



PUBLIC COMMUNICATION & ENGAGEMENT PLAN

SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER
MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA) IN THE
COSUMNES SUBBASIN

C&E Plan Implementation (2018-2025)
Version: 2.28.2023

CosumnesGroundwater.org

Communication and Engagement (C&E) Plan Document Tracking

Table I. C&E Plan Version Tracker

Version	Brief Description
Original (October 2017) [Link]	Original Working Draft C&E Plan created
Update (March 2019) [Link]	Updated for GSP Development
Update (Summer 2021) [Link]	Updated for GSP Implementation
Update (Fall 2021) [Link]	Updated for GSP Implementation
Update (Winter 2023) Current Version	Updated for GSP Implementation

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Glossary of Common Terms Related to the Cosumnes Subbasin

C&E Plan	Communication & Engagement Plan
CAC	Citizens Advisory Committee – a potential to-be-formed advisory committee that will help implementation of the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP
CBI	Consensus Building Institute - The organization that currently facilitates Cosumnes SGMA implementation
CGA	Cosumnes Groundwater Authority – JPA for the seven GSAs to lead GSP implementation (formed November 2021)
DAC / SDAC	Disadvantaged Community / Severely Disadvantaged Community
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
EKI	The firm that currently serves as independent technical consultant for the Cosumnes Subbasin
ESJGA	Eastern San Joaquin Groundwater Authority
Galt ID	Galt Irrigation District (link) - One of the seven GSAs in the Cosumnes Subbasin
GDE	Groundwater dependent ecosystem
CGA	Cosumnes Groundwater Authority
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency - the implementation entity for the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
ISW	Interconnected surface water
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
NAHC	Native American Heritage Commission
NOI	Notice of Intent
OHWD	Omochumne-Hartnell Water District (link) - One of the seven GSAs in the Cosumnes Subbasin
PIO	Public Information Officer
Prop. I / Prop 68	Proposition I and Proposition 68 (state grant funding for sustainable groundwater planning and projects)
SGA	Sacramento Groundwater Authority
SGMA	California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (link)

SRCD	Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District - One of the seven GSAs in the Cosumnes Subbasin
SSCAWA	Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Water Authority (link)
SWAG	Surface Water Advisory Group – multi-stakeholder advisory body that met in 2020-2021 to discuss and provide input on the draft GSP-related to interconnected surface waters
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board
TAC	Cosumnes Subbasin Technical Advisory Committee – An advisory body, with representatives from each of the seven GSAs, that develops recommendations for approval by the Working Group
TM	Technical Memorandum – Summary documents produced by EKI to inform Working Group discussions and decision-making
WF	Sacramento Water Forum (link)
WG	Cosumnes Subbasin Working Group (2018-Jan 2022)

I. Purpose, Outcome, and Goals

Purpose: The purpose of this Communication and Engagement (C&E) Plan is to share information, foster active engagement, solicit informed feedback, and develop widespread support for Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation in the Cosumnes Subbasin (See [Appendix A](#) for background on the governance organization for SGMA implementation in the subbasin). The subbasin’s approach to outreach and public engagement is informed by the CA Dept. of Water Resources’ (DWR) Guidance Document for Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Stakeholder Communication and Engagement ([link](#)). See [Appendix B](#) for SGMA stakeholder engagement requirements by phase.

The purpose of SGMA is to ensure local sustainable groundwater management in medium- and high-priority groundwater basins statewide. **The Cosumnes Subbasin is a medium-priority basin, subject to SGMA implementation.** The [Cosumnes Subbasin GSP](#) was adopted and submitted to DWR January 2022. DWR evaluates GSPs within two years of their submittal to determine if they comply with SGMA, substantially comply with the GSP Regulations, and whether implementation of the GSP is likely to achieve the sustainability goal for the basin. Refer to the [DWR GSP webpage](#) for more information.

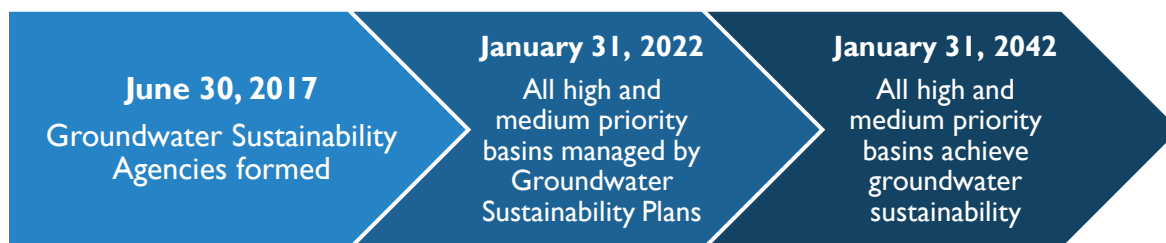


Figure I. SGMA Implementation Milestones

Outcome: The desired outcome for this Communication and Engagement Plan is to implement the GSP with input from and in consideration of the Cosumnes Subbasin’s diverse people, economy, and ecosystems.

Plan Duration: Communication and engagement within the subbasin is important not only during the GSP development phase (2018-2022), but also during the GSP implementation phase (2022-2042). The same principles described in this C&E Plan will help guide stakeholder communication and engagement during the twenty-year GSP implementation period. This C&E Plan was initially drafted in 2019 to support GSP development C&E, then updated in 2023 to describe a responsive communications approach for the GSP implementation phase, and will continue to be updated as appropriate during the GSP implementation period.

Plan Goals: SGMA requires Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, and to encourage involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the subbasin during GSP preparation and implementation. The goals of the C&E Plan are to:

- Enhance understanding and inform the public about water and groundwater resources in the Cosumnes Subbasin, the purpose and need for sustainable groundwater management, the benefits of sustainable groundwater management, and the need for a GSP.
- Engage a diverse group of interested parties and stakeholders and promote informed feedback from stakeholders, the community, and groundwater-dependent users throughout the GSP preparation and implementation process.

- Coordinate communication and involvement between GSAs (Board and staff) and the general public.
- Employ a variety of outreach methods that make public participation easy and accessible. Hold meetings at times and venues that encourage broad participation.
- Respond to public concerns and provide accurate and up-to-date information.
- Manage the public engagement process in a manner that provides maximum value to the public and an efficient use of GSA and local agency resources.

II. Groundwater Sustainability Agencies in the Cosumnes Subbasin

GSA Formation and GSP Development

Seven GSAs (composed of local public agencies with water supply, water management, and land use responsibilities) were established in the Cosumnes Subbasin (see map and table below) during 2017:

- Amador County Water Management Authority [[Website](#)]
- City of Galt [[Website](#)]
- Clay Water District [[Website](#)]
- Galt Irrigation District [[Website](#)]
- Omochumne-Hartnell Water District [[Website](#)]
- Sacramento County [[Website](#)]
- Sloughouse Resource Conservation District [[Website](#)]

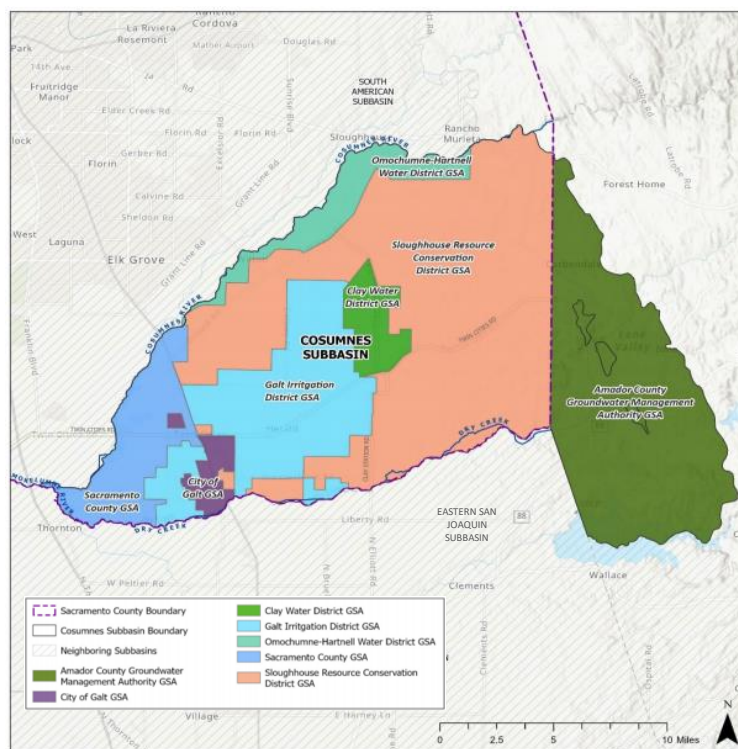


Figure 2. Map of the GSAs in the Cosumnes Subbasin

Together the seven GSAs formed the **Cosumnes Subbasin SGMA Working Group** (Working Group). The Working Group was guided by two framework agreements on how the GSAs would work together during development of a groundwater sustainability plan (Refer to [Appendix A](#) for these governance documents or directly view the [Framework Agreement Phases 1 & 2](#); [Framework Agreement Phases 3 & 4](#)). The Working Group strove for full unanimity when discussing the administrative draft, the public review draft, and the final GSP. Each GSA retained final authority as to whether or not it approved the final GSP.

Refer to the [2021 version of the C&E Plan](#) for additional context on the Working Group committees, advisory groups, and other support.

GSP Implementation

Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA)

In November 2021, the seven GSAs entered into a Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement (JPA) establishing the CGA to oversee GSP implementation (See [Appendix A](#)). The CGA strives for full unanimity when discussing GSP implementation. Each GSA retains final authority in GSP implementation within its respective GSA managed area. Each GSA appoints its respective CGA primary and alternate representative to serve on the CGA Board of Directors.

CGA Committees and Ad Hocs

[More information about CGA committees](#)

CGA committees and ad hocs are advisory groups to the CGA Board. All committee activities are subject to CGA Board review and direction, with the CGA Board retaining final decision-making authority.

Standing committees currently include:

Projects and Management Actions (PMA)

The PMA Committee was formed in March 2022 to advise the CGA Board on the implementation of groundwater sustainability projects and management actions. The Committee consists of 1 appointee from each member GSA.

Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)

The Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) for the Cosumnes Subbasin was formed to provide a productive venue for input from and information-sharing among the Subbasin's diverse communities and interest. The CAC consists of a range of applicants with interest and experience in sustainable groundwater management, with the goal of representation from the jurisdictional area of each GSA. Applications are currently being accepted and reviewed on a rolling basis.

Additional ad hoc or other informal groups include:

New Well Permitting Ad Hoc (currently inactive)

In July 2022, the CGA Board of Directors decided to form an ad hoc committee to explore how the CGA's potential role in evaluating new well permit applications in accordance with the Drought EO N-7-22 Action 9. The CGA Well Permit Ad Hoc Committee consists of GSA-appointed members (a mix of CGA Board alternates and GSA Boards/staff, aiming to have all seven GSAs represented) and a member of the public.

Outreach & Engagement (O&E) Team

The O&E Team was formed in August 2022 as an informal entity charged with preparing for future public workshops and supporting near-term outreach and engagement. The team consists of two members from the PMA Committee and two members from the CAC.

Additional Support

In 2021, the GSAs retained the services of a Watershed Coordinator through the California Department of Conservation Sustainable Groundwater Management Watershed Coordinator Grant awarded to the Southeast Sacramento County Agricultural Water Authority (SSCAWA). SSCAWA is comprised of three of the GSAs (OHWD, Clay WD, and GID) (sscawa.org). The Watershed Coordinator Program is intended to help improve groundwater sustainability while promoting better watershed management, river flow, connectivity, and ecosystem function in the Upper Cosumnes Watershed and Upper Mokelumne Watershed in all or portions of the Cosumnes and South American Subbasin.

The CGA received planning and facilitation support from the Consensus Building Institute (cbi.org), a nonprofit organization that also facilitated the Working Group during GSP development. During GSP implementation, 2022 through early 2023 facilitation support was funded through the Department of Water Resources [Facilitation Support Services \(FSS\) assistance and engagement](#). Note: the Water Forum (waterforum.org) worked with CBI to provide substantial planning and coordination support during GSP development. Both were funded through Prop 1 and Prop 68 funding.

In 2022, the CGA contracted several technical consultants, including: EKI Environment & Water, Inc. (ekiconsult.com) for project planning, annual report development; SCI Consulting Group (sci-cg.com) to support fee study development; MLJ Environmental, LLC (mljenvironmental.com) for groundwater monitoring; and Downey Brand LLP (downeybrand.com) for general counsel services.

III. Outreach Roles

Subbasin-Wide

GSP Development

Refer to the [2021 version of the C&E Plan](#) for additional context on outreach roles among the Working Group and committees.

GSP Implementation

Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA)

During GSP implementation, the CGA Board members' outreach responsibilities include receiving/considering input from the public and stakeholder groups, providing direction and guidance to the Outreach & Engagement Team and for C&E Plan implementation, reporting on public/stakeholder comments shared with GSA Boards and other outreach/engagement discussions, and making recommendations on outreach and engagement to GSA Boards for consideration.

Committees / Working Groups / Advisory Groups

CGA Committees and Advisory Committees form under the guidance and direction of the CGA. The CGA defines/updates the outreach responsibilities of these entities.

The Projects and Management Actions Committee helps identify opportunities for public/stakeholder engagement and offer ideas for effective outreach and engagement to help the public and stakeholders become aware and better understand PMAs.

The Citizen Advisory Committee discusses and supports public/stakeholder outreach and engagement, including updating and implementing the Cosumnes Subbasin Communication & Engagement Plan.

The Outreach & Engagement Team helps manage and implement public/stakeholder outreach and engagement with input and direction from the CGA Board and committees.

Subbasin Point of Contact / Public Information Officer - The Cosumnes Subbasin Public Information Office is the external communications representative and serves as a general point of contact for the subbasin, and each GSA has designated a GSA point of contact (see **Table 2**). Refer to [Appendix A](#) for further description on the roles and responsibilities of the Cosumnes PIO.

Current Cosumnes Public Information Officer and General Point of Contact:
CGA Administrator, Austin Miller, info@cosumnesgroundwater.org

Watershed Coordinator – The Watershed Coordinator outreach responsibilities include conducting meetings and outreach for projects related to the GSP. The Watershed Coordinator and the Cosumnes PIO often coordinate to support outreach and engagement activities for the Cosumnes Subbasin.

Current Watershed Coordinator
Stephen Julian, sjulian@cosumnesgroundwater.org*

**The Watershed Coordinator serves as the primary contact related to projects, monitoring, and other technical activities.*

GSA-Specific

Each GSA is responsible for GSA-specific outreach and notifications in compliance with SGMA (Refer to [Appendix B](#) for more information on SGMA engagement requirements).

The **GSA Board of Directors/Supervisors (GSA Boards)** are elected or appointed officials with each GSA Board serving as its respective GSA Governing Body that has final approval authority for its GSA and how the GSA will develop and implement the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP. Refer to the GSAs' website for more information of member composition. In regards to outreach, GSA Boards are responsible, as appropriate, for:

- Confirming and overseeing implementation of the C&E Plan
- Entering into agreements with other public agencies to codify agency-to-agency engagement activities for the development and implementation of the GSP
- Considering the recommendations of the Working Group (or JPA, once formally established) and its committees, staff, and advisory groups
- Receiving and considering public comments made verbally and in writing.

GSA Points of Contact

Each GSA has a designated point of contact to address questions specific to that GSA (See **Table 2** below for contact information to date).

Table 2. Contact Information for GSAs in the Cosumnes Subbasin

Groundwater Sustainability Agency	Contact Information
Amador County Groundwater Authority	Gary Thomas, gthomas@amadorwater.org, 209-223-3018
City of Galt	Jay Vandenburg, jvandenburg@cityofgalt.org, 209.366.7130
Clay Water District	Rick Wohle, 209-734-6077
Galt Irrigation District	Leo VanWarmerdam, Galtirrigationdistrict@gmail.com, 209-914-1140
Omochumne-Hartnell Water District	Mark Stretars, info@ohwd.org, 916-682-5958
Sacramento County	Chris Hunley, hunleyc@saccounty.net, 916-877-7277
Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District	Austin Miller, info@SloughhouseRCD.org, 916-526-5447

IV. How Public Input is Used

The GSAs in the Cosumnes Subbasin are committed to keeping the **public involved** by providing the public with comprehensive, accurate and timely information about SGMA and by **providing multiple opportunities for public input and engagement**. The public should be able to understand SGMA’s GSP requirements and provide recommendations on plan formation and SGMA implementation. The primary opportunities for public involvement are through attendance, presentations, and public comment periods at CGA meetings, Working Group / Technical Advisory Committee meetings, stakeholder advisory groups (e.g., SWAG), periodic public workshops where public input will be synthesized and brought back to the GSAs for consideration, and through one-on-one or small group conversations with affected water users. Representatives of affected water users will be invited to make periodic presentations at meetings to foster in-depth discussion of GSP-related topics.

V. Stakeholders in the Cosumnes Subbasin

SGMA (Section 10723.2) calls for consideration of all interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as quoted directly below:

The groundwater sustainability agency shall consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing groundwater sustainability plans. These interests include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

- a) Holders of overlying groundwater rights, including:
 1. Agricultural users
 2. Domestic well owners
- b) Municipal well operators
- c) Public water systems
- d) Local land use planning agencies
- e) Environmental users of groundwater
- f) Surface water users, if there is a hydrologic connection between surface and groundwater bodies
- g) The federal government, including, but not limited to, the military and managers of federal lands

- h) California Native American Tribes
- i) Disadvantaged communities, including, but not limited to, those served by private domestic wells or small community water systems
- j) Entities listed in Section 10927 that are monitoring and reporting groundwater elevations in all or a part of a groundwater basin managed by the groundwater sustainability agency
- k) Neighboring GSAs

GSAs will also conduct outreach to engage public agencies (including fire departments and Cal Fire), treaty lands, and other interested parties.

The Stakeholder table in [Appendix C](#) organizes stakeholders by use category, applicable GSA(s), and potential strategies for engagement. This table will continue to be updated based on public workshops, small outreach meetings with Cosumnes Subbasin stakeholders, etc.

VI. Community & Engagement Forums

To truly engage the public in development and implementation of a GSP that is science-based, complex, technical, and includes achievable outcomes, GSAs will strive to meet these overall objectives:

- Educate the public in compelling ways. Communicate what may often be complex concepts in simple and compelling ways with graphics and examples.
- Manage expectations. Avoid “anything goes” meetings that might pursue unrealistic and impractical approaches.
- Demonstrate how the input received has been incorporated into the plan or process – an important piece to the communication puzzle.
- Remain focused on results. Understand objectives of each public meeting and facilitate the achievement of those objectives.

This Communication and Engagement Plan outlines several key forums and pathways for fostering public awareness and informed public input into plan development and implementation, including:

Subbasin-Wide

GSP Development

Refer to the [2021 version of the C&E Plan](#) for additional context on the community and engagement forums for the Working Group, committees, and advisory groups.

GSP Implementation

Cosumnes Groundwater Authority Meetings – Cosumnes Groundwater Agency (CGA) are open to the public. This section will be updated as needed per direction from the CGA.

Meets third Monday of each month at 9:00 am at the Community Conference Room, Galt Police Department, 455 Industrial Dr., Galt, CA 95632 (unless otherwise posted at [Cosumnes.waterforum.org/meetings](https://cosumnes.waterforum.org/meetings) and emailed to interested parties list).

Committees

The CGA will continue to assess the need, focus and structure of standing or ad hoc stakeholder advisory bodies on an ongoing basis to support GSP implementation

Standing Advisory Bodies

To date, standing committees that are open to the public include:

- Projects and Management Actions (PMA) Committee
- Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

Other Ad Hoc or Informal Groups

To date, previous or existing ad hoc committees or other informal groups include:

- Outreach and Engagement Team (meets as needed; CGA Board and Committee members can contact the O&E Team if they wish to attend any O&E Team meeting)
- New Well Permitting Ad Hoc (currently inactive; its August 5, 2022 meeting was open to the public.

Public Workshops – Periodic public workshops throughout the subbasin will shape the overall process for SGMA implementation by providing an opportunity for broad stakeholder education, participation and input. Public workshops are expected to take place both in individual GSA service areas and basin-wide, as needed. Public workshops are specifically designed for members of the public and stakeholders who are interested in groundwater to learn about and provide input into GSP development and SGMA implementation. Major decision points on SGMA implementation will be vetted at the workshops. GSA members are encouraged to participate in (or at least attend) all workshops to demonstrate the cross-GSA collaboration and ensure consistency in message.

Workshop dates will be emailed to the interested parties list, posted to cosumnesgroundwater.org/meetings/workshops, advertised via media notices, and shared through partner organization's blogs and email lists.

Project Website – The CGA launched its official, new website in 2022 – CosumnesGroundwater.org. The website offers a standing opportunity for any interested water users and members of the public to provide ongoing comment. See below for further information about the website. *(Note: during GSP development, the Water Forum maintained a website, Cosumnes.WaterForum.org, for the Working Group and GSP development activities.)*

GSA-Specific

GSA Board Meetings – Each of the seven GSAs in the Cosumnes Subbasin hold monthly board meetings that are publicly noticed and open to public attendance, with opportunity for public comment. These meetings afford participants opportunity for direct input into a GSA's SGMA decision-making process.

- **Amador County Groundwater Authority Board of Directors** meets on the first Monday of the month in the Amador Water Agency Board Room, 128000 Ridge Road, Sutter Creek, CA 95685.
- **City of Galt City Council** meets every first and third Tuesday at 6:00 p.m. City of Galt GSA issues are held jointly.
- **Clay Water District Board of Directors** meets quarterly at Herald Fire Protection District, 11620 Clay Station Rd, Herald, CA.
- **Galt Irrigation District Board of Directors** meets on the second Tuesday of the month at its office, 12716 Herald Rd, Herald, CA.
- **Omochumne-Hartnell Water District Board of Directors** meets on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 am at 7513 Sloughhouse Road, Elk Grove, CA.

- **Sacramento County Board of Directors** meets at least twice per month on various Tuesdays at 9:30 AM. GSA topics are scheduled as necessary. Meetings are also held on select Wednesdays at various times.
- **Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District Board of Directors** meets 2nd Wednesday of each month at 1:00 pm at the Rancho Murieta Community Service District Office, 15160 Jackson Rd, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683.

Public Meetings/Hearing - Public meetings and hearings are formal opportunities for people to provide official comments on programs, plans and proposals. SGMA requires that a public meeting be held prior to the adoption of a fee and that public hearings are held for the adoption of GSP elements, the final GSP, and amendments to the GSP. There are also legal requirements for public hearings for some fee/rate options. Public meetings and hearings are an important forum for people to share viewpoints and concerns, but often occur at the end of a process, when only one option is under consideration. Each GSA will hold required public meetings and hearings, but will also use less formal public workshops (described above) to solicit feedback and information early in the process. Notice of public meetings and hearings will be posted by each GSA. General updates are posted on cosumnes.waterforum.org; this site is likely to change as the effort shifts to implementation. Any updates will be widely distributed.

Public Notices - In addition to the public notice required for fee adoption, SGMA requires that, prior to initiating the development of a GSP, GSAs must provide a written statement describing the way interested parties may participate in the development and implementation of the GSP. As outlined in this Communication and Engagement Plan, there will be a variety of opportunities for people to participate in the development and implementation of the GSP, including workshops, public hearings, providing comments at GSA, CGA, and CGA committee meetings, and through written comments.

VII. Communication Tools

The following describes communication tools to support subbasin-wide communication and engagement. Refer to [Appendices B-K](#), which outline specific communication and engagement activities completed to date, strategies, examples, and other communication and engagement resources to support SGMA implementation.

Interested Persons Email List

SGMA mandates the creation of an interested persons list. CGA staff sends periodic email updates to the list, particularly leading up to and following each CGA, standing committee, and public meeting. Interested parties can [sign up](#) on the website, and staff from all agencies and stakeholders could contribute names of organizations, agencies, and individuals. Whenever individuals inquired about the process or attend a meeting, CGA staff will add them to the list upon request. The list is broad and includes anyone who would like to stay informed about SGMA activities. To date, the list has more than 550 subscriptions.

In addition to the interested persons email list, CGA staff work with CBI facilitators, consultants, and CGA Board and committees to identify organizations interested in providing more in-depth briefings and presentations to the CGA and its committees on GSP-related topics. CGA staff maintain regular contact with these organizations and their designated representatives.

Website – cosumnesgroundwater.org

The current project website, <https://www.cosumnesgroundwater.org/>, is an information repository for the Cosumnes Subbasin groundwater implementation process. Background and educational information,

meeting materials to date, and a schedule of relevant meeting dates are available on the site. The site also included a [contact page](#) to submit messages to CGA staff and for interested persons to sign up for regular updates on SGMA-related activities within the subbasin.

(Note: the previous website for GSP development was cosumnes.waterforum.org.)

Meeting Summaries

CGA staff develop meeting minutes for each CGA Board meeting. Committees also develop summaries and/or provide summary reports to the CGA Board. CBI facilitators work with the O&E Team to develop public meeting summaries. The website contains a publicly accessible archive of all meeting summaries to-date. GSAs and interested parties are able to share key outcomes with their organizations and interested parties.

Meeting Feedback Forms

In 2022, meeting attendees could provide feedback for any CGA-related meeting, including for the CGA Board, committees, and public workshops ([online](#) | [print-friendly](#)). Feedback forms help inform the CGA's approach to meeting design, process and protocols, and issues of interest.

Talking Points

During GSP Development, at the direction of the Working Group, the Water Forum/PIO and O&E Committee developed and updated shared talking points to support GSAs in conveying a consistent, unified message across GSAs and throughout the subbasin. Talking points were organized by category (e.g., governance; public engagement) and drafted with guidance from GSAs. Talking points provided foundational information upon which GSAs could elaborate. Talking points will be updated as needed during GSP implementation.

Informational Materials, Developed at Milestones

Informational materials, including fact sheets ([Appendix I](#)), are critical for successful education and the circulation of consistent, accurate information. CGA staff, the facilitation team, and O&E Team develop a range of materials that are Cosumnes Subbasin-specific as well as capitalize on materials developed by other water expert resources (e.g., State of California, entities involved with GroundwaterExchange.org, etc.) when available. All materials were posted to the website.

Cosumnes Subbasin Stakeholder Survey and Landowner Data Request Form

In January 2019, each GSA distributed a groundwater survey ([link](#)) and data request form ([link](#)) to landowners in its jurisdiction to obtain stakeholder information that could improve the understanding of beneficial users and uses of groundwater, as well as other parties interested in groundwater management in the Cosumnes Subbasin. Answers provided to these questions was helpful in supporting the development of a more accurate, fair, and useful GSP. For many local residents, this mailing served as a first opportunity to learn about SGMA in the Cosumnes Subbasin. Mailings included a Cosumnes Subbasin Fact Sheet and directed recipients to cosumnes.waterforum.org to learn more.

Farmers/Ranchers Landowners Survey

In 2022/2023, the CGA distributed a farmers and landowners survey ([online](#) | [print-friendly](#)). 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. The survey also aims to better understand the types of incentives farmers would consider in exchange for their participation. Responses are completely confidential. 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 was mailed to all unique names within the basin plain of the subbasin with over 20 acres of land (based on parcel data). [Post cards](#) were

also mailed and incentives were provide (\$20 gift card for submittal). Responses continue to be collected.

Direct Organizational Briefings

As appropriate, CGA members and other staff conduct briefings for stakeholder organizations to expand outreach to interested groups or inform a broad section of the community that might not otherwise attend a public workshop or would benefit from in-depth dialogue. Interested organizations are encouraged to contact the CGA Administrator, Watershed Coordinator, or GSAs to arrange a briefing.

Advertising Public Engagement Opportunities

The CGA Administrator, Watershed Coordinator, facilitation team, and O&E Team work to ensure that CGA outreach efforts were comprehensive in reaching any and all interested stakeholders. Outreach approaches were and will continue to be updated as new and better ways to reach interested parties are identified. To date, public engagement opportunities were advertised using strategies such as:

- **Email blasts to the Interested Parties list** – Interested parties can sign up to receive updates and information about upcoming engagement opportunities.
- **One-paragraph update** – Text that CGA members can incorporate into organizational newsletters, blogs, and Facebook posts to reach interested parties.
- **Website** – Date and location of public meetings and workshops will be highlighted on the cosumnesgroundwater.org homepage.
- **Public Service Announcement** – Text submitted to local media outlets to advertise upcoming public workshops.
- **Social media engagement** – Local groups and individuals should consider using social media to amplify outreach materials and advertise public engagement opportunities.
- **Other outreach media**, such as mailers, bulletin boards, flyers at community gathering sites, etc., can also be used as a way to reach out to community members.

Other announcement methods have been employed such as use of meeting flyers, press releases and direct mailings to residents to ensure interested parties are kept apprised of recent key decisions and upcoming public engagement opportunities. [Appendix B](#) documents Cosumnes Subbasin SGMA outreach activities and press coverage of SGMA in the Cosumnes Subbasin to date.

Outreach Packets have also been developed to help CGA Board and committee members, GSAs, and other outreach partners more broadly share upcoming public workshops announcements. These packets often include resources such as direct public workshop webpage, QR Code, flyers and/or mailers, public service announcements, news blurb/social media text, public workshop agenda, and other related handouts as available. ([See recent example.](#))

Outreach Tracker

CGA members may choose to document completed outreach activities via an online outreach tracker to serve as a central repository for tracking all outreach and engagement activities conducted to-date. The intent of this tracker would be to provide a transparent mechanism for all interested parties to see the range of activities and input provided to the GSAs.

View current online form at www.surveymonkey.com/r/cosumnesoutreach

VIII. Evaluation and Assessment

Any communication strategy should include opportunities to check in at various points during implementation to ensure that it is meeting the communication and engagement goals complying with SGMA. These check-ins should occur at least on an annual basis and explore:

- a. What worked well?
- b. What didn't work as planned?
- c. Meeting recaps with next steps
- d. Lessons learned

December 2022: Presentation made to the CGA Board reflecting on previous outreach engagement and considerations for future activities [[View presentation slide deck](#)]

Appendix A: Governance

GSP Development and Submittal

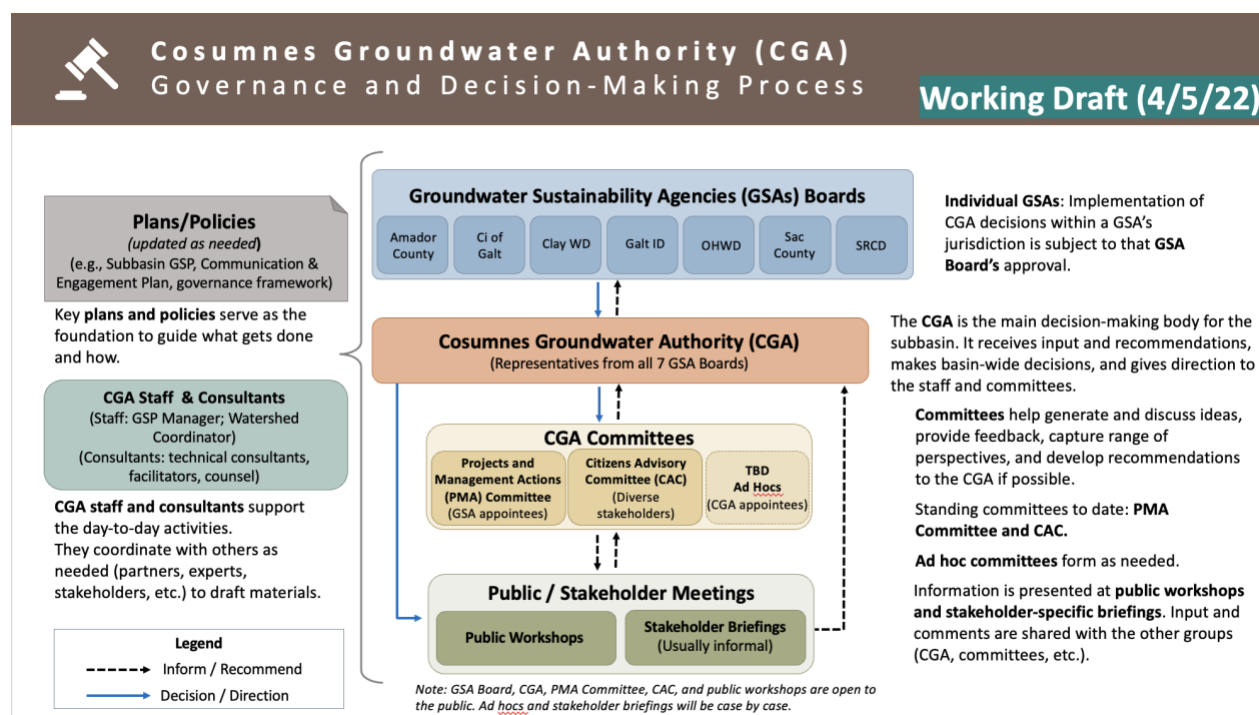
Finalized Aug/Sept 2018 - [Cosumnes Working Group Framework Agreement – Phase 1 & 2](#)

Finalized Mar 2020 - [Cosumnes Working Group Framework Agreement – Phase 3 and 4](#)

GSP Implementation

In November 2021, seven Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) in the Cosumnes Subbasin formed the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA).

[Final CGA Joint Exercise of Powers Agreement](#)



(click image to view a larger version)

Figure 3. CGA Governance and Decision-Making Process Diagram

CGA Board of Directors

GSA	Representative
Amador County Groundwater Management Authority GSA	Representative: Gary Thomas Alternate: Rick Ferriera
Clay Water District GSA	Representative: Rick Whole Alternate: Gary Silva
City of Galt	GSA Representative: Jay Vandenburg Alternate: Mike Selling
Galt Irrigation District GSA	Representative: Leo VanWarmerdam Alternate: John Mulrooney
Omochumne-Hartnell Water District GSA	Representative: Mark Stretars (Vice Chair) Alternate: Kurt Kautz
County of Sacramento GSA	Representative: Pat Hume Alternate: Chris Henley (Chair)
Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District GSA	Representative: Herb Garms Alternate: Lindsey Carter

Standing Committees

Projects and Management Actions Committee

PMA Committee Member	Appointing Organization
Rick Ferreira	Amador CGMA
Gary Silva	Clay WD
Mike Selling	City of Galt
Pat Kirby	Galt ID
Paul Hensleigh	Omochumne-Hartnell WD
Chris Hunley	Sacramento County GSA
Barbara Washburn	Sloughhouse RCD

Citizen Advisory Committee

For more information: <https://www.cosumnesgroundwater.org/about/cac/>

CAC Members	
Belinda Ellis	Dave Means
Eugene Rose (previous)	Gary McEnery
Mark Nelson	Neil Dubrovsky
Teresa Flewellyn	Tish Espinosa
Tom Malson	

Other Ad Hoc or Informal Committees

New Well Permit Ad Hoc Committee

(currently inactive)

Member	Affiliation
Rick Ferriera	Amador CGMA
Gary Silva	Clay WD
Mike Selling	City of Galt

John Mulrooney	Galt ID
Mike Wackman	Omochumne-Hartnell WD
Chris Hunley	Sacramento County GSA
Herb Garms	Sloughouse RCD
Mark Beck	Member-at-Large

Outreach & Engagement Team

(meets as needed)

Member	CGA Affiliation
Chris Hunley	PMA Committee; CGA Board Chair
Barbara Washburn	PMA Committee
Belinda Ellis	CAC
Teresa Flewellyn	CAC

Cosumnes Public Information Officer (External Communications Representative) -- Roles & Responsibilities

The Public Information Officer and External Communications Representative served the same function, just operated under different titles at different periods of GSP development due to staffing changes. Language below is the direct text presented and approved by the Working Group at the February 17, 2021 meeting. These Roles & Responsibilities will be updated as needed by the CGA during GSP implementation.

External Communications Representative

The External Communications Representative (Communications Rep) serves as the main point of contact for receiving and responding to requests for information from external entities (members of the public, media, etc.). The Communications Rep has the authorization to speak on behalf of the Cosumnes Subbasin Working Group in a way that is consistent with the [Working Group Framework Agreement](#), the Outreach & Engagement Plan (2019), and the following roles and responsibilities:

- (1) Represent the decisions and positions agreed upon by the Working Group and not express their own or their organization's opinion when representing the Working Group.
- (2) As appropriate, consult and work with the Outreach & Engagement Committee, Working Group, and/or consultants (currently Water Forum, EKI, and CBI) to develop and distribute (or oversee development and/or distribution of) external communications and resources as needed.
- (3) Track media contacts and results.
- (4) Refer the media to the appropriate GSAs for inquiries related to the GSAs' projects or actions.

External Communication Process/Protocols

- (1) As outlined in the Framework Agreement, each GSA is responsible for guiding outreach and engagement efforts within their respective jurisdictions.
- (2) The Working Group has final decision-making authority on the Communications Rep position and term.
- (3) Requests from media for Working Group-related comments or appearances should be directed to the Communications Rep.
- (4) When talking to the press, Working Group members are asked to represent their own GSA views only. Only the Communications Rep may speak for the Working Group. Any member may speak about the Working Group.
- (5) Working Group media releases should be developed and distributed by the Communications Rep in coordination with the Outreach & Engagement Committee (or appropriate parties) using a standard media release form developed by the committee. They will be distributed to the Working Group for comment before distribution (excluding generic meeting/event announcements or generic media announcements with previously agreed upon language).
- (6) The Communications Rep will report any media contacts and the results to the group at the next Working Group meeting, or by email distribution if timely reporting is prudent.
- (7) Working Group members should give public credit to the Working Group for contributions to a member or joint action when discussing activities in public or with media.
- (8) Working Group members should notify the Planning Team and Communications Rep if the news media is expected to attend a Working Group meeting.

Appendix B: Summary of Cosumnes Outreach & Engagement Activities

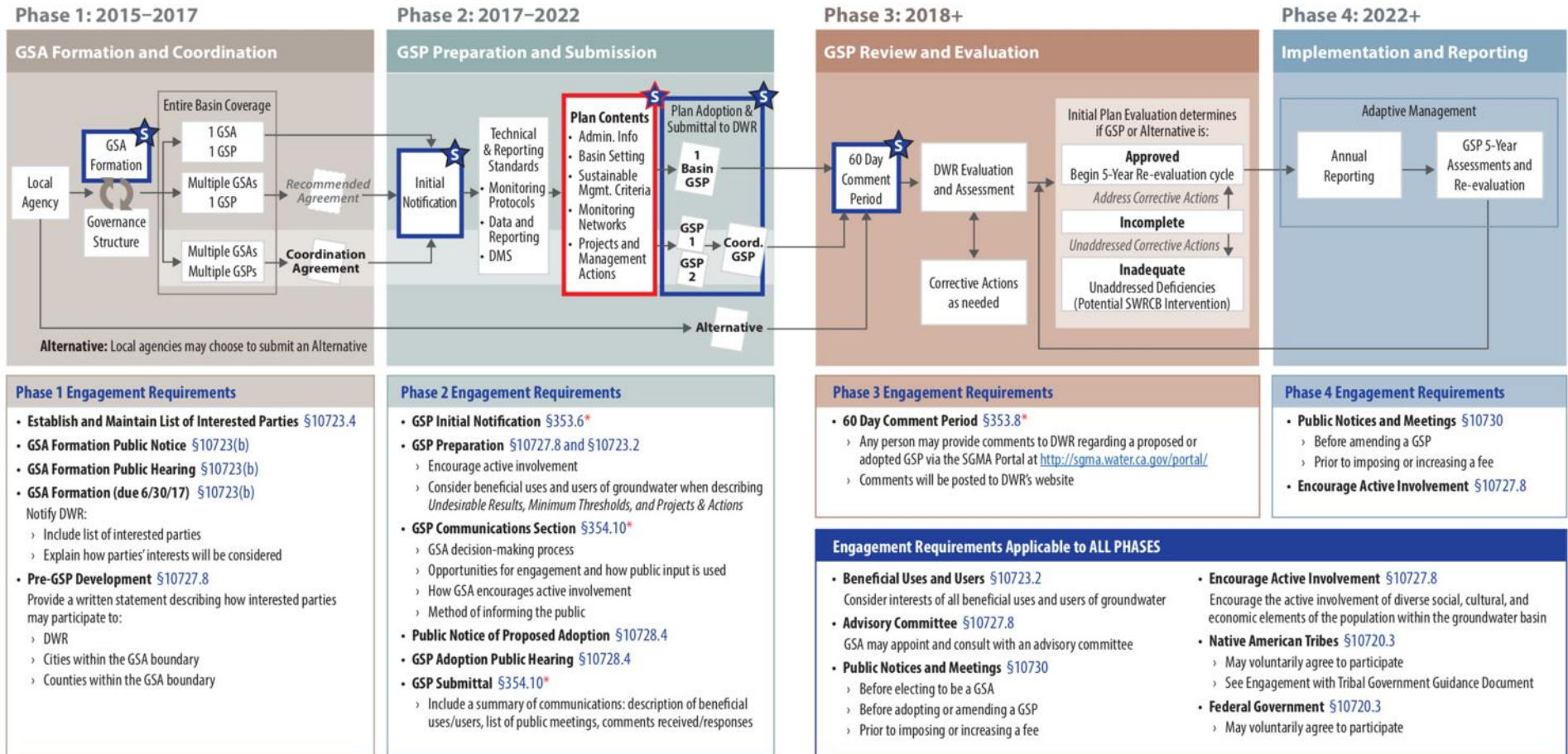


Figure 4. SGMA Engagement Requirements by Phase

Table 3. SGMA Engagement Opportunities, Milestones, and Progress to Date in the Cosumnes Subbasin

Note: This is a work in progress.

Timeframe	Milestone or Stage	Required Community Engagement Under SGMA	Communication Strategies	Status (as of August 2021)
GSA Formation (2015-2017)	During GSA governance development (developed by June 30, 2017)	Notice of Intent (NOI) of GSAs' Formation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide notice of GSAs' outreach resources: website, email listserv, calendar of District Board and Groundwater Commission meetings • Develop and continue to update list of interested parties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2016-June 2017: Monthly SGMA Working Group and TAC meetings • 2016-June 2017: GSAs submitted NOI for formation (refer to DWR SGMA GSA portal) • March 2017: First public workshop • Interested parties list developed for whole subbasin
Shortly After GSA Formation	After identification of outreach responsibilities among GSA entities	Notification of GSAs' formation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GSA Board and Working Group meetings • Email notices and updates • Newspaper notice of public workshop(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2016: Monthly Working Group began; open to the public • May 2017: TAC began to meet; open to the public • July 2017: Cosumnes Subbasin website launched (cosumnes.waterforum.org)
Before GSP Planning Activities	Prior to beginning GSP development	Provide to the public and State, notice of intent to begin GSP planning and description of opportunities for interested parties to participate in GSP development and implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public workshop(s) • GSA Board and Working Group meetings • Email notices and updates • Newspaper notice of public workshop(s) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2016 to Present: Working Group/TAC meetings open to the public (TAC merged with WG meetings in 2018) • October 2017: Three public workshops held in Jackson, Wilton, Galt
Between Notice of GSP Planning and January 31, 2022	During GSP development	Public workshops, public meetings, GSA Board meetings, Working Group meetings and other opportunities providing stakeholder avenues to participate in GSP development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public workshops and/or public meetings on GSP development. • GSA Board and Working Group meetings • Email notice of public workshops / meetings • Newspaper notices of public workshops / meetings • Updates and information on GSP development at standing meetings • Disseminate updates via interested parties list, websites social media, outreach partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • June 2016 to Jan 2022: Regular GSAs' Board meetings • June 2016 to Jan 2022: Monthly WG and TAC meetings, noticed via interested parties list and at cosumnes.waterforum.org/meetings (TAC merged with WG meetings in 2018) • June 2016 to Jan 2022: WG Committees (Long-Term Governance, Outreach & Engagement, GSP Ad Hoc, P/MAs, Monitoring, etc.) regularly report committee discussions and any recommendations for WG consideration and guidance at the regular monthly WG meetings. These temporary committee meetings consist of a subset of WG members and supporting staff;

				<p>external experts periodically invited to participate as needed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March 2017 to Oct 2021: Series of seven public workshops held during GSP development; noticed via interested parties list, website, printed flyers, and outreach partners. Individual GSAs also noticed via methods that may have included social media posts, press releases; mailed postcards/flyers sent out depending on GSA and/or at key milestones during GSP development.
		<p>Active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the subbasin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide email notices and updates • Update website regularly • Convene regular GSA Board and Working Group meetings • Identify and communicate opportunities for public engagement on GSP development, (providing clear messages that GSA retains legal responsibility for final GSA and GSP-related decisions) • Develop consistent, coordinated messages and talking points • Arrange for technical support to stakeholder groups through presentations or workshops conducted by GSA representatives/staff • Develop content appropriate to the audience and their interests, ensuring information can be easily understood • Utilize updated interested party stakeholder list, GSA listservs delivered via email and/or U.S. Mail, outreach partners mechanisms for communications and other media outlets such as newspaper and radio to provide notices • Strategically engage local, special SGMA identified groups • Utilize local channels and meetings to identify and communicate opportunities for public engagement and/or public comment during meetings on GSP development • Leverage and support local agencies and community organizations in disseminating information and engaging stakeholders, including through existing community meetings, newsletters, websites, and social media • Organize public meetings around concrete impacts to specific stakeholders • Develop additional, locally-targeted communication strategies to engage difficult-to-reach communities and community members 	<p>IN ADDITION TO ACTIVITIES LISTED ABOVE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017 to Jan 2022: Website regularly updated and modified (e.g., new dedicated Funding, GSP, and GSP Comment Period webpages; new factsheets and other informational resources; etc.); website modified in 2021 to be available in multiple languages • 2017 to Jan 2022: interested parties list regularly updated (comment form on website and updated after public workshops) • 2017 to Jan 2022: Communication and Engagement Plan developed and updated, containing C&E strategies and guidance, key messaging, etc. • 2017 to Jan 2022: GSA members and consultants held periodic briefings/discussions as needed with various stakeholder groups (e.g., neighboring subbasin technical consultants in So. American and E. San Joaquin, NGOs like The Nature Conservancy (TNC), community groups like Rancho Murieta, etc.) • November 2018: CBI conducted one-on-one outreach calls with representative subset of interested parties in the subbasin to get input into Outreach and Engagement Plan • January 2019: GSAs sent a direct mailing containing Subbasin Fact Sheet and Stakeholder Survey (or a link to these documents) to all landowners in the subbasin and received more than 210 survey responses. View survey findings. • March-April 2019: Public workshops in Amador, Wilton and Galt • April 4, 2019: Technical consultant EKI held a Groundwater Modeling Classroom to educate GSA representatives and members of the public about groundwater modeling (presentation, video recording). • August 21, 2019: Technical consultant EKI held a Geophysical Workshop to educate GSA representatives and members of the public (video recording). • August 2020: Public webinar on basin conditions

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 2020 to Feb 2021: Multi-stakeholder Surface Water Advisory Group (SWAG) convened to discuss ISW and GDEs; open to the public. • Dec 2020: Tribal workshop (open to public) to offer GSAs guidance on engaging Tribes (Refer to Appendix E for more specifics on Tribal engagement) • March 2021: Hybrid public workshop (webinar + simulcast at locations in Herald and Rancho Murieta) on potential progress and tracking/evaluating progress (SMCs) • May 2021: Direct mailings sent containing information about June public webinar and workshop • June 2021: Public webinar and public workshop in Herald on Plan implementation and funding. • Aug 2021-Oct 2021: Direct mailings sent containing information about the Draft GSP comment period and public workshops; public webinars and public workshops for the Draft GSP; developed several resources including a GSP summary brochure, news op-ed, GSP Comment Guide handout, customized to particular issues and stakeholders, etc.
GSP Adoption (initial GSP adoption no later than 1/31/22)	Prior to GSP adoption or amendment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide notice to cities and counties within Plan area • Consider comments provided by the cities and counties • Accommodate requests for consultation received from the cities and counties within 30 days 	SEE ABOVE	IN ADDITION TO REGULAR MEETINGS AND UPDATES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notice to cities and counties and informal briefing invitation to Tribes sent August/September 2021. • GSP summary brochure updated for GSP implementation and submitted to DWR for Spanish translation (expected early 2022). • Public comments on the Draft GSP posted on the website. Comments received and proposed responses were discussed on rolling basis at Working Group meetings (September-November). • November 29, 2021: Initial meeting of the CGA to lead GSP implementation • November 2021: C&E Plan updated
	Prior to GSP adoption or amendment	No sooner than 90 days following public notice, hold public hearing/ public workshop	SEE ABOVE	IN ADDITION TO REGULAR MEETINGS AND UPDATES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public hearings at GSA Board meetings scheduled for December and early/mid-January to approve adoption and submission of the final GSP.
	GSP Adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification of GSP submittal • Notification of GSP posted to DWR website (opening 75 day comment period) 	SEE ABOVE	IN ADDITION TO REGULAR MEETINGS AND UPDATES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remaining public hearings at GSA Board meetings held for early/mid-January to approve adoption and submission of the final GSP. • Jan 19, 2022: Final meeting of the Working Group charged with guiding GSP development.

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jan 31, 2022: Final GSP submitted to DWR. Feb 8, 2022: GSP posted to DWR website opening DWR's 75-day public comment period.
GSP Implementation 2020-2025	Initial phase of GSP implementation 2020-2025	Public workshops, public meetings, GSA Board meetings, CGA meetings and other opportunities providing stakeholder avenues to participate in GSP implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public workshops and/or public meetings on GSP development. GSA Board and committee meetings Email notice of public workshops / meetings Newspaper notices of public workshops / meetings Updates and information on GSP implementation at standing meetings Disseminate updates via interested parties list, websites social media, outreach partners 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2022 to Present: Regular GSAs' Board meetings. 2022 to Present: Monthly CGA Board meetings, noticed via interested parties list and at Cosumnesgroundwater.org/meetings. March 2022 to Present: CGA Committee meetings (current standing committees are the Projects and Management Actions (PMA) Committee and Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC), noticed via interested parties list and at Cosumnesgroundwater.org/meetings. Ad hoc groups include: New Well Permitting and Outreach & Engagement. Committees regularly report committee discussions and any recommendations for CGA Board consideration at the CGA Board meetings. May 9, 2022: Kickoff meeting of the PMA Committee. Regular PMA Committee meetings are open to the public. June 9, 2022: Kickoff meeting of the CAC. Regular CAC meetings are open to the public. Jul 27, 2022: Project Highlights informational public webinar on multi-benefit land repurposing. Aug 5, 2022: New Well Permit Ad Hoc meeting (consisting of CGA Board members, one per each GSA). (open to the public) Aug 2022: Informal ad hoc team formed to help plan for public workshops and supporting O&E. Members include two PMA Committee and two CAC members. Oct 18, 2022: CGA Board Funding Workshop. (open to the public) Feb 22 and Mar 4, 2023: Public workshops in Herald and Wilton, respectively, related to GSP implementation progress and upcoming activities. Partners, including DWR and other state and local groups, participated in the workshops. 2022-Present: Public workshops held during GSP implementation. Workshops are noticed via interested parties list, website, printed flyers, and outreach partners. Individual GSAs also notice via methods that may include social media posts, website postings, press releases, mailed postcards/flyers, etc.
		Active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide email notices and updates Launch new CGA website and update regularly Convene regular GSA Board and committee meetings 	IN ADDITION TO REGULAR MEETINGS AND UPDATES: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2022 to Present: New website launched and regularly updated (Cosumnesgroundwater.org). 2022 to Present: Interested parties list regularly updated

		<p>population within the subbasin</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and communicate opportunities for public engagement on GSP implementation, (providing clear messages that GSA retains legal responsibility for final GSA and GSP-related decisions) • Develop consistent, coordinated messages and talking points • Arrange for technical support to stakeholder groups through presentations or workshops conducted by CGA representatives/staff • Develop content appropriate to the audience and their interests, ensuring information can be easily understood • Utilize updated interested party stakeholder list, GSA listservs delivered via email and/or U.S. Mail, outreach partners mechanisms for communications and other media outlets such as newspaper and radio to provide notices • Strategically engage local, special SGMA identified groups • Utilize local channels and meetings to identify and communicate opportunities for public engagement and/or public comment during meetings on GSP implementation • Leverage and support local agencies and community organizations in disseminating information and engaging stakeholders, including through existing community meetings, newsletters, websites, and social media • Organize public meetings around concrete impacts to specific stakeholders • Develop additional, locally-targeted communication strategies to engage difficult-to-reach communities and community members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022 to Present: Online and printed meeting feedback forms available after each meeting open to the public. • May-Aug 2022: CBI conducted one-on-one outreach calls with various stakeholders and CAC members representing subsets of interested parties in the subbasin and/or insight on strategic O&E to get input on public and stakeholder O&E during GSP implementation. • Fall 2022 to Spring 2023: Farmers/landowners survey issued to assess farmers/ranchers interest in participating in groundwater management efforts. Survey was noticed via the interested parties list, website, and mailed postcards to farmers/ranchers/landowners. Surveys were confidential and included incentives for submittal (\$20 gift card). • Feb 2023: Communication and Engagement Plan updated, containing C&E strategies and guidance, key messaging, etc. • 2022 to Present: Individual GSA members, CGA and committee members, staff, and consultants hold periodic briefings/discussions as needed with various stakeholder groups (e.g., DWR, Sacramento County Farm Bureau CA RCD, neighboring subbasins, those participating in the monitoring network, various county departments, NGOs like The Nature Conservancy and Sacramento Valley Conservancy, Tribes like Wilton Rancheria, etc.).
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Media Coverage of GSP Development and Implementation in the Cosumnes Subbasin

October 25, 2017: Galt Herald article – “Groundwater Workshop Tomorrow”

October 18, 2017: River Valley Time article – “Groundwater Workshop Slated in Wilton on Oct. 24”

January 2, 2019: Amador Community Media article – “Local Agencies Launching Survey on Subbasin Groundwater Usage”

March 31, 2021, Galt Herald article – “Groundwater status, plan discussed at meeting”

September 22, 2021, Galt Herald article – “Area groundwater subject of workshop”

March 1, 2023, Galt Herald article – “About Town – Groundwater workshop March 4”

March 9, 2023, Galt Herald article – “Groundwater group gives progress report at workshops, says funding is next step”

Appendix C: Cosumnes Subbasin Stakeholders and Anticipated / Potential Engagement

Note: This is a work in progress.

*The “Anticipated Level of Engagement & Potential Strategies” column is intended to provide greater clarity on the purpose of engagement and offer ideas for focused engagement. The list is not meant to be fully comprehensive nor commit or limit parties to these strategies. Refer to the C&E Plan Communication Tools section for an overall list of strategies.

Table 4. List of Cosumnes Subbasin Stakeholders and Anticipated Level of Engagement and Potential Focused Strategies

Uses / Users / Interest Category <i>(example of stakeholders listed below)</i>	Amador	City of Galt	Clay WD	Galt ID	OHWD	Sac. County	SRCD	Anticipated Level of Engagement & Potential Focused Strategies*
Agricultural – Crops, Ranchers, Dairy, Grape								
Amador County Farm Bureau	•							Purpose Inform and involve to foster sustainable management of groundwater and consider viability of agricultural economy.
Amador Grape Growers	•							
Cattlemen’s Association							•	
E&J Gallo Winery						•		
Galt Historical Society		?				•		
Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape Commission				•				
Sacramento County Farm Bureau			•	•	•	•	•	
Sacramento-Amador Water Quality Alliance	•					•		
U.C. Cooperative Extension-Central Sierra	•						•	
Individual property owners	•		•	•	•	•	•	
Aquaculture								
Aquaculture Association							•	Purpose Inform and involve to foster sustainable management of groundwater and consider viability of aquaculture economy.
CDFW Aquaculture Program								
Stolt Sea Farms	•				?			
Fresh Water Fish Company							•	
Passmore Farms					•			
Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize outreach partners • Project partnerships • Expanding monitoring network 								
Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding monitoring network • Project partnerships 								

Uses / Users / Interest Category <i>(example of stakeholders listed below)</i>	Amador	City of Galt	Clay WD	Galt ID	OHWD	Sac. County	SRC	Anticipated Level of Engagement & Potential Focused Strategies*
Private / Ag-Res								
Lake Camanche Village Homeowners Association	•							Purpose Inform and involve to better understand impacts to users (e.g., those with relatively lower groundwater use and oftentimes shallower wells). Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Citizens Advisory Committee • Neighborhood social media platforms
Private well users	•		•	•	•	•	•	
Wilton Action/History Group					•		•	
Community Water System								
Amador Ranch	•							Purpose Inform and involve to collaborate to ensure sustainable water supplies. Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize outreach partners • Periodic briefings / updates upon request
JVID	•							
Environmental & Ecological								
Cosumnes Coalition					•	•	•	Purpose Inform and involve to consider / incorporate potential ecosystem impacts to GSP process. Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding monitoring network • Project partnerships • Information and tools sharing • Updates with the Surface Water Advisory Group
Cosumnes River Preserve						•		
Foothill Conservancy	•							
Historic McFarland Ranch						•		
The Nature Conservancy					•	•	•	
Permaculture Association							•	
Rancho Seco Park							•	
Sacramento County Parks & Recreation						•		
Sacramento Valley Conservancy		•	•	•	•	•	•	

Uses / Users / Interest Category <i>(example of stakeholders listed below)</i>	Amador	City of Galt	Clay WD	Galt ID	OHWD	Sac. County	SRC	Anticipated Level of Engagement & Potential Focused Strategies*
Industrial								
Amador Chamber of Commerce	•							Purpose Inform and involve in assessing impacts to users and support a stable economy. Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize outreach partners • Periodic briefings / updates upon request
Galt Chamber of Commerce		•						
Urban								
City of Lone	•							Purpose Inform to improve awareness of sustainable groundwater management and understanding related to common issues of concern (e.g., reliable access to drinkable water and long-term resilience to drought impacts) Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mailers to property owners in the subbasin • Citizens Advisory Committee • Neighborhood social media platforms
City of Galt		•						
Rancho Murieta							•	
Individual property owners		•						
Tribal								
Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians	•							Purpose Inform, involve, and consult with Tribal governments Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct inquiry / invitation to explore level of desired participation • Periodic briefings / updates upon request • Refer to Appendix D for additional information
Lone Band of Miwok Indians	•							
Wilton Rancheria					•			
Jackson Rancheria of Miwuk Indians	•							
(Above list includes Tribes who have expressed interest in Cosumnes Subbasin SGMA implementation at some point to date. This list will be updated as needed per communications with Tribes)								

Uses / Users / Interest Category <i>(example of stakeholders listed below)</i>	Amador	City of Galt	Clay WD	Galt ID	OHWD	Sac. County	SRC	Anticipated Level of Engagement & Potential Focused Strategies*
Economic Development								
Amador Chamber of Commerce	•							Purpose Inform and involve to support a stable economy Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize outreach partners • Periodic briefings / updates upon request
Galt Chamber of Commerce		•						
Sacramento County Agriculture Commissioner			•	•	•	•	•	
Human Right to Water / Disadvantaged Communities								
Community Water Center	•	•	?	?	?	•	?	Purpose Inform and involve to provide safe and secure groundwater supplies to all communities reliant on groundwater Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mailers to property owners in the subbasin • Translated materials / website • Seek expertise to expand/improve outreach • Citizens Advisory Committee • Neighborhood social media platforms
New Current Water	•	•	?	?	?	•	?	
Disadvantaged Communities	•	•				•		
Federal / State Lands								
California Department of Fish and Wildlife						•		Purpose Inform, involve, coordinate, and collaborate to ensure sustainable management of groundwater. Potential Focused Strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expanding monitoring network • Project partnerships • Information and tools sharing • Updates with the Surface Water Advisory Group
California Department of Transportation				•			•	
California Department of Water Resources							•	
California State Lands Commission							•	
California Wildlife Conservation Board							•	
Other California State agencies/offices		•		•		•	•	
US Bureau of Land Management							•	
US Bureau of Reclamation							•	

Uses / Users / Interest Category <i>(example of stakeholders listed below)</i>	Amador	City of Galt	Clay WD	Galt ID	OHWD	Sac. County	SRC	Anticipated Level of Engagement & Potential Focused Strategies*
Natural Resources Conservation Service							•	
Other Federal agencies/offices		•	•	•	•		•	
Land Use								
Amador County Planning Department	•							<p>Purpose Consult and involve to ensure land use policies support the GSP; there are no conflicting policies between the GSPs and local government agencies; improve public awareness of sustainable groundwater management</p> <p>Potential Focused Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefings to Boards / leadership • Staff-level intra-agency coordination
Cosumnes Community Planning Advisory Council					•	•	•	
Galt-Arno Cemetery District				•				
Sacramento County Planning Department						•		
Integrated Water Management and Inter-basin Coordination								
CA Association of Resource Conservation Districts	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	<p>Purpose Inform, involve, and collaborate to improve regional sustainability; ensure GSP implementation will not adversely affect adjoining subbasins. The JPA is expected lead overall inter-basin coordination; specific GSAs may choose to pursue specific coordination/partnership discussions as appropriate.</p> <p>Potential Focused Strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential projects partner • Information and tools sharing • Updates with the Surface Water Advisory Group
Eastern San Joaquin Valley Basin	•	•		•		•	•	
Lower Cosumnes Resource Conservation District						•		
Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency		•	•	•	•	•	•	
Sacramento Regional Water Authority		•	•	•	•	•	•	
South American Subbasin					•	•	•	
Water Forum	•	•	•	•	•	•	•	

Engagement and Outreach Partners

In addition to communication tools identified in this C&E Plan, other organizations can also partner to assist the GSAs reach its communication and engagement goals (e.g., broadening awareness, serving as ambassadors and liaisons for the GSP goals, sharing best available data/tools, partnering on projects, jointly seeking funding, etc.). These partners may include, but are not limited to:

- County Farm Bureaus
- Amador, El Dorado, Sacramento (AES) Cattle Women & Cattlemen's Association
- The Nature Conservancy (TNC)
- CA RCD
- Cosumnes Coalition
- ECOS
- Aquaculture contacts
- Monitoring Technical Support Services (TSS) well owners
- New Current Water
- UC Extension (UCCE)
- Federal and state agencies (e.g., DWR, CDFW, BLM, etc.)
- County and city departments
- Local papers / newsletters (e.g., Wilton Roundup, River Valley Times, Galt Herald, etc.)
- Local community groups (e.g., Rancho Murieta Community Services District, community Facebook and Next Door groups)

Appendix D: Tribal Engagement Guidance

Meaningful tribal outreach, dialogue, and consultation is a shared obligation of the GSAs in the applicable subbasin areas where tribal lands exist.

Tribes in the Cosumnes Subbasin

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC) identified 14 Tribes in Amador and Sacramento Counties that may have an interest in groundwater management in the Cosumnes Subbasin:

- Buena Vista Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians*
- Calaveras Band of Mi-Wuk Indians
- Colfax-Todds Valley Consolidated Tribe
- Jackson Rancheria Band of Miwok Indians*
- Nashville Enterprise Miwok-Maidu-Nishinam Tribe
- Tsi Akim Maidu
- Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians*
- Lone Band of Miwok Indians*
- Jackson Rancheria of Me-Wuk Indians*
- The Confederated Villages of Lisjan
- United Auburn Indian Community of the Auburn Rancheria*
- Washoe Tribe of Nevada and California*
- Wilton Rancheria Indian Tribe*
- Yocha Dehe Wintun Nation*

Asterisk (*) indicates federally recognized Native American Tribes.¹

Outreach Steps

The following outlines potential outreach activities the GSAs may choose to pursue as a coordinated subbasin or as individual GSAs. This does not commit GSAs to specific tasks nor preclude them from pursuing other strategies aligned with the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP, CGA governance documents, and the C&E Plan.

Phase I

1. Confirm that the Native American Tribes identified above are correctly posed for SGMA outreach. [Complete. NAHC identified 14 Tribes in Amador and Sacramento Counties]
2. The GSAs will prepare background materials related to Native American tribal outreach and engagement. The material will include a compilation of past Native American tribal outreach methods, goals, and results (including primary points of contact). The materials will include SGMA-related obligations for GSAs pursuant to SGMA, and interests and goals as they relate to tribal outreach and potential participation in sustainable groundwater management planning (see *Relevant DWR Information* below). [Ongoing effort. Outreach presentation occurred Dec 2020]
3. The GSAs will conduct an initial, informal communication with tribal primary points of contact to clarify interest in communicating formally regarding SGMA and tribal interests; request advice about appropriate avenues for outreach; and identify next steps. In the event a tribal representative cannot be contacted within 45 days, the District will consult with DWR's Office of Tribal Policy Advisor for guidance (Anecita Agustinez, DWR Tribal Policy Advisor - Anecita.Agustinez@water.ca.gov). [Complete. Informal communications sent to 14 Tribes in 2021 during GSP development and Draft GSP review]
4. Following successful initial communication with the Native American Tribes, the GSAs will facilitate the implementation of the next steps identified in #3. Actions may include preparation of a formal letter from the Board to each of the tribes, involvement of other GSAs with the tribes, and/or establishing a consultation framework. [ongoing effort]

¹ Source: <https://www.ihs.gov/california/index.cfm/tribal-consultation/resources-for-tribal-leaders/links-and-resources/list-of-federally-recognized-tribes-in-ca/>

Phase II

1. Continue to periodically send direct inquiries/invitations to explore level of desired participation.
2. Periodically conduct briefings/updates upon request.
3. Continue to use other forms of communication and information sharing beyond electronic communications. To date, this has included direct mailings, phone calls, and/or in-person informal discussions.
4. Continue to refine/maintain the list of Tribes identified above and maintain a updated contact information for each Tribe.
5. Continue to maintain the Cosumnes Subbasin website as an online database and document repository to increase access to information.

Summary of Cosumnes Subbasin Outreach Activities

Ongoing

- Tribal contacts invited to subscribe to the Interested Parties list and attend meetings
- Those subscribed to the Interested Parties list receive event notices

GSP Development

- Water Forum engaged Tribes in 2015 prior to GSA formation
- Periodic tribal participation at Working Group meetings
- Tribes interviewed in CBI stakeholder engagement assessment (2019)
- NAHC contacted to confirm/update list and received contact information for 14 Native American Tribes that may have an interest in groundwater management in the subbasin
- Informal training workshop to GSAs on tribal engagement [[Link to presentation slides](#)]
- Invitation letters mailed and emailed to Tribes (per the NAHC list) in early 2021 to explore Tribes' interest in participating in the GSP development process [[Link to template letter](#)] and in August/September 2021 to notify them of release of the Draft GSP for public comment.

GSP Implementation

[Work in progress, more information will be provided as it becomes available]

- Invitation letters mailed and emailed to Tribes in 2022 to explore Tribes' interest in participating in GSP implementation.
- CGA staff and/or individual board members from Sacramento and Amador counties conduct periodic briefings to respective Tribes (Sacramento County: Wilton Rancheria; Amador County: Buena Vista Rancheria and Lone Band of Miwoks).

Relevant DWR Information

SGMA Section 10720.3. ...any federally recognized Indian Tribe, appreciating the shared interest in assuring the sustainability of groundwater resources, may voluntarily agree to participate in the preparation or administration of a groundwater sustainability plan or groundwater management plan under this part through a joint powers authority or other agreement with local agencies in the basin. A participating Tribe shall be eligible to participate fully in planning, financing, and management under this part, including eligibility for grants and technical assistance, if any exercise of regulatory authority, enforcement, or imposition and collection of fees is pursuant to the Tribe's independent authority and not pursuant to authority granted to a groundwater sustainability agency under this part.

**Guidance Document for Sustainable Management of Groundwater:
Engagement with Tribal Governments** [[Link](#)]

Discussion Questions Relating to Tribal Governments Engagement with GSAs [\[Link\]](#)

Must a local agency exclude federal and tribal lands from its service area when forming a GSA?

No, federal lands and tribal lands need not be excluded from a local agency’s GSA area if a local agency has jurisdiction in those areas; however, those areas are not subject to SGMA. But, a local agency in its GSA formation notice shall explain how it will consider the interests of the federal government and California Native American Tribes when forming a GSA and developing a GSP. DWR strongly recommends that local agencies communicate with federal and tribal representatives prior to deciding to become a GSA. As stated in Water Code §10720.3, the federal government or any federally recognized Indian Tribe, appreciating the shared interest in assuring the sustainability of groundwater resources, may voluntarily agree to participate in the preparation or administration of a GSP or groundwater management plan through a JPA or other agreement with local agencies in the basin. Water Code References: §10720.3, §10723.2, §10723.8

Tribal Outreach Resources

The follow are links to agency tribal outreach resources and considerations, each of which captures important principles and resources for tribal outreach. A short summary of key outreach principles can be found below.

- ◆ [CalEPA Tribal Consultation Policy Memo \(August 2015\)](#)
- ◆ [DWR Tribal Engagement Policy \(May 2016\)](#)
- ◆ [CA Natural Resources Agency Tribal Consultation Policy \(November 2012\)](#)
- ◆ [SWRCB Proposed Tribal Beneficial Uses](#)
- ◆ [CA Court Tribal Outreach and Engagement Strategies](#)
- ◆ [Traditional Ecological Knowledge resources](#)
- ◆ [Water Education Foundation Tribal Water Issues](#)

Key Outreach Principles²

- ◆ Engage early and often
- ◆ Consider tribal beneficial uses in decision-making (identified by region [here](#)); identify and seek to protect tribal cultural resources
- ◆ Share relevant documentation with tribal officials
- ◆ Conduct meetings at times convenient for tribal participation with ample notifications
- ◆ Request relevant process input/data/information from tribes
- ◆ Empower tribes to act as tribal cultural resources caretakers
- ◆ Designate a tribal liaison(s) where appropriate
- ◆ Share resources for tribal involvement as is feasible
- ◆ Develop MOUs where relevant
- ◆ Be mindful of the traditions and cultural norms of tribes in your area

Key Outreach Partners/Liaisons

The following are potential partners for Tehama County tribal SGMA outreach:

- ◆ [SGMA Tribal Advisory Group \(TAG\)](#): “The Tribal Advisory Group (TAG) includes tribal leadership, subject matter experts, and technical and non-technical members of local, academic, and tribal governments that are actively engaged in local groundwater management and will be key in local implementation of SGMA. TAG members will be responsible for distribution of information and resources to their respective tribes and organizations.”

² Principles extracted and summarized from best practices and other outreach sources noted in “Outreach Resources” section above.

- ◆ [California Indian Water Commission, Inc.](#)
- ◆ [DWR Office of Tribal Advisor](#)
- ◆ [DWR Northern-Central Regional Office Contact](#)

Appendix E: Disadvantaged Communities Engagement Guidance

Important consideration will continue to be given to encouraging community participation in disadvantaged communities (DACs) within the Cosumnes Subbasin, and ensuring accessible and transparent meetings especially in those communities with limited access to digital resources.

Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) in Cosumnes Subbasin

Three of the GSAs have disadvantaged communities within their GSA boundaries in the Cosumnes Subbasin:

- City of Galt
- Sacramento County
- Amador County

Approximately 9% of the Basin (18,236 acres) is covered by DWR-designated DACs or severely disadvantaged communities (SDACs), including 8,263 residents of the City of Galt (U.S. Census Bureau 2018). Of these 8,263 Galt residents, approximately 5,133 are designated as DACs and approximately 3,130 are designated as SDACs. The additional DACs occur within farmlands, non-irrigated lands, and small rural residential areas in the most western portion of the Basin.

Outreach Steps

The following outlines potential outreach activities the GSAs may choose to pursue as a coordinated subbasin or as individual GSAs. This does not commit GSAs to specific tasks nor preclude them from pursuing other strategies aligned with the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP, CGA governance documents, and the C&E Plan.

Phase I

1. Use [DWR Disadvantaged Communities Mapping Tool](#) or other geographic information system technology to help identify disadvantaged, severely disadvantaged and economically distressed communities within the Cosumnes subbasin. [Complete. See Figure PA-10 from GSP below]
2. GSAs share insights on engaging with members of these communities from past projects or efforts. Also consider the key outreach principles identified below. [ongoing effort]
3. Review catalog of existing outreach materials. Modify as necessary to fit the needs of each community. This may include translating select materials into one or more languages. Develop additional materials if advantageous. [ongoing effort]
4. Identify potential points of contacts / outreach partners for DAC engagement. See preliminary list of partners below. Conduct an initial, informal communication with organizational points of contact to clarify interest in engaging DAC communities on SGMA; request advice about appropriate avenues for outreach; and identify next steps.

Phase II

1. Periodically conduct additional stakeholder identification and assessments. Invite newly identified S/DAC contacts to subscribe to the Interest Parties list and attend meetings.
2. Modify outreach materials (such as informational fact sheets and event notifications) to better suit the needs of S/DAC communities.
3. [Budget permitting] Develop bilingual postcard or mail campaign to inform S/DAC community members of GSP implementation and ways to stay involved.
4. Engage in regular communications with community-based organizations (CBOs) and potential outreach partners seen as trusted messengers within the S/DAC communities to share timely updates related to GSP implementation and actively seek community feedback and engagement on related efforts.

5. Hold regular public hearings, workshops, and meetings related to GSP implementation efforts, and publicize meetings adequately and with advanced notification.
6. Offer options for communication and information sharing beyond electronic communications. This may include in-person meetings and workshops hosted within S/DAC communities to provide stakeholders opportunities to meet and discuss with the GSAs, maintaining a post office mailing address for submission of written comments, phone calls with actively engaged individuals, and similar.
7. Convene Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) that will include at minimum one representative from the S/DAC community.
8. Continue to maintain the Cosumnes Subbasin website as an online database and document repository to increase access to information.

Summary of Cosumnes Subbasin Outreach Activities

Ongoing

- DAC contacts invited to subscribe to the Interested Parties list and attend meetings
- Those subscribed to the Interested Parties list receive event notices
- Press releases and/or news articles developed to advertise public workshops
- GSAs regularly identify and employ specific outreach strategies (e.g., mail event postcards) that seem most effective and feasible, customized to different phases and key moments in SGMA implementation.

GSP Development

- 2019 Stakeholder survey sent out to all landowners in the subbasin
- DAC and SDAC communities identified based on data from DWR DAC Mapping tool, 2018 Census tract
- Bilingual (Spanish) SGMA documents developed by DWR and other NGOs posted to the website.
- Informal discussions held in 2020 and 2021 with community engagement experts like New Current Water to advise how to broaden outreach, particularly due to COVID impacts
- 2020 and 2021 public webinars posted to YouTube, which can be translated into different languages in closed captions
- Website updated in 2021 to be available in multiple languages (currently Spanish, Chinese, Hmong, and Vietnamese)
- Postcards / event notices mailed to all landowners in the subbasin to advertise workshops related to topics of greatest interest to most of the land owners (e.g., June 2021 workshop on Plan implementation / funding and Draft GSP webinars and workshops).
- GSP Summary Brochure updated for GSP implementation and submitted to DWR for Spanish translation.
- Exploring convening a Citizens Advisory Committee to inform GSP implementation.

GSP Implementation

[Work in progress, more information will be provided as it becomes available]

- Amador County GSA coordinates with Jackson Valley Irrigation District serving disadvantaged communities with the JVID area.
- Citizen Advisory Committee formed in spring 2022 to inform DAC outreach and engagement.
- Informal conversations held in spring/summer 2022 with community engagement experts like Sacramento County planning and environmental staff and Community Water Center to build upon insight from previous experts' advice on how to broaden outreach.
- Landowner/farmers survey sent out 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.

Relevant DWR Information

Guidance on Engaging and Communicating with Underrepresented Groundwater Users [\[Link\]](#)

DWR recognizes that there are groups or communities of groundwater users that have been historically and frequently left out from decision-making with regard to sustainable groundwater management. These groups include, but are not limited to: disadvantaged communities, private domestic well owners, small growers and farmers, Tribes, and communities on small water systems. All beneficial uses and users of groundwater must be part of the effort to achieve sustainability, and engagement should occur with all entities that could be affected by the implementation of a GSP.

California Water Code 10723.2 The groundwater sustainability agency shall consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing groundwater sustainability plans.

23 Cal. Code Regs. §354.10 Notice and Communication. Each Plan shall include a summary of information relating to notification and communication by the Agency with other agencies and interested parties including the following: (a) a description of the beneficial uses and users of groundwater in the basin, including the land uses and property interests potentially affected by the use of groundwater in the basin, the types of parties representing those interests, and the nature of consultation with those parties.

Outreach Resources

Tools for identifying DAC communities include:

- ◆ [DWR Disadvantaged Community Mapping Tool](#)
- ◆ [DWR Economically Distressed Areas Mapping Tool](#)
- ◆ [State Water Board Human Right to Water Portal](#)
- ◆ [CalEnviroScreen](#)
- ◆ [US Census Bureau Data Portal](#)

DAC Communications Best Practices and similar reference publications:

- ◆ [DWR Guidance on Engaging and Communicating with Underrepresented Groundwater Users](#)
- ◆ [Local Government Commission Best Practices for Virtual Engagement Guide](#)
- ◆ [Self Help Enterprises webpage](#) on SGMA engagement for DACs
- ◆ [Self Help Enterprises Technical Assistance Program](#)
- ◆ Clean Water Action's [Collaborating for Success: Stakeholder Engagement for SGMA Implementation](#)
- ◆ Water Education Foundation's [Solving Water Challenges in DACs: A Handbook to Understanding the Issues in California and Best Practices for Engagement](#)

Key Outreach and Engagement Principles³

- ◆ Decisions that impact DACs must be done with their guidance and input, and agencies should ensure that community residents are able to give meaningful input into the process.
- ◆ Partner with local community-based organizations as trusted messengers.
- ◆ Target outreach materials and approach appropriately by tailoring communications to the community's needs. Be mindful of language and cultural differences.
- ◆ Be aware of communities' level of access to computers, internet, and phone connections.
- ◆ Engage early and often. Reach out to community-based organizations and other stakeholders who may be in direct communication with residents early to help make sure that residents are informed and notified through multiple channels about options for public meetings.
- ◆ Understand who the target audience is (e.g., with whom you will be meeting) to understand where and when to meet (such as during the day vs. evening meetings)
- ◆ Conduct meetings at times convenient for public participation with ample notifications.
- ◆ When possible, travel to the target community to meet them in their locale.
- ◆ One-on-one meetings with individual communities and stakeholders may be more appropriate than trying to meet with several entities in one location.
- ◆ For virtual meetings, provide multiple options for teleconferencing, with two-way communication options that allows either computer-users or phone-users to engage. Consider using separate teleconference lines or audio channels to meet language access needs.
- ◆ Several meetings may be required to engage new communities and involve them in the SGMA process.
- ◆ Provide in-meeting translation and translated materials to the maximum extent possible.
- ◆ Though there may be commonalities across regions, each community/DAC/tribe/water system/stakeholder has unique and individualized water-related concerns.

Key Outreach Partners/ Liaisons

The following lists potential partners for outreach to DACs in the Cosumnes subbasin:

- ◆ [Self Help Enterprises](#)
- ◆ [Leadership Council for Justice and Accountability](#)
- ◆ [City of Galt Departments](#) (e.g., Community Development, Parks and Recreation, etc.)
- ◆ [Community Water Center](#)
- ◆ [Clean Water Action](#)
- ◆ [Jackson Valley Irrigation District](#)
- ◆ [The Nature Conservancy](#)
- ◆ [Audubon California](#)

³ Principles extracted and summarized from best practices and other outreach sources noted in "Outreach Resources" section above.

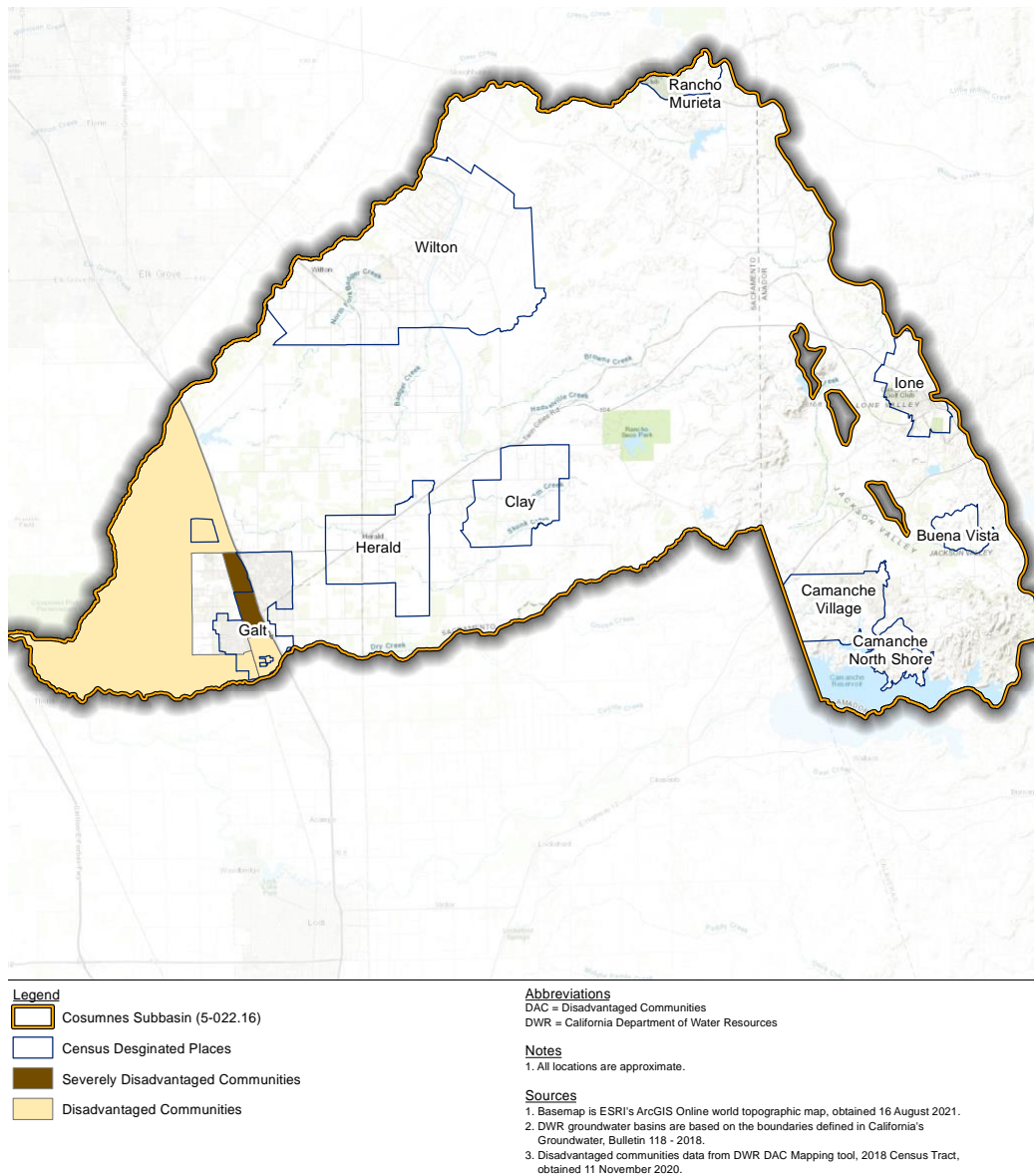


Figure 5. Map of Disadvantaged Communities in the Cosumnes Subbasin

Appendix F: Media Contacts List

[NOTE: This is a work in progress]

ABC 10	desk@news10.net,
Amador Community News	ACNEditor@gmail.com,
CBS 13	news@kovr.com .
Elk Grove Citizen	Lance and Cameron
Fox	news@fox40.com
Galt Herald	Bonnie Rodriguez editor_galtherald@herburger.net
KCRA 3	mozdaglar@hearst.com .
KVGC Radio	news@kvgcradio.com;suzie@kvgcradio.com;jim@kvgcradio.com
Ledger Dispatch	jmitchell@ledger.news
Lodi News-Sentinel	scotth@lodinews.com
River Valley Times	Bonnie Rodriguez, rvt.hpi@gmail.com
TSPN TV	news@tspntv.com .
Wilton News	wiltonnews.org
Wilton Roundup	Facebook group (B Washburn and K Beasley)

Appendix G: Potential Venues List

[NOTE: This is a work in progress. Not all locations have been fully explored for meeting viability.]

The COVID-19 pandemic caused the GSAs to meet virtually for over a year during GSP development. As in-person meeting options became available, the GSAs acknowledged the need to support virtual participation options during certain meetings such as public workshops. The following table summarizes potential venues in the subbasin for various meetings / workshops and identify key logistical amenities, particularly audio-visual capabilities that support virtual and in-person participation.

General Area in the Basin	Name & Address	Capacity	Contact	Amenities	Notes
Northern	Rancho Murieta (RM) – RM Country Club (Board Room or Murieta Room)	24 (Board) 200+ (Murieta)	Hannah St. Clair (916) 354-3420 hannah@ranchomurietaacc.com	Projection screen, tables and chairs, wifi	Past hybrid public workshop(s) held at this location
Northern	Rancho Murieta – RM Operating Engineers training rooms	?			More research needed
West/Central	Wilton – Wilton Community Center	200	parkevents@saccounty.net	Projection screen, tables and chairs, kitchen, outdoor platform, wifi (inconsistent bandwidth)	Past in-person public workshop(s) held at this location
Central	Herald – Herald Fire Station (indoor hall and open, Fire Apparatus Bay)	80 (Hall) 200+ (Bay)	Lindsey Liebig	Tables and chairs, wifi; coordinate with Lindsey for AV	Past hybrid public workshop(s) held at this location
South/Central	Galt – Galt Police Dept Community Room	~30	Austin Miller (Cosumnes PIO)	Projector and screen; tables and chairs; wifi (inconsistent bandwidth)	Past hybrid Working Group meetings held at this location
South/Central	Galt – Littleton Community Center	350	(209) 366-7180		More research needed
South/Central	Galt – Chabolla Community Center	350+	(209) 366-7180		More research needed

Appendix H: Cosumnes Subbasin Informational Resources

Documents are available for download on the website. Click on the image to directly view/download.

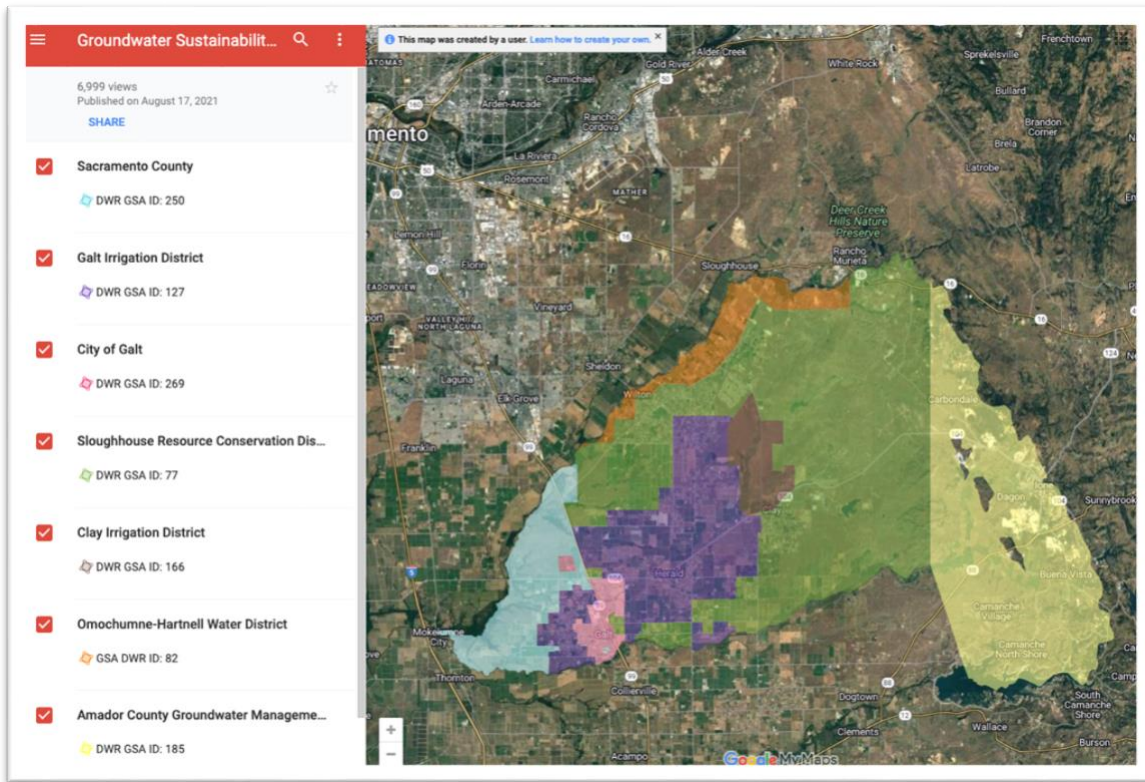


Figure 6. Online Interactive Map to Identify GSA

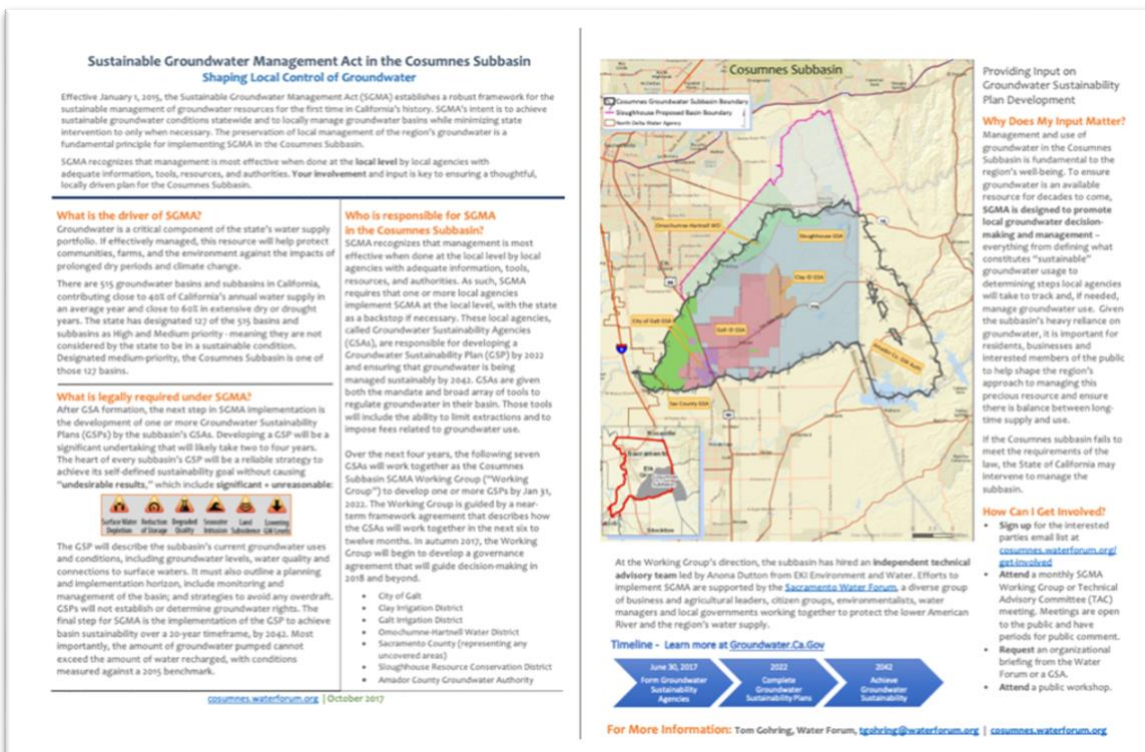


Figure 7. October 2017 Factsheet | SGMA Update and Introduction

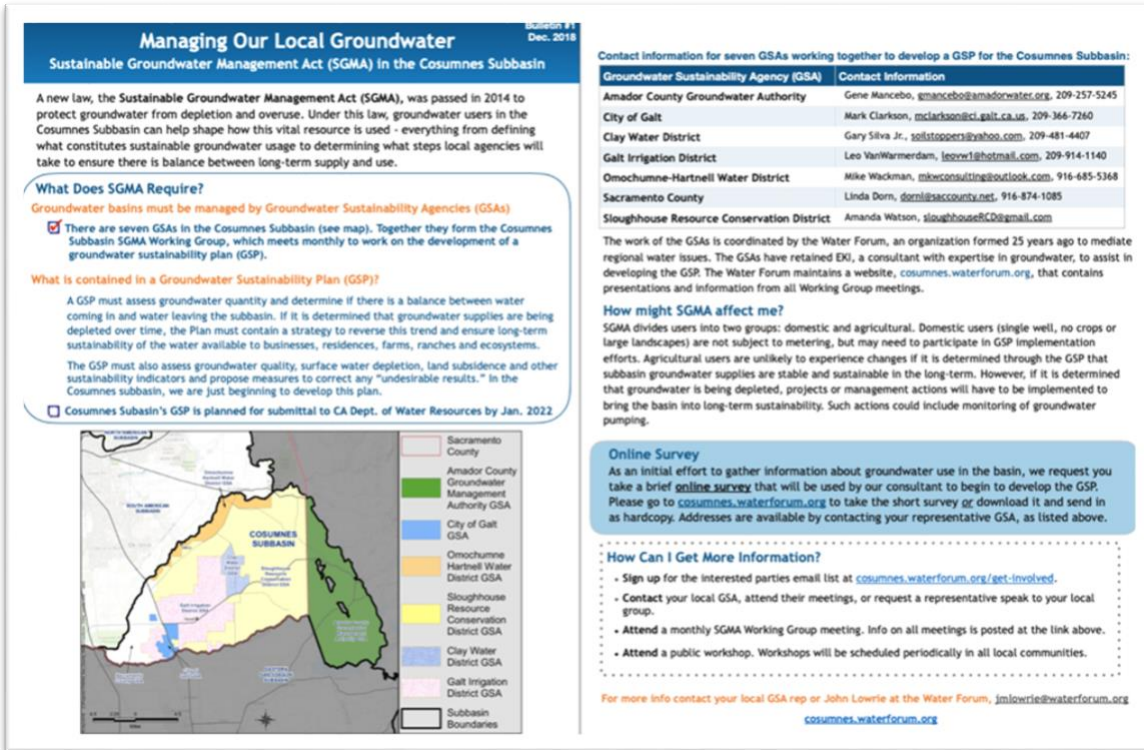


Figure 8. December 2018 Factsheet | SGMA Update

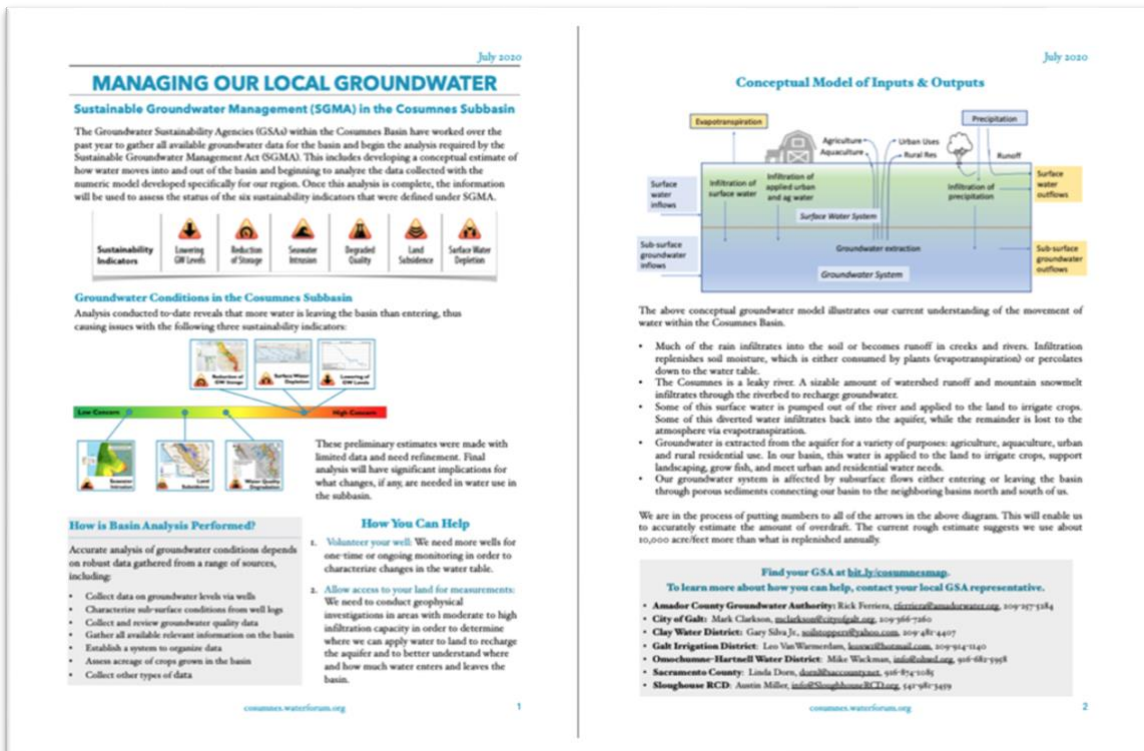


Figure 9. July 2020 Factsheet | Groundwater Conditions

Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Cosumnes Subbasin: Now is a critical time for Well Users to Get Involved



Whether you have a well on your property or live in a community that pumps groundwater from a well into your home, decisions will be made soon that may impact you. The Cosumnes Groundwater Sustainability Plan will be finalized this year. Providing a roadmap for how groundwater will be managed for the next two decades, the plan is expected to include:

- Compensation to growers willing to take land out of production (voluntary fallowing).
- Projects to pump new sources of water into the ground (recharging).
- A description of how plan implementation, projects, and management actions will be funded.

Why are we talking about wells?

Groundwater—water stored in underground basins called aquifers—is an important resource that provides drinking water, allows agriculture to flourish, and supports a healthy environment. But California's frequent droughts and over-reliance on pumping are depleting groundwater. It is so severe in some areas of the state that land is sinking as aquifers collapse.

Signed into law in 2014, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA - pronounced Sigma) requires the adoption of local plans that will bring groundwater supply and demand into balance. The goal statewide is to stop removing more water out of underground aquifers than is being replenished (by nature or by humans). If local areas are unable or unwilling to come up with an effective plan, the law empowers the State to step in with its own plan, which will almost certainly be both more restrictive and more costly for local residents.

What are options being considered for our plan?

Although the Cosumnes Subbasin has both urban (the City of Galt) and rural residential areas (Wilton and Herald), much of the 210,000 acres is devoted to agriculture. Because we want to protect both the character and the economy of our area, we are being guided by three strategies:

1. Protect/enhance the amount of water available for all uses, including a healthy environment.
2. Find cost-effective solutions that meet legal requirements and keep fees low.
3. Minimize the amount of acreage that is taken out of agricultural production.

Options presented during a public workshop on March 24 will include ways to put more water into the aquifer (recharge) and ways to reduce water usage (fallowing land that is now irrigated).

How are you likely to be impacted?

The good news is that an effective groundwater sustainability plan would mean that most people will be able to count on their wells even in dry years. **But there are costs to implement and monitor whatever plan is adopted.** A funding plan that spreads costs among users without creating a heavy burden is under development and will be shared in a public workshop and local agency hearings later this year.

Will meters be required?

SGMA does not authorize the requirement that domestic well users install meters on their wells. Meters are allowed to be placed on ag wells; however, current plans are to find ways to assess water use without meters.

Where is the Cosumnes Subbasin?



The Cosumnes Subbasin extends south of the Cosumnes River to the San Joaquin County border along Dry Creek and west from the Delta to the foothills of Amador County. To find where you are in the subbasin, view this interactive map: bit.ly/CosumnesGSAsContactsMap

What can you do to provide input?

- 1 **Become informed about requirements of the plan.**
Go to Cosumnes.WaterForum.org for details about planning efforts in the Cosumnes Subbasin.
- 2 **Learn about the options under consideration, including costs and benefits.**
Attend a public workshop at 6:30pm on Wednesday, March 24, 2021. Register at bit.ly/CosumnesSGMA_Mar24
Sign up at Cosumnes.WaterForum.org/get-involved to get emailed updates.
- 3 **Tell your representatives what you think after you see the options.**
Go to bit.ly/CosumnesGSAsContactsMap to determine which agency represents you and how you can contact that agency with your input.



Provide input during a **March 24th, 2021 workshop.**
Learn more at Cosumnes.WaterForum.org



Provide input during a **March 24th, 2021 workshop.**
Learn more at Cosumnes.WaterForum.org

Figure 10. March 2021 Factsheet | Well Owners

Proposed Projects to reach sustainability in the Cosumnes Subbasin

March 2021



Groundwater in the Cosumnes Subbasin has been declining for decades, with recent estimates suggesting that an average of more than 10,000 acre feet annually are pumped out of the basin than are returned to the aquifer. In compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, a state law passed in 2014, groundwater stakeholders and local agencies have identified proposed projects and management actions to stop the overuse of groundwater. This factsheet provides the most recent information for potential projects and management actions under consideration. These are still in early phases of development and may be refined as the Subbasin does more work to more fully flesh out these projects and engage in discussions with water users in the Subbasin.

Groundwater Sustainability Project Principles

- Minimize the amount of fallowed farmland
- Minimize fees to rural residential and agricultural properties
- Emphasize a voluntary approach to management

Project Spotlight: Working with SAFCA

Over the past few decades, SAFCA - the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency - has played a major leadership role in multi-billion dollar water projects like improving Folsom Dam and shoring up levees in Natomas, the Pocket area along the American River. They know how to take big projects and turn them into reality.

The FloodMAR project - MAR stands for Managed Aquifer Recharge - takes advantage of winter floodwater on the American River. Projections show that in 4 out of every 10 years, the federal Bureau of Reclamation is going to see 125,000 acre/ft of excess winter floodwater flowing out of the American River and off to the ocean. That's water the federal Bureau of Reclamation, which operates Folsom Dam, can't use to meet its environmental and contractual obligations.

Under FloodMAR, the excess winter floodwater would be diverted down the Folsom South Canal for aquifer recharge in the South American and Cosumnes subbasins to be stored until it is needed. The Bureau's incentive to approve the FloodMAR project is that they would get a portion of the stored water for their use to address conditions in the Delta. The incentive for the Cosumnes Subbasin to participate is that there would be enough water to eliminate a large part of our annual overuse of groundwater.

It is exactly the type of multi-beneficial project that state and federal officials are looking for as solutions to California's ongoing water woes. During dry times, it would provide more water for ag users, urban water purveyors, and environmental purposes. Both state and federal grants to help construct different parts of the infrastructure will likely be available.

Proposed Projects & Management Actions

DEMAND REDUCTION	SUPPLY AUGMENTATION	REVENUE GENERATION
Reducing the amount of groundwater that is pumped	Recharging the aquifer through smaller, local projects and participating in the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (SAFCA) managed aquifer recharge program	Proposed projects will create additional revenue to fund conservation efforts in the basin
Voluntary Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fallowing land for compensation • Cutting back on water use 	Proposed Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using treated wastewater from the City of Galt on agricultural properties • Benefiting from recharge projects on the north side of the Cosumnes River • Obtaining winter floodwater in partnership with SAFCA 	Sale of Water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selling water to an urban water purveyor, when excess water is available, to generate revenue to fund projects within the subbasin

Monitoring Groundwater Conditions

Knowing what is going on deep underground in the Cosumnes Subbasin is vital, both to creating a credible groundwater management plan now and to implementing it effectively over time. That meant it was important early in the planning process to establish a network of monitoring wells, including one off Keating Road in Wilton (pictured at right).

To determine if we are working successfully toward our goal of returning the water table to 2015 levels, we need to monitor groundwater regularly. A series of wells have been selected throughout the basin to make that assessment. In some cases, new, dedicated monitoring wells have been constructed, using grant funds obtained by local agencies, to ensure that all areas of the basin are represented.



Newly constructed monitoring well, to be used in the Cosumnes monitoring network.



For more information, go to Cosumnes.WaterForum.org



Tell us what you think! Complete a survey on the proposed projects and management actions: www.surveymonkey.com/v/CP1H8KD

Figure 11. March 2021 Factsheet | Projects

Groundwater Sustainability Plan for the Cosumnes Subbasin: Implementation and Funding

Whether you have a well on your property or live in a community that pumps groundwater from a well into your home, decisions will be made soon that may impact you. The first draft of the Cosumnes Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) will be released in the coming months. Providing a roadmap for how groundwater will be managed for the next two decades, the plan includes:

- A path toward achieving groundwater sustainability by 2042.
- Projects to pump new sources of water into the ground (recharge).
- A description of how plan implementation, projects, and management actions will be funded.

Why are we talking about groundwater?

Groundwater is an important resource that provides drinking water, allows agriculture to flourish, and supports a healthy environment. But California's frequent droughts and over-reliance on pumping are depleting groundwater. Groundwater in the Cosumnes Subbasin is dropping at an average rate of 1 foot/year. The State's Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014 requires local agencies to develop a plan to sustainably manage groundwater over the long term.

How will we pay for implementing the plan?

Year 1 Funding

Due to legal restrictions, only fees to cover administrative costs can be assessed prior to submitting the GSP. For fiscal year 2021-22, a usage fee (~\$10/irrigated acre) will be assessed to cover administering the early phase of the GSP. This Year 1 Usage Fee will mainly be paid by farmers and ranchers, the main users of groundwater in the basin. Ag-res parcels with irrigated pastures, vineyards, or orchards may also be assessed.

Usage fees will be adopted through legal processes with opportunities for public input. Public notices and public meetings before GSA boards will occur prior to implementing the fee. Please contact your local GSA for more information on this process.

The Year 1 Usage Fee will be used to cover administrative expenses, such as:

- Monitoring and addressing data gaps
- Preparing and submitting reports to the state
- Overseeing & coordinating GSP implementation
- Grant writing and financial audit
- Community outreach

The estimated total budget for administrative expenses is approximately \$400,000/year.

Long-Term Funding

Years 2022-2042

Once the GSP has been submitted to the State, the work will move into high gear. To fund the administration of the plan and the projects that will help us achieve sustainability over the long haul, two types of fees will be levied.

Project Costs will be paid by a Usage Fee

At this time, the estimated usage fee will be about \$10/irrigated acre. Some of the key projects include:

- Conducting feasibility studies
- Developing a groundwater bank
- Paying farmers to voluntarily fallow land
- Participating in water recharge programs

See our "Projects Factsheet" available on our website for more information about the project and management actions that are being considered.

Administrative Costs will be paid by a Parcel Fee

Starting in Year 2, the administrative costs will be covered by a parcel fee. There will be some new administrative tasks, such as five-year plan updates; however, responsibilities and expenses will remain similar to Year 1. These expenses will be shared by farmers, owners of small acreage (ag-res), and residents of the cities within the basin.

Estimated 5-Year Cost Summary Table

Fiscal Year (FY)	Administrative Costs	Project Costs	Total Annual Costs
FY 21/22	\$405,000	\$330,000	\$735,000
FY 22/23	\$465,000	\$685,000	\$1,150,000
FY 23/24	\$475,000	\$685,000	\$1,160,000
FY 24/25	\$525,000	\$675,000	\$1,200,000
FY 25/26	\$495,000	\$675,000	\$1,170,000

Revenue to pay project costs includes local usage fees and external funding sources. Cost estimations are subject to change.

Amador County GSA and the City of Galt GSA plan to include groundwater management costs in their broader fee program and provide an annual contribution to the subbasin. As a result their final fee structure will be different than other areas in the subbasin.

What happens if we fail? State Intervention

If the local GSAs are unable to implement a plan that meets state requirements, the State Water Resources Control Board will step in to manage the subbasin. If this occurs, the State could charge up to \$300/well/year for all groundwater extractors and up to \$55/acre-foot of water pumped.

The local GSAs are working hard to avoid State Intervention and these high costs.

What's Next?

At this time, the amount of the Year 2 parcel fee is unclear. A consultant has been hired to develop the fee program and ensure that it is fair, and that the benefits align with the fees. One thing is clear however - in 2022 the GSAs will need undergo another fee adoption process to have the resources needed to implement the GSP. Public meetings will be held to review the specifics.

Learn more and stay involved! CosumnesWaterForum.org

Figure 12. June 2021 Factsheet | GSP Implementation & Funding

Managing Groundwater in the Cosumnes Subbasin

Public Comment Period Open Upcoming Public Meetings

Draft Plan Public Comment Period Aug 18 - Oct 20

Visit CosumnesWaterForum.org to view the Draft GSP and learn how to submit comments.

Comments due: **10.20.2021**

Public Meetings Aug 26 | Sept 16 | Oct 6

Draft GSP Overview Meetings (two methods for participating):
 Webinar | August 26, 6:30-8:00
 In-Person Workshop, two time slots (Location TBD)
 September 16, 3:30-5:00p; or
 September 16, 6:30-8:00p

Follow-Up GSP Webinar (for follow-up questions / comments)
 October 6, 6:30-8:00p

Go to CosumnesWaterForum.org to register for events.

Questions about an upcoming event? Contact Stephen Julian at CosumnesGSP@gmail.com or 254.640.0155
 Si necesita solicitar alojamiento para asistir a un proximo evento, incluidos los servicios de traducción, comuníquese con Stephen Julian a CosumnesGSP@gmail.com o 254.640.0155

Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP)

In response to a state law enacted in 2014, a roadmap for how groundwater will be managed over the next two decades will be finalized this year. The goal is to balance the amount of groundwater pumped with the amount that is replenished each year by nature or humans. The Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan is available for public review and comment through October 20, 2021.

Why do we need a plan?

Extended drought and historic overpumping threaten the long-term future of groundwater resources necessary to support our needs, including urban, domestic, agricultural, industrial, and environmental. The State requires local agencies to develop and adopt a GSP by January 2022. If the Cosumnes Subbasin fails to meet state-mandated requirements, the State may intervene at a much higher cost than if we retain local control.

What is in the plan?

With a target of increasing groundwater recharge by 20,000 acre-feet per year, the Cosumnes Subbasin plan includes projects that put more winter flood water into the aquifer (recharging) and options that reduce usage.

What is the impact on you?

The good news is that an effective plan will mean that people will be able to count on their wells even in dry years. But there are costs to implement and monitor whatever plan is adopted.

Who is developing the GSP?

Since 2017, seven local agencies have been working together to develop the GSP with support and input from subject-matter experts, stakeholders, and the community. View this handout to learn who is your local agency representative and how you can contact them: bit.ly/CosumnesContactsGateway-2021

Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan Comment Period

The Draft GSP for the Cosumnes Subbasin is Available for Review

The Cosumnes Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) are pleased to announce the Draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Cosumnes Subbasin is available for public review and comment as of August 18th, 2021. This 60-Day Public Comment Period will end on October 20, 2021, when the Draft GSP will become a key milestone for implementing the state-mandated Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

We invite you to learn about the Cosumnes Groundwater Sustainability Plan and provide comments with your feedback.

Submit a comment through one of three methods:

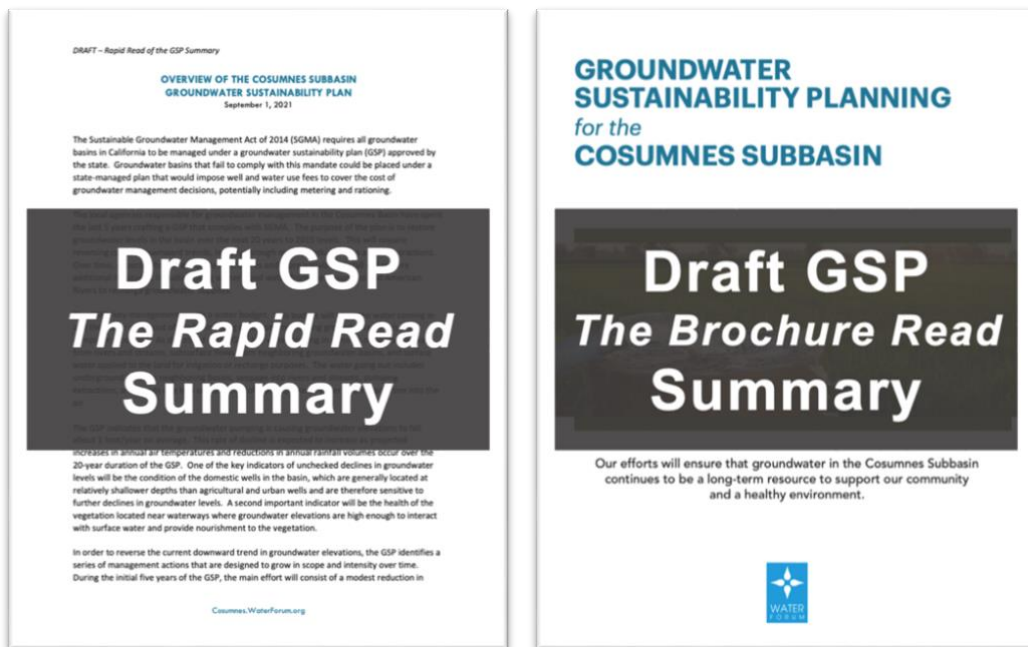
- 1. Submit comment(s) via Online form.**
 Visit CosumnesWaterForum.org/draft-gsp-comment-period to access the form.
- 2. Submit multiple comments by email.**
 Visit CosumnesWaterForum.org/draft-gsp-comment-period to access the comment form to attach with your email.
- 3. Mail Comments to the Watershed Coordinator** (post-date by October 20, 2021)
 Cosumnes Subbasin GSP
 c/o: Stephen Julian
 8970 Elk Grove Blvd.
 Elk Grove, CA 95624

Important Notes:

- You can submit multiple comments.
- Remember to submit comments by **October 20, 2021, 11:59 p.m.**
- We strongly encourage you to attend the public webinars / workshop. Visit CosumnesWaterForum.org for event information.
- If you have trouble finding or accessing information listed here, contact the Watershed Coordinator Stephen Julian CosumnesGSP@gmail.com / 254.640.0155

We look forward to seeing and connecting with you!
 Learn more at CosumnesWaterForum.org

Figure 13. August 2021 Handout | Draft GSP Comment Period Guidance



Two types of handouts created – a two-page “Rapid Read” and a 10-page “Brochure Read”
 Figure 14. August 2021 Handouts | Draft GSP Summary Handouts



Figure 15. Sep/Oct 2021 Public Workshop Posters

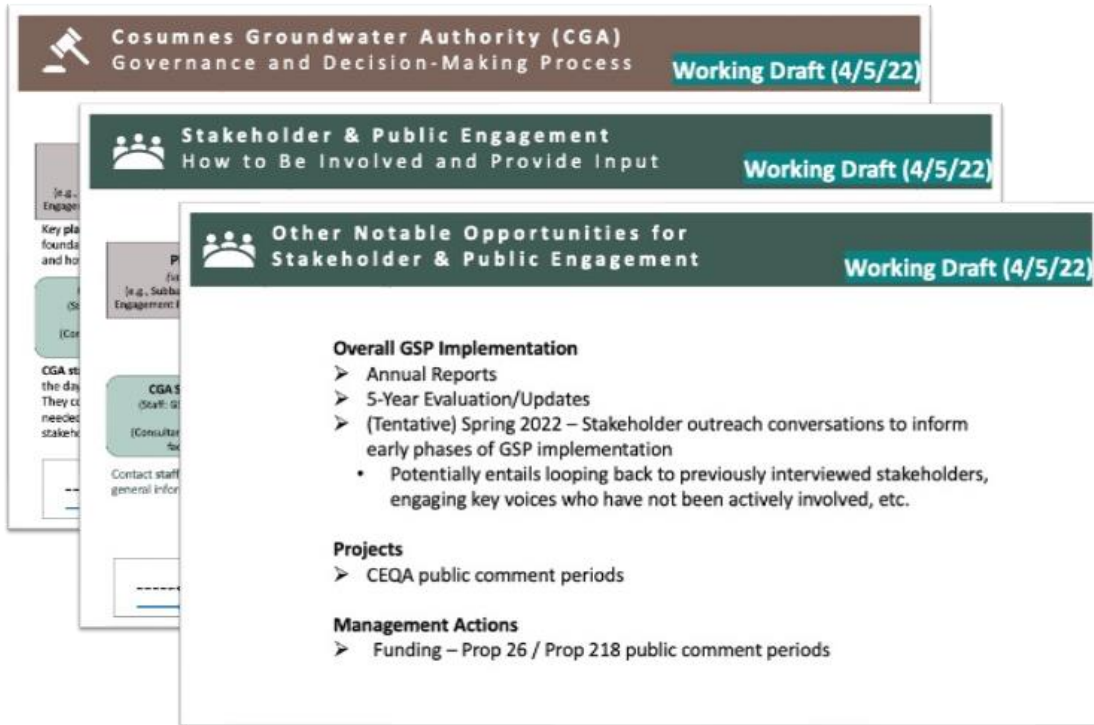


Figure 16. CGA Governance and Public Input Diagrams

Cosumnes Subbasin Multi-benefit Land Repurposing

To reach groundwater sustainability in the Cosumnes Subbasin (located in southeast Sacramento and western Amador Counties), the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority (CGA) is currently developing programs to tackle the problem from several different angles (ex: reduce groundwater demand and augment supply). Current estimates indicate that the Cosumnes Subbasin is losing about 10,000 acre-feet/year (AFY) in groundwater storage.

Land repurposing aims to reduce groundwater use and create/restore habitat and nature-based conservation solutions. The main goal of land repurposing is keeping working lands working. The CGA is currently seeking feedback on what a voluntary, locally relevant, multi-benefit, and successful program could look like.

Examples of Repurposing

- Transition to less water intensive crops
- Renewable energy projects that have an overall net GHG reduction (ex: solar)
- Creation of multi-benefit recharge areas
- Transition irrigated land to dryland farming or non-irrigated rangeland
- Rewilding landscapes, including through creation or restoration of habitat such as pollinator habitat, wetland habitat, upland habitat, and riparian habitat and more!

Cosumnes GSP Estimated Savings from Land Repurposing

Phase	Year Range	Estimated Savings (AFY)
Phase 1	2022-2027	2,700
Phase 2	2028-2042	6,300

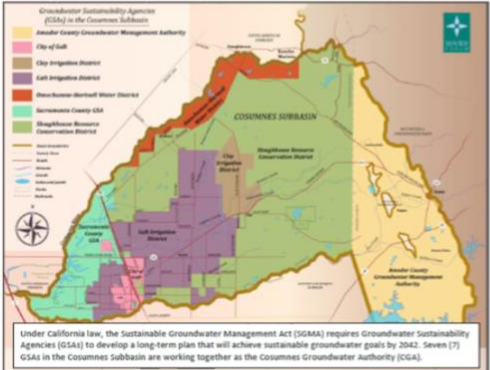
Cosumnes Groundwater Authority

How You Can Help

- Stay Connected and Provide Feedback**
Visit CosumnesGroundwater.org to learn more about groundwater sustainability, find upcoming meetings, and to sign up for updates from CGA.
- Provide Relevant Data**
Groundwater planning relies on real world data! Contact CGA if you can provide additional data from within (and near) the Cosumnes Subbasin.
- Conserve!**
Consider building water saving practices into your farm plans. Contact CGA to get started!

Find out more at:
CosumnesGroundwater.org
8970 Elk Grove Blvd., Elk Grove, CA 95624
916-526-5447
info@CosumnesGroundwater.org

Figure 17. Multi-benefit Land Repurposing Factsheet



Who is my GSA? Use this interactive map: bit.ly/cosumnesmap

To learn more about how you can be involved, contact CGA Staff:

- CGA Administrator: Austin Miller | info@CosumnesGroundwater.org | 916-526-5447
- Watershed Coordinator: Stephen Julian | ajulian@CosumnesGroundwater.org | 254-640-0155

Or contact your local GSA representative:

- Amador County Groundwater Authority: Gary Thomas | gthomas@amadorwater.org | 209-223-3038
- City of Galt: Jay Vandenburg | jvandenburg@cityofgalt.org | 209-734-6077
- Clay Water District: Rick Wohle | 209-734-6077
- Galt Irrigation District: Leo Vanimmerdam | lvimmerdam@galtrig.com | 209-958-1140
- Onochehue Marshall Water District (OWMD): Mark Strickley | info@owmd.org | 916-682-9958
- Sacramento County: Chris Hanley | chhanley@saccounty.net | 916-676-7277
- Sloughhouse RCD: Herb Carmi | info@sloughhouseirco.org | 916-526-5447

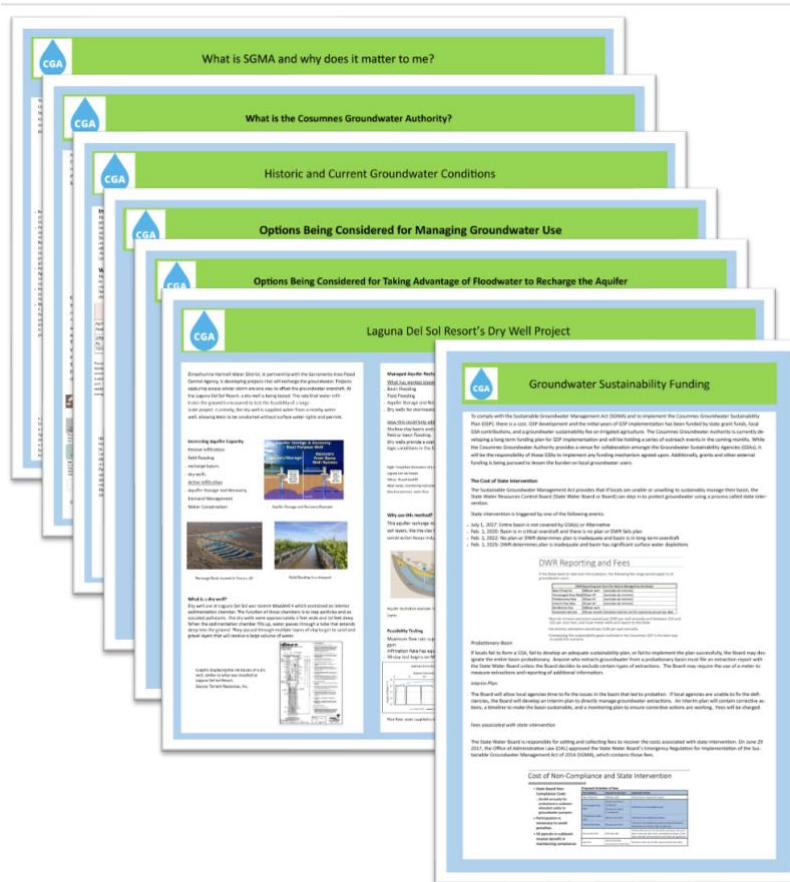
www.CosumnesGroundwater.org

GLOSSARY OF TERMS & ACRONYMS
Below is a list of commonly used terms and acronyms:

APY	Acre-feet per year (also written as acre/ft/yr)
AWM	7feet/1 above mean sea level
Bgs	Below ground surface
BMP(s)	Best Management Practice(s)
CAC	CGA Citizen Advisory Committee
CASGM	California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring
CGA	Cosumnes Groundwater Authority
DMS	Data Management System
DWR	California Department of Water Resources – the SGMA regulating and assisting state agency
Flood-MAR	An integrated and voluntary resource management strategy for using flood water for managed aquifer recharge (MAR)
GDE	Groundwater-dependent ecosystem
GPAC	Groundwater Pumping Advisory Committee
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
HCM	Hydrogeological Conceptual Model
IM	Interim Milestone – target(s) set in increments of 5 years over the implementation period of the GSP offering a path to sustainability
IRWMP	Integrated Regional Water Management (Plan)
JPA	Joint Powers of Authority
MO	Measurable Objective – Quantitative target that establishes a point above the Measurable Threshold and the Measurable Objective
MOOF	Margin of Operation Flexibility – range of active management between the Minimum Threshold and the Measurable Objective
MT	Minimum Threshold – Quantitative Threshold for each Sustainability indicator used to define the point at which undesirable results may begin to occur
PMAs	Projects & Management Actions
RMS/W	Representative Monitoring Site/Well
SGMA	California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SI	Sustainability Indicator – Six (6) Sustainability indicators under SGMA related to groundwater storage, groundwater levels, water quality, surface water depletion, land subsidence, and seawater intrusion.
SMC	Sustainability Management Criteria
SWRCB	State Water Resources Control Board (or "State Water Board") – the SGMA enforcing state agency
TAF	Thousand Acre Feet
UR	Undesirable Result
USBR	United States Bureau of Reclamation
WY	Water Year – October 1 to September 30

www.CosumnesGroundwater.org

Figure 18. Feb 2023 | GSA Contacts & Glossary Handout (updated)



The figure shows a stack of seven posters. The top poster is titled "What is SGMA and why does it matter to me?". The second poster is "What is the Cosumnes Groundwater Authority?". The third is "Historic and Current Groundwater Conditions". The fourth is "Options Being Considered for Managing Groundwater Use". The fifth is "Options Being Considered for Taking Advantage of Floodwater to Recharge the Aquifer". The sixth poster is the largest and most detailed, titled "Laguna Del Sol Resort's Dry Well Project". It includes sections for "Background", "Project Description", "Why We Need It", "What is a GSP?", "Groundwater Sustainability Funding", and "Cost of Non-Compliance and State Intervention". The bottom poster is "Groundwater Sustainability Funding".

Figure 19. Feb/Mar 2023 Public Workshop Posters

Appendix I: Outreach Materials During GSP Development

Emails to Interested Parties List

[[View Example - Events Announcement](#)]

Outreach Packets for CGA Board Members and Partners

[Example: [February/March 2023 Public Workshop Outreach Packet](#)]

Surveys

Stakeholder Survey & Landowner Data Request Form

In 2019, a Basin Factsheet and Stakeholder Survey was sent to all unique addresses (based on parcel data) in SRCD, City of Galt, Galt ID, and Clay Water District GSA boundaries. 211 responses were received.

[[View survey](#)]

[[View data request form](#)]

Farmers/Landowners Survey

In 2022/2023, a Farmers and Landowners survey was sent to all unique names within the basin plain of the subbasin with over 20 acres of land (based on parcel data). Post cards were also mailed and incentives were provide (\$20 gift card for submittal). Responses continue to be collected.

[[View print-friendly survey](#) | [online version](#)]

[[View postcard](#)]

Event Flyers

**Public Workshop:
Managing
Groundwater
in the Cosumnes
Subbasin**

**TWO OPPORTUNITIES
TO PARTICIPATE**

**Virtual Webinar
June 2nd
6:30-8:00pm**

**In-Person Workshop
June 3rd
6:30-8:00pm
at Herald Fire Station #87**

Choose to attend either the virtual webinar or the in-person meeting. The same material will be covered at both meetings.

Go to **Cosumnes.WaterForum.org** to register for either event.

Groundwater Sustainability Plan
In response to a state law enacted in 2014, a roadmap for how groundwater will be managed over the next two decades will be finalized this year. The goal is to stop removing more water from underground aquifers than is replenished each year by nature or humans.

What is in the plan?
With a target of 20,000 acre-feet per year, the Cosumnes Subbasin plan includes projects that put more winter flood water into the aquifer (recharging) and options that reduce usage (volunteers who fallow agricultural land or restrict pumpage).

What is the impact on you?
The good news is that an effective plan will mean that people will be able to count on their wells even in dry years. But there are costs to implement and monitor whatever plan is adopted.

What will be discussed?
At this workshop, local agencies will present the proposed approach for long-term implementation of the plan, including the fee approach to support plan implementation.

Who should attend?
Everyone who has a well or receives well water in their home.

Managing Groundwater in the Cosumnes Subbasin
Register for the public workshop at <http://Cosumnes.WaterForum.org>

Managing Groundwater in the Cosumnes Subbasin
Register for the public workshop at <http://Cosumnes.WaterForum.org>

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Managing Groundwater in the Cosumnes Subbasin
Register for the public workshop at <http://Cosumnes.WaterForum.org>

Figure 20. Example of Event Flyer

Example Mailers

Note: Individual GSAs decided if / when to mail materials within their GSA boundaries during GSP development. In some instances, individual GSAs may have decided other methods were more cost-effective (e.g., newspaper article, website postings, social media, etc.). In 2019, a Basin Factsheet and Stakeholder Survey were sent to all unique addresses (based on parcel data) in SRCD, City of Galt, Galt ID, and Clay Water District GSA boundaries. In 2021, event notices were mailed to all unique addresses in the Cosumnes Subbasin for the June 2021 workshop on GSP Implementation and Funding and for the Draft GSP workshop series during the 60-day comment period.

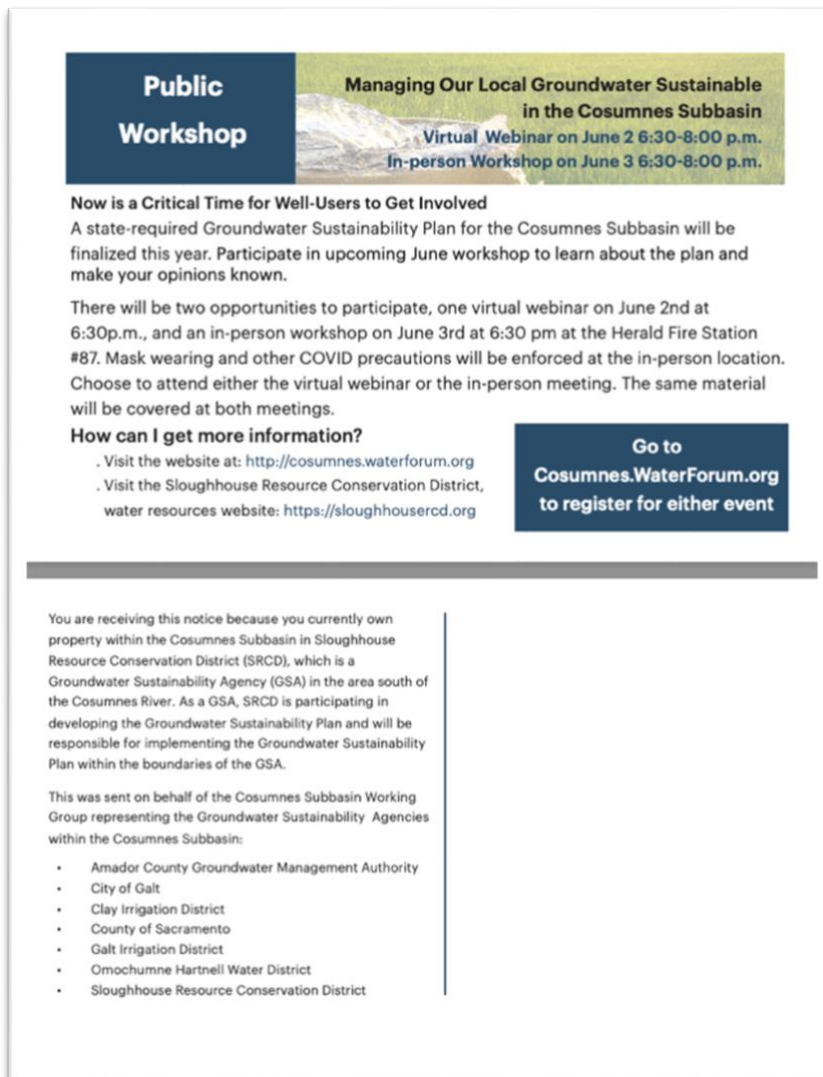


Figure 21. Example of Event Postcard Mailer



Figure 22. Example of Event Tri-Fold Mailer

Appendix J: Potential CGA Outreach Tasks

[NOTE: This is a work in progress]

This appendix is intended to help identify and map out specific issues and strategies that the CGA and/or their respective GSAs may consider during GSP implementation. **This does not commit GSAs to specific tasks nor preclude them from pursuing other strategies aligned with the Cosumnes Subbasin GSP, CGA governance documents, and the C&E Plan.**

Methods

The following are methods that have emerged as highly effective and/or strongly recommended by CGA Board/committee members, GSAs, consultants and other subject matter experts, partners, stakeholders, and the public. As mentioned above, the list does not commit the GSAs to specific tasks nor preclude them from pursuing other strategies.

- Outreach-specific webpage/contact information on each GSAs' website specific to groundwater/SGMA questions
- Popular social media platforms / accounts (consider creating a designated CGA account)
- Surveys
- Periodic newsletter
- Online meetings, particularly for general updates and information
- One-on-one communication and small focus groups
- GSA Board and committee meetings
- Partners and collaborative forums – (e.g., Water Forum)
- Briefings w/ regulators, inform on funding opportunities (e.g., SGM Grant Program)

Issues

The following are topics that have emerged as prominent issues of interest based on discussions among the CGA Board and committees, GSAs, consultants and other experts, partners, stakeholders, and the public. The form and purpose of communication and engagement will depend on the issue and affected stakeholders. As mentioned above, the list does not commit the GSAs to specific tasks nor preclude them from pursuing other strategies.

- Project and management actions feasibility and implementation (e.g., recharge, multi-benefit land repurposing, water banking, new well permits)
- Fee program and other long-term funding mechanisms
- Regional/Watershed planning
 - Interbasin coordination
- Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems and Interconnected Surface Waters
- Coordination with land use planning and development entities
- Future conditions (e.g., drought trends, flooding)
- Groundwater vs. surface water use
- Impacts on small/shallow wells; impacts to de minimus users (domestic/ag-residential)
- Socioeconomic impacts
- Public input opportunities: confirming their interests are being conveyed and considered during the GSP implementation process
 - Community Input (e.g., Citizens Advisory Committee)
- Underrepresented and hard-to-reach communities (e.g., DACs, Tribes, etc.)
- Addressing other data gaps identified in the GSP (e.g., better understanding nature, location, and construction of active wells, improve/expand monitoring network, verify DWR Well Completion Reports, etc.)

Draft 2023-2024 CGA Work Plan

To help identify opportunities for outreach and engagement, the following a draft work plan for the CGA spanning January 2023 to early 2024. **To date, the draft work plan has not been reviewed by the full CGA Board and is subject to change.**

CGA2023-2024 DRAFT Work Plan | Updated 2.22.2023

2023-2024 GOALS	
CGA Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Organization dev/ governance refined▪ FY 23/24 work plan with milestones (helps identify important O&E opportunities, when GSA boards need to be briefed, etc.)
Financing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Grant funding allocations▪ Determine approach for discussing FY 24/25 Fee Schedule
Outreach & Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ New/broader attendance at meetings
Groundwater Conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Improving monitoring network (e.g., access agreements)▪ Addressing data gaps (e.g., streamgages)
Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Projects design and implementation plan
Well Permitting	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Improve well permitting coordination
Other External Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪

Principles / Indicators for Effectively Working Together

Productive and Efficient

- Clear process on how to work together
- Prepared for informed discussion
- Sufficient capacity (time and skillset)
- Problem-solve seeking multi-beneficial and fair solutions

Be Heard, Listen, and Learn

- Curious and motivated to better understand issues / perspectives
- Considering all viewpoints
- Respectful to others

Building Trust

- Transparency
- Accountability

CGA2023-2024 DRAFT Work Plan | Updated 2.22.2023

Issues / Efforts	WINTER 2023 (Jan-Mar)	SPRING 2023 (Apr- Jun)	SUMMER 2023 (Jul- Sep)	FALL 2023 (Oct-Dec)	WINTER 2024 (Jan-Mar)
CGA Operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update governance, procedures, and protocols Drafting/reviewing annual report (due April 1) 	<p>Apr 1: Annual Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY23-24 workplan Revised governance and procedures/protocols Affirm FY 23/24 staffing agreements 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2023 reflection; 2024 activities GSP reviewed by DWR (if need to make any changes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated FY23/24 workplan; drafting FY 24/25 workplan
Financing and Fee Schedules	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Affirm using existing fee schedule for FY22/23 Discuss implications on near-term cash flow (Budget Ad Hoc) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FY22/23 Budget CGA Board (and committees as needed) better understanding range of options (CGA Board funding workshop) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assign grant funding Public outreach on funding updates (public workshops?) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CGA Board (and committees as needed) discuss revised proposed draft fee schedule options 	<p>Draft FY23/24 Fee Schedule</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">
<i>Per CGA Board guidance, staff continuing to track funding opportunities and exploring/fostering partnerships</i>					
Outreach & Engagement [General Public]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feb 22/Mar 4 SGMA Implementation Public Workshops 4-6 month O&E strategy planning (O&E Team/CAC) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SGMA Update (webinars?) 		
[Stakeholder-Specific]	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Farmers Survey (next round due Mar 31) O&E w/ technical experts on draft annual report? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Domestic well owner O&E? Ag focus groups? Underrepresented O&E check-in Tribes O&E check-in 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider youth O&E strategies
Groundwater Conditions Monitoring, dB, modeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated data and analyses for annual report 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New landowner monitoring agreements WY 24 monitoring services agreement (ex. MLJ) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Groundwater monitoring 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collect and analyze groundwater data for next annual report
Projects		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Updated draft scopes and budgets for projects 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocating grant funding specific to projects 		
Well Permitting		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Track recent efforts (AB 1563 [which is AB2021 2.0]; ACWA developing white paper expected Mar/April) Consider holding well permitting ad hoc mtg 			
Other External Activities?					

Figure 23. CGA 2023-2024 Draft Work Plan