

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority**  
**Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**Agenda**

**When:** 9:00 am – 12:00 pm, Monday, November 21, 2022

**Where:** Galt Police Department Community Room  
455 Industrial Drive  
Galt, CA 95632

**Zoom:** Via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87498874348>  
Meeting ID: 874 9887 4348  
Call in Number: 1-669-900-9128

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – Any member of the public may address the Board concerning any matter on the agenda before or during its consideration of the matter. Public comment is limited to three (3) minutes per person. For good cause, the Board Chair may waive these limitations.

**ACCESSIBILITY** - If you have a disability and require a reasonable accommodation to fully participate in this event, please contact Austin Miller (CGA Secretary) before the day of the meeting via email [[info@CosumnesGroundwater.org](mailto:info@CosumnesGroundwater.org)] or telephone [916-526-5447] to discuss your accessibility needs.

**Call to Order**

1. Introductions (*5 minutes*)
  - a. Determine if Quorum is Present
  - b. Agenda Overview
  - c. Three-month look ahead
2. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items - Limit of 3 minutes per speaker.  
Comment will be received for items not on the agenda, but within the jurisdiction of the agency. The Board will hear comment but may not take action on issues raised on non-agenda items.

**Action Items**

3. Consent Items (*5 minutes*)
  - a. Agenda – November 18, 2022
  - b. Minutes – October 17, 2022
  - c. Consideration of Findings Related to Remote Meetings Pursuant to AB 361
  - d. Financial Report – November 2022
4. Board Elections (*15 minutes*)
5. Dept. of Water Resources Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant (35 min)
  - a. Resolution 2022-11-1

6. Review of Draft Long Term Funding Study (35 minutes)
7. Outreach and Engagement Update (35 minutes)
8. Draft Audit Services Request for Proposals (10 minutes)
9. Delta Conveyance Project Draft Environmental Impact Report (10 minutes)

**Informational Items** *(15 minutes)*

10. CGA Staff Report
11. DWR North Central Regional Office Update
12. Upcoming Agenda Items
13. Director/GSA Comments

**Adjourn Meeting**

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Meeting Minutes  
October 17, 2022 - 9:00am

**Call to Order: 9:05 am**

- 1) Introductions / Determine if Quorum is Present
  - a. Directors in Attendance: Rick Wohle, Don Notolli, Herb Garms, Gary Thomas, Jay Vandenburg, Leo VanWarmerdam

**Action Items**

- 2) Consent Items
  - a. Minutes – September 19, 2022
  - b. Consideration of Findings Related to Remote Meetings Pursuant to AB 361
  - c. Financial Report – October 2022

*Director Thomas moved to approve all consent items.*  
*Director Wohle seconded the motion.*  
*The motion passed with all in favor.*
- 3) Delta Conveyance Project Draft Environmental Impact Report  
Staff provided an update on drafting a comment letter.
- 4) DWR SGMA Implementation Grant  
*Director Garms moved to affirm that EKI will prepare a DWR SGMA implementation grant and that EKI should bring recommendations to the Board, that the Board would then work with SAFCA/grant writer to develop the application.*  
*Director Wohle seconded the motion.*  
The Board provided direction on the development of the CGA grant application.
- 5) Water Year 2022 Annual Report Preparation  
*Director Garms moved to adopt the proposed EKI Scope of Work.*  
*Director Vandenburg seconded the motion.*  
*The motion passed with all in favor.*
- 6) Outreach and Engagement  
Staff provided an update on outreach and engagement efforts.

**Information Items**

- 7) CGA Staff Report  
CGA Staff provided an update on other activities not covered on the agenda.
- 8) DWR North Central Regional Office Update  
DWR Staff provided a monthly update on DWR activities
- 9) Upcoming Agenda Items
- 10) Director Comments

**Adjourn Meeting**

*Acting Char Vandenburg adjourned the meeting by consensus at 12:03pm*

# Cosumnes Groundwater Authority

## Financial Report

November 2022

<u>Expenses</u>		
Description	Vendor	Amount
Staff Support (SRCD, October)	Sloughhouse RCD	\$ 6,400.00
Staff Support (SSCAWA, October)	SSCAWA	\$ 6,380.00
Legal Services (October)	Downey Brand	\$ 4,456.00
Legal Services (September)	Downey Brand	\$ 3,277.00
Monitoring Professional Services (October)	MLJ Environmental	\$ 14,891.76
Technical Support - Project Scoping	EKI Environmental	\$ 6,055.40
Fee Study Development	SCI Consulting	\$ 15,078.75
<b>Total Monthly Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 56,538.91</b>

<u>Revenue</u>		
Description	Source	Amount
FY 21-22 Member Contribution (3 of 3)	Galt Irrigation District	\$ 1,110.43
<b>Total Monthly Revenue</b>		<b>\$ 1,110.43</b>

<b>Monthly Change</b>	<b>\$ (55,428.48)</b>
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**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Agenda Item #: 4

Agenda Item Subject: Board Elections

To: CGA Board of Directors

From: CGA Staff

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**Background**

- CGA Chair, Lindsey Carter, has indicated her intent to step down as Chair to focus on personal matters.
- “A Board Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson shall be elected from the membership of the Board, and shall hold office for a period of one year commencing on or about July 1 of each year; provided however, that the first Chairperson and Vice- Chairperson shall hold office from the date of their appointment to June 30 of the ensuing year, or if his/her term on the Member governing board ends or until their successors take office, whichever is later; and provided, however, that the office shall be declared vacant if the person serving dies, resigns, or is removed by his or her Member as its representative on the Authority, or if his or her Member withdraws from this Agreement pursuant to any of the provisions hereof. The Vice-Chairperson will serve as Board Chairperson in the Board Chairperson’s absence.”
- Time commitment: In addition to regular and special meetings of the Board, ideally the CGA Chair also attends at least 1 planning call with staff and consultants ahead of regular meetings.

**Staff Recommendation**

- Appoint Board officers.

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Agenda Item #: 5

Agenda Item Subject: DWR Grant Application

To: CGA Board of Directors

From: CGA Staff

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**Background**

Links: [DWR SGM Grant Program](#)

- The California Department of Water Resources is accepting applications to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program through December 16, 2022.
- CGA Staff and technical consultants have been developing a draft application for the Board's consideration. The application (Project) consists of 6 pieces (Components). Those Components are:
  - 1 – Grant Administration
  - 2 – Recharge Dry Well Design and Deployment
  - 3 – Local Diversions and On-Farm Recharge
  - 4 – Representative Monitoring Network Improvements
  - 5 – Agricultural Water Conservation
  - 6 – GSP Update
- While budgets are still being fleshed out, the estimated total request is ~\$4 million. No matching funds are required.
- Each GSA must submit three items to CGA Staff by December 1, 2022:
  - Eligibility Criteria Self-Certification
  - Letter of Support
  - DWR Resolution
- The CGA Board will finalize the grant approach and consider a resolution authorizing CGA Staff to submit an application on Monday, November 21, 2022.

**Attachments**

- Draft Grant Application
  - *Posted on [CosumnesGroundwater.org/meetings](#) by 5pm on Friday Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>.*
- CGA Resolution 2022-11-1 Authorizing Grant Application

**Staff Recommendation**

- Adopt Resolution 2022-11-1.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
COSUMNES GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-\_\_\_\_\_**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING COSUMNES GROUNDWATER AUTHORITY  
TO SUBMIT A GRANT PROPOSAL FOR THE COSUMNES SUBBASIN ON  
BEHALF OF ITS MEMBER GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCIES**

**WHEREAS**, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) manages the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, DWR has over \$200 million available from the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Proposition 68) and the California Budget Act of 2021 (Stats. 2021, ch. 240, § 80) (2021 Budget Act) for the SGM Grant Program; and

**WHEREAS**, DWR has solicited grant proposals for the SGM Grant Program due November 30, 2022; and

**WHEREAS**, eligible applicants for the SGM Grant Program include Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), member agencies of GSAs, or an entity that represents a GSA, among others; and

**WHEREAS**, DWR will only accept one SGM Grant Program proposal per groundwater subbasin; and

**WHEREAS**, GSAs within the Cosumnes Subbasin formed the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA) to implement the Cosumnes Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, for this purpose, CGA has a strong interest in submitting one or more projects, called “components” by the SGM Grant Program, to DWR in an SGM Grant Program for potential funding; and

**WHEREAS**, CGA has the capability to complete and submit a proposal to DWR on behalf of the GSAs in the subbasin, and those entities have requested CGA’s assistance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the CGA Board of Directors as follows:

1. The Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Administrator is hereby authorized to act as the applicant, on behalf of any or all of the Groundwater Sustainability Agencies within the Cosumnes Subbasin, in preparing and submitting a grant proposal to the California Department of Water Resources Sustainable Grant Program for the Cosumnes Subbasin.
2. That an application be made to the Department of Water Resources to obtain a grant under the 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program SGMA Implementation Grant pursuant to the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Pub.

Resources Code, § 80000, et seq.) and the Budget Acts of 2021 and 2022. Be it further resolved that the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority has the authority and shall enter into a funding agreement with the Department of Water Resources to receive a grant for the: <Application Name>.

3. The Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Administrator, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, file such application, execute a funding agreement, and any future amendments thereto, submit invoices, and submit any reporting requirements with the Department of Water Resources.

Passed and adopted by the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Board of Directors, State of California this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2022, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

ATTEST:

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority held on \_\_\_\_\_, 2022.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Clerk of the Board of Directors

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair of the Board of Directors



**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Agenda Item #: 6

Agenda Item Subject: Long Term Funding

To: CGA Board of Directors

From: CGA Staff

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**Background**

Ryan Aston with SCI Consulting gave an introductory presentation on the development of a fee study at a CGA Board Workshop in October. Following that workshop, Mr. Aston and the SCI Consulting team have worked with CGA Staff to put together a first draft of a funding study for the Cosumnes Subbasin. While important feedback was provided at the October Workshop, CGA has not yet decided on an approach to a potential new fee structure. Therefore, the draft funding study provides multiple options indented to be further refined by the CGA Board.

**Attachments**

- Draft Cosumnes Subbasin Funding Study Presentation (SCI Consulting)
  - Posted on [CosumnesGroundwater.org/meetings](https://cosumnesgroundwater.org/meetings) by 5pm on Friday Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Staff Recommendation**

- Provide direction on the Draft Cosumnes Subbasin Funding Study development.

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Agenda Item #: 7

Agenda Item Subject: Outreach and Engagement

To: CGA Board of Directors

From: CGA Staff

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**Background**

Farmer Survey:

- The main purpose for the survey is to assess the interest of farmers/ranchers in participating in efforts to reduce water use as well as parallel efforts to increase water supply by engaging in managed aquifer recharge. We would also like to understand the types of incentives farmers would consider in exchange for their participation. The information gained from the survey will be used to help identify approaches/options to reduce groundwater pumping in the Cosumnes Basin that are consistent with the interests of farmers/landowners.
- The survey is completely confidential, and you are not obliged to answer all the questions.
- Link: <https://forms.gle/CTXJLDV3VBX56UMaA>

December Workshop:

- December 13, 2022
- Wilton Community Center
- We have tentatively scheduled a public workshop to engage the community on a variety of groundwater sustainability topics. Interested community members and stakeholders will learn more about project planning efforts and the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority's first year as an organization.

Technical Advisory Committee:

- CGA Staff anticipate bringing a draft committee charter for a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) for Board consideration. This TAC would play a similar role to the TAC and Surface Water Advisory Group (SWAG) convened under the subbasin working group prior to GSP adoption and submission. The TAC would meet up to twice a year to review annual monitoring data, project status, and other aspects of CGA work as appropriate.

**Staff Recommendation**

- Promote the Farmers Survey to help inform the DWR SGM Grant Application.
- Consider GSA specific outreach activities (formal/informal workshops with constituents, letter to the editor, mailers, etc.) coordinated with CGA efforts.

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Agenda Item #: 8

Agenda Item Subject: Draft Audit Services Request for Proposals

To: CGA Board of Directors

From: CGA Staff

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**Background**

- To comply with required financial management laws, the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority must complete regular audits.
- CGA Staff has prepared the attached Draft FRP for Audit Services based on a similar RFP that the Omochumne-Hartnell Water District recently released.
- GSAs are encouraged to send their auditor contacts to CGA Staff for wider distribution of the RFP. Once approved, the RFP would be posted to the CGA website and emailed to our listserv.

**Attachments**

- Draft Audit Services RFP

**Staff Recommendation**

- Provide direction on the audit services RFP.

# **REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITING SERVICES**

**(Fiscal Year 2021-2022)**

**Proposals Due: December 13, 2022**



**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority**

**8970 Elk Grove Blvd.  
Elk Grove, CA 95624**

[info@CosumnesGroundwater.org](mailto:info@CosumnesGroundwater.org)

# **Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Request for Proposal Independent Auditing Services**

## **SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (Authority) is accepting proposals for the performance of independent auditing services. The purpose of these audit services is:

1. Express an opinion on the fairness of the presentation of the Authority's general purpose financial statements annually for fiscal years 2021/22.
2. Prepare and submit the State Controller's Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2022.

The auditor shall apply Generally Accepted Accounting Principles applicable to government agencies and conduct the audit in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards set forth by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants in the Statement of Auditing Standards. Additionally, the audit shall be made in accordance with Government Auditing Standards issued by the Comptroller General of the United States and the State Controller's Minimum Audit Requirements for California Special Districts.

### Authority Organization and Operations

The Authority overlays the Cosumnes Subbasin, a medium priority subbasin, located in the southern portion of Sacramento County, and part of Amador County. The Authority is a joint powers authority (JPA) consisting of the 7 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), or Member Agencies, within the subbasin, Omochumne-Hartnell Water District ([website](#)), Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District ([website](#)), Galt Irrigation District ([website](#)), Clay Water District ([website](#)), City of Galt ([website](#)), Amador County Groundwater Management Authority ([website](#)), and Sacramento County ([website](#)), and has been designated to implement the Cosumnes Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP).

### Inquiries

All inquiries concerning this Request for Qualifications (RFQ) must be directed in writing to Austin Miller at [info@cosumnesgroundwater.org](mailto:info@cosumnesgroundwater.org).

### Proposal Submission

Submit one original via email to Austin Miller at [info@cosumnesgroundwater.org](mailto:info@cosumnesgroundwater.org) by 5:00 pm on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

### Proposal Timeline

Release RFP  
Proposals Due

November 22, 2022  
December 13, 2022

Proposals Reviewed  
Award of Contract

December 19, 2022  
December 20, 2022

#### Discrepancy or Other Errors in RFP

If a bidder discovers any discrepancy, conflict, omission or other error in the RFP, the bidder shall immediately notify the Authority of such error in writing and request modification or clarification of the document. Any modification made will be done by issuing a revision and will be given by written notice to all parties who have been given a copy of the RFP. If a bidder fails to notify the Authority of the error prior to the date and time stated for submission of proposals, the proposal shall be submitted at the bidders own risk, and if awarded the contract, the bidder shall not be entitled to additional compensation or time by reason of error or its later correction.

#### Proposal Preparation Cost

Costs for developing proposals are entirely the responsibility of the bidders and shall not be chargeable to the District.

## **SECTION 2 – DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES**

#### Scope of Services

The auditor is to perform all phases of an audit of the general purpose financial statements of the Authority. The audit will be performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, and will include all procedures necessary for the rendition of an opinion regarding the fairness of the general purpose financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. The following items are specifically required:

1. The auditor shall evaluate the adequacy of the system on internal control and make recommendations as appropriate.
2. The auditor shall perform a review of the Appropriations Limit set by Article XIII B of the California Constitution as amended by Proposition 13. This article requires that the annual calculation of the Limit be reviewed as part of the annual financial audit. The review will determine if the current appropriation limit adopted by the Authority's Board of Directors is calculated in accordance with these guidelines.
3. Following the completion of the audit, the selected auditor will be required to deliver the following no later than June 30<sup>th</sup> of 2023.
  - a. Independent Auditor's Report
  - b. Management Letter
  - c. Report on any irregularities or illegal acts
  - d. Report on cash and investments
  - e. Preparation of the State Controller's Report
4. A representative from the selected firm will present the audited financial statements and any audit findings to the Authority's Board of Directors at a regularly scheduled

Authority Board Meeting.

5. The auditor shall make its working papers available during the audit and for a period of three (3) years thereafter to the representatives of any federal, state or local agencies which provide funding to the Authority.

Authority Assistance to Auditor

Authority staff will be available during the audit engagement to assist in such items as locating required records and supporting information, preparing schedules and account analyses and data as required and such other tasks that will serve to expedite the engagement as deemed reasonable and necessary by the Authority.

### **SECTION 3 – PROPOSAL REQUIREMENTS AND RATING**

Proposal

The proposal submitted by your firm shall specifically address the following:

1. Legal name, address, telephone number and fax number of the firm's office.
2. Name of firm's representative designated as the contact person for the RFP.
3. A description of your firm's background and experience in providing auditing and management consulting services to similar governmental organizations including an affirmation that the firm and its agents are properly licensed for practice as Certified Public Accountants.
4. A summary of your audit plan and tentative schedule to complete the engagement by the requested due date. In addition, please provide a description of your approach to the audit including expected reliance on statistical sampling methods and the system of internal controls.
5. Names and resumes of firm's officers, principals and other key personnel to be assigned to the engagement.
6. A list of at least three references from locally served governmental audit clients. Please provide a name, address, telephone number and e-mail address for a contact person for each reference. It is the District's intention to verify these references prior to making the final selection.
7. Any additional information considered necessary in assessing the firm's qualifications and experience.
8. Proposed cost to provide audit services.

Cover Letter

The proposal shall be transmitted with a cover letter which includes the following:

1. Signature of an individual who is authorized to bind the bidder contractually.
2. Confirmation of the receipt of the RFP and all addenda thereto.
3. Statement that the proposal is valid for a 60-day period from the due date of the proposal.
4. The name, title, address, telephone number and e-mail address of the individual to whom correspondence and other contacts should be directed during the selection process.

Address the proposal to:

Austin Miller, Administrator  
Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
8970 Elk Grove Blvd.  
Elk Grove, CA 95624

Proposal Rating

Proposals will be evaluated in detail and additional information may be requested from proposers. Before final award of the contract, the District may interview the top-ranked proposers. Upon selection of an auditing firm, contract negotiations will start as soon as possible. If a contract cannot be negotiated for any reason, another vendor may be selected.

The following represents the principal selection criteria which will be considered during the evaluation process:

- 1 Expertise and Experience of the Firm  
This includes the firm's past experience on comparable government engagements; the quality and expertise of the firm's professional personnel to be assigned to the engagement and the adequacy of the firm's continuing professional education program for its professional personnel.
- 2 Audit Approach  
The audit approach shall demonstrate an understanding of the District's objectives and needs and present a clear and organized description of how the auditor plans to meet them. This includes the adequacy of the proposed staffing of the engagement to ensure that the work is properly supervised and that the estimate of the number of hours to complete the work is accurate to ensure completion of the engagement by the requested due date.
- 3 Cost  
The cost to perform the requested services.

The Authority reserves the right not to award a contract, to modify the scope of services required as necessary and/or to accept or reject any or all submittals received as a result of



this request.

## **SECTION 4 – TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

### Term of Agreement

The term of the proposed agreement shall be until the 2021/22 fiscal year audit and required reports are complete and submitted. The Authority may retain the independent auditor for additional fiscal years if satisfactory terms of renewal can be negotiated.

### Standard Terms and Conditions

The following clauses, in substantially the form presented, will be made part of a professional services contract the selected auditor will be expected to sign. It is anticipated that modifications and additions may be required once an auditor has been selected.

1. Termination and Breach of Contract: The Authority may terminate the Contract for the breach of any covenant, term and condition of the Contract by the auditor, its officers, agents or employees, provided the breach is not cured within ten (10) days after written notice thereof is presented to auditor. In the event that the Contract is for any reason terminated for cause by the Authority, auditor shall be liable to the Authority for the expense of the Authority arranging to obtain any services provided herein from an alternative source. Authority may terminate this Contract after thirty (30) days notice for any reason. If District terminates this Contract without cause as provided for herein, Authority shall be liable for the reasonable value of auditor's work up to the effective date of the notice. Authority's determination of the reasonable value of the auditor's work shall be final.
2. Time of the Essence: Time shall be of the essence with respect to each term and condition of the Contract.
3. Indemnity: Auditor agrees to fully indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Authority, its officers, employees and agents from any and all loss, damage, liability, claim, demand, or cause of action whatsoever resulting from or alleged to have arisen out of or have resulted from any act or omission of auditor, its officers, employees, agents, independent contractors, or representatives in the performance of this Contract.
4. Independent Contractor: In the performance of the work herein provided for, auditor shall be, and, is an independent contractor and is not an agent or employee of the Authority. The Authority has and shall retain the right to exercise full control and supervision of the services to be rendered to the Authority and full control over auditor in the performance of all services hereunder. The auditor shall be solely responsible for all matters relating to the payment of its employees, and all other regulations governing such matters.
5. Workers' Compensation Insurance Requirements: In addition to any other form of insurance required under the terms of this Contract, the auditor shall maintain Workers' Compensation insurance with statutory limits for any employees of the

auditor. If any owner or employee is not covered by Workers' Compensation insurance, the auditor shall provide a statement to the Authority to that affect. The auditor shall agree to fully indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Authority, its officers, employees and agents from any and all workers' compensation claims by any owner, employee or subcontractor of the auditor in the performance of this Contract.

DRAFT

**Cosumnes Groundwater Authority  
Board of Directors Meeting**

Agenda Date: November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Agenda Item #: 9

Agenda Item Subject: Delta Conveyance Project Draft Environmental Impact Report

To: CGA Board of Directors

From: CGA Staff

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**Background**

Links: [Delta Conveyance Project Website](#)

- DWR has extended the deadline for accepting written comments through December 16, 2022.
- [Chapter 8](#) describes the environmental setting and study area for groundwater; analyzes impacts that could result from construction, operation, and maintenance of the project; and provides mitigation to reduce the effects of impacts. This chapter also analyzes the impacts on groundwater resources that could result from implementation of compensatory mitigation required for the project and analyzes the impacts that could result from the mitigation measures proposed in other resource chapters in the Draft Environmental Impact Report.

**Attachments**

- Draft Comment Letter on Delta Conveyance Project Draft EIR.
  - Posted on [CosumnesGroundwater.org/meetings](https://cosumnesgroundwater.org/meetings) by 5pm on Friday Nov. 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Staff Recommendation**

- Provide direction on the draft comment letter for the Delta Conveyance Project Draft Environmental Impact Report.

## November 2022 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

### Grants

#### California Grants Portal

The California State Library, in partnership with the Department of Water Resources and other state grantmaking agencies, has launched the California Grants Portal – your one destination to find all state grant and loan opportunities provided on a first-come or competitive basis. Visit [grants.ca.gov](https://grants.ca.gov) to find funding opportunities for you and your community.

#### DWR: IWRM Grant Funding Final Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package Announced

We are pleased to announce the release of the FINAL 2022 IWRM Grant [Program Guidelines](#) and [Proposal Solicitation Package](#) for the [Proposition 1 - Round 2 IWRM Implementation Grant](#). **This solicitation will make approximately \$193 million in grant funding available for IWRM implementation projects.** For more information on the Proposition 1 IWRM Implementation Grant Program, visit Implementation Grant Program or e-mail us at: [dwr\\_irwm@water.ca.gov](mailto:dwr_irwm@water.ca.gov). Application deadlines are August 19, 2022 and February 1, 2023.

#### NEW: Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Round 2 Now Open

DWR is pleased to announce that the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program's SGMA Implementation Round 2 grant solicitation has officially opened. Round 2 is open to applicants located within medium and high priority basins, including critically overdrafted groundwater basins. The 2021 SGMA Implementation Guidelines (2021 Guidelines) and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) posted in December 2021 can be located on the [SGM Grant Program's website](#) along with other templates and supporting material that will be used for Round 2. Round 2 will provide **approximately \$230 million** (depending upon the upcoming 2023/2024 State Budget Act) for planning and implementation projects to help comply with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. **Applications deadline extended to December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 at 10am.**

#### NEW: Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program

DWR has released the FINAL 2022 Guidelines/Proposal Solicitation Package (GL/PSP) for the [Urban Community Drought Relief Grant Program](#) for public review. This solicitation will make **approximately \$285 million in grant funding available for drought response projects with a solicitation opening October 10 and ending of January 31, 2023.** *The first set of awards are expected to be announced December 2022.* The drought relief goal is to address immediate impacts on human health and safety and on fish and wildlife resources, and to provide water to persons or communities that lose or are threatened with the loss or contamination of water supplies.

#### NEW: Water tank program for dry wells

DWR in partnership with CalOES, DGS, and Water Boards has a new tank program for domestic wells that have gone dry. Eligible Applicants Include: public agencies, public utilities, special districts, colleges and universities, mutual water companies, nonprofit organizations, federally recognized tribes and state tribes listed on the NAHC's consultation list. Under the program, 2,500 gallon tanks are pre-purchased by DWR. The program includes funding for the tanks to be delivered to residence and connected to their existing plumbing with a small pump, and for water hauling to fill the tanks to meet basic health and sanitation needs. For more information contact: [smallcommunitydrought@water.ca.gov](mailto:smallcommunitydrought@water.ca.gov) or Alena Misaghi at (559) 230-3309.

#### DWR Division of Multi-Benefit Initiatives Delta Levees Special Flood Control Projects 2022: **Coming Soon**

The intent of this Project Solicitation Package is to provide funding for public benefit in accordance with Section 12311 of the California Water Code for Multi-Benefit projects in the California Delta and parts of the Suisan Marsh. Projects targeted for this grant are those that promote levee improvement, habitat enhancement, seismic resiliency, and/or export water supply reliability. Up to \$37 million will be available and the solicitation is expected to open in Spring of 2023. [More information here.](#)

## November 2022 DWR Updates (from DWR's North Central Region Office)

### California Financing Coordination Committee Funding Fair

[The California Financing Coordinating Committee is holding free funding fairs](#) on **October 19 and November 3** to educate the public and potential customers about available funding. The funding fairs also include an opportunity to discuss your projects with financial representatives from each agency. CFCC members facilitate and expedite the completion of various types of infrastructure projects by helping customers combine the resources of different agencies. Presentations will be held from 9 a.m. to about 12:30 p.m. and participants can visit virtual booths from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. to meet with representatives.

Other state & federal grant websites for resources that may be helpful are:

- California Financing Coordinating Committee -- <https://cfcc.ca.gov/>, and
- CalOES grants -- <https://www.caloes.ca.gov/cal-oes-divisions/grants-management>
- US EPA -- <https://www.epa.gov/grants/specific-epa-grant-programs>, and
- Economic Development Administration -- <https://eda.gov/funding-opportunities/>

### Upcoming conferences, webinars, new reports and data

#### NEW: 2022 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan Finalized

The updated vision for improving flood risk management throughout the Central Valley has been released. The [Central Valley Flood Protection Plan \(CVFPP\) Update 2022](#) guides the State's participation in managing flood risk. It prioritizes investments over a 30-year horizon and recommends actions and policies developed after consulting with State, federal, Tribal, and local partners. The CVFPP is updated every five years and includes supporting documents, such as a [conservation strategy update](#).

#### California's Water Supply Strategy: Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future

August 11, 2022 Governor Newsom announced a new strategic document to manage water in the face of a projected 10% reduction in supplies over the next 20 years. The strategy calls for investing in new sources of water supply, accelerating projects and modernizing how the state manages water through new technology to increase water supply and adapt to more extreme weather patterns caused by climate change. The [full strategy document](#) can be found here and a [press release here](#).

#### NEW: DWR Releases the Latest California's Groundwater Conditions, Semi-Annual Update

The new water year began on October 1, and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has released the latest version of [California's Groundwater Conditions, Semi-Annual Update: October 2022](#). This update is part of a suite of groundwater data, tools, and publications under the umbrella of [DWR's California's Groundwater \(Bulletin 118\)](#) and provides information on statewide groundwater levels, land subsidence, and well infrastructure, including dry well reporting, and summarizes the effects of the current and historical drought periods on California's groundwater conditions.

#### Web-Based Mapping Tool Showing Nearly 3,000 Groundwater Sustainability Projects

The Department of Resources (DWR) is pleased to announce the development of a new web-based interactive mapping tool that will allow the public to explore thousands of groundwater projects initiated in California over the last decade. There are various filters to quickly identify projects in a basin, subbasin, legislative district, county, and many others. The tool focuses on project benefits and effectiveness in relationship to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Sustainability Indicators. **The Press Release with more information on the tool and other resources provided by DWR can be [found here](#). The [web tool can be viewed here](#).**

#### County Drought Plan Requirements for State Small Water Systems and Domestic Wells

DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board will host a series of webinars on their development of a guidebook for preparing county drought plans. The plans will focus on helping small water systems and rural communities. The [first two of the four webinars were held in June and August](#) and the [recording of the 6/2/22](#)

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[workshop](#) and the [8/31/22 workshops](#) can be viewed here. The webinar included a review of the requirements in [Senate Bill 552](#) that cover drought planning.

### FREE Leak Detection for Small Water Systems

Protecting California's water supply is more important than ever as we brace for another year of drought conditions. The California Rural Water Association (CRWA), in partnership with the Department of Water Resources, is offering FREE leak detection surveys for small water systems. **If you are a small (including Tribal) water system with 3,000 connections or less, sign up for a free leak detection survey today! Please contact Ruby Viramontes at: [rviramontes@calruralwater.org](mailto:rviramontes@calruralwater.org) to get started.**

### Executive Order N-7-22

On March 28, 2022 Governor Newsom signed [Executive Order N-7-22](#), which **included new well permitting requirements (Action 9) as well as CEQA exemptions and permit streamlining for FloodMAR projects (Action 13)**. The materials including a fact sheets, recording and presentation materials from the April 13th and a self-certification form for the CEQA waiver are now posted on DWR's Drought Webpage, under the 'Drought Well Permitting Requirements' and the 'CEQA Suspension on Groundwater Recharge Projects' accordion dropdowns: <https://water.ca.gov/water-basics/drought>.

### Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act Teleconferencing Authorization Extended Until July 1, 2023

[Senate Bill \(SB\) 189, Item \(20\)](#), which was approved by Governor Newsom on June 30, 2022, authorizes state entities to hold public meetings, subject to specified notice and accessibility requirements, through teleconferencing and making public meetings accessible telephonically or otherwise electronically to the public, as specified. The bill would suspend certain requirements of existing law, including the requirements that each teleconference location be accessible to the public and that members of the public be able to address the state body at each teleconference location. The bill also sunsets these provisions as of July 1, 2023.

### DWR's Climate Change Program Resources

DWR's Climate change program has lots of initiatives including resources for water managers. Check out their [webpage](#) and [factsheet](#) here.

### Webpage for CA Water Plan Update 2023 Published by DWR

DWR has unveiled the new webpage for [California Water Plan Update 2023](#). The California Water Plan is updated every five years. It is the State's strategic plan for managing and developing California's water resources. Update 2023 will emphasize climate change adaptation, regional and watershed resilience, and water equity. Video recordings of the meetings [are available here](#). **Comment period now open for [Assumptions and Estimates](#) document through November 18, 2022. Comments can be emailed to [cwpc@water.ca.gov](mailto:cwpc@water.ca.gov).**

DWR and the State Water Resources Control Board have released [principles and strategies for groundwater management and drinking water wells](#). The document provides a framework for the development of drought-resistant communities. Approximately 82 percent of Californians rely on groundwater for some portion of their drinking water or other household uses. A [Spanish version](#) of the draft is available.

### California's Groundwater Live: Up-to-date data on groundwater conditions, well installations and subsidence

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) released the final [California's Groundwater – Update 2020 \(Bulletin-118\)](#), containing information on the condition of the State's groundwater, DWR has also developed a companion web-based application called [California's Groundwater Live](#) (CalGW Live), leveraging the [California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Platform](#) (Open Data) to improve the access and timeliness of statewide groundwater information. The easy-to-use interface will make many of the data sets used in CalGW Update 2020 available in an interactive map format that will be updated regularly for viewing and downloading. For more information, visit the updated [California's Groundwater website](#) Contact: [CalGW@water.ca.gov](mailto:CalGW@water.ca.gov).

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### OpenET makes tracking water use data easier with satellite data

A space-based tool is ready to help track water in the western U.S. Using data from satellites, [Open Evapotranspiration](#) (OpenET) gives farmers and other water users information on how much of their water loss ends up as evapotranspiration. The OpenET data are available for 17 western states, including the Colorado River basin area.

### Delta Conveyance

**DRAFT EIR Now Available for public review and comment extended through December 16, 2022.**

Members of the public and other interested parties can submit comments on the Draft EIR in the following ways: Email: [deltaconveyancecomments@water.ca.gov](mailto:deltaconveyancecomments@water.ca.gov), Online: [www.deltaconveyanceproject.com](http://www.deltaconveyanceproject.com), U.S. Mail: CA Department of Water Resources, Attn: Delta Conveyance Office, P.O. Box 942836, Sacramento, CA 94236-0001 or during Virtual Public Hearing:

The key aspects of the [Delta Conveyance Project](#) are illustrated in a [new story map](#) published by DWR. In addition to covering the elements of the conveyance project, the story map provides a tour of the State Water Project and its vital role in delivering to 27 million Californians, 750,000 acres of farmland, and businesses throughout California. There are also links to resources that provide expanded information on various topics. 3 new videos are available as well.

- Episode 1: [What is Delta Conveyance?](#)
- Episode 2: [Why is California's Major Water Supply at Risk?](#)
- Episode 3: [How Will the Delta Conveyance Project Protect our Water Supplies?](#)

### SGMA & Drought

**NEW: Save the Date: Fall 2022 GSA Forum**

DWR is hosting a virtual Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) Forum for GSA members and representatives on November 9, 2022, from 9:00 AM to noon. The Forum will be a platform for GSAs to come together to engage, exchange ideas, and establish professional networks. The Fall 2022 GSA Forum will include a panel discussion with up to five representatives from different GSAs, focused on how the GSAs have approached funding SGMA implementation. A diverse group of GSAs will be represented to showcase various geographic locations, governance structures, and funding approaches. Each panelist will provide a brief presentation, followed by a Q&A session with the audience.

**Update Your GSA and GSP Manager Point of Contact Information in DWR's SGMA Portal**

If your GSA and/or GSP Plan Manager Point of Contact (POC) is not current, or you are not sure, please visit the SGMA Portal to ensure that your contact information is up-to-date. When logged in, the Portal allows edits to be made to previously submitted contact information. If you have SGMA Portal questions, please email them to: [GSPSubmittal@water.ca.gov](mailto:GSPSubmittal@water.ca.gov).

### Dry Well Susceptibility Map

The DWR, in coordination with the State Water Resources Control Board, has developed an interactive mapping tool, called the Dry Well Susceptibility Tool. This tool identifies areas within groundwater basins that may be prone to water supply shortages in drinking water wells. State and local agencies and well owners can use this tool to anticipate where wells may go dry based on historical conditions to inform drought preparedness decision-making. To use this tool, navigate to [California's Groundwater Live website](#) and click the [Dry Domestic Well Susceptibility tab](#). A fact sheet on this tool, as well as DWR's Dry Well Reporting System, [is available here](#).

### Dry Well Reporting Site

There is a website available to [report private wells going dry](#). Information reported to this site is intended to inform state and local agencies on drought impacts on household water supplies. The data reported on this site



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(excluding personal identifiable information) can be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#) or downloaded on the [CNRA Atlas](#). Individuals or local agencies can report water shortages and a [list of resources](#) are included on the [webpage](#). The reporting forms are available in both English and Spanish. Local agencies can now sign up to receive notifications of any dry wells reported in their area. To sign up please email [sgmps@water.ca.gov](mailto:sgmps@water.ca.gov).

DWR is developing eight Proposition 68-funded technical projects

These projects include airborne electromagnetic surveys, improving groundwater elevation and quality monitoring networks, Statewide land use data collection, improved subsidence monitoring network, installing and maintaining stream gauges, maintaining and enhancing statewide well completion reports, managing and reporting sustainable groundwater information, and enhancing and maintaining DWR's modeling tools. Fact sheets on each project can be viewed under the "Prop 68" tab [here](#).

- [AEM webpage](#) contains information on the how the process works, safety, schedule, data submission by GSAs, TAC, pilot study data and more. Public webinar was held **June 8<sup>th</sup> 12:00 – 1:00**, a [recording can be viewed here](#) and [handouts can be downloaded here](#). **NEW:** Draft Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) resistivity data for the Southern San Joaquin Valley have been published on the [California Natural Resources Agency Open Data Portal](#). The dataset can also be viewed online on the [AEM Data Viewer](#). DWR's AEM surveys will continue this Fall in the Monterey Bay Area. Visit the AEM Survey Schedule webpage for more information on the tentative data publication dates.
- [2019 Statewide Crop Mapping data](#) was released in **July of 2022** and includes multi-cropping information. The 2019 dataset includes agricultural land use and urban boundaries for all 58 counties in California.
- [InSAR subsidence data](#) is now available [through July 1 of 2022](#) and can now be viewed on the [SGMA data viewer](#). The updated GIS services and data reports are also available [online](#). Future data will be released on a quarterly basis.

Facilitation Support Services (FSS): [Funding still available](#)

- GSA's developing GSPs are eligible to receive funding for identification and engagement of interested parties, meeting facilitation, interest-based negotiation/consensus building, and public outreach facilitation
- More information [can be found here](#). [Written translation services available in 8 languages for outreach materials \(5,000 word maximum\).](#)