

GSPAC Workgroup on Management Tools and Policies

Ad Hoc Subcommittee Charge

November 2, 2020

A. Background

The establishment of an Ad-Hoc Subcommittee (Workgroup) advances the Charge to the GSPAC and responds to requests that the Committee be engaged in constructive policy development. The purpose of the Workgroup is to initiate consideration of important administrative tools and policies prior to presenting them in later draft sections of the GSP in Spring 2021. Later in the GSPAC deliberations, it will be necessary to link conditions and triggers related to groundwater sustainability to policies, management actions and tools in order to complete the GSP. Formation of a balanced Workgroup will help lay the groundwork for near-future GSPAC discussions on management actions, best management policies and future groundwater sustainability projects.

B. Charge to Ad Hoc Workgroup

The Workgroup's efforts are in service of fulfilling the overall charge of the GSPAC. The charge of the Workgroup is to explore and identify management tools and policies that may be implemented to ensure the sustainability of groundwater in the Napa Valley Subbasin. Specifically, these tools and policies would be applied to monitor, address, prevent or eliminate undesirable results caused by groundwater extraction as described under SGMA.

Potential considerations for each management tool or policy may include:

- Geographic or temporal specificity
- Degree of science-based support for its use
- Effective use in analogous settings
- Potential impacts on stakeholder interests
- Timing or phasing of possible implementation
- Ease or difficulties in implementation (political, administrative, economic, enforcement)
- Prospects for monitoring and adaptive management

Workgroup analysis and deliberation should focus on clearly articulating the pros and cons of each proposed management tool or policy.

C. Recruitment and Criteria for Workgroup Members

The Workgroup is to represent the full range of interests of the GSPAC including municipal, environmental and agricultural interests and small well owners. Any GSPAC member may request to be considered for the Workgroup.

Napa County GSA staff will work with the GSPAC to assist them in proposing potential candidates for the Workgroup. The final membership of the Workgroup will be subject to approval of the full GSPAC.

To achieve the goals of broad-based representation and efficient operation, the Workgroup will have between five and seven members.

D. Administrative Arrangements and Ad Hoc Workgroup Operating Procedures¹

The County will provide guidance and support to the Workgroup. Both GSA staff and LSCE will provide information to the Workgroup as needed or requested.

The Workgroup will work to develop an initial list of management tools and policies (options) to bring forward to the full GSPAC. The Workgroup's work products are to reflect its own deliberations and judgment. Consensus among the Workgroup is not being sought for individual options, and the Workgroup is encouraged to bring forth multiple options.

The Workgroup will report out on its progress at each of the next three GSPAC meetings (see schedule below). The report-out will be verbal and may be supplemented with a short memo. Workgroup members will invite and consider clarifying questions and discuss the pros and cons of options they generate with the full GSPAC.

After full discussion with the GSPAC, the Workgroup-developed options may be refined, further evaluated, and may become the basis for specific recommendations proposed for adoption by the GSPAC. The options may inform the crafting of modeling scenarios pending the nature of the recommendations.

E. Workgroup Member Expectations

Workgroup Members are asked to prepare effectively for Workgroup discussions, to prepare for meetings, to 'invent without committing', to work collaboratively, and to strive to integrate the interests of multiple Workgroup members. Workgroup members will be expected to work constructively to integrate multiple stakeholder perspectives and to effectively provide policy and management advice.

F. Workgroup Term, Meeting Format and Schedule

Meetings of the Workgroup will be of two types:

1. Work sessions, via Zoom or telephone which will include Workgroup members and staff, and
2. Reports to the full GSPAC.

Workgroup meetings will be scheduled using a Doodle Poll or similar tool and will be confirmed by GSA staff. The Workgroup will begin its efforts after the November GSPAC meeting and will

¹The Workgroup will be an ad-hoc subcommittee and comprise of 5-7 members and will not make decisions on behalf of the full GSPAC. Rather, the Workgroup will develop options for consideration by the full GSPAC.

initially operate for approximately three months, reporting to the GSPAC at its monthly meetings. It is expected that the Workgroup will meet 1-2 times per month for 2-3 hours. A proposed Workgroup Schedule is as follows:

November 12, 2020	December 10, 2020	January 14, 2021	February 11, 2021
Appointment of Workgroup	Workgroup Status Report to GSPAC	Workgroup Report to GSPAC	Final Workgroup Report to GSPAC
1-2 meetings Nov. 16 th – Dec. 4 th	1-2 meetings Dec. 14 th – Jan. 8 th	1-2 meetings Jan. 18 th – Feb. 5 th	