

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GSA TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE
EAST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GSA TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

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IMPORTANT NOTICE: DUE TO THE ONGOING COVID-19 CRISIS AND PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20, THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL WITHOUT A PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISH TO PROVIDE COMMENT OR OBSERVE THE MEETING ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN THE CONFERENCE CALL.

AGENDA

Regular Meeting

2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 28, 2021

The public is invited to comment upon any item appearing on the agenda at the time it is being considered.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Secretary at (209) 668-5340. This Committee is committed to taking all reasonable measures to provide access to its meetings and facilities. Please allow sufficient time for the Committee to process and respond to your request. If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet may be made available in alternate formats to individuals that qualify for such accommodations.

NOTICE REGARDING NON-ENGLISH PARTICIPATION: Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Technical Advisory Committee meetings are conducted in English and translation to other languages can be provided when requested ahead of time. Given advance notice, the Turlock Subbasin GSA TACs will make every effort to provide an interpreter. Please call (209) 668-5340 to request an interpreter for this meeting; or feel free to bring one of your own choosing.

MEETING MATERIALS: Prior to the meeting, meeting materials will be available online at turlockgroundwater.org. Materials related to an item on this agenda submitted to the Committees after distribution of the agenda packet will also be made available for public inspection via the same channels.

1. WELCOME / MEETING PROCEDURES

2. IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICIPANTS

3. CALL TO ORDER

Seven agency representatives from the West Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC are needed for a quorum.
Three agency representatives from the East Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC are needed for a quorum.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. January 14, 2021 Special Meeting:

- **Action:** approve or amend by the West Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC
- **Action:** approve or amend by the East Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC

5. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION –This is the time set aside for members of the public to directly address the Technical Advisory Committee on any item of interest to the public that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Technical Advisory Committee and to address the Technical Advisory Committee on any item on the posted agenda. You will be allowed five (5) minutes for your comments. If you wish to

speak regarding an item on the agenda, you may be asked to defer your remarks until the Technical Advisory Committee addresses the matter. No action or discussion may be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda.

6. BUDGET

- Michael Clipper, Treasurer of the West Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), will present an overview of current and future expenditures and revenues for the West Turlock GSA. *Michael Clipper*
- An overview of the East Turlock Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) current and future expenditures and revenues for the East Turlock GSA will be presented. *East Turlock GSA*

7. STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTERESTS, FORM 700

Valerie Kincaid, General Counsel

8. STAKEHOLDER SURVEY UPDATE

The TAC will receive a report on the responses from the Turlock Subbasin Stakeholder Survey that was developed in 2020, and discuss plans for the survey in 2021. *Herb Smart, Turlock Irrigation District*

9. SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT CRITERIA – PROPOSED FRAMEWORK – CHRONIC LOWERING OF WATER LEVELS

Phyllis Stanin, Todd Groundwater

10. SGMA RELATED UPDATES

This is an opportunity for TAC members to discuss and provide updates on issues related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. A list of topics could include, but are not limited to the items below. No action will be taken.

- Public Outreach Update – *Herb Smart, Turlock Irrigation District*
- Grant Update – *Debbie Montalbano, Turlock Irrigation District*
- GSP Schedule – *Phyllis Stanin, Todd Groundwater*
- Lessons from Critically Overdrafted Subbasin GSPs – *Lacey McBride, WTS GSA TAC Vice Chair & Phyllis Stanin, Todd Groundwater*

11. NEXT MEETING

The next special meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 11, 2021.

12. ADJOURNMENT

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE WEST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE EAST TURLOCK SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2:00 p.m., Thursday, January 14, 2021

Meeting materials and recording can be found at the following link:

<https://turlockgroundwater.org/events/special-meeting-of-the-turlock-subbasin-technical-advisory-committees-1>

IMPORTANT NOTICE: DUE TO THE ONGOING COVID-19 CRISIS AND PURSUANT TO EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20, THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA CONFERENCE CALL WITHOUT A PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WHO WISHED TO PROVIDE COMMENT OR OBSERVE THE MEETING WERE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN THE CONFERENCE CALL.

- 1) **WELCOME / MEETING PROCEDURES** – Herb Smart (Turlock Irrigation District) provided a brief presentation and explanation regarding conference call procedures.
- 2) **IDENTIFICATION OF PARTICIPANTS** – Michael Cooke, WTS GSA TAC Chair, took a roll call of meeting participants to include members and the public.
- 3) **CALL TO ORDER** – The meeting of the ETS GSA TAC was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Kevin Kauffman, ETS GSA TAC Chair. The WTS GSA TAC was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Michael Cooke, WTS GSA TAC Chair.

WTS GSA TAC MEMBERS PRESENT	ETS GSA TAC MEMBERS PRESENT
Michael Cooke – WTS GSA TAC Chair Michael Clipper – WTS GSA TAC Treasurer Karen Morgan – City of Ceres David Odom – Denair Community Services District Brody Patterson – Merced County Herb Smart – Turlock Irrigation District Debbie Montalbano – Turlock Irrigation District Brandon McMillan – Turlock Irrigation District Walt Ward – Stanislaus County Allison Martin – City Of Turlock Lea Simvoulakis, City of Hughson Leandro Maldonado – Delhi County Water District Michelle Harris – Keyes Community Services District Miguel Alvarez – City of Modesto	Kevin Kauffman – ETS GSA TAC Chair Brody Patterson – Merced County Dennis Yotsuya – Ballico-Cortez Water District Walt Ward – Stanislaus County

4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

WTS GSA TAC MOTION: City of Ceres (K. Morgan) moved, City of Turlock (A. Martin) seconded, that the minutes from the December 17, 2020 special meeting be approved. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

ETS GSA TAC MOTION: Ballico-Cortez Water District (D. Yotsuya) moved, Stanislaus County (W. Ward) seconded, that the minutes from the December 17, 2020 special meeting be approved. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

5) PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Milt Treiweiler addressed the Technical Advisory Committees.

6) BUDGET

Michael Clipper, WTS GSA TAC Treasurer, provided a brief report on the current bank account balance and pending invoices. No action was taken.

Kevin Kauffman, ETS GSA TAC Chair, provided a brief report on the current bank account balance and pending invoices. No action was taken.

7) LETTER OF SUPPORT

Debbie Montalbano (Turlock Irrigation District) discussed recommending the GSAs provide a letter of support to the East Stanislaus Resource Conservation District for their grant application to fund a Watershed Coordinator. A draft letter from the ETS GSA TAC & WTS GSA TAC Chairs was presented for review by the TACs. It was discussed that this is simply a letter of support and would provide an opportunity for information sharing, however it does not require a financial obligation from any of the member agencies.

WTS & ETS GSA TAC JOINT MOTION: Eastside Water District (K. Kauffman, ETS GSA TAC Chair) moved, City of Ceres (K. Morgan) seconded, that the TACs recommend a letter of support signed by the Chairs of the ETS and WTS GSA TACs to the East Stanislaus Resource Conservation District regarding a grant application to fund a Watershed Coordinator. There was no opposition from either the ETS GSA TAC or the WTS GSA TAC. The Chairs declared the joint motion carried.

8) GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN DEVELOPMENT

Phyllis Stanin (Todd Groundwater) presented the TACs with information on the Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water Sustainability Indicator, Potential Groundwater Dependent Ecosystems (GDEs), both Vegetative and Wetland areas, and GSP requirements for Monitoring Interconnected Surface Water.

SGMA defines “undesirable results” for this indicator as, “Depletions of interconnected surfaced water that have significant and unreasonable adverse impacts on beneficial uses of the surface water,” CWC Section 10721(x)(6). The Regulatory definition of Interconnected surface water is “surface water that is hydraulically connected at any point by a continuous saturated zone to the underlying aquifer and the overlying surface water is not completely depleted.”

Historical water budgets show that the Tuolumne and San Joaquin Rivers were net gaining streams and Merced River was a slightly losing stream, on average. Projected Future Baseline suggests that the Tuolumne will transition to a slightly losing stream and the Merced River loss will increase. However, results of the baseline modeling assume that current conditions are projected into the future without any additional management actions or projects to mitigate impacts, allow for an analysis of potential impacts to help frame the Undesirable Results definition, and determine projects and management actions.

The Interconnected Surface Water Sustainable Management Criteria Minimum Threshold (MT) is the rate or volume of surface water depletions caused by groundwater use that has adverse impacts on surface water beneficial uses and may lead to undesirable results. The MT is supported by location, quantity, and timing of interconnected surface water depletions, and the description of the groundwater and surface water model used to quantify surface water depletion. Water levels can be used as a proxy to the volume or rate of depletion by identifying groundwater elevation monitoring sites where a correlation between water level and volume/rate of depletion can be demonstrated, or by demonstrating that the Minimum

Threshold for chronic lowering of water levels is sufficiently protective of surface water. There was some discussion as to whether or not the GSAs would want to use a proxy for this Sustainable Management Criteria.

Next Steps for the TACs include:

- Coordinate with surface water rights holders on potential impacts
- Define targets for preliminary analysis of sustainable yield
- Select sustainable management criteria for sustainability indicators
- Develop projects and management actions to address any potential undesirable results
- Develop monitoring program for the Groundwater Sustainability Plan and future analysis

9) SGMA RELATED UPDATES

This is an opportunity for TAC members to discuss and provide updates on issues related to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. A list of topics could include, but are not limited to the items below. No action will be taken.

- Herb Smart (Turlock Irrigation District) provided the TACs with a public outreach update:
 - Two Groundwater Lunch Hours have been held to date. The next Lunch Hour is scheduled for January 29th, 2021.
 - The Modesto and Turlock Subbasins will be collaborating on a joint factsheet, which will be provided to the TACs for input.
 - A Water Budget video is in development.
 - If any presentations or outreach are done for individual agencies or councils regarding SGMA or the GSP, please let Debbie Montalbano (Turlock Irrigation District) or Herb Smart know so that the can information be submitted as part of the GSP.
- Debbie Montalbano (Turlock Irrigation District) provided a Round 3 Grant and GRAT update to the TACs:
 - Locations for the installation of monitoring wells have been identified by the ETS GSA. The WTS GSA has identified two potential locations and is pursuing a third location.
 - The California Environmental Quality Act Notice of Exemption has been posted at the County and on the www.turlockgroundwater.org website for the installation of monitoring wells.
 - The GRAT Tool is still in development. Analysis has been done on the Groundwater Recharge Suitability Index. The GRAT team will be reaching out to the agencies for data and projects to be included.
 - A project schedule is in development to ensure the deadline for GSP completion and submittal is met. A draft schedule will be brought to the TACs in the near future.

10) NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 28, 2021.

11) ADJOURNMENT

WTS GSA MOTION: Delhi County Water District (L. Maldonado) moved, City of Modesto (M. Alvarez) seconded, that the meeting be adjourned at 3:33 p.m. All voted in favor with none opposed. The Chair declared the motion carried.

ETS GSA MOTION: Ballico-Cortez Water District (D. Yotsuya) moved, that the meeting be adjourned at 3:33 p.m. The Chair declared the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted:

Tara Rodriguez
Acting Secretary, West Turlock Subbasin GSA TAC

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