

**CGA Board of Directors Special Meeting Agenda
Packet**

November 8, 2022

Colusa Groundwater Authority Board of Directors

1213 Market Street, Colusa, CA 95932 | 530-458-0891 | www.colusagroundwater.org

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

November 8, 2022 | 11:00 A.M.

Colusa Industrial Properties, 100 Sunrise Blvd., Colusa, CA 95932

Alternative meeting location(s):

365 Ruggieri Way, Williams, CA 95987

547 Market Street, Colusa, CA 95932

975 Wilson Bend Road, Grimes, CA 95950

344 East Laurel Street, Willows, CA 95988

Board members and members of the public may attend this meeting in person or through

RingCentral meetings: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/j/1451770890>

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Meeting ID: 145 177 0890

International numbers available: <https://meetings.ringcentral.com/teleconference>

** Indicates action item*

1. Call To Order and Determination of Quorum

- a. Roll Call of Directors and Alternates
- b. Introductions of others in attendance

2. Period Of Public Comment

At this time, members of the public may address the CGA Board regarding items that are not on the agenda but are of relevance to the CGA. The Board may not act on items not on the agenda.

3. 2022/2023 Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 Grant Application

- a. Receive recommendation from CGA/GGA TAC on project prioritization for the 2022/2023 Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant application
- b. **Approve Colusa Subbasin Project List to be used in developing the SGM Round 2 grant application*
- c. **Discussion and determination of the agency to serve as the grant applicant for the Colusa Subbasin SGM Round 2 grant application*
- d. **Approve Grant Applicant or Supporting GSA Resolution Authorizing Preparation and Submittal of a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Round 2 Funding Application to the California Department of Water Resources for the Colusa Groundwater Subbasin*

4. **Request for Qualifications for Groundwater Sustainability Agency Data Review, Fee Analysis, and Rate Setting Services**
 - a. Discussion of CGA and GGA RFQ processes and potential opportunities for a coordinated approach
 - b. *Approve CGA Long Term Funding Ad Hoc Committee recommendation to select Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers for Groundwater Sustainability Agency Data Review, Fee Analysis, and Rate Setting Services and pursue a coordinated effort

5. **Closed Session**

Gov't Code 54956.9 – Conference with Legal Counsel – existing litigation *Aqualliance et al. v. Colusa Groundwater Authority, Glenn Groundwater Authority* Colusa County Superior Court – Case Number CV24584

Aqualliance et al. v. Biggs-West Gridley Water District, et al.
Butte County Superior Court – Case Number 22CV00348

6. **Report out of Closed Session**

7. **Member Reports and Comments**

8. **Next Meeting:** November 22, 2022

9. **Adjourn**

A complete agenda packet, including back-up information, is available for inspection during normal business hours at 1213 Market Street, Colusa, CA 95932. The full agenda packet can also be found on the CGA website: <https://colusagroundwater.org>.

In compliance with the Americans with Disability Act, if you require special accommodation to participate in CGA Board or Subcommittee meetings, please contact the Colusa Groundwater Authority Program Manager at 650-587-7300, extension 17, prior to any meeting and arrangements will be made to accommodate you.

CGA Board of Directors Special Meeting

November 8, 2022 | 11:00 a.m.

AGENDA SUPPORT MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM 3: 2022/2023 Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 Grant Application

3a. Receive recommendation from CGA/GGA TAC on project prioritization for the 2022/2023 Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant application.

3b. *Approve Colusa Subbasin Project List to be used in developing the SGM Round 2 grant application.

For the past several months, the CGA and GGA Joint Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) has been working to review, solicit and prioritize projects for inclusion in an application for the State Department of Water Resources (DWR) upcoming Sustainable Groundwater Management Round 2 grant opportunity. The joint TAC scored the list of projects from the Colusa Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and also received several new proposed projects in a recent project solicitation.

At the October 14 meeting of the Joint TAC, the committee members continued to review and prioritize proposed projects for consideration in the grant application. GGA and CGA staff had provided additional review and organization of the project list, grouping them by component and identifying **project eligibility, funding need, readiness to begin, and time needed for completion. The joint TAC provided direction to staff to prioritize projects for the Round 2 grant application, targeting projects with quantifiable benefits in areas of most significant subsidence (i.e., Orland and Arbuckle areas) as well as areas of domestic well impacts.** Based on the joint TAC direction as well as grant criteria (including ability to complete project by June 30, 2026), staff has further refined the project list and is now working with the selected grant writing consultant (Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers) to prepare a recommended final list of proposed projects for inclusion in the grant application.

The proposed projects are grouped by component. The *“SGMA Compliance Activities”* component includes tasks such as Annual Reports, five-year GSP updates, addressing DWR comments on the 2022 GSP, Stakeholder Outreach, and fee studies. These activities are necessary and would otherwise need to be funded by the GSAs’ revenue.

The component *“Address Data Gaps, Monitoring Networks, and Data Enhancements”* includes projects that will enhance understanding of the Colusa Subbasin and support decision making, future policies, compliance activities, and outreach.

The *“Project and Management Actions Implementation”* component includes proposed groundwater management projects, especially those that enhance or facilitate groundwater recharge. This may include one or more feasibility studies.

In preparing the grant application, various tasks may be included under the different components or projects, such as inter-basin coordination, stakeholder outreach and project administration. Other tasks that will be woven into components include model updates, monitoring network improvements, data gaps around interconnected surface water and groundwater dependent ecosystems, and land subsidence studies.

Some components may be combined or portions of components may be split into individual components. This will be accomplished during application strategy discussions with the grant writing team and during project development discussions with project sponsors.

The Project List is still a work in progress. Project sponsors will be responsible for providing all necessary data, descriptions, budget, schedule, and Resolutions related to the project, and information received from project proponents will help further identify those projects best suited for the application. Projects must also be deemed competitive based on DWR's scoring criteria to be included in the final application. Applications must be submitted to DWR no later than November 30, 2022.

RECOMMENDATION:

Pursuant to direction from the joint TAC, staff recommends that the CGA and GGA Boards approve the Colusa Subbasin Project List to be used in developing the SGM Round 2 grant application.

ATTACHMENTS:

- LSCE SGMA Round 2 Grant presentation
- Colusa Subbasin Project List

3c. * Discussion and determination of the agency to serve as the grant applicant for the Colusa Subbasin SGM Round 2 grant application.

The SGMA Round 2 grant opportunity limits applications to one per basin or subbasin, regardless of the number of Groundwater Sustainability Agencies involved in its management. The CGA and GGA Boards should determine which GSA will serve as the grant applicant to submit the application on behalf of the Colusa Subbasin. If funding is awarded, the grant applicant will be the agency to enter into an agreement with State.

CGA served as the grant applicant for the previous SGMA planning grant. That grant is nearly completed, with a final report to be submitted before the end of the year.

UPDATE: The GGA Board held a special meeting on October 31, 2022, and took action to serve as the grant applicant.

RECOMMENDATION:

The CGA Board should determine which GSA will serve as the grant applicant and consider GGA's action on October 31 to serve as grant applicant.

3d. * Approve Grant Applicant or Supporting GSA Resolution Authorizing Preparation and Submittal of a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Round 2 Funding Application to the California Department of Water Resources for the Colusa Groundwater Subbasin in Colusa and Glenn Counties, CA.

RECOMMENDATION:

The GSA that will serve as the applicant for the SGMA Round 2 grant application should approve Resolution XXX Authorizing Preparation and Submittal of a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Round 2 Funding Application to the California Department of Water Resources for the Colusa Groundwater Subbasin in Colusa and Glenn Counties, CA. GGA has already taken action to serve as grant applicant and has adopted the Grant Applicant Resolution.

The GSA that does not serve as grant applicant should support the grant application for the Colusa Subbasin by adopting Resolution XX Supporting Preparation and Submittal of a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Round 2 Funding Application to the California Department of Water Resources for the Colusa Groundwater Subbasin in Colusa and Glenn Counties, CA. The CGA Board may wish to consider adopting the Supporting GSA Resolution.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Resolution XX Authorizing Preparation and Submittal of a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Round 2 Funding Application to the California Department of Water Resources for the Colusa Groundwater Subbasin in Colusa and Glenn Counties, CA.
- Resolution XX Supporting Preparation and Submittal of a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Round 2 Funding Application to the California Department of Water Resources for the Colusa Groundwater Subbasin in Colusa and Glenn Counties, CA.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Grant Program

October 31, 2022

Jacques DeBra & Eddy Teasdale (LSCE)



Maintaining and Achieving Sustainability Requires Action

- ▶ Action is required to address declining groundwater levels in the subbasin
- ▶ Action will also be required to continue to comply with SGMA (Annual Reports, Monitoring, Addressing Data Gaps, upcoming 5-year update)
- ▶ Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program is an opportunity to obtain state funding to support some of these actions and activities



Colusa Groundwater Authority &
Clatsop Groundwater Authority
Colusa Subbasin Groundwater
Sustainability Plan
FINAL REPORT - DECEMBER 2021



October 2022



SGM Grant Program Overview

- ▶ DWR is administering the Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program
- ▶ Final Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) were released in December 2021
- ▶ Two rounds of grant solicitations.
 - ▶ Round 1 – funds were awarded spring 2022 for Critically Overdrafted Basins ~\$150 million
 - ▶ **Round 2- solicitation opened October 4, 2022. Deadline: November 30, 2022**
 - ▶ **Grant awards will be: Minimum** – \$1 million per basin; **Maximum**– \$20 million per basin
- ▶ Only one application will be accepted per basin/subbasin
- ▶ Eligible expenses incurred back to October 4, 2022 can be reimbursed

October 2022



SGM Grant Program

- ▶ Applicable projects fall under 6 broad categories:
 - ▶ Groundwater recharge projects: feasibility studies, permitting, construction
 - ▶ Groundwater contamination cleanup
 - ▶ Projects that promote water supply reliability or water use efficiency
 - ▶ Hydrogeological investigations, monitoring networks and filling data gaps
 - ▶ Revisions, updates, or modifications to GSPs, including modeling and water budgets
 - ▶ Outreach and interbasin coordination

Projects should have a clear scope and goals to support sustainability per the Groundwater Sustainability Plan

October 2022



Proposed Criteria

- ▶ Consider criteria that reflect Grant Program Preferences and Application Evaluation Criteria to maximize score
 - ▶ Achieves basin-wide or broad benefits
 - ▶ Achieves benefits in “areas of concern” (with emphasis on water levels and subsidence)
 - ▶ Directly benefits SDACs, Underrepresented Communities
 - ▶ Positively impacts small water systems, domestic well users
 - ▶ Has potential for cost-sharing by and among beneficiaries
 - ▶ Level of development (able to fully address DWR’s review questions in sufficient detail; emphasis on “shove ready” projects)
 - ▶ Has quantifiable benefits (with supporting information)

October 2022



Application Evaluation Criteria (28 pts total)

- ▶ Project description and benefits: up to 26 pts (87% of total)
 - ▶ Scores of all projects evaluated separately and averaged -> ***critical that all projects have strong supporting information***
 - ▶ Equal emphasis on:
 - ▶ General project background (14 pts)
 - ▶ Address Human Right to Water, Underrepresented Communities, SDACs, small water systems/domestic well users (12 pts)
- ▶ Remaining points for budget (1 pts) and schedule (1 pt)

October 2022



Grant Program Schedule

- ▶ Application due November 30, 2022
- ▶ Draft Award List Posted for Public Review – May 2023
- ▶ Final Award List Posted – August 2023
- ▶ Execute Agreements – September- November 2023

- ▶ Project completion by June 30, 2026, which means the projects need to be completed and any reports or results finalized before then.

Colusa Subbasin SGM Round 2 Project List

Component #	Grant Component	Grant Amount Requested
1	Grant Administration	
2	SGMA Compliance Activities	\$ 1,200,000
3	Address Data Gaps, Monitoring Networks, and Data Enhancements	\$ 2,240,000
4	Data Management System Implementation	\$ 250,000
5	Projects and Management Action Implementation (Recharge Focused)	\$ 16,000,000
	Orland-Artois Water District (OAWD) Land Annexation and Groundwater Recharge	
	Sycamore Slough Reconnection and Recharge	
	GCID Groundwater Recharge Project	
	Tehama-Colusa Canal Trickle Flow to Ephemeral Streams	
	Colusa County Water District (CCWD) In-Lieu Groundwater Recharge	
	Colusa Drain MWC (CDMWC) In-Lieu Groundwater Recharge	
	Sycamore Marsh Farm Direct Recharge Project	
	Sycamore Marsh Farm In-lieu Recharge Project	
	Sycamore Slough Colusa Basin Drain Multi-Benefit Recharge Project	
	Spring Valley and Sycamore Multi-Benefit Recharge Project	
Total		\$ 19,690,000

RESOLUTION NO. XX

A RESOLUTION FOR THE GRANT APPLICANT FOR AUTHORIZING PREPARATION AND SUBMITTAL OF A SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA) IMPLEMENTATION ROUND 2 FUNDING APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR THE COLUSA GROUNDWATER SUBBASIN IN COLUSA AND GLENN COUNTIES, CA.

WHEREAS, effective January 1, 2015, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act ("SGMA") established a framework of priorities and requirements to facilitate sustainable groundwater management throughout the State of California; and

WHEREAS, the stated purpose of SGMA, as set forth in California Water Code Section 10720.1, is to provide for the sustainable management of groundwater basins and subbasins, as defined by DWR, at a local level by providing local water supply, water management and land use agencies with the authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater; and

WHEREAS, the Colusa Groundwater Authority and Glenn Groundwater Authority (GSAs) were established in June 2017 with the stated purpose of developing and implementing a Sustainable Groundwater Management Plan for the Colusa Subbasin (5-021.52) including boundary modifications subsequently approved by DWR to promote the local, sustainable management of groundwater supplies; and

WHEREAS, the SGMA requires the Colusa Subbasin be managed under a GSP by no later than January 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Colusa Subbasin submitted its adopted GSP to DWR by the January 31, 2022 submittal deadline; and,

WHEREAS, the Colusa Subbasin is now pursuing GSP implementation funding from the SGMA Implementation Round 2 funding cycle through DWR with applications due by November 30, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, on <date, 2022, by Resolution No. 2022-XX, the Supporting GSA approved a resolution authorizing the Grant Applicant to prepare and submit a grant application for the benefit of the Colusa Subbasin to DWR for the Sustainable Groundwater Planning ("SGWP") Grant Program, in an amount up to \$20,000,000; and should the Grant be awarded, authorizing the Program Manager or designee to execute and submit all necessary documents for the Grant process and to allocate and expend the approved funds in collaboration with the Supporting GSA as specified in the awarded Grant Application; and

WHEREAS, the Colusa Subbasin is authorized to prepare a complete SGMA Implementation Round 2 Application, with review by the Board for submittal to DWR that is consistent with DWR Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) documentation, as well as its adopted GSP goals, objectives and priority actions.

WHEREAS, the Grant Applicant is acting as the lead agency for the Colusa Subbasin on behalf of the Supporting GSA per the Supporting GSA's adopted resolution on October XX, 2022 authorizing the Grant Applicant to prepare and submit a Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) Implementation Round 2 Funding Application to DWR on its behalf that includes consideration of projects and actions deemed to be a priority for the Colusa Groundwater Authority and Glenn Groundwater Authority members; and

WHEREAS, the SGMA grant program application requires submittal of a Resolution adopted by the Grant Applicant authorizing a representative to enter into an agreement with the State of California to receive grant funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Grant Applicant does hereby:

1. Find that the recited facts are true and that it has the jurisdiction to consider, approve, and adopt this Resolution.
2. Resolve that an application be made to the Department of Water Resources to obtain a grant under the 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program SGMA Implementation Grant pursuant to the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Pub. Resources Code, § 80000, et seq.) and the California Budget Acts of 2021 and 2022.
3. Be it further resolved that the **Grant Applicant** has the authority to act on behalf of the **Supporting GSA** and shall enter into a funding agreement with the Department of Water Resources to receive a grant for the Colusa Subbasin GSP Implementation.
4. The **Program Manager of the Grant Applicant**, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, prepare and file such application, execute a grant funding agreement and any future amendments thereto, submit invoices, and submit any reporting requirements with the Department of Water Resources.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the **Grant Applicant** Board of Directors at a regular meeting held on the _____ by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

RECUSE:

Authorized Original Signature:

Printed Name:

Title:

Clerk/Secretary:

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the **Grant Applicant** held on **<Insert date>**.

Clerk/Secretary: _____

THE FOLLOWING IS A CAUTION FROM DWR ABOUT THE LANGUAGE OF THE RESOLUTION (NOT FOR INCLUSION IN THE RESOLUTION):

DWR highly recommends you follow this language verbatim to ensure that the resolution is sufficient to execute an agreement, execute future amendments (if required), submit invoices, and submit all reporting requirements. Any deviation from this template may result in a delay in executing the Agreement and beginning the Project.

RESOLUTION NO. XX

AUTHORIZING PREPARATION AND SUBMITTAL OF A SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT ACT (SGMA) IMPLEMENTATION ROUND 2 FUNDING APPLICATION TO THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES FOR THE COLUSA GROUNDWATER SUBBASIN IN COLUSA AND GLENN COUNTIES, CA

WHEREAS, in August 2014, the California Legislature passed, and in September 2014 the Governor signed, legislation creating the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (“SGMA”) “to provide local groundwater sustainability agencies with the authority and technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater” (Wat. Code, § 10720, (d)); and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires sustainable management through the development of groundwater sustainability plans (“GSPs”), which can be a single plan developed by one or more groundwater sustainability agencies (“GSAs”) or multiple coordinated plans within a basin or subbasin (Wat. Code, § 10727); and

WHEREAS, SGMA requires a GSA be formed to manage groundwater in all basins designated by the California Department of Water Resources (“DWR”) as a medium or high priority, including the Colusa Subbasin; and

WHEREAS, Colusa Groundwater Authority and Glenn Groundwater Authority were formed as GSAs for the purposes of sustainably managing groundwater in the Colusa Subbasin within their jurisdictional boundaries, pursuant to the requirements of SGMA; and

WHEREAS, the GSAs have the authority to draft, adopt, and implement a GSP (Wat. Code, § 10725 *et seq.*); and

WHEREAS, in June 2017, the GSAs agreed to collaborate within the Colusa Subbasin for the purpose of jointly developing a single GSP for the Colusa Subbasin and coordinating sustainable groundwater management in the Subbasin (Wat. Code, §10727(a)(2)); and

WHEREAS, the Colusa Subbasin submitted its adopted the Colusa Subbasin GSP to DWR by the January 31, 2022 submittal deadline; and,

WHEREAS, the Colusa Subbasin is now pursuing GSP implementation funding from the SGMA Implementation Round 2 funding cycle through DWR with applications due by November 30, 2022; and,

WHEREAS, the **Colusa Subbasin is authorized** to prepare a complete SGMA Implementation Round 2 Application, with review by the GSA Boards, for submittal to DWR that is consistent with DWR Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (“PSP”) documentation, as well as its adopted GSP goals, objectives and priority actions.

WHEREAS, the **Grant Applicant** is acting as the lead agency for the Subbasin per the Agreements on behalf of the **Supporting GSA** to complete the SGMA grant program application for GSP implementation for the Colusa Subbasin and to enter into an agreement with the State of California to receive grant funding.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the **Supporting GSA** Board of Directors does hereby:

1. Find that the recited facts are true and that it has the jurisdiction to consider, approve, and adopt this Resolution.
2. Resolve that an application be made to the Department of Water Resources to obtain a grant under the 2021 Sustainable Groundwater Management (SGM) Grant Program SGMA Implementation Grant pursuant to the California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All Act of 2018 (Pub. Resources Code, § 80000, et seq.) and the California Budget Acts of 2021 and 2022.
3. Be it further resolved that the **Grant Applicant** has the authority on behalf of the **Supporting GSA** and shall enter into a funding agreement with the Department of Water Resources to receive a grant for the Colusa Subbasin GSP Implementation.
4. The **Program Manager of the Grant Applicant**, or designee, is hereby authorized and directed to prepare the necessary data, conduct investigations, prepare and file such application, execute a grant funding agreement and any future amendments thereto, submit invoices, and submit any reporting requirements with the Department of Water Resources.

PASSED, APPROVED, AND ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2022
by the following vote:

AYES:
NAYS:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

Chairman

Attest:

, Secretary

Date: _____

CERTIFICATION

I do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the **Supporting GSA** held on **<Insert date>**.

Clerk/Secretary: _____

THE FOLLOWING IS A CAUTION FROM DWR ABOUT THE LANGUAGE OF THE RESOLUTION (NOT FOR INCLUSION IN THE RESOLUTION):

DWR highly recommends you follow this language verbatim to ensure that the resolution is sufficient to execute an agreement, execute future amendments (if required), submit invoices, and submit all reporting requirements. Any deviation from this template may result in a delay in executing the Agreement and beginning the Project.

DRAFT

CGA Board of Directors Special Meeting

November 8, 2022 | 11:00 a.m.

AGENDA SUPPORT MATERIALS

AGENDA ITEM 4: Request for Qualifications for Groundwater Sustainability Agency Data Review, Fee Analysis, and Rate Setting Services

4a. Discussion on CGA and GGA RFQ processes and potential opportunities for a coordinated approach.

CGA and GGA both recently issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) for GSA Data Review, Fee Analysis and Rate Setting Services. GGA and CGA both received Statements of Qualifications (SOQ) from three highly qualified consultant teams, as follows:

- SCI Consulting Group/Larry Walker Associates
- Lechowicz and Tseng/Provost & Pritchard
- Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers

GGA also received a fourth SOQ from an additional qualified consultant, Raftelis.

The RFQ identified specific requirements to be provided in each SOQ; these included various Submission Requirements as well as the qualifications for each respondent. The RFQ also provided Evaluation Criteria to evaluate each submittal, as follows:

1. Experience and demonstrated competence of the identified key areas of service outlined in the Qualifications section of the RFP,
2. Reference recommendations,
3. Comprehensive consultant fee schedule, and
4. Thoroughness of submission.

The ad hoc Funding committees for CGA and GGA met jointly on October 6, 2022, to review the proposals received, discuss the potential for a coordinated approach to contracting for the study, and select consultant candidates for interview. The joint ad hoc committee selected the firms of SCI Consulting Group/Larry Walker Associates and Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) for further consideration. The two consultant teams were also asked to provide information on how the two GSAs might coordinate work on their rate studies to create efficiencies and reduce overall project costs.

On October 25, the two ad hoc Funding committees jointly conducted interviews with the two selected candidates, and both committees unanimously recommended that the CGA and GGA boards consider accepting the proposal(s) from LSCE.

4 b. *Approve CGA Long Term Funding Ad Hoc Committee recommendation to select Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers for Groundwater Sustainability Agency Data Review, Fee Analysis, and Rate Setting Services and pursue a coordinated effort

As originally requested, LSCE has provided a SOQ/proposal to each GSA. However, as requested as part of the interview process, LSCE has provided suggestions on how CGA and GGA could work cooperatively with LSCE to perform each GSA's study. LSCE estimates that the collaborative approach could save approximately 10 percent of the overall project cost if the work was consolidated into a single contract; however, details of the administration and equity of such an arrangement needs to be further explored. Both ad hoc Funding committees have recommended that CGA and GGA select LSCE to perform the studies, and to pursue a coordinated effort if it appears to be practical.

RECOMMENDATION:

The CGA ad hoc Long Term Funding committee recommends that the CGA Board select LSCE to provide its Groundwater Sustainability Agency Data Review, Fee Analysis, and Rate Setting Services, and direct the committee and staff to pursue a coordinated effort with GGA.

ATTACHMENTS: LSCE Presentation to CGA and GGA: Groundwater Sustainability Agency Data Review, Fee Analysis, and Rate Setting Services

GLENN AND COLUSA
GROUNDWATER AUTHORITIES

Groundwater Sustainability Agency Data Review, Fee Analysis, and Rate Setting Services

October 25, 2022



ERA Economics

Introduction to the LSCE Team



Jacques DeBra

PROJECT MANAGER

Extensive experience in SGMA related long-term funding strategies including establishing fees and securing best available grants and loans for management actions.



Duncan MacEwan, PhD

TECHNICAL ADVISOR (FUNDING)

Proven LSCE team partner on other GSA-GSP projects. Experienced with GSP implementation and cost allocation options for the GSA.



Eddy Teasdale, PG, CHG

TECHNICAL ADVISOR (GSP/SGMA COMPLIANCE)

Local water expert who is less than 30 minutes away from the CGA; his thinking and ability to quickly grasp the situation results in developing unexpected options and creative solutions for complex situations.



Richael Young

TECHNICAL ADVISOR (FUNDING)

LSCE team partner on other GSA-GSP projects, including successful rate adoption for the Solano Subbasin.

This LSCE Team has over 40 Years of Combined SGMA Experience

Unmatched Experience

Colusa and Glenn Groundwater Authorities
PROJECT MANAGER Jacques DeBra
TECHNICAL ADVISOR (GSP SGMA COMPLIANCE) Eddy Teasdale, PG, CHG
TECHNICAL ADVISING (FUNDING) ERA Economics Duncan MacEwan, PhD Steven Hatchett, PhD

PROP 218 SUPPORT Sheradyn Wood	OUTREACH SUPPORT Lorrie Jo Williams
ADDITIONAL SERVICES	
Land IQ Dr. Joel Kimmelshue, PhD, CPSS	Consensus Building Institute (Optional) Tania Carlone

15+ GSPs Completed

15+ GSP SGMA Planning and Implementation Grants Secured

20+ Proposition 218/SGMA Rate Studies Completed

40+ Combined Years of SGMA Experience

50+ Revenue Projections Completed

Prop 68 Funding Opportunity

- u LSCE Preparing Subbasin Application Due To DWR – November 30, 2022!
- u Grant Funding Application structured for best Fee Methodology Approach

Items GSAs Can Fund To Reduce Initial Five-Year GSP Implementation Costs

GSA Coordination

Annual Monitoring and Reporting

Five-Year GSP Updates

Addressing Fundamental Data Gaps

GSP Update Costs – Based on DWR Comments

On-going Grant Funding Procurement Services

2022/23 Long-Term Fee Methodology Project Cost

The LSCE team will collaborate with the GSAs to establish updated five-year GSA revenue projections for SGMA compliance and GSP implementation costs.

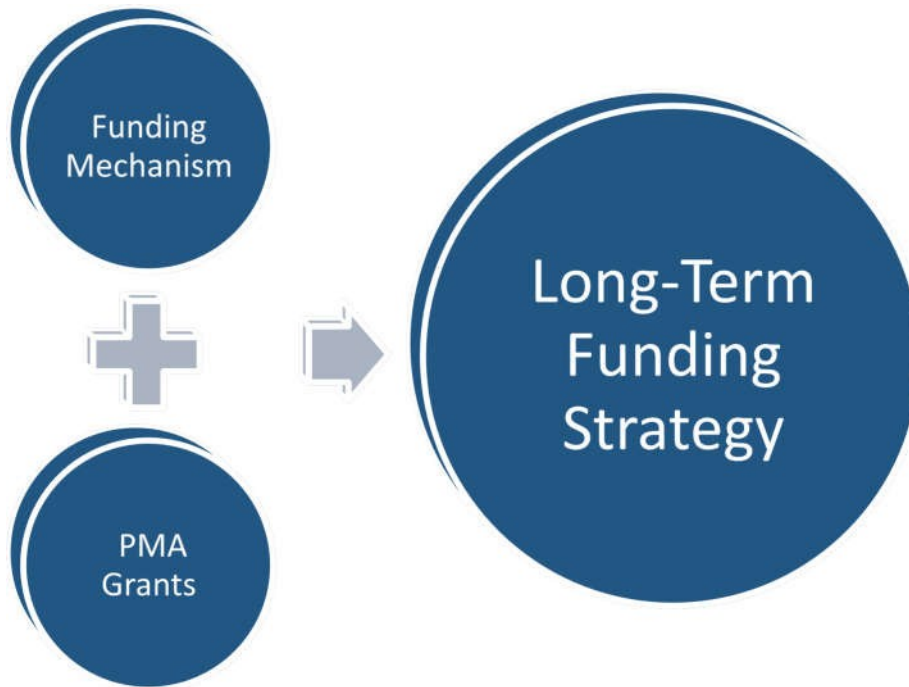
- u Current Fee = \$1.00 per acre.

- u Maximum Fee = \$1.25 per acre.

*from Colusa/Glenn's Website

Colusa Subbasin – Long-Term Funding Strategy

For SGMA Compliance



For Project Implementation

The GSAs will be working together to secure the next round of DWR Groundwater Implementation grant funds available this year for eligible Colusa Subbasin Projects and SGMA compliance costs.

LSCE's Approach

Consolidated Approach (cost savings)

Consolidate GGA and CGA Project Delivery Option.

Maximize SGMA Round 2 funding to reduce GSA Revenue Needs.

Board Driven Process

Board review and approval at key project milestones.

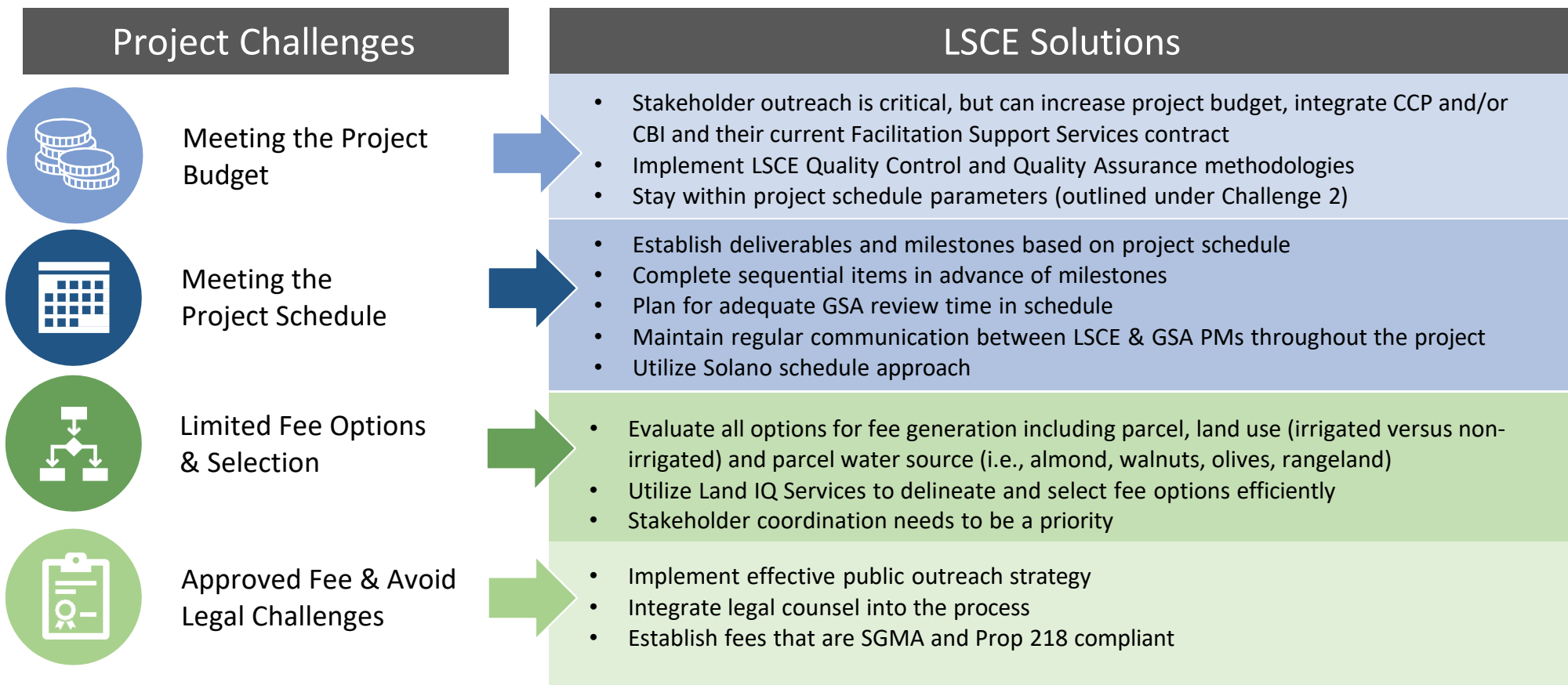
Suggest joint CGA/GGA Board meetings if scope of work is consolidated.

Effective Stakeholder Outreach

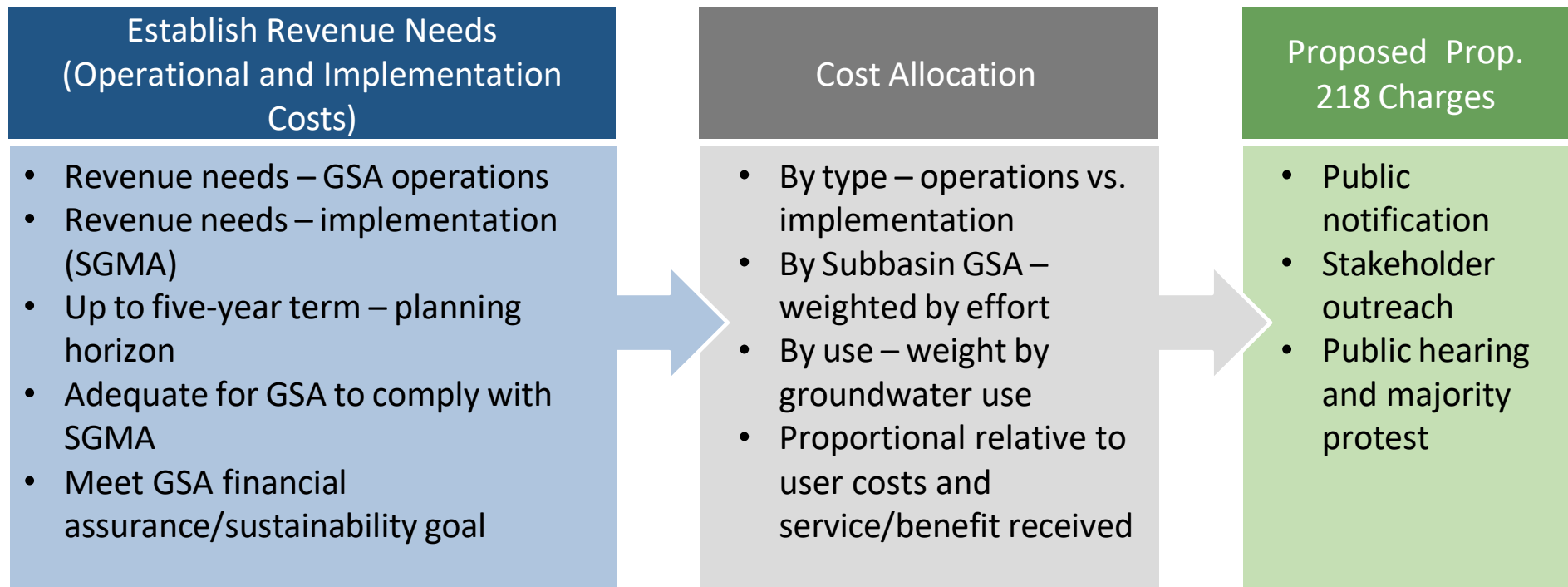
Tailored stakeholder outreach plan approved by both Boards.

Timely and effective stakeholder outreach.

Address Project Challenges

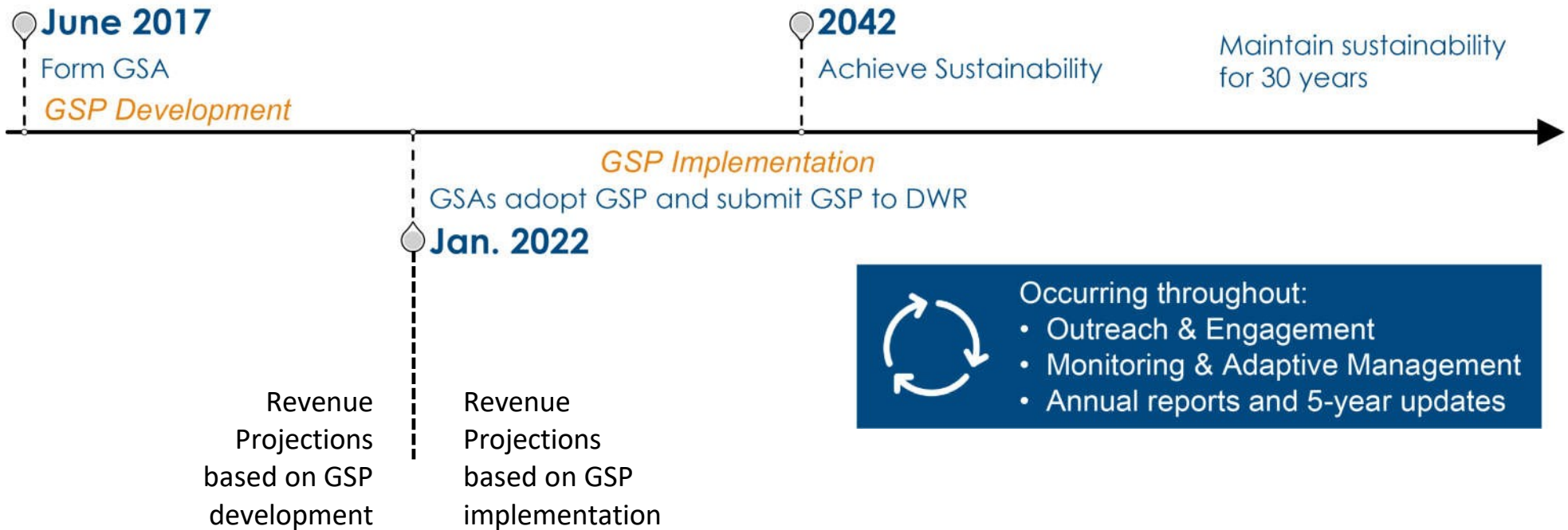


Standard GSA Prop. 218 Charge Setting Process



Updating GSA Revenue Projections

SGMA Timeline



Charge Report – Key Prop. 218 Principles

Revenue needs based on reasonable assessment of GSP implementation and SGMA compliance costs.

- Estimated in GSP
- Reviewed based on other GSA costs state-wide
- Can be updated in the future

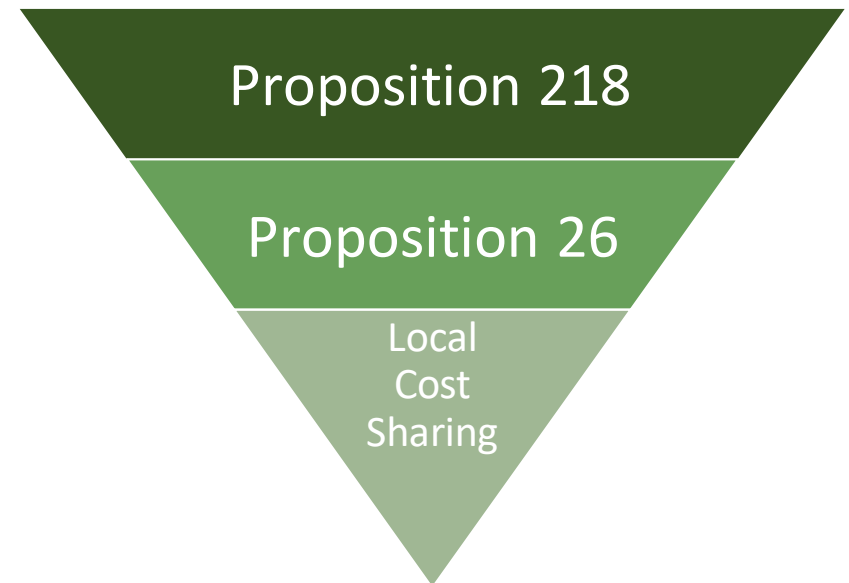
Cost allocation primarily based on total groundwater use by GSA service area.

- Considered to be an equitable approach
- Based on measured and modeled groundwater use
- Can be updated as needed in the future

Establishes maximum charges that may be levied during the allowed five-year (2023-27) Prop. 218 charge period.

- Provides flat annual charge through five-year period
- Includes inflation factor

MOST COMMON



LEAST COMMON
EX. – YOLO SUBBASIN

Establish Updated Revenue Needs

Identify Five-Year Revenue Projections

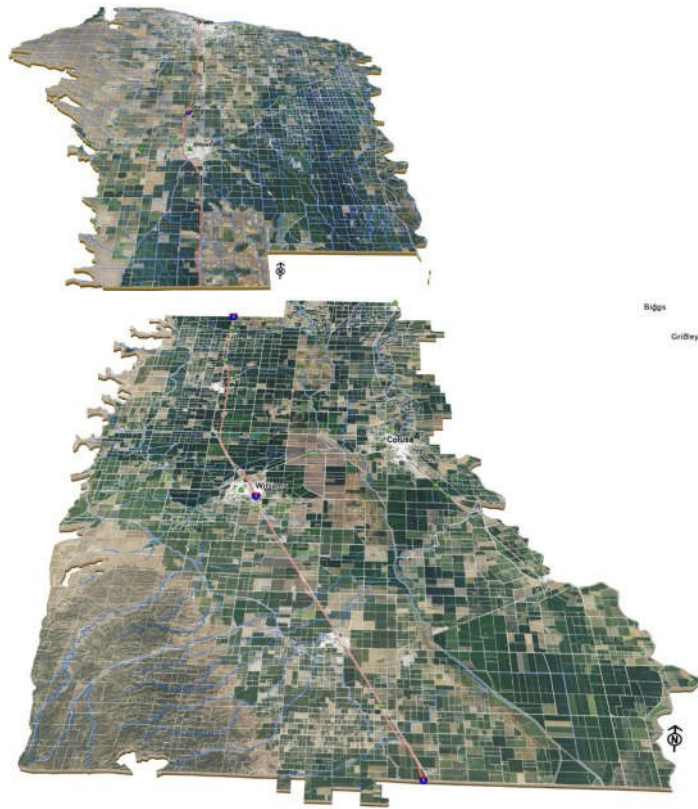
- Include GSA Operational Costs – Staffing and organizational costs
- Include GSP implementation costs – for SGMA Compliance
- GSA Coordination
- Annual Monitoring and Reporting
- Five-Year GSP Updates
- Grant Funding Procurement
- Include GSP Imp. costs – for priority projects and actions
- Include contingency
- Include inflation adjustment factor

Leverage Outside Funding Sources – Prop. 68 Grant

- Reduce GSA/GSP implementation revenue needs for initial Five-Year period
- Prop. 68 can fund actions that can be implemented by 2026 (subject to DWR review)

Update: The CGA and GGA would be eligible to receive reimbursement for their long-term funding strategy costs through the Proposition 68 grant application.

Project Cost Allocation Options



1

Categorize Costs

2

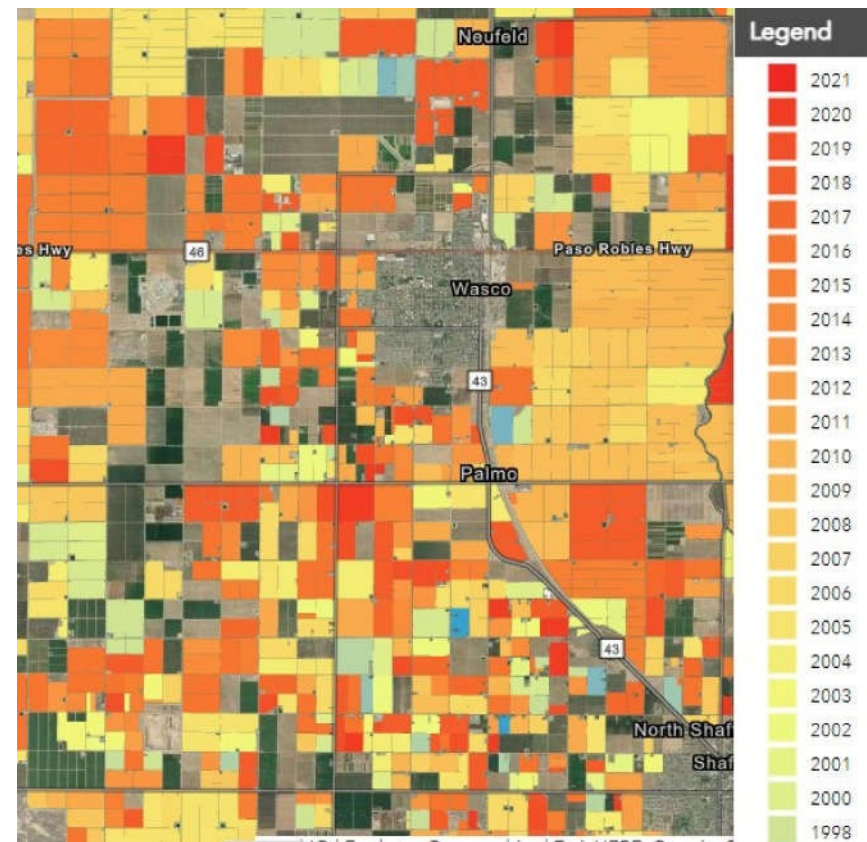
Establish potential cost allocation approaches for each category

3

Example considerations: water source, location, groundwater access, benefits received

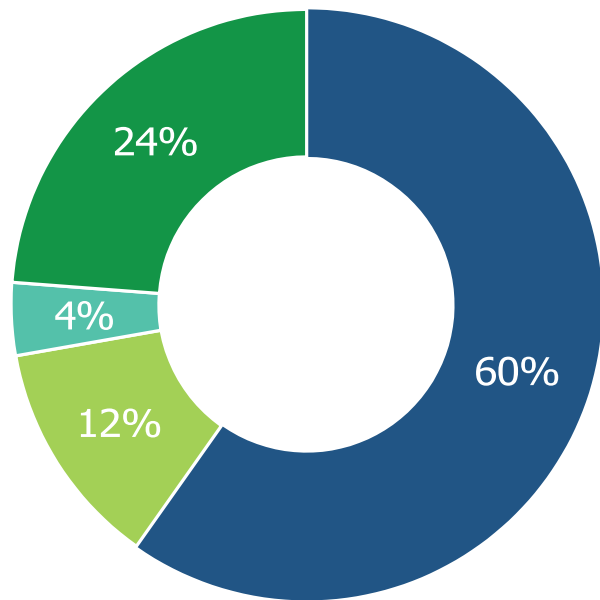
Cost Allocation - Areas of Benefit

- u Cost categories may include activities with general and specific benefits
 - u Financial contributions by districts
- u Cost allocation approach
 - u Costs on consistent life-cycle basis
 - u Quantify general and specific benefits
 - u Landowner/district, GSA, external funding
- u Leverage crop coverage and consumptive use data
 - u Team member Land iQ
 - u Crop ET must ultimately be linked to costs imposed or special benefits received

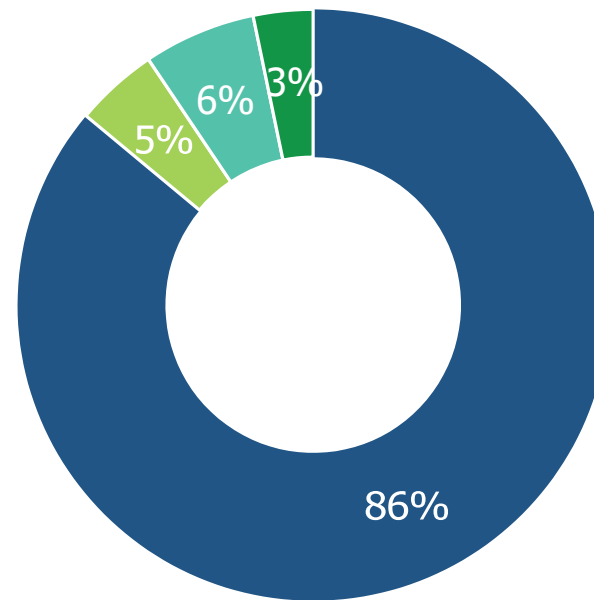


Cost Allocation Approach (Example)

Share of Acreage



Share of Groundwater Pumping



Cost allocation approach used for joint GSP Implementation costs.

- Solano Subbasin GSA
- Solano Irrigation District GSA
- City of Vacaville
- Sacramento/Delta GSAs

- Solano Subbasin GSA
- Solano Irrigation District GSA
- City of Vacaville
- Sacramento/Delta GSAs

LSCE Cost Effective Project Delivery Option

Colusa and Glenn GA Separated Costs

Colusa Groundwater
Authority

\$86,581

Glenn Groundwater
Authority

\$81,999

Total Separated Costs
\$168,580

Colusa and Glenn GA Consolidated Costs

Total Consolidated Cost

\$151, 800
(10% Savings)

Note: Further economies of scale would be possible if we consolidate the Corning Subbasin fee methodology work.

Board Engagement

1

Board Meeting No. 1 Board Workshop

- Review Scope of Work
- Approve Outreach Plan
- Decision on consolidated approach



2

Board Meeting No. 2 Option Review

- Review fee options and trade-offs
- Select preferred option for Fee Study



3

Board Meeting No. 3 Fee Study Approval

- Approve Fee Study



4

Board Meeting No. 4 Fee Approval

- Conduct public hearing
- Approve proposed Fees

We recognize that stakeholder engagement is critical to success!

Outreach – Current Colusa GWA Website Snapshot

From Colusa Website Outreach Page

The CGA Provides outreach to the public through various methods, including:

- Website
- Social Media
- Email List
- Newsletters
- Public Meetings and Workshops
- Member Agency Board Meetings and Public Forums
- Farm Bureau Board Meetings
- Newspaper Articles and Meeting Notices

LSCE Outreach Plan Tailored for the GSA

- The LSCE team will collaborate with the GSAs to establish a local and cost-effective outreach strategy.
- CBI can provide DWR supported stakeholder engagement and outreach services to keep costs as low as possible.
- Preparation of Project Outreach Plan tailored for GSA stakeholders which will be approved at GSA Board Workshop.
- Develop project website updates, Project FAQs, bilingual outreach, special workshops, discussions with farm bureau, fact sheets, social media content, traditional media, and other options suitable for local stakeholders.

Why LSCE?



UNMATCHED EXPERIENCE



LOCAL FIRM



EXPERT APPROACH



FUNDING MECHANISM/SGMA
POLICY EXPERTS



COST-EFFECTIVE
PROJECT DELIVERY

Questions?



**Luhdorff &
Scalmanini**
Consulting Engineers

ERA Economics

