



## GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN UPDATE ON DRAFT CHAPTER 3, NOTICE AND COMMUNICATION



**NOV. 4, 2021 | SPECIAL MEETING OF THE TURLOCK SUBBASIN TACS**



**TURLOCK GROUNDWATER**

# WHAT DO THE REGULATIONS SAY?

## GSP REGULATIONS (23 CCR SECTION 354.10)



- Each Plan shall include a summary of information relating to notification and communication by the Agency with other agencies and interested parties including the following:
  - (a) A **description of the beneficial uses and users of groundwater** in the basin, including the land uses and property interests potentially affected by the use of groundwater in the basin, the types of parties representing those interests, and the nature of consultation with those parties.
  - (b) A **list of public meetings** at which the Plan was discussed or considered by the Agency.
  - (c) **Comments regarding the Plan** received by the Agency and a summary of any responses by the Agency.
  - (d) A **communication section of the Plan** that includes the following:
    - (1) An explanation of the Agency's **decision-making process**.
    - (2) Identification of **opportunities for public engagement** and a discussion of **how public input** and response will be used.
    - (3) A description of how the Agency **encourages the active involvement** of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the basin.
    - (4) The method the Agency shall follow to **inform the public about progress implementing the Plan**, including the status of projects and actions.

# WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

## TABLE 3-3: SGMA REQUIREMENTS COMPARED TO COMPLIANCE EFFORTS

Phase of SGMA	Statutory Requirement for Stakeholder Engagement in SGMA	Compliance examples and/or plans to comply
During GSA Formation	"Before electing to be a groundwater sustainability agency... the local agency or agencies shall hold a public hearing" (CA Water Code Sec. 10723 (b)).	Public Hearing held 3/2/17 for WTS GSA; Public Hearing held 3/30/17 for ETS GSA
During GSA Formation	"A list of interested parties [shall be] developed [along with] an explanation of how their interests will be considered" (CA Water Code Sec. 10723.8.(a)(4)).	Interested Parties List (IPL) developed in 2017 and updated regularly throughout GSP development; Ongoing IPL signup available on turlockgroundwater.com
During GSP Development and Implementation	"A groundwater sustainability agency may adopt or amend a groundwater sustainability plan after a public hearing" (CA Water Code Sec. 10728.4).	GSP public hearing noticed on <insert date here> for public hearing held on <insert date here>
During GSP Development and Implementation	"Prior to imposing or increasing a fee, a groundwater sustainability agency shall hold at least one public meeting" (CA Water Code Sec. 10730(b)(1)).	No fees proposed in this GSP; should any 5-year GSP update propose a fee, public meeting(s) will be held in compliance with SGMA.  Note: The ETSGSA imposed a fee through a Prop 218 process, which included a public hearing. That process <a href="#">concluded in August 2021</a> , and was separate from GSP efforts.
During GSP Development and Implementation	"The groundwater sustainability agency shall establish and maintain a list of persons interested in receiving notices regarding plan preparation, meeting announcements, and availability of draft plans, maps, and other relevant documents" (CA Water Code Sec. 10723.4).	Interested Parties List (IPL) developed in 2017 and updated regularly throughout GSP development; Ongoing IPL signup available on turlockgroundwater.com; emails sent to list regularly throughout GSP development and adoption
During GSP Development and Implementation	"Any federally recognized Indian Tribe... may voluntarily agree to participate in the preparation or administration of a groundwater sustainability plan or groundwater management plan... A participating Tribe shall be eligible to participate fully in planning, financing, and management under this part" (CA Water Code Sec. 10720.3(c)).	Submitted Sacred Lands File & Native American Contacts List Request to NAHC in 2021 and results negative; contact lists received from NAHC were queried for interest; analysis of DWR online Water Management Planning Tool for tribal stakeholders
During GSP Development and Implementation	"The groundwater sustainability agency shall make available to the public and the department a written statement describing the manner in which interested parties may participate in the development and implementation of the groundwater sustainability plan" (CA Water Code Sec. 10727.8(a)).	Pursuant to CA Water Code Sec. 10723.2, the WTSGSA and ETSGSA each submitted to DWR a similar IPL; this GSP also outlines to DWR about stakeholder participation opportunities
Throughout SGMA Implementation	"The groundwater sustainability agency shall consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater" (CA Water Code Sec. 10723.2).	Such interests were considered in an ongoing fashion during GSA development, GSP development and GSP adoption. These interests will continue to be considered during GSP implementation.
Throughout SGMA Implementation	"The groundwater sustainability agency shall encourage the active involvement of diverse social, cultural, and economic elements of the population within the groundwater basin" (CA Water Code Sec. 10727.8(a)).	Such involvement was encouraged in an ongoing fashion during GSA development, GSP development (outlined herein) and GSP adoption. These elements will continue to be identified during GSP implementation and encouraged to participate in groundwater management.

# CHAPTER 3 DRAFTING TEAM



- Todd Groundwater
- Turlock Subbasin Ad Hoc Communications Committee
  - Volunteering members of the TAC
  - Sacramento State College of Continuing Education
- Stantec Consulting
  - Several technical items for appendix
    - GSP response to comments
    - Call logs
    - Stakeholder Gap Assessment

# CHAPTER 3 DRAFTING PROCESS



- Todd Groundwater coordinates with Sacramento State College of Continuing Education and Ad Hoc Communications Committee to develop outline
- Sac State develops early narrative based on existing language in Turlock Subbasin Communications Plan
- Ad Hoc Communications Committee makes local refinements/additions
- TACs asked from comments Oct. 22 through Oct. 29
- Updating TAC today
- Will present updated chapter to GSA Boards Nov. 15 seeking authorization to release for public comment



# CHAPTER 3 SECTION CONTENTS



- Beneficial uses and users of groundwater
- **Opportunities for engagement and input**
- Decision making
- Coordination with adjacent subbasins
- Language accessibility



## REFERENCED IN CHAPTER 3



- **Appendix 3-1:** Turlock Subbasin Communications Plan (Communications Plan)
- **Appendix 3-2:** NAHC response regarding Sacred Lands File
- **Appendix 3-3:** List of Meetings Spreadsheet
- **Appendix 3-4:** Examples of Turlock Subbasin Informational Materials
- **Appendix 3-5:** Turlock Groundwater Logo and Branding
- **Appendix 3-6:** Turlock Subbasin Stakeholder Survey Results
- **Appendix 3-7:** Water Leadership Institute promotional flyers
- **Appendix 3-8:** Turlock Subbasin GSP Response to Public Comments

# ONGOING WORK TO BE UPDATED



- Various outreach metrics
- Fall 2021 Stakeholder Gap Analysis
- Documentation of follow up from Native American Heritage Commission August response letter
- Figure 3-2: Timeline of Meetings
- Appendix 3-8: Turlock Subbasin GSP Response to Public Comments
- Email service distribution reports

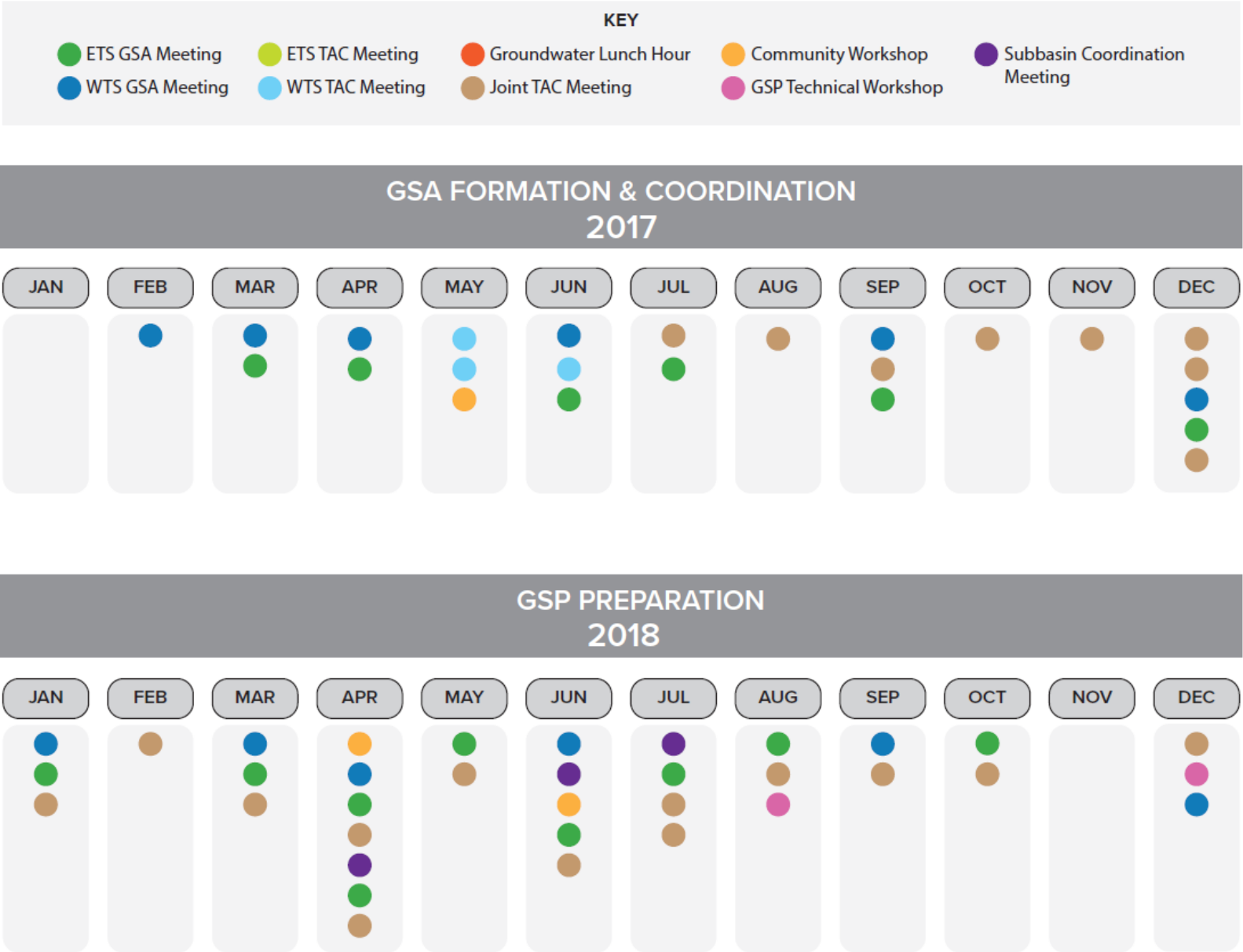


## TABLE 3-4: PUBLIC COMMENT PERIODS

GSP Section	Released for Public Comment	Comments Requested by	Comment Period Length
Chapter 1 – Administrative Information	July 8, 2021	Sept. 1, 2021	55 days
Chapter 2 – Plan Area	July 8, 2021	Sept. 1, 2021	55 days
Chapter 3 – Notice and Communication	Nov. 15, 2021	Dec. 15, 2021	30 days
Chapter 4 – Basin Setting	July 8, 2021	Sept. 1, 2021	55 days
Chapter 5 – Water Budgets	August 30, 2021	Sept. 30, 2021	31 days
Chapter 6 – Sustainable Management Criteria	October 19, 2021	Nov. 19, 2021	31 days
Chapter 7 – Monitoring Networks	October 19, 2021	Nov. 19, 2021	31 days
Chapter 8 – Projects and Management Actions	Nov. 15, 2021	Dec. 15, 2021	30 days
Chapter 9 – Implementation Support Activities	Nov. 15, 2021	Dec. 15, 2021	30 days
References			

*Note: Once released, draft chapters remained posted on the turlockgroundwater.org website and available for comment beyond the “requested by” date for comments. The “requested by” date was used to encourage early comments.*

# FIGURE 3-2: TIMELINE OF COORDINATION AND PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS HELD THROUGHOUT THE GSP DEVELOPMENT PROCESS



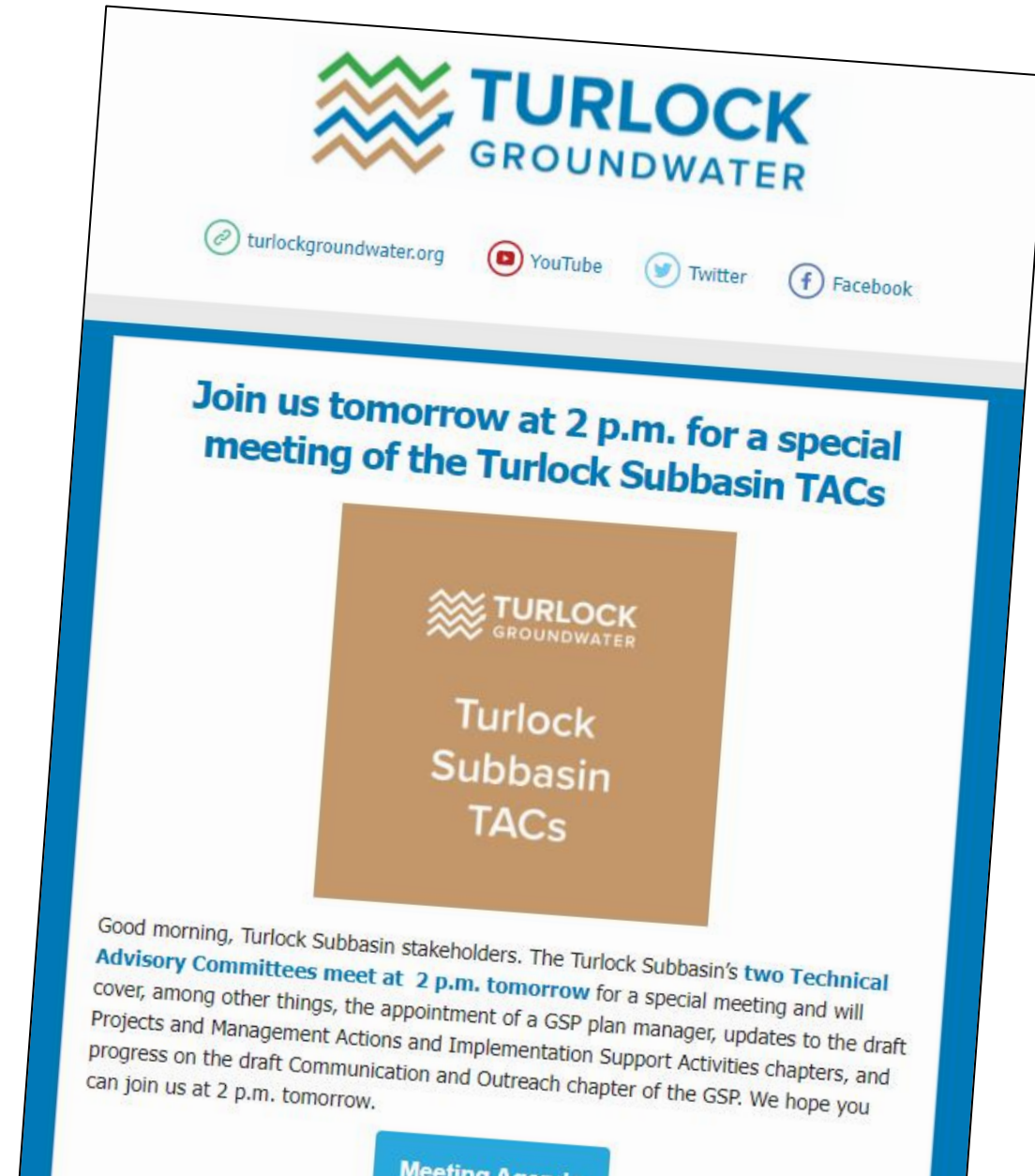
# TABLE 3-2: SUMMARY OF PUBLIC OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Topic	Details
Public Meetings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 5 Community Workshops between April 2018 and Sept. 2020</li> <li>▪ X ETSGSA meetings between March 2017 and date</li> <li>▪ X WTSGSA meetings between Feb. 2017 and date</li> <li>▪ X TACs meetings between April 2017 and date</li> <li>▪ X ETS GSA TAC meetings between March 2021 and date</li> <li>▪ 5 Technical Workshops between August 2018 and Feb. 2020</li> </ul>
Interested Parties List Emails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 369 subscribers</li> <li>▪ X notifications sent between January 2019 and date related to GSP development updates and public meeting notices</li> </ul>
Virtual Office Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ X Events between Nov. 2020 and date</li> </ul>
Stakeholder Surveys	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ June 2017 Survey               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 14 respondents</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ July 2020 Survey               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 37 respondents</li> <li>○ Bilingual outreach mechanism to inform GSP planning processes</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <a href="http://Turlockgroundwater.org">Turlockgroundwater.org</a></li> <li>▪ Launched in 2017. Re-branded and design updated in 2019</li> <li>▪ Since 2017 launch through August 20, 2021               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 5,400 visits</li> <li>○ 14,000 page views</li> <li>○ 3,400 unique visitors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Social Media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/TurlockSubbasin">@TurlockSubbasin</a></li> <li>▪ Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/TurlockGroundwater">@TurlockGroundwater</a></li> <li>▪ YouTube: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/TurlockGroundwater">Turlock Groundwater</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 16 subscribers to channel</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Selected Digital Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Turlock Subbasin Fact Sheet (English) <a href="#">link</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Published February 2020</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Turlock Subbasin Fact Sheet (Spanish) <a href="#">link</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Published February 2020</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Bill Insert (English and Spanish) <a href="#">link</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Published April 2020</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Joint Modesto and Turlock Subbasin Fact Sheet <a href="#">link</a> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Published April 2021</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Video	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “SGMA in the Turlock Subbasin” video developed in English (<a href="#">link</a>) and Spanish (<a href="#">link</a>) in February 2020               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ English version has 632 views; Spanish version has 61 views</li> <li>○ Shown at public meetings</li> <li>○ Shared with other agencies</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
Virtual Water Leadership Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ 15-week Institute ran April 21 to July 28, 2021</li> <li>▪ Nine program graduates</li> </ul>

# COMMUNICATION TOOLS: THE HIGHLIGHTS



- Public meetings
  - 180 meetings alone through Aug. 2021
- Website
  - Since 2017 launch through August 20, 2021
    - 5,400 visits
    - 14,000 page views
    - 3,400 unique visitors
- E-mails to Interested Parties List
  - 369 subscribers
  - 126 separate notifications sent between January 2019 and date related to GSP development updates and public meeting notices
- Digital Resources and handouts
  - Fact Sheets and Bill Inserts
- Social Media
  - YouTube: 16 subscribers; 70 videos
  - Countless Twitter and Facebook posts



# OTHER ITEMS IN CHAPTER 3



- Tribal stakeholders and Disadvantaged Areas
- Logo and branding efforts
- Water Leadership Institute
- Governance Structure and decision making

