

**Siskiyou County Groundwater Sustainability Agency  
Shasta Valley Advisory Committee Meeting  
SUMMARY**

Meeting date/time: July 21, 2021, 3:00 – 6:00 pm

Location: Hybrid Meeting

In Person: LTC Conference Room, 190 Greenhorn Road, Yreka, California 96032

Virtual Online Zoom Platform

Key contacts:

-Matt Parker, County Natural Resources Specialist, [mparker@co.siskiyou.ca.us](mailto:mparker@co.siskiyou.ca.us) 530.842.8019

-Katie Duncan, Stantec Consulting – Facilitator. [katie.duncan@stantec.com](mailto:katie.duncan@stantec.com) 916-418-8245

-Laura Foglia PhD, U.C. Davis Technical Team Lead, [lfoglia@ucdavis.edu](mailto:lfoglia@ucdavis.edu) 530.219.5692

**MEETING RECAP**

- **Approval of Past Meeting Summary:** Pending one correction, the committee approved its June meeting summary for posting on the Siskiyou County Website.
- **Public Comment:** Public comments provided below.
- **District Staff and Other Announcements:** Pat Vellines and Ethan Brown from DWR and the Shasta RCD shared updates.
- **Presentation of Updated GSP Adoption Schedule and Public Comment Process:** The Facilitator shared the updated GSP Adoption Schedule and provided an overview of the public comment process.
- **Review and Discussion of Draft GSP Chapter 1:** The technical team shared a high-level overview of the content in Chapter 1 and responded to questions.
- **Review and Discussion of Draft GSP Chapter 5:** The technical team shared a high-level overview of the content in Chapter 5 and responded to questions.
- **Review and Discussion of Substantial Updates to Chapters 2, 3, and 4:** The technical team shared a high-level overview of the changes that have been incorporated to Chapters 2, 3, and 4 and responded to questions.
- **Discussion: Recommendation of Release of Public Draft GSP:** All Advisory Committee members present recommended the staff recommend the Board release the Public Draft GSP.
- **Meeting Adjourns.**

**SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS**

<i><b>Action Item</b></i>	<i><b>Responsible Party</b></i>	<i><b>Status/Deadline</b></i>
June Meeting minutes will be updated to reflect that Ethan Brown attended virtually.	Facilitators	
The technical team will add a sentence to the chapter on management areas to clarify that subdivided management areas may be considered after plan adoption.	Technical Team	July 26

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Technical team will add a sentence to clarify that irrigators will be encouraged to reduce irrigated acreage through outreach and education activities.	Technical Team	
Technical team will revise Chapter 4's MAR and ILR section so that it does not presume the outcome of environmental assessments (i.e., remove reference to "negative environmental declaration").	Technical Team	
John Tannaci will send minor comments/corrections to the technical team.	Technical Team, John Tannaci	
Advisory Committee members should hold their schedules for the GSP open houses (September 15, 16) and block out the October 26-28 meetings. *Note October AC meetings were originally scheduled for October 19-21 but due to scheduling changes were moved.	Advisory Committee	
Advisory Committee members who would like to receive a hard copy of the Public Draft GSP should send a mailing address to the Technical Team.	Advisory Committee members	
Laura and Ethan will connect offline to confirm the technical team has everything they need from the Shasta RCD before their contract expires next April.	Laura Foglia, Ethan Brown	
Pat Vellines will investigate whether the My Dry Water Supply tool can aggregate data on a county-wide basis, for the public's reference.	Pat Vellines	
Ginger Sammito requested assistance tracking down data.	Facilitators/Matt Parker	

View [Siskiyou County's groundwater website](#) for posted meeting materials.

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**Call to Order, Agenda Review, and Hybrid Meeting Platform**

The Facilitator thanked all for joining, reviewed the hybrid in-person/virtual meeting platform procedures, indicated that quorum had been reached and called the meeting to order. The Facilitator then reviewed the meeting agenda.

**Review of Past Meeting Summary; Update on Action Items**

The Facilitator reviewed the comments received on June's meeting summary. One more correction was offered: Ethan Brown was present at the last meeting (virtually). The Facilitator obtained consent from the Advisory Committee to post the June meeting notes to the County's

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Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Website.

The Facilitator reviewed action items and provided updates regarding progress toward their completion.

**Public Comment Period**

Jim Halpenny asked whether there are currently plans to break the basin into subbasins. Craig elaborated on the opportunity to realign basin boundaries which passed two years ago. Jim clarified that he is more so interested in breaking the basin into management areas, recognizing that management action isn't homogenous across the basin. Matt and John Tannaci elaborated that breaking the basin into smaller areas was considered, but different SMCs would've needed to be established and the group decided to avoid adding this layer of complexity. Laura added that the plan touches on management areas and clarification could be provided that management areas may be considered later on. Steve Mains requested the sentence be added, because the east and west side of the valley are significantly hydrologically different. Laura confirmed that their team will add the sentence.

Nick Joslin asked how SGMA management actions will be impacted by the current drought and the State Board's suggested curtailments? Matt clarified that the State Water Board's suggested curtailment regulation is still draft and that the County does not support the thresholds put out by CDFW, so that's a discussion that still needs to be sorted out. The Facilitator added that the State Board's draft regulations could be considered a preview of the comments that they may provide to the GSP.

Ginger Sammito requested help "chasing down" information in the database which she requested earlier. She is having a meeting with herbicide/pesticides; she'd like there to be coordination with them. Laura recognizes the need to bring these inventories together.

**District Staff Updates and Other Announcements**

Matt does not have updates; the schedule will be covered in the next item.

Ethan Brown (SVRCD) wanted to highlight that there is funding available through State Water Board's SGMA Prop 1. The RCD is happy to continue in its role, assisting with providing these extra dollars to match the data needs of the region. He shared that the monitoring station survived the recent fires.

Pat shared information about the [My Dry Water Supply website](#). Regardless of whether the information you have is specific, Pat recommends filling in the report so that DWR has an accurate idea of where there is need. She also noted the "Helpful Resources for Homeowners" page. Lastly, she shared that there is going to be a webinar on how to submit GSPs to the DWR portal this fall.

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Blair asked how to provide suggested flight lines for the AEM effort to DWR. Pat said he should email her the information, including a map of where the flight lines should be run.

Ginger asked whether a My Dry Water Supply report could be run to acquire a number for the public on a county-wide basis. Pat said that the information could be aggregated, yes.

**Presentation of Updated GSP Adoption Schedule and Public Comment Process**

Craig reviewed the GSP Adoption Schedule and the Notification of Intention to Adopt.

Greg clarified that the Advisory Committee is not recommending the content of the plan until October.

Craig reviewed the public comment response process.

Greg asked whether hard copies could be printed. Laura said that any committee member who wants a hard copy should send her a mailing address and she'll ship the main chapters (appendices will still be online). Craig added that several public copies will be made available at libraries and the County office.

**Review and Discussion of Draft GSP Chapter 1**

Chapter 1 covers fairly standard information about the GSA organization and approach to notice and communication, outreach and engagement. The Committee provided several small comments last week which will be incorporated.

Greg noted that several of the PMAs in the plan would require MOUs with various entities; should that be addressed in this chapter or will that be considered further down the line? Laura clarified that that step would come once the feasibility of specific projects are evaluated and implementation starts.

No further comments on the chapter were offered.

**Review and Discussion of Draft GSP Chapter 5**

Chapter 5 describes the plan's implementation elements, including an estimate of costs associated with the plan's PMAs, the schedule for implementation, and a list of funding sources and mechanisms.

Key components of the chapter include: Management and Administration, Implementation, and Outreach and Education. Laura shared an Implementation Road map graphic and the 20-year look-ahead for implementation.

John asked how long the subbasin has Laura contracted. Matt shared that LWA's contract expires April 2022, but there will be implementation grants that Laura and the technical team could help on. Steve seconded John's sentiment that the team needs continuity in the basin.

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Greg clarified that although the five-year update is due five years from January 2022, but the process to begin working on the update needs to start earlier. Laura suggests starting work at least two years before the update is due. The same governance structure would be in place. The charter for this committee doesn't expire, but roles can be reevaluated. Matt suggested that the committee could adopt a workgroup approach or a more ad hoc structure, based on how much is happening at any given time.

Ethan asked about the timing for the RCD. Their grant expires in April of next year and the extent of their involvement would be dependent on future funding. He essentially wants to confirm that the technical team has everything they need from them before that date. Laura indicated they could coordinate offline.

Laura presented the preliminary cost assessment, for annually recurring costs associated with implementing the GSP.

Justin Holmes asked whether potential litigation costs are included in this estimate. Matt clarified that the topic of potential litigation would be brought to the Board and added to the estimate later. Greg asked whether the estimates include the costs associated with contracting with facilitators, RCD, etc. Laura confirmed that it does. The big element that hasn't been determined yet is the cost of management actions, which would hopefully rely entirely on grant funding.

The Facilitator clarified that the PMAs have not been prioritized and the estimated grant funds that would be required to meet the goals of the GSP has not yet been set.

Pat shared that the Prop 68 grant for non-critically overdrafted basins have a \$2 million minimum requirement and a maximum of \$5 million per basin.

Laura clarified that the estimate presented is specific to Shasta and the estimates for the other basins are actually slightly less than Shasta's since they have fewer modeling needs.

Dave Webb asked a question about financing.

Angelina Cook asked whether monitoring, data analysis, and management will collaborate with the Shasta-Scott Monitoring Network? Will there be a concerted effort to coordinate these monitoring and management actions? Matt confirmed that the GSA is talking with the Shasta RCD and Watermaster so they can partner moving forward. No agreements are in place yet, but it's a high priority for the first year of implementation to ensure the region isn't doubling up on monitoring efforts.

**Review and Discussion of Substantial Updates to Chapters 2, 3, 4**

Laura provided an overview of the updates to Chapter 2: Plan Area and Basin Setting, Chapter 3: Sustainable Management Criteria, Chapter 4: Projects and Management Actions. If anyone

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on the Advisory Committee feels that the technical team hasn't adequately responded to any of your comments, let Laura know.

Matt provided an update on the cannabis ordinances, sharing that they're currently with county counsel. As those ordinances change, the GSA will react accordingly.

Laura conveyed that if there are items committee members still aren't happy with, this isn't the final version of the GSP – the team can go back and make changes. This overview is just for sending the report out for public comment.

Greg suggested revising Chapter 4's MAR and ILR section so that it does not presume the outcome of environmental assessments (i.e. remove reference to "negative environmental declaration"). The Technical Team agreed to correct this.

John Tannaci asked for clarification on what line 684 of Chapter 4 on Irrigated Margin Reduction means when it suggests "encouraging farmers to reduce irrigated acreage"? What form would this encouragement take? The Facilitator clarified John specifically wants to know how the encouragement will be propagated: through the advisory committee? Education and outreach? Laura clarified that encouragement of irrigated acreage reduction would be driven by outreach and that the technical team would add a statement to make this clear.

Dave Webb asked how the public is meant to access the updated Chapters 2-4? Is there still contention about the interconnection of groundwater and surfacewater flows? Laura responded that there is absolutely an impact between surface and groundwater; what isn't clear is the exact relationship. The entire Shasta Valley stream network needs to be considered. The team clarified that new versions of Chapters 2-4 have not been posted; they will be available August 11. The table showing updates is to provide a roadmap for folks to follow along with the version that will be released in August.

**Discussion: Recommendation of Release of Public Draft GSP**

The Facilitator reminded the Advisory Committee members they are here as representatives of their communities. Part of their responsibility now is to reach out to those within their communities who may have useful comments to make sure they weigh in on the public draft.

Greg asked and the team confirmed that we are required to respond to each individual comment. The commenter will see the response to their individual comments in the Appendices and how the comment was categorized.

Each committee member was asked to indicate whether they recommended that Matt recommend the Board release the Public Draft GSP.

- John Tannaci supports and approves the recommendation.

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- Justin Sandahl supports the release of the public draft. The GSP isn't set in stone, but it's complete enough.
- Steve Mains' only reservation is the taxation structure in the Chapter 5 Appendix. Matt relayed that the Fee Study was put together as a memo by the consultant and presented to the Board—it's a public document. Steve is okay with it, then. He is pleased with how far the Advisory Committee has come. He recommends release of the public document.
- Gregg Werner agrees that is time to release the document.
- Blair Hart says: "turn it loose."
- Grant Johnson conveyed that although he hasn't had a chance to review the recent package, he recommends it for public review.
- Justin Holmes says from what he's reviewed so far, he has no issues releasing the draft for public comment.
- Lisa Faris shared that she thinks it's okay to send out.
- Tristan Allen agrees the document should move forward.

The Facilitator thanked the Advisory Committee and reviewed next steps:

Laura and her team will be finalizing the GSP to get the public draft ready. It'll go to the GSA Board the week of July 26. Matt will work with the Clerk to prepare the Board Meeting packet. The Draft will be public facing on August 6, as the packet is uploaded. The Board meeting will be held August 10 and the Public Comment period starts August 11. Advisory Committee members should hold their schedules for the GSP open houses—tentatively September ~~8-9~~ 15,16 —and block out the October ~~19-21~~ 26-28 Advisory Committee meetings.

Steve Mains said that the sooner those dates are set, the better. The Facilitator shared that the dates will be set after the 8/10 Board meeting.

John asked whether the technical team still wants feedback on minor comments, such as typos or grammar corrections? Laura said if he has already prepared notes, feel free to send them. Katrina and she would be happy to have another set of eyes. John will send in the next few days.

Ayn Perry provided feedback that it is difficult for the virtual participants to identify the speakers in the room. The Facilitator thanked Ayn for the feedback on the hybrid platform.

Laura offered her thanks to everyone. She strongly encouraged committee members to attend at the basin meetings in September.

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Matt thanked the Advisory Committee members for the hard work and hours they've put into readying the GSP. He expressed the desire to use this process as a positive piece of the puzzle to solve the valley's problems and get water needs met.

**Meeting Adjourns**

The Facilitator thanked all for participating and adjourned the meeting.

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**MEETING ATTENDEES**

*\* = virtual attendee*

***Advisory Committee Members***

Gregg Werner, Environmental/Conservation  
Justin Sandahl, Shasta River Waters Users Association  
John Tannaci, Residential  
Steve Mains, Grenada Irrigation District  
\*Blair Hart, Private Pumper  
\*Grant Johnson, Karuk Tribe  
\*Lisa Faris, Big Springs Irrigation District  
\*Tristan Allen, Montague Water Conservation District  
\*Justin Holmes, Edson-Foulke Ditch Company [joined late]  
\*Lisa Faris

***Absent Committee Members***

Pete Scala, Private Pumper  
Robert Moser, Municipal/City (Lake Shastina Community District)

***District Staff***

Matt Parker, County of Siskiyou Natural Resources Specialist

***Technical Team***

\*Dr. Laura Foglia, UC Davis/Larry Walker Associates  
\*Katrina Arredondo  
\*Kelsey McNeill, LWA

***Agency Staff***

\*Pat Vellines, Department of Water Resources  
\*Jessica Boyt, Department of Water Resources  
\*Janae Scruggs, California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
\*Kevin Delano, SWRCB

***Facilitator***

\*Katie Duncan, Stantec  
Craig Moyle, Stantec  
Marisa, Stantec

***Members of the public***

\*Ethan Brown, Shasta Valley RCD  
\*Ayn Perry, SVRCD  
\*Rod Dowse, SVRCD  
Nick Joslin, MSBEC

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Jim Halpenny,  
\*Bonny Nichols  
\*David Webb  
\*Ginger Sammito  
\*Bob Solecki  
\*Angelina Cook  
\*Giuliano Carneiro Galdi  
\*Leah Easley  
\*Patrick Graham