PASO ROBLES SUBBASIN
GSP DEVELOPMENT

Project Status Update

Paso Robles Basin GSAs
City of Paso Robles
County of San Luis Obispo
San Miguel CSD
Shandon-San Juan Water District

April 24, 2019
Presentation Outline

- GSP Schedule and Chapter Delivery
- Projects and Actions (Chapter 9)
- Introduction to Plan Implementation (Chapter 10)
- Communication and Engagement (Chapter 11)
- Appendices H, I, and J
**GSP Schedule**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>APR</th>
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### Basin Setting and Groundwater Model
- Sustainable Management Criteria and Monitoring Network
- Projects and Management Actions
- Prepare Implementation Plan
- Prepare Complete GSP

**We are here**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHAPTER 1.</th>
<th>Introduction to Paso Robles Subbasin GSP</th>
<th>Receive/Recommend 7/25/18</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHAPTER 2.</td>
<td>Agency Information</td>
<td>Receive/Recommend 7/25/18</td>
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<td>CHAPTER 3.</td>
<td>Description of Plan Area</td>
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<td>Hydrogeologic Conceptual Model</td>
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<td>CHAPTER 10.</td>
<td>Plan Implementation</td>
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<td>Notice and Communications</td>
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<td>CHAPTER 12.</td>
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**Appendix F**

Communications and Engagement Plan

Receive/Recommend 7/25/18
Chapter 9: Projects and Actions

SGMA Regulations §354.42 et seq.
Management Actions & Projects Development

- Released Fact Sheet and supplemental information outlining approach to management actions & projects
- Updated Cooperative Committee on Fact Sheet and supplemental information
- Public meetings to review Fact Sheet
- Presented Chapter 9 to GSA staff based on revised Fact Sheet approach
- Received comments from GSA staff and revised projects and actions in Chapter 9
- Present to Cooperative Committee
Management Actions & Projects Goals

- One of the two fundamental chapters of the GSP

- Provide a mechanism for achieving sustainability
  - No undesirable results for all five sustainability indicators at 2040

- Sustainability measured in 2040
Project and Management Actions Requirements

- Identify **triggers** for each management actions or project
- Describe public notice for each management action or project
- Describe how the management actions or projects mitigate overdraft
- Summarize permitting and regulatory requirements
- Estimate a time table for implementation (Chapter 10)
- Explain the anticipated benefit of each management action or project
- Describe the legal authority for implementing each action
- Estimate the cost of each management action and project (incorporated into Chapters 9 & 10)
Management Actions & Projects Overview

- Adaptive Management
  - Initiate projects/ actions
  - Monitor and assess success
  - Potentially update or modify projects/ actions
  - Public meetings to agree upon additional projects/ actions
  - Initiate additional projects/ actions

- Initial focus on all Level 1 management actions
- Ramp up to more demanding management actions and/or projects
- De minimis pumpers exempt
## Potential Management Actions & Project Hierarchy

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Management Action</th>
<th>Projects</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Level 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>Priority projects</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>- Best water use practices</td>
<td>- Eight projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Groundwater Management Program</td>
<td>- Designed to reasonably reach sustainability</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Flat pumping fee</td>
<td>- Substitute projects</td>
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<td><strong>Level 2</strong></td>
<td>- Four projects</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Groundwater Conservation Program</td>
<td>- Contribute to sustainability</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Raise funds for land retirement &amp; projects</td>
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</table>

- Eight projects
- Designed to reasonably reach sustainability
  - Substitute projects
- Four projects
- Contribute to sustainability
Management Actions & Project Flowchart

Adopt GSP

- Develop Level 1 Management Actions
- Conduct Studies, Project Planning and Negotiations
- Improve Monitoring Networks & Begin Monitoring
- Implement Recycled Water Projects

Implement Level 1 Management Actions

Evaluate Monitoring Data & Compare to MTs

On Sustainable Path?

- Yes
  - Monitor & Adaptively Manage Subbasin

- No
  - On Sustainable Path?
    - Yes
      - Reevaluate Management Actions & Projects
    - No
      - Develop Level 2 Management Actions & Evaluate Need for More Projects

Implement Level 2 Management Actions

Need Local Projects?

- Yes
  - Construct Local Projects

- No
  - Evaluate Monitoring Data & Compare to MTs

On Sustainable Path?

- Yes
  - Reevaluate Management Actions & Projects

- No
  - Develop Level 2 Management Actions & Evaluate Need for More Projects
Level 1 Management Actions

- Trigger is declining groundwater levels — implement immediately —
- Develop and promote best water use practices
- Direct outreach to every greater than de minimis well owner
- Encourage or mandate
  - Rotation of pumping schedules
  - Minimum well spacing requirements for new wells
  - Require reporting measured or estimated groundwater pumping amounts
- Impose groundwater pumping fee to cover operational and planning costs
  - Potentially increase fees as necessary and legally acceptable
Level 2 Management Actions

- **Trigger:** Data establishes that Level 1 management actions are insufficient

- **Groundwater conservation program**
  - May be similar to the management approach in the previous Fact Sheet and include:
    - tiered pumping fees
    - establishing pumping levels for the tiered fees (not water rights)
    - Allowance of carry-over and relocation of pumping (similar to existing offset ordinance)

- Acquisition of pumping allowances to reduce pumping
Priority Projects

● Triggers:
  ● Data establishes that Level 1 management actions are insufficient
  ● After five years, groundwater levels in the area of the proposed project continue to decline at unsustainable rates

1. City Recycled Water Delivery
2. San Miguel Recycled Water Delivery
3. State Water Project Injection south of Creston
4. State Water Project Injection north of Creston
5. Nacimiento Water Delivery to Salinas and Estrella River Confluence
6. Nacimiento Water Delivery North of City of Paso Robles
7. Nacimiento Water Delivery East of City of Paso Robles
8. Salinas Dam Expansion
Example Priority Project: NWP Delivered to Confluence of Estrella and Salinas River

Location and generalized infrastructure map
Example Priority Project: NWP Delivered to Confluence of Estrella and Salinas River

Benefit location and quantification map
Example Priority Project: NWP Delivered to Confluence of Estrella and Salinas River

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task Description</th>
<th>Year 1</th>
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Generalized cost and schedule
Projects Considerations

- Water rights/water access negotiations are necessary
- Costs are generalized and will change
- Feasibility studies, permitting, and pilot testing are required
Additional Best Practices

- Should be implemented and encouraged
- Difficult to quantify reliable benefit

1. Continue urban and rural residential conservation
2. Promote stormwater capture
3. Watershed protection and management
4. Retain and enforce the existing water export ordinance
Ability to Achieve Sustainability

Interim Milestones
Projects and Management Actions Cost

- Detailed in Chapter 10: Implementation Plan
- First five year budget
  - Annual operations costs including annual reporting
  - Improve and expand monitoring systems
  - Refine and implement Level 1 management actions
  - Implement well registration program
  - Refine Level 2 management actions – costs do not cover implementation
  - Preliminary studies to address data gaps and plan priority projects
- Estimated cost $2.0M/year
Preliminary Management Actions & Projects Schedule
Management Actions & Projects Observations

- Now
  - DWR Acceptance

- Future
  - Ability to attain sustainability
  - Legal issues
Projects and Management Action Observations

DWR Acceptance

- GSP due in January 2020
- DWR’s review process is still in development
- Paso GSP addresses all SGMA regulations
- Concepts that DWR might question:
  - Soft triggers for implementing Level 2 management actions and priority projects
  - Groundwater storage / groundwater level proxy
Management Actions & Projects Observations

Ability to Attain Sustainability

- GSP includes ample tools to attain sustainability
  - May require pumping reductions and many projects
- 20 years to achieve sustainability is a short time frame
  - Required early and active adaptive management
  - Triggers should be as definitive as possible
- Increases in pumping immediately following plan adoption will significantly hamper our ability to achieve sustainability
  - Consider continuing offset ordinance
  - Implement management actions that control pumping quickly
Projects and Management Action Observations

Legal Issues

- Get legal advice !!
- Clarify legal restrictions on funding mechanisms
  - Example, prop. 218 or prop. 26 fees must be related to cost of service
  - May influence our ability to increase fees
- Clearly articulate effects of future management actions
Questions on Projects and Actions
Chapter 11: Notice and Communication
Notice and Communication

- Shortest chapter
- All information is in the Communication and Engagement Plan completed in July 2018
  - Communication plan included as an appendix to the GSP
  - Communication plan will be updated to include all public meeting notices, attendee lists, meeting notes, etc.
- All information is currently stored in the PasoGCP web portal
Questions on Notice and Communication
Appendices H, I, and J

Appendix H – Water Supplies
Appendix I – Technical Project Information
Appendix J – Hydrographs with Future Anticipated Groundwater Levels
Appendix H – Water Supplies

- Provides assumptions on water availability for projects
  - Recycled Water
  - State Water Project
  - Nacimiento Water
  - Salinas Dam
  - Stormwater

- Includes existing per acre-foot costs
Appendix H – Water Supplies

Request during March 6, 2019 Cooperative Committee Meeting to provide justification of the 60% State Water Project reliability

Estimates derived from DWR’s planning documents

- 2013 Reliability Report estimated 58% long term average reliability
- 2015 Capability Report stated that current reliability was 62% of allocations
- 2017 Capability Report stated that current reliability was 62% of allocations
Appendix I – Technical Project Information

- Provides additional data on the projects in Chapter 9
  - Water reliability
  - Cost assumptions
  - Anticipated water volumes
Appendix J – Hydrographs with Anticipated Future Groundwater Levels

- Includes 12 hydrographs (public wells) with initial minimum thresholds measurable objectives, and simulated future groundwater levels
- More wells currently being added
Presentation Summary

- GSP framework consistent with SMGA regulations and DWR expectations – expected to be approved
- GSAs have adequate tools to achieve sustainability
- Success may depend on temporarily maintaining the offset ordinance or replacing it with a comparable management action
- Need public input on management actions and projects