



SANTA CRUZ MID-COUNTY GROUNDWATER AGENCY

Board of Directors Remote-Access Meeting

Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 6:00 p.m.

This meeting will be held remotely in compliance with Assembly Bill 361.

Webcast (audio and video):

<https://zoom.us/j/94887890129?pwd=b2ZYQXJoLzIyd0VIbTlpcitkZTVwdz09>

To dial in by phone: +1 669 900 9128 (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/afzsPQNKV>

Meeting ID: 948 8789 0129

Passcode: 623345

AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

3. Oral Communications

An opportunity for members of the public to speak on issues within the purview of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA) that are not on the Agenda. (Guidelines attached.) This is also an opportunity for Board Members to make announcements.

4. Consent Agenda (Page 4)

- 4.1 Approve December 16, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes (no memo)
- 4.2 Acknowledge Member Agency Board Appointments

5. General Business (Page 11)

- 5.1 Consider Board Resolution No. 22-01 Authorizing Remote Meetings in Compliance with Assembly Bill 361
Page 12 Possible Board Actions
- 5.2 Approve Submittal of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin Water Year 2021 Annual Report to the Department of Water Resources
Page 20 Staff Recommendations

- 5.3 Review Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 and Consider Preliminary Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 – 2023

Page 32 Staff Recommendation

- 5.4 Nomination of a Board Member to Serve on County Drought Response Working Group in Response to Senate Bill 552

Page 36 Staff Recommendation

6. Informational Updates (Page 37)

- 6.1 Treasurer's Report

6.2 Oral Reports

- 6.2.1 Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Grant Round 1 Proposal

- 6.2.2 Update on Monitoring Network Development

- 6.2.3 Update on Request for Proposals Process for Planning and Administrative Services

- 6.2.4 County Revenue Agreement: Data Management System; Basin Monitoring Network Improvements; and Administrative and Planning Staff Support

- 6.2.5 Update on Data Management System

- 6.2.6 Update on Non-De Minimis Groundwater Metering Program

- 6.2.7 Reminder for Filing Form 700 Statements – Due April 1st

7. Future Agenda Items

8. Written Communications and Submitted Materials

9. Adjournment

Next Board Meeting: June 16, 2022



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GUIDANCE FOR ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS AND DISABILITY ACCESS

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

MGA Board meeting agendas set aside time for oral communications regarding items not on the agenda but within the purview of the MGA. Oral communications are also heard during the consideration of an agenda item.

Anyone wishing to provide public comment should come to the front of the room to be recognized by the Board Chair. Individual comments are limited to three (3) minutes; a maximum time of 15 minutes is set aside each time for oral communications. The time limits may be increased or decreased at the Board Chair's discretion. Speakers must address the entire Board; dialogue is not permitted between speakers and other members of the public or Board members, or among Board members.

While the Board may not take any action based upon oral communications, an issue raised during oral communications may be placed on the agenda for a future Board meeting.

Organized groups wishing to make an oral presentation to the Board may contact Laura Partch at 831-662-2053 or admin@midcountygroundwater.org, preferably at least two weeks prior to the meeting.

WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

Written communications to the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA) Board may be submitted as follows:

- Via email: comment@midcountygroundwater.org
- Via mail or hand delivery: MGA Board of Directors, c/o Emma Olin, 5180 Soquel Drive, Soquel, CA 95073

Deadlines for Submittal:

- Written communications received by 4:00 p.m. on the Tuesday of the week prior to a regularly scheduled (Thursday) Board meeting will be distributed to the Board and made available on the MGA's [website](http://www.midcountygroundwater.org) at the time the Agenda is posted.
- Written communications received after the 4:00 p.m. deadline will be posted on the MGA [website](http://www.midcountygroundwater.org) and Board members informed of the communications at the earliest opportunity. Please note, communications received after 9:00 a.m. the day before the Board Meeting may not have time to reach Board members, nor be read by them prior to consideration of an item.
- Written communications received at a Board meeting will be distributed to Board members and posted on the MGA [website](http://www.midcountygroundwater.org) at the earliest opportunity.

Any written communication submitted to the Board will be made available on the MGA website at <http://www.midcountygroundwater.org/committee-meetings> and constitutes a public record. Please do not include any private information in your communication that you do not want made available to the public.

DISABILITY ACCESS: Please contact Laura Partch at admin@midcountygroundwater.org or 831-662-2053 for information or to request an accommodation.



SANTA CRUZ MID-COUNTY GROUNDWATER AGENCY
Board of Directors Remote-Access Meeting
Thursday, December 16, 2021 7:00 p.m.

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chair LaHue.

2. Roll Call

Directors present: Curt Abramson (late arrival), Bruce Jaffe, Manu Koenig (late arrival), Jim Kerr, Jon Kennedy, Tom LaHue, Marco Romanini, and Alternate Directors John Benich, Doug Engfer, and Allyson Violante.

Directors absent: David Baskin, Justin Cummings, Zach Friend, and Rob Marani.

Staff present: Ralph Bracamonte, Ron Duncan, Heidi Luckenbach, Sierra Ryan, Leslie Strohm, Tim Carson, and Laura Partch.

Others present: Chelsea Bokman of Geosyntec, and Bryant Platt, Department of Water Resources (DWR) Point of Contact for the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin (Basin).

3. Oral Communications Related to Items Not on the Agenda

Issues within the purview of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA). Guidelines attached.

None.

4. Consent Agenda

- 4.1 Approve September 9, 2021 Board Meeting Minutes (no memo)
- 4.2 Accept Audited 2020/2021 Financial Statements
- 4.3 Approve 2022 MGA Board Meeting Schedule

No public comment or Board discussion.

MOTION: Director Kerr; Second, Director Romanini. To approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote; Director Kennedy and Alternate Directors Benich and Engfer abstained on Agenda Item 4.1.

Directors Koenig and Abramson arrived.

5. General Business

5.1 Adopt Board Resolution No. 21-03 Authorizing Remote Meetings in Compliance with AB 361

Staff reviewed the requirements of AB 361 as set out in the Board memo. The Board found conditions existed for the next Board meeting to be conducted by remote access, and, consistent with the practice of other local agency boards that meet quarterly, opted to consider subsequent resolutions pursuant to AB 361 at each Board meeting.

No public comment.

MOTION: Director Kerr; Second, Director Romanini. To adopt, in accordance with Government Code § 54953(e), Board Resolution 21-03, authorizing the Board to meet virtually at its next meeting, and to adopt subsequent Board Resolutions at each Board meeting. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

5.2 Approve Creation of a Temporary Board Committee to Develop the Strategy and Complete Recruitment Process for Administrative and Planning Services

Staff proposed the formation of a Temporary Board Committee to assist with an evaluation of MGA administrative needs, the development a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a contract to begin July 1, 2022, and the selection of a consultant. To increase efficiencies and reduce overhead, staff noted the potential interest in hiring a consultant to provide services for both the MGA and the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (SMGWA).

Board members did not see a need for the proposed committee. The consensus among the Board is that staff could proceed and return to the Board with a recommendation on the consultant selection for the Board to consider.

No motion was made. Executive Staff will return to the Board in March with an update on the process and, as needed, get input from Board.

No public comment.

5.3 Approve Creation of a Temporary Board Committee to
Evaluate and Select Projects for Upcoming Sustainable
Groundwater Management Program Grant Opportunity

Staff reported on the opportunity for the MGA to pursue up to \$7.6 million in funding from DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program for a broad range of Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation activities. No local cost share is required on this grant. In response to the draft Guidelines and a Proposal Solicitation Package, the MGA submitted a comment letter, included in the Board packet, requesting flexibility with regard to certain grant requirements. The application deadline is January 31, 2022, but that deadline may be extended.

The draft DWR documents outline an application process that includes the creation of a committee to evaluate and prioritize possible projects using a scoring criteria table. Under this process, the GSP will drive the selection of projects included in the application, most likely Group 1 and 2 projects and management actions.

Staff has requested that the Board create a Temporary Board Committee, with representation from each Member Agency and the Private Well Owner Directors, which would likely meet twice to support the development of the application. Staff has already been working to identify projects for the Board committee to evaluate and consider.

No public comment.

MOTION: Director Koenig; Second, Director Jaffe. To approve the creation of a Temporary Board Committee authorized to carry out the charge detailed in the Board memo for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Program Grant proposal, and to appoint Directors Kennedy, Koenig, LaHue, Romanini, and alternate Director Engfer to the Temporary Board Committee. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

5.4 Approve Resolution to Apply for the 2021 Sustainable
Groundwater Management Grant Program Implementation –
Planning and Projects Grant

Staff reported that a Board resolution is required for the submission of an application for the grant discussed under Agenda Item 5.3.

No public comment

MOTION: Director Kennedy; Second, Director Jaffe. To approve Board Resolution No. 21-04 authorizing the submittal of an application for the 2021 SGM Implementation Planning and Projects Grant. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

5.5 Approve Definition of Priority Areas and Overall Approach for Metering Program Plan Participant Inclusion

At the September Board meeting, staff provided an update on the metering program and its parameters. The Board directed staff and the Temporary Board Committee on the Metering Program to consider the definition of priority areas and return to the Board with recommendations.

Staff provided recommendations from the Temporary Committee, and requested Board approval of the definition of “priority areas” as well as the overall approach for inclusion in the Metering Program.

Chelsea Bokman of Geosyntec, the consultant leading on the project, reported that the Basin GSP requires metering for any parcel using more than an estimated 5 acre-feet per year. This criteria includes 30 parcels (26 owners), and captures 85% of all parcels being considered for metering under the program. The GSP also requires inclusion of parcels located in priority areas that pump greater than an estimated 2 acre-feet per year. Priority areas are those with a high risk for undesirable impacts due to pumping, such as interconnected surface waterways and coastal areas at risk for seawater intrusion. Also considered are the depth of wells and persistent pumping depressions on a regional scale. To future-proof the priority areas, also included were those areas identified in the GSP as being at risk for negative impacts from groundwater pumping.

The proposed criteria for priority areas, as well as process-oriented considerations, are set forth in the Board memo. Using these criteria, Geosyntec identified nine pumpers in the Basin with water use of greater than 2-acre feet per year and within a 1,000 foot buffer of interconnected surface waterways or with groundwater elevation below 50 feet relative to Mean Sea Level.

The Metering Program will be adaptable over the long term. The criteria will be updated every five years when the GSP is updated to include new data, and will include a disclaimer allowing the MGA to address case-by-case situations that could not be anticipated but are consistent with the spirit of the program.

During Board discussion, staff noted that all of the main depressions from 2005 fell within the 50-foot elevation line. Staff confirmed that, since the Program is parcel-by-parcel, the MGA may find participation in the Metering Program is warranted for unique circumstances, such as adjacent parcels with similar pumping and each

with an estimated use of less than 2 acre-feet per year.
No public comment.

MOTION: Director Koenig; Second, Director Kerr. To approve Definition of Priority Areas and Overall Approach for Metering Program Plan Participant Inclusion. The motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

5.6 Approve Board Meeting Start Times and Break Policy

Following discussion, the Board changed the start time to 6:00 p.m. for both in-person and remote meetings. Instead of creating a break policy, the Board encouraged any Director, as needed, request that the Chair provide a break during a meeting.

MOTION: Director Romanini, Second, Director Koenig. To approve beginning MGA Board meetings at 6:00 p.m. Motion passed unanimously by roll call vote.

6. Informational Updates

6.1 Treasurer's Report

MGA Treasurer Leslie Strohm was available for questions.

No Board discussion or public comment.

6.2 Oral Reports

The Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (SMGWA) approved its GSP, which will be submitted to DWR by the end of December. Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency recently submitted the 5-year update to its alternate GSP.

The vendor for the Data Management System (DMS), KISTERS, was subject to a ransomware attack. While it did not impact the work for the MGA and SMGWA, it has slowed the process. Staff will provide an update on the DMS in March.

A Director requested that the MGA get a security compliance audit from a third party to certify the impacted vendor.

- Staff agreed that follow-up on this issue and some type of assurance is appropriate.

Balance Hydrologics has identified the locations for the monitoring network wells, and has completed the well specifications. Staff will be working with Balance Hydrologics on issuing an RFP. The locations of some wells were moved as no acceptable

agreement could be reached with the property owners. All the wells will likely be located in the County right of way, and a notice of exemption filed under CEQA.

Staff provided an update on California Senate Bill 552, drought-planning legislation intended to push resiliency among water suppliers not currently subject regulations for urban water management plans and water shortage contingency plans. The County Water Advisory Commission has agreed to take responsibility for implementing SB 552. Beginning January 2022, the Commission will create an advisory subcommittee to develop an approach to implementation. The legislation recommends the inclusion of groundwater sustainability agencies within the affected area. Staff will be providing additional information on this at the March Board meeting.

Bryant Platt was introduced as the new DWR SGM Program Point of Contact for the Basin.

MGA will be switching to utilize the Zoom platform for future virtual meetings.

6.3 Annual Status Report on Board FPPC Compliance

For information only, required by the First Amended Bylaws.

7. Future Agenda Items

A request for an informational update on Basin conditions and any modeling done using the data from the recent water years. .

- The GSP Annual Report will come to the Board for approval in March. Staff will work with Montgomery & Associates and Board members so that the requested updates are provided.

8. Written Communications and Submitted Materials

None submitted.

Thanks to all who attended the recent groundbreaking ceremony for the Soquel Creek Water District's Pure Water Soquel Project.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: March 17, 2022

March 17, 2022

MEMO TO THE MGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Subject: Agenda Item 4.2

Title: Acknowledge Member Agency Board Appointments

The Joint Powers Agreement of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency provides for each Member Agency to appoint two directors and one alternate director to the Board of Directors. The current Member Agency appointments are:

Soquel Creek Water District

- Tom LaHue
- Bruce Jaffe
- Rachél Lather (Alternate)

City of Santa Cruz

- Donna Meyers
- David Baskin
- Doug Engfer (Alternate)

Central Water District

- Robert Marani
- Marco Romanini
- John Benich (Alternate)

County of Santa Cruz

- Zach Friend
- Manu Koenig
- Allyson Violante (Alternate)

Recommended Board Action:

1. Informational, no action necessary.

By



Tim Carson
Program Director
Regional Water Management Foundation

March 17, 2022

MEMO TO THE MGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Subject: Agenda Item 5.1

Title: Consider Board Resolution No. 22-01 Authorizing Remote Meetings in Compliance with Assembly Bill 361

Attachments

1. Resolution 22-01, Authorizing Remote Teleconference MGA Board Meetings Pursuant to AB 361
2. County Health Officer Recommendation of Social Distancing and Remote Meetings for Legislative Bodies

Background

On September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed into law Assembly Bill (AB) 361, which enables local public agencies to continue to use teleconferencing without complying with certain Brown Act provisions. Effective October 1, 2021, AB 361 permits a legislative body subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet virtually if it complies with specified requirements codified at Government Code § 54953(e). These provisions will sunset on January 1, 2024.

On September 30, 2021, the County Health Officer issued a recommendation for social distancing and continued remote meetings for legislative bodies. The Recommendation states that it will be evaluated on an ongoing basis and that the County Health Officer will communicate when it is appropriate to withdraw the recommendation.

On December 16, 2021, the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA) Board of Directors adopted MGA Board Resolution No. 2021-03 in compliance with the requirements of Government Code Section 54953(e). Since the MGA Board meets quarterly, the Board also decided that, pursuant to guidance of legal counsel, to act in substantial compliance with §54953(e) by adopting a similar resolution at each Board meeting upon making the following findings:

1. The legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency, and
2. Any of the following circumstances exist:
 - a. The state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person, or
 - b. State or local official continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.

Discussion

Currently, the California state of emergency regarding COVID-19 remains in place, and the County Health Officer recommendation for social distancing and continued remote meetings for legislative bodies remains active.

Possible Board Actions

1. By MOTION and roll call vote, adopt Resolution 22-01, authorizing the June 16, 2022 Board meeting to be held virtually in accordance with Government Code § 54953(e).
2. Take no action and plan to conduct an in-person meeting on June 16, 2022.



By _____
Tim Carson
Program Director
Regional Water Management Foundation

On behalf of the MGA Executive Staff
Ron Duncan, General Manager, Soquel Creek Water District
Ralph Bracamonte, District Manager, Central Water District
Rosemary Menard, Water Director, City of Santa Cruz
Sierra Ryan, Water Resources Manager, County of Santa Cruz



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DRAFT RESOLUTION NO. 22-01

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SANTA CRUZ MID-COUNTY GROUNDWATER AGENCY ADOPTING FINDINGS PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 TO AUTHORIZE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS AS A RESULT OF THE CONTINUING COVID-19 PANDEMIC STATE OF EMERGENCY AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (“MGA Board”) is committed to providing public access to its meetings as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act”) (Cal. Gov. Code § 54950 *et seq.*); and

WHEREAS, the MGA Board is a legislative body under the Brown Act as defined under Government Code Section 54952(b); and

WHEREAS, on September 16, 2021, Governor Newsom signed Assembly Bill 361 (“AB 361”) as urgency legislation effective immediately that amended Government Code Section 54953 to permit legislative bodies subject to the Brown Act to continue to meet under modified teleconferencing rules provided they comply with specific requirements set forth in the statute; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A), a legislative body may meet under the modified teleconferencing rules during a proclaimed state of emergency, and where local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of State of Emergency in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, which remains in effect; and

WHEREAS, on September 30, 2021, Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer Dr. Gail Newel strongly recommended that legislative bodies in Santa Cruz County continue to engage in physical/social distancing by meeting via teleconference as allowed by AB 361 and confirmed that she will regularly review and reconsider this recommendation and notify the public when it is no longer recommended; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to AB 361 and Government Code Section 54953(e)(3), a legislative body can continue to hold such teleconference meetings provided it has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency and determined either that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person or that local officials continue to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, on December 16, 2021, the MGA Board held its initial teleconference meeting under AB 361; and

WHEREAS, the MGA Board has reconsidered the circumstances of the current state of emergency and finds that the COVID-19 pandemic continues to directly impact the ability of members of the public to participate safely in person and further finds that the Santa Cruz County Public Health Officer continues to recommend measures to promote social distancing; and

WHEREAS, in the interest of public health and safety, and due to the emergency caused by the spread of COVID-19, the MGA Board deems it necessary to utilize the modified teleconferencing rules set forth in AB 361;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Directors of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency resolves as follows:

Section 1. Recitals. The recitals set forth above are true and correct and are incorporated into this Resolution by reference.

Section 2. Acknowledgement of Governor's Proclamation of a State of Emergency. The MGA Board has reconsidered the state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor of the State of California and finds that the state of emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the MGA Board and members of the public to meet safely in person.

Section 3. Acknowledgement of Local Health Order Promoting Social Distancing. The MGA Board determines that a local health order related the need for social distancing related to the COVID-19 pandemic remains in effect.

Section 4. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The MGA Board is authorized to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution by conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e) and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

Section 5. Effective Date of Resolution. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon adoption and shall be effective until the next scheduled meeting, when the MGA Board will reconsider the circumstances of the COVID-19 state of emergency and, if necessary, adopt subsequent findings to continue holding teleconference meetings in accordance with Government Code Section 54953(e)(3).

Passed and adopted at a meeting of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency on March 17, 2022, by the following vote:

AYES: Directors
NOES: Directors (or None)
ABSENT: Directors (or None)
ABSTAIN: Directors (or None)

APPROVED:

Thomas R. Lahue
Board Chair

ATTEST:

Jim Kerr
Board Secretary



County of Santa Cruz

HEALTH SERVICES AGENCY

POST OFFICE BOX 962, 1080 Emeline Ave., SANTA CRUZ, CA 95061-0962

TELEPHONE: (831) 454-4000 FAX: (831) 454-4488 TDD: Call 711

Public Health Division

HEALTH OFFICER RECOMMENDATION FOR SOCIAL DISTANCING (CONTINUED REMOTE MEETINGS FOR LEGISLATIVE BODIES)

COVID-19 disease prevention measures endorsed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention include vaccinations, facial coverings, increased indoor ventilation, handwashing, and physical/social distancing (particularly indoors). Since early in the COVID-19 pandemic, local legislative bodies such as boards, commissions, committees, and councils have successfully held public meetings remotely via teleconferencing. I strongly recommend continued use of teleconference meetings as a social distancing measure to help control transmission of the COVID-19 virus. Public meetings bring together many individuals, from multiple households, in a single indoor space for an extended period of time. Utilizing teleconferencing options for public meetings is an effective and recommended social distancing measure to facilitate legislative business and participation in public affairs while at the same time helping to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

This recommendation is intended to satisfy the provision of the Brown Act (specifically, Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(A)), which allows local legislative bodies in the County of Santa Cruz to use teleconferencing to enable remote meetings under specified circumstances. I will continue to evaluate this recommendation on an ongoing basis and will communicate when it is appropriate to withdraw the recommendation.

Gail Newel, MD

Health Officer of the County of Santa Cruz

Dated: September 30, 2021

March 17, 2022

MEMO TO THE MGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Subject: Agenda Item 5.2

Title: Approve Submittal of the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin Water Year 2021 Annual Report to the Department of Water Resources

Attachment:

1. [*Draft Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin Water Year 2021 Annual Report*](#)
2. [*Draft Appendix A*](#)
3. [*Draft Appendix B*](#)
4. *Submittal Letter to Department of Water Resources*

BACKGROUND

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA) adopted the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) for the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin (Basin) in November 2019 and submitted the GSP to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in January 2020. DWR approved the GSP on June 3, 2021.

Following adoption of a GSP, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) requires Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to submit an Annual Report to Department of Water Resources (DWR) by April 1 of each year. The Annual Report is to provide data on groundwater conditions and a narrative description of the progress made toward implementation of the GSP in the prior water year.

Annual Reports for Water Year 2019 (October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019) and Water Year 2020 (October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020) prepared by Montgomery and Associates were approved by the MGA Board and submitted DWR. The prior Annual Reports are available on the MGA website and on the state's SGMA portal.

The 3rd Annual Report for Water Year 2021, for the period from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021, also prepared by Montgomery and Associates, is attached..

DISCUSSION

The Executive Summary of the Annual Report presents the following information.

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA) is required to submit an annual report for the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin (Basin) to the

California Department of Water Resources (DWR) by April 1 of each year following the MGA's 2019 adoption of its Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP or Plan). DWR approved the GSP on June 3, 2021 (<https://sgma.water.ca.gov/portal/service/gspdocument/download/4472>). This third annual report covers Water Year (WY) 2021.

As described in the GSP, DWR lists the Basin as a high priority basin in critical overdraft. The high priority designation indicates that water users in the Basin have high dependence on groundwater. The Basin is listed in critical overdraft principally because active seawater intrusion impacts its productive aquifers as a result of over-pumping.

WY 2021 was a critically dry year following a dry year in WY 2020. Below average rainfall means there is reduced aquifer recharge. However, coastal groundwater levels in the semi-confined to confined Purisima aquifers do not typically show a clear response to annual changes in recharge. Instead, groundwater levels respond more directly to changes in groundwater extraction than precipitation. An approximately decade-long period (WY 2005-2014) of increasing groundwater levels corresponding with reductions in extraction has been followed by a period of relatively stable and high groundwater levels during a period of historically low extraction (WY 2015-2020). Groundwater levels at a majority of wells declined in WY 2021, which is likely related to a slight increase in extraction. While still lower than pre-WY 2015 totals, WY 2021 extraction was the second highest Basin extraction total in the last 7 years.

The Basin continues to be in a state of overdraft, resulting in significant and unreasonable risk of seawater intrusion. There are undesirable results for seawater intrusion because 6 coastal representative monitoring points (RMPs) with 5-year moving average groundwater elevations are below their respective groundwater elevation proxies for minimum thresholds. For these 6 RMPs, their 5-year moving averages generally leveled out or declined over WY 2021 after showing an increasing trend in prior years.

Chloride concentrations at 2 monitoring wells in the Seascape area, SC-A2RB and SC-A5B, exceeded minimum thresholds for seawater intrusion. Of the 4 samples taken at each well in WY 2021, SC-A5B exceeded the minimum threshold twice and SC-A2RB exceeded the minimum threshold once. As

there are 2 or more exceedances in an RMP, there are undesirable results for chloride concentrations in WY 2021. Furthermore, because SC-A5B has an increasing chloride trend, it indicates inland movement of seawater intrusion. This condition warrants early management action, which the GSP recommends is reduced extractions from the nearest municipal well. Since it is possible local non-municipal extractions are influencing groundwater hydraulic gradients that drive seawater intrusion in this area more than current municipal pumping, it is recommended that instead of further reducing nearby municipal pumping at this time, the MGA evaluate local non-municipal pumping to assess the magnitude of total extractions influencing seawater intrusion in the area.

There are undesirable results for depletion of interconnected surface water as groundwater levels at 3 of 5 RMPs are below minimum threshold groundwater elevation proxies. There are no undesirable results for the chronic lowering of groundwater levels and water quality degradation indicators.

Net groundwater pumping remains greater than sustainable yields in 2 of 3 aquifer groups: Aromas Red Sands and Purisima F aquifer group and Purisima DEF, BC, A, and AA aquifer group. Projects included in the GSP to reduce net groundwater pumping to achieve sustainability are expected to reduce net extraction of groundwater once they are implemented. Work to plan and implement these projects continued in 2021. The projects include:

- Pure Water Soquel (PWS) – Construction on treatment plant, pipelines, and wells by SqCWD is expected to continue with start-up by end of 2023.
- Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) – It is expected that the City of Santa Cruz Water Department (SCWD) will receive California State Water Resources Control Board action in 2022 or early 2023 on water rights petitions for change that will lead to phased implementation of full-scale ASR at the SCWD's existing Beltz wells starting in 2023.
- Water Transfers / In-Lieu Groundwater Recharge - another 5-year extension of the pilot project agreement between the SCWD and SqCWD was executed on March 3, 2021 and will run through May 1, 2026.


Part of work associated with annual reporting is a data update of the Basinwide Groundwater Model (Model). Data updated each year are climate and pumping model inputs for the water year being reported on (see Section 3.5 of the 2021 Annual Report). The Model is updated so it can be used to estimate change of groundwater in storage required per SGMA. Although the Model has not been completely recalibrated, in 2021, a small portion of the Model near the Pure Water Soquel (PWS) project was recalibrated based on information from pilot testing.

In preparation for the 5-year GSP update, the Model will be recalibrated using all available data collected from Water Year 2019 – 2023. The following are new sources of data to include in calibration:

- Groundwater level data collected from 2 new deep coastal monitoring wells and 8 shallow interconnected surface water monitoring wells
- Six streamflow gauges paired with some of the new shallow interconnected surface water monitoring wells
- Groundwater level and aquifer property data collected from pilot testing, testing, and implementation of projects like PWS and ASR

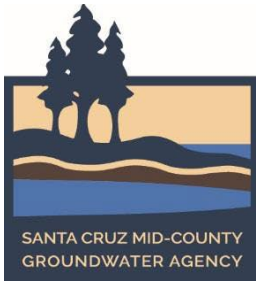
Recommended Board Actions:

1. By MOTION, receive the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin Water Year 2021 Annual Report, and
2. By MOTION, approve the submittal of a transmittal letter and the Santa Cruz Mid-County Basin Water Year 2021 Annual Report from the MGA Basin Point of Contact to DWR in accordance with California Code of Regulations, Tit. 23, secs. 353.4 and 356.2.

By 

Tim Carson
Program Director
Regional Water Management Foundation

On behalf of the MGA Executive Staff
Ron Duncan, General Manager, Soquel Creek Water District
Ralph Bracamonte, District Manager, Central Water District
Rosemary Menard, Water Director, City of Santa Cruz
Sierra Ryan, Water Resources Manager, County of Santa Cruz



Groundwater is a vital resource, together let's protect it.

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April 1, 2022

To: California Department of Water Resources

From: Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency

Subject: Submittal of Third Annual Report for the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA) is the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin (Basin) number 3-001. The Basin is classified by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) as a high priority basin in a state of critical overdraft.

The MGA formed in March 2016 as a Joint Powers Authority, with four member agencies: Central Water District, City of Santa Cruz, County of Santa Cruz, and Soquel Creek Water District. The MGA Board of Directors includes two representatives from each member agency and three private well owner representatives. The MGA initiated development of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) in 2017 to guide ongoing management of the Basin with a goal to achieve and maintain groundwater sustainability over a 50-year planning and implementation horizon. GSP development was a collaborative effort among the member agencies and technical consultants, and was informed by input from resource management agencies, community members, and stakeholders.

The GSP was adopted by the MGA Board on November 21, 2019, and submitted to DWR on January 30, 2020. The first Annual Report was submitted in April 2020, the second annual report in April 2021. The GSP was approved by DWR in June 2021.

As required by the California Code of Regulations for Groundwater Sustainability Plans, the MGA is pleased to submit the second Annual Report to the Department of Water Resources.

Feel free to contact me if you have any questions,

Sierra Ryan
 Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency Plan Manager
 (831) 454-3133
 BasinPOC@midcountygroundwater.org

March 17, 2022

MEMO TO THE MGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Subject: Agenda Item 5.3

Title: Review Budget for Fiscal Year 2021-22 and Preliminary Budget for 2022-2023

Attachments:

1. Table 1. Budget Summary FY 2021/22 and Preliminary Budget FY 2022/23
2. Table 2. Operating Expenses FY 2021/22 and Preliminary Budget FY 2022/23

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA) budget for fiscal year 2021-2022 (FY 21/22) and preliminary budget for fiscal year 2022-2023 (FY 22/23) are presented in attached Tables 1 and 2 and this memo.

The FY 21/22 projected operating expenses are based upon the actual expenses incurred through the first half of the fiscal year (July 1 – December 31) and the projected expenses for the second half of the fiscal year (to June 30). The FY 21/22 projected operating expense is \$485,238; this is less than the budgeted amount (\$810,975) principally because the monitoring network construction activities will not occur until next fiscal year. Unspent funds from FY 21/22 will roll over into Beginning Reserves for FY22/23. The projected operating expenses for FY 22/23 are \$929,000, an increase over FY 21/22 by \$118,025 or 15%. The increase is due to expenses from the expansion of the monitoring network that did not occur in FY 21/22 and projected expenses for the implementation of Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) activities in the recently submitted proposal to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 1 Implementation grant program.

The following narrative summarizes the MGA's beginning cash reserves, operating revenue, operating expenses, and ending reserves.

BEGINNING RESERVES

The projected beginning cash reserves for the MGA for FY 22/23 totals \$1,539,222. The beginning reserves amount is the surplus of revenue collected from the prior year over the actual expenses incurred during that year.

OPERATING REVENUE

Operating revenue consists of awarded grant revenue and agency membership revenue. In FY 21/22, the total Member Agency revenue contribution was \$300,000. Revenue also includes grant funds, reimbursed in arrears, from the Department of Water Resources (DWR). DWR previously awarded the MGA grants totaling \$2,000,000 that funded the development of the GSP and will continue to fund initial implementation efforts through December 2022. Total grant reimbursements received through December 2021 are approximately \$1.3 million. DWR withholds 10% of the total grant award as a retention until the grant is fully completed and closed-out. The retention payment of \$200,000 (10% of \$2 million) will be received at the completion of the grant in FY 22/23.

In February 2022, the MGA submitted a grant proposal to DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation (SGMI) Round 1 grant. It is anticipated that DWR will award a \$7.6 million grant to the MGA in spring 2022. If awarded, it will fund SGMA planning and the implementation of projects and management actions identified in the GSP from 2022 to June 2025. If awarded as anticipated, additional detail about the anticipated timing on revenues and expenses will be presented to the Board at the June 16 meeting.

Membership revenue collected from the member agencies is based on a percentage allocation of the projected operating expenses for the fiscal year. The percentage allocation between the member agencies is as follows:

- Soquel Creek Water District: 70%
- Central Water District: 10%
- City of Santa Cruz: 10%
- County of Santa Cruz: 10%

OPERATING EXPENSES

The Operating Expenses are presented in the following budget categories:

- **Administration**
- **Legal Support**
- **Management and Coordination**
- **Monitoring: Network Expansion, Data Collection, Analysis and Management**
- **SGMA Planning and Coordination**
- **Outreach and Education**

ADMINISTRATION

This budget category includes costs related to the administration of the MGA, including administrative staff support, finance staff support and related expenses, insurance, organizational memberships and conferences, as well as miscellaneous supplies and materials.

FY 21/22: The amount budgeted for this category is \$170,000.

FY22/23: The proposed budget is \$182,000.

In FY 21/22, administrative support has been provided by the Regional Water Management Foundation (RWMF), a subsidiary of the Community Foundation of Santa Cruz County. In March 2022, the County of Santa Cruz, acting on behalf of the MGA, issued a Request for Proposals for administrative and planning support. A service provider will be selected in spring 2022 to provide these services starting in FY 22/23.

The Soquel Creek Water District (SqCWD) Finance Manager is the Treasurer for the MGA and is responsible, with support from the SqCWD Finance staff, for the accounting and billing functions of the MGA. This budget category includes finance-related costs including accounting software and the annual financial audit.

Also included are the annual membership dues for the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) and the annual insurance costs from the Association of California Water Agencies Joint Powers Insurance Authority (ACWA/JPIA).

The budget includes amounts for miscellaneous office supplies and expenses, software/online services, professional conference fees (e.g., ACWA), meeting-related expenses and various other expenses outside of the scope of the other operating expense categories.

LEGAL SUPPORT

As in prior years, the County of Santa Cruz will provide legal counsel. If legal counsel specific to groundwater or the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) is necessary, or if there is a conflict of interest, the MGA will seek other legal support services.

FY 21/22 and FY22/23: The \$20,000 budget and tasks are the same in both years.

MANAGEMENT AND COORDINATION

This category includes technical support related to SGMA, groundwater modeling, and planning and program support for GSP implementation.

Technical Work - SGMA Support:

FY 21/22: In November 2020, after a competitive selection process, the MGA selected Montgomery & Associates (M&A) to provide Planning and Technical Services. The budget for this work performed by M&A is \$18,230.

FY 22/23: The proposed budget is \$8,500. The budget is less than the prior year as the task of responding to DWR comments on the GSP is not required in FY 22/23.

Groundwater Model

FY 21/22: The budget included \$15,000 for M&A to allow for as-needed groundwater modeling and simulations to inform Basin planning and management. At this point, there is no anticipated need for this work this year. M&A conducted modeling to prepare the Annual Report but that is part of the separate Annual Report preparation budget.

FY22/23: There is no anticipated need for this task, so no budget is allocated. Modelling is proposed on Projects and Management Actions as part of the anticipated SGM Implementation grant but that work is not part of this specific budget category.

Staff Support

FY 21/22 and FY 22/23: The \$30,000 budget and tasks are the same in both years. This funding is for MGA member agency staff and RWMF staff to conduct activities, as the need arises, to support SGMA implementation.

MONITORING: NETWORK EXPANSION, DATA COLLECTION, ANALYSIS & MANAGEMENT

Monitoring Network Improvements (stream gauges and shallow groundwater wells)

FY 21/22: Approximately \$96,000 of the \$371,945 budgeted is anticipated to be spent this year. Balance Hydrologics, Inc. has led the site selections, designs and related pre-construction activities but construction, anticipated and budgeted for FY 21/22, will not occur until summer/fall 2022 (FY 22/23). On March 8, 2022, the County of Santa Cruz, on behalf of the MGA, issued a request for bids for the installation/construction of the stream gauges and groundwater monitoring wells and is anticipated to award the contract in spring 2022.

FY22/23: \$257,442 is budgeted for Balance Hydrologics to continue to support pre-construction and construction activities. Balance Hydrologics will provide construction oversight and training related to the monitoring instruments. It is anticipated a qualified well drilling contractor will be selected in mid-April to construct the shallow groundwater wells (up to five locations) in summer/fall 2022.

Monitoring: Streamflow

The GSP's Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) for the depletion of interconnected surface water is based on the shallow well and associated streamflow data available in the Basin. Monitoring is needed to evaluate the associated SMC over time.

FY 21/22: \$5,000 is budgeted for TU to complete its monitoring and final reporting in the Upper Soquel Creek drainage network.

FY 22/23: \$50,000 is budgeted to expand Basin streamflow monitoring efforts to incorporate new monitoring stations (to be installed in summer/fall 2022) and increased monitoring activity. It is anticipated the MGA will initiate a solicitation process in spring 2022 to select a qualified service provider to perform the monitoring. Funding for these Basin monitoring activities was included in the SGM Implementation grant proposal.

Monitoring: Offshore Airborne Electromagnetic (AEM) Surveys

Offshore airborne electromagnetic (AEM) surveys can inform the status of seawater intrusion in the upper aquifers near shore off the coast of the Basin. In May 2017, the MGA commissioned AEM surveys that confirmed the locations of known seawater intrusion and provided information on the location of the advance of seawater in aquifers below the sea floor. The Board previously expressed interest in periodically repeating AEMs to track the movement of the freshwater-saltwater interface to inform the MGA's assessment of seawater intrusion.

FY 21/22: No funding for this task.

FY 22/23: The total cost of the AEM survey, data processing and interpretation, and reporting is estimated at \$250,000 split between FY 22/23 and 23/24. \$150,000 is allocated tentatively to proceed in spring 2023 on the survey and to initiate the post-survey analyses. The post-survey work is anticipated to extend into FY 23/24, so an additional \$100,000 is also anticipated to be budgeted in FY 23/24 for the data processing, interpretation, analyses and reporting. Funding for this work was included in the SGM Implementation grant proposal.

Data Coordination & Data Management System

This work includes conducting a data management assessment and developing the DMS for GSP-related data sets of monitoring metrics, such as groundwater elevation, total groundwater pumping, groundwater quality, groundwater extractions, and related surface water indicators such as flow. Following a competitive selection process, in December 2020 the County of Santa Cruz (on behalf of the MGA) awarded a contract to KISTERS North America, Inc. to implement its WISKI (Water Information Systems by KISTERS) system to serve as the DMS. The MGA is collaborating with the neighboring Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency (SMGWA), and the member agencies of both GSAs (Partner Agencies) on the DMS. The MGA entered into an initial funding agreement with the County of Santa Cruz for its proportional share for the KISTERS contract to develop the DMS.

FY 21/22: \$29,000 is budgeted for KISTERS to develop the DMS, provide annual web hosting, and provide support and maintenance. The projected expenses are \$46,000; this is due to lower expenses incurred in the prior FY 20/21 – the MGA's total cost share for the KISTERS work (\$96,715) has not changed. This is funded by the MGA's current DWR grant.

FY 22/23: A total of \$19,800 is budgeted which includes \$14,800 for the KISTER'S annual DMS hosting fee, software and maintenance. The total cost is split with the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency. An additional \$5,000 is budgeted for M&A to provide support, if needed, to the MGA member agencies in integrating Basin monitoring data into the DMS. Funding for this work was included in the SGM Implementation grant proposal.

Groundwater Extraction Metering Program

In 2021, the MGA initiated development of a new well metering program to collect volumetric data on groundwater usage in the Basin to inform the assessment and refinement of the sustainable yield of the Basin. The program applies to two categories of users: (1) all non-de minimis pumping operations expected to extract more than 5 acre-feet per year, and (2) all non-de minimis pumping operations expected to extract more than 2 acre-feet per year that may impact seawater intrusion or an interconnected stream where groundwater dependent ecosystems are identified in the GSP Section 3.9. Following a Request for Proposals in spring 2021, the Board selected the firm Geosyntec Consultants to lead the development of a non-de minimis groundwater metering program.

FY 21/22: \$65,000 is budgeted for Geosyntec to develop a metering program that satisfies the requirements outlined in the GSP. This work is anticipated to be

completed in the current fiscal year at a cost of \$64,000. The MGA's current DWR grant is funding this work.

FY 22/23: \$25,000 is budgeted for the implementation of the non-de minimis groundwater metering program. It is anticipated this work will be led by staff from the County of Santa Cruz. Funding for this work was included in the SGM Implementation grant proposal.

SGMA PLANNING AND COORDINATION

Planning and Implementation Staff Support

This task involves routine coordination with the Member Agencies, contractors/consultants, DWR, stakeholders and interested parties, and adjacent GSAs in carrying out planning activities for the successful implementation of the GSP.

FY 21/22: No budget allocation

FY 22/23: \$87,500 is budgeted to support personnel to conduct the necessary planning and coordination activities to implement the GSP. In March 2022, the County of Santa Cruz, acting on behalf of the MGA, issued a Request for Proposals for administrative and planning support. Funding for this work was included in the SGM Implementation grant proposal.

Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report and Data Reporting

Annual reporting to DWR by April 1st on the GSP implementation is a requirement under SGMA. In November 2020, the Board approved a contract with M&A to provide Planning and Technical Services. M&A will prepare the Annual Report and will compile, format and submit the monitoring data to the SMGA portal.

FY 21/22: The current budget for this task is \$64,000. Preparation of the Annual Report includes the following tasks and estimated amounts by task:

- Task 1.1. Obtain and Evaluate Monitoring Well Data (\$17,300)
- Task 1.2. Quantify Water Demand and Supply (\$6,700)
- Task 1.3. Extend Basin Model to Estimate Change of Groundwater in Storage (\$20,400)
- Task 1.4. Prepare Annual Report (\$15,200)
- Task 1.5. Upload Monitoring Well Data and Annual Report to SGMA Portal (\$800)
- Task 1.6. Prepare for and Present Annual Report to Board of Directors (\$3,600)

SGMA also requires reporting monitoring data via the SGMA portal twice per year. An additional \$7,800 is budgeted for M&A to perform the data reporting to DWR.

FY 22/23: The scope of work is the same as the prior fiscal year at an estimated cost of \$73,800.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

FY 21/22: \$15,000 is budgeted to continue community outreach and education. Expenses incurred include maintaining the MGA website, e-newsletters, distributing the GSP summary via Member Agency offices and businesses, and coordinating with the public library system to distribute the GSP. The projected totals are less than \$5,000 as opportunities continue to be limited by the COVID-19 pandemic.

FY 22/23: The proposed budget of \$5,000 includes continued community outreach and engagement.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation Round 1 Grant

As noted above, it is anticipated the MGA's grant proposal for \$7.6 million from DWR's Sustainable Groundwater Management Implementation (SGMI) Round 1 grant will be recommended for funding in 2022. As required under the grant, it consists of "Components", as listed below, that include multiple elements. One component will be led by the MGA. On this component, the MGA will contract directly with consultants/contractors, fund the work as it proceeds and request reimbursement, in arrears, from DWR as part of the quarterly grant reporting process. Due to the time-lag (6 to 12-months) between work occurring and DWR reimbursement, the MGA will need to ensure sufficient funds to pay for consultant's and contractor's services as they are incurred, as well as the 10% retention withheld until the completion of the Component.

Four of the Components will be led by Member Agencies (Soquel Creek Water District, City of Santa Cruz, County of Santa Cruz); they will lead the contracting and management of their respective components. The MGA will enter into sub-grantee agreements with the respective Member Agencies. The Member Agencies will be reimbursed in arrears via the MGA for eligible expenses submitted to and approved by DWR as part of the quarterly grant reporting process. The estimated total amount expenses on these Components in FY 22/23 is \$2.8 million. The MGA will reimburse the Member Agencies as soon as the grant funds from DWR are received.

DWR is in the process of reviewing the grant proposal. Member Agency staff is refining the Component details and schedules so the information should be viewed as preliminary estimates.

Component Title	Lead Agency	Estimated Grant Amount¹
Cunnison Lane Groundwater Well	SqCWD	\$1,675,000
Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Beltz Well 10	City of Santa Cruz	\$1,650,000
Park Avenue Transmission Main/Bottleneck Improvements	SqCWD	\$800,000
Technical Development of Group 1 and 2 Projects	SqCWD & City of Santa Cruz	\$1,900,000
Sustainable Groundwater Management Evaluation and Planning	MGA & County	\$1,575,000
Total		\$7,600,000
Notes: 1. DWR is reviewing the proposal, amounts shown are the target grant award amounts based upon an award of \$7.6M. These are estimated amounts; final amounts may vary from the totals above. Eligible expense period is December 2021 to June 2025.		

ENDING RESERVES

General Reserves

Prudent financial management requires that the agency carry a general reserve in order to help manage cash flow and mitigate the risk of expense overruns in case actual expenses are greater than anticipated in the budget. Based upon the actual expenses incurred in the first half the fiscal year, and projected expenses in the second half of the year, the general reserves at the end of FY 21/22 are projected to be \$1,539,222. The actual ending reserves funds will be determined following the conclusion of the financial statement audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2022.

Contingency Fund

The contingency fund is set aside to cover unexpected costs. In FY 21/22, the contingency is 10%; it is calculated based upon total Operating Expenses. The proposed FY 22/23 budget keeps the contingency at 10%.

5-Year GSP Evaluation (2025) Reserve

This reserve, initiated in FY 21/22, was intended to spread out the financial contributions of the Member Agencies to be used to fund the initial Periodic (5-Year) Evaluation (also referred to as the 5-Year Update) over four years from FY 21/22 through FY 24/25. The 5-Year Update is due to DWR in January 2025. The approach was intended to reduce periodic spikes in Member Agencies' contributions as activity and expenses increase during the 5-Year Update.

While acknowledging there are key uncertainties that will ultimately determine the cost of the 5-Year Update, the preliminary cost estimate is \$300,000. The FY 21/22 contribution to this reserve was \$75,000.

With the anticipated award of the DWR Implementation grant in spring 2022, which includes \$300,000 for the development of the 5-Year GSP Update, staff is not proposing any additional contributions to the 5-Year GSP Update Reserve at this time. Staff recommends the FY 21/22 contribution of \$75,000 be kept in the Reserve until the 5-Year Update is completed and, if unused, is rolled into the General Reserve.

Member Agency Contribution

The proposed budget includes member agency contributions as a component of Operating Revenue. Reimbursements from the current DWR grant and the anticipated forthcoming DWR grant will continue to offset some of the Operating Costs through 2025. However, it typically takes 6 to 12-months from the time an activity occurs until receipt of the grant reimbursement from DWR. Member Agency contributions will augment Cash Reserves available for covering the operating expenses while awaiting reimbursement in arrears for the grant eligible tasks.

FY 21/22: The total contribution of the Member Agencies is \$300,000.

FY 22/23: The proposed total contribution of the Member Agencies is \$312,000.

The table below presents the proposed contribution total and the amounts for each member agency in FY 22/23.

FY 2022/23 Proposed Agency Contribution Total	\$312,000
FY 2022/23 Proposed Cost Share Total	
Soquel Creek Water District (70%)	\$218,400
Central Water District (10%)	\$31,200
City of Santa Cruz (10%)	\$31,200
County of Santa Cruz (10%)	\$31,200

Recommended Board Action:

1. By MOTION, provide the necessary direction to staff to guide the completion of the FY 22/23 budget.

By 

Tim Carson, Program Director
Regional Water Management Foundation

On behalf of the MGA Executive Staff

Ron Duncan, General Manager, Soquel Creek Water District
Ralph Bracamonte, District Manager, Central Water District
Rosemary Menard, Water Director, City of Santa Cruz
Sierra Ryan, Water Resources Manager, County of Santa Cruz

Table 1. BUDGET SUMMARY

SANTA CRUZ MID-COUNTY GROUNDWATER AGENCY
BUDGET SUMMARY
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES AND CHANGES IN RESERVES
FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 AND PRELIMINARY FISCAL YEAR 2022/23 BUDGET

	2020/21 ACTUALS	2021/22 BUDGET	2021/22 PROJECTED TOTALS	2022/23 PROPOSED BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE) OVER PRIOR YEAR BUDGET	% CHANGE OVER PRIOR YEAR BUDGET
Beginning Reserves						
Beginning Cash Reserves	\$ 1,740,890	\$ 1,538,993	\$ 1,524,460	\$ 1,539,222	\$ 229	0%
Total Beginning Reserves	\$ 1,740,890	\$ 1,538,993	\$ 1,524,460	\$ 1,539,222	\$ 229	0%
Operating Revenue						
Agency Contributions	\$ -	\$ 300,000	\$ 300,000	\$ 312,000	\$ 12,000	4%
Grant Funds (Received)						
DWR Planning (2018 - 2023)	\$ 106,000	\$ 196,387	\$ 125,000	\$ 373,939	\$ 177,552	90%
DWR Planning (2018 - 2023) Retention Release				\$ 200,000		
DWR Implementation (Anticipated 2022 - 2025) ¹	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 0	\$ 138,150	\$ 138,150	-
Total Operating Revenue	\$ 106,000	\$ 496,387	\$ 425,000	\$ 1,024,089	\$ 327,702	66%
Operating Expense						
Administration	\$ 147,121	\$ 170,000	\$ 170,000	\$ 182,000	\$ 12,000	7%
Legal	\$ 5,125	\$ 20,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	0%
Management & Coordination	\$ 28,558	\$ 63,230	\$ 36,230	\$ 38,500	\$ (24,730)	-39%
Monitoring	\$ 80,949	\$ 470,945	\$ 197,208	\$ 522,200	\$ 51,255	11%
SGMA Planning and Coordination						
Planning and Implementation Staff Support	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 87,500	\$ 87,500	
GSP Annual Report & Related Data Reporting	\$ 59,785	\$ 71,800	\$ 71,800	\$ 73,800	\$ 2,000	3%
Outreach & Education	\$ 892	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ (10,000)	-67%
Total Operating Expense	\$ 322,430	\$ 810,975	\$ 485,238	\$ 929,000	\$ 118,025	15%
Ending Reserves						
Contingency		81,098	81,098	92,924		0%
5-Year GSP Evaluation (2025) Reserve		75,000	75,000	75,000	-	
General Reserve	1,524,460	1,068,308	1,383,124	1,466,386	398,079	37%
Total Ending Reserves	\$ 1,524,460	\$ 1,224,405	\$ 1,539,222	\$ 1,634,311	\$ 398,079	33%
Member Agency Lead Project & Management Activities						
SGM Grant Implementation Components				\$ 2,800,000		

Notes:

1. Operating Revenue on Grant Funds for the DWR Implementation (Anticipated 2022 - 2025) only includes MGA led activities, not Member Agency led activities

Table 2. OPERATING EXPENSES

**SANTA CRUZ MID-COUNTY GROUNDWATER AGENCY
OPERATING EXPENSES
FISCAL YEAR 2021/2022 AND PRELIMINARY FISCAL YEAR 2022/23 BUDGET**

	2020/21 ACTUALS	2021/22 BUDGET	2021/22 PROJECTED TOTALS	2022/23 PROPOSED BUDGET	INCREASE (DECREASE) OVER PRIOR YEAR BUDGET	% CHANGE OVER PRIOR YEAR BUDGET	Comments
<i>Operating Expense</i>							
Administration	\$ 147,121	\$ 170,000	\$ 170,000	\$ 182,000	\$ 12,000	7%	
Legal	\$ 5,125	\$ 20,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	0%	
Management & Coordination							
Technical Work: SGMA Support (M&A)	13,465	18,230	11,230	8,500	(9,730)		
Technical Work: GW Model Simulations (M&A)	-	15,000	-	-	(15,000)		
Staff Support	15,093	30,000	25,000	30,000	-		Not included in SGMI Grant
<i>subtotal</i>	\$ 28,558	\$ 63,230	\$ 36,230	\$ 38,500	\$ (24,730)	-39%	
Monitoring: Network Expansion, Data Collection, Analysis & Management							
Monitoring Network Improvements (stream gauges, groundwater wells)	13,924	371,945	96,000	257,000	(114,945)		Funded by SWGP Grant
Monitoring: Streamflow	19,437	5,000	5,000	50,000	45,000		FY 22/23 included in SGMI Grant
Monitoring: AEM Surveys				150,000	150,000		FY 22/23 included in SGMI Grant
Data Coordination & Data Management System	47,588	29,000	46,000	20,000	(9,000)		FY 22/23 included in SGMI Grant
Groundwater Extraction Metering Program	-	65,000	49,759	45,000	(20,000)		FY 22/23 included in SGMI Grant
<i>subtotal</i>	\$ 80,949	\$ 470,945	\$ 197,208	\$ 522,200	\$ 51,255	11%	
SGMA Planning and Coordination							
Planning and Implementation Staff Support				87,500	87,500		FY 22/23 included in SGMI Grant
GSP Annual Report & Related Data Reporting (M&A)	59,785	71,800	71,800	73,800	2,000		FY 22/23 included in SGMI Grant
<i>subtotal</i>	\$ 59,785	\$ 71,800	\$ 71,800	\$ 161,300	\$ 89,500	125%	
Outreach & Education	\$ 892	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ (10,000)	-67%	
Total Operating Expense	\$ 322,430	\$ 810,975	\$ 485,238	\$ 929,000	\$ 118,025	15%	
SGM Implementation Grant Round 1							
Member Agency Led Component(s)				\$ 2,800,000			

March 17, 2022

MEMO TO THE MGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Subject: Agenda Item 5.4

Title: Nomination of a Board Member to Serve on County Drought Response Working Group in Response to Senate Bill 552

Attachments:

1. [Senate Bill 552](#)

BACKGROUND

On September 23, 2021, Senate Bill 552 (SB 552) was signed into law in California. SB 552 adds Part 2.56 (Drought Planning for Small Water Suppliers, State Small Water Systems, and Domestic Well Communities) to Division 6 of the Water Code. The new law states that “a county shall establish a standing county drought and water shortage task force to facilitate drought and water shortage preparedness for state small water systems and domestic wells within the county’s jurisdiction”. The Santa Cruz County Water Advisory Commission voted to take on the responsibility for implementing SB 552 and will form a Drought Response Working Group to incorporate the perspectives of stakeholders. The Working Group will be responsible for developing a plan that includes potential drought and water shortage risk analysis and proposed interim and long-term solutions for state small water systems and domestic wells within the county.

DROUGHT RESPONSE WORKING GROUP

In order to meet the requirements of SB 552 and to achieve the goal of a comprehensive and inclusive plan, the Water Advisory Commission has designated the following composition for the Drought Response Working Group:

- Six (6) Public Agency Positions:
 - Three (3) Water Advisory Commissioners including the at-large Small Water System representative.
 - A representative (1) from the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency.
 - A representative (1) from the Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency, with preference given to a Private Well Owner Representative.
 - A representative (1) from the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency, with preference given to a Private Well Owner Representative.

- One (1) environmental justice/ affordability representative.
- Two (2) At-Large Representatives.
 - An at-large environmental community representative (1).
 - An at-large public representative, with priority given to a well owner in an area not covered by a groundwater sustainability agency (1).

The time commitment for the Drought Response Working Group is expected to be a total of 15 - 20 hours of meetings. Up to seven (7) 3-hour meetings (approximation) will be scheduled from late April through October 2022 during normal working hours. The meetings will likely be held in-person though a hybrid model is possible.

Staff is seeking the selection of a board member or board alternate to serve on the Drought Response Working Group. Given the nature of the required plan, the Water Advisory Commission would prefer a Private Well Owner Representative.

Recommended Action:

1. BY MOTION, nominate a representative from the MGA to participate in the Santa Cruz County Water Advisory Commission's Drought Response Working Group.



By _____
Sierra Ryan
Water Resources Manager
County of Santa Cruz

March 17, 2022

MEMO TO THE MGA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Subject: Agenda Item 6.1

Title: Treasurer's Report

Attachments:

1. Treasurer's Report for the Period Ending February 28, 2022

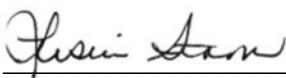
Attached is the Treasurer's Report for December 2021 through February 2022. These reports contain three sections:

- Statement of Changes in Revenues, Expenses and Net Position
 - This interim financial statement provides information on the revenue that has been invoiced to the member agencies and the expenses that have been recorded as of the period ending date.
- Statement of Net Position
 - This interim financial statement details the cash balance at Wells Fargo Bank, the membership revenue still owed through accounts receivable, if any, prepaid expenses such as insurance, and the resulting net income as reported on the Statement of Changes in Revenues, Expenses and Net Position from the preceding page.
- Warrants
 - The list of warrants reflects all payments made by the MGA, either by check or electronic means, for the period covered by the Treasurer's Report.

The Treasurer's Report will be provided at each board meeting according to statutory requirement and to promote transparency of the agency's financial transactions.

Recommended Board Action

1. Informational, no action necessary.

By 

Leslie Strohm
Treasurer
Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency

Treasurer's Report

Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency
For the period ended February 28, 2022



Prepared by

Leslie Strohm, Treasurer

Prepared on

March 4, 2022

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position

December 2021 - February 2022

	Total
INCOME	
Total Income	
GROSS PROFIT	0.00
EXPENSES	
5100 Groundwater Management Services	29,882.50
5110 Grndwtr Mgmt - Groundwater Monitoring	16,098.99
5210 Rain & Stream Gage Services	4,992.82
5315 Office Services	163.00
5340 Computer Services	389.90
5345 Professional Organizations	1,625.00
5410 Outreach Supplies	486.16
5415 Outreach Services	62.97
5515 Audit & Accounting Services	3,500.00
Total Expenses	57,201.34
NET OPERATING INCOME	-57,201.34
OTHER INCOME	
4400 Grant Revenue	29,615.21
Total Other Income	29,615.21
NET OTHER INCOME	29,615.21
NET INCOME	\$ -27,586.13

Statement of Net Position

As of February 28, 2022

		Total
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank Accounts		
1100 Wells Fargo Business Checking		1,913,175.15
Total Bank Accounts		1,913,175.15
Other Current Assets		
1400 Prepaid Expenses		2,072.92
Total Other Current Assets		2,072.92
Total Current Assets		1,915,248.07
TOTAL ASSETS		\$1,915,248.07
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		
Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts Payable		
2100 Accounts Payable		10,072.97
Total Accounts Payable		10,072.97
Total Current Liabilities		10,072.97
Total Liabilities		10,072.97
Equity		
3100 Retained Earnings		1,700,949.69
Net Income		204,225.41
Total Equity		1,905,175.10
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY		\$1,915,248.07

Warrants

December 2021 - February 2022

Date	Transaction Type	Num	Name	Memo/Description	Clr	Amount
Bill Payment (Check)						
02/28/2022	Bill Payment (Check)	10264	ACWA	Membership Dues		-3,250.00
						-3,250.00
02/28/2022	Bill Payment (Check)	10265	Errol L Montgomery & Associates Inc	GSP Planning & Reporting		-25,232.50
						-25,232.50
02/28/2022	Bill Payment (Check)	10266	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc	Development of Groundwater Metering Program		-3,466.47
						-3,466.47
02/28/2022	Bill Payment (Check)	10267	Sentinel Printers Inc	GSP Printing		-486.16
						-486.16
02/28/2022	Bill Payment (Check)	10268	Soquel Creek Water District (2)	Audit, QuickBooks, MailChimp, Zoom		-3,851.88
						-3,851.88
02/28/2022	Bill Payment (Check)	10269	Trout Unlimited Inc	Stream Gage Monitoring		-4,992.82
						-4,992.82

Date	Transaction Type	Num	Name	Memo/Description	Clr	Amount
01/14/2022	Bill Payment (Check)	10261	Errol L Montgomery & Associates Inc	GSP Planning & Reporting	R	-5,805.00
						-5,805.00
01/14/2022	Bill Payment (Check)	10262	Geosyntec Consultants, Inc	Development of Groundwater Metering Program	R	-3,082.28
						-3,082.28
01/14/2022	Bill Payment (Check)	10263	Soquel Creek Water District (2)	QuickBooks, MailChimp, GoTo Meeting	R	-119.99
						-119.99
12/03/2021	Bill Payment (Check)	10258	County of Santa Cruz (County Counsel)		R	-1,500.00
						-1,500.00
12/03/2021	Bill Payment (Check)	10259	County of Santa Cruz Health Services Agency	Monitoring and Data Mgmnt	R	-30,750.78
						-30,750.78
12/03/2021	Bill Payment (Check)	10260	Soquel Creek Water District (2)	Audit Services, QuickBooks, MailChimp, web hosting	R	-4,119.99
						-4,119.99

Expense

Date	Transaction Type	Num	Name	Memo/Description	Clr	Amount
01/06/2022	Expense	US003Jzp8F	Google - Online Payments	G Suite Subscription	R	-72.00
				Google Payment - G Suit		72.00
12/06/2021	Expense	US003Jhw0U	Google - Online Payments	G Suite Subscription	R	-72.00
				Google Payment - G Suit		72.00

March 17, 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS TO THE ORAL REPORTS

6.2 Oral Reports

- 6.2.1 Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant and Next Steps
 - Grant Proposal Related Materials
- 6.2.2 Update on Monitoring Network Development
 - [County RFP – Construction of Basin Shallow Monitoring Wells](#)
- 6.2.3 Update on Request for Proposals Process for Planning and Administrative Services
 - [County RFP – GSA Administrative and Planning Services](#)
- 6.2.4 County Revenue Agreement: Data Management System; Basin Monitoring Network Improvements; and Administrative and Planning Staff Support
- 6.2.5 Update on Data Management System
 - KISTERS Statement on the Cyber-attack
- 6.2.6 Update on Non-De Minimis Groundwater Metering Program
- 6.2.7 Reminder for Filing Form 700 Statements – Due April 1st

March 17, 2022

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS TO THE ORAL REPORTS

6.2.1 Update on Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant and Next Steps

- Table 1. Spending Plan
- Table 2. Summary Budget
- Table 3. Schedule
- Map of Project Locations
- Project Review Committee Summary
- Project Information Forms
- Project Scoring Criteria

SPENDING PLAN

Table 1 – Spending Plan

Rank	Name	Estimated Score	COD SJV Component Requirement	Benefactors	Cost	Justification
1	Cunnison Lane Groundwater Well	24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribe(s) <input type="checkbox"/> URC(s) <input type="checkbox"/> SDAC(s)	\$2,500,000	This Component implements a GSP Group 1 Project. Implementation of GSP Group 1 & 2 Projects and Management Actions were prioritized.
2	Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Beltz Well 10	24	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribe(s) <input type="checkbox"/> URC(s) <input type="checkbox"/> SDAC(s)	\$2,700,000	This Component implements a GSP Group 2 Project. Implementation of GSP Group 1 & 2 Projects and Management Actions were prioritized.
3	Park Avenue Transmission Main/Bottleneck Improvements	22	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribe(s) <input type="checkbox"/> URC(s) <input type="checkbox"/> SDAC(s)	\$800,000	This Component implements a Group 1 Project. Implementation of GSP Group 1 & 2 Projects and Management Actions were prioritized.
4	Technical Development of Group 1 and 2 Projects	22	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribe(s) <input type="checkbox"/> URC(s) <input type="checkbox"/> SDAC(s)	\$1,900,000	This Component conducts activities necessary to inform implementation of additional GSP Group 1 and 2 Projects and Management Actions.
5	Sustainable Groundwater Management Evaluation and Planning	22	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribe(s) <input type="checkbox"/> URC(s) <input type="checkbox"/> SDAC(s)	\$1,575,000	The Component includes necessary evaluation and planning to comply with SGMA reporting.
6	Inland Groundwater Pumping Optimization	21	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Tribe(s) <input type="checkbox"/> URC(s) <input type="checkbox"/> SDAC(s)	\$615,000	This is a GSP Group 1 Project; this Component is scored and ranked lower because project details are comparatively less developed.
				Total Cost:	\$10,090,000	

Applicant Name: Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency

Basin Name: Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin

Grant Proposal Summary Budget

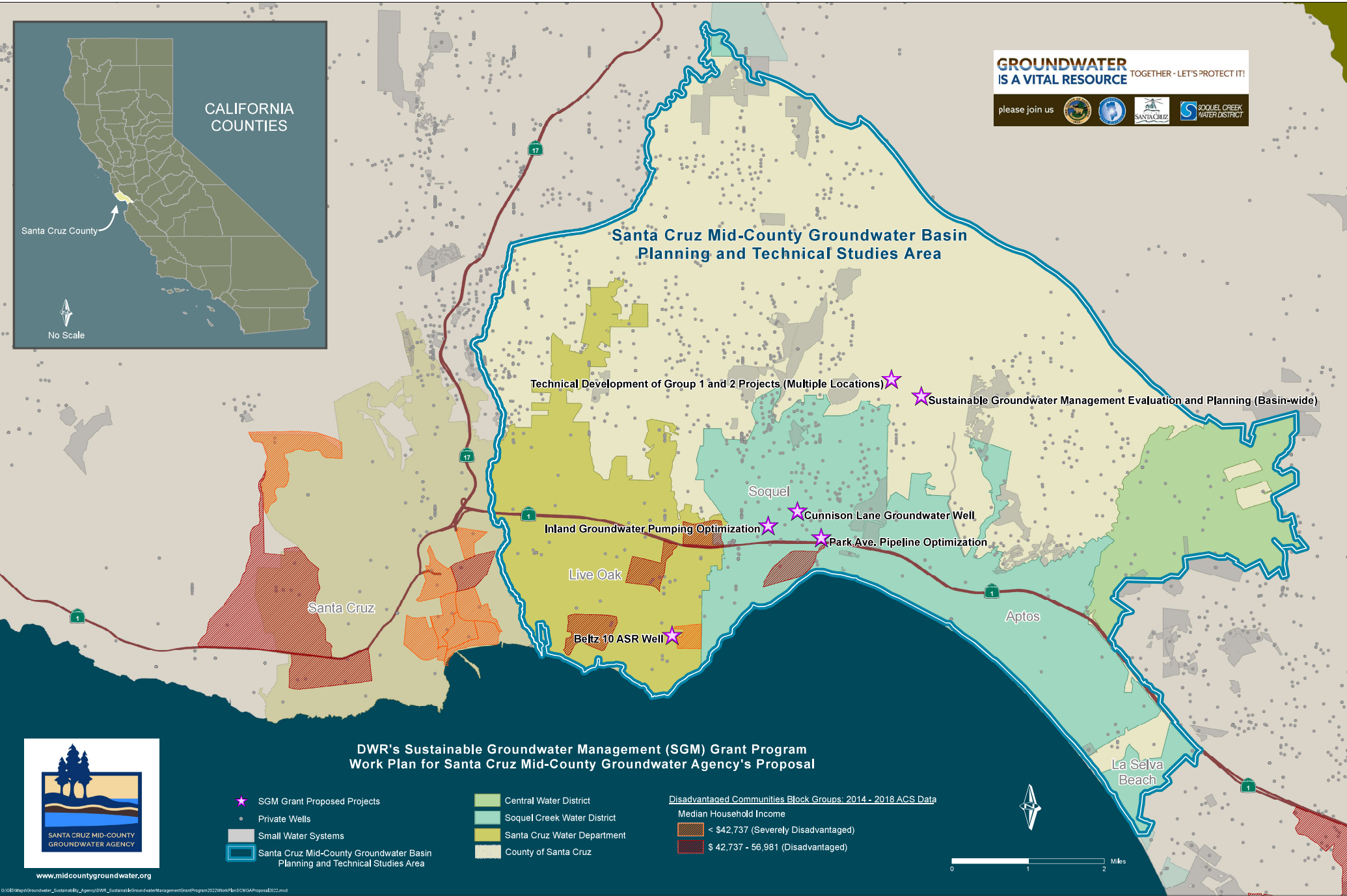
TABLE 2 – GRANT PROPOSAL SUMMARY BUDGET

Budget Categories	Requested Grant Amount
Component 1: Cunnison Lane Groundwater Well	\$2,500,000
Component 2: Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Beltz Well 10	\$2,700,000
Component 3: Park Avenue Transmission Main/Bottleneck Improvements	\$800,000
Component 4: Technical Development of Group 1 and 2 Projects	\$1,900,000
Component 5: Sustainable Groundwater Management Evaluation and Planning	\$1,575,000
Component 6: Inland Groundwater Pumping Optimization	\$615,000
Grand Total	\$10,090,000

Grant Proposal Summary Schedule

TABLE 3 – GRANT PROPOSAL SCHEDULE

Categories	Start Date	End Date
Component 1: Cunnison Lane Groundwater Well	September 2022	December 2024
Component 2: Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Beltz Well 10	July 2022	June 2025
Component 3: Park Avenue Transmission Main/Bottleneck Improvements	February 2022	December 2022
Component 4: Technical Development of Group 1 and 2 Projects	July 2022	July 2024
Component 5: Sustainable Groundwater Management Evaluation and Planning	July 2022	June 2025
Component 6: Inland Groundwater Pumping Optimization	July 2024	June 2025





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February 14, 2022

To: SGM Grant Program SGMA Implementation Proposal

Re: Attachment A Supplemental Information – Project Review Committee Composition and Methodology

Formation of the Project Review Committee

Information on the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program funding opportunity (SGM Grant) was presented to the MGA Board of Directors at its meeting on December 16, 2021. Information presented included a detailed memo outlining the SGM Grant and the required elements, including the Draft Application Criteria (Table 7) and the Draft Implementation Eligibility Checklist (Table 2).

At that meeting, the Board took several actions with regard to the SGM Grant, including the creation of a Temporary Board Committee to serve as the Project Review Committee for an MGA application. The Board moved for the Committee to consist of up to five (5) Directors with up to one director per each of the four Member Agencies and one Director representing the Private Well Owners. The Committee composition meets DWR's requirement that a project review committee include a representative for each entity within a Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).

The Board appointed the following Directors to the Review Committee: Dr. Tom LaHue (Soquel Creek Water District); Supervisor Manu Koenig (County of Santa Cruz), Doug Engfer (Alternate MGA Director, City of Santa Cruz), Marco Romanini (Central Water District), and Jon Kennedy (Private Well Owner Representative). Dr. Bruce Jaffee also indicated is willingness to serve, as needed, on behalf of Soquel Creek Water District.

MGA Member Agency staff and Regional Water Management Foundation (RWMF) staff provided support to the Project Review Committee by preparing materials for the Committee and participating in the Committee meetings. Participating staff included: Ron Duncan, Melanie Mow Schumacher (Soquel Creek Water District); Rosemary Menard, Heidi Luckenbach (City of Santa Cruz); Sierra Ryan (County of Santa Cruz); Ralph Bracamonte (Central Water District); Tim Carson, Laura Partch (RWMF).

Meetings of the Board Review Committee

The first Committee meeting was on January 12, 2022, guided by the following agenda:

1. Review Charge of the Committee
2. Overview Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP)
 - 2.1 DWR Template – Project Scoring Criteria (PSP Table 7)
 - 2.2 DWR Template – Spending Plan (required), Attachment A – Scoring Criteria (required), Attachment B – Resolution (required), Attachment C – Eligibility Self-Certification Checklist (required), and Attachment D – Backup Documentation (optional)
3. Discuss Potential Program, Project Development and Implementation Activities
4. Discuss Proposed Approach & Timeline

The second Committee meeting was on January 27, 2022, with the following agenda:

1. Recap Progress Since Meeting #1
2. Discuss Project Information Forms, Draft Scoring Criteria Recommendations, Draft Spending Plan Table 1 (Rankings)
3. Discuss Next Steps

Committee Process and Methodology for Ranking Projects

Project Identification

All of the projects considered are identified in the MGA’s approved Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP). GSP Section 4 (Projects and Management Actions (PMAs)) presents projects in three groupings as summarized below:

- **Group 1:** Baseline PMAs
- **Group 2:** PMAs Evaluated Against the Sustainable Management Criteria
- **Group 3:** No Group 3 projects are proposed for the SGM grant. Group 3 consists of identified PMAs that may be evaluated in the future.

Group 1 activities are considered existing commitments by MGA Member Agencies that will support achieving sustainability in the Basin. These include projects and management actions currently being implemented that are expected to continue to be implemented, as needed, to assist in achieving the sustainability goal throughout the GSP implementation period.

Group 2 activities were developed and thoroughly vetted by MGA member agencies and are planned for near-term implementation by individual member agencies. The MGA used an integrated groundwater/surface water model (model) to evaluate the Group 2 projects against the Sustainable Management Criteria to determine if they contribute to achieving sustainability. The expected benefits of each of the projects presented in GSP Section 4.2, as informed by the groundwater modeling simulations and documented in the model simulations report (GSP Appendix 2-I), show that the implementation of a combination of these projects will be sufficient to achieve and maintain sustainability even under climate change scenarios. Therefore, ongoing implementation of Group 1 activities, coupled with the implementation of Group 2 projects and management actions, are required to reach sustainability to comply with SGMA.

In the GSP (Section 4), the following information was presented for the Group 2 projects:

- Project Description
- Measurable Objective
- Circumstances for Implementation
- Public Noticing
- Overdraft Mitigation and Management Actions
- Permitting and Regulatory Process
- Time-table for Implementation
- Expected Benefits
- How the Project will be Accomplished
- Legal authority
- Estimated Costs and Funding Plan
- Management of groundwater extractions and recharge
- Relationship to Additional GSP Elements

Project Information Forms

Following Meeting #1, individual Project Information Forms (PIFs) were developed for each of the proposed projects to aid in the project evaluation and scoring process. The PIF template is attached. The GSP (Section 4) presents additional information and a summary of prior analyses on the Group 2 projects; the PIFs include specific information and are based upon DWR's required SGM Grant proposal requirements (e.g., Spending Plan, Project Scoring Criteria, etc.). PIFs were presented to the Committee in advance of Meeting #2. PIFs were reviewed/discussed by the Committee and staff during Meeting #2 as part of the Committee's project scoring and ranking process.

Project Evaluation, Scoring, and Ranking

The project evaluation and scoring is consistent with the requirements and process outlined in DWR's Proposal Solicitation Package. DWR's Project Evaluation Criteria (PSP

Table 7) was utilized to score projects based upon the scoring criteria. Consistent with the potential scoring approaches outlined by DWR in the PSP, the Committee opted to utilize a consensus scoring evaluation for each project, so each of the proposed projects (6) received an individual score.

During Meeting #2, the Committee discussed project scores and reached unanimous agreement on the project scores for all six projects. Projects were then ranked by score (from high to low score) based upon the scoring criteria. The Committee also unanimously concurred that the rankings by score was appropriate, as the higher scoring projects (generally consisting of Group 1 and 2 implementation activities) accurately reflect the Committee's preference to propose implementation activities.



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Project Information Form SGM Grant Program SGMA Implementation 2022

Project Title: Cunnison Lane Groundwater Well

Lead Project Proponent: Soquel Creek Water District

Proponent Agency Type: MGA Member Agency

Agency Contact: Melanie Mow Schumacher, melanies@soquelcreekwater.org

Project Partner Agencies and/or Organizations (if applicable): N/A

Is the Project Identified in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (2020)?: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Q1. Project Description:

Background: This Project is a planned groundwater extraction well that will assist with reducing reliance on groundwater pumping from wells near the coast and increase pumping more inland. This well was identified in the MGA's GSP as coming on-line by 2026.

This Project was identified in Soquel Creek Water District's (District) 2010 Well Master Plan to redistribute pumping both vertically and horizontally to achieve more uniform drawdown of the Basin and reduce susceptibility to furthering seawater intrusion and minimize localized pumping depressions. The Project is also aimed at reducing the groundwater overdraft by complimenting the District's groundwater replenishment project, Pure Water Soquel. The Cunnison Well was included in the MGA's groundwater modeling that was used to establish the basin management goals.

This Project has completed its environmental review and CEQA compliance through the District's Well Master Plan Environmental Impact Report (EIR) that was certified in 2011.

Based on groundwater modeling and analysis performed for the MGA for the GSP, this Project would extract an average of 426 acre-feet per year (afy) with the operations of Pure Water Soquel and could be reduced to 329 afy when the City's Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) wells were brought on-line.

Q2-A. Describe the Quantifiable Benefits (Implementation Projects Only):

Soquel Creek Water District's Pure Water Soquel Project is expected to increase the groundwater elevations in the Basin and modeling results are included in the GSP. To broaden the benefits, complimentary projects under Group 1 and Group 2 are being implemented by the City and District. This Project is a complimentary project with the following benefits identified:

- Will redistribute and shift pumping more inland and reduces reliance on existing groundwater wells closer to the coast.

- Allows for more regional uniform drawdown of the groundwater extractions by incorporating a pumping regime designed to aid in drawing water from the Purisima A units and reducing pumping in the Aromas Red Sands.
- The groundwater modeling included in the GSP were based on utilizing Cunnison Lane to produce approximately 329 to 426 afy, which offsets this amount needed to be extracted from wells closer to the coast (e.g. Garnet).
- With the addition of this Project and Pure Water Soquel, additional pumping can occur in the inland Purisima A unit (where Cunnison will draw from) and the Purisima BC units to allow for a decrease in pumping from the coastal Purisima A unit, the Tu Unit, and the Purisima F unit (as shown in the figure from the GSP below). It is noted in the GSP that net pumping from Purisima A unit can be increased in SqCWD wells, including increased pumping from the Tannery II, Cunnison Lane, and Garnet wells together with a decrease in injection at the Monterey SWIP well can still achieve minimum thresholds at representative monitoring points SC-5A, SC-3A, and SC-1A.

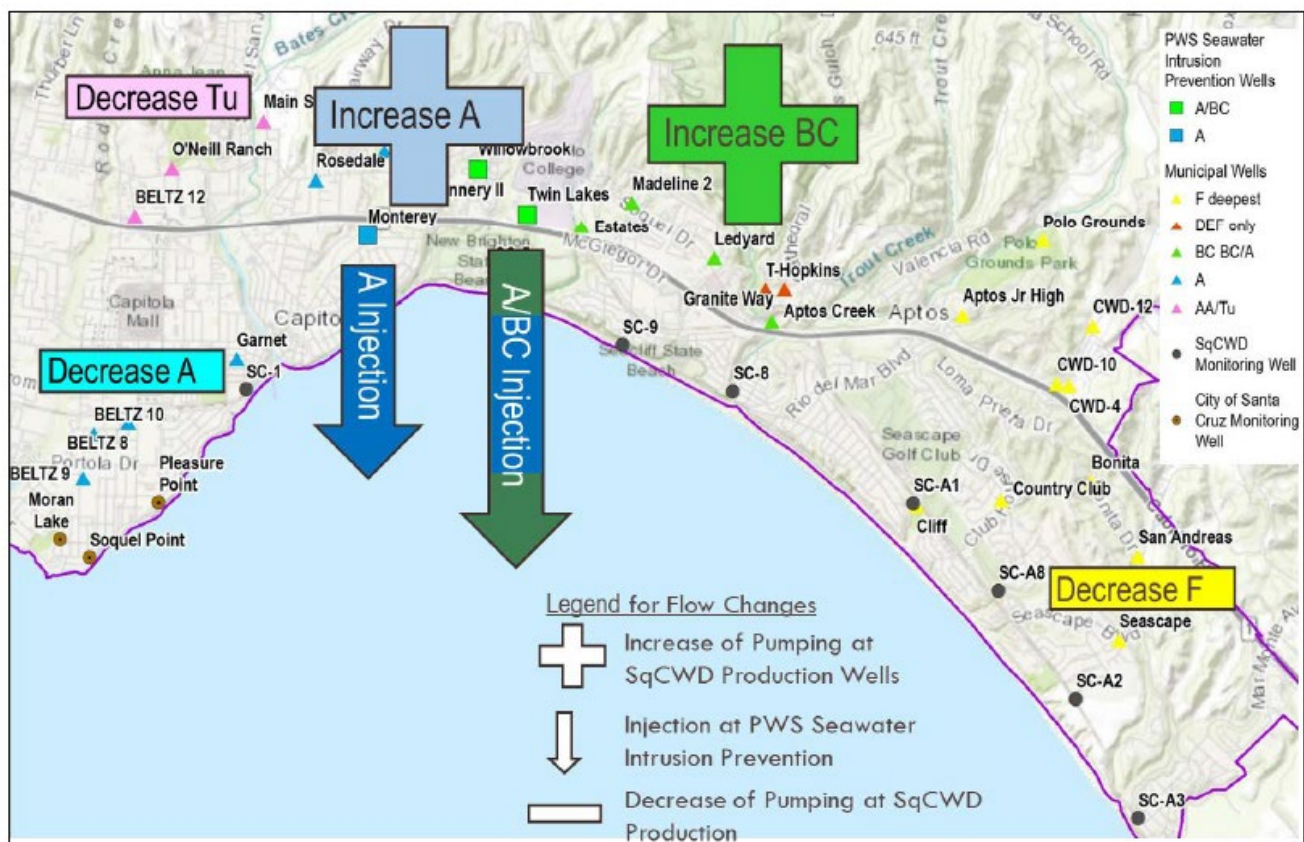


Figure 8 Map Schematic of Changes in Pumping Distribution from Pure Water Soquel Injection

Table 11. Groundwater Pumping and Injection 2026-2069 for Sustainability Estimate

Aquifer Group	Well Name	Average Net Pumping (for Sustainable Yield)	Average Net Pumping (Baseline)	Average Net Pumping (PWS+ASR)
		acre-feet per year		
Aromas Red Sands and Purisima F	Polo Grounds	100	100	100
	Aptos Jr High	250	250	250
	Country Club	0	70	70
	Bonita	75	269	79
	San Andreas	232	371	78
	Seascape	46	46	46
	CWD 4	48	48	48
	CWD 10	92	92	92
	CWD 12	410	410	410
	Domestic	84	84	84
	Institutional	199	199	199
	Agricultural	203	203	203
	Total	1,739	2,142	1,659
Purisima DEF, D, BC, A, and AA	Beltz 8	0	93	-29
	Beltz 9	58	123	-10
	Beltz 10	0	91	-1
	Monterey	-450	0	-500
	Willowbrook	-233	0	-233
	Twin Lakes			
	Church	-742	0	-742
	Rosedale 2	546	545	545
	Garnet	253	254	205
	Cunnison	426	215	399
	Tannery 2	563	223	571
	Estates	398	316	402
	Madeline 2	122	98	122
	Ledyard	120	108	120
	Aptos Creek	102	0	105
	T-Hopkins	137	139	139
	Granite	135	135	135
	Domestic	579	579	579
	Institutional	109	109	109
	Agricultural	162	162	162
	Total	2,285	3,190	2,083

Q2-B. Describe the Coordination with Surrounding GSAs (Planning Projects Only):

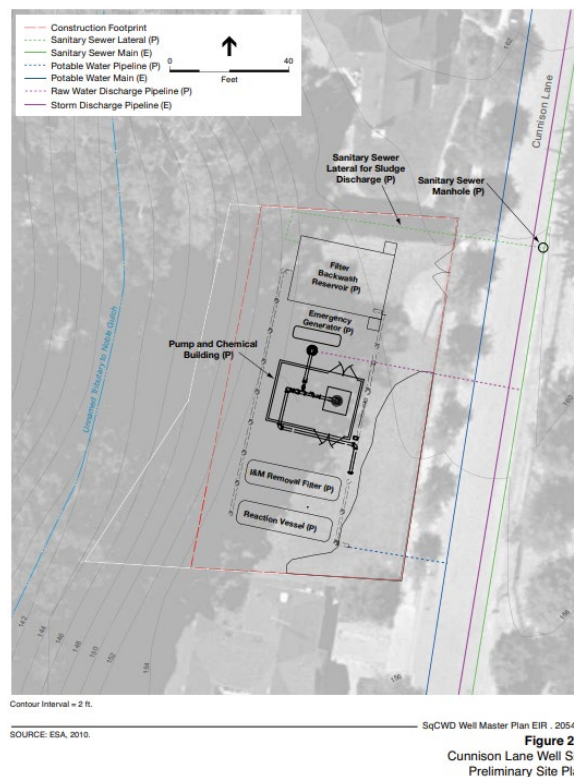
N/A; also, this question is for planning projects only.

Q3. Describe the Outreach/Engagement within Underrepresented Communities and with Interested Parties:

One of Soquel Creek Water District's primary organizational goals is community engagement and trust. This Project was developed under the agency's Well Master Plan, which was a public process that included community meetings and input. In addition, outreach was conducted during the CEQA process with scoping meetings, comment periods, and public meetings related to the notice of preparation and the draft EIR.

Outreach and engagement will continue when the Project is drilled and constructed. Soquel Creek Water District maintains direct outreach to neighbors within project areas as well as to the community-at-large by sending out notifications, holding meetings for those within the project vicinity, and maintaining construction notification updates on the SqCWD's website under "Projects in Your Neighborhood" (<https://www.soquelcreekwater.org/284/Projects-in-Your-Neighborhood>)

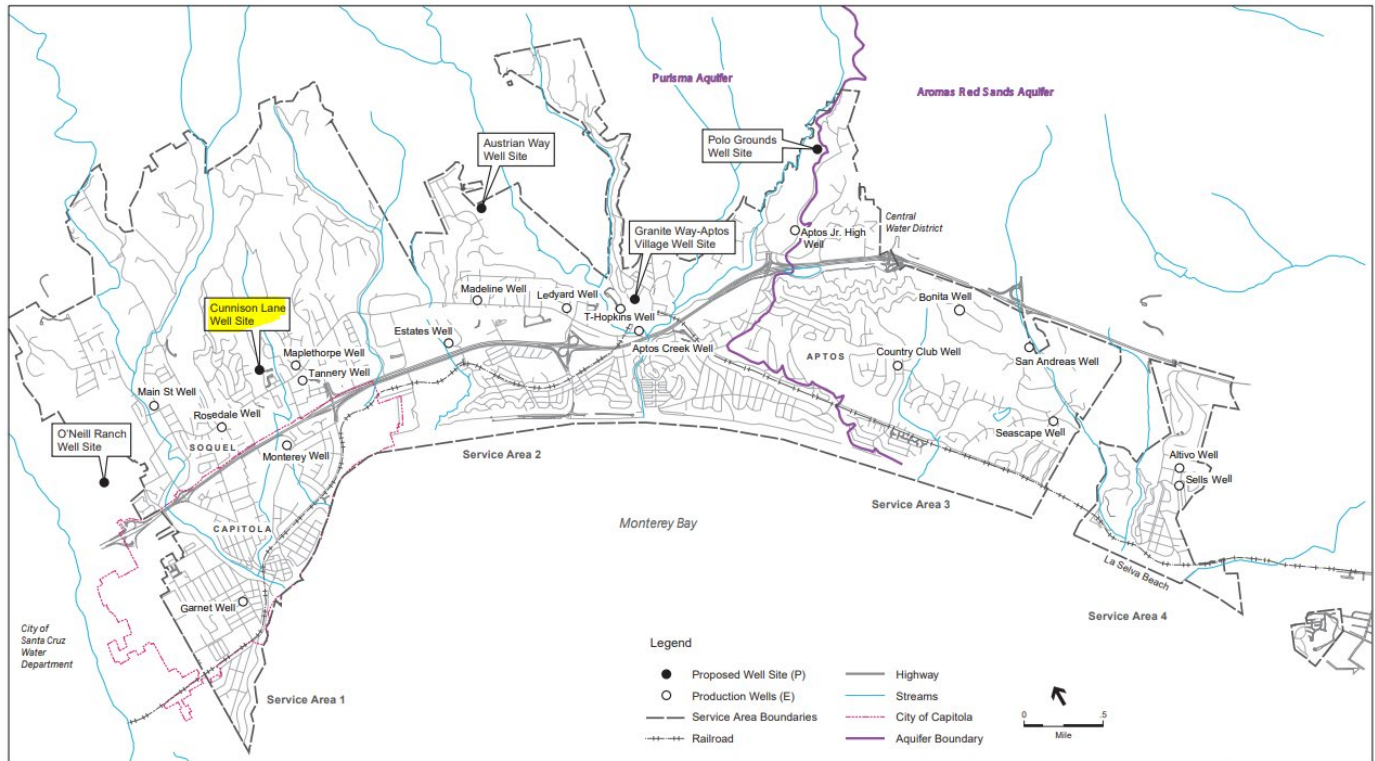
Q4. Regional and Project Maps: Is a Project Map Provided ☒ Yes ☐ No





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SOURCE: Soquel Creek Water District, 2006

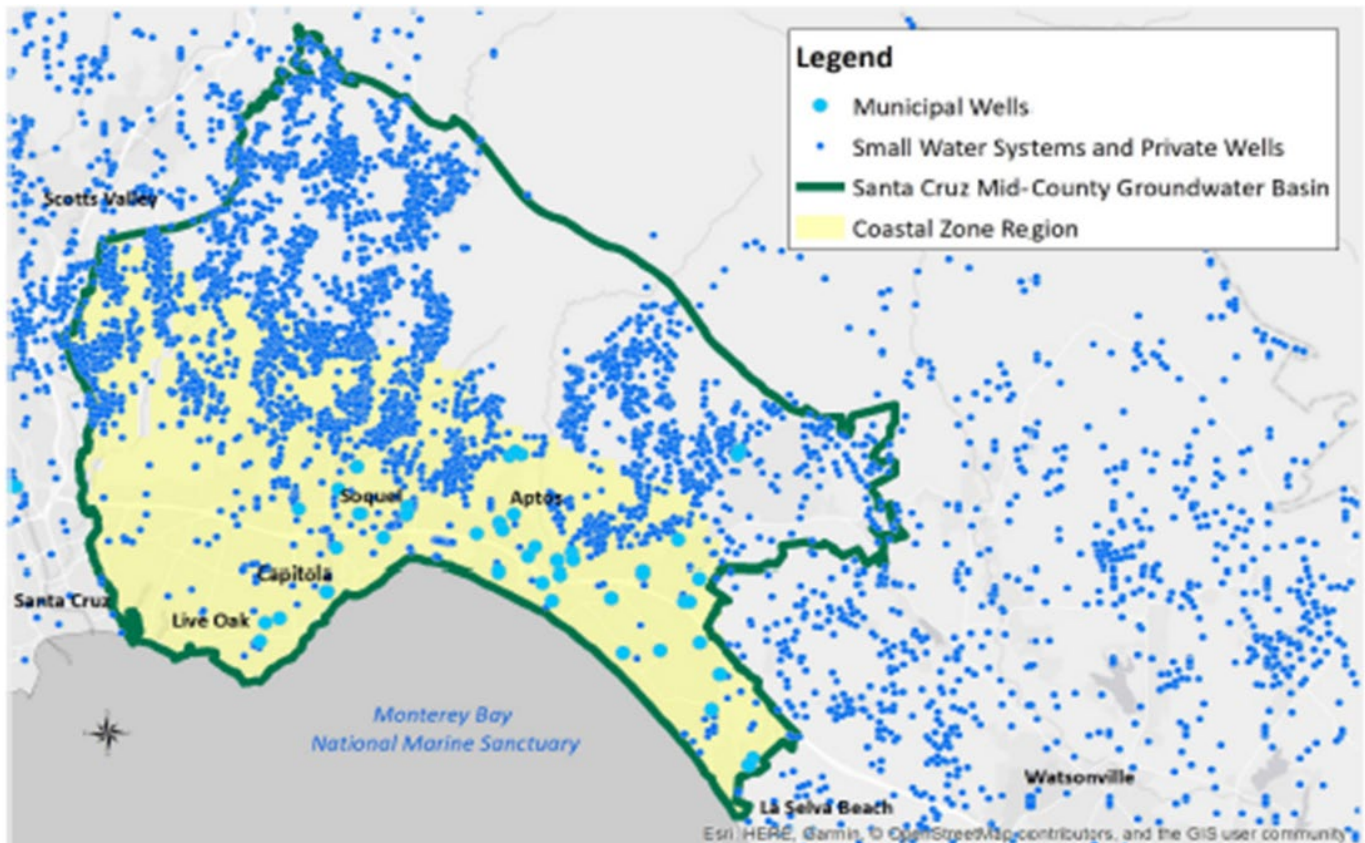
SqCWD Well Master Plan EIR.205491
Figure 2-2
Existing and Proposed
SqCWD Municipal Well Sites

Q5. Benefits to Underrepresented Communities:

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin includes small areas underrepresented communities that rely 100% on groundwater. The benefits of the project will include all basin users, including these communities.

Q6. Positive Impacts Associated with Small Water Systems, Private Shallow Domestic Wells:

This project is directly connected to Pure Water Soquel and, as described in the GSP, and the groundwater extractions, such as Cunnison Lane Well, will provide positive impacts to basin users within the coastal zone region (as shown in yellow), which includes other municipal pumpers, small water systems, and shallow domestic private wells. As stated above, this project will allow for more groundwater extraction inland, thus contributing to increasing protective water levels at the coast. Increasing protective water levels of the groundwater basin at the coastline will create the positive head and gradient for wells (small water systems, private wells, municipal wells) to be better protected and more sustainable.



Q7. Does the Project or Component Address the Human Right to Water?

Yes, the project contributes to optimizing Pure Water Soquel and reduces pumping closer to the coast; this helps create a sustainable and fresh groundwater supply for future generations. Achieving sustainability in the Basin is a fundamental aspect of ensuring that residents in the Basin have a reliable long-term source of water. The proposed project, aimed at achieving sustainability in the Basin, is consistent in principal with the State's aim of ensuring safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water.

Q8. Description of Tasks of Grant Project:

This Project will consist of the following:

Component 1: Civil Design of Well and Treatment: Soquel Creek Water District will issue a request for proposals for a qualified design firm to design the Cunnison Well, including pumps, motors and piping and the associated treatment plant.

Component 2: Construct Cunnison Well and Well Drilling Oversight: Construction of the Cunnison Well ,well development, and construction oversight/Project Management (Bid the Well Project as well as issuance of RFP for a qualified firm to construct and develop the well, procure and hire construction management to oversee project).

Q9. Budget Summary Table

Budget Categories	Requested Grant Amount	Cost Share Amount
Project: Cunnison Well		If applicable, not required
Component 1: Civil Design of Well and Treatment	\$700,000	0
Component 2: Construct Cunnison Well and Well Drilling Oversight	\$975,000*	\$825,000*
Grand Total <i>Sum rows (1) through (n) for each column</i>	\$1,675,000	

*For grant amount of \$7.6M, this project is seeking partial funding for the task of constructing the Cunnison Well with a requested amount of \$975,000.

As requested by DWR, for a grant amount of \$10M, this project would be fully reimbursable and eligible to cover both components 1 and 2 listed above (Component 1 for \$700K and Component 2 for \$1.8M)

Q10A. Project Schedule Table

Categories	Start Date	End Date
Project: Cunnison Well	September 2022	December 2024
Component 1 : Design of Well and Treatment	September 2022	December 2024
Task 1: Procure Design Team	September 2022	March 2023
Task 2: Prepare and Complete Design	May 2023	February 2024
Component 2: Construct Cunnison Well	July 2024	December 2024
Task 1: Drill and Develop Well	July 2024	December 2024
Task 2: Well Drilling Oversight	July 2024	December 2024

Q10B. Feasibility of Project Schedule:

Soquel Creek Water District anticipates this schedule is on-track and feasible. This Project is identified in the District's 10-year Capital Improvement Program and modeling and GSP goals are based on this project being implemented by 2026.



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Project Information Form SGM Grant Program SGMA Implementation 2022

Project Title: Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Beltz Well 10

Lead Project Proponent: City of Santa Cruz

Proponent Agency Type: MGA Member Agency

Agency Contact: Heidi Luckenbach, hluckenbach@cityofsantacruz.com

Project Partner Agencies and/or Organizations (if applicable):

Is the Project Identified in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (2020)?: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Q1. Project Description:

The City of Santa Cruz evaluated Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) during a City Council sponsored public-engagement process between 2014-2015. The Water Supply Advisory Committee (WSAC) was a 14-member committee charged with evaluating the City's water supply needs and developing a recommendation to the City Council that met the needs of the community and the environment. ASR was the cornerstone of their recommendations¹ to the City Council along with ongoing conservation and conjunctive use of resources, including recycled water and potentially seawater desalination, throughout the region.

ASR would inject excess surface water, treated to drinking water standards, into the natural structure of the Santa Cruz Mid County Groundwater Basin (MCGB) for use as an underground storage reservoir, and extract this stored water during periods of water supply shortages, or drought. The ASR project modeled for the GSP optimizes existing City infrastructure, demonstrating that this as an efficient use of available resources.

The ASR concept developed by WSAC and subsequently analyzed for inclusion in the Santa Cruz Mid County Groundwater Basin (MCGB) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) includes the buildout of ASR by converting all four of the existing Beltz wells (Beltz wells 9 and 10 in addition to 8 and 12) to ASR wells as well as the addition of up to 6 additional ASR wells in the MCGB. Incremental implementation is the desired approach for this type of project to confirm project performance and that objectives are being met and that the project(s) can be modified along the way.

Since 2015 the City has performed groundwater modeling as part of the GSP development, has pilot tested two existing groundwater wells (Beltz Wells 8 and 12) for ASR feasibility including meeting water quality and basin objectives, and is currently operating a full-scale, but temporary, demonstration at these same two wells for operational optimization, and has a certified Environmental Impact Report for

¹ City of Santa Cruz Water Supply Advisory Committee Final Report on Agreements and Recommendations October 2015

the conversion of the four Beltz wells to ASR wells. Beltz 10 has been identified as the next increment of project development.

Drinking water stored in the Basin as a result of an ASR project would provide a drought supply for the City service area and any ASR project would need to be designed with additional capacity to contribute to the restoration of the Basin.

Q2-A. Describe the Quantifiable Benefits (Implementation Projects Only):

Basin groundwater elevations are expected to increase with ASR's injection of excess surface water, treated to drinking water standards, and continued basin management. ASR withdrawals would be managed to ensure they do not impact the attainment of Basin sustainability. Benefits will be evaluated using the existing groundwater monitoring well network and data management systems to compare groundwater levels over time. Potential impacts of recovering water from the Basin through ASR would be monitored to ensure ongoing groundwater sustainability is maintained.

As more fully analyzed and described in the GSP, expected benefits were evaluated based on a simulation of a potential ASR project, in combination with the Pure Water Soquel project, under projected future climate conditions. Quantifiable benefits include:

- The ASR project simulated for evaluation of expected benefits is based on using the City's four Beltz wells for injection of between 1 and 1.5 million gallons per day and recovery pumping of between 1.5 and 2.5 million gallons per day.
- Proportionally, Beltz 10 well would inject approximately 375,000 gallons per day on average.
- The model simulation showed that expected benefits for sustainability are to raise average groundwater levels at coastal monitoring in City's service area by 2-5' above the measureable objective, and reduce the risk of seawater intrusion. The figure below (Figure 4-4 from the GSP) shows running five-year averages of simulated groundwater levels at representative monitoring points for seawater intrusion in the City's service area.

(Note: In Figure 4-4, the simulated groundwater levels are compared to groundwater level proxies for minimum thresholds (black dots) and measurable objectives (black dashes) adjusted for sea level rise. Without the City's ASR project, five-year averages of simulated groundwater levels are not projected to achieve and maintain measurable objectives at the representative monitoring points Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Sustainability Plan and are below the minimum threshold in the AA unit. The project is projected to raise groundwater levels sufficiently such that sustainability is maintained even if the City increases recovery pumping to meet drought demand from the 2050s into the early 2060s. The model simulation also shows that an ASR project can help prevent undesirable results for the interconnected surface water depletion indicator.)

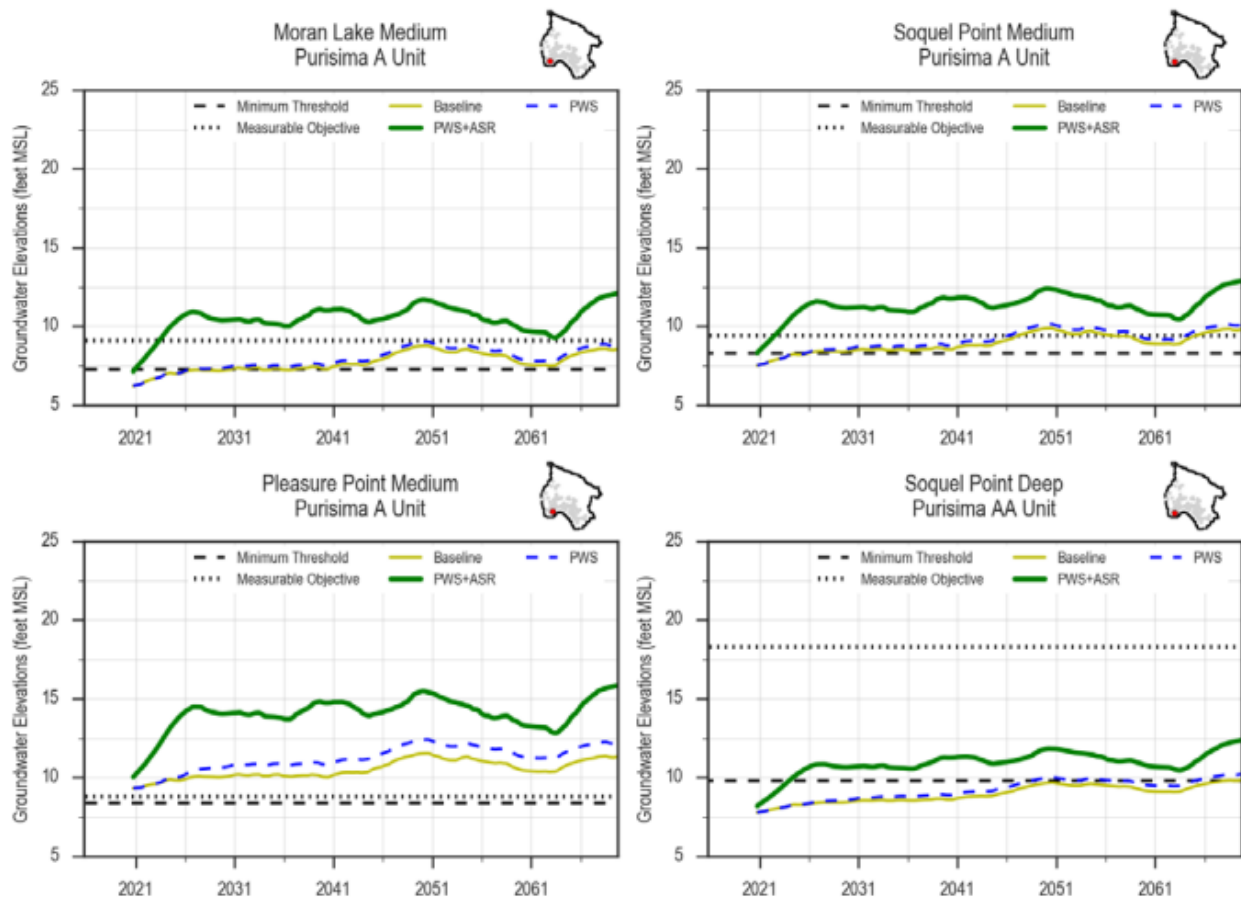


Figure 4-4. Five Year Averages of Groundwater Elevations at Purisima AA and A Units

Q2-B. Describe the Coordination with Surrounding GSAs (Planning Projects Only):

N/A; also, this question is for planning projects only.

Q3. Describe the Outreach/Engagement within Underrepresented Communities and with Interested Parties:

Appointed by City Council in 2014, the Water Supply Advisory Committee's (WSAC) charge was to explore, through an iterative, fact-based process, the City's water profile, including supply, demand and future risks; analyze potential solutions to deliver a safe, adequate, reliable, affordable and environmentally sustainable water supply; and, to develop recommendations for City Council consideration.

The 14-member WSAC committee brought together a diverse set of perspectives and viewpoints from a broad sector of the community. The Committee placed a high value on transparency, trust and consensus.

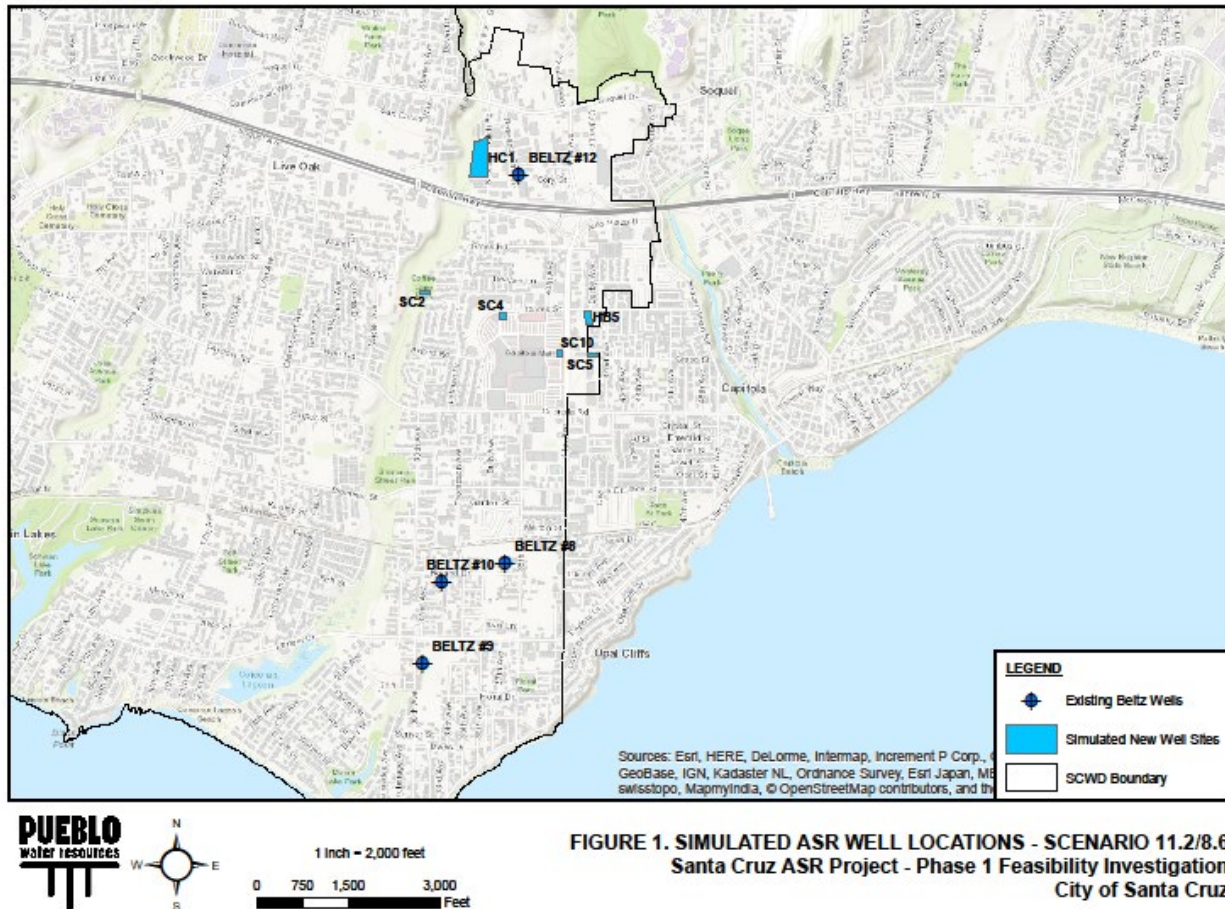
The WSAC 2 year public process that, in addition to monthly meetings and multiple tours, included education sessions, and public brainstorming sessions.

Outreach and engagement will continue prior to well drilling and commissioning with the City sending out notifications, holding community meetings for those within the project vicinity, and maintaining construction notification updates on the City's website under "Projects in Your Neighborhood".

Q4. Regional and Project Maps: Is a Project Map Provided ☒ Yes ☐ No

June 2021
Project No. 15-0111

Attachment 2



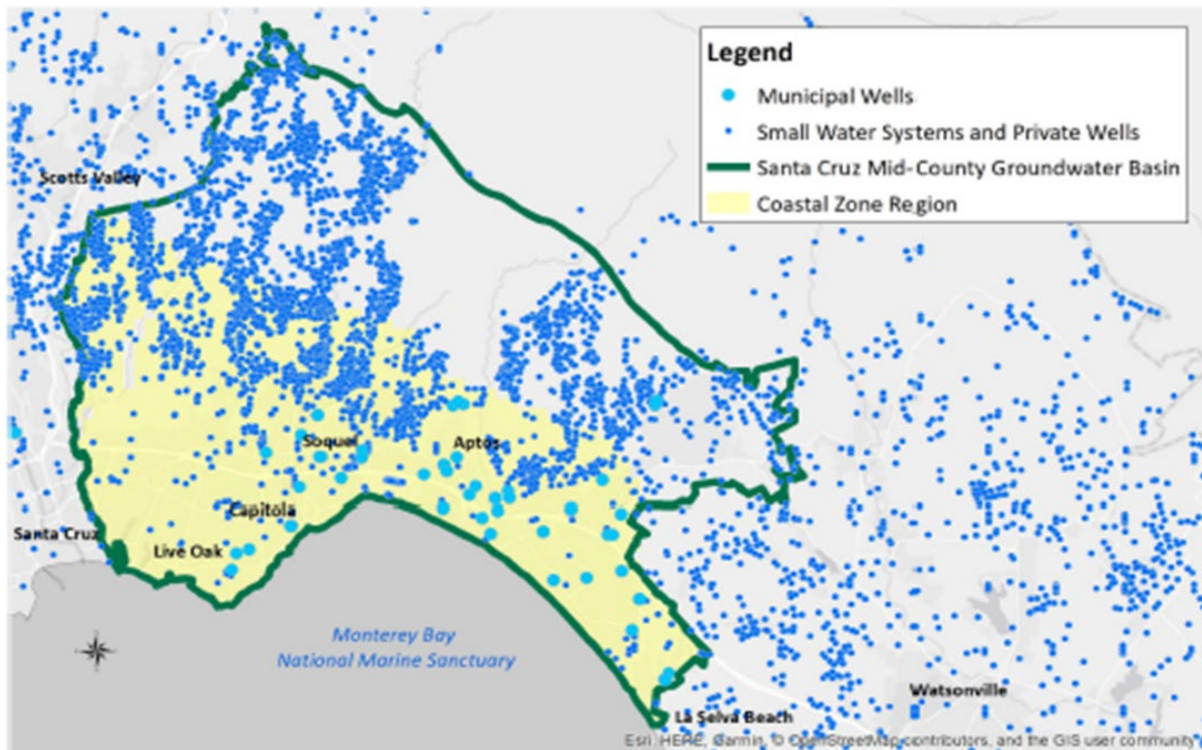
Q5. Benefits to Underrepresented Communities:

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin includes small areas underrepresented communities that rely 100% on groundwater. The benefits of the project will include all basin users, including these communities.

Q6. Positive Impacts Associated with Small Water Systems, Private Shallow Domestic Wells:

This project will provide positive impacts to basin users within the coastal zone region (as shown in

yellow), which includes other municipal pumpers, small water systems, and shallow domestic private wells. As stated above, this project will allow for more groundwater extraction inland, thus contributing to increasing protective water levels at the coast. Increasing protective water levels of the groundwater basin at the coastline will create the positive head and gradient for wells (small water systems, private wells, municipal wells) to be better protected and more sustainable.



Q7. Does the Project or Component Address the Human Right to Water?

Yes, the project contributes to optimizing Basin management consistent with the GSP Achieving sustainability in the Basin is a fundamental aspect of ensuring that residents in the Basin have a reliable long-term source of water. The proposed project, aimed at achieving sustainability in the Basin, is consistent in principal with the State's aim of ensuring safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water.

Q8. Description of Tasks of Grant Project:

Typical of projects of this type, this Project consists of four components:

Design: The City would issue a request for proposals for a qualified design firm to design the ASR well, including pumps, motors and piping for a fully-functional ASR well.

Construction of the Well and Well Development: Similarly, the City would issue and RFP for a qualified firm to construct and develop the well.

Construction of site civil work: Because this scope of work can require qualifications separate from those in well construction and development, the City would issue a separate RFP for this body of work that would complete the construction and put the facility in to service.

Oversight and Project management: this component includes staff time for project management, construction management, permitting, and outreach.

Q9. Budget Summary Table

Budget Categories	Requested Grant Amount	Cost Share Amount
Project: Aquifer Storage and Recovery, Well and Treatment Project		If applicable, not required
Component 1: Design of Well and Site Civil	\$700,000	
Component 2: Construct Beltz Well and Well Development	\$1,000,000	
Component 3: Construct Site Civil Work	\$600,000*	
Component 4: Construction Oversight and Project Mgmt.	\$400,000*	
Grand Total <i>Sum rows (1) through (n) for each column</i>	\$2,700,000*	

*For the grant amount of 7.6M this project is seeking partial funding for the tasks to design the entire project and construct and develop well (Components 1 and 2) with a requested amount of \$1.7M. As requested by DWR, for a grant amount of \$10M, this project would be fully reimbursable and eligible to cover all four Components for a grant amount of \$2.7M.

Q10A. Project Schedule Table

Categories	Start Date	End Date
Project: Beltz 10 Well Project	July 2022	June 2025
Component 1 : Design of Well and Site Civil	July 2022	September 2023
Task 1: Procure Design Team	July 2022	December 2022
Task 2: Prepare and Complete Design	January 2023	September 2023
Component 2: Construct Beltz Well and Well Development	January 2024	June 2024
Task 1: Drill and Develop Well	January 2024	June 2024
Task 2: Well Drilling Oversight	January 2024	June 2024
Component 3: Construct Site Civil Work	July 2024	June 2025
Task 1: Construct Site Civil	July 2024	June 2025
Task 2: Commission Well	July 2024	June 2025
Component 4: Construction Oversight and PM	July 2024	June 2025

Q10B. Feasibility of Project Schedule:

ASR is in the City's capital investment program to be completed over the 10-15 year planning horizon with resources available to complete the work as planned.



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Project Information Form SGM Grant Program SGMA Implementation 2022

Project Title: Park Avenue Transmission Main/Bottleneck Improvements

Lead Project Proponent: Soquel Creek Water District

Proponent Agency Type: MGA Member Agency

Agency Contact: Taj Dufour, tajd@soquelcreekwater.org

Project Partner Agencies and/or Organizations (if applicable): None

Is the Project Identified in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (2020)?: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Q1. Project Description:

Background: The Park Avenue Transmission Main/Bottleneck Improvements Project increases the intertie connection of the District's Sub Area 1 and Sub Area 2 which will mitigate current hydraulic restrictions due to an undersized water main in this region and allow for more optimal redistribution of municipal groundwater pumping. The current 1380 LF 8-inch distribution pipeline (AC and CI material) will be replaced by a 12" PVC transmission line from the existing 12" McGregor transmission main and Pump Station to Subec Lane. This corridor is an important network that will increase system reliability and allow more flexibility to reduce groundwater extraction of the District's coastal wells and shift pumping more inland.

This Project is 'shovel ready' with environmental review, design, permitting, and procurement complete. This project is Categorically Exempt under State CEQA Guidelines, Section 15301 and 15302. The work is also exempt from the California Coastal Zone Regulations, pursuant to Santa Cruz County Code Section 13.20.064(c). This Project is expected to be complete by December 2022.

Q2-A. Describe the Quantifiable Benefits (Implementation Projects Only):

This Project is expected have multiple benefits including:

- Mitigate the current bottleneck restrictions in flow due to an undersized pipeline that is connected to the District's McGregor Drive transmission main and pump station.
- By replacing this existing 8" pipeline on Park Avenue to match the 12" transmission main in this area, the volume of water capacity increases by 2.25X.
- Improve the flow and increased volume will allow for more reliance on inland groundwater wells (vs. coastal groundwater wells that increase risk of seawater intrusion migration moving further inland).
- Improve conveyance of water within Sub Area 1 and 2 and also expanding the potential for transferring and exchanging water to the City of Santa Cruz.

Q2-B. Describe the Coordination with Surrounding GSAs (Planning Projects Only):

N/A; also, this question is for planning projects only.

Q3. Describe the Outreach/Engagement within Underrepresented Communities and with Interested Parties:

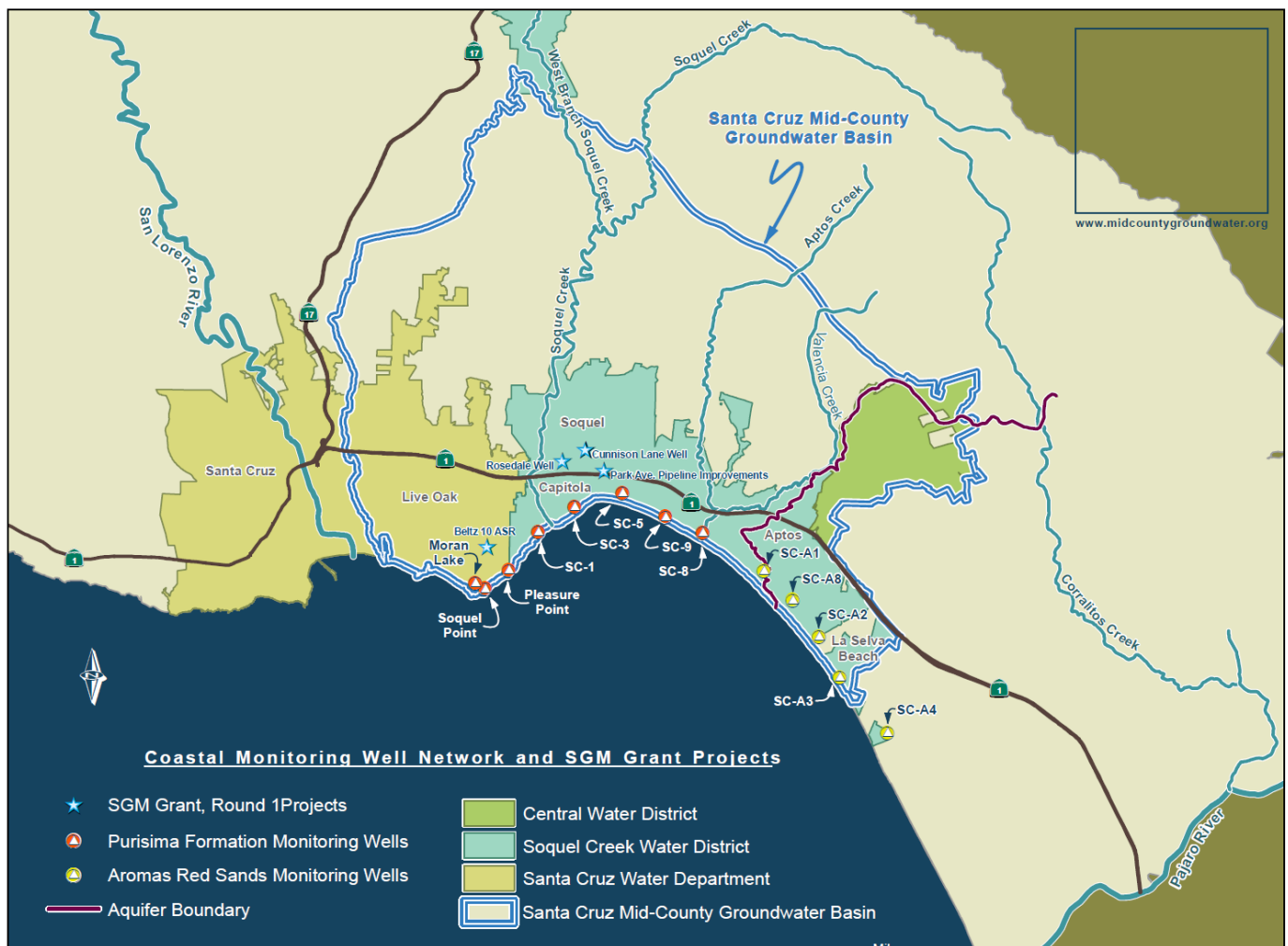
One of Soquel Creek Water District's primary organizational goals is community engagement and trust.

Outreach and Engagement will be performed by Soquel Creek Water District's as part of our "construction in your neighborhood" program. The District anticipates sending out notifications for those within the project vicinity. When the Project is under construction, this page will be maintained:

(<https://www.soquelcreekwater.org/284/Projects-in-Your-Neighborhood>)

Q4. Regional and Project Maps: Is a Project Map Provided ☒ Yes ☐ No

Two maps are included to show the project on a regional scale as well as more 'close up'.





Q5. Benefits to Underrepresented Communities:

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin includes small areas underrepresented communities that rely 100% on groundwater. The benefits of the project will include all basin users, including these communities.

Q6. Positive Impacts Associated with Small Water Systems, Private Shallow Domestic Wells:

This project supports and has positive impacts with small water systems and private shallow domestic wells as the optimization of this pipeline to a larger diameter size will mitigate the existing bottleneck in the District's system and allow for pumping to be moved more inland. This contributes to reducing groundwater extractions closer to the coast which provides in-lieu recharge benefits and aid in raising groundwater levels. This benefits not only municipal wells but also the small water systems and domestic wells that have sole reliance on the groundwater basin.

Q7. Does the Project or Component Address the Human Right to Water?

Yes, the project contributes to optimizing Pure Water Soquel and reduces pumping closer to the coast; this helps create a sustainable and fresh groundwater supply for future generations. Achieving sustainability in the Basin is a fundamental aspect of ensuring that residents in the Basin have a reliable long-term source of water. The proposed project, aimed at achieving sustainability in the Basin, is consistent in principal with the State's aim of ensuring safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water.

Q8. Description of Tasks of Grant Project:

This Project will consist of constructing and installing the pipeline on Park Avenue from McGregor to Subec via open cut trench method. The pipeline will be installed, backfilled, paved and brought into service after pressure-testing and commissioning.

Q9. Budget Summary Table

Budget Categories	Requested Grant Amount
Project: Park Avenue Transmission Main/Bottleneck Improvements	
Replace 1,384 LF of 8" CI and AC main to 12"PVC to remove bottleneck	\$800,000
Grand Total <i>Sum rows (1) through (n) for each column</i>	\$800,000

Q10A. Project Schedule Table

Categories	Start Date	End Date
Project: Park Avenue Transmission Main/Bottleneck Improvements	February 2022	December 2022

Q10B. Feasibility of Project Schedule:

Soquel Creek Water District anticipates this schedule is on-track and feasible. This Project is anticipated to begin in February 2022 and completed by December 2022.



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Project Information Form SGM Grant Program SGMA Implementation 2022

Project Title: Technical Development of Group 1 and 2 Projects

Lead Project Proponent: City of Santa Cruz and Soquel Creek Water District

Proponent Agency Type: MGA Member Agencies

Agency Contact(s): Heidi Luckenbach, hluckenbach@cityofsantacruz.com; Melanie Mow Schumacher, melanies@soquelcreekwater.org

Project Partner Agencies and/or Organizations (if applicable): In addition to Soquel Creek Water District and City of Santa Cruz, Central Water District and Santa Cruz County

Is the Project Identified in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (2020)?: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Q1. Project Description:

The Mid County GSA members, including the City and the District, operate groundwater wells to meet the water supply needs of their respective communities. Both agencies have new, groundwater-based, supply augmentation projects (namely Soquel Creek Water District's Pure Water Soquel project [PWS] and the City of Santa Cruz's Aquifer Storage and Recovery project [ASR]) coming on line in the next 2-5 years. These projects were developed through the MGA's GSP process and included in the GSP as Group 2 projects planned to reach Basin sustainability. Prior to further implementation of Group 2 projects and possible evaluation of Group 3 projects, such as expansion of the PWS project,) it is in the best interest of the basin and its users to optimize these future opportunities beyond this 2- to 5-year timeframe. To that end, additional groundwater and hydraulic modeling, and water quality analyses are needed to inform and optimize future projects and the operational strategy (ies) of agencies using the basin with the goal of meeting the measurable objectives of the GSP.

Component 1 of this Project includes modeling to refine the development of projects in the GSP for implementation. While the PWS and portions of the City's ASR project will be coming on line, more information is needed to optimize subsequent activities. Groundwater and hydraulic modeling will compare and contrast Group 1 and Group 2 projects and consider additional IPR and ASR implementation with potential conjunctive use of resources between agencies. Together with water quality and economic analyses, sufficient data will then exist to develop an efficient and highly-optimized plan. Component 2 is the compilation of the data into an implementation plan that will include defined projects, timelines, budgets and operational strategies for all basin users as appropriate.

Q2-A. Describe the Quantifiable Benefits (Implementation Projects Only):

The projects to be further considered here are in the GSP as projects and management actions evaluated against the sustainable criteria. These projects as defined and modeled in the GSP are anticipated to meet the measureable objectives; this study is an intentional effort to optimize the operations of current projects (i.e., PWS and ASR), and define subsequent opportunities within and between agencies.

Q2-B. Describe the Coordination with Surrounding GSAs (Planning Projects Only):

Note: Coordination with the surrounding GSAs is described in Project 1. Sustainable Groundwater Management Evaluation and Planning.

The Santa Cruz Mid County Groundwater Basin is managed by the MGA, a single GSA within four member agencies. This Project relies on collaboration between the four MGA member agencies to develop conjunctive use opportunities within the Basin. In addition, the City of Santa Cruz participates in two GSAs and this Project will consider the potential to expand conjunctive use of water resources for the benefit of the Santa Cruz Mid County Groundwater Basin as well as the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin.

Q3. Describe the Outreach/Engagement within Underrepresented Communities and with Interested Parties:

Note: Outreach/Engagement described in Project 1. Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Evaluation and Planning. The same response pertains to this project.

Q4. Regional and Project Maps: Is a Project Map Provided ☒ Yes ☐ No

Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Sustainability Plan

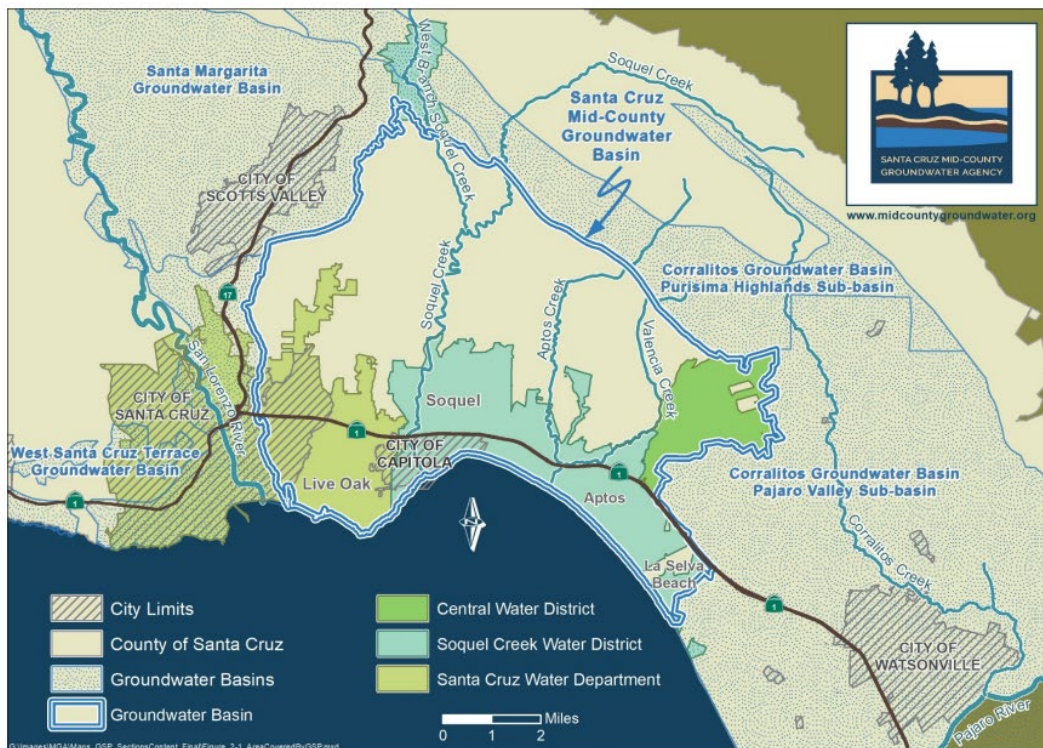


Figure 2-1. Area Covered by the MGA's Groundwater Sustainability Plan

2-3

Q5. Benefits to Underrepresented Communities:

Note: Benefits are described in Project 1. SGM Evaluation and Planning. The same response pertains to this project.

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin includes small areas of underrepresented communities that rely 100% on groundwater. The benefits of the project will include all basin users, including these communities.

Q6. Positive Impacts Associated with Small Water Systems, Private Shallow Domestic Wells:

Note: Positive Impacts are described in Project 1. SGM Evaluation and Planning. The same response pertains to this project.

Q7. Does the Project or Component Address the Human Right to Water?

Note: Addressing the Human Right to Water described in Project 1. SGM Evaluation and Planning. The same response pertains to this project.

Q8. Description of Tasks of Grant Project:

Project: Furthering Technical Development of Group 1 and 2 Projects

Component 1: Data Gap Analyses and Analytical Tools. This component consists of seven tasks that are intended to develop the data needed to fully analyze, scope and prioritize the projects of Group 2 and Group 3 in the GSP to meet the measureable objectives of the basin.

Task 1: Develop Objectives and Project Components to Analyze. Task 1 develops the overall objective of the work, and defines the feasible projects from the GSP to be further considered herein. While they will all likely be included as feasible projects to meet the GSP goals, this effort will allow any updates to be incorporated between the submittal of the GSP and the present time.

Task 2: Groundwater Modeling: Task 2 includes all of the groundwater modeling needed to thoroughly understand the ability of the GSP projects to, individually or in combination, meet the GSP goals in terms of measurable objectives. Groundwater modeling includes update of the Mid-County basin model to incorporate best available information, including data collected during testing and implementation of the PWS and ASR projects. Between eight and 12 simulations are assumed, focusing on the following scenarios: seawater barrier wells; modifications to District and City pumping regimes; conversion of O'Neill to ASR well; optimization of water exchanges and transfers; optimization of pumping from the inland Purisima Wells; complete build-out of ASR; and expansion of the PWS project. This may include evaluating uncertainties related to the model and climate change.

Task 3: Hydraulic Modeling: Task 3 includes the hydraulic modeling scenarios (identified in the table below) to understand the ability of the GSP projects to meet the GSP goals and necessary to inform Task 4.

Task 4: Water Quality and Regional Compatibility/Optimization: Both Tasks 3 and 4 focus on the distribution systems of each Member Agency to confirm suitability or identify deficiencies, such as pipe size deficiencies, issues with pipe materials, pumping or storage requirements, treatment needs, etc. As important as it is for the groundwater basin to be understood with respect to each project, it is also necessary to identify any infrastructure improvements needed to incorporate future projects into an agency's system.

Task 5: Economic and Financial Analysis/Modeling: Task 5 will evaluate the financial implications of each project identified above in Task 1 and evaluate funding opportunities that may include low interest loans, grants and possible regional collaborations.

Task 6: Needs Assessment: Task 6 considers the steps needed to advance each project identified in Task 1 above with respect to environmental compliance, permitting, water rights, and any interagency coordination needed for project success.

Task 7 (if applicable): Development Activities from Task 6: Task 7 would further develop items described in Task 7 to the extent this information would be needed to make decisions around project feasibility.

Component 2: Develop Recommendations and Implementation/Work Plan. This component includes the compilation of all the disparate work performed above into an implementation plan that includes scope, schedule and budgets.

Q9. Budget Summary Table

Budget Categories	Requested Grant Amount	Cost Share Amount
Project: Furthering Technical Development of Group 1 and 2 Projects		
Component 1: Data Gap Analyses and Analytical Tools	\$1,800,000	
Task 1: Develop Objectives and Project Components to Analyze	\$100,000	
Task 2: Groundwater Modeling (assume 8-12 simulations)	\$750,000	
Task 3: Hydraulic Modeling	\$300,000	
Task 4: Water Quality and Regional Compatibility/Optimization	\$150,000	
Task 5: Economic and Financial Analysis/Modeling	\$200,000	
Task 6: Needs Assessment	\$200,000	
Task 7 (if applicable): Development Activities from Task 6	\$100,000	
Component 2: Develop Recommendations and Implementation/Work Plan	\$100,000	
Grand Total <i>Sum rows (1) through (n) for each column</i>	\$1,900,000	

Q10A. Project Schedule Table

Categories	Start Date	End Date
Project: Furthering Technical Development of Group 1 and 2 Projects	July 2022	July 2024
Component 1 (if applicable): Data Gap Analyses and Analytical Tools	July 2022	December 2023
Task 1: Develop Objectives and Project Components to Analyze		
Task 2: Groundwater Modeling (assume 8-12 simulations)		
Task 3: Hydraulic Modeling		
Task 4: Water Quality and Regional Compatibility/Optimization		
Task 5: Economic and Financial Analysis/Modeling		
Task 6: Needs Assessment		
Task 7 (if applicable): Development Activities from Task 4		
Component 2 (if applicable): Develop Recommendations and Implementation/Work Plan	July 2023	July 2024

Q10B. Feasibility of Project Schedule:

The MGA, together with the Member Agencies, is very active, engaged and collaborative, with common interests to achieve basin sustainability as soon as possible. The District and the City both have the resources to advance this work in the timeline shown.



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Project Information Form SGM Grant Program SGMA Implementation 2022

Project Title: Sustainable Groundwater Management Evaluation and Planning

Lead Project Proponent: Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Agency (MGA)

Proponent Agency Type: Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Agency Contact: Tim Carson (admin@midcountygroundwater.org)

Is the Project Identified in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (2020)?: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Q1. Project Description:

This project includes activities grouped into two components that are essential to informing the MGA's assessment of progress towards achieving sustainability in the Basin (Component 1) as well as Basin planning and reporting activities required under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (Component 2).

Component 1: Activities to Inform the Evaluation of Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC)

The Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) identifies the Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) (GSP Section 3) that provide the basis by which Basin conditions are evaluated over time. These metrics (undesirable results, minimum thresholds, and measurable objectives) are used to assess the Basin's condition. Evaluating the SMC requires extensive monitoring of Basin conditions to collect the data (e.g., groundwater elevations, groundwater quality, seawater intrusion, etc.) by which sustainability metrics are assessed. Most of the Basin monitoring is conducted by the member agencies (particularly Soquel Creek Water District and the City of Santa Cruz) as part of each agencies respective comprehensive monitoring programs. However, in response to SGMA, additional monitoring activities are also necessary to inform Basin planning efforts and to inform the evaluation of the SMC. Those monitoring activities are proposed for funding under this grant. Activities include:

Task 1. Offshore AEM Surveys: Offshore airborne electromagnetic (AEM) surveys are proposed to inform the status of seawater intrusion in the upper aquifers near shore off the coast of the Basin. In 2017, the MGA commissioned AEM surveys that confirmed the locations of known seawater intrusion and provided information on the location of the advance of seawater in regional aquifers below the sea floor. The MGA intends to repeat this survey every 5 – 10 years to track the movement of the freshwater-saltwater interface to inform the MGA's assessment of seawater intrusion. The proposed SGM grant funds will support the MGA's selected contractor to conduct the AEM surveys and the associated data interpretation.

Task 2. Monitoring Streamflow: The SMC for the depletion of interconnected surface water is based on the shallow well and associated streamflow data available in the Basin. The proposed SGM grant will fund the routine monitoring/data collection activities to gather the necessary data to evaluate the SMC consistent the GSP.

Task 3. Monitoring Groundwater Extractions through Non-de minimis Metering: In 2021, the MGA initiated development of a new well metering program to collect volumetric data on groundwater usage in the Basin to inform the assessment and refinement of the sustainable yield of the Basin. The program applies to two categories of users: (1) all non-de minimis pumping operations expected to extract more than 5 acre-feet per year, and (2) all non-de minimis pumping operations expected to extract more than 2 acre-feet per year that may impact seawater intrusion or an interconnected stream where groundwater dependent ecosystems are identified in the GSP Section 3.9. The proposed SGM grant would provide funding to implement the new metering program including the purchase/installation of meters and management of the program.

Task 4. Data Management System (DMS) Implementation: With funding support from DWR's Proposition 1/68 SGM grants, the firm KISTERS developed a DMS system based upon its Water Information Systems by Kisters (WISKI) platform. The DMS serves as the repository of the Basin monitoring data (e.g., groundwater elevation, streamflow, etc.). The initial development phase of the DMS will be completed in 2022. The proposed SGM grant would provide funding to support the ongoing implementation and operation of the DMS and the associated web-based platform.

Component 2: SGMA Planning and Reporting

Task 5. SGMA Planning and Coordination: The proposed SGM grant funding would support personnel (consultant and/or Member Agency staff) to conduct the necessary planning and coordination activities to implement the GSP. This includes routine coordination with the Member Agencies, contractors/consultants, DWR, stakeholders and interested parties, adjacent GSAs in carrying out planning activities for the successful implementation of the GSP.

Task 6. Periodic (5-Year) GSP Update: The proposed SGM grant funding would support the preparation of the MGA's first update of the GSP to be submitted to DWR by January 2025. The GSP will be developed in accordance with SGMA regulations and DWR requirements and builds off the information obtained from the other proposed SGM grant activities and upon previously completed studies and reports.

Task 7. Annual GSP Reporting: The proposed grant funding would support the preparation of the GSP Annual Report due to DWR by April. Funding will support the preparation of three Annual Reports covering Water Years 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Q2-A. Describe the Quantifiable Benefits (Implementation Projects Only):

Not applicable, this is a planning project.

Q2-B. Describe the Coordination with Surrounding GSAs (Planning Projects Only):

The Mid-County Basin is located between two other groundwater basins subject to SGMA. The MGA member agencies have good regional partnerships with both neighboring GSAs. To the northwest is the Santa Margarita Groundwater Basin, a medium priority basin managed under SGMA by the Santa Margarita Groundwater Agency. To the southeast is the Pajaro Valley Subbasin, a high priority basin in critical overdraft. The Pajaro Valley Subbasin is managed by the Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PV Water).

The MGA member agencies are in routine communications regarding management of the respective basins. Several MGA member agencies are also members or participants in the groundwater sustainability management efforts of the neighboring basins. MGA members will continue to work collaboratively with our regional partners to coordinate groundwater management efforts that ensure groundwater sustainability is achieved throughout Santa Cruz County.

Q3. Describe the Outreach/Engagement within Underrepresented Communities and with Interested Parties:

As done in the development of the MGA's initial GSP, extensive outreach will be conducted to the community and interested parties as part of the MGA's planning efforts, most notably periodic (5-Year) GSP development. For reference, GSP Section 2.1.5.3 summarizes the prior public engagement opportunities (e.g., numerous public meetings; targeted stakeholder meetings; webinar and public information sessions; community drop-in hours; etc.) – as with the 2020 GSP, there will be ample opportunity for outreach to all interested parties including Underrepresented Communities. The Member Agencies also conducted extensive public outreach and engagement during their respective planning processes (e.g., Soquel Creek WD's Community Water Plan; City of Santa Cruz Water Supply Advisory Committee) – these projects included in the GSP (Section 4) Projects and Management Actions and project specific outreach will continue as the individual projects advance.

Q4. Regional and Project Maps: Is a Project Map Provided ☒ Yes ☐ No

The proposed activities are Basin-wide evaluation and planning activities. A map of the Basin is provided.

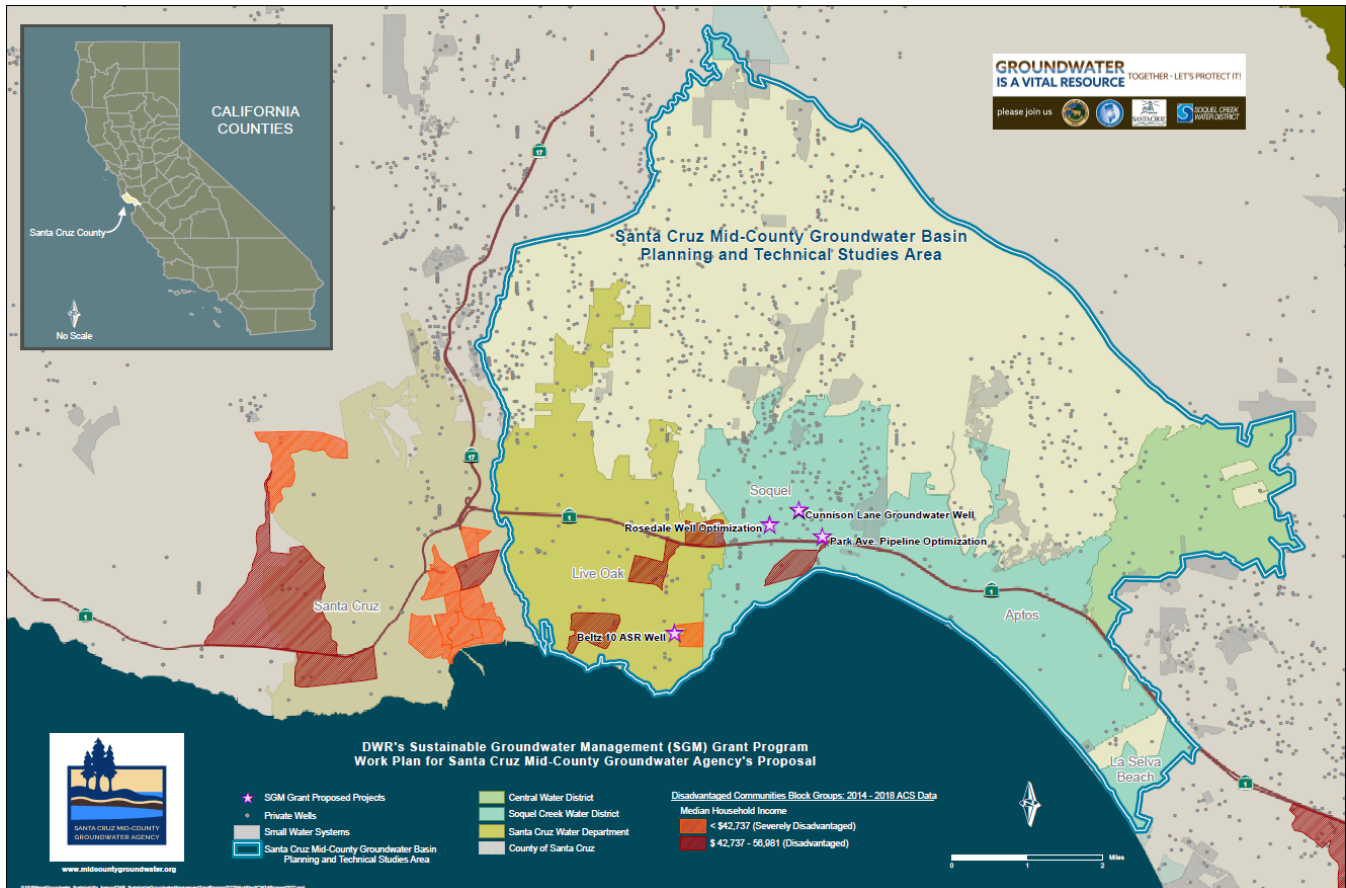
Q5. Benefits to Underrepresented Communities:

The aim of the proposed evaluation and planning activities is to support the MGA's efforts to achieve sustainability in the Basin consistent with the GSP. The proposed activities provide benefits to all Basin residents, including the underrepresented community and economically disadvantaged residents, since advancing the GSP improves long-term water supply reliability. The GSP also considers the condition of groundwater dependent ecosystems which is of interest to stakeholders includes Tribes.

Underrepresented communities and stakeholders in the Basin include economically disadvantaged communities (DACs), severely DAC (SDACs) and Native American Tribes. The DAC designation is based upon median household income from the US Census American Community Survey 5-Year Data (2014 – 2018).

Disadvantaged Communities (DAC) – Data from DWR's DAC mapping tool identifies four DACs, including one SDAC within the Basin. The total DAC/SDAC population in the Basin is approximately 5,421; this is approximately 5.9% of the Basin population. All disadvantaged communities identified within the Basin receive municipal water from the City of Santa Cruz Water Department or Soquel Creek WD. In 2021, DAC Needs Assessment was completed as part of DWR's Disadvantaged Community Involvement Grant program. No specific water related needs of DACs in the Basin were identified that are distinct from the rest of the service areas. Water delivered to municipal customers in the Basin, including all DAC/SDAC residents, meets or exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards. No DAC within the Basin receives water from small community drinking water systems or domestic wells.

California Native American tribes: There are no federally designated tribal lands and no federally recognized tribes in the Basin. The Basin is located within a California Tribal and Cultural Area that historically belonged to a division of the Ohlone people known as the Awaswas. Decedents of both the Awaswas and Mutsun people are members of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band. The Amah Mutsun Tribal Band were historically present in the region. Member Agency staff at the County of Santa Cruz and City of Santa Cruz have previously met with representatives of the Amah Mutsun Tribal Band on Basin water, watershed management and related issues of interest.



Q6. Positive Impacts Associated with Small Water Systems, Private Shallow Domestic Wells: The proposed activities will inform the MGA's efforts to achieve sustainability in the Basin and improve long-term water supply reliability by reducing the threat of seawater intrusion. Adaptively managing the Basin to reduce groundwater contamination vulnerability from seawater intrusion and reversing historic overdraft of the Basin provides positive benefits to small water systems and residents reliant upon private shallow domestic wells, particularly those in proximity to the coast. (GSP Figure 3-6).

Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Sustainability Plan

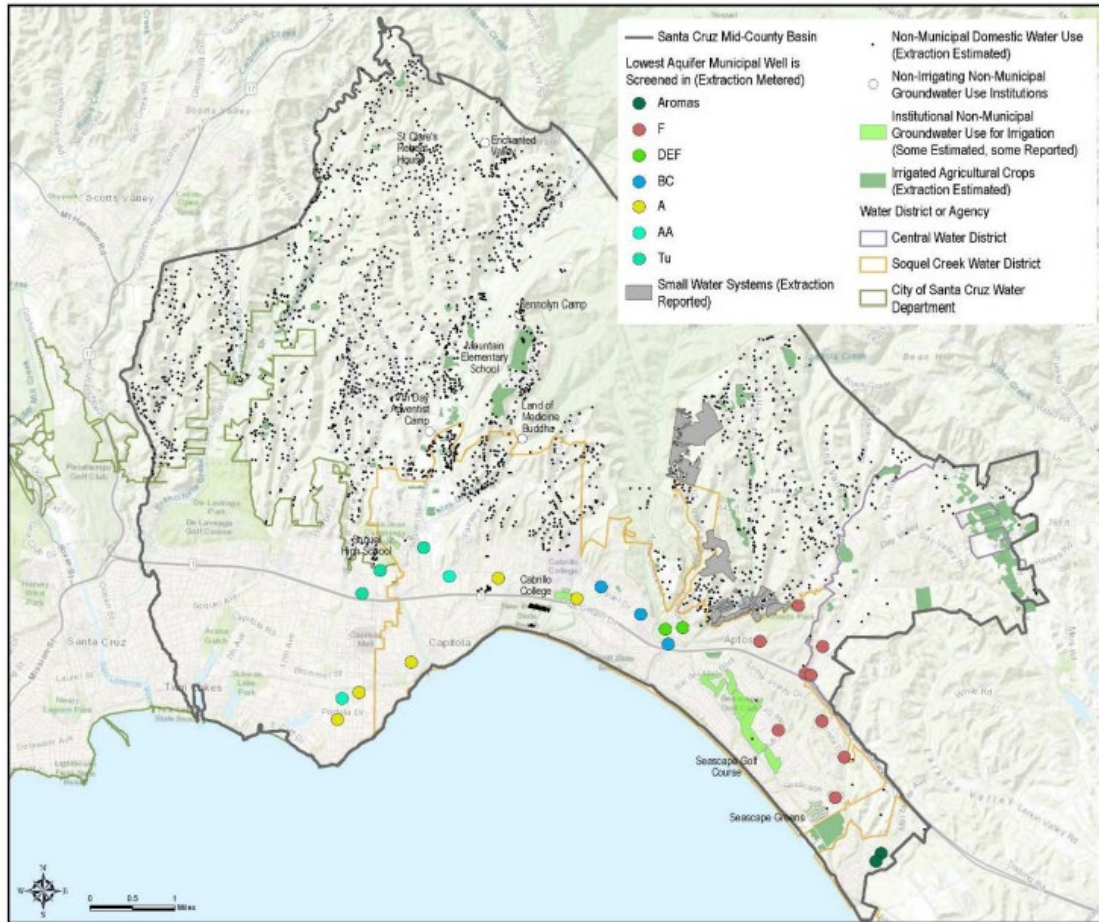


Figure 3-6. Reduction of Groundwater in Storage Representative Monitoring Network

3-33

Q7. Does the Project or Component Address the Human Right to Water?

California's Human Right to Water (AB 685) provides that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. The proposed project activities, aimed at achieving sustainability in the Basin, are consistent in principal with the State's aim of ensuring safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water. Approximately 50,000 residents in the Basin rely entirely upon groundwater as their water source. Achieving sustainability in the Basin is a fundamental aspect of ensuring that residents in the Basin have a reliable long-term source of water. Most residents in the Basin receive municipal water from either the Soquel Creek Water District or the City of Santa Cruz – as noted above, both provide their customers safe and clean water that meets state and federal standards. Both agencies have also undertaken studies to examine the affordability of water service and continue to evaluate and work to structure rates for equitable access.

Q8. Description of Tasks of Grant Project:

Component 1: Activities to Inform the Evaluation of Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC)

The tasks proposed within this Component provide for data collection related to the Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) metrics used to evaluate Basin conditions are over time. The proposed tasks include:

Task 1. Offshore AEM Surveys: Conduct an offshore airborne electromagnetic (AEM) survey to inform the status of seawater intrusion in the upper aquifers near shore off the coast of the Basin.

Task 2. Monitoring Streamflow: Conduct streamflow monitoring to inform evaluations of SMC for the depletion of interconnected surface water is based on the shallow well and associated streamflow data.

Task 3. Monitoring Groundwater Extractions through Non-de minimis Metering: Implement the non-de minimis groundwater usage metering program including the purchase/installation of meters and management of the program. Planning/development of the metering program is currently underway and will be completed in 2022; the proposed project is the next phase (implementation). This program will fill an identified data gap by providing groundwater usage data from non-de minimis users in the Basin, which is currently only estimated.

Task 4. Data Management System (DMS) Implementation: Implementation and operation of the DMS and the associated web-based platform to manage, access, retrieve and display Basin monitoring data. Expenses include site hosting and annual maintenance fees.

Component 2: SGMA Planning and Reporting

The tasks proposed within this Component include coordination, planning and reporting activities to support the MGA's compliance with SGMA.

Task 5. SGMA Planning and Coordination: This task will fund personnel (consultant and/or Member Agency staff) to conduct the range of overall activities to support the MGA's SGMA related planning and coordination activities.

Task 6. Periodic (5-Year) GSP Update: Complete the first periodic update (5-Year) GSP in accordance with SGMA regulations and DWR requirements for submittal to DWR by January 2025.

Task 7. Annual GSP Reporting: Complete the GSP Annual Reports for Water Years 2022, 2023, and 2024 for submittal to DWR by April for the applicable year.

Q9. Budget Summary Table

Budget Categories	Requested Grant Amount	Cost Share Amount
Project: Sustainable Groundwater Management Evaluation and Planning	\$1,575,000	If applicable, not required
Component 1: Activities to Inform the Evaluation of Sustainable Management Criteria	\$540,000	
Task 1. Offshore AEM Surveys	\$250,000	
Task 2. Monitoring Streamflow	\$150,000	

Task 3. Monitoring Groundwater Extractions through Non-de minimis Metering	\$65,000	
Task 4. Data Management System (DMS) Implementation	\$75,000	
Component 2: SGMA Planning and Reporting	\$1,035,000	
Task 5. SGMA Planning and Coordination	\$525,000	
Task 6. Periodic (5-Year) GSP Update:	\$300,000	
Task 7. Annual GSP Reporting	\$210,000	
Grand Total <i>Sum rows (1) through (n) for each column</i>	\$1,575,000	

Q10A. Project Schedule Table

Categories	Start Date	End Date
Project: Sustainable Groundwater Management Evaluation and Planning	7/1/2022	6/30/2025
Component 1: Activities to Inform the Evaluation of Sustainable Management Criteria	7/1/2022	6/30/2025
Task 1. Offshore AEM Surveys	1/1/2023	12/31/2023
Task 2. Monitoring Streamflow	7/1/2022	6/30/2025
Task 3. Monitoring Groundwater Extractions through Non-de minimis Metering	7/1/2022	12/31/2024
Task 4. Data Management System (DMS) Implementation	7/1/2022	6/30/2025
Component 2: SGMA Planning and Reporting	7/1/2022	6/30/2025
Task 5. SGMA Planning and Coordination	7/1/2022	6/30/2025
Task 6. Periodic (5-Year) GSP Update:	7/1/2022	2/1/2025
Task 7. Annual GSP Reporting	7/1/2022	4/1/2025

Q10B. Feasibility of Project Schedule:

Member agency staff have reviewed and confirm the feasibility of the proposed task schedules. The proposed reporting tasks align with DWR's requirements for the submittal of the Periodic (5-Year) update in January 2015 and the submittal of Annual GSP Reports by April 1. All tasks will be completed in advance of the grant deadline of June 30, 2025.



Groundwater is a vital resource, together let's protect it.

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Project Information Form SGM Grant Program SGMA Implementation 2022

Project Title: Inland Groundwater Pumping Optimization

Lead Project Proponent: Soquel Creek Water District

Proponent Agency Type: MGA Member Agency

Agency Contact: Melanie Mow Schumacher, melanies@soquelcreekwater.org

Project Partner Agencies and/or Organizations (if applicable): N/A

Is the Project Identified in the Groundwater Sustainability Plan (2020)?: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Q1. Project Description:

This Project is included in Group 1 of the GSP Project and Management Actions: 'Installation and Redistribution of Municipal Groundwater Pumping'. As Soquel Creek Water District operates a network of 16 active wells, the pumping and redistribution of groundwater extraction to wells more inland is a critical component to basin sustainability.

In addition, the District will continue to implement groundwater adaptive management and extraction for various groundwater wells such that inland wells near the Pure Water Soquel's seawater intrusion prevention wells (SWIP) will continue to be optimized.

Based on modeling and analysis performed for the MGA, there are several wells in Sub Area 1 and 2 that may be called upon to various pumping regimes when Pure Water Soquel or the City's ASR is operational.

Q2-A. Describe the Quantifiable Benefits (Implementation Projects Only):

The benefits of the Project include:

- Addressing and Optimizing the MGA's Group 1 Projects of redistributing municipal groundwater pumping. The optimized pumping management regimes to reduce pumping of coastal wells within the Basin have heavy reliance on inland wells in Sub Area 1 and 2 .
- To meet the broader benefits of increasing protective water levels along the Basin's entire coastline, quantifiable modeling results contained in the GSP depict that that an increase in pumping from inland wells that extract water in the Purisima A and BC units and decrease pumping from wells that extract from Purisima F and the coastal front of Purisima A. Thus, these inland wells include: Rosedale, Monterey, Tannery 2, Estates, Madeline, Ledyard, and Aptos Creek as well as T Hopkins and Granite Way (Purisima DEF).

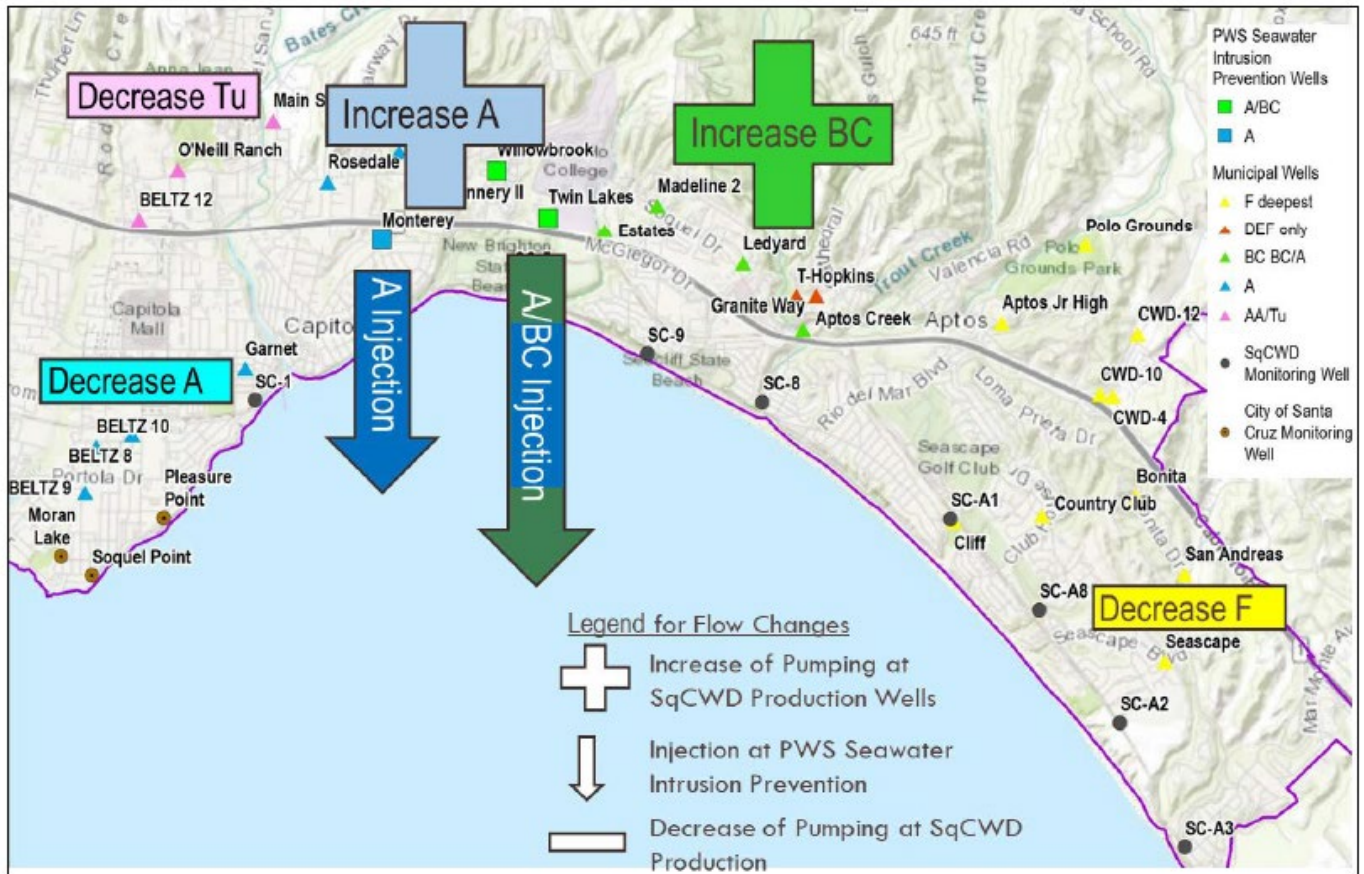


Figure 8 Map Schematic of Changes in Pumping Distribution from Pure Water Sequel Injection

Table 11. Groundwater Pumping and Injection 2026-2069 for Sustainability Estimate

Aquifer Group	Well Name	Average Net Pumping (for Sustainable Yield)	Average Net Pumping (Baseline)	Average Net Pumping (PWS+ASR)
		acre-feet per year		
Aromas Red Sands and Purisima F	Polo Grounds	100	100	100
	Aptos Jr High	250	250	250
	Country Club	0	70	70
	Bonita	75	269	79
	San Andreas	232	371	78
	Seascape	46	46	46
	CWD 4	48	48	48
	CWD 10	92	92	92
	CWD 12	410	410	410
	Domestic	84	84	84
	Institutional	199	199	199
	Agricultural	203	203	203
	Total	1,739	2,142	1,659
Purisima DEF, D, BC, A, and AA	Beltz 8	0	93	-29
	Beltz 9	58	123	-10
	Beltz 10	0	91	-1
	Monterey	-450	0	-500
	Willowbrook	-233	0	-233
	Twin Lakes			
	Church	-742	0	-742
	Rosedale 2	546	545	545
	Garnet	253	254	205
	Cunnison	426	215	399
	Tannery 2	563	223	571
	Estates	398	316	402
	Madeline 2	122	98	122
	Ledyard	120	108	120
	Aptos Creek	102	0	105
	T-Hopkins	137	139	139
	Granite	135	135	135
	Domestic	579	579	579
	Institutional	109	109	109
	Agricultural	162	162	162
	Total	2,285	3,190	2,083

Q2-B. Describe the Coordination with Surrounding GSAs (Planning Projects Only):

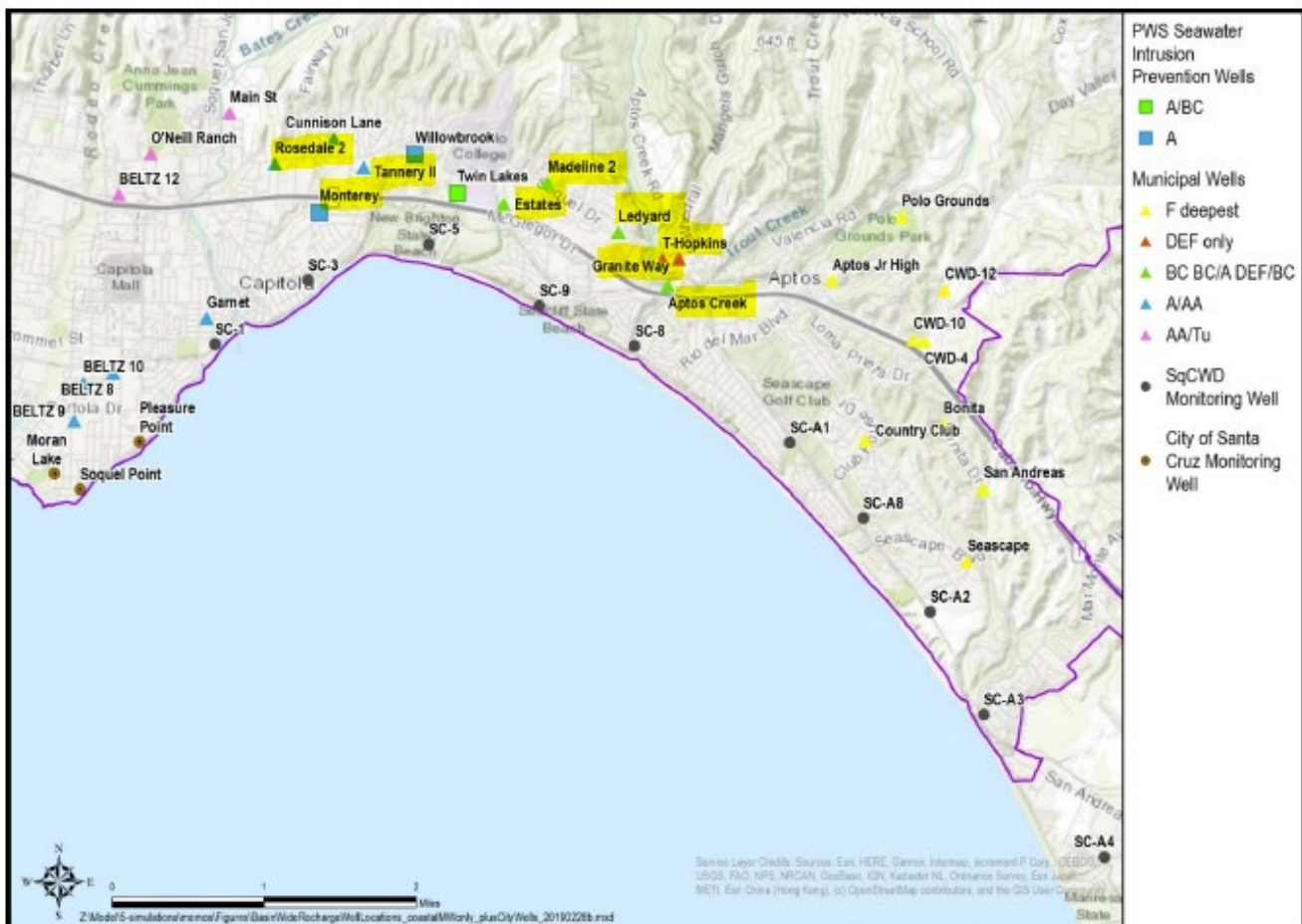
N/A; also, this question is for planning projects only.

Q3. Describe the Outreach/Engagement within Underrepresented Communities and with Interested Parties:

One of Soquel Creek Water District's primary organizational goals is community engagement and trust.

Outreach and Engagement will be performed by Soquel Creek Water District's as part of our "construction in your neighborhood" program. The District anticipates sending out notifications for those within the project vicinity. When the Project is under construction, this page will be maintained: (<https://www.soquelcreekwater.org/284/Projects-in-Your-Neighborhood>)

Q4. Regional and Project Maps: Is a Project Map Provided ☐ Yes ☒ No



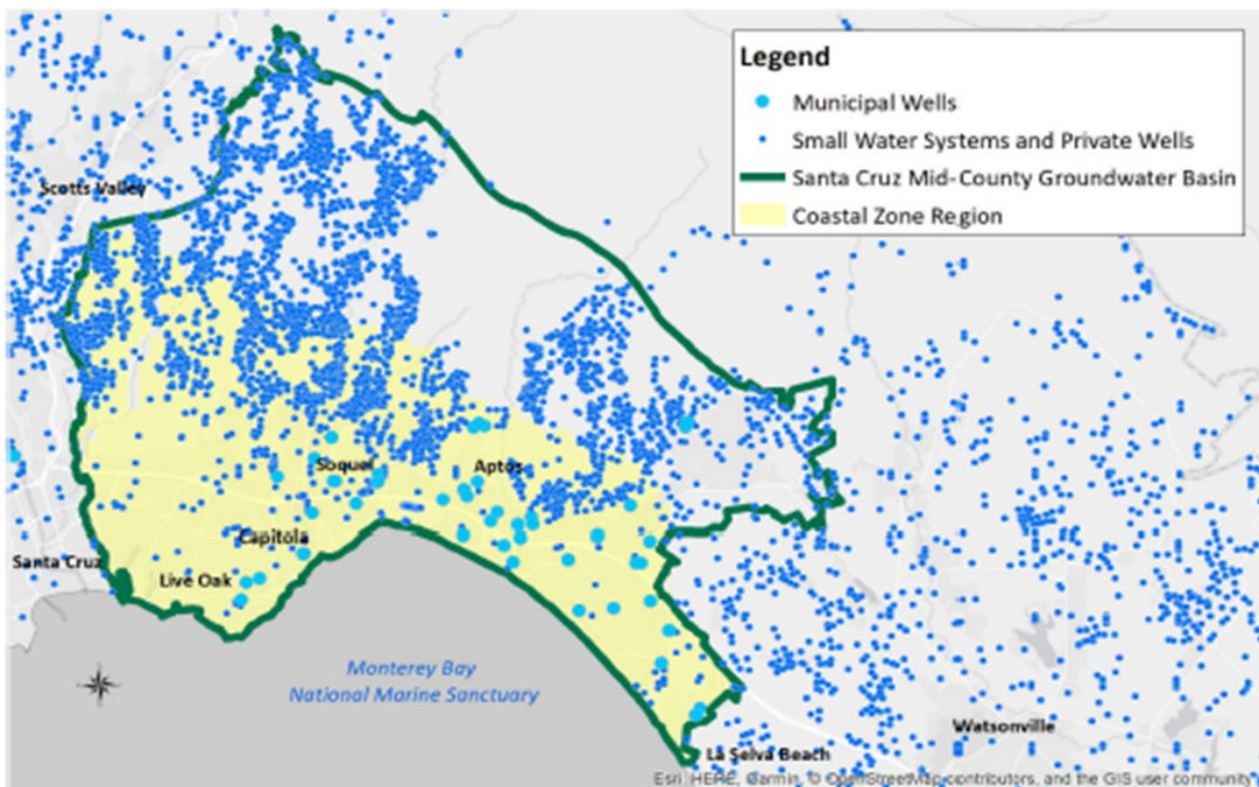
Q5. Benefits to Underrepresented Communities:

The Santa Cruz Mid-County Groundwater Basin includes small areas underrepresented communities that rely 100% on groundwater. The benefits of the project will include all basin users, including these communities.

Q6. Positive Impacts Associated with Small Water Systems, Private Shallow Domestic Wells:

This Project is a Group 1 Project identified in the GSP and provides Basin-wide benefits, including small water systems and private domestic wells. Optimization of the existing groundwater wells operated by Soquel Creek Water District allows for redistributing pumping to help raise protective water levels at the coastline and thus protecting all basin users. Increasing protective water levels of the groundwater basin at the coastline will create the positive head and gradient for wells (small water systems, private wells, municipal wells) to be better protected and more sustainable.

This Project can be complementary to Pure Water Soquel, as well as ASR, to maximize benefits within the coastal zone region (as shown in yellow), which includes other municipal pumpers, small water systems, and shallow domestic private wells.



Q7. Does the Project or Component Address the Human Right to Water?

Yes, the project contributes to optimizing Pure Water Soquel and reduces pumping closer to the coast; this helps create a sustainable and fresh groundwater supply for future generations. Achieving sustainability in the Basin is a fundamental aspect of ensuring that residents in the Basin have a reliable long-term source of water. The proposed project, aimed at achieving sustainability in the Basin, is consistent in principal with the State's aim of ensuring safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water.

Q8. Description of Tasks of Grant Project:

This Project would include rehabilitation or replacement of the inland groundwater wells if anticipated performance is marginal and in need of optimization.

Q9. Budget Summary Table

Budget Categories	Requested Grant Amount	Cost Share Amount
Project: Inland Groundwater Pumping Optimization Project		If applicable, not required
Component 1: Design, Procure, and Rehabilitation or Replacement of Existing Inland Groundwater Well with construction management oversight	\$615,000	\$585,000
Grand Total <i>Sum rows (1) through (n) for each column</i>	\$615,000	\$585,000

It is not anticipated that this Project would be requested for funding through the SGM Program for a grant amount of \$7.6M.

For grant amount of \$10M, this Project is seeking partial funding in the amount of \$585,000.

Q10A. Project Schedule Table

Categories	Start Date	End Date
Project: Inland Groundwater Pumping Optimization Project	July 2024	June 2025
Component 1 : Design, Procure, and Rehabilitation or Replacement of Existing Inland Groundwater Well with construction management oversight	July 2024	June 2025

Q10B. Feasibility of Project Schedule:

It is anticipated that this Project would begin following the start up and operations of Pure Water Soquel.

Project / Component Evaluation Criteria: Cunnison Lane Groundwater Well

Section Name	Q#	Questions	Possible Points	Scoring Guidance	Actual Points
General	1	Was a description of the proposed Project or Component provided? Did it explain why this Project or Component was chosen over all others identified in the Plan in terms of benefits provided, communities served, measurable objectives, minimum thresholds, plan implementation timeline, and feasibility? If you feel a question component does not apply to your proposed project, please explain why it is not applicable. (Example "Measurable objective not applicable because project is planning only".) • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	4
General - Imp Only	2- Imp	Does the Project or Component provide a description of quantifiable benefits? Was an explanation of the benefits that are expected to be realized from the Project or Component provided, along with how those benefits will be evaluated and quantified? • To obtain full points, 3 or more quantifiable benefits must be identified and fully supported with backup documentation.	4	4 - At least 3 quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 3 - Two quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 2 - Two quantifiable benefits lacking explanations and supporting documents 1 - One quantifiable benefit with explanations and supporting documents 0 - Benefits provided but are not explained or quantified	4
General - Planning Only	2- Plan	Does the Project Description describe a well-coordinated proposal including a GSP(s) that encompasses the entire basin or describes why a portion of the basin is not covered in the proposal? Does it describe how well the multiple GSA(s) surrounding and within the basin are working together?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	0
General	3	Does the Project or Component fully describe their plan for outreaching and engaging interested parties (e.g., residents, local leaders, non-profit representing Underrepresented Communities, etc.) located within Underrepresented Communities? Does the outreach and engagement include interested parties during all phases of the Project or Component (e.g., planning, design, and implementation)? Can interested parties provide input and be involved in the decision-making processes? • To obtain full points, a minimum of three comment letters are required from the Underrepresented Communities.	3	3 - Interested parties included on decision-making committees and fully engaged/involved in all aspects of the Project/Component 2 - Interested parties engaged/involved, but not included on decision-making committees 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	4	Was there a regional and Project map(s) depicting the site location, current conditions, and benefitting areas? • The information should be clear and easy to read. If not, the point will not be given.	2	2 - Provided and all necessary information provided 1 - Provided but missing some information 0 - Not provided	2
General	5	Does the project benefit an Underrepresented Community (-ies) that the project will benefit? Does the project benefit an SDAC? Was there a map(s) depicting the SDAC(s) that the project will benefit? Please provide the amount of funding that will benefit both the Underrepresented Community and SDAC. • No points will be given if a map(s) is not provided.	3	3 - Projects benefits an SDAC(s) 2 - Project benefits Underrepresented Community 1 - Project partially benefits either 0 - Project does not benefit either	1
General	6	Will the Project or Component positively impact issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells (e.g., groundwater contamination vulnerability, drawdown, etc.)? Was justification such as domestic well census results, water system maps, service area maps, etc. provided? Does the Project or Component help address the needs of the State Water Board's SAFER Program?	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	7	How does the proposed Project or Component address the Human Right to Water (AB 685 Section 106.3)? How will the Project or Component support the established policy of the State that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
Scope of Work	8	Did the proposal provide a description of the tasks/subtasks that will be completed as part of this grant Project? • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	3
Budget	9	Is a budget summary table provided? Is the budget reasonable for the project? Is the budget table tasks/subtasks provided in the scope of work coincide with the tasks/subtasks in the budget and schedule tables? Is local cost share included (minimum of 5%)? Local cost share may include costs expended on projects before grant agreement date. • Local cost share is not required but necessary to obtain full points.	3	3 - Local cost share is provided, and budget is consistent and feasible 2 - Budget is consistent and feasible 1 - Budget is consistent but not feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	3
Schedule	10	Is the tasks/subtask in the schedule table consistent with those listed in the budget table and within the description in the application? Is the schedule feasible?	1	1 - Consistent and feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	1
Total Range of Possible Points			30		24
TOTAL FUNDING RECOMMENDED (rounded to nearest hundredth):				\$ 2,500,000	

Project / Component Evaluation Criteria: Aquifer Storage and Recovery - Beltz Well 10

Section Name	Q#	Questions	Possible Points	Scoring Guidance	Actual Points
General	1	Was a description of the proposed Project or Component provided? Did it explain why this Project or Component was chosen over all others identified in the Plan in terms of benefits provided, communities served, measurable objectives, minimum thresholds, plan implementation timeline, and feasibility? If you feel a question component does not apply to your proposed project, please explain why it is not applicable. (Example "Measurable objective not applicable because project is planning only".) • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	4
General - Imp Only	2- Imp	Does the Project or Component provide a description of quantifiable benefits? Was an explanation of the benefits that are expected to be realized from the Project or Component provided, along with how those benefits will be evaluated and quantified? • To obtain full points, 3 or more quantifiable benefits must be identified and fully supported with backup documentation.	4	4 - At least 3 quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 3 - Two quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 2 - Two quantifiable benefits lacking explanations and supporting documents 1 - One quantifiable benefit with explanations and supporting documents 0 - Benefits provided but are not explained or quantified	4
General - Planning Only	2- Plan	Does the Project Description describe a well-coordinated proposal including a GSP(s) that encompasses the entire basin or describes why a portion of the basin is not covered in the proposal? Does it describe how well the multiple GSA(s) surrounding and within the basin are working together?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	0
General	3	Does the Project or Component fully describe their plan for outreaching and engaging interested parties (e.g., residents, local leaders, non-profit representing Underrepresented Communities, etc.) located within Underrepresented Communities? Does the outreach and engagement include interested parties during all phases of the Project or Component (e.g., planning, design, and implementation)? Can interested parties provide input and be involved in the decision-making processes? • To obtain full points, a minimum of three comment letters are required from the Underrepresented Communities.	3	3 - Interested parties included on decision-making committees and fully engaged/involved in all aspects of the Project/Component 2 - Interested parties engaged/involved, but not included on decision-making committees 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	4	Was there a regional and Project map(s) depicting the site location, current conditions, and benefitting areas? • The information should be clear and easy to read. If not, the point will not be given.	2	2 - Provided and all necessary information provided 1 - Provided but missing some information 0 - Not provided	2
General	5	Does the project benefit an Underrepresented Community (-ies) that the project will benefit? Does the project benefit an SDAC? Was there a map(s) depicting the SDAC(s) that the project will benefit? Please provide the amount of funding that will benefit both the Underrepresented Community and SDAC. • No points will be given if a map(s) is not provided.	3	3 - Projects benefits an SDAC(s) 2 - Project benefits Underrepresented Community 1 - Project partially benefits either 0 - Project does not benefit either	1
General	6	Will the Project or Component positively impact issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells (e.g., groundwater contamination vulnerability, drawdown, etc.)? Was justification such as domestic well census results, water system maps, service area maps, etc. provided? Does the Project or Component help address the needs of the State Water Board's SAFER Program?	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	7	How does the proposed Project or Component address the Human Right to Water (AB 685 Section 106.3)? How will the Project or Component support the established policy of the State that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
Scope of Work	8	Did the proposal provide a description of the tasks/subtasks that will be completed as part of this grant Project? • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	3
Budget	9	Is a budget summary table provided? Is the budget reasonable for the project? Is the budget table tasks/subtasks provided in the scope of work coincide with the tasks/subtasks in the budget and schedule tables? Is local cost share included (minimum of 5%)? Local cost share may include costs expended on projects before grant agreement date. • Local cost share is not required but necessary to obtain full points.	3	3 - Local cost share is provided, and budget is consistent and feasible 2 - Budget is consistent and feasible 1 - Budget is consistent but not feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	3
Schedule	10	Is the tasks/subtask in the schedule table consistent with those listed in the budget table and within the description in the application? Is the schedule feasible?	1	1 - Consistent and feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	1
Total Range of Possible Points			30		24
TOTAL FUNDING RECOMMENDED (rounded to nearest hundredth):				\$ 2,700,000	

Project / Component Evaluation Criteria: Park Avenue Transmission Main/Bottleneck Improvements

Section Name	Q#	Questions	Possible Points	Scoring Guidance	Actual Points
General	1	Was a description of the proposed Project or Component provided? Did it explain why this Project or Component was chosen over all others identified in the Plan in terms of benefits provided, communities served, measurable objectives, minimum thresholds, plan implementation timeline, and feasibility? If you feel a question component does not apply to your proposed project, please explain why it is not applicable. (Example "Measurable objective not applicable because project is planning only".) • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	4
General - Imp Only	2- Imp	Does the Project or Component provide a description of quantifiable benefits? Was an explanation of the benefits that are expected to be realized from the Project or Component provided, along with how those benefits will be evaluated and quantified? • To obtain full points, 3 or more quantifiable benefits must be identified and fully supported with backup documentation.	4	4 - At least 3 quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 3 - Two quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 2 - Two quantifiable benefits lacking explanations and supporting documents 1 - One quantifiable benefit with explanations and supporting documents 0 - Benefits provided but are not explained or quantified	3
General - Planning Only	2- Plan	Does the Project Description describe a well-coordinated proposal including a GSP(s) that encompasses the entire basin or describes why a portion of the basin is not covered in the proposal? Does it describe how well the multiple GSA(s) surrounding and within the basin are working together?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	0
General	3	Does the Project or Component fully describe their plan for outreaching and engaging interested parties (e.g., residents, local leaders, non-profit representing Underrepresented Communities, etc.) located within Underrepresented Communities? Does the outreach and engagement include interested parties during all phases of the Project or Component (e.g., planning, design, and implementation)? Can interested parties provide input and be involved in the decision-making processes? • To obtain full points, a minimum of three comment letters are required from the Underrepresented Communities.	3	3 - Interested parties included on decision-making committees and fully engaged/involved in all aspects of the Project/Component 2 - Interested parties engaged/involved, but not included on decision-making committees 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	4	Was there a regional and Project map(s) depicting the site location, current conditions, and benefitting areas? • The information should be clear and easy to read. If not, the point will not be given.	2	2 - Provided and all necessary information provided 1 - Provided but missing some information 0 - Not provided	2
General	5	Does the project benefit an Underrepresented Community (-ies) that the project will benefit? Does the project benefit an SDAC? Was there a map(s) depicting the SDAC(s) that the project will benefit? Please provide the amount of funding that will benefit both the Underrepresented Community and SDAC. • No points will be given if a map(s) is not provided.	3	3 - Projects benefits an SDAC(s) 2 - Project benefits Underrepresented Community 1 - Project partially benefits either 0 - Project does not benefit either	1
General	6	Will the Project or Component positively impact issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells (e.g., groundwater contamination vulnerability, drawdown, etc.)? Was justification such as domestic well census results, water system maps, service area maps, etc. provided? Does the Project or Component help address the needs of the State Water Board's SAFER Program?	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	7	How does the proposed Project or Component address the Human Right to Water (AB 685 Section 106.3)? How will the Project or Component support the established policy of the State that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
Scope of Work	8	Did the proposal provide a description of the tasks/subtasks that will be completed as part of this grant Project? • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	3
Budget	9	Is a budget summary table provided? Is the budget reasonable for the project? Is the budget table tasks/subtasks provided in the scope of work coincide with the tasks/subtasks in the budget and schedule tables? Is local cost share included (minimum of 5%)? Local cost share may include costs expended on projects before grant agreement date. • Local cost share is not required but necessary to obtain full points.	3	3 - Local cost share is provided, and budget is consistent and feasible 2 - Budget is consistent and feasible 1 - Budget is consistent but not feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	2
Schedule	10	Is the tasks/subtask in the schedule table consistent with those listed in the budget table and within the description in the application? Is the schedule feasible?	1	1 - Consistent and feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	1
Total Range of Possible Points			30		22
TOTAL FUNDING RECOMMENDED (rounded to nearest hundredth):				\$ 800,000	

Project / Component Evaluation Criteria: Technical Development of Group 1 and 2 Projects

Section Name	Q#	Questions	Possible Points	Scoring Guidance	Actual Points
General	1	Was a description of the proposed Project or Component provided? Did it explain why this Project or Component was chosen over all others identified in the Plan in terms of benefits provided, communities served, measurable objectives, minimum thresholds, plan implementation timeline, and feasibility? If you feel a question component does not apply to your proposed project, please explain why it is not applicable. (Example "Measurable objective not applicable because project is planning only".) • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	3
General - Imp Only	2- Imp	Does the Project or Component provide a description of quantifiable benefits? Was an explanation of the benefits that are expected to be realized from the Project or Component provided, along with how those benefits will be evaluated and quantified? • To obtain full points, 3 or more quantifiable benefits must be identified and fully supported with backup documentation.	4	4 - At least 3 quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 3 - Two quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 2 - Two quantifiable benefits lacking explanations and supporting documents 1 - One quantifiable benefit with explanations and supporting documents 0 - Benefits provided but are not explained or quantified	0
General - Planning Only	2- Plan	Does the Project Description describe a well-coordinated proposal including a GSP(s) that encompasses the entire basin or describes why a portion of the basin is not covered in the proposal? Does it describe how well the multiple GSA(s) surrounding and within the basin are working together?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	4
General	3	Does the Project or Component fully describe their plan for outreach and engaging interested parties (e.g., residents, local leaders, non-profit representing Underrepresented Communities, etc.) located within Underrepresented Communities? Does the outreach and engagement include interested parties during all phases of the Project or Component (e.g., planning, design, and implementation)? Can interested parties provide input and be involved in the decision-making processes? • To obtain full points, a minimum of three comment letters are required from the Underrepresented Communities.	3	3 - Interested parties included on decision-making committees and fully engaged/involved in all aspects of the Project/Component 2 - Interested parties engaged/involved, but not included on decision-making committees 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	4	Was there a regional and Project map(s) depicting the site location, current conditions, and benefitting areas? • The information should be clear and easy to read. If not, the point will not be given.	2	2 - Provided and all necessary information provided 1 - Provided but missing some information 0 - Not provided	2
General	5	Does the project benefit an Underrepresented Community (-ies) that the project will benefit? Does the project benefit an SDAC? Was there a map(s) depicting the SDAC(s) that the project will benefit? Please provide the amount of funding that will benefit both the Underrepresented Community and SDAC. • No points will be given if a map(s) is not provided.	3	3 - Projects benefits an SDAC(s) 2 - Project benefits Underrepresented Community 1 - Project partially benefits either 0 - Project does not benefit either	1
General	6	Will the Project or Component positively impact issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells (e.g., groundwater contamination vulnerability, drawdown, etc.)? Was justification such as domestic well census results, water system maps, service area maps, etc. provided? Does the Project or Component help address the needs of the State Water Board's SAFER Program?	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	7	How does the proposed Project or Component address the Human Right to Water (AB 685 Section 106.3)? How will the Project or Component support the established policy of the State that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
Scope of Work	8	Did the proposal provide a description of the tasks/subtasks that will be completed as part of this grant Project? • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	3
Budget	9	Is a budget summary table provided? Is the budget reasonable for the project? Is the budget table tasks/subtasks provided in the scope of work coincide with the tasks/subtasks in the budget and schedule tables? Is local cost share included (minimum of 5%)? Local cost share may include costs expended on projects before grant agreement date. • Local cost share is not required but necessary to obtain full points.	3	3 - Local cost share is provided, and budget is consistent and feasible 2 - Budget is consistent and feasible 1 - Budget is consistent but not feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	2
Schedule	10	Is the tasks/subtask in the schedule table consistent with those listed in the budget table and within the description in the application? Is the schedule feasible?	1	1 - Consistent and feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	1
Total Range of Possible Points			30		22
TOTAL FUNDING RECOMMENDED (rounded to nearest hundredth):				\$ 1,900,000	

Component Evaluation Criteria: Sustainable Groundwater Management Evaluation and Planning

Section Name	Q#	Questions	Possible Points	Scoring Guidance	Actual Points
General	1	Was a description of the proposed Project or Component provided? Did it explain why this Project or Component was chosen over all others identified in the Plan in terms of benefits provided, communities served, measurable objectives, minimum thresholds, plan implementation timeline, and feasibility? If you feel a question component does not apply to your proposed project, please explain why it is not applicable. (Example "Measurable objective not applicable because project is planning only".) • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	3
General - Imp Only	2- Imp	Does the Project or Component provide a description of quantifiable benefits? Was an explanation of the benefits that are expected to be realized from the Project or Component provided, along with how those benefits will be evaluated and quantified? • To obtain full points, 3 or more quantifiable benefits must be identified and fully supported with backup documentation.	4	4 - At least 3 quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 3 - Two quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 2 - Two quantifiable benefits lacking explanations and supporting documents 1 - One quantifiable benefit with explanations and supporting documents 0 - Benefits provided but are not explained or quantified	0
General - Planning Only	2- Plan	Does the Project Description describe a well-coordinated proposal including a GSP(s) that encompasses the entire basin or describes why a portion of the basin is not covered in the proposal? Does it describe how well the multiple GSA(s) surrounding and within the basin are working together?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	4
General	3	Does the Project or Component fully describe their plan for outreaching and engaging interested parties (e.g., residents, local leaders, non-profit representing Underrepresented Communities, etc.) located within Underrepresented Communities? Does the outreach and engagement include interested parties during all phases of the Project or Component (e.g., planning, design, and implementation)? Can interested parties provide input and be involved in the decision-making processes? • To obtain full points, a minimum of three comment letters are required from the Underrepresented Communities.	3	3 - Interested parties included on decision-making committees and fully engaged/involved in all aspects of the Project/Component 2 - Interested parties engaged/involved, but not included on decision-making committees 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	4	Was there a regional and Project map(s) depicting the site location, current conditions, and benefitting areas? • The information should be clear and easy to read. If not, the point will not be given.	2	2 - Provided and all necessary information provided 1 - Provided but missing some information 0 - Not provided	2
General	5	Does the project benefit an Underrepresented Community (-ies) that the project will benefit? Does the project benefit an SDAC? Was there a map(s) depicting the SDAC(s) that the project will benefit? Please provide the amount of funding that will benefit both the Underrepresented Community and SDAC. • No points will be given if a map(s) is not provided.	3	3 - Projects benefits an SDAC(s) 2 - Project benefits Underrepresented Community 1 - Project partially benefits either 0 - Project does not benefit either	1
General	6	Will the Project or Component positively impact issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells (e.g., groundwater contamination vulnerability, drawdown, etc.)? Was justification such as domestic well census results, water system maps, service area maps, etc. provided? Does the Project or Component help address the needs of the State Water Board's SAFER Program?	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	7	How does the proposed Project or Component address the Human Right to Water (AB 685 Section 106.3)? How will the Project or Component support the established policy of the State that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
Scope of Work	8	Did the proposal provide a description of the tasks/subtasks that will be completed as part of this grant Project? • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	3
Budget	9	Is a budget summary table provided? Is the budget reasonable for the project? Is the budget table tasks/subtasks provided in the scope of work coincide with the tasks/subtasks in the budget and schedule tables? Is local cost share included (minimum of 5%)? Local cost share may include costs expended on projects before grant agreement date. • Local cost share is not required but necessary to obtain full points.	3	3 - Local cost share is provided, and budget is consistent and feasible 2 - Budget is consistent and feasible 1 - Budget is consistent but not feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	2
Schedule	10	Is the tasks/subtask in the schedule table consistent with those listed in the budget table and within the description in the application? Is the schedule feasible?	1	1 - Consistent and feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	1
Total Range of Possible Points			30		22
TOTAL FUNDING RECOMMENDED (rounded to nearest hundredth):				\$ 1,575,000	

Project / Component Evaluation Criteria: Inland Groundwater Pumping Optimization

Section Name	Q#	Questions	Possible Points	Scoring Guidance	Actual Points
General	1	Was a description of the proposed Project or Component provided? Did it explain why this Project or Component was chosen over all others identified in the Plan in terms of benefits provided, communities served, measurable objectives, minimum thresholds, plan implementation timeline, and feasibility? If you feel a question component does not apply to your proposed project, please explain why it is not applicable. (Example "Measurable objective not applicable because project is planning only".) • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	4
General - Imp Only	2- Imp	Does the Project or Component provide a description of quantifiable benefits? Was an explanation of the benefits that are expected to be realized from the Project or Component provided, along with how those benefits will be evaluated and quantified? • To obtain full points, 3 or more quantifiable benefits must be identified and fully supported with backup documentation.	4	4 - At least 3 quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 3 - Two quantifiable benefits with explanations and supporting documents 2 - Two quantifiable benefits lacking explanations and supporting documents 1 - One quantifiable benefit with explanations and supporting documents 0 - Benefits provided but are not explained or quantified	2
General - Planning Only	2- Plan	Does the Project Description describe a well-coordinated proposal including a GSP(s) that encompasses the entire basin or describes why a portion of the basin is not covered in the proposal? Does it describe how well the multiple GSA(s) surrounding and within the basin are working together?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	0
General	3	Does the Project or Component fully describe their plan for outreaching and engaging interested parties (e.g., residents, local leaders, non-profit representing Underrepresented Communities, etc.) located within Underrepresented Communities? Does the outreach and engagement include interested parties during all phases of the Project or Component (e.g., planning, design, and implementation)? Can interested parties provide input and be involved in the decision-making processes? • To obtain full points, a minimum of three comment letters are required from the Underrepresented Communities.	3	3 - Interested parties included on decision-making committees and fully engaged/involved in all aspects of the Project/Component 2 - Interested parties engaged/involved, but not included on decision-making committees 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	4	Was there a regional and Project map(s) depicting the site location, current conditions, and benefitting areas? • The information should be clear and easy to read. If not, the point will not be given.	2	2 - Provided and all necessary information provided 1 - Provided but missing some information 0 - Not provided	2
General	5	Does the project benefit an Underrepresented Community (-ies) that the project will benefit? Does the project benefit an SDAC? Was there a map(s) depicting the SDAC(s) that the project will benefit? Please provide the amount of funding that will benefit both the Underrepresented Community and SDAC. • No points will be given if a map(s) is not provided.	3	3 - Projects benefits an SDAC(s) 2 - Project benefits Underrepresented Community 1 - Project partially benefits either 0 - Project does not benefit either	1
General	6	Will the Project or Component positively impact issues associated with small water systems or private shallow domestic wells (e.g., groundwater contamination vulnerability, drawdown, etc.)? Was justification such as domestic well census results, water system maps, service area maps, etc. provided? Does the Project or Component help address the needs of the State Water Board's SAFER Program?	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
General	7	How does the proposed Project or Component address the Human Right to Water (AB 685 Section 106.3)? How will the Project or Component support the established policy of the State that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes?	4	4 - Fully addressed 3 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 2 - Mostly addressed, with significant details missing or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
Scope of Work	8	Did the proposal provide a description of the tasks/subtasks that will be completed as part of this grant Project? • No funds will be awarded without clear justification for the proposed tasks/subtasks.	3	3 - Fully addressed 2 - Mostly addressed, with minor details not included or unclear 1 - Marginally addressed 0 - Not addressed	2
Budget	9	Is a budget summary table provided? Is the budget reasonable for the project? Is the budget table tasks/subtasks provided in the scope of work coincide with the tasks/subtasks in the budget and schedule tables? Is local cost share included (minimum of 5%)? Local cost share may include costs expended on projects before grant agreement date. • Local cost share is not required but necessary to obtain full points.	3	3 - Local cost share is provided, and budget is consistent and feasible 2 - Budget is consistent and feasible 1 - Budget is consistent but not feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	3
Schedule	10	Is the tasks/subtask in the schedule table consistent with those listed in the budget table and within the description in the application? Is the schedule feasible?	1	1 - Consistent and feasible 0 - Not consistent and feasible	1
Total Range of Possible Points			30		21
TOTAL FUNDING RECOMMENDED (rounded to nearest hundredth):				\$ 615,000	



Statement on the cyber-attack on KISTERS AG

Dear Business Partner,

on 10 November 2021, we were subject to a serious and complex cyber-attack, which significantly impacted our organisation, our staff and our clients and partners who rely on our services.

Since the attack, we have worked hard to restore our systems and services. Supported by external experts, we have ensured that every step of our recovery process has been carried out with the utmost diligence to ensure by all means that all our systems are free from any artefacts of the attack.

Within that process we have

- set up our internal network infrastructure from scratch;
- re-installed all IT systems, including servers, workstations and laptops, from scratch;
- installed a new mail server in the Microsoft Azure Cloud;
- re-installed all KISTERScLOUD systems and re-imported client data from backup after multiple automatic security scans;
- re-installed all servers that are used to connect to client systems for remote maintenance.

Furthermore, we are examining the complete source code of our solutions restored from the backup for signs of compromise using automatic and visual inspection methods. The process will be completed by the end of January, and no manipulation has been detected so far.

Our customers operating our software solutions on-premise with advanced security monitoring have also not identified any compromise from the cyberattack as of to date.

We are pleased to announce that we are now able to provide our services and solutions to our customers and partners again. It has always been our goal to ensure a high level of security based on standards and state-of-the-art best practices, and we will continue to improve the security of our systems wherever possible.

We thank you for your continued support and trust and look forward to further successful co-operation.

Aachen, 19.01.2022

Klaus Kisters
CEO, KISTERS Group