



# San Pasqual Valley (SPV) Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Stakeholder Workshop Meeting Summary

The following is a summary of the Stakeholder Workshop, comments, and questions. This summary reflects the general content and spirit of each discussion point, but is not a verbatim recording.

Date: Wednesday April 6, 2022 from 1:00 pm to 1:45 pm

Location: GoToMeeting

Purpose: Stakeholder Workshop

Attendees:
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#### **Public**

- Matt Witman, Witman Ranch
- Rikki Schroeder (RS), Ranch Guejito
- Andre Monette, Best Best & Krieger, on behalf of Ranch Guejito
- Dan Silver, Endangered Habitats League
- Peter Quinlan (PQ), Ranch Guejito
- Juan Magdaraog, San Diego Zoo Safari Park
- Raj Brown, San Diego Zoo Safari Park
- Marissa Potter (MP), Santa Fe Irrigation District
- Leslie Dobalian, San Diego County Water Authority
- Angela Islas (AI), CivicWell

### City of San Diego (City)

- · Staci Domasco
- Julie Marlett
- Sandra Carlson
- Mike Bolouri
- Quinton Grounds, Mayor's Office
- Andrew Funk
- Mariah Mills
- Keli Balo
- Surraya Rashid

### County of San Diego (County)

- Jim Bennett
- Leanne Crow

#### **Consultant Team**

- Rosalyn Prickett (RP), Woodard & Curran
- Amber Ritchie (AR), Woodard & Curran
- Micah Eggleton, Woodard & Curran

## **Roll Call and Introductions**

Rosalyn Prickett, Consultant Team, greeted participants as they signed onto GoToMeeting. Several new Core Team members introduced themselves, including Staci Domasco and Julie Marlett from City of San Diego. Amber Ritchie was also introduced as a new technical member of the Consultant Team.

Rosalyn Prickett welcomed stakeholders to the meeting. She covered the agenda for the meeting and briefly touched on the purpose of the Annual Report and its requirements within SGMA for reporting information and data for the previous Water Year (WY).

Rosalyn explained that everyone is welcome to ask questions and provide comments. The Chat function should be used to ask a question or make a comment, and then she will open up the floor to provide input verbally. Any additional questions thought of later can be sent to Staci Domasco at <a href="mailto:SDomasco@sandiego.gov">SDomasco@sandiego.gov</a>.

## **Purpose of an Annual Report**

Rosalyn provided an overview of what an Annual Report is and its requirements and purpose within SGMA. Annual Reports are due on April 1<sup>st</sup> of each year after a GSP is submitted and cover the previous water year (Oct 1 through Sept 30). This first Annual Report includes WY 2020 and 2021 because the submitted GSP only included data through 2019.

The requirements of an Annual Report are based on Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) regulations, and include the following:

- Groundwater conditions
- Groundwater production by sector
- Surface water supply
- Total water use
- Change in storage
- Progress towards implementation

A timeline graphic was shown, listing when the GSA was formed (2016) and when the GSP was submitted (Jan 2022). This figure and discussion also highlighted the GSP baseline (2005-2019) and GSP implementation (2022-2042), and when future Annual Reports and Five-Year updates are due.

Opportunity for questions was then provided, but no questions were asked related to these slides.

## **Overview of Report Findings**

Amber Richie, Consultant Team, provided an overview of Annual Report findings. Precipitation and groundwater production were discussed first, with information provided about the PRISM data used for both WYs 2020 and 2021. Based on DWRs classification, WY 2020 was determined to be a Wet Year with 22.0 inches of precipitation and WY 2021 was classified as a Critically Dry Year with only 6.9 inches of precipitation. Amber described how these precipitation values were used to estimate groundwater production for the water budget. This approach utilized land use and population data from 2020 estimates.

Groundwater levels for the WYs were then reviewed. Groundwater level trends are similar to those shown in the GSP, with a general flow from east to west and a depression in the central portion of the Basin associated with the majority of groundwater production. Groundwater levels did not exceed either the Planning Thresholds (PTs) or Minimum Thresholds (MTs) during WYs 2020 and 2021. An example hydrograph was provided that shows the temporal trends of groundwater levels changes that correlate with annual precipitation.

Groundwater level maps for Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 were shown at a larger scale for easier viewing, with further description of flow directions and the similarities between the two despite the season difference.

In the SPV Basin, groundwater storage increased by +942 AF for WY 2020 and decreased by -409 AF in WY 2021. An updated version of the cumulative change in storage figure from the submitted GSP was shown and includes the data for WYs 2020 and 2021. The change in storage maps show an increase of approximately 0.5 to 1.5 ft in WY 2020 and a decrease of approximately 0 to -2 ft in WY 2021.

Amber presented the groundwater quality measurements seen over the reporting period. One well exceeded its TDS MT (SP065), and three wells exceed their nitrate MTs (SP043, SP065, and SP003). Amber explained how some wells had no groundwater quality data; however, this is not unexpected considering the GSP was submitted only a few months ago and the monitoring programs are just beginning.

Amber reviewed the values related to groundwater production in the Basin, and where this production occurred. The primary groundwater production sector is agricultural, which fluctuates depending on the

amount of precipitation. Domestic use is much smaller and stays relatively consistent year-to-year. Total water use summary data shows the estimated volumes of water used for agricultural and domestic demands, as well as how much water was imported. There was no surface water use during the reporting period.

Amber then went over the implementation status of several of the GSP's Management Actions that have either continuous schedules or are planned for the current year.

Public comments and question included the following:

- PQ: Change in levels show similar trends even though pumping around the depression is different, and they seem to show an increase in the dry year?
  - AR: This could be because the levels are very similar and localized pumping, at the time
    of measurements could be impacting the levels.
  - PQ: Pumping demand was estimated using values from the GSP. Was this checked with meter data?
  - AR: We did, but it is difficult because we do not have meter data for all production wells so we rely mostly on the GSP estimates.
  - PQ: Understood, just want to see if there is spot checking done with the meter data we do have.
  - AR: Yes, but there are some inconsistencies we are double checking and will try to rectify in future Annual Reports.
- MP: Will the slides be available?
  - o RP: Yes, and they are currently posted on the program website, but I can also send to you.
- RS: Is there a schedule for implementation of Management Action 7? And will there be an evaluation of institutional constraints with Sutherland Dam releases? Which tasks will this be under?
  - o RP: Yes, Task 3 will evaluate those operational and other constraints when evaluating the feasibility of those sources as part of Management Action 7. The slide presentation from the November 2021 workshop contains this information.
- AI: Angela Islas is a new project manager with CivicWell in Sacramento and has participated in SGMA in the San Joaquin Valley. Question related to Management Action 5- Are these [TDS and nitrate] the only contaminants that the GSA will manage?
  - o RP: Yes, these are the constituents that have thresholds in the GSP.
  - o AI: Is there a remediation plan for these, along with the mitigation, to try and make sure those consistent levels are below MCLs?
  - o RP: Yes, part of this Management Action 5 is to get information to domestic users on how to mitigate these constituents and improve those levels.
  - AI: Does this tie into groundwater levels?
  - RP: Not directly at this time. But we do have a tiering system to address exceedances.
     Right now, the Basin is sustainable and pumping trends do not need to change. However, we do have projects included in the GSP to address issues if there were to arise, but they are not needed at this time.

## **Next Steps**

Rosalyn reminded everyone that the Annual Report has been submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) through their GSP portal and is available online through the portal and the GSA's

website. Links were provided. Rosalyn also reminded all stakeholders that data used in the Annual Report is available through the SPV Data Management System (DMS) or "Opti".

The next Stakeholder Workshop is scheduled for June 8th, 2022, at 1-3pm to please mark your calendars. Comments should be sent directly to Staci Domasco at <a href="mailto:SDomasco@sandiego.gov">SDomasco@sandiego.gov</a>.

Stakeholder workshop ended at 1:42 pm.

# **GoToMeeting Chat Log from Workshop**

Angela Islas, CivicWell (to Everyone): 1:33 PM: This is Angela with CivicWell I have a comment.

Angela Islas, CivicWell (to Everyone): 1:41 PM: Thank you!