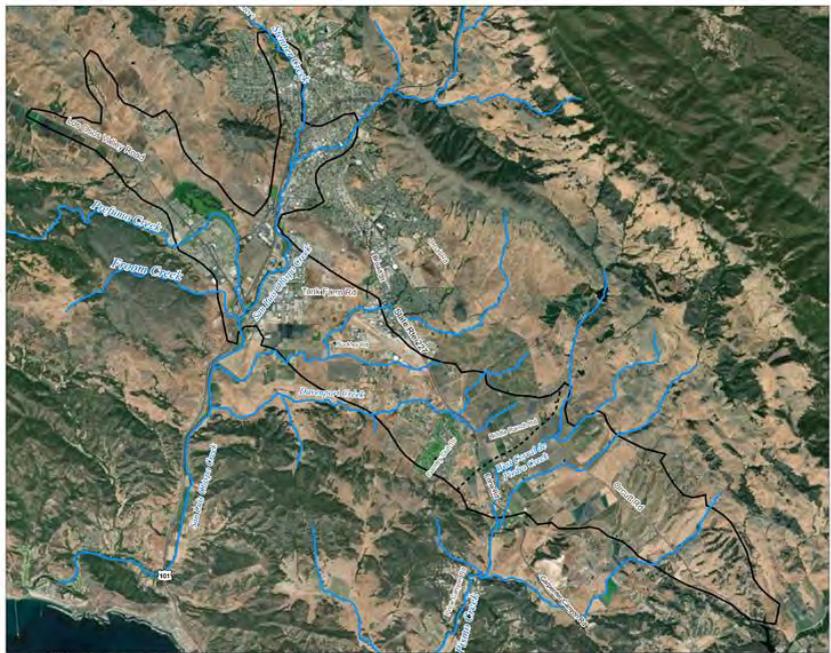
Contributing Watersheds  
Water Purveyors  
SLO vs. Edna Valley



3 | SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019

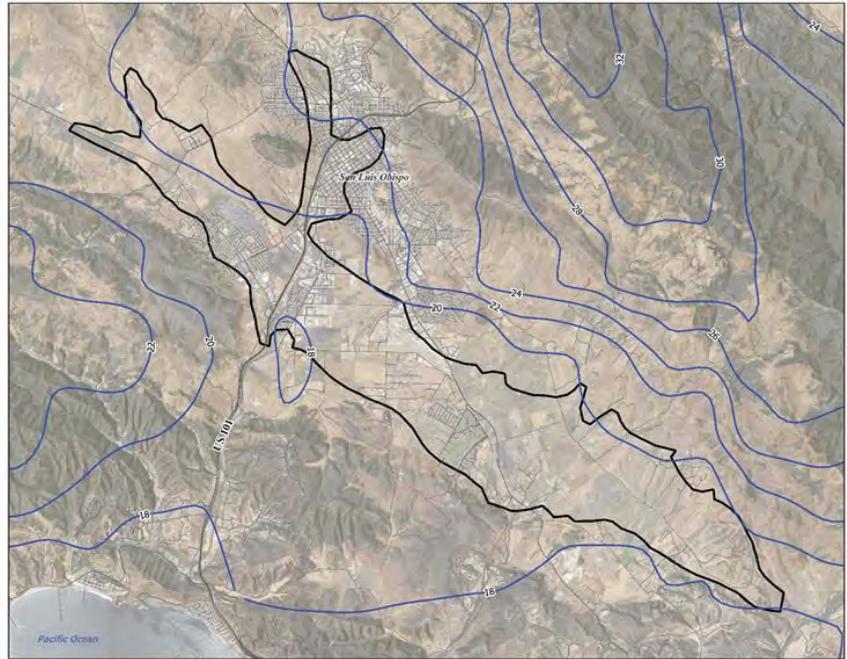
## Air Photo

Land Use  
Stream Network



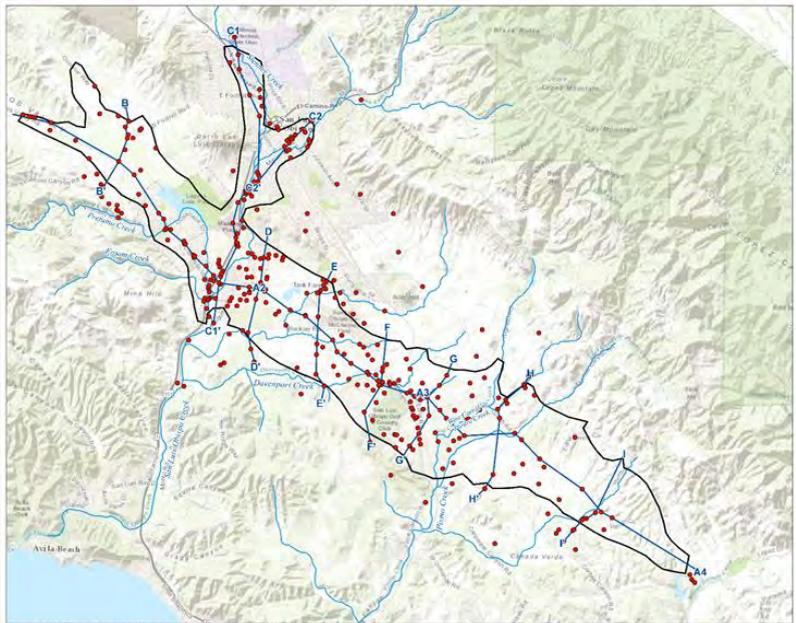
## Annual Precipitation

Higher in mountains  
18 – 22 inches in Basin



## Lithology Data Points

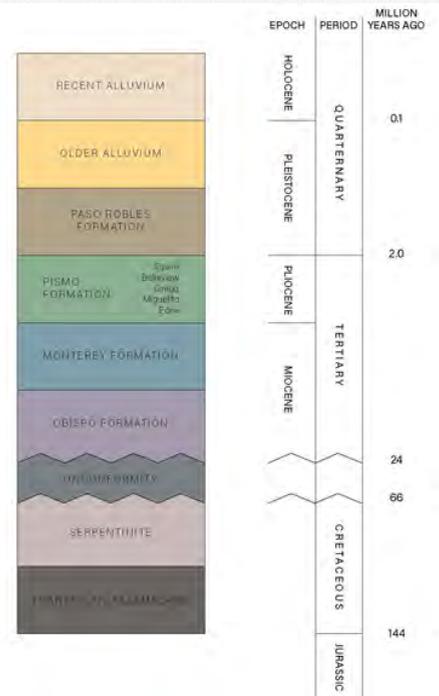
Well Completion Reports  
Not all borings extend to bedrock  
Reasonable Data Density



# Geologic Column

Basin Sediments

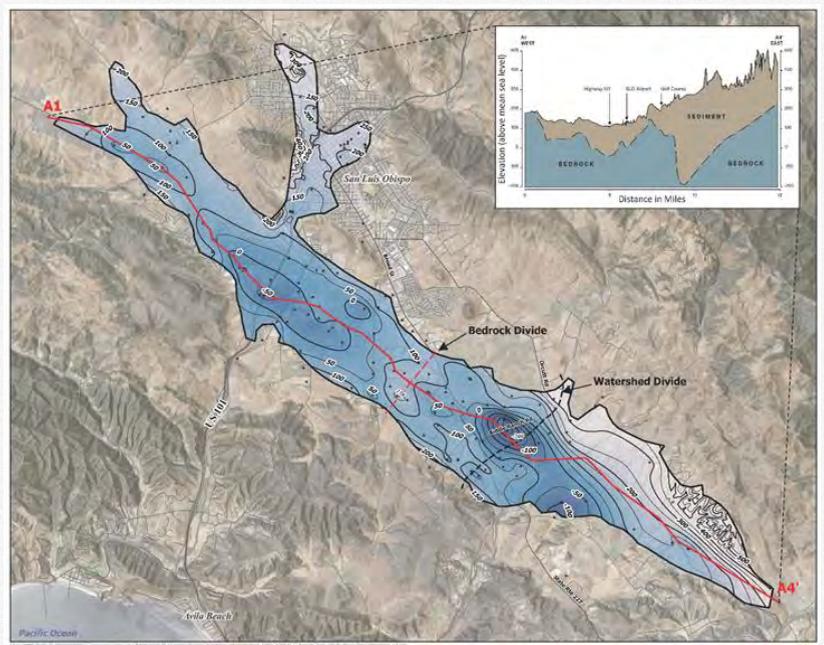
Bedrock



# Bedrock Topographic Map

Bottom of Basin

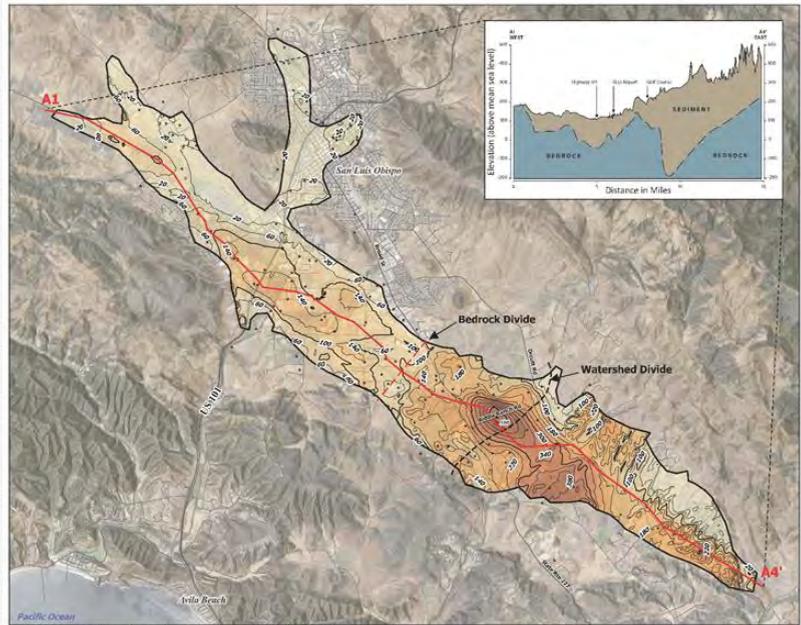
Bedrock Divide ≠ Watershed Divide



## Sediment Thickness Map

Land Surface to Bedrock

Northern lobe of Basin is thin.

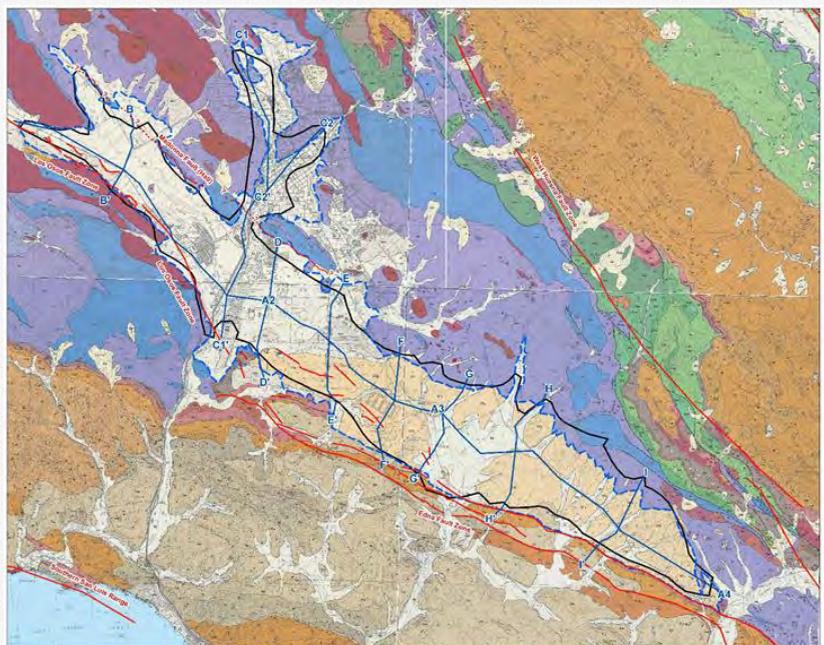


## Geologic Map

Alluvium and Paso Robles Formation at Basin Surface

Slight Difference between Official Boundary and Geologic Map

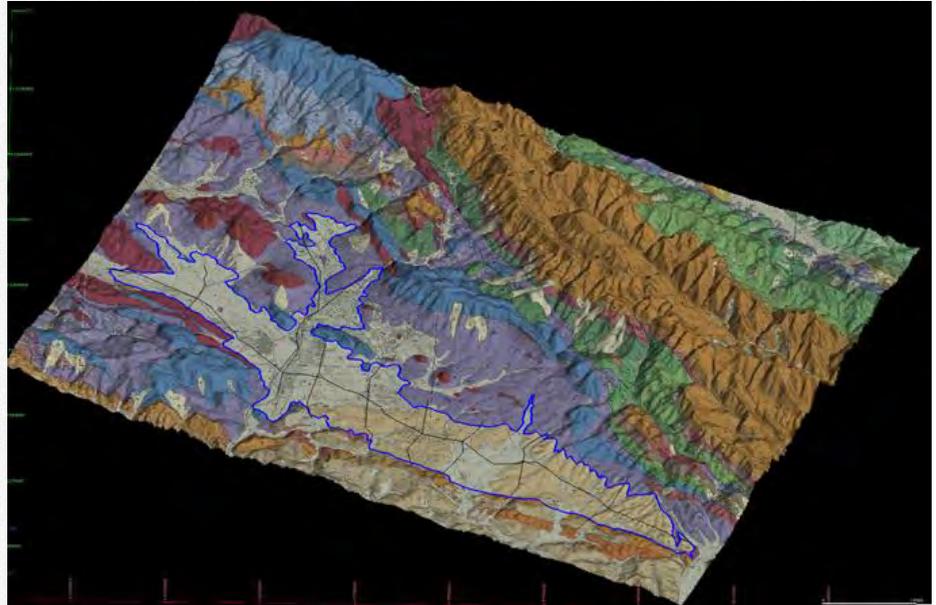
Geology Outside of Basin not significant to SGMA



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## Geologic Map 3D

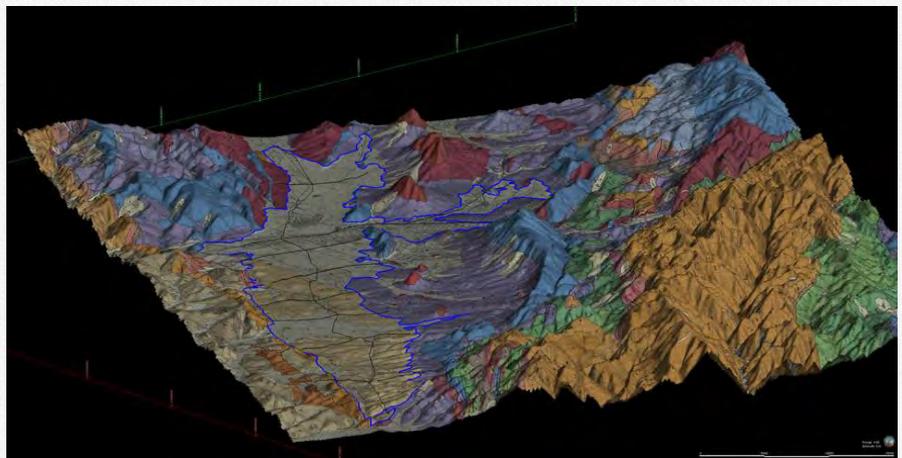
Oblique view from  
south



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## Geologic Map 3D

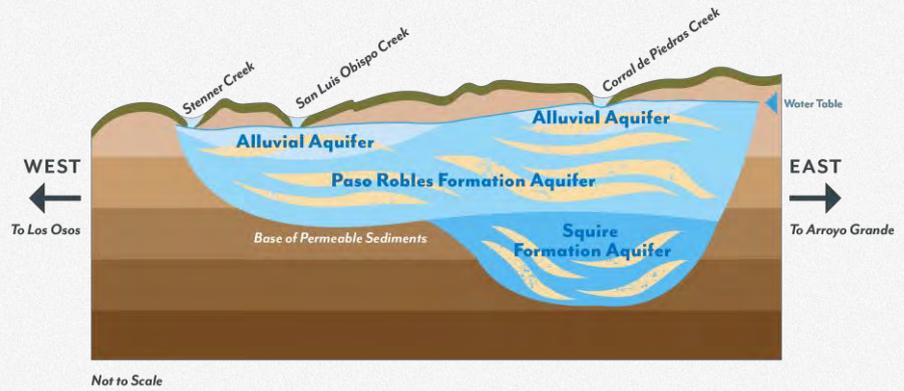
Oblique view looking  
NW up Basin



## Basin Cross Section (Conceptual, Lengthwise)

Materials in each formation are not uniform.

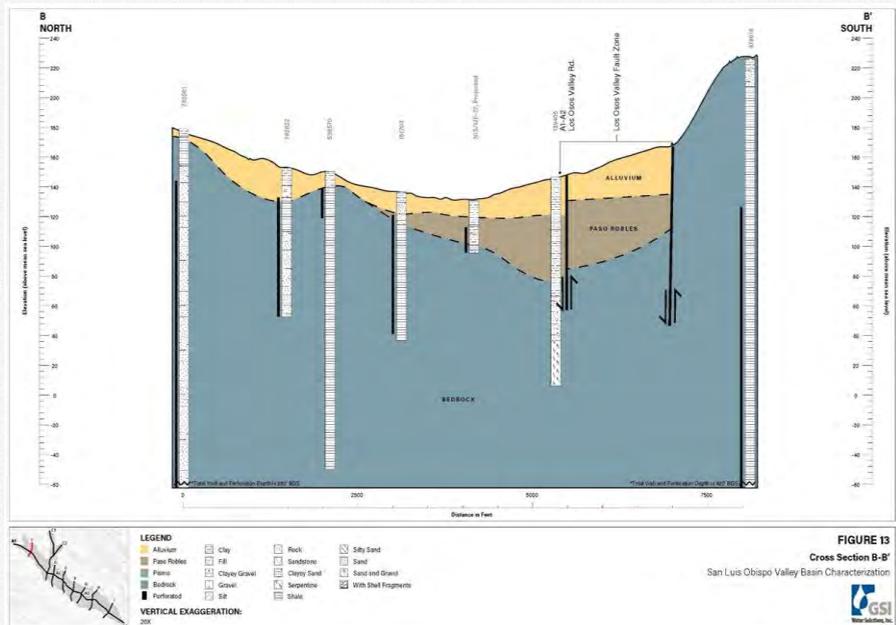
Basin is thicker in Edna Valley.



## Basin Cross Section (N-S)

Bedrock formations are lumped together.

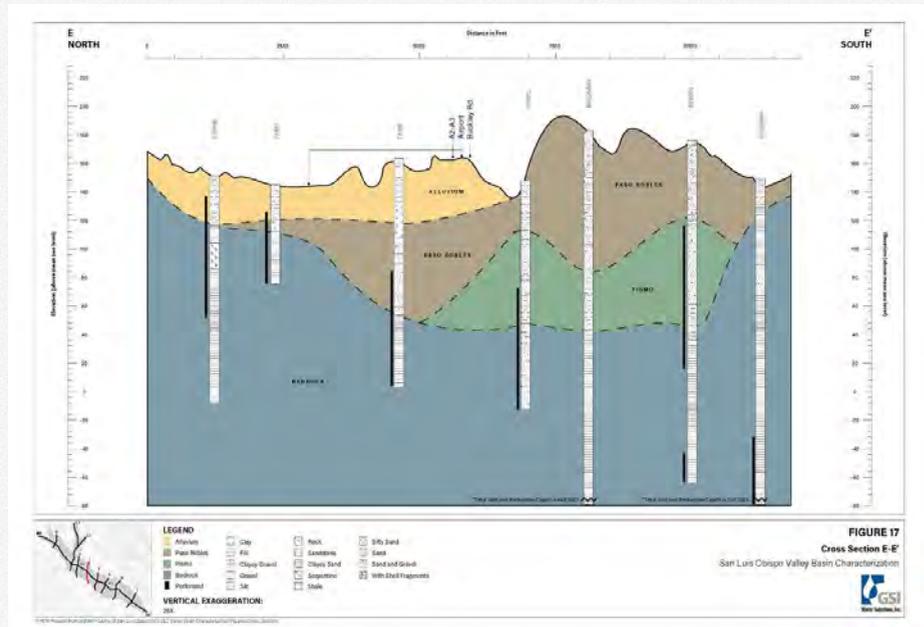
LOVR Corridor.



## Basin Cross Section (N-S)

Bedrock formations lumped together.

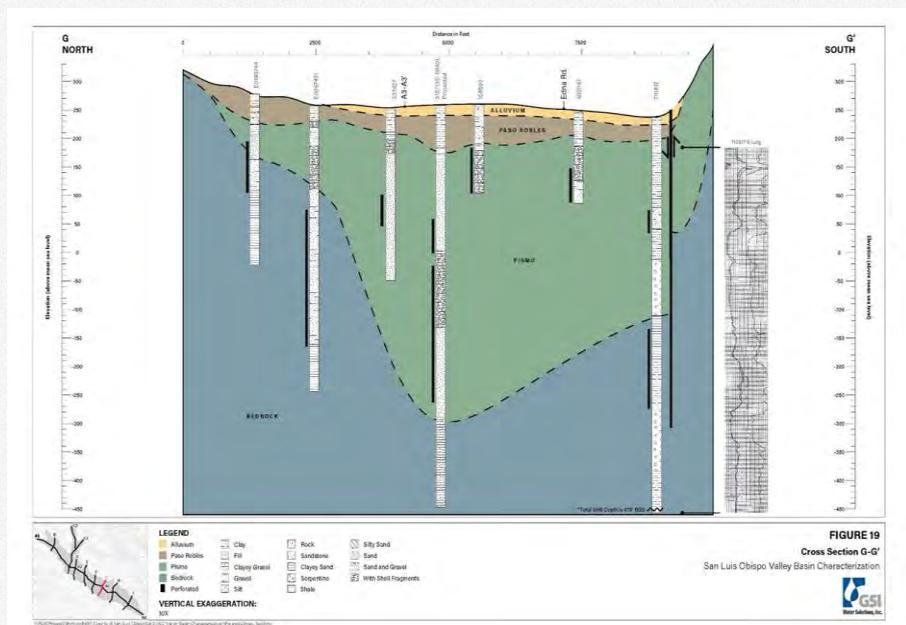
Central Basin (near Airport).



## Basin Cross Section (N-S)

Thick deposits of Pismo/Squire

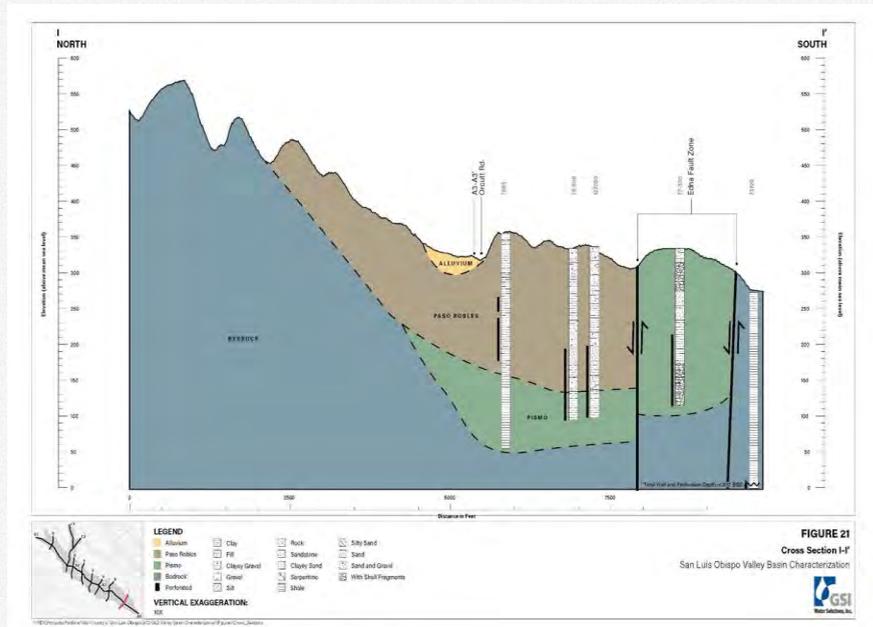
Alluvium and Paso Robles Formation relatively thin



## Basin Cross Section (N-S)

Bedrock formations lumped together.

Southern Edna Valley



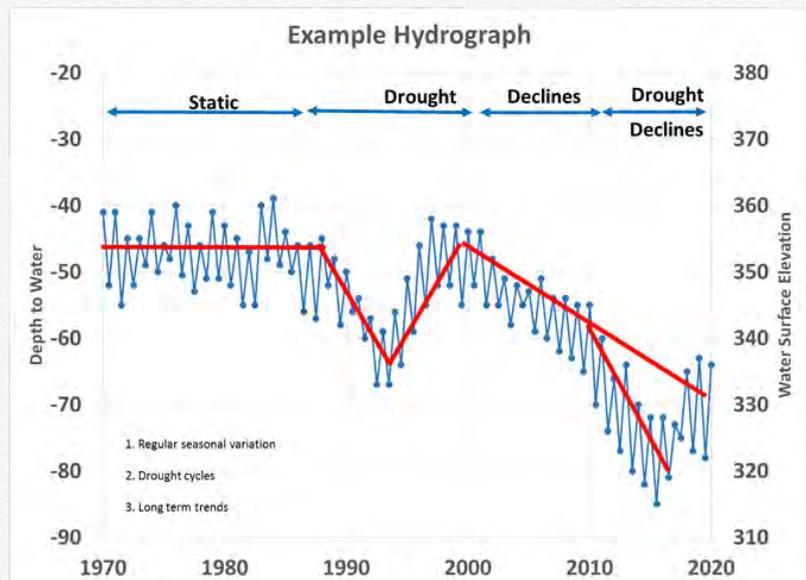
## Groundwater Hydrograph (Example)

Normal Seasonal Fluctuation

Drought Cycles

Long-Term Trends

Slow Response Compared to Surface Water



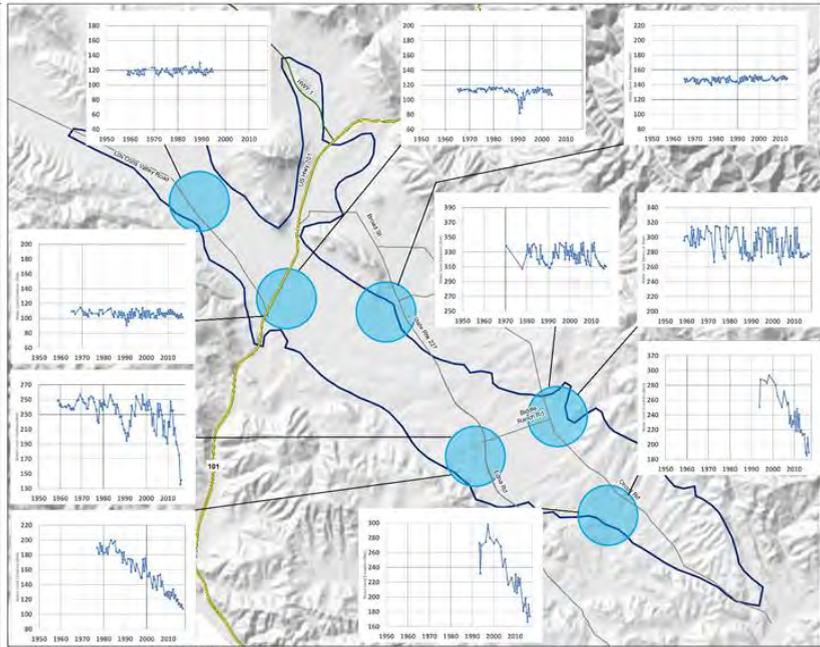
# Groundwater Hydr ographs

Not yet updated

Relatively Stable near SLO

Corral de Piedras  
Recharge Area

Edna Valley Declines



# Groundwater Elevation Map - 1954

Flow pattern from  
Edna to SLO

Discharge from Basin  
at SLO Creek and  
Pismo Creek

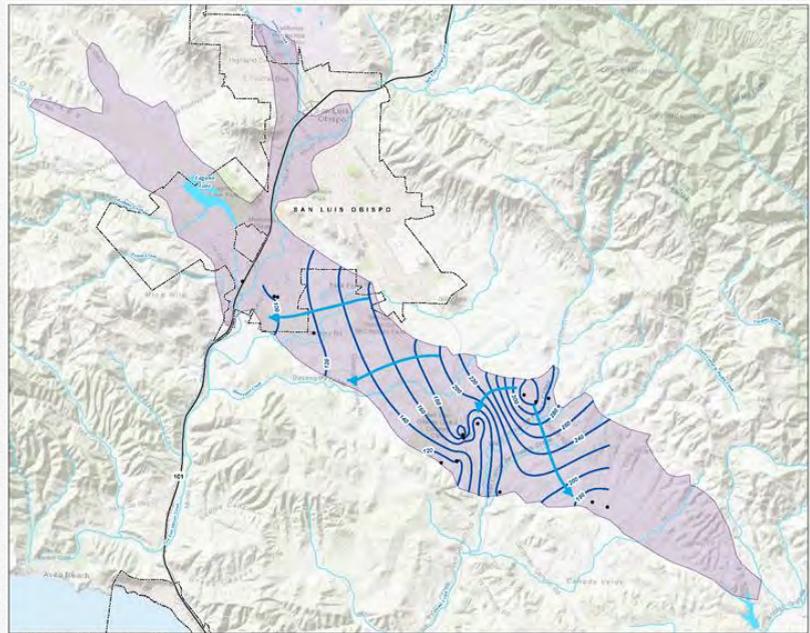


## Groundwater Elevation Map – Fall 2017

Flow pattern from Edna to SLO

Corral de Piedras Recharge Area

New Pumping since 1954 Apparent in Water Levels

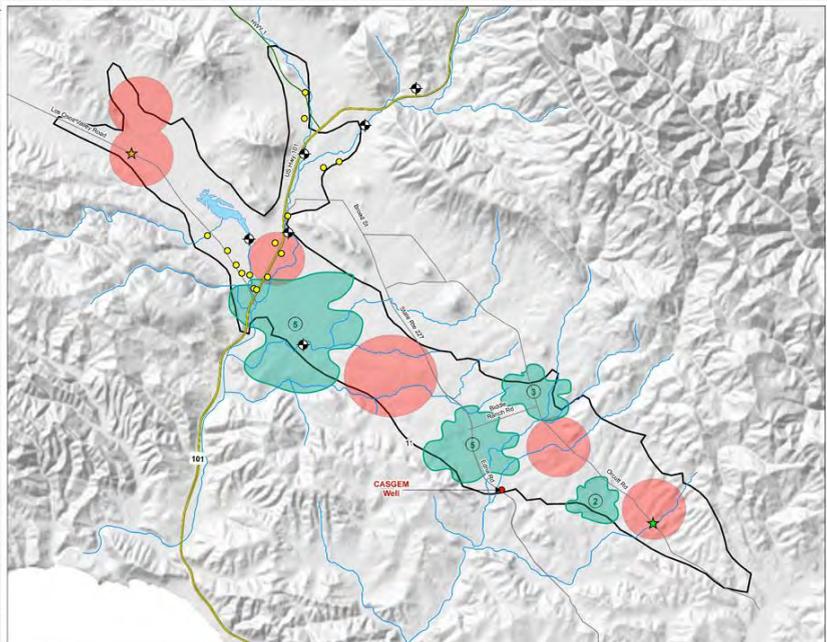


## Basin Data Gaps

SLO City wells will likely be incorporated into monitoring network.

Seeking new wells to include in network.

Corral de Piedras Stream Gage?



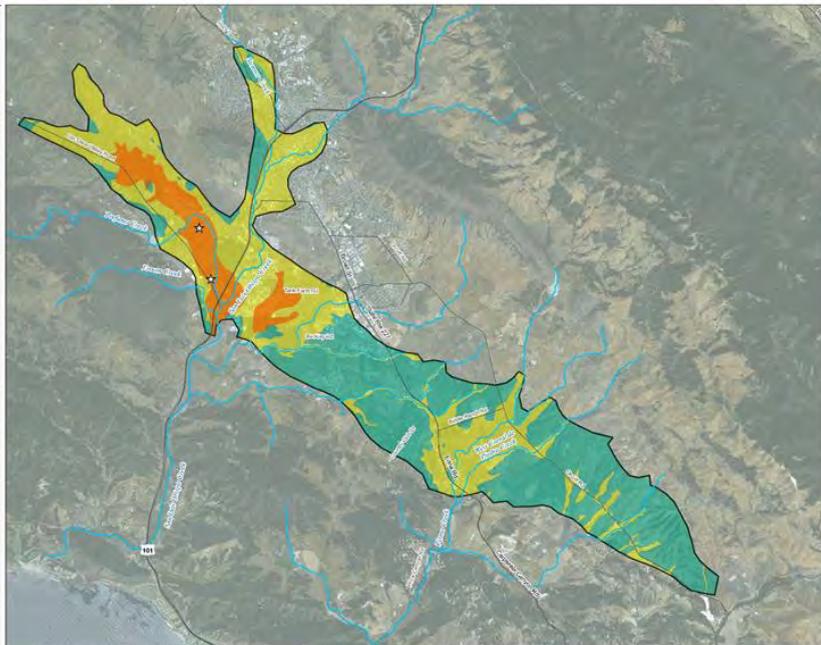
## Subsidence

Is a SGMA undesirable effect.

Can occur if GW levels decline below clay or peat layers.

Happened along LOVR in early 1990s.

Needs to be monitored.



## Summary

- Alluvium, Paso Robles Formation, and Squire member of Pismo Formation comprise Basin sediments.
- Some wells in Basin draw from the Monterey Shale.
- Greatest thickness of sediments in Edna Valley.
- Hydrographs indicate water levels in SLO are stable. Edna Valley water levels indicate declines over past 20 years.
- Recent water level maps reflect new pumping in Edna Valley.
- GSC's goal to expand groundwater monitoring network.
- Subsidence along LOVR.

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**  
*for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin*  
September 11, 2019

**Agenda Item 9 – Integrated Groundwater/Surface Water (GW/SW) Modeling Update  
(Presentation Item)**

**Recommendation**

- a) Receive an update on the integrated GW/SW modeling efforts and associated geophysical investigation.

**Prepared by**

Dave O'Rourke, GSI

**Discussion**

The WSC Team, led by GSI Water Solutions, Inc. (GSI), and supported by WSC and Cleath Harris Geologists (CHG) has been tasked with the development of an integrated groundwater/surface water flow model for use in supporting the GSP development. The model will be used to estimate future groundwater levels in the basin, and to demonstrate the effects that various proposed projects and management actions will have on the goal of achieving sustainability by 2042.

A brief update on the modeling task will be presented, touching on active model area, grid size, and proposed model layering. In addition, a very brief update will be presented on Cleath-Harris Geologists' geophysical exploration of the central basin south of the airport.

**Attachments:**

1. Presentation

# GSC QUARTERLY MEETING

For the Development of the SLO Basin  
Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

SEPTEMBER 11, 2019

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## Integrated Groundwater/Surface Water Model Update

Dave O'Rourke, GSI

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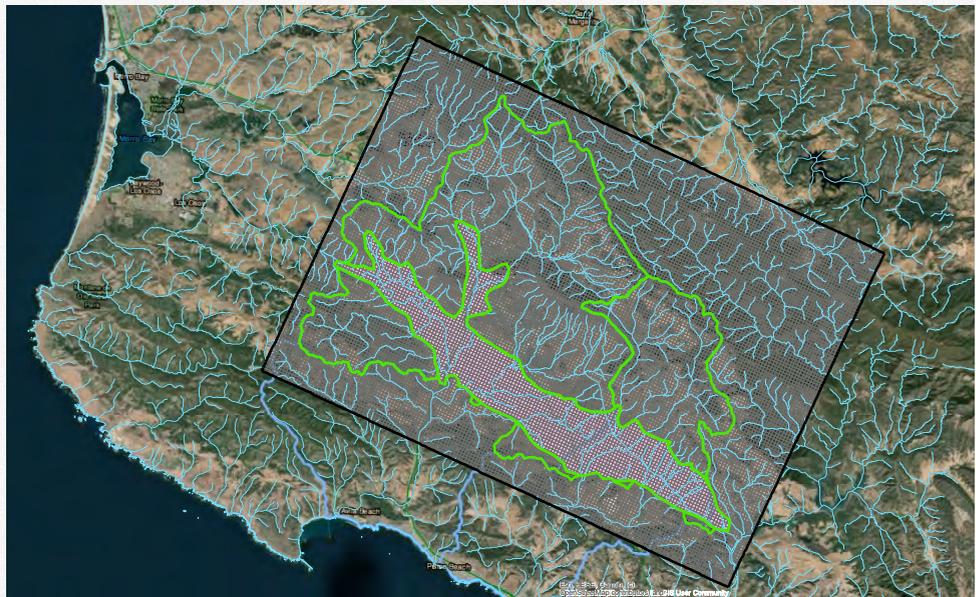
## Integrated Groundwater/Surface Water Model

- Model – A simplified or idealized representation of reality
- Groundwater model is a tool to estimate effects of changing management actions or projects.
- The integrated model (using GSFLOW) will model both rainfall/runoff in upland watershed and groundwater flow in the Basin.
- GSFLOW = MODFLOW (groundwater flow) + PRMS (rainfall/runoff)
- Calibrate the model to past observed conditions to gain confidence that system is accurately represented.
- Generate predictive simulations to model effects of projects, pumping changes, etc.

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## Model Grid

- Includes watershed areas that flow into Basin.
- 500 ft x 500 ft cells
- 115 Rows by 160 Columns
- 4 Layers:
  - Alluvium
  - Paso Robles Formation
  - Squire Member
  - Undifferentiated bedrock.



# Active Area

- Omit areas outside of contributing watershed or downstream of Basin.

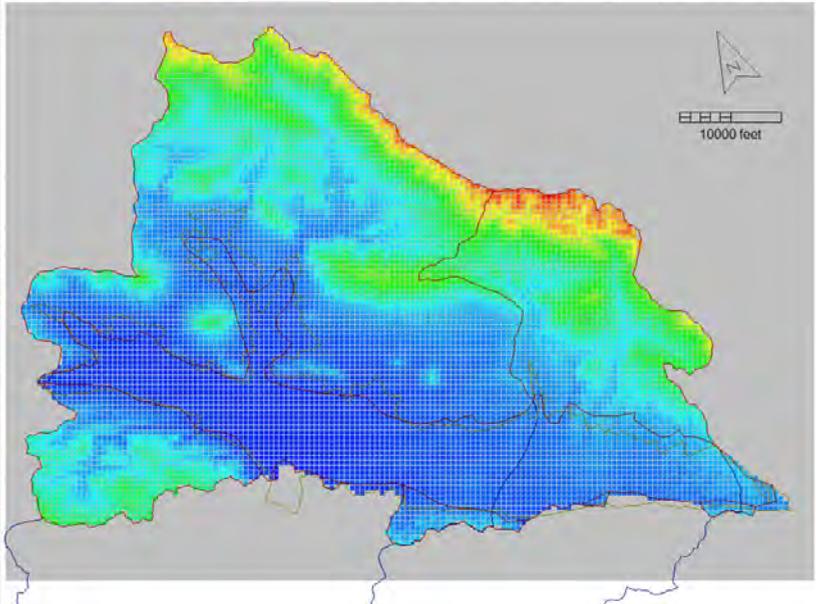


# Grid Detail



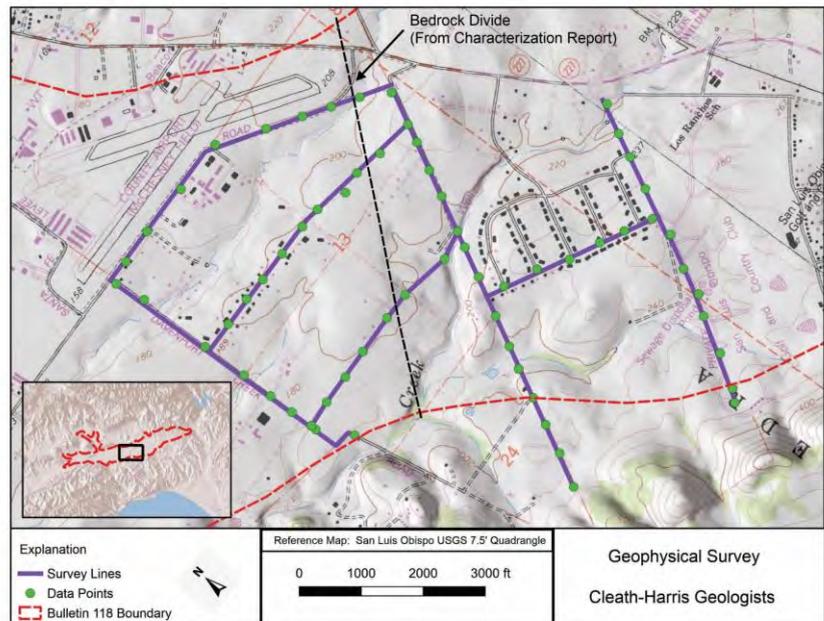
## Preliminary MODFLOW

- Incorporates grid and land surface elevations.
- Assignment of aquifer thicknesses not yet complete.



## Geophysical Characterization

- Included as optional task in project to refine characterization south of airport.
- Cleath-Harris performed geophysical field work.
- 63 data points.
- Field work complete, data reduction and analysis in process.



**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**  
*for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin*  
**September 11, 2019**

**Agenda Item 10 – A Preview of What’s Next?**  
**(Presentation Item)**

**Recommendation**

- a) Receive a preview of upcoming SGMA activities and provide direction as necessary.

**Prepared by**

Michael Cruikshank, Water Systems Consulting, Inc.

**Discussion**

The WSC Team, has been tasked with the preparation of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the SLO Basin to meet the requirements of SGMA. The WSC Team will present the near term SGMA activities related to outreach and future GSP Chapter releases and review. Volume 2 of the Quarterly Update of the SLO Basin GSP Development will be released in October 2019 via SLOWaterBasin.com. The Newsletter will provide recent meeting summaries, project milestones, opportunities to participate, project timeline, and key terms. The following chapters are scheduled to be released ahead of the December Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC): Chapter 3 - Plan Area, Chapter 4 - Basin Setting, and Chapter 5 - Groundwater Conditions. Workshop #2 is anticipated to take place in February 2020 and will be focused on establishing a sustainability vision and goals for the SLO Basin.

**Attachments:**

1. Presentation

# GSC QUARTERLY MEETING

For the Development of the SLO Basin  
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**A PREVIEW OF  
WHAT'S NEXT**  
Michael Cruikshank, WSC

# Timeline of Events



3 | SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019

## SLO Basin GSP Development Quarterly Newsletter Volume 2

Released in October via [SLOWaterBasin.com](http://SLOWaterBasin.com)

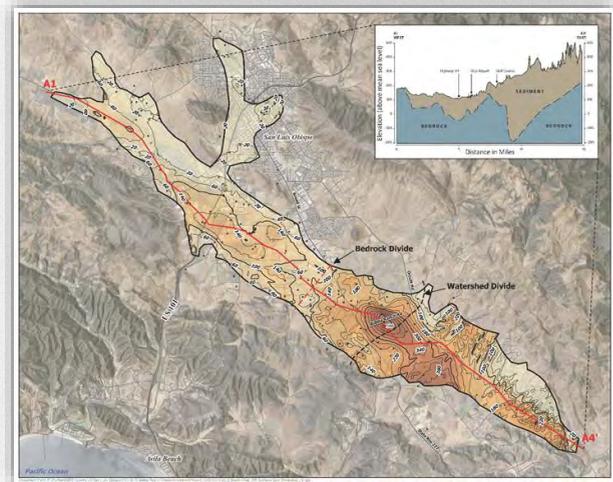
- Meeting Summaries
- Project Milestones and Opportunities to Participate
- Project Timeline
- Key Terms

4 | SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019



## Upcoming Chapters For Review Released at the December GSC Meeting

- Chapter 3 – Plan Area
- Chapter 4 – Basin Setting
- Chapter 5 – Groundwater Conditions



5 | SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019

## Workshop #2 Sustainability vision and goals for SLO Basin

TBD: February 2020



6 | SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019



### GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS



Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels



Reduction of Groundwater Storage



Land Subsidence



Water Quality Degradation



Interconnected Surface Water Depletions



Seawater Intrusion

**GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**  
*for the San Luis Obispo Valley Groundwater Basin*  
**September 11, 2019**

**Agenda Item 11 – An Update on the GSP Review Process**  
**(Presentation Item)**

**Recommendation**

- a) Receive an overview of GSP chapter/section review and comment process and provide direction as necessary.

**Prepared By**

Dick Tzou, County of San Luis Obispo

**Discussion**

During the June 12, 2019 Groundwater Sustainability Commission (GSC) meeting, the Commissioners had a discussion and general inquiry regarding whether it would be appropriate to change the current draft GSP chapter review protocol to allow other GSC member staff besides the GSA staff to review and edit the GSC draft chapters prior to presenting them to all five GSC members and the public to review and comment. The draft GSP chapter review process is an iterative one involving interested parties, staff of the two GSAs, GSC members, technical experts (consultant team), and the general public. The current protocol for the draft GSP chapter review process as formulated in the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is described as follows.

The individual draft chapters will be prepared by the consulting team with input from GSA staff as indicated in MOA Section 3. After the consultant has made the necessary changes to the draft chapters based on the feedback from GSA staff, they will then be distributed and presented to the GSC in a meeting for consideration to be approved for public release and recommend for each GSA to receive and file. Neither Section 4 (Establishment of the Groundwater Sustainability Commission) nor Section 7 (Retention of Consultants) of the MOA provides for dissemination of draft documents delivered to the County and/or to the City by the GSP consultant to all of the parties to the MOA prior to distribution to the GSC members for consideration during a GSC meeting(s). Rather, Section 3 of the MOA states the *City and County* shall retain the services of a consultant(s) and shall each designate a staff person(s) to participate in the development of the GSP. Given that the other parties to the MOA are private entities, the MOA's terms are consistent with and are reflective of the limitations set forth in the Public Records Act which prevent a public agency from withholding an otherwise exempt (e.g. draft) document from disclosure where the public agency has provided the document to a non-governmental agency. (Government Code Sections 6254(a), 6254.5)

After the draft chapters have been approved by the GSC, they will be posted on the Portal to begin a minimum 30-day public comment period. Specific dates will be provided for each draft document to allow for adequate review. Public comments will be submitted through the Portal and all comments received will be available for review. The comments will be reviewed by the technical experts in coordination with the GSA staff and be considered for inclusion in the draft GSP document, which is prepared by compiling all the revised draft chapters. The draft GSP will be presented to the GSC again for approval to be posted online for public comments and to recommend for each GSA to receive and file. Once the GSP has been finalized after all the public comments have been considered, the GSC will then make a recommendation to the GSAs to adopt the GSP. The City of San Luis Obispo City Council and San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors will then consider adoption of the GSP.

During this whole GSC approval process, the County Board and the City Council may approve or reject any advisory opinion submitted by the GSC. However, if the rejection of the advisory

opinion is related to the contents or adoption of the GSP it shall do so only after holding a public hearing, at which time the members of the GSC shall have the right to appear and address the City Council and the County Board (MOA Section 4.10).

**Attachment:**

1.Presentation

# GSC QUARTERLY MEETING

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Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

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## GSP REVIEW PROCESS UPDATE

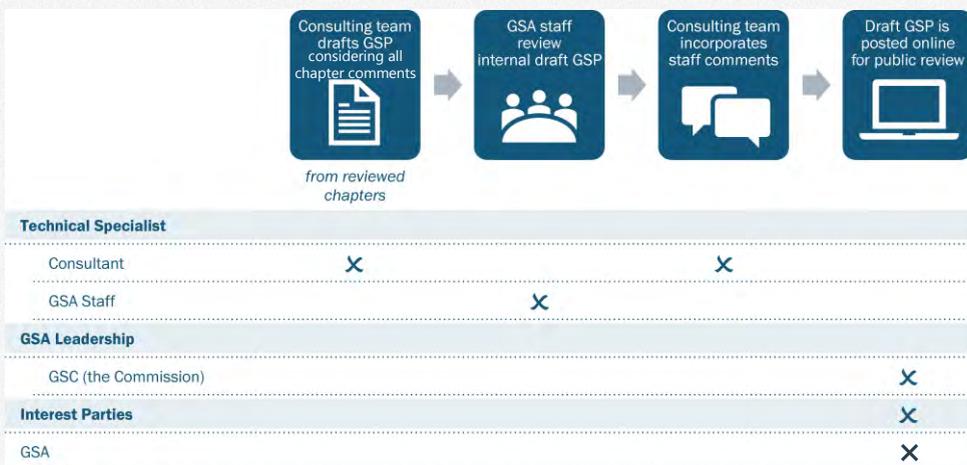
Dick Tzou, County of San Luis Obispo

## GSP CHAPTER REVIEW PROCESS



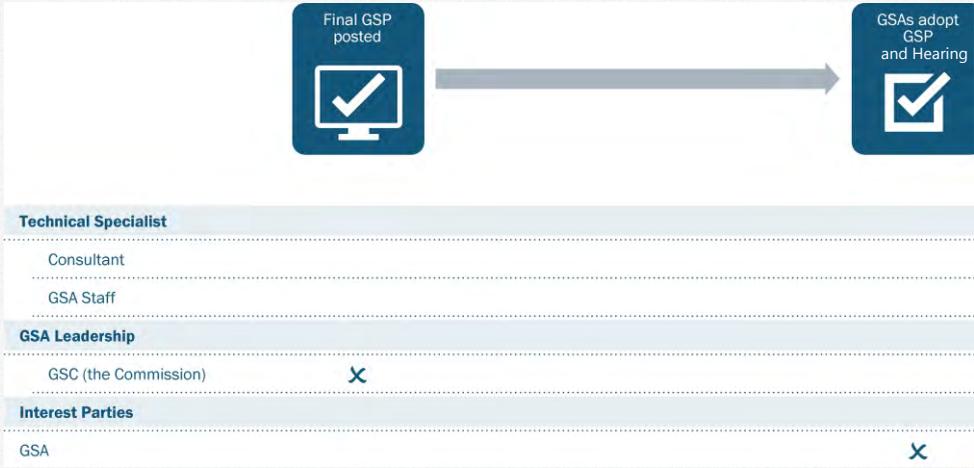
| SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019

## GSP REVIEW PROCESS



| SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019

# GSP APPROVAL PROCESS



| SLO GSC Meeting / Sept. 11, 2019