PROPOSAL

Paso Robles Sub-basin
Groundwater Sustainability Plan Development
December 4, 2017
Mr. Dick McKinley, Public Works Director  
City of Paso Robles – City Hall  
1000 Spring Street  
Paso Robles, CA 93446  

December 1, 2017  

Subject: HydroMetrics WRI Proposal for Developing the Paso Robles Sub-Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan

Mr. McKinley,

HydroMetrics Water Resources Inc. (HydroMetrics WRI) is pleased to present this proposal for developing the Paso Robles Sub-Basin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). HydroMetrics WRI is one of California’s premier hydrogeology firms, specializing in providing basin-wide groundwater management since 2005. HydroMetrics WRI is incorporated in California as an S-Corporation, with the financial and human resources necessary to successfully serve its clients for over 12 years. We have complemented our talents with a team of highly motivated professionals with expertise tailored specifically for the needs of this project; including the Wallace Group, Montgomery & Associates (M&A), and GEI Consultants, among others.

Our team will, in close coordination and cooperation with staff of existing GSAs, develop a complete and compliant GSP that provides a path to sustainability while acknowledging important property rights and retaining the agricultural vitality of the Paso Robles Sub-Basin. Our focus is on developing a GSP that is flexible, fair to all stakeholders, and acknowledges data uncertainty. Our approach emphasizes leveraging existing data and models to develop a path to sustainability that can be verified and modified as new data become available.

We will work closely and cooperatively with the GSAs to develop a GSP that is:

*Tailored to Local Concerns*. The GSP will address local conditions and community concerns, acknowledge established property rights, and retain the agricultural vitality of the region.

*Efficient & Compliant*. We will maximize use of existing data, studies, and models to develop a GSP that is compliant with applicable regulations and will receive a “passing grade” from DWR.

*Paso Robles Sub-Basin*  
*GSP Development Proposal*
**A Pathway to Sustainability.** We will develop conceptual sustainability management actions and projects that extend existing programs and are basin-specific, workable, fair to all stakeholders, and affordable.

Our team is unique compared to others because:

- We are impartial and not aligned with any GSAs or preconceived viewpoints.
- We are experts on SGMA; our team helped develop SGMA policies and SGMA Best Management Practice.
- Our team is led by licensed hydrogeologists that have been managing groundwater basins for decades.
- We have a local presence; the Wallace Group, our engineers, are located in Paso Robles and have developed local water resource management projects and programs.
- Our team members wrote the Paso Robles Sub-Basin Groundwater Management Plan, developed the Proposition 1 grant application for GSP funding, helped create two new water districts and GSAs, and have designed and implemented numerous water projects in the basin.

In addition to our demonstrated expertise, our team has the staff capacity and resources to work closely with the Paso Robles GSAs to bring stakeholders together and complete the technical requirements for drafting a GSP that meets DWR requirements. The remainder of our proposal follows the required proposal format listed in the RFP. Additionally, we have added both **Project Understanding** and **Project Approach and Schedule** sections to clarify how we will address the basin’s issues in a comprehensive and efficient way.

We look forward to an opportunity to work with the GSAs and other stakeholders on this project. Please feel free to contact me by phone at (510) 903-0358 ext. 301, or email at: 
Derrrik@HydroMetricsWRI.com

I certify that this proposal is valid for 90 days following submission.

Sincerely,

Derrrik Williams, President
HydroMetrics Water Resources Inc.
1814 Franklin St., Suite 501
Oakland, CA 94612
510-903-0458 extension 301
Derrrik@HydroMetricsWRI.com
Project Understanding

The primary objective of this project is to develop a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) that 1) addresses all of the regulations and requirements, 2) relies on an extensive body of previous work, and 3) does not infringe on existing water rights. This project is not about conducting new studies; this project is about finding solutions to groundwater sustainability.

The GSP must address at least five of the six sustainability indicators identified by the legislation: seawater intrusion can likely be dismissed with a short paragraph in the GSP. The status of the five applicable sustainability indicators in the Paso Robles Sub-Basin is summarized in Figure 1. This figure highlights the areas of concern that must be addressed by Sustainability Indicators in the GSP, as identified by previous studies. The areas of groundwater level decline in recent decades may be related to reduction in groundwater storage, land subsidence, surface water depletions (particularly in the Salinas River), and in some areas, groundwater quality degradation.

![Sustainability Indicators](image)

**Figure 1: Generalized Locations of Sustainability Indicator Concerns**
Groundwater Managers in the Paso Robles Sub-basin have come together to comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) by developing a single, basin-wide GSP. We agree with this approach; however this approach must address the concerns of various interested parties and groundwater users throughout the sub-basin. In particular, we are aware of local politically sensitive issues that we will carefully manage during GSP development including:

- **Concerns about groundwater exports.** The GSP must protect against groundwater mining and groundwater exports.

- **Avoiding centrally mandated groundwater management.** The GSP cannot be developed or implemented as a top-down regulatory requirement. It must be developed by local agencies, in accordance with existing property rights, and must acknowledge the concerns of individual landowners.

- **GSA independence and cooperation.** The GSAs are independent groups that have agreed to work together to achieve overall basin sustainability. This is a cooperative agreement, and one GSA cannot force another GSA to undertake activities or management actions that it feels are unfair.

- **Limited options for importing new water.** The 2017 Supplemental Supply Options report identified only three options for new water: Nacimiento Water, State Water Project, and Recycled Water. The report concluded that the supplemental supplies were insufficient to address the entire estimated future pumping shortfall.
Our team recognizes that not all GSAs and property owners suffer the same impacts from historical overdraft, and not all GSAs have the same ability or obligation to fund sustainability projects. Historical overdraft is localized in particular areas (shown in purple on Figure 1). Sustainability projects and management actions must be focused in these areas, and adopted by the local interests. Our GSP will address local groundwater issues in the Paso Robles Sub-Basin, while simultaneously presenting integrated basin-wide sustainability plan to DWR.

Developing a GSP requires an integrated process of understanding critical issues, developing insightful and acceptable approaches to sustainability, and implementing the GSP in an equitable and flexible manner. Our team’s approach to addressing the critical issues is summarized in Figure 2.

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**Goals for Paso Robles GSP**
- Be accepted as fair by all GSAs
- Acknowledge current uncertainties, and allow adaptive management
- Retain the region’s agricultural economic vitality
- Equitably distribute implementation costs and benefits

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**Understand Issues & Challenges**
- Hydrogeologic
  - Hydrologic data gaps & uncertainty
  - Five relevant sustainability indicators
- Administrative
  - Multiple GSAs with disparate interests
  - Limited time | GSP due Jan 2020
  - Other GSPs | Coordination agreements
  - Acknowledge property rights
- Sustainability
  - Groundwater pumping supports economy
  - Available new water < pumping overdraft
  - Funding challenges

**Develop Insightful & Acceptable GSP**
- Focus on Important Aspects of GSP
  - Sustainable management criteria
  - Practical and cost effective programs

**Implement Practical & Equitable Solutions**
- Adaptive Management
  - Additional future data will allow changes to the plan
  - Position for future grant funding
- Practical Management Actions & Projects
  - Evaluate & use previous data and analyses
  - Clear relationship between benefits and funders
  - Locally driven solutions, not top-down enforcement
- Fill data gaps & reduce uncertainty
  - Acquire new hydrogeologic data
  - Refine groundwater model
- Update GSP for first 5-year review

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Figure 2: Critical Steps for the Paso Robles Sub-Basin GSP
Team Qualifications

The GSP is a multidimensional policy document that requires specialized expertise in hydrogeology and related water resource planning to prepare. Our Project Manager, Derrrik Williams, is committed to leading the development of a widely accepted GSP that puts the GSA on a workable pathway to sustainability that is equitable to all stakeholders. Over the past year, he has met with GSA members to better understand local issues. Based on this knowledge, he complemented the capabilities of his firm with a team of experts that have the necessary range of expertise to develop the Paso Robles Sub-basin GSP.

Our team – tailored specifically for the Paso Robles Sub-basin GSP – comprises experts in hydrogeology, engineering, groundwater modeling, and data management from HydroMetrics Water Resources Inc. (WRI), Montgomery & Associates (M&A), The Wallace Group, and GEI Consultants, Inc. (GEI). In addition, we have complemented our team with specialists in stakeholder outreach and facilitation from Strategy Driver, Inc. and financial analyses and water marketing from WestWater Research LLC. Table 1 outlines the expertise of our team in the required disciplines for developing an effective GSP.

Table 1: Team Expertise

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expertise</th>
<th>Firm</th>
<th>Benefit to GSP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hydrogeology</td>
<td>Lead: HydroMetrics WRI Support: M&amp;A</td>
<td>Required to understand groundwater conditions and develop effective sustainability solutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Wallace Group (located in Paso Robles)</td>
<td>Sustainability projects and actions require conceptual engineering analysis to assess feasibility and develop planning-level costs. Engineers from the Wallace Group understand local conditions and can effectively develop management actions and projects for the GSP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Groundwater Modeling</td>
<td>Lead: M&amp;A Support: HydroMetrics WRI</td>
<td>Required to develop water budgets, sustainable management criteria, and evaluate management actions and projects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Data Management</td>
<td>GEI</td>
<td>A required aspect of the GSP that should be integrated with existing data management in the sub-basin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stakeholder Coordination</td>
<td>Strategy Driver, Inc.</td>
<td>Alignment of diverse stakeholder interests will be required for the GSP. We can support the GSA in stakeholder outreach and facilitation, as needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Analysis</td>
<td>WestWater Research, LLC</td>
<td>A conceptual understanding of the cost of future management actions and projects is required. Our team can estimate these costs and also assist the GSA with evaluation of approaches to fund future projects</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Collectively, our team offers the key attributes required for developing an effective GSP, including:

- Local presence with in-depth understanding of local concerns;
- Broad statewide experience in SGMA policy and groundwater planning and management; and
- Sufficient staff resources to focus on this GSP and complete it on time and under budget.

Our team of experts is at the forefront of developing successful groundwater management strategies in both urban and agricultural basins throughout California and the Western United States. We have developed integrated solutions and implemented successful multi-party groundwater management plans in basins that have competing conjunctive water uses and interests like the Paso Robles Sub-basin. Particular unique attributes of our team that set us apart from other teams and that directly benefit the Paso Robles GSAs include:

**We understand local issues and concerns.** Our team members have worked in the sub-basin and understand the complicated and conflicting local water resource. Our previous work in area includes:

- Policy support during the AB2453 district formation process.
- Technical support during Estrella-El Pomar-Creston (EPC) and Shandon-San Juan GSAs development.
- GSA formation support for Heritage Ranch CSD.
- Engineering design support to the City of Paso Robles, Heritage Ranch CSD, San Miguel CSD, County of San Luis Obispo, and many private landowners in the Paso Robles groundwater basin.
- Developing the 2017 Proposition 1 Grant GSP Application for GSP funding.
- Developing the 2011 Groundwater Management Plan.
- Advising the Salinas Valley Groundwater Basin GSA Board of Directors.

**We are impartial.** We are not affiliated with any one GSA in the Basin, nor do we have any preconceived viewpoints about the pathway to sustainability in the sub-basin. We bring a fresh perspective on sustainability that will enable us to objectively evaluate the complicated local water resource issues and guide the GSAs to a widely accepted GSP.

**We understand SGMA.** Our Project Manager and other team members helped DWR develop SGMA policies and draft Best Management Practices documents; hence, we understand what constitutes a passing grade for the GSP.
Our team is led by groundwater hydrologists. Effective groundwater management requires a thorough understanding of groundwater hydrology. Our team leaders are licensed geologists and hydrogeologists in California and have managed groundwater basins for decades.

Table 2 lists selected examples of projects our team has completed that demonstrate our experience with each of the key requirements for the Paso Robles GSP project.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Project</th>
<th>GW Model</th>
<th>GW Mgmt</th>
<th>Multi-Party</th>
<th>SGMA Related</th>
<th>Local</th>
<th>Agr Basin</th>
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INNOVATIVE AND DISTINCT APPROACHES

Having been involved in SGMA related activities since 2014, HydroMetrics WRI brings a number of distinct perspectives and approaches to GSP development. These approaches support our philosophy that GSPs must be locally driven, cooperative, and equitable. Our philosophy and approach include:

We will work cooperatively with GSAs. Local agricultural and urban water managers understand the water resource challenges in the Paso Robles Sub-basin better than anyone. We let local water managers lead and guide the direction of this GSP. Our role is to listen, and implement the solutions that are widely accepted and affordable.

We will streamline the GSP process. From the start, we will ensure that all stakeholders understand the entire GSP process and we will clearly outline how we will focus the GSP process on the most important (and potentially difficult) elements so there are no surprises late in the project. To do this, we will:

- **Host a Kickoff Workshop** – we will host a one-day workshop during the first 30 days to lay out the entire 2-year GSP process. The goal of this workshop is to build shared understanding of the road ahead on the GSP and identify key milestones that will be critical for effective GSP development.

- **Identify Potential Sustainability Actions Early.** We will work with basin stakeholders early in the process to identify potentially workable management actions and projects for reaching sustainability. This step is critical for developing achievable sustainable management criteria, and for completing the GSP on time.

- **Initiate Work on Sustainable Management Criteria Early.** We will begin the difficult process of developing sustainable management criteria early in the project. This is critical for success because development of the sustainable management criteria is a challenging process that requires significant effort to converge potentially contentious policy decisions with the hydrogeologic conditions in the basin.

We will integrate GSP work with ongoing work. Our team member, GEI, is working with San Luis Obispo County to develop a standard data management system. We will integrate the data management activities required for the GSP with the County system to reduce cost and effort.

We will actively position for additional grant funding. The projects and management actions identified in our GSP will be developed in a manner that positions them for potential grant funding. We will track upcoming planning and implementation grants, and describe our programs and management actions in a way that meets the grant requirements.
Staffing Plan

The HydroMetrics WRI team is assembled to ensure our expertise covers sustainable groundwater management from every aspect including technical groundwater expertise, organizational and institutional understanding, integrated water supply proficiency, funding, and stakeholder familiarity. Our team members have been at the forefront of developing and guiding successful groundwater management strategies in both urban and agricultural basins throughout California and the Western United States. We not only bring the full suite of capabilities needed for developing effective and practical GSPs; we additionally bring decades of experience assisting parties overcome differences, develop integrated solutions, and implement successful multi-party groundwater management plans in basins that, similar to the Paso Robles Sub-Basin, have competing water users and uses. While our team members have first-hand knowledge of the Paso Robles Sub-Basin, we do not represent the interests of any one GSA, and will bring a fresh perspective to all stakeholders.

The following organization chart identifies each member of the team’s staff, and demonstrates how the team is structured around the project’s functional activities. Each functional activity is led by a senior level manager, and an alternate leader is identified for each of the critical positions. Although our senior level managers are committed to devoting the time and effort necessary for developing this GSP, the GSA’s requirement for alternative leaders is commendable; ensuring that adequate resources are committed at all times.

Our project, Derrik Williams, will be the primary point of contact for the GSAs. Although our contract is with the City of Paso Robles, Derrik’s communication will always be with the full group of GSPs. We are committed to developing a cooperative and equitable GSP, based on a transparent and open GSP process.
Short biographical sketches are included below for each of the senior task leaders and alternates. As requested in the RFP, each biographical sketch identifies the staff member’s role as well as tasks for which each person is responsible. These biographical sketches include any subcontractors that are leading tasks. Two project references are provided for all senior leaders.

**SENIOR TASK LEADERS AND ALTERNATES**

**Derrik Williams, P.G., C.Hg.**

**Role: Project Manager (Lead)**

Lead: Task A. Develop GSP Introduction; Task F. Sustainable Management Criteria; Task J. Plan Implementation; Task L. Plan Preparation; Task M. Project Management

Derrik Williams, a California Professional Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist, is President of HydroMetrics WRI. He will be the principal point of contact for the Paso Robles GSAs. Mr. Williams has more than 30 years of experience in applied geology and hydrogeology; managing, reviewing, and assisting on water supply and groundwater recharge projects. He has been retained by clients to develop Basin Management Plans in agricultural areas with contentious water right issues, and has testified in court regarding groundwater-surface water interactions.

Derrik is an established leader in statewide groundwater policy. As a member of the Groundwater Committee of ACWA since 2008, Derrik helped shape the California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program (CASGEM) and helped develop ACWA’s *Groundwater Framework* document. He also drafted ACWA’s *Guidelines for Groundwater Monitoring*. Derrik is currently working with DWR to develop the state’s SGMA implementation process. He reviewed and commented on the SGMA legislation while it was being drafted, and currently chairs ACWA’s SGMA Best Management Practices subcommittee. He was a contributor to the California Water Foundation’s GSP regulations workshops. He has been invited to, and participated in, Stanford’s Water in the West meetings on data and modeling in SGMA and the Groundwater Resources Association of California’s Contemporary Groundwater Issues Council.

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**References**

**Soquel Basin Groundwater Management Plan**

Mr. Ron Duncan, General Manager  
Soquel Creek Water District  
(831) 475-8500 RonD@SoquelCreekWater.org

**Kings Basin Groundwater Model**

Mr. Eric Osterling, Kings River Conservation District  
(559)237-5076, costerling@krcd.org

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*Paso Robles Sub-Basin*  
GSP Development Proposal
Georgina King, P.G., C.Hg.  
Role: Project Manager (Alternate)

Georgina King is a Professional Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist, and Principal Hydrogeologist at HydroMetrics WRI. She has 24 years of experience in groundwater resource management and development. She has worked in both Northern and Southern California on numerous hydrogeologic studies, including water budgets, groundwater basin management, monitoring plans, and groundwater modeling.

Ms. King has worked on numerous SGMA projects along California’s central coast. She has provided technical support for SGMA related basin modification requests, helped prepare the alternative GSP submittals for the Pajaro Valley Sub-basin, guided the Santa Cruz Mid-County GSP planning process, and has experience as project manager for early GSP development of four groundwater basins in Ventura County.

References

Soquel Aptos Precipitation-Runoff Model  
Mr. Taj Dufour  
Soquel Creek Water District  
(831) 475-8500  
TajD@SoquelCreekWater.org

Santa Cruz Mid-County GSP Support  
Ms. Rosemary Menard  
City of Santa Cruz  
(831) 420-5205  
RMenard@cityofsantacruz.com

Juliet McKenna, P.G.  Role: Hydrogeology/Modeling (Lead)  
Lead: Task C. Plan Area, D. Basin Setting

Juliet is a Principal with M&A and has over 20 years of experience. She develops strategies for managing groundwater resources and creating balanced water portfolios for municipal agencies, agricultural districts, and tribal groups. A licensed Professional Geologist in four states, including California, Juliet has experience coordinating the interests of multiple jurisdictions and diverse stakeholders. Juliet was the Director of an intestate groundwater management agency that in the Palouse Region of eastern Washington and northern Idaho. After moving to Arizona, Juliet co-founded M&A’s Water Resource Policy & Planning group in 2007, following over a decade of work as a hydrogeologist in California, Washington and other parts of the U.S.
Juliet led a multi-year effort to help one of Arizona's largest irrigation districts prepare for shortages of Colorado River water from the Central Arizona Project. She led a team of engineers and hydrologists to inventory 400+ wells and project water supply reductions. The team developed a phased approach to increase groundwater production while easing the economic impacts of water shortages on irrigation district farmers. Also, Juliet is the facilitator for the Cochise Conservation and Recharge Network — a diverse group of elected officials and city/county administrators coordinated by The Nature Conservancy. The group pursues funding to develop recharge projects with effluent and stormwater that sustain flows in the San Pedro River in southeastern Arizona, while supporting the local economy. She provides the group with technical guidance and helps pursue federal and private funding for projects.

References
Water Resource Planning • San Pedro River Watershed
Pat Call, Cochise County Supervisor, District 1
Bisbee, AZ 85603
(520) 432-9200 pcall@cochise.az.gov

Well Inventory & Capital Improvement Plan
Brian M. Betcher, General Manager
Maricopa Stanfield Irrigation & Drainage District
Maricopa, Arizona 85138
(520) 424-3344 brian@msidd.com

Tim Leo, P.G., C. Hg.
Role: Hydrogeology/Modeling (Alternate)
Lead: Task E. Develop Model

Tim Leo, a California Professional Geologist and Certified Hydrogeologist, is a Principal and Director of California Operations at M&A. Tim splits his time between M&A’s Sacramento and Tucson, AZ offices. For nearly 30 years, Tim has managed and participated in numerous multidisciplinary water resources and groundwater modeling projects. Through his work in Arizona, where groundwater use has been regulated for over 35 years, he has worked on a variety of projects related to groundwater resource management.

Tim specializes in analytical hydrogeology, including groundwater modeling, developing conceptual models and water budgets, and groundwater system characterization and testing. He is also conducting project work related to SGMA, including groundwater recharge studies in Tulare County and the Antelope Valley. On both of these projects, he has provided technical support on grant applications.

References
Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency
Dwayne Chisam, General Manager
Palmdale, CA
(661) 943-3201 dchisam@avek.org

Tulare Irrigation District
Aaron Fukuda, Tulare Irrigation District
Tulare, CA 93274
(559) 686-3425 afk@tulareid.org
Kari Wagner, P.E.
Role: Actions and Projects (Lead)
Lead: Task I. Projects and Management Actions

Kari is the Wallace Group’s Director of Water Resources and has over 18 years of experience working as Project Engineer and Project Manager, primarily focused on utilities, water, wastewater, and storm drainage for both public and private clients. Kari specializes in assessment district engineering services, groundwater basin management, water, wastewater, and storm water planning studies, and design. Kari has engineered water mains, storage reservoirs, and booster stations, as well as water and wastewater master planning, hydraulic modeling, assessment district formation, vulnerability assessment, and funding procurement. Kari is the former District Engineer for Heritage Ranch Community Services District. In this role, Kari assisted the District with their submittal to the Department of Water Resources to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). Kari also has been assisting the Shandon-San Juan Water District (SSJWD) and the Estrella, El Pomar, Creston Water District (EPCWD) with the formation of their Water Districts with the purpose to become a GSA.

References
Los Osos Groundwater Basin Management Plan
Wes Strickland
Jackson Walker LLP
100 Congress Avenue, Suite 1100
Austin, TX 78701

Los Osos Wastewater Project and Groundwater Basin Management
John Waddell, PE
County of San Luis Obispo
805 781-5252 jwaddell@co.slo.ca.us

Robert Miller, P.E.
Role: Actions and Projects (Alternate)

Rob is Wallace Group’s Principal-in-Charge of the Water Resources Department, which focuses on water and wastewater engineering projects and services. With over 20 years of experience, Rob has built an impressive background in the field of water management. He has extensive experience in the planning, design, and operation of municipal and industrial water and wastewater systems, pump stations, and distribution and collection facilities. Rob provides a broad range of technical services on various water management issues, including urbanized areas, agriculture, and rural mutual benefit water companies. Rob currently serves on the Nipomo Mesa Management Area (NMMA) technical group, which was formed as a result of litigation relating to the Santa Maria groundwater.
basin. He served as chairperson for the first five years of the NMMA, and provided leadership for the establishment of various basin management metrics. As General Manager and Engineer for the Woodlands Mutual Water Company in Nipomo, Rob developed a range of water planning documents, including water and wastewater master plans and recycled water studies.

As District Engineer for the Los Osos Community Services District since 1999, Rob developed the basin’s Basin Management Plan, Water Master Plan, basin-wide Urban Water Management Plan, grant-funded seawater intrusion assessment, and the analysis of recycled water alternatives for the proposed wastewater project. Mr. Miller currently serves as the interim executive director of the Basin Management Committee. Rob is also a technical advisor to the Edna Valley Growers who are participating in the development of a Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the San Luis Obispo Groundwater Basin.

Richard Shatz, P.G., CEG, CHG
Role: Data Management (Lead)
Lead: Task A. Compile and Organize Data

Richard has over three decades of experience in hydrogeology. He is a senior project manager directing projects for the planning, development, and management of groundwater resources throughout California. Richard has evaluated hydrogeologic conditions for development of Groundwater Management Plans and Integrated Water Resources Management Plans (Tracy Sub-basin, Paso Robles Sub-Basin, Upper Santa Ana River Watershed, Merced River Sub-basin, Modesto Sub-basin, Santa Maria Basin) to solve high groundwater, poor quality water and overdraft along with potential projects and management actions. In preparation for SGMA, he has guided his clients through development of groundwater monitoring networks, regional water quality baseline evaluations, identification of where surface water is gaining and is being depleted, and identification of groundwater recharge areas. He has prepared two Alternative Submittals (Sutter Sub-basin and Martis Valley

References
Sutter County Groundwater Sustainability Plan Alternative
Guadalupe Rivera
Sutter County Development Services
530.822.7450, grivera@co.sutter.ca.us

Western Placer County Groundwater Program Implementation
Kelye McKinney, City of Roseville
Department of Environmental Utilities
916.774.55552, KMckinney@roseville.ca.us

Paso Robles Sub-Basin
GSP Development Proposal
Groundwater Basin) that are substantially equivalent to a Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs). Using this knowledge, he has assisted three clients by reviewing existing technical reports and online information to identify potential data gaps and tools needed to prepare a GSP and prepared grant applications to fund these upcoming activities.

Rodney Fricke, P.G., C.E.G, C.H.G.

Role: Data Management (Alternate)
Task Lead: H. Data Management System

Rodney is a California certified Hydrogeologist and Professional Geologist specializing in groundwater remediation. Mr. Fricke has worked on various projects related to SGMA during the last two years, including coauthor for a GSP Alternative for the South American Sub-basin, assistance on DWR’s effort to improve the descriptions of basin boundaries, evaluation of available hydrogeologic data for the Big Valley Basin in Lassen/Modoc Counties, assistance to Sacramento County with its GSA notification process for unmanaged areas in four sub-basins, evaluation of a considerable amount of information for the hydrogeologic conceptual model of the Kern County Sub-basin, and technical review of grant applications for the Cosumnes and Solano Sub-basins.

References

Alternative Submittal (GSP) for the South American Sub-basin,
Darrell Eck, Sacramento Central Groundwater Authority,
916.874.6851, eckd@saccounty.net

SGMA On-Call Support,
Kerry Schmitz, Sacramento County Water Agency
916.874.4681, schmitzk@saccounty.net

Optional Activity Task Leaders

Ellen Cross
Role: Facilitator, Outreach Specialist (optional)

Ellen Cross has more than 27 years of experience in the California water and environmental science industry creating successful innovative solutions through forums for vision, collaboration, and achievement. Ellen has a history of creating neutral forums to work on critical topics

References

Interagency Flood Management Collaborative
Jon Ericson, Chief Flood Maintenance Office
California Dept. of Water Resources
(916) 574-0384 jon.ericson@water.ca.gov

Delta Conservancy Strategic Plan
Campbell Ingraham, Executive Officer
Delta Conservancy
(916) 375-2084 cingram@deltaconservancy.ca.gov
where communication and leadership are key to moving complex issues forward.

In the area of emerging challenges, Ellen has successfully facilitated public and private entities on Superfund, climate change, restoration in the Delta, water scarcity, sea level rise and flood protection. Ellen has facilitated initiatives that envision the multi stakeholder success goals and operationalizes the tactics to achieve results on policy, governance, stakeholders, funding, institutional and technical goals to ensure sustained success. Specific to groundwater projects, Ellen has developed strategies to develop holistic integrated scopes for Fox Canyon GSA, Mid Kaweah, Tulare, Irvine Ranch Water District, Kings Canyon, Department of Water Resources, and Cosumnes GSP.

Matt Payne
Role: Financial Assessment (Optional)

Matt Payne is a principal with WestWater Research and leads the firm’s Southwest office in Phoenix. He is dedicated to helping public, private, and non-profit sector clients address economic, financial, and strategic challenges relating to water resources and infrastructure. His areas of expertise are water resource economics, water asset transactions, and strategic planning and implementation. In recent years, Matt has been engaged by Arizona’s largest water provider to lead planning and implementation of the most extensive renewable water acquisition program in the United States. The program includes plans such as rotational fallowing agreements as well as reclaimed water development. In California, Matt is working with a wholesale water agency to implement a new groundwater banking program, and is leading a water transactions program for a large investor-owned utility.

References
Financial Feasibility Assessment of the High Desert Water Bank
Dwayne Chisam, General Manager
Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency, Palmdale, CA
(661)943-3201 dchisam@avek.org

Water Rights Acquisition Planning and Implementation
California American Water Company
Monica Na, Manager of Operations
(626)614-2518 Monica.na@amwater.com
Project Approach and Schedule

Our project approach is grounded in the philosophy of focusing efforts on the tasks and activities necessary to achieve a defensible and widely accepted GSP. Our approach is outcome oriented - the critical outcome is informed decisions by the GSAs on how to reach sustainability. We believe the Paso Robles Sub-basin GSAs have presented a well-reasoned and complete scope of work in the RFP that generally follows the annotated outline developed by DWR in their Draft GSP Outline Best Management Practice.

We will use the GSP outline prepared by DWR for the Paso Robles GSP and complete a draft GSP by September, 2019. From the beginning, we will focus on addressing the critical and challenging activities of developing sustainable management criteria and identifying projects that will lead to sustainability. At the same time, we will complete the other GSP activities that are important and required, but do not directly affect the GSAs ability to prepare a passable GSP and ultimately achieve sustainability. Table 3 outlines our approach to completing the project tasks.

Table 3: Approach to Completing Project Tasks

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Activities and Approaches to Task Completion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A. Compile and Organize Data | • We will use data compiled for the 2011 groundwater management plan and modeling to reduce effort and cost  
• This task will be integrated with development of the data management system (Task H) |
| B. Develop Introductory and Agency Information | • This task is largely informational. We will keep this section noncontroversial because it has little impact on achieving sustainability |
| C. Describe Plan Area (plus Notice and Communication) | • This task is largely informational. We will keep this section noncontroversial because it has little impact on achieving sustainability  
• The notice and communication portion will be completed by the GSAs as meetings occur; we can support the GSAs as needed on this activity |
| D. Describe Basin Setting: Conceptual Model, Water Budgets | • We believe this task is largely complete; we will refine as needed to meet requirements of the GSP  
• We will use the existing hydrogeologic conceptual model underpins the groundwater model  
• Key subtask will be aligning the reported water budget to the modeled water budget |
<p>| E. Update SW-GW Model | • We will update the model to 2016 to meet GSP requirements - additional model calibration or development is not recommended for the GSP |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Task</th>
<th>Activities and Approaches to Task Completion</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **F. Identify Sustainable Management Criteria** | • This is a critical task for the GSP  
• We will outline the process for developing criteria early in the project with all GSAs and stakeholders  
• We will integrate the criteria with the projects and management actions developed in Task I to ensure that sustainability is achievable and affordable. |
| **G. Establish Monitoring Networks and Protocols** | • This is a critical task for the GSP  
• We will use or extend existing monitoring protocols from the county, city of Paso Robles, or others  
• We will rely on the monitoring network assessment in the 2011 groundwater management plan to the extent possible |
| **H. Organize Data Management System** | • We will leverage similar work being completed for other basins in San Luis Obispo County  
• We will review data to ensure questionable data are not being used for important decisions |
| **I. Develop and Analyze Projects and Management Actions** | • This is a critical task  
• We will integrate projects and management actions with existing water management activities  
• We will assure that projects and actions align with property rights  
• Allow for significant adaptive management |
| **J. Plan Implementation** | • This task is largely informational; keep non-controversial |
| **K. Outreach and Stakeholder Involvement** | • We assume that GSAs will lead outreach and facilitate meetings  
• We will prepare communication plan in Task K  
• An optional task has been included to assist with facilitation |
| **L. GSP Document Preparation** | • We will prepare individual GSP chapters in the relevant project tasks listed above  
• Task L will include compiling the final draft GSP document for final approval and adoption |
| **M. Project Management** | • We will communicate frequently and effectively with the GSAs on project progress  
• We will inform the GSAs about changes to DWR’s expectations |

The project approach outlined in the RFP adheres relatively closely with the preferred approach to developing the GSP. Listed below are a few aspects of our approach that either differ slightly from the RFP or identify recommendations that ensures the GSP is developed efficiently.
ESTABLISH EACH GSA AS A SEPARATE MANAGEMENT AREA

The RFP states that the GSP will include individual appendices for the specific plans of each GSA. This was a common approach early in SGMA, but has been replaced in most basins by the approach of establishing each GSA as its own management area. Establishing management areas is the legal methodology incorporated in the SGMA regulations for dividing basins into separately managed zones. We recognize that the areas of each of the two new water districts are not contiguous, and are intertwined with the other GSA properties. We have discussed this with DWR previously, and it is perfectly legal to identify non-contiguous management areas. However, we will take particular care when developing and implementing management area-specific sustainability projects to avoid inequalities in the perceived land value or responsibilities of adjacent land owners.

DEVELOP GSP CHAPTERS THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS

Rather than write an entire GSP at the end of the process, we will prepare individual chapters and sections throughout the project. This allows stakeholders to review and understand concepts early and throughout the process, and it facilitates the more difficult tasks of developing sustainable management criteria and sustainability projects and management actions.

INTEGRATE THE DATA MANAGEMENT SYSTEM WITH OTHER COUNTY EFFORTS

Our team member, GEL, is developing the data management system for other basins in the County. We will leverage our work in other basins to provide efficiency and reduce the cost of developing the data management system for this project.

INVOLVE A WATER RIGHTS ATTORNEY EARLY

Water rights are a topic of intense discussion in the Paso Robles Sub-Basin. Our projects and management actions must generally be consistent with people’s existing rights, although strict adherence to water rights is impossible under SGMA. We propose using either a local attorney of the GSA’s choice, or a water rights attorney we have worked with often, to guide public understanding of groundwater rights.

ANALYZE FINANCIAL ASPECTS OF SUSTAINABILITY

The project’s and management actions needed to achieve sustainability may include the value of water for fallowing or trading. Also, funding actions and projects may require assessing fees on groundwater users. Our team member, WestWater Research LLC, specializes in water valuation and water trading, and will support the financial analyses required for the GSP.

FOCUS GROUNDWATER MODELING ON NECESSARY ACTIVITIES

The need for and accuracy of groundwater models is an important element in the RFP. Our team is dedicated to the premise that groundwater sustainability plans are outcome based - sustainability will be demonstrated by data – particularly groundwater elevations – collected in the future not by the groundwater model. Groundwater model results are useful for estimating the relative impacts for
groundwater management activities and future groundwater conditions, but uncertainty in groundwater model results is expected. We will use the existing groundwater model as much as possible and account for model uncertainties appropriately when developing projects and management actions.

Optional Services

As requested in the RFP, there are several optional tasks that we believe could be considered to enhance GSP development. Many of these services could also be implemented as follow on tasks after the GSP is delivered to DWR.

Optional Task 1 - Outreach/Facilitation Support

We understand that the GSAs plan to lead most of the outreach and facilitation efforts; our base cost proposal is based on this understanding. However, our team includes an expert in stakeholder coordination, Ellen Cross from Strategy Driver, Inc., who will assist the GSAs in developing the required communication and outreach plan. Ms. Cross is an experienced facilitator and mediator. If the GSAs decide that professional facilitation and mediation services are desired, we can readily provide those services. Our cost estimate includes an optional task for providing facilitation services.

Optional Task 2 - Model Enhancement

We propose to conduct groundwater model option three from the RFP: updating the model through 2016. This is an inexpensive approach that will believe is required for the GSP and an approach that will have significant benefits during GSP development. Should the GSAs realize that further model enhancements are necessary before reliable decisions can be made, we have the necessary modeling expertise to provide more extensive groundwater modeling services. Our team of groundwater modelers is one of the largest and most experienced in the western US, with extensive experience using the same model codes used for the Paso Robles groundwater model - MODFLOW and HSPF – as well as other model codes that could be used to improve analysis of sustainability in the sub-basin.

Optional Task 3 - Developing Water Allocation or Trading System

Potential groundwater management activities may include developing water allocations or trading system. If the GSAs decide this is a preferred management action, the GSP would include a conceptual evaluation to identify it as an action that will lead to sustainability over the next 20 years. However, if the GSAs would like to explore the idea of water allocations or groundwater trading further, we have the expertise on our team develop these systems.

Recommended Task 4 - Decision Support Modeling

Our team has the ability to apply decision support modeling (DSM), a structured and flexible planning tool, to improve development of future sustainability management actions and projects. A DSM approach integrates the critical interrelated including social, economic, water availability, and hydrogeologic factors that affect future project development into a structured
framework that enables more thorough and transparent analysis of the benefits and trade-offs of the actions and projects. If this is a preferred approach by the GSAs, our team has the expertise to develop a DSM for the GSP.

**Project Schedule**

Our proposed schedule for completing the GSP is shown in Figure 4.

![Figure 4: Proposed Schedule](image_url)
Fee Proposal

HydroMetrics WRI has developed this fee proposal based on our understanding of the effort needed to develop a compliant GSP, while avoiding any efforts needed for more than a passing grade. We understand that significant funds have already been expended, particularly by growers in the Paso Robles Sub-Basin who have taken the lead in establishing new water districts to serve as CSAs. Our fee proposal leverages State Grant funds, while eliminating any additional out-of-pocket expenses by the GSAs. By developing a GSP for less than the full grant application, we retain grant funds for funding optional tasks or addressing difficulties that may be encountered during the project.

Our proposed fees are informed by the detailed costing analysis that went into the Prop 1 grant application. The detail supporting the grant application allowed us to accurately assess which tasks would take the most effort, and which tasks would take less effort. Figure 5 shows how tasks in our current fee schedule (orange) compares with the grant application (green). While our proposed costs are well within the amount of money the GSAs will receive from the grant funding, they are not so low that the GSAs will border on submitting a GSP that is not acceptable.

![Figure 5: Comparison between Our Current Fee Schedule and the Grant Application](image)

Our fee proposal is shown in Table 4 where the proposed fee is $1,138,975. To present a fee proposal on one page, we have grouped various employees and subconsultants into professional categories rather than show each individual staff member. The hourly rates in Table 4 represent a weighted average of the staff members included in that category. The costs for optional and recommended tasks are estimates, and will be further refined should the GSAs choose them. Based on the hourly rates shown in Table 4, combined with the project schedule shown on Figure 4, we can develop an anticipated rate of monthly expenditures as shown on Figure 6.
### Table 4: GSP Development Fee Proposal

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK</th>
<th>TASK NAME</th>
<th>PROFESSIONAL LEVEL 1</th>
<th>PROFESSIONAL LEVEL 2</th>
<th>PROFESSIONAL LEVEL 3</th>
<th>PROFESSIONAL LEVEL 4</th>
<th>SUPPORT STAFF</th>
<th>TOTAL LABOR HOURS</th>
<th>TOTAL LABOR COST</th>
<th>OTHER DIRECT COSTS</th>
<th>TOTAL PROJECT COSTS</th>
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</thead>
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<td></td>
<td>Hourly Labor Rate:</td>
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<td>$125</td>
<td>$80</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Compile and Organize Data</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>$44,224</td>
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<td>Develop Introductory and Administrative Information</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>158</td>
<td>$25,240</td>
<td>$875</td>
<td>$26,115</td>
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<td>C</td>
<td>Describe Plan Area (plus Notice and Communication)</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>D</td>
<td>Describe Basin Setting</td>
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<td>80</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>240</td>
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<td>E</td>
<td>Prepare SW-GW Flow Model</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>550</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Identify Sustainable Management Criteria</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>1,760</td>
<td>$293,084</td>
<td>$10,500</td>
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<td>G</td>
<td>Establish Monitoring Networks and Protocols</td>
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<td>40</td>
<td>280</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>550</td>
<td>$81,616</td>
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<td>H</td>
<td>Organize Data Management System</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>200</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>$57,916</td>
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<td>Develop and Analyze Projects and Management Actions</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>420</td>
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<td>49</td>
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<td>$166,684</td>
<td>$1,750</td>
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<td>J</td>
<td>Plan Implementation</td>
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<td>K</td>
<td>Outreach and Stakeholder Involvement</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>308</td>
<td>$79,520</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
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<td>L</td>
<td>Finalize GSP</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>20</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>$87,600</td>
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<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>316</td>
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<td>1,764</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>6,840</td>
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### OPTIONAL TASKS

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<tr>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Stakeholder Outreach/Facilitation Support (per year)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>68</td>
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<td>$2,000</td>
<td>$18,140</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>Model Enhancement</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>24</td>
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<td>300</td>
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<td>592</td>
<td>$84,100</td>
<td>$410</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Developing Water Allocation or Trading System</td>
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<td>160</td>
<td>40</td>
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<td>$48,840</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>Decision Support Modeling</td>
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<td>24</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>$70,960</td>
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<td>TOTAL WITH OPTIONAL TASKS</td>
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<td>520</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>1,412</td>
<td>$220,040</td>
<td>$4,500</td>
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</table>

Paso Robles Sub-Basin
GSP Development Proposal
Figure 6: Anticipated Monthly Expenditures
Rate schedules for all consultants are included below. All follow-up consultation and services available after completion of the GSP development will be charged at these rates, with 3% annual increases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HYDROMETRICS WRI</th>
<th>MONTGOMERY &amp; ASSOCIATES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Staff Rate Classification .................Rate</td>
<td>Scientist VIII ..................................$195</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Hydrogeologist .....................$195-$230</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior / Hydrogeologist 3 .....................$185</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Hydrogeologist 2 ........................$175</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior Hydrogeologist 1 ........................$165</td>
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<td>Hydrogeologist 5 ................................$150</td>
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<td>Hydrogeologist 1 ................................$110</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Support .................................$75</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>WALLACE GROUP</th>
<th>GEI CONSULTANTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Principal .......................................$195</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Engineer ................................$190</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director ...........................................$175</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior Engineer I-II ..............................$160 - $170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Engineer I-IV ....................................$140 - $155</td>
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<td>Associate Engineer I-II ..........................$95 - $105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Senior GIS Specialist .............................$145</td>
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<td>GIS Specialist ....................................$130</td>
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<td>Senior Designer I-III .............................$138 - $148</td>
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<tr>
<td>Designer I-IV ....................................$75 - $105</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Designer ................................$70</td>
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<tr>
<td>Office Assistant .................................$60</td>
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<tr>
<th>STRATEGY DRIVER</th>
<th>WESTWATER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Cross .....................................$250</td>
<td></td>
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<p>| | |</p>
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All outside costs and services, including subcontractors, will be billed at cost +15%.
Contract Terms

We have reviewed the contract and propose that paragraph (a) of the indemnification clause remove the phrase “any alleged acts”, and modify the paragraph such that the consultant’s indemnification is in proportion to the consultant’s legally determined errors, omissions, or negligence. We also propose that paragraph (b) of the indemnification language either be struck, or state that the consultant obligation to pay for defense costs is in proportion to consultant’s legally determined errors, omissions, or negligence.

References

We have listed below selected references that demonstrate our groundwater management expertise, our SGMA knowledge, our local experience, and our strong client relationships. We encourage the Paso Robles GSAs to contact any of the clients listed below.

SANTA CRUZ MID-COUNTY GSA/GSP SUPPORT

Client: Ms. Rosemary Menard  
and: City of Santa Cruz  
Contact: (831) 420-5205  
RMenard@cityofsantacruz.com  
Dates: 7/2016 to Ongoing

HydroMetrics WRI currently supplies GSP development technical and policy support to the Santa Cruz Mid-County GSA. HydroMetrics WRI earlier provided technical assistance to the GSA formation committee during the GSA formation process. Based on HydroMetrics WRI’s input, all of the signatories to the GSA clearly understood the basins conditions, and each individual GSA members contribution to the basin condition. At the same time, HydroMetrics WRI successfully applied for a basin boundary modification; combining parts of four basins into a single basin and excluding fringe areas of the basin that do not impact groundwater management.

HydroMetrics WRI is currently guiding the newly formed GSA through the GSP process. HydroMetrics has guided both the GSA and interested stakeholders though the state of the basin; and introduced the basics of Sustainable Management Criteria. Hydrometrics WRI is currently working with the GSA to map out the decisions that must be made over the next two years. Included in this ongoing contract is assistance developing the sustainable management criteria, assistance defining the state of the basin, and groundwater modeling to assess the impacts of various groundwater management projects or actions. The result of this project will be a fully compliant GSP for the Santa Cruz mid-County Basin.
DWR SGMA IMPLEMENTATION

Client: Mr. Trevor Joseph
and Department of Water Resources
Contact: (916) 651-9218
and joseph@water.ca.gov
Dates: 7/2016 to Ongoing

HydroMetrics WRI is part of the consulting team that is working with and guiding DWR as it implements SGMA legislation and regulations. Team member GEI is the lead consultant on this team. This project gives both GEI and HydroMetrics WRI unequaled access to DWR’s thought process, concerns, and insights on GSP development.

Significant activities that have been undertaken as part of this contract include drafting and developing the best management practices for implementing SGMA; developing tools for DWR to accept data and GSPs as they are delivered by various GSAs, strategizing on identifying the most important and critical parts of a GSP, and working with DWR to develop the data sets and information that GSAs can use in their GSPs. As part of this contract, Mr. Williams meets with DWR regularly to formulate statewide SGMA policy and draft policy documents.

LOS OSOS BASIN WATER PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT

Client: Mr. Marshall Ochylski
and Contact: Los Osos CSD
PO Box 14327
San Luis Obispo, CA 9406
805 544-4546
marshall@slolegal.com
Dates: Ongoing

The unincorporated community of Los Osos is currently experiencing a severe water shortage as identified in the County’s Resource Management System. Wallace Group continues to provide leadership and technical expertise to Los Osos as the community seeks to solve concurrently both water supply and wastewater management issues. Wallace Group is serving in a number of critical roles:

- Chair of the court-appointed Los Osos Purveyor Group, which was established to assemble and implement a comprehensive groundwater basin management plan.
- Member of County’s technical team for the Los Osos Wastewater Project.
- District Engineer for the Los Osos Community Services District (LOCSD).
- Vice-chair of the Los Osos Wastewater Project Technical Advisory Committee as appointed by the Board of Supervisors.

Wallace Group’s services to date have included comprehensive studies, infrastructure design, and construction management for a variety of beneficial projects including:

- Assessment engineering and grant work, including three successful assessment proceedings for the Los Osos Wastewater Project.
- Planning, design, and overall program management for various water supply and infrastructure improvements for the LOCSD.
• Recycled water and other effluent management studies
• Water Conservation Plan
• Annual Reports and Adaptive Management Plans

ALTERNATIVE SUBMITTAL TO A GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN FOR SUTTER SUB-BASIN, SUTTER COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Client and Contact: Mr. Guadalupe Rivera Services (530) 822-7450, grivera@co.sutter.ca.us

Dates: 11/2016 to 01/2017

GEI assisted Sutter County to develop an Alternative Submittal (Alternative) for the Sutter Sub-basin in little over a two-month period. The Alternative was developed by preparing an outline from the Groundwater Sustainability Plan Emergency Guidelines to ensure that all components were addressed. During the development period BMPs or Guidance Documents were just starting to be released; therefore, GEI developed the Alternative using our knowledge of available information. The hydrogeologic conceptual model, groundwater conditions, and water budget were all developed using available information which included Bulletin 118 and locally developed plans. General groundwater quality conditions were developed using the existing Groundwater Management Plan and also the Groundwater Assessment Report developed for the Irrigated Lands Program. Significant time was spent with stakeholders in the development and acceptance of minimum threshold values and measurable objectives.

Disclosures

HydroMetrics WRI is proud that it has never in its 12 years of existence been the subject of any litigation, arbitration or claims proceedings. Additionally, Montgomery & Associates has had no claims or litigation in the past five years.

The Wallace Group reports the following claims from the last five years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Claimant</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Claim No</th>
<th>Notice Date</th>
<th>Status</th>
<th>as of date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Darlene Prebyl</td>
<td>Spill due to massive storm flooding. Claim was negotiated and settled</td>
<td>ACE #JY12J0561649</td>
<td>11/1/2012</td>
<td>Closed</td>
<td>9/17/2014</td>
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<td>Alan Hancock Community College</td>
<td>Civil Engineering subconsultant brought into a claim against an architect.</td>
<td>ACE #115412</td>
<td>3/14/14 Re-opened 2/4/16</td>
<td>Open</td>
<td>11/28/2017</td>
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Paso Robles Sub-Basin
GSP Development Proposal