



DRAFT WORK PRODUCT

**Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin
Borrego Springs Subbasin
Groundwater Extraction Metering Plan**

**Borrego Valley Groundwater Basin
Sustainability Plan**

Advisory Committee Meeting

May 31st, 2017

The Core Team is considering adoption of a Draft Groundwater Extraction Metering Plan (Draft Metering Plan) as part of the Groundwater Sustainability Plan implementation. The objective of the Metering Plan would be to facilitate consistent and reliable reporting of groundwater extraction volumes from all non-de minimis wells in the Subbasin. Reliable metered data is necessary to manage the Subbasin, document compliance with individual water allocations, and track and calibrate the Subbasin water balance throughout GSP implementation. The Core Team previously introduced the concept of the Metering Plan at the June 2017 AC meeting, and will present to the AC an overview of the Draft Metering Plan and provide an update regarding the development status.

Metering Plan Overview

- Objective: Facilitate consistent and reliable reporting of groundwater extraction volumes from all non-de minimis wells in the Subbasin
- Purpose: Reliable metered data is necessary to manage the Subbasin, document compliance with water allocations, and track and calibrate the Subbasin water budget



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The objective of the Draft Metering Plan is to facilitate consistent and reliable reporting of groundwater extraction volumes from all non-de minimis wells (annual extraction groundwater greater than 2 acre-feet) in the Borrego Springs Groundwater Subbasin (Subbasin). The purpose of the Metering Plan is to provide reliable metered data necessary to manage the Subbasin, document compliance with pumping allocations and track and calibrate the Subbasin water budget. For instance, the largest source of uncertainty in the water budget is currently documented annual groundwater extraction data.

Draft Metering Plan Components

- All non-de minimis well owners register with the GSA
- All applicable wells required to have appropriate meter
 - Meters need to be calibrated and validated routinely per the Metering Plan
- Meter data will be read, recorded, and reported to GSA:
 - Monthly meter reads can be performed by GSA, pending access agreement; or
 - Monthly meter reads can be performed and reported by an approved third party contractor
- Semi-annual reporting required to include total water extraction, calibration/validation compliance, parcel and facility identification, and methodology

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The Draft Metering Plan components include but are not limited to the following:

- All non-de minimis well owners (annual extraction groundwater greater than 2 acre-feet) register with the GSA
- All applicable wells required to have appropriate meter
 - Meters need to be calibrated and validated routinely per the Metering Plan
 - Meter data will be read, recorded, and reported to GSA:
 - Monthly meter reads can be performed by GSA, pending access agreement; or
 - Monthly meter reads can be performed and reported by an approved third party contractor
- Semi-annual reporting required to include total water extraction, calibration/validation compliance, parcel and facility identification, and methodology for meter validation

Draft Metering Plan Components

- Meters required to be recalibrated every 5 years
- Annual verification performed by GSA-approved contractor
 - If verification error exceeds 3%, then meter must be recalibrated or replaced with a certified calibrated meter
- Meter calibration and validation data to be provided in routine semi-annual reports to GSA
- Compliance with the Metering Plan required within 45 days of GSP adoption



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The Draft Metering Plan components include but are not limited to the additional following components:

- Meters required to be recalibrated every 5 years (factory calibration every 5 years)
- Annual verification performed by GSA-approved contractor (annual field validation using secondary ultra sonic flow meter)
 - If verification error exceeds 3%, then meter must be recalibrated or replaced with a certified calibrated meter (selected error to be verified with third-party tester)
- Meter calibration and validation data to be provided in routine semi-annual reports to GSA
- Compliance with the Metering Plan required within 45 days of GSP adoption

Pictured is the County of San Diego – Agriculture Weights and Measures (AWM) testing lab, which can test meters up to 2-inches in diameter. Larger agriculture or golf course meters, which typically have flow meters greater than 6 inches in diameter will likely need to be factory calibrated.

Metering Plan Development Status

- Presented Metering Plan concept to AC in June 2017
- Proposition 1 Grant Application submitted and approved, including funds for installation of meters
- Prepared draft Metering Plan for Core Team review
- Comments received, including potential role of County of San Diego Department of Agricultural Weights and Measures (AWM)
- Met with AWM to work through requirements
- Meeting pending with California Department of Measurement Standards (DMS) to establish calibration certification criteria

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Next Steps noted in June 2017 Advisory Committee (AC) meeting included evaluation of pumpers interested in voluntary metering program, drafting of access agreement, determine amount of flow meters necessary, and apply for Proposition 1 grants.

Proposition 1 grant was submitted to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and subsequently approved by DWR. Disbursement is pending completion of the meter installations. Several pumpers have submitted the required paperwork for meter installation and site reconnaissance by the licensed contractor is underway.

The initial Draft Metering Plan considered input received to date, and was reviewed initially by the Core Team. Draft revisions are pending based on County and State guidelines to be determined. In particular, the Groundwater Sustainability Agency needs to verify role of California Department of Measurement Standards (DMS) if a potential fee is to be placed on volume of water pumped to fund administrative costs of Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) implementation.

Seeking a streamlined approach for metering compliance.

Questions and Discussion

