

**Siskiyou County Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Scott Valley Advisory Committee Meeting
MEETING SUMMARY**

Meeting date/time: November 5th, 2019 | 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Etna City Council Chambers, 442 Main St, Etna

Key contacts:

- Matt Parker, County Natural Resources Specialist | mparker@co.siskiyou.ca.us | 530.842.8019
- Rich Wilson, Sacramento State University Senior Facilitator | r.wilson@csus.edu | 415.515.2317
- Laura Foglia PhD, U.C. Davis Technical Team Lead | lfoglia@ucdavis.edu | 530.219.5692

MEETING RECAP

- **Action Item Update and Approval of Past Meeting Summary.** The facilitator provided a brief update on past action items and asked if any committee members has outstanding comments or questions on the September meeting summary. No comments were received, so the meeting summary was finalized and will be posted on the county's SGMA website.
- **Public Comment.** The public offered a range of comments and questions interspersed at various points through the meeting, most related to GSP development. One of the public comments included the suggestion that the committee consider making a recommendation on a well moratorium. County staff pointed out that this falls under the jurisdiction of the Board of Supervisors.
- **District Staff and Other Updates.** Matt Parker provided an overview of key elements and associated budget of the Proposition 68 grant proposal that was put together by GSA staff, with technical support from the SGMA Technical Team. If awarded, funds from this proposal will support GSP development and associated work that was not funded by the Proposition 1 grant award.
- **Stakeholder Communication and Engagement.** The facilitator introduced and reviewed the latest round of edits provided to the Scott Valley Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Plan (C&E Plan). Limited questions or concerns were put forward. The committee addressed one suggested edit from a member of the public and then provisionally adopted the C&E Plan. The document will be revisited by the committee at key milestones in the GSP development process and, as needed, updated and improved.
- **GSP Development.** Claire Kouba with the local SGMA Technical Team, presented the draft GSP section 2.1. She provided an overview of the team's work, the range of information included in this section, and changes which have been made based on some feedback already received. Committee members have until November 30th to provide additional input on this draft material. The facilitator briefly reviewed a form that committee members and interested parties should use to submit comments.
- **Sustainable Management Criteria.** Dr. Thomas Harter previewed work ahead for the committee in 2020. He reviewed the concept of sustainable management criteria, as described in SGMA, and noted that future meetings will enable further exploration of this concept, building on the basin settings knowledge presented this year.

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SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Responsible Party</i>	<i>Status/Deadline</i>
Send around the summary of action items and prepare and distribute a draft meeting agenda.	Rich Wilson	End November
Clean up and send the provisionally adopted C&E Plan to committee members. Members are requested to provide pictures of Scott Valley for the cover page (the valley, farms, the river, fish, people living and enjoy the place). Photo credit will be given. Matt Parker will post the plans (from Scott Valley, Shasta Valley and Butte Valley) on the county's SGMA webpage.	Rich Wilson, committee members, Matt Parker	Plan will be posted after it is introduced to and reviewed by the GSA Board; Pictures can be shared at any time
Distribute the draft Groundwater Sustainability Plan chapter 2.1, along with a reviewer form for providing feedback. Committee members will utilize the reviewer form and provide any feedback by November 30 th . Committee members will also let Matt Parker know if they have any trouble or concerns about the reviewer process.	Matt Parker, committee members	Deadline for comments: Nov. 30th
If committee members know of other places where groundwater monitoring has occurred in Scott Valley, beyond maps in the recent presentation, let Claire know (cmkoub@ucdavis.edu). And be sure to copy Matt and Laura on any correspondence.	Committee members	Ongoing
Connect over water sampling work that Crystal has done in Quartz Valley.	Laura Foglia and Crystal Robinson	November
Bring to the next meeting a graph that shows seven years of groundwater data in Quartz Valley, including wet and dry years. This will add to the conversation the group has been having around links and differences between rain and snowfall.	Crystal Robinson	Before next meeting.
Notify Matt of any additional landowners who are interested in including their well in the voluntary well monitoring program.	Committee members	Ongoing
Share a link to an upcoming GRA webcast provide by Gus Tolley, who has conducted research in Scott Valley.	Matt Parker	November
Share various water quality publications that may inform the SGMA process. Matt Parker will post these publications on the county's SGMA webpage.	Thomas Harter and Matt Parker	November
Help identify ESA related programs in the region. Forward CDFW links and other information from Janae	Janae Scruggs, Matt Parker	Nov. – Dec.

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Scruggs to Advisory Committee members. Also post relevant information on the county's SGMA webpage.		
Reach out to staff from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for additional program information on ESA programs in the region.	Matt Parker	Nov. – Dec.
Email Matt Parker any ideas of interest regarding a future presentation by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB) on the Scott River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)	Committee members	Prior to January meeting

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 28th, 2019 from 3:00 – 6:00 pm, Ft. Jones Community Hall, 11960 East, Ft. Jones.

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

MEETING SUMMARY

Agenda Review, Action Item Update and Approval of Past Meeting Summary

Committee chair Tom Menne called the meeting to order. Facilitator Rich Wilson reviewed the agenda. No comments or questions were put forward on the agenda.

Public Comment Period

Felice Pace requested an agenda item on whether or not the committee should make a recommendation on a well moratorium in Scott Valley. GSA staffer Matt Parker responded by noting that well moratorium is out of jurisdiction of the advisory committee. Matt recommended that Mr. Pace go to the County Board of Supervisors with his request.

District Staff and Other Updates

Matt Parker provided an update on the Proposition 68 grant proposal. DWR extended the deadline to submit to November 15th. GSA staff was largely ready to submit regardless. Matt reviewed key elements of the proposal and associated budget:

- Four components:
 - GSA County-wide
 - Butte, Scott, Shasta
- Any acquired funds must be used by April 2022
- Proposal includes funds for items not included in Prop 1 proposal
- DWR formula to determine maximum ask (figured about 540K per basin)

Matt went on to cover major tasks in the proposal:

- Stakeholder engagement
- GSP development (can include looking at economic analysis of projects)

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- Fee study
- Database development/GIS work
- Materials/equipment
- Grant Administration

Matt noted any funds acquired would cover tasks ahead that are not covered in the Proposition 1 grant. Laura emphasized the importance of studying surface water/groundwater interaction. The GSP, she noted, needs to in time demonstrate sustainability. Having baseline conditions will be very helpful. She also noted the group's interest to consider the entire watershed in the model, and that forest management practices can be integrated into the model. Both Matt and Laura fielded a handful of questions from committee members, about available data, recharge impacts on the Scott River, the adequacy of the new budget and whether or not any funding gaps remain.

Stakeholder Communication and Engagement

Facilitator Rich Wilson introduced the latest iteration of the Scott Valley Stakeholder Communication and Engagement Plan (C&E Plan). He thanked committee members and others who have provided feedback on the draft to date. He reviewed the various parts of the document, showed recent updates, and asked the committee if it had any outstanding questions, comments or concerns about the document. No comments were received from committee members. One member of the public, with assistance from the technical team, suggested a minor edit, which the committee agreed to, related to the GSA showing progress and demonstrating sustainability. The committee provisionally adopted the C&E Plan, understanding it will be revisited at key milestones and, as needed, revised and improved.

GSP Development: Scott Valley Groundwater Basin Setting

Claire Kouba, UC Davis, presented revisions to GSP draft section 2.1 have been made based on comments received to date. She began by providing an outline to the presentation and suggested structure for group conversation:

- Continuous monitoring (still looking for volunteers)
- Updated GSP chapter 2.1 (comments received and gaps to fill)
- Progress on GSP chapter 2.2
- Upcoming sections (sustainable management criteria; introduction to surface water discussions)

Claire fielded a range of questions about monitoring, the hydrogeological conceptual model, the importance of considering both rain and snowfall, among others. The facilitator asked what other questions, comments or other input committee members had on section 2.1. Members put forward the following questions and comments:

- Question: How do we deal with the interconnected zone? There is still uncertainty around this issue. Response: This will be addressed in later chapters of the GSP.

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- General comments/questions around SB88 reporting requirements, especially for groundwater pumping in the adjudicated zone: It is unclear what the reporting practices are. A committee member mentioned that a 1980 SWRCB letter says clearly it is required. For the GSP development it will be important to clarify this issue.
- Question: What are the links between the Scott River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and the Scott Valley GSP? Response: Staff from the North Coast Water Quality Control Board will present this issue at a future committee meeting.
- Comment: Make sure pronouns and acronyms are clear and not confusing.
- Comment: The GSP annotated outline is only a DWR guide. We can add relevant information, work we've done, to make this the GSP unique to Scott Valley. Response: Comment acknowledged. The GSA is attempting to pay attention to and address key elements of various SGMA guidance documents that have been published.
- Comment: Nice well maps. Talk about the number of well maps in the interconnected zone (in and out). It's hard to know which wells are active.
- Request: Dr. Thomas Harter with the local SGMA technical team requested that anyone with knowledge of historical programs related to the Endangered Species Act should be sent to the technical team. He, committee members and others in the room noted a few programs and associated publications, but suggested there is more:
 - CDFW flow report (accepted, on agency's website)
 - Coho Recovery Plan
 - North Coast Integrated Regional Water Management Plan

Janae Scruggs with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) offered to help compile information and send it to Matt Parker. It was also suggested that GSA staff reach out to staff from the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) for additional program information.

A number of public comments on the draft GSP material were received, including:

- Interested parties can educate themselves by reading the SGMA FAQs put out by the State Water Resources Control Board.
- Query made to learn how, if fall rains come late, this impacts Coho salmon and Chinook salmon runs.
- Nice to see annual hydrographs to show variability and links to the Scott river.
- Past work on Incidental Take Permits (ITPs) may have defined water year types, and this could be useful information.

Matt Parker reviewed a comment submission form that committee members and interested members of the public should use to submit comments, questions or suggested edits on the draft GSP section 2.1. Some asked to recreate the form in google drive. Others asked for flexibility, and GSA staff agreed to, in how to submit comments. The facilitator and GSA staff requested that those who could please utilize the comment form moving forward.

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Sustainable Management Criteria

Dr. Harter led the final presentation, reviewing and explaining to the group the concept of sustainable management criteria (SMC) built into SGMA. He used a metaphor of how we monitor and “manage” human health to illustrate how stakeholder driven development of SMCs will allow the GSA and residents in Scott Valley to monitor the health of the local groundwater basin and, as needed, respond to ensure healthy conditions. He noted that discussion and development of SMCs would occupy several meeting agendas in 2020.

MEETING ATTENDEES¹

Advisory Committee Members

Bill Beckwith, Fort Jones (Municipal/City representative)
Drew Braugh, CalTrout, Environmental/Conservation
Brandon Fawaz, Private Pumper (through just part of the meeting)
Jason Finley, Private Pumper
Tom Jopson, Private Pumper
Tom Menne, Scott Valley Irrigation District
Crystal Robinson, Quartz Valley Tribe (Tribal representative)
Michael Stapleton, Residential
Paul Sweezey, Member-at-large

Absent Committee Members

None

District Staff

Matt Parker, County of Siskiyou Natural Resources Specialist

Technical Team

Dr. Laura Foglia, UC Davis/Larry Walker Associates
Claire Kouba, UC Davis/Larry Walker Associates
Dr. Thomas Harter, UC Davis/Larry Walker Associates

Facilitator

Rich Wilson, Sacramento State University – Consensus and Collaboration Program

¹ Approximately 10 members of the public attended the meeting.