

SOLANO SUBBASIN

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY



BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Chair:
Supervisor Mitch Mashburn
Solano County District 5

Vice Chair:
Mayor Steve Bird
City of Dixon

DIRECTORS:

Mayor Edwin Okamura
City of Rio Vista

Director Benjamin Voight
California Water Services

Director Spencer Bei
Dixon Resource
Conservation District

Director Chris Holdener
Maine Prairie Water District

Director Gabe DeTar
Reclamation District No. 2068

Supervisor John Vasquez
Solano County District 4

Director Greg House
Solano County Farm Bureau

Director Kurt Balasek
Solano Resource
Conservation District

SECRETARY/TREASURER:

Chris Lee
Solano County Water Agency

DATE: Thursday, April 10, 2025

TIME: 5:30 P.M.

PLACE: Berryessa Room
Solano County Water Agency Office
810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 202
Vacaville, CA 95688

Remote participation is available under AB 2449:

Please review the insert after agenda regarding AB 2449.

Zoom Information

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84924994870?pwd=foiv6PZKWGxGyyj1YGOasMk0fnTzqx.1>

Meeting ID: 849 2499 4870 | Passcode: 810810

One tap mobile: +16699006833,,88312490746#,,,,*810810#

Dial by your location: +1 669 900 6833

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

2. **ROLL CALL**

(A) Announcement Pursuant to AB 2449 (if any)

3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Limited to 5 minutes for any one item not scheduled on the agenda.

6. **CONSENT ITEMS**

(A) Minutes: Approval of the Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of January 9, 2025.

(B) Expenditure Approvals: Approval for January 2025 to March 2025, checking account register.

(C) Quarterly Financial Reports: Approve the Income Statement and Balance Sheet of March 2025.

7. **BOARD MEMBER REPORTS** *(estimated time: 5 minutes)*

RECOMMENDATION: For information only.

8. **SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT** *(estimated time: 5 minutes)*

RECOMMENDATION: For information only.

9. **2024 SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN ANNUAL REPORT** *(estimated time: 30 minutes)*

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Receive overview of 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report.
2. Approve 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report.

Pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014, Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Annual Reports must be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on April 1 of every year. The 2024 GSP Annual Report was submitted to DWR on March 31, 2025.

The Annual Report provides an update on groundwater conditions in Solano County and the Solano Subbasin, focused on water year 2024 (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024) with a summary of the estimated water use and groundwater extractions in the Solano Subbasin in accordance with the SGMA requirements for GSP annual reporting.

10. **AMENDMENT 1 TO JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT CREATING THE SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY** *(estimated time: 10 minutes)*

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve Amendment 1 revisions to Joint Powers Agreement Creating the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency.
2. Authorize Board Member signatures to Amendment 1 to Joint Powers Agreement creating the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) creating the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Solano GSA) became effective upon signature of all parties on June 8th, 2017.

Under Section 15.11 of the JPA, the agreement may be amended at any time, provided that any such amendment is reduced in writing, signed by all Members hereto, and adopted by unanimous vote by the entire Board of Directors.

Staff are recommending that the Board of Directors approve the revisions in Amendment 1 to the JPA and authorize Board Member signatures to Amendment 1 to the JPA. A unanimous vote is required by all Members to authorize an Amendment to the JPA.

11. TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday, June 12, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. at the SCWA offices.

The Full Board of Directors packet with background materials for each agenda item can be viewed on the Agency's website at
www.scwa2.com/resources-management/ground-water/solano-gsa-bod

AB 2449 Provides Remote Options for Public Agencies

Despite the end of the COVID-19 pandemic, public agencies still have options available to them if they need to exercise remote participation for members of their legislative bodies. AB 2449 provides that if a quorum of the legislative body participates in person, a member of a legislative body may participate remotely so long as the member provides prompt notice and the need for remote participation falls under one of the statutorily defined exceptions. The member does not need to identify their location nor ensure it is accessible to the public.

Members of legislative bodies can use AB 2449 to participate remotely if there is “just cause” or if “emergency circumstances” exist. “Just cause” is defined as any of the following:

- Providing childcare or caregiving of a parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires the member to participate remotely.
- A contagious illness that prevents attendance in person.
- Tending to a need related to a physical or mental disability.
- Travelling for business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.

“Emergency circumstances” are defined as follows:

- A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member of a legislative body from attending in person.

Notice Must be Provided to Utilize AB 2449’s Provisions

In order to utilize the provisions of AB 2449, members of a legislative body must inform their public agency at the earliest possible opportunity of their need to participate remotely, which can include before the start of the meeting. The member must also provide a general description of the circumstances that require remote participation. In the case of emergency circumstances, the member must actually request that the legislative body allow them to participate remotely and the legislative body has to take action on this request.

Any member participating remotely because of just cause or emergency circumstances must publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member’s relationship with any such individuals.

Members and Public Must have Option to Participate in Meetings both Audibly and Visually

When a member participates remotely, he/she must utilize both audio and visual capabilities to effectuate compliance with the statute. Therefore, members of public agencies cannot use a call in only option to attend meetings, they must be on camera. Additionally, the legislative body is responsible for ensuring that the public can also participate in meetings remotely. This includes providing a way for the public to remotely hear, visually observe, and remotely address the legislative body. Furthermore, members of the public can no longer be required to submit their comments prior to the meeting but instead must be allowed to give comments in real time.

CONSENT ITEMS

**SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
MEETING DATE: January 9, 2025**

The Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors met this evening in the Board Room located at the Water Agency office in Vacaville. Present were:

Mayor Steve Bird, City of Dixon
Mayor Edwin Okamura, City of Rio Vista
Director Benjamin Voight, California Water Services
Director Spencer Bei, Dixon Resources Conservation District
Director Chris Holdener, Maine Prairie Water District
Director Gabe DeTar, Reclamation District 2068
Supervisor John Vasquez, Solano County District 4
Supervisor Mitch Mashburn, Solano County District 5
Director Kurt Balasek, Solano Resources Conservation District

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Mashburn at 5:32 pm.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Supervisor Vasquez and a second by Director Bei the Board unanimously approved the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ELECTION OF OFFICER

Secretary Chris Lee shared that Mayor Kott retired, and election of a new vice chair is needed. Mayor Bird was nominated to be the Vice Chair. On a motion by Director Bei and a second by Director Balasek the Board unanimously approved Mayor Bird as the Vice Chair.

CONSENT ITEMS

On a motion by Supervisor Vasquez and a second by Mayor Okamura the Board unanimously approved the following consent items:

- (A) Minutes
- (B) Expenditure Approvals
- (C) Quarterly Financial Reports

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

There were no Board Member reports.

SECRETARY/TREASURER REPORT

Secretary Chris Lee welcomed Mayor Okamura from the City of Rio Vista. Additionally, for the Solano County Farm Bureau, Director Greg House will be the primary representative and Chris Calvert as the alternate for the GSA Board.

TRANSITION BANK ACCOUNT TO FIRST NORTHERN BANK

Secretary Chris Lee shared that over the last year, the Water Agency has had terrible customer support from our current bank, BMO Bank (formally Bank of the West). In December 2024, the Water Agency Board approved the transition to First Northern Bank, due to poor customer support and the challenge in

resolving a significant fraudulent wire transfer. Since the Water Agency is transitioning banks, the recommendation is for the GSA to also transition to First Northern Bank.

On a motion by Director Balasek and a second by Director Holdener the Board unanimously approved the following items:

1. Authorize Water Agency staff to convert the current Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency BMO Money Market account to a Money Market Account at First Northern Bank.
2. Authorize Chris Lee, General Manager; Alexander Rabidoux, Assistant General Manager; and Deborah Barr, Manager of Engineering; to be authorized signors on the account.

SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY PLAN UPDATE AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES FOR 2025

Secretary Chris Lee provided a brief update on key activities, then introduced Maritza Flores Marquez, Associate Water Resources Engineer, to provide an update on the DWR GSA grant. Ms. Marquez provided a brief background on SGMA requirements. For the Solano Subbasin, the required Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) was approved in January 2024 by DWR. The Solano Subbasin is comprised of 5 GSAs known as the Solano Collaborative. The GSP provides an emphasis on conditions in the northwest focus area. Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) is the technical lead for the Solano Subbasin, preparing the annual progress report that is submitted to DWR. For current groundwater conditions, there has been an increase of about 5 feet between Spring 2023 and Spring 2024. LSCE has also been developing a web map for the Solano Subbasin. Additionally, the group has been working on the groundwater and surface water inventory, to help improve and refine the groundwater model. Another study underway is the Cover Crop Study with Dixon RCD. The study will help determine effectiveness of furrow cover cropping, enhanced infiltration, and reduced stormwater runoff. The group is also working on a multi-benefit solution, that looks at flood control challenges, groundwater recharge, and soil recharge potential. Additionally, the group is exploring incentives and policies that could help improve groundwater recharge. The DWR grant goes through March 2026, and is funding many of the special studies, data collection, and outreach. Later this month, there will be a groundwater workshop as part of the outreach efforts. The Board had several questions and comments with regards to the work the Delta Conservancy is doing in Eastern Solano County, thoughts on recharge through SID's facilities, California Forever's impact on groundwater, and subsidence.

AMENDMENT 1 TO JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT CREATING THE SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

Supervisor Mashburn refreshed the group on the Amendment 1 item which requires unanimous approval from all Board members. Legal counsel indicated that the amendment can be drafted and then each individual agency can sign. The GSA Board directed staff to circulate the draft amendment to each GSA agency. No formal action or approval was taken on Amendment 1 as not all of the GSA Board was present.

TIME AND PLACE OF NEXT MEETING

Chair Mashburn recommended setting a calendar of the GSA Board Meetings, either quarterly or every 2 months. The time and place of the next meeting is Thursday, April 10, 2025, at 5:30 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency Board of Directors was adjourned at 6:01 pm.

Chris Lee
Secretary to the Solano Subbasin
Groundwater Sustainability Agency

**ACTION OF
SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

DATE: April 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Expenditure Approvals

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve expenditures for the Agency checking account for January through March 2025, checking account register.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

All expenditures are within previously approved budget amounts.

BACKGROUND:

The Agency auditor has recommended that the Board of Directors approve all expenditures (in arrears). Attached is a summary of expenditures from the Agency's checking account for August through March 2025. Additional backup information is available upon request.

Recommended: 
Chris Lee, Secretary

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved as recommended	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (see below)	<input type="checkbox"/> Continued on next page
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Modification to Recommendation and/or other actions:

I, Chris Lee, Secretary to the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular meeting thereof held on April 10, 2025, by the following vote.

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Chris Lee,
Secretary to the
Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency

SOLANO GSA
Cash Disbursements Journal
For the Period From Jan 1, 2025 to Mar 31, 2025

Filter Criteria includes: Report order is by Date. Report is printed in Detail Format.

Date	Check #	Account ID	Line Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount
1/16/25	1100	2020SC	Invoice: FIRST NORTHERN ACCT	2,500.00	
1/16/25	1100	1020AC	SOLANO GROUNDWATER		2,500.00
2/6/25	1200	2020SC	Invoice: 3717	8,129.50	
2/6/25	1200	1025AC	AG INNOVATIONS		8,129.50
2/6/25	1201	2020SC	Invoice: 42402	89,520.03	
2/6/25	1201	1025AC	LUHDORFF & SCALMANINI		89,520.03
2/6/25	1202	2020SC	Invoice: JANUARY 16 2025	5,125.00	
2/6/25	1202	1025AC	MARK E. GRISMER PHD PE		5,125.00
2/6/25	1203	2020SC	Invoice: 2025-0016	9,061.00	
2/6/25	1203	1025AC	DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT		9,061.00
2/27/25	1208	2020SC	Invoice: 3735	12,750.25	
2/27/25	1208	1025AC	AG INNOVATIONS		12,750.25
2/27/25	1209	2020SC	Invoice: 3380782	5,118.60	
2/27/25	1209	1025AC	ALSCO GEYER IRRIGATION INC.		5,118.60
2/27/25	1210	2020SC	Invoice: 42491	75,565.60	
2/27/25	1210	1025AC	LUHDORFF & SCALMANINI		75,565.60
2/27/25	1211	2020SC	Invoice: 2281	30,319.68	
2/27/25	1211	1025AC	SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT		30,319.68
3/17/25	1212	1025AC	VOID		
3/17/25	1213	1025AC	VOID		
3/17/25	1214	1025AC	VOID		
3/17/25	1215	1025AC	VOID		
3/17/25	1216	1025AC	SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT		
3/18/25	1217	2020SC	Invoice: 2025 SUPPORT	2,904.82	
3/18/25	1217	1025AC	ASSOC OF CA WATER AGENCIES		2,904.82
3/18/25	1218	2020SC	Invoice: 3744	10,823.25	
3/18/25	1218	1025AC	AG INNOVATIONS		10,823.25
3/18/25	1219	2020SC	Invoice: MARCH 8, 2025	14,000.00	
3/18/25	1219	1025AC	MARK E. GRISMER PHD PE		14,000.00
3/18/25	1220	2020SC	Invoice: 42675	88,039.79	
3/18/25	1220	1025AC	LUHDORFF & SCALMANINI		88,039.79
3/18/25	1221	2020SC	Invoice: 2250A	23,413.91	
3/18/25	1221	2020SC	Invoice: 2296A	3,161.47	
3/18/25	1221	1025AC	SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT		26,575.38
	Total			380,432.90	380,432.90

**ACTION OF
SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

DATE: April 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Financial Report Approval

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Approve the quarterly Income Statement and Balance Sheet for the period ending March 2025.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

All revenues and expenditures are reported within previously approved budget amounts.

BACKGROUND:

The Water Agency auditor has recommended that the Board of Directors receive quarterly financial reports. Attached are the Income Statement and the Balance Sheet of the GSA for the period ending March 2025. Additional backup information is available upon request.

Recommended: 
Chris Lee, General Manager

Approved as
Recommended

Other
(see below)

Continued on
next page

Modification to Recommendation and/or other actions:

I, Chris Lee, Secretary to the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular meeting thereof held on April 10, 2025, by the following vote:

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Chris Lee,
Secretary to the
Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Income Statement

Compared with Budget

March 31, 2025

		Annual Budget	Year to Date	Year To Date Variance	% of
<u>Expenses</u>					
<u>Administrative Expenses</u>					
6040AC	OFFICE EXPENSE	\$ 6,775.00	\$ 60.22	\$ 6,714.78	0.89
6043AC	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION	123,280.00	66,305.33	56,974.67	53.78
6090AC	MEMBERSHIPS	0.00	2,904.82	(2,904.82)	0.00
6100AC	PPTY TAX ADMIN FEE	2,600.00	2,461.93	138.07	94.69
6126AC	LEGAL COSTS	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00	0.00
6128AC	GSP Updates	58,388.00	0.00	58,388.00	0.00
6129AC	SGSA Monitoring	13,660.00	26,575.38	(12,915.38)	194.55
6130AC	Project Mgt & Status Updates	25,198.00	0.00	25,198.00	0.00
6350AC	INSURANCE	1,720.00	1,720.00	0.00	100.00
6990AC	CONTINGENCY-ADMINISTRATIVE	12,000.00	0.00	12,000.00	0.00
	Subtotal Admin Expenses	253,621.00	100,027.68	153,593.32	39.44
<u>GSP IMPLEMENTATION</u>					
6141AC	OUTREACH & EDUCATION	98,000.00	0.00	98,000.00	0.00
6142AC	GSP REPORTING & UPDATES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6143AC	MONITORING & DMS MGT	20,000.00	0.00	20,000.00	0.00
6145AC	GRANT WRITING-FUNDING DEVELOPMENT	16,560.00	0.00	16,560.00	0.00
6146AC	ON-CALL SIGMA SUPPORT	12,380.00	16,903.00	(4,523.00)	136.53
6147AC	TECHNICAL SUPPORT FOR OUTREACH	235,000.00	0.00	235,000.00	0.00
6148AC	GSP ANNUAL REPORT	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6149AC	MODEL UPDATES	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6164AC	DWR RESPONSE TO GSP REVIEW	82,697.00	0.00	82,697.00	0.00
6991AC	CONTINGENCY	50,000.00			
	Subtotal GSP Implementation Expenses	514,637.00	16,903.00	497,734.00	3.28
<u>GRANT EXPENDITURES</u>					
62101IMP	IMP GRANT ADMINISTRATION	64,682.00	33,484.84	31,197.16	51.77
62102IMP	IMP GSP MONITORING ENHANCEMENT	182,320.00	136,515.35	45,804.65	74.88
62103IMP	IMP GSP GRNDWTR USE MGT ACTION	148,700.00	142,977.24	5,722.76	96.15
62104IMP	IMP INTERCONNECTED SURFACE WAT	230,600.00	73,711.29	156,888.71	31.97
62105IMP	IMP BASIN WATER USE	205,800.00	98,466.75	107,333.25	47.85
62106IMP	LOCAL WATER CONSERVATION & MGT	58,000.00	248.00	57,752.00	0.43
62107IMP	GROUNDWATER MGT POLICY POSITIONING	160,080.00	933.00	159,147.00	0.58
62108IMP	RECHARGE STUDY-TARGETED IMPLEMENTATION	213,480.00	149,392.36	64,087.64	69.98
62109IMP	LOCALIZED GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS EVAL	74,580.00	3,772.00	70,808.00	5.06
62110IMP	CITY OF VACAVILLE RECYCLED WATER PLANNING	12,216.00	620.00	11,596.00	5.08
62111IMP	PREPARE GSP ANNUAL REPORT	107,080.00	88,649.75	18,430.25	82.79
62112IMP	GSP MODIFICATIONS & 5 YR ASSESSMENT	167,540.00	2,931.00	164,609.00	1.75
62113IMP	Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach	41,400.00	127,798.91	(86,398.91)	308.69
	Subtotal Grant Expenditures	1,666,478.00	859,500.49	806,977.51	51.58
	Total Expenses	2,434,736.00	976,431.17	1,458,304.83	40.10

Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Income Statement
Compared with Budget
March 31, 2025

		Annual Budget	Year to Date	Year To Date Variance	% of
<u>Revenues</u>					
4402AC	INTEREST - MONEY MGMT	3,800.00	3,664.69	\$ 135.31	96.44
4403AC	INTEREST-CHECKING		313.57	(\$ 313.57)	0.00
4922AC	GSA GSP COST SHARE REVENUES	112,482.00	112,304.00	178.00	99.84
4924AC	PROP 218 CHARGE	547,291.00	246,192.57	301,098.43	44.98
49101IMP	GSGMA IMPLEMENTATION GRANT	1,651,476.00	574,912.71	1,076,563.29	34.81
	Total Revenues	<u>2,315,049.00</u>	<u>937,387.54</u>	<u>1,377,661.46</u>	40.49
	Net	<u>(\$ 119,687.00)</u>	<u>(\$ 39,043.63)</u>	<u>(\$ 80,643.37)</u>	32.62

SOLANO GSA
Balance Sheet
March 31, 2025

ASSETS

Current Assets			
1020AC	CHECKING - SP/ADMIN	\$ 826,825.63	
1025AC	SGSA CHECKING - FNB	\$ 255,770.38	
1210SC	ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - SP/ADMIN	<u>56,327.00</u>	
	Total Current Assets		1,138,923.01
Property and Equipment			
	Total Property and Equipment		<u>0.00</u>
Other Assets			
	Total Other Assets		<u>0.00</u>
	Total Assets		<u>\$ 1,138,923.01</u>

LIABILITIES AND CAPITAL

Current Liabilities			
2020SC	ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	\$ 101,894.16	
	Total Current Liabilities		101,894.16
Long-Term Liabilities			
	Total Long-Term Liabilities		<u>0.00</u>
	Total Liabilities		101,894.16
Capital			
39005	Retained Earnings	\$ 1,076,072.48	
	Net Income	<u>(39,043.63)</u>	
	Total Capital		<u>1,037,028.85</u>
	Total Liabilities & Capital		<u>\$ 1,138,923.01</u>

SOLANO SUBBASIN

GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY

MEMORANDUM

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Chris Lee, Secretary to the Board of Directors

DATE: April 3, 2025

SUBJECT: April General Manager/Secretary Report

Although not directly linked to the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency or the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan, interconnected surface waters and regional water supplies play a large part in groundwater use.

Water Supply Update

On March 25th, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) increased the allocation for the State Water Project from 35 percent to 40. For those of us north of the Delta, the allocation was increased from 55 percent to 60 percent.

The latest set of storms at the end of March and early April may be it for larger storms this season. NOAA is predicting below normal rainfall for the next two weeks

For the Solano Project, the water supply outlook remains unchanged with full allocations for the 2024-2025 Water Year. Lake Berryessa has been spilling since February 4th. As of April 3rd, the lake elevation was 440.74 feet (3/4 foot above the Glory Hole).

Bay Delta Plan¹ Update

Staff are currently working with DWR and other tributary agencies to conduct real and forecasted timing of flows and theoretical deployment of HRL flows. The purpose of the exercise is to demonstrate to the SWRCB and others that flow accounting can be done

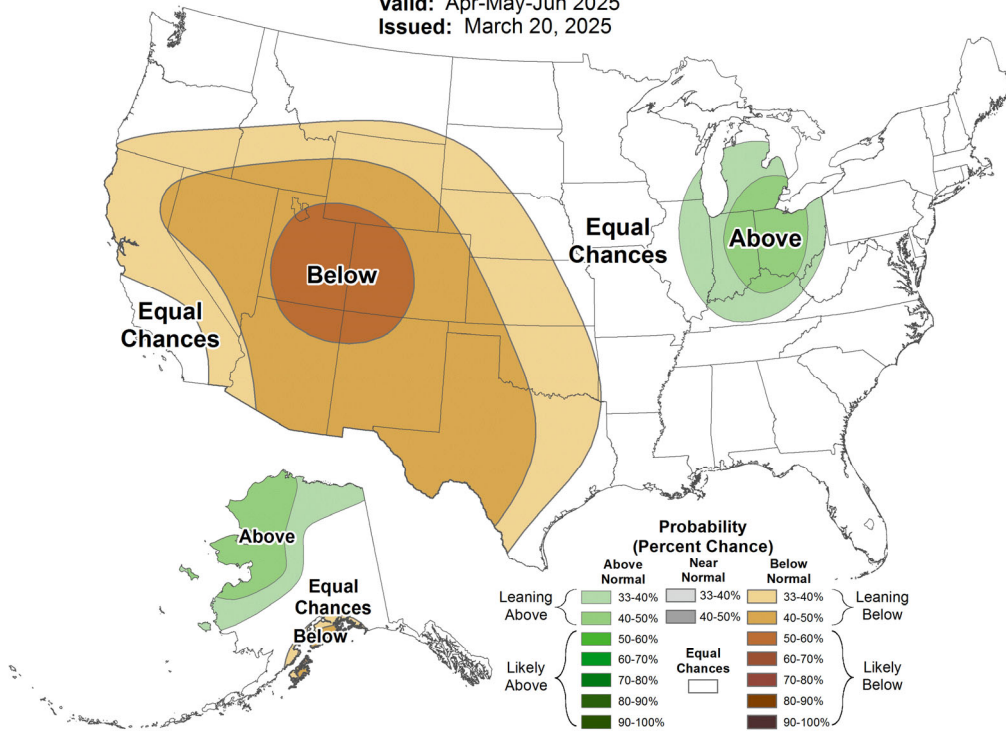
¹ The Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan is a policy document adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board that establishes water quality control measures and flow requirements needed to provide reasonable protection of the beneficial uses in the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta estuary.



Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



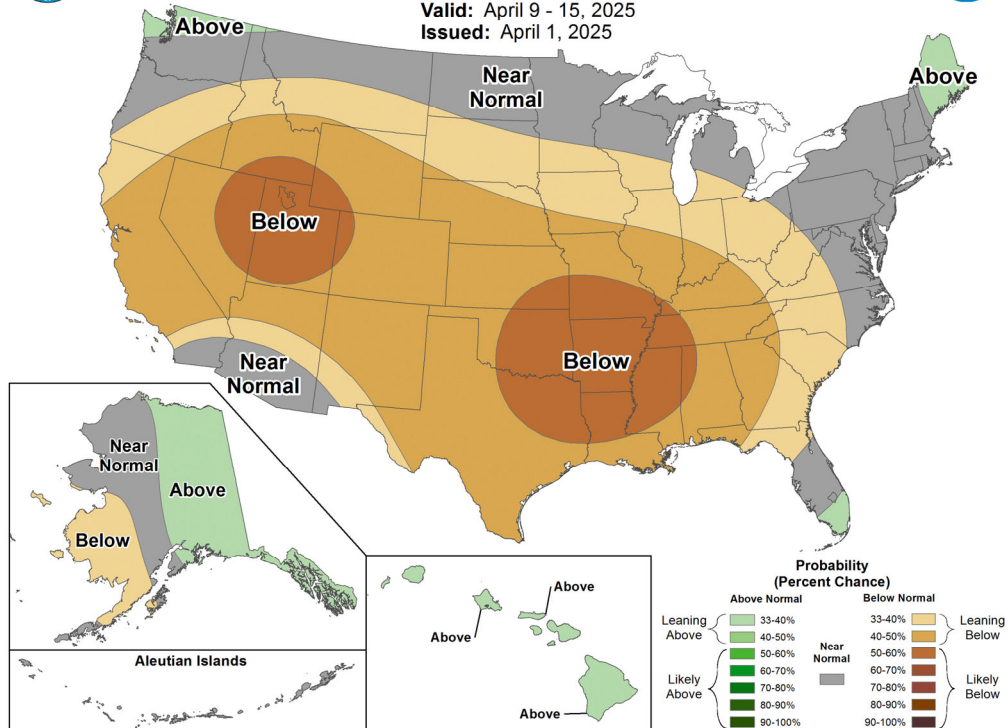
Valid: Apr-May-Jun 2025
Issued: March 20, 2025



8-14 Day Precipitation Outlook



Valid: April 9 - 15, 2025
Issued: April 1, 2025



transparently, in real-time, and provide real assets to the Bay-Delta. There have been no additional meetings or updates from the SWRCB with regards to the Bay-Delta Plan.

GSP Implementation Actions

Below are Luhdorff and Scalmanini and Ag Innovations' activities for work on the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability project in March 2025.

- Monitoring well instrumentation planning and monitoring network coordination.
- Water level and quality data download and review for DMS update, including coordination with local entities.
- Surface water diversion report preparation and review.
- Cover crop study coordination, site visits, timelapse video, and photo review.
- Reviewing potential recharge parcels in relation to infrastructure and flooding/recharge potential and discussed engineering needs for recharge ponds.
- Annual report updates and data requests.
- Discussion of GSP periodic review and amendment process, review of critically over drafted basins.
- Facilitated the March 20 Solano GSA Collaborative meeting, distributed and posted meeting summary, and performed follow-up. Reviewed the GSA Collaborative Memorandum of Understanding to support a change in meeting frequency.
- Convened the Solano Subbasin GSP Project Team and worked on stakeholder outreach, an interactive GSA Collaborative and Technical Advisory Committee discussion about groundwater management and supported engagement.
- Continued planning and coordinating for a GSA Groundwater Workshop to be held on Thursday, April 24, 2025, 5-6:30 pm. The workshop offers an opportunity for Solano GSA leaders to engage with hydrogeologists and colleagues about the State of the Solano Subbasin.
- Continue preparing for a Solano Subbasin Virtual Town Hall on Monday, May 19, 5:30 - 7 pm. This virtual forum will be promoted to the public and will provide an overview of SGMA and groundwater sustainability implementation. It will be simulcast in Spanish and will include time for question / answer.
- Drafted a Spring Newsletter to promote the Solano Subbasin Virtual Town Hall and showcase various groundwater resources.
- Reviewed the SGMA 101 brochure developed by Community Alliance with Family Farmers and Full Belly Farms that highlights the Solano Subbasin.

Solano Groundwater Sustainability Plan Website

Continuous updates are being made to the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Plan website. The address for the website is: <http://www.solanogsp.com>

**ACTION OF
SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

DATE: April 10, 2025

SUBJECT: 2024 Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Receive overview of 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report.
2. Approve 2024 Groundwater Sustainability Plan Annual Report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

None.

BACKGROUND:

Pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) of 2014, Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) Annual Reports must be submitted to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) on April 1 of every year. The 2024 GSP Annual Report was submitted to DWR on March 31, 2025.

The Annual Report provides an update on groundwater conditions in Solano County and the Solano Subbasin, focused on water year 2024 (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024) with a summary of the estimated water use and groundwater extractions in the Solano Subbasin in accordance with the SGMA requirements for GSP annual reporting. Key topics addressed in the report include:

- Current and historical groundwater related monitoring.
- Characterizing groundwater conditions.
- Reporting on water use, groundwater extraction, and key water budget components through the current water year.

Recommended: 
Chris Lee, Secretary

<input type="checkbox"/> Approved as recommended	<input type="checkbox"/> Other (see below)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Continued on next page
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Modification to Recommendation and/or other actions:

I, Chris Lee, Secretary to the Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular meeting thereof held on April 10, 2025, by the following vote.

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Chris Lee, Secretary to the
Solano Groundwater Sustainability Agency

Page 2

- Estimates of annual change in storage by principal aquifer.
- Assessment of sustainable management criteria monitoring networks for tracking groundwater sustainability (avoiding undesirable results) related to the five sustainability indicators applicable to the Solano Subbasin (seawater intrusion is not applicable):
 - Chronic lowering of groundwater levels.
 - Reduction in groundwater storage.
 - Water quality degradation.
 - Land subsidence.
 - Depletion of interconnected surface water.
- Progress on GSP implementation

The Annual Report is included as an attachment to this item.

SOLANO COUNTY AND SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY ANNUAL REPORT – WATER YEAR 2024

Prepared for
**Solano Collaborative and the
Solano County Water Agency**



This report was prepared by the staff of Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers under the supervision of the Hydrogeologist whose seals and signatures appear hereon.

March 31, 2025

Nicholas A. Watterson, PG #9076, CHg #1088
Principal Hydrogeologist
Luhdorff & Scalmanini Consulting Engineers, Inc.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS & ACRONYMS

AF	Acre Feet
AFY	Acre Feet per Year
As	Arsenic
bgs	below ground surface
B	Boron
Cal Water	California Water Service Company
CASGEM	California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program
CAWC	California Water Code
CGPS	Continuous Global Positioning System
cm	centimeters
Cr6	Hexavalent Chromium
DDW	California State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Drinking Water
DIXN	Dixon
DMS	Data Management System
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
ET	Evapotranspiration
ft	Feet or foot
ft/year	Feet per year
GAMA	Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program
GSA	Groundwater Sustainability Agency
GSP	Groundwater Sustainability Plan
IHM	Integrated Hydrologic Model
in/year	Inches per year
InSAR	Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar
JPA	Joint Powers Authority
LSCE	Luhdorff & Scalmanini, Consulting Engineers, Inc.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
mg/L	milligrams per liter
MPWD	Maine Prairie Water District
msl	mean sea level
MT	Minimum Threshold
MO	Measurable Objective
mybp	Million years before present
NASA JPL	National Aeronautics and Space Administration Jet Propulsion Laboratory

N03-N	Nitrate as Nitrogen
PBO	Plate Boundary Observatory
RCD	Solano Resource Conservation District
RD2068	Reclamation District 2068
RNVWD	Rural North Vacaville Water District
RMS	Representative Monitoring Site
SCADA	Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition System
SCWA	Solano County Water Agency
SGMA	Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
SID	Solano Irrigation District
SVSim	Sacramento Valley Groundwater-Surface Water Simulation Model
SWS	Surface Water System
SWRCB	California State Water Resources Control Board
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids
µg/L	Micrograms per liter
UR	Undesirable Results
USBR	U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
USGS	U.S. Geological Survey
VCVL	City of Vacaville
WY	Water Year

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ES 1 OVERVIEW OF SGMA AND THE GSP

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) encourages groundwater management at the local level. Local entities are responsible for forming Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) to develop and implement Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSPs) to guide sustainable management of groundwater basins or subbasins identified as high or medium priority by the State. Five GSAs in the Solano Subbasin organized to form the Solano Collaborative to develop a single GSP for the Subbasin: Solano Subbasin GSA, Solano Irrigation District GSA, City of Vacaville GSA, Northern Delta GSA, and Sacramento County GSA. The Solano Collaborative together with five other GSAs have adopted the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan and submitted the GSP to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) in January 2022. In January 2024 DWR notified the Subbasin that the GSP was approved.

In accordance with SGMA, the Solano Subbasin must also submit annual reports by April 1 of each year. Solano Subbasin has submitted annual reports since April 1, 2022. In May 2024 DWR informed the Subbasin that the annual report submitted for the Subbasin for water year 2023 meets the requirements of SGMA. No other areas of the County are within medium or high priority basins or subbasins and therefore are not currently subject to the requirements of SGMA; however, this report provides information on the current groundwater conditions in the Solano Subbasin in accordance with SGMA requirements with additional information on conditions in the Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin to assist in monitoring of groundwater in other parts of the County where groundwater represents an important source of supply.

This Annual Report mimics the format and content of the Water Year 2023 Annual Report previously reviewed by DWR and provides an update on groundwater conditions in Solano County and the Solano Subbasin, focused on water year 2024 (October 1, 2023-September 30, 2024) with a summary of estimated water use and groundwater extractions in the Solano Subbasin in accordance with the SGMA requirements for GSP annual reporting. Key topics addressed in the report are noted below.

- Current and historical groundwater related monitoring
- Characterizing groundwater conditions
- Reporting on water use, groundwater extraction, and other key water budget components through the current water year (2024)
- Estimates of annual change in storage by principal aquifer
- Assessment of sustainable management criteria monitoring networks for tracking groundwater sustainability (avoiding undesirable results) related to the five sustainability indicators applicable to the Solano Subbasin (seawater intrusion is not applicable):
 - chronic lowering of groundwater levels
 - reduction in groundwater storage
 - water quality degradation
 - land subsidence

- depletion of interconnected surface water
- Progress on GSP implementation

ES 2 GROUNDWATER RELATED MONITORING

The Solano County and Solano Subbasin Data Management System (DMS) was updated in preparation of the Annual Report. The DMS was updated through water year 2024, with information related to the five sustainability indicators relevant to the sustainability of the Solano Subbasin. Monitoring data were assembled from public sources and local entities, including the GSAs in the Solano Subbasin.

ES 3 GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS

There are two primary aquifer zones defined in the Solano Subbasin GSP, the Alluvial Aquifer/Upper Tehama Zone and the Basal Tehama Zone. Most of the groundwater pumping in the Subbasin occurs in the shallower Alluvial Aquifer/Upper Tehama Zone. The Basal Tehama Zone is utilized locally, primarily by the City of Vacaville, and is generally found at great depths.

Hydrology and climate in the area during water year 2024 included slightly below-average precipitation in the Solano Subbasin area of about 17 inches (based on the Davis meteorologic station), approximately 95 percent of average, and DWR has preliminarily classified 2024 as an above normal year for the Sacramento Valley based on Sacramento River watershed runoff characteristics. Water year 2024 was preceded by a wet year (2023) and three consecutive dry years from 2020 through 2022. Water year 2020 was classified as a dry year with measured precipitation (12.4 inches) in the Solano Subbasin area of less than 70 percent of the long-term annual average; 2021 was classified as a critical year, with only 6.5 inches of precipitation, less than 50 percent of average; and water year 2022 was classified as critical with 19 inches of precipitation, which although about average in the Solano Subbasin occurred mostly (75 percent) during the months of October through December. Water year 2023 was classified as a wet year with 28 inches of precipitation measured approximately 150% of average. Although precipitation in the Subbasin was only slightly below average, weather in the Subbasin included many warm days with 112 days recorded with temperatures over 90 degrees Fahrenheit and 37 days with temperatures over 100 degrees (based on observations at the Davis meteorologic station). Water year 2024 had the most days over 90 degrees and over 100 degrees since 1960.

Groundwater levels reflecting the amount (storage) of water in the groundwater system exhibit stable long-term trends, although groundwater levels remain depressed in a localized area in the northwestern portion of the Solano Subbasin (Northwest Focus Area) identified in the GSP as having lowered groundwater levels. Consistent with historical conditions, prevailing groundwater flow directions in Solano County and Solano Subbasin within the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama Zone in 2024 tend to be towards the Sacramento River and Delta from the north and west as indicated on contour maps. In the deeper confined Basal Tehama zone, groundwater gradients indicate flow is generally to the south and with a localized cone of depression in the vicinity of the City of Vacaville, mostly due to the pumping that occurs in the area.

Groundwater quality in Solano County and Subbasin is generally suitable for all beneficial uses, most notably for drinking water uses that typically have the most restrictive standards for water quality. Key groundwater quality constituents of interest identified in the Subbasin include total dissolved solids (TDS), nitrate (NO₃-N), arsenic (As), boron (B), hexavalent chromium (Cr₆), and chloride (Cl). Some

localized areas with elevated concentrations of these key constituents exist in Solano County and Subbasin. Some of the elevated concentrations for select constituents are a result of naturally-occurring conditions, although some areas exhibit degraded groundwater quality as a result of groundwater contamination (e.g., plumes) from historical activities on the land surface. Such impacted areas, and actions to address these conditions, are overseen by other regulatory programs and entities.

Land subsidence data continue to indicate only very minor amounts of subsidence in Solano County and Subbasin with no documentation of inelastic (irreversible) land subsidence related to groundwater pumping. Historical land subsidence related to oxidation of peat deposits has occurred in the Delta area of the Subbasin. No significant impacts to surface infrastructure in Solano County and Subbasin have been noted as a result of land subsidence, and the magnitude of seasonal (elastic) fluctuations in the ground surface elevation occurring in association with seasonal changes in groundwater conditions is greater than the rate of long-term subsidence.

Interconnected surface waters in Solano County and Subbasin are most common in the Delta area of the Solano Subbasin where groundwater is very shallow. Fewer interconnected surface water features exist in the northern parts of the Subbasin where water levels are somewhat deeper. Streamflows in Putah Creek are maintained by the Solano County Water Agency in a manner designed to support beneficial users along the Creek following the flow schedule outlined in the Putah Creek Accord. Dedicated nested monitoring wells at five sites in the Subbasin have been used to monitor interconnected surface water conditions since 2022 and several additional monitoring sites adjacent to surface water features were added to the GSP monitoring program in 2023 and several of these new sites were instrumented with automated monitoring equipment in 2024. One new stream stage monitoring gage was installed in 2024 to complement the addition of nearby wells to the monitoring network. The Subbasin also continues to track surface water and groundwater interaction with shallow seepage monitoring wells of varying depth installed along Putah Creek at four sites.

Seawater intrusion potential does not exist in the area because the Solano County and Subbasin do not have a coastline, although Delta areas of the Subbasin are tidally influenced. Monitoring of any potential influence from higher salinity water intrusion from the Delta is addressed through monitoring of conditions related to the groundwater quality sustainability indicator.

ES 4 WATER BUDGET

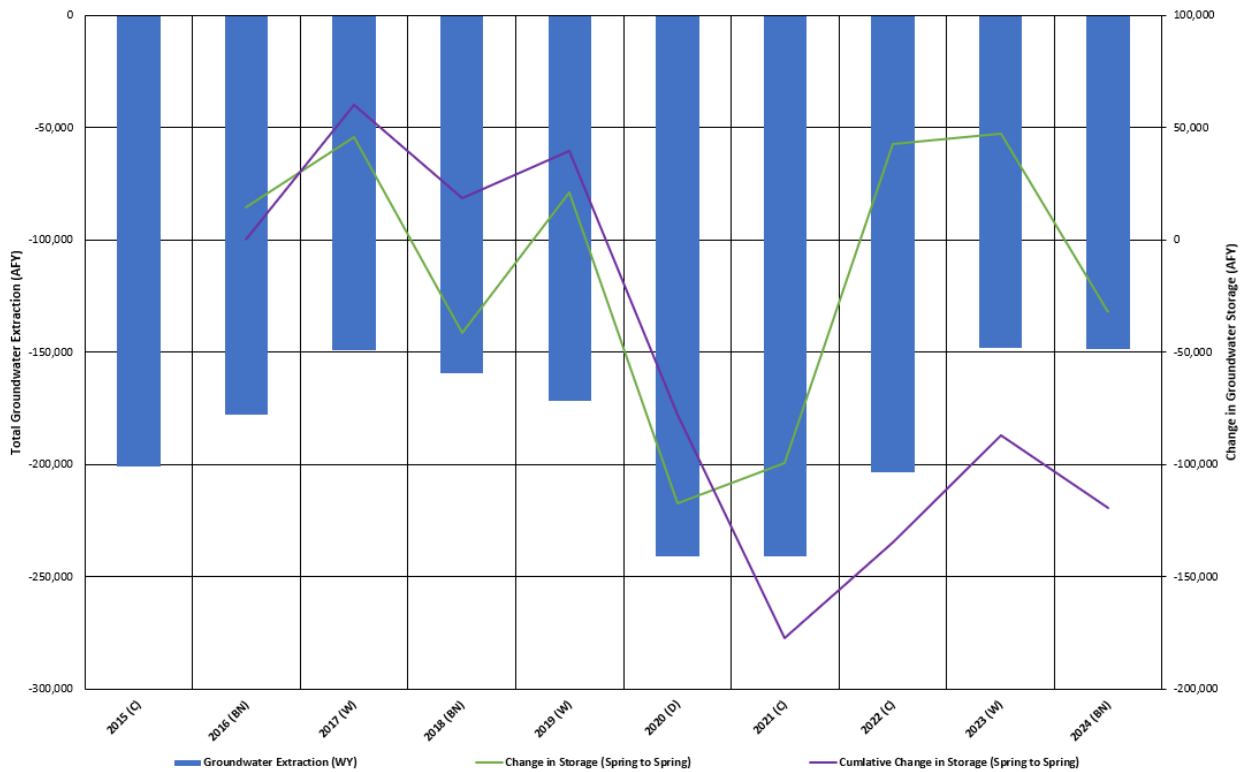
Historical and recent water use and water supplies in the Solano Subbasin were estimated through water year 2024 using the Solano Integrated Hydrologic Model (Solano IHM), a numerical groundwater flow model developed during the GSP preparation for application in the Solano Subbasin. Key inputs to the Solano IHM historical scenario used in GSP development were updated and expanded through water year 2024 for this Annual Report using available data and information about land use, water supplies, and water uses. The complete surface water system water budget for the Solano Subbasin was computed using the Solano IHM to estimate water use and groundwater extraction by water use sector. Estimated total water use during water year 2024 was 650,000 AF and estimated total groundwater

extraction was 150,000 AF. Metered groundwater pumping accounted for about 10,000 AF of the total groundwater pumping in 2024.

ES 5 CHANGE IN GROUNDWATER STORAGE

Annual changes in groundwater storage for the Solano Subbasin were calculated for 2022 to 2024 for each principal aquifer in the Subbasin by comparing spring (seasonal high) groundwater elevation contour maps for each of the years and multiplying the change in groundwater elevation by estimated aquifer properties. Changes in groundwater storage for water year 2024 were based on comparing Spring 2023 and Spring 2024 groundwater levels. Groundwater storage decreased by approximately 32,000 AF in the Alluvial Aquifer/Upper Tehama Zone from Spring 2023 to Spring 2024 while little or no change in storage was estimated for the Basal Tehama Zone. Historically, groundwater storage changes have been positive (increasing storage) in wet periods and negative (decreasing) in dry periods (**Figure ES-1**). Water years 2020 and 2021 were remarkably dry years in the Subbasin and the negative changes in groundwater storage during these two years are consistent with these dry conditions. Water year 2022 was slightly wetter compared to previous years and a corresponding increase in storage was noted. Water year 2023 was a wet year correlating with the increase in storage evident between Spring 2022 and Spring 2023. Water year 2024 was an above normal water year, with slightly below average precipitation and this corresponds with a slight decrease in groundwater storage relative to conditions in Spring 2023. Water level data for some wells are not available every year due to access issues, influence from nearby pumping on water level measurements, or other quality control reasons.

Figure ES-1. Annual Groundwater Storage Changes and Extractions



ES 6 ASSESSMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY CRITERIA AND MONITORING

Each sustainability indicator was evaluated for the Subbasin and assigned minimum thresholds (MTs) and measurable objectives (MOs) to avoid undesirable results and ensure continued sustainable groundwater management. MOs and MTs are metrics assigned for sustainability indicators at selected representative monitoring sites (RMS) across the Solano Subbasin. MTs represent values at which undesirable results may be occurring in the Subbasin; MTs were set to avoid significant and unreasonable adverse impacts on beneficial users throughout the Subbasin, including drinking water users, agricultural users, and environmental users. MOs represent the long-term target for conditions in the Solano Subbasin. The RMS network in the Solano Subbasin consists of wells, streamflow gages, and land subsidence monitoring stations that are spatially distributed across the Solano Subbasin. Included in this Annual Report are updates on the five sustainability indicators relevant to the Subbasin, with current conditions presented in relation to MTs and any triggers identified in the GSP for implementing management actions. **Table ES-1** summarizes current Subbasin conditions with respect to MT exceedances (conditions that are above, or below in the case of groundwater elevation, the threshold value) and triggers. In 2024, five MT exceedances occurred in the water level sustainability indicator although no undesirable result occurred. One RMS water quality well exceeded the MT for chromium-6 and although chromium-6 is a naturally occurring constituent in groundwater and the exceedance does not constitute an undesirable result for degraded water quality, efforts are being initiated to evaluate factors that may relate to the water quality exceedance. One RMS for ISW exceeded the established MT based on groundwater levels and the factors relating to the measurement and exceedance and are being reviewed.

Table ES-1. Summary of Sustainable Management Criteria Status and Responses

Sustainability Indicator	Minimum Threshold Exceedances	Trigger Occurrences	Undesirable Result Occurrence	Response Summary
Chronic Groundwater Level Decline	Yes, 5 of 41 RMS wells recorded groundwater elevations below the MT.	Yes, a trigger is any MT exceedance.	No	Management actions underway include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach to all water users • Work to resume monitoring of wells previously monitored but dropped from other entity monitoring programs; identify replacement wells (as needed) and additional monitoring wells in data gap areas or areas of interest • Further evaluation of surface water available for recharge or management actions for enhancing recharge • Evaluation of factors related to MT exceedances
Reduction in Groundwater Storage				
Degraded of Water Quality	Yes, 1 of 27 RMS wells recorded groundwater quality concentrations above the MT	Yes, a trigger is a concentration of 75% of MT.	No	Management actions underway include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work to recruit and continue groundwater water quality sampling of wells that were previously monitored or have incomplete monitoring for GSP Constituents • Evaluation of factors related to increasing constituent concentrations
Land Subsidence	No	No	No	--
Depletions of Interconnected Surface Water	Yes, 1 of 6 RMS wells recorded groundwater elevations below the MT.	No	No	Management actions underway include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate measurement resulting in MT exceedance and potential factors related to MT exceedance • Consideration of site-specific efforts to address MT exceedance
Seawater Intrusion	Not Applicable to the Solano Subbasin			

ES 7 GSP IMPLEMENTATION

DWR completed its review of the GSP and approved the GSP on January 18, 2024. DWR's GSP approval letter includes three recommended corrective actions to address in future GSP updates, primarily relating to clarifying and providing additional supporting rationale for SMC included in the GSP. Updates on the status of progress made in addressing these corrective actions will be included in future annual reports.

In December 2022, the GSAs applied for and were ultimately awarded funding through a DWR SGMA Implementation Grant to support select GSP implementation activities through April 2026. The grant agreement with DWR was finalized in February 2024 and includes approximately \$4.4 million for GSP monitoring and data management enhancements, development of management actions to maintain groundwater sustainability, planning of water supply replenishment and reliability projects, and GSP compliance and outreach activities.

GSP implementation activities continue to focus on conducting regular monitoring and reporting on conditions in the Subbasin and performing management actions outlined in the GSP. During and since submittal of the GSP the GSAs have initiated efforts to fill key monitoring data gaps by installing new dedicated shallow monitoring wells in areas of interest. In 2024 the Subbasin continued work coordinating with local water agencies for the collection of data for the GSP water quality monitoring program. The Subbasin, in partnership with local entities, conducted targeted outreach for recruitment of wells for the GSP monitoring program. The GSAs were successful in adding several additional to the monitoring program in key areas of interest and are planned for future inclusion as RMS wells, once sufficient data are available to assign appropriate SMC.

Additional GSP implementation activities conducted by the GSAs in 2024 include the following.

- stakeholder engagement and outreach efforts through public meetings, workshops, newsletters, websites, and an interactive web map
- interbasin coordination efforts, especially coordination with Yolo Subbasin on groundwater and interconnected surface water conditions in the northern parts of the Solano Subbasin
- data management system enhancements and monitoring network expansion and site instrumentation and automation
- well and surface water diversion inventory
- refinement of ISW and GDE characterization
- model updates and refinements
- local water conservation and management support activities
- developing strategy for promoting projects and management actions to enhance recharge; identification of areas and landowners with interest and characteristics suitable for surficial recharge
- planning related to multi-benefit solutions to address excess stormwater drainage issues in areas of the Subbasin
- pilot project to assess benefits and challenges associated with winter cover cropping

- Putah Creek floodplain pilot recharge project planning

Based on analyses conducted during GSP development, the Solano Subbasin anticipates sustainable groundwater conditions can be maintained without substantial intervention by the GSAs although the GSP identifies projects and management actions that may be implemented to maintain sustainability throughout the Subbasin should they be needed or desired.

1 INTRODUCTION

Regular reporting on groundwater conditions is valuable for tracking changes in the groundwater system and is also a requirement for some areas of the state under the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SGMA requires that all groundwater basins and subbasins ranked as medium or high priority by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) in the state develop and submit a Groundwater Sustainability Plan (GSP) describing how the basin or subbasin will achieve or maintain sustainable conditions. SGMA also requires that all medium and high priority subbasins submit annual reports describing groundwater monitoring activities and conditions and groundwater management efforts taken to maintain or achieve sustainability. The Solano Subbasin, primarily located within Solano County, is a medium priority subbasin and in January 2022 Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) within the Solano Subbasin submitted a GSP (LSCE, 2021) covering the entire Subbasin, including parts of Sacramento and Yolo Counties. DWR completed its review of the GSP and approved the GSP on January 18, 2024. In accordance with SGMA, the Solano Subbasin must submit a GSP annual report by April 1 of each year. On May 24, 2024 DWR informed the Subbasin the annual report submitted for water year 2023 met reporting criteria. No other areas of Solano County are within medium or high priority basins or subbasins and therefore are not currently subject to the requirements of SGMA; however, this report provides information on the current groundwater conditions in the Solano Subbasin in accordance with SGMA requirements with additional information on conditions in the Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin to assist in monitoring of groundwater in other parts of Solano County where groundwater represents an important source of supply.

This annual report mimics the format and content of the Water Year 2023 Annual Report previously reviewed by DWR and presents groundwater conditions spanning the period through the end of water year 2024 with select groundwater budget information presented for the Solano Subbasin for water years 2015 through the most recent water year (2024), as required by and in fulfillment of GSP Regulations. This report serves to fulfill SGMA and GSP annual reporting requirements for the Solano Subbasin.

1.1 Background

Groundwater supplies meet the needs of many beneficial users in Solano County and the Solano Subbasin, including urban and domestic uses, agricultural uses, and environmental uses. Water managers in Solano County and the Solano Subbasin have recognized the value of this resource and have commissioned various studies prepared on behalf of the Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) and other water entities as part of their efforts to characterize and manage Solano County's groundwater resources and groundwater resources within the Solano Subbasin. Key recent reports on groundwater conditions in Solano County include:

- Westside Sacramento Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Kennedy Jenks, 2013)
- Updated Hydrostratigraphic Interpretation of the Northern Solano County Deep Aquifer System (LSCE, 2014)
- 2018 Groundwater Conditions Report, Solano Subbasin and Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin (LSCE, 2020)

- Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan (LSCE, 2021)

1.2 Study Area and Groundwater Basin Descriptions

This report includes discussion of conditions in the Solano Subbasin and the Suisun-Fairfield Valley Groundwater Basin (**Figure 1-1**), with additional focus on groundwater conditions and management activities as they relate to the implementation of the Solano Subbasin GSP. The majority of these two basins are within Solano County, although there are areas within the Solano Subbasin that are located within Sacramento and Yolo Counties and some areas of the Suisun-Fairfield Valley Groundwater Basin that are within Napa County.¹ Major purveyors in the basins are illustrated in **Figure 1-2** and include SCWA, Solano Irrigation District (SID), City of Vallejo, City of Fairfield, City of Vacaville, City of Dixon, City of Rio Vista, City of Benicia, Rural North Vacaville Water District (RNVWD), Maine Prairie Water District (MPWD), North Delta Water Agency and Reclamation District 2068 (RD 2068). Descriptions of the Solano Subbasin and the Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin are provided below. These descriptions are partly based on the information contained in *California's Groundwater, Bulletin 118 Interim Update 2016* (DWR, 2016).

A portion of the Napa-Sonoma Lowlands Subbasin also occurs within Solano County, in the vicinity of Vallejo (**Figure 1-1**). Groundwater use in the Solano County portions of the Napa-Sonoma Lowlands Subbasin is very limited due to the availability of surface water supplied by the City of Vallejo. As such, the Napa-Sonoma Lowlands Subbasin is not a focus of this report.

1.2.1 Geography and Hydrogeology of the Solano Subbasin (Basin Number: 5-21.66)

The Solano Subbasin, located in the southernmost portion of the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin and extending into the northern portion of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta), is designated as a medium-priority subbasin by DWR. Subbasin boundaries are defined by Putah Creek on the north, the Yolo County line on the east, the North Mokelumne River on the southeast (from Walnut Grove to the San Joaquin River), and the San Joaquin River on the south (from the North Mokelumne River to the Sacramento River). The western Subbasin boundary is defined by consolidated rocks of the Coast Range and a groundwater divide present between the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin within the Sacramento River Hydrologic Region and the Suisun-Fairfield Valley Groundwater Basin within the San Francisco Bay Hydrologic Region. The largest municipalities located in the Subbasin include the cities of Vacaville, Dixon, and Rio Vista with an overall population density across the Subbasin of approximately 191 people per square mile.

For purposes of understanding and managing groundwater conditions in the Subbasin, there are two primary aquifer zones defined: 1) the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone, and 2) the Basal Tehama zone. The Quaternary alluvium, Montezuma Formation, and Upper Tehama have similar hydrogeologic characteristics and behave as a hydraulically connected aquifer zone and represent a single primary

¹ 20% of the Solano Subbasin is located within Sacramento County. 1% of the Solano Subbasin is located within Yolo County. Less than 1% of the Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin is located within Napa County.

aquifer referred to as the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone (Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone). The Basal Tehama zone, which coincides with the Basal Tehama Formation, is generally found at great depth and under confined (i.e., under pressure) conditions within the Subbasin, except for along parts of the western Subbasin boundary where it is steeply dipping and crops out at the surface. The Basal Tehama zone is not utilized for water supply throughout the entire subbasin, but primarily only used in the vicinity of Vacaville. The Middle Zone of the Tehama Formation, or Middle Tehama, is generally fine-grained with only relatively thin sandy intervals of limited lateral extent. As a result, the Middle Tehama does not serve as a major water-yielding unit in the Subbasin. Because of its fine-grained nature, the Middle Tehama functions as an aquitard in much of the Subbasin, confining the underlying Basal Tehama zone and limiting vertical movement of water between the shallower Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone and the deeper Basal Tehama zone.

The hydrogeologic conceptualization of the Solano Subbasin is described in detail in the GSP (LSCE, 2021). This conceptualization includes fundamental descriptions of the groundwater system and hydrogeologic setting including topography, surface water bodies, soils, regional and structural geologic setting and features, extent of the groundwater subbasin (laterally and vertically), identification and discussion of configuration and characterization of major aquifers and aquitards, presentation of groundwater recharge and discharge areas, and identification of surface water and imported water supply sources.

The eastern part of Solano County and Solano Subbasin overlies the southern Sacramento Valley portion of the larger Great Valley geologic province of California. The sedimentary deposits in the Sacramento Valley contain fresh groundwater extending to an elevation of approximately -3,000 ft mean sea level (msl) along the axis of the basin. The mountainous Coast Range geologic province provides the western boundary for the Sacramento Valley and is composed largely of Mesozoic rocks (before 66.5 million years before present (mybp)). The uppermost Mesozoic marine sedimentary rocks (the Great Valley Sequence) extend beneath the Sacramento Valley eastward to pinch out and overlap the older Mesozoic metamorphic and granitic rocks of the Sierra Nevada geologic province from the east. The Mesozoic marine rocks have been explored and tapped into for natural gas resources and do not contain freshwater and are well-consolidated.

Above the Mesozoic marine sedimentary rocks in the southern Sacramento Valley is a sequence of Cenozoic marine deposits of Tertiary age (66.5 to 5.3 mybp). Local surface exposure of these units occurs along the edge of the Sacramento Valley near the City of Vacaville, where they are deformed by faulting. Relatively younger Cenozoic non-marine sedimentary units include deposits sourced from basin margin alluvial fans from the Coast Range to the west and the Sierra Nevada to the east. These alluvial fan deposits transition basin-ward to broad, low-gradient alluvial plains crossed by distributary stream channels and an axial basin of a fluvial system of wide floodplain and flood basin areas with south-draining river channels. These nonmarine sedimentary deposits are poorly stratified and typically thin, discontinuous, laterally limited sand to gravel beds interstratified with thicker fine-grained clays and silt beds.

Most of the Cenozoic nonmarine sedimentary deposits in Solano County and the Solano Subbasin are attributed to the Tehama Formation. The Tehama Formation extends to the base of freshwater on the eastern side of the Coast Range. Overlying the Tehama Formation in Solano County and Solano Subbasin is a sequence of younger Quaternary alluvial deposits. **Figure 1-4** illustrates the surficial geology of northern Solano County and Solano Subbasin. A schematic hydrostratigraphic interpretation of the subsurface crossing Solano County from the Coast Ranges going eastward across the Central Valley to the Sierra Nevada foothills is provided in **Figure 1-5**. This cross section illustrates the relative thicknesses of the various geologic units described above that occur below Solano County, and the order of their appearance and deposition. More details on the hydrogeology of Solano County and the Solano Subbasin are described in the GSP.

1.2.2 Geography and Hydrogeology of the Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin (Basin Number: 2-3)

The Suisun-Fairfield Valley Groundwater Basin is located in an area of low alluvial plains to the west of the Solano Subbasin and directly north of Suisun Bay. Geologic formations of the Coast Range bound the Subbasin on the west. The southern extent of the Vaca Mountains forms the northern boundary of the Subbasin. The eastern margin of the Basin is delineated by the groundwater divide following low ridges of consolidated rock that outcrop near Vacaville and extend southeast to the Montezuma Hills (Thomasson et al, 1960). The Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin is adjacent to the Suisun Bay in the south and surface water features in the Basin, including Suisun Creek and Laurel Creek, drain into the Suisun Bay. The main groundwater-bearing geologic units in the Basin include the Tertiary Sonoma Volcanics, Pleistocene alluvium, and Recent (Quaternary) alluvium. Although there is relatively little reliance on groundwater as a source of water supply in the Basin, the Pleistocene alluvium is the main water-yielding unit in the Basin, although the Recent (Quaternary) alluvium provides some water to wells in the north, and many of the deeper wells in the western portion of the Basin are constructed in the Sonoma Volcanics. The Basin encompasses part of the City of Vacaville and also includes Fairfield and Suisun City, although these cities do not rely to a great degree on groundwater pumped from within the Basin.

1.2.3 Areas Outside of Solano Subbasin and Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin

There is an area within Solano County west of the Solano Subbasin between the Subbasin boundary and the Lagoon Valley/Vaca Valley fault in which some groundwater development has occurred, but which does not lie within a designated basin or subbasin area. This area is generally underlain by more consolidated rocks of the Great Valley Sequence, which have limited water-yielding characteristics.

1.3 Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Planning

Five GSAs in the Solano Subbasin organized to form the Solano Collaborative to sustainably manage groundwater in the Subbasin: Solano Subbasin GSA, City of Vacaville GSA, Northern Delta GSA, Sacramento County GSA, and Solano Irrigation District GSA. The Solano Collaborative, together with five other GSAs in the Subbasin, submitted a GSP for the Solano Subbasin in January 2022 and the GSP was approved by DWR in January 2024. The GSP describes historical and recent groundwater conditions

based on available data at the time of the GSP development and outlines the approach to ensuring sustainable management of groundwater in the Subbasin. This annual report provides an update of information on groundwater conditions and status of GSP implementation efforts in the Subbasin through the most recent water year.

2 GROUNDWATER-RELATED MONITORING

Groundwater-related monitoring data were assembled for this report from various entities and used to update the existing Data Management System (DMS). Groundwater-related monitoring data documented in this report include information related to the five sustainability indicators relevant to the sustainability of the Solano Subbasin, as described in the GSP. These indicators include groundwater levels (including groundwater storage), groundwater quality, land subsidence, and interconnected surface water. Seawater Intrusion is not directly applicable to the Solano Subbasin although potential impacts that could conceivably occur as a result of intrusion of higher-salinity surface water from Delta surface water features is addressed through groundwater quality monitoring.

Monitoring data were assembled from the following entities (**Tables 2-1 and 2-2**):

- Groundwater Levels/Groundwater Storage
 - DWR
 - SCWA
 - City of Vacaville
 - City of RIO Vista
 - City of Dixon
 - Sacramento County
 - Solano Irrigation District (SID)
 - State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) GeoTracker
 - Rural North Vacaville Water District (RNVWD)
 - United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)
- Groundwater Quality (selected constituents)
 - DWR
 - U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
 - SID
 - SWRCB Division of Drinking Water (DDW)
 - SWRCB GeoTracker
- Land Subsidence
 - SCWA
 - UNAVCO² Plate Boundary Observatory (PBO) stations
 - DWR
- Interconnected Surface Water
 - SCWA

2.1.1 Groundwater Levels and Change in Storage

Solano Subbasin has a long history of monitoring groundwater with groundwater level data going back to 1918. Early monitoring was limited mostly to the northern portion of the Subbasin where more agricultural and urban areas exist. **Table 2-1** summarizes recent groundwater level monitoring since

² UNAVCO is “a non-profit university-governed consortium, facilitate(ing) geoscience research and education using geodesy”. (<http://www.unavco.org/about/about.html>)

2015. As highlighted in **Table 2-1**, most of the recent groundwater level monitoring in the area are within the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama aquifer zone where most of the groundwater production occurs in Solano County and the Solano Subbasin. **Figure 2- 1 to 2-3** shows the spatial distribution of recent groundwater level monitoring across the County and Subbasin. Monitored wells screened in the Alluvial/Upper Tehama Zone are located throughout the Subbasin but are predominately located in the northern parts of the Solano Subbasin. Wells monitoring groundwater level conditions in the Basal Tehama zone are more limited to areas where greater groundwater production occurs from this deeper zone, especially in the Vacaville area.

The Solano Subbasin GSP identified select wells for use as representative monitoring sites (RMS) and assigned sustainable management criteria (SMC) to these RMS to track groundwater sustainability in the Subbasin. During the development of the GSP a total of 41 wells were selected as RMS wells with an additional 161 wells identified as part of the supplemental monitoring network to track groundwater levels and change in storage in the Subbasin. The selection of the RMS wells and supplemental monitoring network wells in the GSP was based on considerations related to spatial distribution (both laterally and vertically), availability of well construction details, historical data record, and proximity to key beneficial users (**Figures 2-4 to 2-5**). These well networks form the backbone of the GSP monitoring for groundwater levels and change in storage although all available groundwater level monitoring data are incorporated in ongoing evaluations of groundwater conditions in the Solano Subbasin. Several water level RMS wells were recently dropped from DWR and USBR monitoring programs, which provided monitoring of these wells. Efforts to re-recruit these wells for the GSP monitoring program have been occurring; however, four of these wells have been determined to be destroyed or inaccessible and the Subbasin is considering removing these wells from the network and replacing them with nearby wells. It was determined 08N01W33A001M had an obstruction that prevented monitoring and is being replaced with a nearby well. Additionally, twelve wells have been added to the RMS network, two are City of Rio Vista wells and ten are wells installed by DWR utilizing grant funds. During the periodic review MTs and MOs will be identified and set for the newly added RMS. Identification and vetting of potential replacement wells for the remaining inaccessible RMS is in progress. Through coordination with other agencies and landowners two additional wells, near Interstate 505 and Stevenson Bridge Road have been added to the supplemental network to address data gaps. Coordination with the Freshwater Trust has also provided new supplemental monitoring to areas of the Subbasin. As part of GSP implementation, GSAs in the Subbasin are actively working to ensure that monitoring at RMS wells is continued with additional emphasis on maintaining monitoring at all supplemental sites.

Table 2-1 Summary of Recent Water Level Monitoring (Since 2015)

Monitoring Entity	Monitoring Start Date	RMS (Number of wells)		Supplemental Monitoring (Number of wells)					Other Monitoring Network (Number of wells)		
		Quaternary Alluvium/ Upper Tehama	Basal Tehama	Quaternary Alluvium/ Upper Tehama	Middle Tehama	Basal Tehama	Markley	Unknown	Quaternary Alluvium/ Upper Tehama	Basal Tehama	Unknown
Cal Water	5/3/1976	1	0	7	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
City of Vacaville	1/29/1973	0	0	1	2	12	1	0	11	4	0
DWR	6/9/1918	9	0	44	0	1	0	2	14	0	10
Dixon	7/1/2018	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	1	0	4
GeoTracker	6/22/1994	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1278	0	28
Rio Vista	7/1/2014	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0
Sacramento County	1/1/1993	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SCWA	9/17/2001	3	8	20	0	7	0	0	3	0	21
SID	11/3/1937	1	0	16	0	0	0	4	4	0	20
United States Bureau of Reclamation	7/23/1931	15	0	16	0	0	0	10	4	0	2
USGS	4/2/2014	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Total		33	8	106	2	20	1	18	1320	4	85

2.1.2 Groundwater Quality

Across Solano County, there are over 1000 wells where recent groundwater quality conditions have been monitored since 2015 (**Table 2-2**). The majority of recent groundwater quality data were obtained from the SWRCB (Ag Lands, DDW and GeoTracker) for characterizing recent groundwater quality conditions. The data on GeoTracker include monitoring conducted for various regulatory programs; data from DDW include monitoring of public water system wells. Much of the available water quality information is located near areas of groundwater production for municipal and public supply and at sites where data are maintained on GeoTracker (**Figure 2-6**). Data provided by DDW for public supply wells generally do not include well construction information that is needed to classify the primary aquifer zone. An additional effort is required to locate any well construction information that may be available for wells with data available through DDW. As part of the GSP effort, 27 wells were selected to be part of the RMS network for groundwater quality and 225 wells were identified for inclusion in supplemental monitoring efforts related to water quality. The selection and identification of the RMS network and supplemental monitoring wells in the GSP were based on considerations related to spatial distribution (both laterally and vertically), availability of well construction details, historical data record, and proximity to key beneficial users. These well networks represent the foundation of the GSP monitoring for groundwater quality, although these networks will be evaluated as the GSP implementation progresses to ensure appropriate monitoring of groundwater quality is maintained and as specific locations of projects and management actions described in the GSP are identified. As part of GSP implementation, the Collaborative is actively working to ensure that monitoring at all RMS wells is continued with additional emphasis on maintaining monitoring at all supplemental sites.

Table 2-2 Summary of Recent Water Quality Monitoring (Since 2015)

Monitoring Entity	RMS (Number of wells)			Supplemental Monitoring (Number of wells)				Other Monitoring Network (Number of wells)		
	Quaternary Alluvium/ Upper Tehama	Basal Tehama	Unknown	Quaternary Alluvium/ Upper Tehama	Basal Tehama	Markley	Unknown	Quaternary Alluvium/ Upper Tehama	Basal Tehama	Unknown
Ag Lands	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	203
Cal Water	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	6	0	0
City of Vacaville	1	2	0	0	6	1	0	6	5	0
City of Rio Vista	2	0	0	5	0	0	0	3	0	0
DDW	0	0	13	0	0	0	61	0	0	81
Dixon	1	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
GeoTracker	0	0	0	108	0	0	34	776	0	243
SCWA	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
SID	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	8	0	0
UCD	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
USGS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22
Total	8	3	14	116	7	1	100	799	5	550

2.1.3 Land Subsidence

The locations of historical land subsidence monitoring stations are illustrated in **Figure 2-7**, including SCWA's two stations (Dixon (DIXN) and Vacaville (VCVL)), and other nearby Continuous Global Positioning System (CGPS) stations. The two SCWA subsidence stations, VCVL and DIXN, started recording data in 2012, whereas the other CGPS stations began in 2004 or 2005. Four subsidence monitoring stations located in the Solano Subbasin are part of the GSP RMS network for land subsidence. Additional data on vertical displacement of the land surface are available from DWR surveys conducted using remote sensing InSAR (Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar) technology. These data are available at different time intervals to supplement and compare with the high-resolution land subsidence monitoring stations.

2.1.4 Interconnected Surface Water

SCWA has a network of stream stages and gages located along the numerous small creeks found in Solano County, particularly in the northern and western areas of Solano County (**Figure 2-8**). Additionally, an extensive monitoring network exists along Putah Creek. Flows in Putah Creek within the Solano Subbasin are regulated through releases from Lake Berryessa and Lake Solano with specific flow requirements throughout the year that vary by month and water year type, including specific flow requirements for drought years as outlined in the Putah Creek Accord (**Appendix A**). The GSP RMS network for monitoring interconnected surface water includes six wells located near surface water features and key surface water gages along Putah Creek within the Subbasin (**Figure 2-8**). Thirty-six supplemental monitoring wells are also included in the monitoring network related to tracking groundwater and surface water relationships; these include new wells installed as part of activities described **Section 2.1.5**.

2.1.5 Data Gaps

A detailed description of data gaps is provided in **Sections 3 and 6 of the Solano GSP** (LSCE, 2022). As part of Technical Support Services (TSS) provided to the Solano Subbasin by DWR, a total of 10 new monitoring wells of varying depths at five different sites were installed in late 2021 and early 2022 to fill data gaps identified in the Solano Subbasin. The wells are supporting monitoring for groundwater level, groundwater water quality, and interconnected surface water conditions in key areas of the Subbasin. In 2024, the Subbasin continued outreach efforts to owners of wells in data gap areas. These outreach efforts involved coordination with GSAs and local entities and resulted in reinstating several wells in the GSP monitoring program and the addition of several new wells. **Figure 2-9** identifies the wells added to the monitoring network since the last annual report and data gaps identified in the Solano Subbasin. Many existing and additional monitoring facilities near to surface water features emphasize the collection of data necessary to evaluate relationships between groundwater and surface water resources consistent with SGMA including:

- Collecting groundwater and surface water data to detect changes in groundwater levels and groundwater quality and corresponding surface water stage, flow, and quality conditions.
- Collect groundwater and surface water data to establish baseline conditions that will facilitate assessments of the potential effects due to future climate change.

- Collect data to help identify mechanisms for and quantify exchanges of water between groundwater aquifers and surface waters, and responses of the hydrologic system to surface water and groundwater use.
- Provide surface water quality monitoring (including temperature and electrical conductivity) at existing monitoring sites along the Sacramento River and Delta Tributaries.
- Collect groundwater and surface water data that will enable water managers to avoid significant and unreasonable depletions of surface waters consistent with the requirements of SGMA.

3 GROUNDWATER CONDITIONS

3.1 Historical and Recent Hydrology and Climate

3.1.1 Precipitation

Figure 3-1a presents a graph of the historical annual precipitation and cumulative departure from the mean precipitation for the Davis meteorological station by water year (October 1-September 30). Unless otherwise noted, all years presented in this report refer to water years. The Davis station has a long and reliable historical record and exhibits trends similar to other meteorological stations in and around the Subbasin that have shorter periods of record. Rising segments of the cumulative departure curve indicate periods of wetter than average conditions while falling segments indicate dryer than average periods. Flatter slopes on the curve indicate periods of more average precipitation conditions. The DWR water year hydrologic classifications (water year type) for the Sacramento Valley based on Sacramento River watershed runoff characteristics are indicated on **Figure 3-1a**. The water year types in order of wettest to driest include wet (W), above normal (AN), below normal (BN), dry (D), and critical (C). The Solano Subbasin and Solano County have historically experienced cycles of wet, dry, and average precipitation conditions. Notable dry periods since the 1960s include the late-1970s (1975-1977), late-1980s to early 1990s (1987-1992), and a longer-term drier than average trend from 1999 through 2023 with a few brief wet and average periods. Several wetter than average periods occurred in the late 1970s and early 1980s (1978-1983), much of the 1990s (1993-1998), with three very wet single years in 2017, 2019, and 2023. Water year 2020 was a dry year with only about 12.5 inches of precipitation in the Solano Subbasin area (as measured at the Davis meteorologic station) and 2021 was classified as a critical year with only 6.5 inches of precipitation, less than half of average precipitation measured at the Davis station (average at Davis is about 18.4 inches). Water year 2022 had an annual average precipitation recorded at the Davis Station of about 19.1 inches and was similar to the long-term average; however, approximately 75 percent of the precipitation in 2022 occurred during the months of October 2021-December 2021 and the water year was classified as a critical year. Water year 2023 was a wet year for the Sacramento Valley region, with annual precipitation at the Davis station exceeding the long-term average by approximately 10 inches (about 150 percent of average). Water year 2024 has been preliminary classified as an above normal year for the Sacramento Valley region, although precipitation at the Davis station was slightly below average (about 95 percent of or one inch less than average).

Groundwater conditions presented in this report focus on conditions during recent years, especially the last water year (2024). The influence of the prolonged period of drier than average conditions since about 2000 and the very dry hydrology that has occurred in the Subbasin during water years 2020 through 2022 is still evident in groundwater conditions in some areas of the Solano Subbasin and County. The occurrence of such dry years is not unusual in the area, as seen in historical precipitation data presented in **Figure 3-1a**. The response of conditions to the higher precipitation during water year 2023 continued during water year 2024 in many areas of the Subbasin resulting from the combined effects from increased precipitation recharge and associated reduced demand in water year 2023; however, other weather factors occurring in 2024 also strongly influenced conditions in some parts of the Subbasin. The historical hydrology and the variability in the hydrology are important considerations

when evaluating groundwater conditions and trends. A representative base period from 1988 to 2018 was selected for evaluation of conditions in the Solano Subbasin GSP because it is approximately representative of average long-term hydrologic (e.g., precipitation) conditions in the area.

3.1.2 Temperature

Temperature patterns also affect groundwater conditions because of the influence of temperature on consumptive use of water through evaporation and transpiration and associated demands of environmental, agricultural, and urban uses. **Figure 3-1b** presents the number of days with high temperatures over 90 degrees and 100 degrees Fahrenheit (F) by water year since 1960 (based on observations at the Davis meteorological station). Weather in the Subbasin during water year 2024 included many warm days with 112 days recorded with high temperatures over 90 degrees F and 37 days with high temperatures over 100 degrees F. Water year 2024 had the most days over 90 degrees and over 100 degrees since 1960 and the increasing trend in the number of hot days over this period is evident in **Figure 3-1b**. Four of the five water years from 2020 through 2024 have been notably warm with a high number of days over 90 and 100 degrees. These high temperatures typically translate to increased water use to satisfy evaporation and transpiration demands in the Subbasin.

3.2 Groundwater Levels

This section presents recent groundwater level conditions in Solano County and the Solano Subbasin. Groundwater level monitoring includes data from RMS wells in addition to supplemental monitoring being conducted and data collected from publicly available data sources. These data were used to prepare groundwater elevation contour maps and time-series graphs of groundwater levels.

3.2.1 Groundwater Elevation Contour Maps

Groundwater elevation contours for spring and fall water level conditions in 2024 for each of the primary aquifer zones in the Solano Subbasin (and select areas of Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin) are presented on **Figures 3-2 to 3-5**. Groundwater elevation contours for all other years from 2015 through present are included in **Appendix B**. For contouring seasonal high and low conditions, spring conditions are representative of seasonal high groundwater level conditions and include the maximum observed water level elevation during the period February 1 to May 1. Seasonal low groundwater level conditions are represented by fall conditions based on the minimum static water level observed during the period September 1 to December 1. Although the fall observation period spans two water years, fall conditions as defined by this time period are believed to be most representative of the seasonal low conditions related to the water year ending September 30 of each year. The groundwater elevation contour maps were developed using all available groundwater elevation data related to each time period and for each primary aquifer zone. Only wells with known construction information or sufficient information to assign them to a primary aquifer were included in the contouring.

Prevailing groundwater flow directions in the Solano Subbasin within the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone tend to be from west/northwest to east/southeast away from the English Hills and Montezuma Hills towards the Sacramento River and Delta as indicated on contour maps. In the deeper confined Basal Tehama zone, there are fewer groundwater level data, but groundwater gradients

indicate flow is generally to the southwest towards the City of Vacaville, largely because this is the area where the most historical groundwater pumping in the Basal Tehama zone has occurred.

3.2.2 Groundwater Levels Trends

Overall long-term trends in groundwater levels are stable in the Subbasin with some declining levels evident in localized areas of the Subbasin, most notably in the northwestern part of the Subbasin. Groundwater levels exhibit declines during drought periods and recovery during and after wet periods with seasonal fluctuations observed throughout the Subbasin as a result of the cyclic annual trends in groundwater pumping for urban and agricultural uses during the irrigation season. The Subbasin has experienced a prolonged drier-than-average period since about 2000; this is evident in many hydrographs, although many wells exhibit recovery from recent wetter years in 2017, 2019, and 2023.

Selected groundwater level hydrographs for different parts of the groundwater system are presented in **Figures 3-6a to Figure 3-8b** to illustrate temporal trends in groundwater levels across the Subbasin. Select groundwater level hydrographs are grouped and presented on separate figures for wells in the Alluvial deposits, Upper Tehama formation, and the Basal Tehama formation. Although hydrographs for wells in the Alluvial and Upper Tehama geologic units are presented on separate figures, as noted above, these two units have similar characteristics and behave as one hydraulically continuous primary aquifer zone referred to as the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone.

Additional groundwater level hydrographs, including for all RMS, are presented in **Appendix C**.

3.2.2.1 Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama Zone

Select hydrographs for the alluvial deposits and other shallow deposits comprising part of the Alluvial/Upper Tehama Zone are displayed in **Figures 3-6a to 3-6c** organized by wells in the northern, central, and southern parts of the Subbasin. **Figures 3-7a to 3-7b** present select hydrographs for wells screened in the Upper Tehama part of the Alluvial/Upper Tehama Zone. **Figures 3-6a and 3-7a** present hydrographs for wells in the northern portion of the Solano Subbasin where there are more wells, including many of the wells with the longest historical periods of record. **Figures 3-6b and Figure 3-7b** present select water level hydrographs for the alluvial deposits in the central portion of the Subbasin and **Figures 3-6c** presents wells in the southern portion of the Subbasin.

The influence of the completed Solano Project in the late 1950s on historical groundwater levels is evident in many of the hydrographs for the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone. A remarkable rise in groundwater levels in the early 1960s is apparent in many wells resulting from the increased availability of surface water and decreased reliance on groundwater in large parts of the Subbasin. This rising groundwater level trend during the 1960s coincided with a period of generally average to below average precipitation in the Subbasin. After the dramatic rise in groundwater levels in the 1960s, most hydrographs in the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone mimic the precipitation trends with periodic rising and falling levels in response to wetter and drier periods. Groundwater levels appear stable in most of the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone with groundwater depths less than 100 feet bgs and considerably shallower in many areas. Periods of drought in the Solano Subbasin are evident in falling groundwater levels in the mid- to late-1970s, from 1987 to 1992, and more recently over the

period 1999 to 2016, culminating with five below average precipitation years during 2012 through 2016, three of which were dry or critical years, and then additional dry and critical years from 2020 through 2022. Water2023 was a remarkable wet year 2023 was a remarkable wet year and groundwater levels rebounded in many wells as a result of these wet conditions with continuing effects from the increased recharge still observed in many areas of the Subbasin in water year 2024, which was a relative average water year.

Groundwater levels in the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone in northern portion of the Subbasin (**Figures 3-6a and 3-7a**) exhibit greater fluctuations over time relative to groundwater levels in the central and southern parts of the Subbasin. In the northern portion of the Subbasin, groundwater levels are heavily influenced by droughts, seasonal fluctuations, and pumping. The long-term groundwater level trends in the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone do not indicate any widespread chronic groundwater level declines, although groundwater levels in a number of wells have been declining recently as a result of the relatively dry conditions experienced since 2000. Declining water levels in some parts of this area are evident in hydrographs for wells, including 08N01E33Q002M, 07N01E11M001M, 07N02E15E001M, 07N01W05R001M, and 07N01E04P003M, which show declining levels starting around 2000. Recent recovery of groundwater levels is evident in many of these declining wells in response to wet years in 2017, 2019 and 2023, although additional dry years in 2020 and 2021 may counterbalance the longer-term influence of these wet years on groundwater levels. One notable outlier to the groundwater level trends exhibited by most other wells in the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone occurs in well 07N01W06E001M (**Figure 3-7a**), which shows relatively stable groundwater levels from the early 1930s through the late 1970s, but it has been progressively declining since. This well is located near the western edge of the Subbasin and is likely constructed in an area where the primary water-yielding geologic units are thinner and more consolidated. The nature and cause of localized declining groundwater levels in this area are being further monitored and evaluated.

Although there are fewer wells in the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone with longer periods of water level records in the central and southern parts of the Subbasin, the select hydrographs for those wells with available data suggest stable groundwater levels with minimal seasonal or longer-term groundwater level fluctuations or changes, and shallow groundwater is typically less than 20 feet bgs (**Figures 3-6b and 3-6c; and Figure 3-7b**). As presented on **Figure 3-6c**, one well (4N02E22P001M) in the southern part of the Subbasin is exhibiting longer-term declines in groundwater levels since the mid-1970s. This well is located in the Montezuma Hills, which is a topographically high area formed by the Montezuma Formation. The geology in this area is somewhat more consolidated and finer-grained compared to the underlying Tehama Formation and Quaternary Alluvium. The declining groundwater levels evident in this well may be a result of the local hydrogeologic characteristics of the Montezuma Formation and its lower water-bearing capacity.

3.2.2.2 Basal Tehama Zone

Development of the Basal Tehama zone for groundwater supply occurred after development of the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone. As a result, historical groundwater level monitoring in the Basal Tehama zone does not extend back as far in time. **Figures 3-8a and 3-8b** present select hydrographs for wells screened in the Basal Tehama zone. All of the hydrographs presented on these

figures are for wells with depths greater than 1,000 feet and sometimes greater than 2,000 feet. As noted in previous sections, the Basal Tehama zone is under confined conditions throughout most of the Subbasin and in all the wells presented on **Figures 3-8a and 3-8b**. Therefore, the groundwater elevations presented on the hydrographs are potentiometric elevations reflecting the height to which water rises in the aquifer when penetrated by a well. Changes in the groundwater elevations shown on these hydrographs do not represent desaturation or re-saturation of the Basal Tehama, but they are a function of reduced pore pressure in the aquifer and the effects of the compression and expansion of the aquifer matrix and pore water. Large changes in groundwater elevation can result from relatively small changes in storage in a confined aquifer.

Groundwater elevations in most wells in the Basal Tehama zone exhibit considerable declines during the period from 2000 to 2010 (**Figure 3-8a and 3-8b**). This is largely because of the redistribution in the location of pumping from the Basal Tehama that occurred in the vicinity of the City of Vacaville during this period in an area where the Basal Tehama zone had previously been undeveloped. Most of the Basal Tehama wells presented on **Figures 3-8a and 3-8b** show stabilization and indication of reaching a new equilibrium in the groundwater levels over the last decade at least since 2010. This stabilization in groundwater levels is believed to be a result of the natural stabilization and equilibration of recharge flow paths over time since the initial development of the aquifer occurred.

One deep monitoring well in the Basal Tehama zone located north of Vacaville and west of Interstate 505 (SCWA Allendale MW-1235) (**Figure 3-8a**) shows declining levels (about 30 feet) since 2010. This trend is similar to what is exhibited by shallower wells in this general part of the Subbasin and is consistent with the generally drier conditions over the period. Although the trend in this well continues to be monitored and evaluated, it is possible the Basal Tehama in this area of the Subbasin may be more closely hydraulically connected to the shallower part of the groundwater system, have more limited water-yielding characteristics, and receive more limited recharge. As a result, groundwater levels in this well may reflect greater influences from climatic conditions and associated demands on groundwater. However, climatic influences on recharge to the Basal Tehama is likely to be strongly attenuated because of the longer travel times from the recharge source to reach the Basal Tehama zone in most areas of the Subbasin. As with the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone, long-term trends in groundwater levels in this area will continue to be monitored and evaluated.

3.2.2.3 Groundwater Level Trends by Depth

Figures 3-9a and 3-9b present hydrographs for multiple-completion nested monitoring wells in the central and northern parts of the Subbasin. These hydrographs compare groundwater elevations between monitoring wells screened at different depths at the same location and illustrate some of the unique behavior of groundwater levels by depth zone. The numbers in the well names on **Figure 3-9a** refer to the total depth of each well. **Figure 3-9b** present data for shallower nested monitoring wells located adjacent to surface water features.

3.2.2.3.1 *SCWA Nested Monitoring Wells*

SCWA has dedicated nested monitoring wells at sites across the Subbasin for tracking groundwater conditions at different depths and locations within the Subbasin.

Allendale Monitoring Wells

The SCWA Allendale monitoring wells in the northwestern part of the Subbasin range in depth from 1,235 feet to 1,925 feet and all are screened in the Basal Tehama. The vertical gradient across these depth intervals is downward (elevations decrease with increasing depth) with potentiometric elevation differences between the shallowest and deepest wells ranging from about 60 feet in 2008 to about 30 feet currently. The shallowest well exhibits greater seasonal fluctuations in potentiometric elevation than the two deeper wells and also exhibits greater declines of about 45 feet since monitoring began. The middle well (Allendale MW-1345) has little seasonal fluctuations in water levels, but water levels have also been declining in this well since 2008, although at a slightly slower rate than in the shallower well. Groundwater levels in the deepest well (Allendale MW-1925) also show seasonal fluctuations but have been largely stable over the period of record (since 2008).

RNVWD Monitoring Wells

The RNVWD monitoring wells are somewhat shallower than those at the SCWA Allendale site and include a mixture of wells screened in the Middle Tehama (MW-446 and MW-594) and deeper wells in the confined Basal Tehama zone (MW-862 and MW-1389) with depths ranging from 446 feet to 1,389 feet. The vertical gradient between the three shallowest wells is downward (groundwater surface elevation decreases with increasing depth); however, the deepest well (MW-1389) has a groundwater elevation that is similar to the two shallowest wells at the site (MW-446 and MW-594) and higher than the other Basal Tehama well (MW-862) indicating an upward vertical gradient at great depth within the Basal Tehama. All of the wells exhibit similar trends in groundwater levels over the period of record; these include similar magnitude of seasonal fluctuations and longer-term trends, including declining levels from 2002 through about 2008 and generally stable levels since 2008, although a slight declining trend in levels in one of the wells (MW-862) is evident starting in 2021.

Dixon Monitoring Wells

The SCWA Dixon monitoring wells range from 1,200 feet deep to 2,370 feet deep with the shallowest of the wells (MW-1200) screened in the upper part of the Basal Tehama zone and the other two wells completed within the lower parts of the Basal Tehama. MW-1200 exhibits seasonal fluctuations of 50 to 60 feet, which are quite distinct from the trends in the deeper wells in which groundwater levels show little or no seasonal change. The greater seasonal fluctuations in MW-1200 likely reflect the influence of regional pumping. As a result of the seasonal fluctuations in groundwater levels in MW-1200, the vertical hydraulic gradient between these wells is downward during the winter and spring periods and shifts to an upward gradient between MW-2212 and MW-1200 during the summer and fall months. A consistent difference in head of about 20 feet is evident between the MW-2212 and MW-2370 wells, although the difference in the depths of these wells is only about 150 feet. The long-term trends in groundwater elevations exhibited in all wells at this site are relatively stable over the period of record (since 2009), although MW-1200 exhibits a stronger response in water levels to the wet year in 2023, which has resulted in a notable increase in water levels in the well since its historical low in 2022.

Maine Prairie Monitoring Wells

The SCWA Maine Prairie monitoring wells range from 840 feet deep to 2,170 feet deep with the shallowest well (MW-840) screened in the undifferentiated Upper/Middle Tehama and the other two wells within the Basal Tehama zone. This site is approximately six miles south of the Dixon site and exhibits very similar trends in groundwater levels. MW-840 in the Upper/Middle Tehama formation has higher groundwater elevations than the deeper wells in the Basal Tehama and also shows considerable seasonal groundwater level fluctuations, typically between 60 to 70 feet. The greater seasonal fluctuations in MW-840 are likely a reflection of greater pumping occurring in the shallower part of the groundwater system in this part of the Subbasin. The two Basal Tehama wells at this site have nearly identical groundwater elevation trends. All of the wells at this site exhibit long-term stability in groundwater level trends over the period of record from 2008 to 2022. Water level data for most of 2023 and part of 2024 were not available because of difficulties with monitoring instrumentation in the wells at the site. The monitoring equipment was replaced in 2024 and recent water level data suggest a stable to slightly increasing trend in the water levels in the wells relative to 2022 conditions.

Meridian Monitoring Wells

The SCWA Meridian monitoring wells are located southeast of the City of Vacaville and include two wells in the shallower part of the Tehama Formation (Upper/Middle Tehama) and one well in the Basal Tehama zone with depths ranging from 400 to 1,680 feet. The two Upper/Middle Tehama wells (MW-400 and MW-825) exhibit very similar groundwater elevation trends that are relatively stable between about 50 and 60 feet msl with periodic influences from nearby pumping activity evident as relatively shorter-duration drawdown and recovery cycles. The deeper Basal Tehama well (MW-1680) has groundwater elevations and seasonal fluctuations that are very distinct from the shallower wells, with groundwater elevations approximately 100 feet below levels in the Upper/Middle Tehama wells. Seasonal groundwater level fluctuations in MW-1680 are typically about 20 feet and are greater than in the shallower wells, although some of the short-term pumping influences in the Upper/Middle Tehama wells exceed 20 feet. The Basal Tehama (MW-1680) also shows long-term stability in groundwater levels at this site since 2008, although conditions have not fully recovered from a more recent drop in water levels that occurred during the recent dry period of 2020-2022.

3.2.2.3.2 Solano Subbasin GSA Nested Monitoring Wells

The Solano Subbasin GSA (SSGSA) installed and monitors dedicated nested monitoring wells at five sites to track groundwater conditions in select areas of the Subbasin near surface water features. In 2021 and 2022 SSGA had ten wells installed by DWR at five sites with DWR Technical Support Services assistance. These monitoring wells have been equipped with automated water level monitoring instrumentation for continuous monitoring of groundwater levels. Four of the SSGSA monitoring sites are along Putah Creek and one site is along Lindsey Slough near the Delta. Each of the sites have two wells at different depths, a shallower well with depths ranging from 25 to 75 feet deep and a deeper well with depths ranging from 71 to 109 feet deep, with well designs based on site-specific conditions. Hydrographs of groundwater levels in SSGSA monitoring wells are presented in **Figure 3-9b** and observations of groundwater level trends are discussed in the sections below. Most of these monitoring wells show notable increases in groundwater levels since 2022, especially in the deeper wells.

As additional data are acquired from monitoring at these sites, more thorough analyses of relationships between groundwater and surface water at each site will be conducted. The SSGSA wells are planned for inclusion as RMS in the GSP monitoring program once sufficient data are available to assign appropriate SMC. SCWA installed shallow seepage monitoring wells in 2020 at the same four sites along Putah Creek. An in-depth characterization of groundwater conditions and the relationships between surface water and ground at these sites, including incorporation of data from the seepage monitoring wells, is planned as part of addressing data gaps in the Subbasin.

SSGSA-01

Monitoring site SSGSA-01 is located adjacent to Putah Creek approximately one mile downstream of Lake Solano. The automated water level instrumentation in the shallow well at this site experienced technical issues during the initial months of monitoring and currently only has data since July 2023. From available groundwater level data in the wells at the site, levels in the shallower well (SSGSA-01a; 56 feet deep), suggest a strong hydraulic connection with the nearby stream, as evidenced by the sharp changes in water levels in response to storm events and streamflow conditions, with lesser seasonal variability in levels than in the deeper well. In contrast, the deeper well (SSGSA-01b; 90 feet deep) exhibits larger seasonal variability in water levels with a more muted response to streamflow conditions, suggesting a stronger influence from the regional changes in groundwater levels associated with seasonal conditions and groundwater pumping activities, although the temporal trends in water levels in the two wells are very similar. Recent water levels in SSGSA-01b have increased approximately 20 feet since the seasonal low in 2022.

SSGSA-02

Monitoring site SSGSA-02 is located adjacent to Putah Creek directly south of downtown Winters and approximately 3/4 mile downstream from SSGSA-01. Groundwater level data in the wells at the site suggest a greater influence from the regional changes in groundwater levels associated with seasonal conditions and groundwater pumping activities in both the shallow well (SSGSA-02a; 60 feet deep) and the deeper well (SSGSA-02b; 109 feet deep) than from the nearby stream, although water levels in the shallower well do indicate a stronger response to high streamflow events than the deeper well. A seasonal change in groundwater levels of between 20 and 40 feet is apparent in the deeper well over the two years of monitoring; the seasonal low water levels in the shallow well appears to have been below the bottom of the well in 2022 and 2023, although the data suggest seasonal fluctuations in water levels in the shallower well are somewhat less than in the deeper well. The influence from nearby well pumping activities is apparent in the deeper well as oscillations in water levels superimposed on the longer-term trends in water levels. The seasonal low water level in SSGSA-02b in 2024 is more than 20 feet higher than in 2022.

SSGSA-03

Monitoring site SSGSA-03 is located adjacent to Putah Creek in the vicinity of the Interstate 505 crossing near the town of Winters and approximately 3/4 mile downstream from SSGSA-03. Groundwater level data in the wells at the site suggest very similar conditions in the deeper well (SSGSA-03b; 95 feet deep)

as observed upstream in SSGSA-02b). Water levels in the deeper well appear to reflect regional changes in groundwater levels associated with seasonal conditions and groundwater pumping activities. The influence from nearby well pumping activities is apparent in the deeper well as oscillations in water levels superimposed on the longer-term trends in water levels. The shallow well (SSGSA-03a; 36 feet deep) exhibits water levels dominated by influences from the nearby stream. This is evident in abrupt increases in water levels during early periods of storm events (and high streamflow) with a subsequent recession curve after each storm period. Summer and fall water levels in SSGSA-03a appear to be supported by streamflow in the nearby stream with relatively small amounts of long-term change in groundwater levels. The seasonal low water level in SSGSA-03a in 2024 is similar to previous years although the low level in SSGSA-03b in 2024 is almost 30 feet higher than in 2022.

SSGSA-05

Monitoring site SSGSA-05 is located adjacent to Putah Creek approximately five miles downstream from SSGSA-03. The shallower well (SSGSA-05a; 75 feet deep) and deeper well (SSGSA-05b; 100 feet deep) at this site show very similar groundwater level trends with influences apparent from the nearby stream and also from more regional and longer-term groundwater conditions affected by dynamics of groundwater demand and replenishment. Both wells exhibit a very similar and rapid response to storm events and streamflow conditions with abrupt rises in water levels and slower declines during the dry season. Water levels in the two wells diverge more during the summer and fall, with the deeper well showing slightly more declines, likely because of a combination of greater reflection of seasonal demands from the primary groundwater production zones in the area coupled with lesser influence from recharge by the nearby stream. Groundwater levels in the wells at the site increased by 5 or 6 feet since Fall 2022 and only 2 or 3 feet of lowering occurred during recent irrigation seasons.

SSGSA-06

Monitoring site SSGSA-06 is located adjacent to Lindsey Slough in the more southern part of the Subbasin nearer the Delta. The shallow well at the site (SSGSA-06a) is 25 feet deep and the deeper well (SSGSA-06b) is 71 feet deep. In contrast to the four monitoring well sites along Putah Creek, groundwater levels in the deep well at SSGSA-06 tend to be several feet higher than in the shallower well suggesting some level of confinement of groundwater and an upward gradient within some of the relatively shallow parts of the groundwater system. Only for short periods during the winter and in direct response to high levels in the nearby slough, water levels in the shallow well are higher than in the deeper well. Neither well exhibits great seasonal variability in water levels, although seasonal changes in levels are greater in the shallower well with a more rapid response to precipitation and nearby surface water conditions. Season low water levels in both wells have been relatively consistent since 2022.

3.3 Groundwater Quality

Recent groundwater quality data for key constituents of interest in Solano County and Solano Subbasin are presented in maps on **Figures 3-10a** through **3-15b**. These map figures show the recent (since 2015)

average and maximum observed levels for total dissolved solids (TDS), nitrate as nitrogen (NO₃-N), arsenic (As), chromium-6 (Cr6), chloride (Cl), and boron (B) measured in wells in the area.

The water quality data presented in this report represent untreated groundwater samples and should not be interpreted as reflective of the quality of treated drinking water supplied by any public water system. Drinking water served by public water systems must meet regulatory drinking water standards, which may involve water treatment or blending processes. Drinking water standards such as maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) or other water quality goals (for unregulated constituents) are referenced in this report to provide a point of comparison for understanding groundwater quality conditions. Primary MCLs are health-based standards and secondary MCLs are aesthetic standards.

3.3.1 Arsenic

Because of the natural hydrogeologic conditions, some notable areas of high arsenic concentrations in groundwater exist in parts of the County and Subbasin (**Figures 3-10a and 3-10b**). Elevated arsenic concentrations are apparent in the more southern parts of the Subbasin where the occurrences of historical maximum arsenic concentrations above the primary MCL of 10 µg/L are more common. Although some local areas of elevated arsenic concentrations exist in the more northern parts of the Subbasin, the arsenic levels in groundwater in the northern Subbasin are commonly less than 5 µg/L with some localized areas or depth horizons of the aquifer system exhibiting higher concentrations, most notably in and around parts of Vacaville and Dixon. A groundwater quality study conducted by the USGS as part of the GAMA for the Southern Sacramento Valley, including the Solano Subbasin, found arsenic concentrations above the MCL in eight percent of wells sampled (Bennett et al., 2011). These higher concentrations are believed to be from natural sources and tended to occur near major river channels and in the Delta where naturally low dissolved oxygen concentrations in groundwater produce reducing geochemical conditions that increase the solubility of arsenic (Bennett et al., 2011).

3.3.2 Boron

Boron commonly occurs in groundwater as a result of the natural leaching process from rocks and soils in which groundwater travels or occurs. Average and maximum boron concentrations in Solano County and the Solano Subbasin since 2015 are shown on **Figures 3-11a and 3-11b** and suggest that boron levels in groundwater are below the Notification Level for drinking water of 1000 µg/L (10 mg/L) throughout most of Solano County and Subbasin, with some areas of elevated levels. Boron does not have an established drinking water MCL. Boron concentrations in the northwestern part of the Solano Subbasin tend to be the lowest with generally increasing concentrations to the south and east.

3.3.3 Chloride

Historical chloride concentrations in groundwater in the Subbasin are relatively low in most areas as displayed on **Figures 3-12a and 3-12b**. Chloride concentrations in the northern Subbasin are typically less than 50 mg/L with nearly all well results suggesting concentrations below 100 mg/L. An area of relatively higher chloride concentrations is evident in the central and western part of the Subbasin, likely related to the geologic materials of marine origin that occur at shallower depths or at the surface along and to the west of the Subbasin in this area. Except for a few notable regulated facility sites, chloride

concentrations within the Subbasin are generally below the secondary MCL of 250 mg/L. The generally low chloride concentrations across the Subbasin suggest little historical influence from any higher chloride concentrations that may have periodically occurred in the surface waterways of the Delta. Although elevated salinity and chloride concentrations have been observed in the Delta surface water during periods of major drought when freshwater outflows in the Delta were very low, no evidence of chronic intrusion of higher salinity surface water into the groundwater is apparent.

3.3.4 Chromium-6

Effective October 1, 2024 the State of California completed the rulemaking for setting the MCL for chromium-6 and an MCL of 10 µg/L for chromium-6 was established in addition to the existing MCL of 50 µg/L for total chromium. The compliance schedule for meeting the new chromium-6 MCL is based on the number of system service connections³. Small public water systems with less than 1,000 service connections have until October 1, 2028 to comply with the new chromium-6 MCL whereas large water systems with greater than 10,000 connections must comply by October 1, 2026. Average and maximum recent concentrations of chromium-6 in groundwater in the Subbasin are presented in **Figures 3-13a and 3-13b** and highlight several areas where concentrations are above 10 µg/L, including in Vacaville, Dixon, Winters, and south of Davis.

Chromium occurs naturally in groundwater throughout California, including parts of Solano County and the Solano Subbasin. When dissolved in groundwater, chromium can occur in both trivalent (Cr-3) and hexavalent (Cr-6) forms. Naturally-occurring chromium-6 can occur in association with serpentinite-containing rock or chromium containing geologic formations (SWRCB, 2017) that can be found in various metamorphic and igneous rocks common in the Coast Ranges throughout northern California. Chromium can also occur in groundwater as result of localized contamination from industrial processes; however, chromium-linked industrial processes are not associated with any regulated soil and groundwater remediation sites (i.e., GeoTracker sites) in the County or Subbasin, including in the vicinity of municipal production wells where chromium-6 concentrations have been detected at elevated levels. Instead, it is likely that detections of chromium-6 in the Solano County are the result of natural occurrence and geochemical processes.

3.3.5 Nitrate

Data on nitrate concentrations in groundwater indicate many wells with high nitrate concentrations above the primary MCL of 10 mg/L exist along Interstate 80 between and around the Cities of Dixon and Davis, near Vacaville and Winters, and also dispersed more broadly across the northern Subbasin (**Figure 3-14a to 3-14b**). Nitrate concentrations in groundwater are generally lower in the Suisun-Fairfield Subbasin and southeastern portion of the Solano Subbasin. Nitrate can occur naturally in groundwater, although typically at relatively low concentrations below the MCL. Elevated concentrations of nitrate can be associated with impacts from chemical fertilizers or animal waste (i.e., septic or manure). Considerable additional data on nitrate concentrations are now available within the Solano Subbasin as a result of the recent requirement (starting in 2022 calendar year) for nitrate testing of all domestic

³ https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/SWRCBDDW-21-003_hexavalent_chromium.html

wells on parcels enrolled in the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) as part of the ILRP Drinking Water Well Monitoring program (DWWMP). These additional DWWMP data suggest a larger spatial extent of areas affected by elevated nitrate concentrations than had previously been documented. The areas with elevated nitrate levels tend to occur where depth to groundwater is very shallow, notably in areas south and east of Dixon. A historical nitrate contamination plume from a former meat processing facility is known to exist in the vicinity of Dixon, although the extent of any relationship of this point source to the broader elevated nitrate concentrations east and south of Dixon is not documented and may warrant future consideration. In reviewing nitrate concentration data within the Subbasin in 2023, a surprisingly high number of wells sampled as part of the ILRP DWWMP had very low nitrate concentrations in 2022 with large spikes in concentrations in 2023. Whether this spike in nitrate is real or a result of a systematic data reporting error is still part of an ongoing investigation, including through coordination with the SWRCB, who are responsible for receiving and hosting these data. If an actual spike in concentrations did occur in these wells in 2023, additional investigation of the potential causes will also be conducted.

3.3.6 TDS

TDS provides a measure of the overall salinity of groundwater. High concentrations of TDS in groundwater can be the result of naturally occurring salinity, especially within aquifers comprised of sediments sourced from marine deposits such as those formations occurring at great depth in the Solano Subbasin or in the Coast Range. TDS concentrations tend to be lower in the more northern parts of the Subbasin with an increasing number of wells with higher TDS concentrations occurring in more southern parts of the Solano Subbasin near Montezuma Hills (**Figure 3-15a to Figure 3-15b**). Most of the wells in the Subbasin have recent historical TDS concentrations below the secondary upper MCL of 1,000 mg/L and many of the wells in the northern and central Subbasin have TDS concentrations below the recommended MCL of 500 mg/L. Localized areas of higher TDS concentrations in groundwater correspond to environmental monitoring wells at regulated sites, likely reflecting point source impacts to TDS concentrations.

3.3.7 Other Groundwater Quality Constituents

Maps of a variety of other groundwater quality constituents are presented in **Appendix D**. Many of these maps highlight distinct areas of local groundwater contamination that should be considered when evaluating potential groundwater quality impacts from implementation of projects and management actions to achieve sustainability. Wells with detections and exceedances for a variety of constituents, including anthropogenic contaminants like pesticides, solvents, and petroleum-related chemicals, are displayed in maps in **Appendix D**. Most notably, maps of DBCP, EDB, 1,2,3-TCP, naphthalene, and BTEX concentrations all indicate areas or locations with wells exceeding the respective drinking water MCLs. Additional contaminants such as aldicarb sulfone, atrazine, diazinon, simazine, and perchlorate have also been detected in areas of the Subbasin, although at concentrations below drinking water MCLs. Naturally occurring constituents such as uranium and manganese are also elevated in some wells with high uranium concentrations more apparent in the northern and central parts of the Subbasin and high manganese concentrations more common in the southeastern parts of the Subbasin. Uranium levels are

generally below the MCL, except for one exceedance in the Delta area, whereas a greater number of manganese exceedances exist in the Subbasin.

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a category of rapidly emerging synthetic chemicals of concern in groundwater. PFAS have been used for a wide range of applications including as surface and protective coatings in consumer, commercial, and industrial products and have also been used as a surfactant in firefighting foam. They are resistant to heat, water, and oil and do not break down in the environment. MCLs have been established by the USEPA for some PFAS chemicals with monitoring requirements for public water systems starting in 2027 and a requirement for public water systems to implement solutions to address any PFAS levels in drinking water above the MCL by 2029. A map of concentrations of select PFAS chemicals in groundwater in relation to detection levels and any established MCLs is presented in **Appendix D**.

3.4 Land Subsidence

Land subsidence is the sinking or settling of the land surface. Historical land subsidence caused by decomposition of peat soils has been documented in the Delta islands, including in parts of the southern Solano Subbasin. There are two general types of land subsidence: elastic and inelastic. Elastic subsidence is a reversible condition that can occur as a result of short- or long-term groundwater level declines in alluvial aquifers and the associated compaction of the aquifer matrix material that occurs when water is removed from pore spaces in the aquifer. With elastic subsidence, as groundwater levels recover, the condition is reversed (i.e., there is a rebound of the land surface). Inelastic subsidence is permanent subsidence that is not reversible. Inelastic subsidence caused by groundwater level declines results from the compaction of fine-grained materials (e.g., clay layers) in the groundwater system as the water held in these materials is released. Once the water has been expelled from the fine-grained materials, the layers compact and the water is permanently lost from these materials even when groundwater conditions change and the groundwater levels rise. Inelastic subsidence caused by groundwater depletion typically occurs after a period of chronic groundwater level or pressure declines that last for a prolonged period. There has been no documented *inelastic* subsidence in the Solano Subbasin. Seasonal or shorter-term declines in groundwater levels do not typically cause inelastic subsidence.

Land subsidence activity in Solano County and Solano Subbasin is monitored with CGPS stations and using remote sensing techniques (Interferometric Synthetic Aperture Radar [InSAR]) comparing the elevation of the land surface over time and generating vertical displacement results. Negative vertical displacement measurements indicate land subsidence and positive vertical displacement measurements indicate uplift.

3.4.1 CGPS Stations

The locations of long-term CGPS stations in and around Solano County and the Solano Subbasin are presented on **Figures 3-16a and 3-16b**. The CGPS stations are long-term and semi-permanent monitoring sites and collect highly accurate data on lateral and vertical positioning on a daily basis with records starting as early as 2005. CGPS surveying has an accuracy of less than 0.5 centimeter (cm) or about 0.2 inches (UNAVCO, 2010). The historical monitoring of the CGPS stations in the area has been conducted by SCWA and University NAVSTAR Consortium (UNAVCO) Plate Boundary Observatory (PBO),

including installation and monitoring of two CGPS stations in June 2012 by SCWA to track land surface elevation conditions in the County and Subbasin. All ongoing acquisition and processing of monitoring data for CGPS stations is managed through EarthScope Consortium⁴ (historically UNAVCO PBO). One additional nearby CGPS station (UCD1) located outside the Solano Subbasin on the UC Davis campus is monitored by Scripps Orbit and Permanent Array Center (SOPAC). Data and trends in vertical displacement monitoring from CGPS stations in and around the Solano Subbasin are summarized in **Table 3-1**. The four CGPS stations within Solano Subbasin (DIXN, VCVL, P267, P266) are included as GSP RMS for monitoring subsidence in the Subbasin. For GSP reporting, vertical displacement data for CGPS stations are periodically acquired from UNAVCO PBO and other monitoring/reporting entities and updated to incorporate any changes to historical data made by EarthScope Consortium or others resulting from improvements in their data processing. As a result, some of the CGPS vertical displacement data presented in this report may differ slightly from what was presented in previous reports.

Data from the CGPS station located at the SCWA nested monitoring well site in Dixon (DIXN) exhibit an annual vertical displacement (change in elevation) behavior marked by a generally sinusoidal pattern with lower land surface elevations in summer and fall compared to winter and spring. This seasonal fluctuation pattern is typical of alluvial groundwater basins under natural and developed conditions as result of the seasonal cycles of draining and replenishment of the groundwater system during different seasons. The land surface elevation at the DIXN site has historically been relatively stable although an increased amount of negative vertical displacement (subsidence) is apparent at this site during WY 2021. The vertical displacement at the DIXN site has been very minimal since WY 2021. Over the period of record from 2012 through 2024 the vertical displacement has generally been slightly negative at an average rate of only -0.0115 feet per year (ft/yr) or -0.14 inch per year (in/yr) with only minimal total subsidence (-0.1415 feet or -1.7 inches) over the period of record for WY 2013 to 2024 (**Table 3-1**). Data for DIXN suggest a slight amount of uplift at the site during WYs 2023 and 2024.

P267, located south of Dixon in the central part of the Subbasin, exhibits a similar historical trend in vertical displacement as the DIXN station, although the period of record extends back to 2005. The historical rate of vertical displacement at P267 is -0.013 ft/yr (-0.2541 feet or about 3 inches in total) with only very limited negative vertical displacement since 2022.

Data from the CGPS station at the City of Vacaville MW-16 site (VCVL) indicate stable conditions over its historical record since June 2012 with very small seasonal fluctuations in land surface elevations throughout the year. The VCVL station has exhibited only a very slight downward trend in vertical displacement (-0.0058 ft/yr or -0.07 in/yr) and minimal total subsidence (-0.071 feet or -0.85 inches) from 2012 through 2024 (**Table 3-1**). Over water years 2015 through 2024, the vertical displacement at the VCVL site has continued at a very small rate of subsidence (-0.0045 ft/yr or -0.054 in/yr).

⁴ In 2023 UNAVACO merged with IRIS to form EarthScope Consortium.

Station P266 is in the western part of the Subbasin near the Montezuma Hills and has recorded only very little vertical displacement of -0.1094 feet (-0.0057 ft/yr) since 2005 with almost no long-term vertical displacement since 2019.

The CGPS stations show that the land surface elevation fluctuates seasonally by between 0.0698 and 0.1035 feet in areas of the Subbasin, with the higher fluctuations occurring in the central areas around Dixon. At the four CGPS stations within the Subbasin the average annual rate of displacement is considerably less than typical season fluctuations. There is currently insufficient information to indicate whether the vertical displacement observed at the stations is reflective of inelastic or elastic conditions. Additional data after recovery from the prolonged drier than average period since 1999 and more extreme drought periods ending in 2016 is necessary to determine the nature of any subsidence observed in the Subbasin. The seasonal fluctuations indicate the magnitude of elasticity that can occur as a function of seasonal variability in conditions.

Table 3-1 Summary of Land Subsidence Monitoring

Station ID	Years of Record	Date Range Evaluated	Total Vertical Displacement (ft)	Rate of Land Surface Elevation Change (ft/yr)	WY 2015-2024 Total Vertical Displacement (ft)	WY 2015-2024 Rate of Land Surface Elevation Change (ft/yr)	Average Annual Seasonal Elevation Fluctuation ¹ (ft)
Stations Located Inside Solano Subbasin							
DIXN	12	6/9/2012 - 9/30/2024	-0.1415	-0.0115	-0.1142	-0.0114	0.1035
VCVL	12	9/8/2012 - 9/30/2024	-0.0710	-0.0058	-0.0454	-0.0045	0.0774
P266	19	5/9/2005 - 9/30/2024	-0.1094	-0.0057	-0.0529	-0.0053	0.0752
P267	19	4/9/2005 - 9/30/2024	-0.2541	-0.0130	-0.1765	-0.0177	0.0698
Stations Located Outside Solano Subbasin							
P248	17	9/21/2007 - 9/30/2024	-0.0139	-0.0008	-0.0155	-0.0015	0.0739
P256	20	10/28/2005 - 9/30/2024	-0.0589	-0.0030	-0.0390	-0.0039	0.0640
P261	20	6/4/2004 - 9/30/2024	-0.1175	-0.0058	-0.0793	-0.0079	0.0662
P262	20	3/30/2005 - 9/30/2024	-0.0288	-0.0015	-0.0081	-0.0008	0.0690
P264	19	5/13/2005 - 9/30/2024	-0.0461	-0.0024	-0.0553	-0.0055	0.0801
P265	19	8/27/2005 - 9/30/2024	-0.2942	-0.0154	-0.1679	-0.0168	0.0728

Station ID	Years of Record	Date Range Evaluated	Total Vertical Displacement (ft)	Rate of Land Surface Elevation Change (ft/yr)	WY 2015-2024 Total Vertical Displacement (ft)	WY 2015-2024 Rate of Land Surface Elevation Change (ft/yr)	Average Annual Seasonal Elevation Fluctuation ¹ (ft)
P268	19	4/11/2005 - 9/30/2024	-0.1907	-0.0098	-0.0945	-0.0095	0.0669
P271	20	6/8/2004 - 9/30/2024	-1.0680	-0.0526	-0.5875	-0.0587	0.1734
P273	16	10/27/2005 – 1/12/2021	-0.2013	-0.0132	-0.1320	-0.0210	0.0846
P274	19	10/28/2005 - 5/6/2024	-0.2940	-0.0159	-0.3008	-0.0314	0.1011
UCD1	28	5/19/1996 – 9/30/2024	-1.0557	-0.0372	-0.3331	-0.0333	0.1620

1 Annual fluctuation is calculated as the seasonal elevation variation occurring over a year spanning March to March.

Additional CGPS stations monitored as part of the UNAVCO PBO and SOPAC networks exist around the Subbasin and the historical vertical displacement data at some of these stations are presented in **Figures 3-16a** and **3-16b**. Station P265 is located outside the Subbasin near Winters, just across the northern Subbasin boundary, and the other nearby PBO stations are located in the adjacent hills to the west or south of the Delta. The stations located outside the Subbasin provide a useful comparison for relating to the vertical displacement occurring at points within the Subbasin.

Station P265, located just north of the Subbasin boundary, has exhibited an average subsidence (negative displacement) of approximately -0.2942 feet (about -3.53 inches) over the 19 years of record. This translates to an estimated rate of vertical displacement of -0.0154 ft/year (-0.185 in/yr). The trend in vertical displacement at the site has again stabilized since 2022 after a brief episode of increased negative displacement during the 2020 to 2021 period. Station UCD1 is also just north of the Subbasin on the UC Davis campus and has a longer record of vertical displacement data extending back to 1996. The station has exhibited a slightly higher average rate of decrease in relative elevation compared to P265, averaging 0.0372 feet/year (0.446 in/yr), totaling 0.945 feet (11.34 inches) over its 28-year record. The rate of negative vertical displacement has stabilized since Summer 2022, similar to the trend at other CGPS stations in and around the Solano Subbasin.

Stations P264 and P248 are located outside of alluvial basins and provide an interesting comparison of vertical displacement trends that are occurring in these geologic environments in areas less impacted by groundwater development. Sites P264 and P248 exhibit vertical displacement trends that are opposite to what is occurring at the sites within the Subbasin. These sites record positive vertical displacement during the drier periods and negative displacement during wet periods. This is likely because these stations are in more consolidated materials that do not experience compaction in the same way that less consolidated alluvial basin sediments do. Instead, these sites may be exhibiting the influence of

hydrologic loading during wet periods and unloading during dry periods that correspond with the negative displacement in winter and spring and positive vertical displacement in the summer and fall.

The sites outside the Subbasin are not an indication of subsidence occurring within the Solano Subbasin, but they do provide context for how conditions outside the Subbasin relate to those observed within the Subbasin.

3.4.1 InSAR Data

InSAR mapping of land subsidence is particularly useful for observing and tracking spatial patterns in vertical displacement over an area. The National Aeronautics and Space Administration Jet Propulsion Laboratory (NASA JPL) has historically provided spatial data of vertical displacement of the land surface across the Central Valley from InSAR surveys, which DWR has published.⁵ Some of these datasets cover parts of the Sacramento Valley, including the Solano Subbasin. **Figure 3-17** shows the vertical displacement of the land surface between June 2015 and June 2024. Data spanning this period suggest that vertical displacement of the land surface across much of the Solano Subbasin and Solano County is slightly negative at amounts between -0.025 and -0.1 feet with some areas of slightly greater negative values. Areas exhibiting the most negative vertical displacement (land subsidence) occur as red spots, and are located south of the Solano Subbasin near Montezuma Hills, in the Delta regions and south of Dixon and Davis in the Northern parts of the Solano Subbasin. The largest negative vertical displacements of 0.36 feet (4.3 inches) are observed southeast of Davis. The negative vertical displacement measured in the area of the Montezuma Hills using InSAR does not agree with the observations from CGPS station P266, which suggest very minimal subsidence (negative displacement of about -0.05 feet) in this area since 2015.

DWR has also published InSAR results in partnership with the European Space Agency's Sentinel-1A satellite with the data processed by TRE ALTAMIRA⁶. **Figure 3-18** presents a map of InSAR data representing the vertical ground surface displacement during the period October 2023 to October 2024 spanning WY 2024. InSAR data indicate that vertical displacement in the Solano Subbasin was relatively minimal during WY 2024 ranging from positive displacement to -0.05 feet (0.6 inches) with the areas of highest vertical displacement occurring west of Dixon and in the Montezuma Hills. Rates of vertical land surface displacement during WY 2023 were particularly low with many areas of rebound. Vertical displacement rates during WY 2024 are more similar to those in water years 2021 and 2022, with slightly larger recent displacements near Vacaville but smaller amounts of displacement in the central Subbasin. There are data gaps in the southwestern portion of the Subbasin for WY 2024, but adjacent regions show similar or less negative vertical displacement compared to water years 2021 and 2022. InSAR data for previous water years 2019 through 2022 also suggest only limited negative vertical land surface displacement within the Solano Subbasin, primarily in areas to the south of Davis and Dixon (**Appendix B**).

⁵ <https://data.cnra.ca.gov/dataset/nasa-jpl-insar-subsidence> and also <https://sgma.water.ca.gov/webgis/?appid=SGMADataViewer>

⁶ <https://gis.water.ca.gov/arcgisimg/rest/services/SAR>

Although small amounts of land subsidence have been observed historically and recently in the Solano County and Solano Subbasin, it is not currently an issue of significant concern in the Solano Subbasin or the Suisun-Fairfield Valley Basin because of the very small amount of historical subsidence and limited potential for impacts from land subsidence on surface infrastructure.

3.4.2 Comparisons of Vertical Displacement and Groundwater Level Data

Regional groundwater levels generally exhibit annual variability in response to climatic influences including precipitation or water year type in addition to anthropogenic influences such as groundwater pumping. Groundwater levels measured in wells and changes in land surface elevation can sometimes be correlated, depending on the depth of the wells and the hydrogeologic setting, including the characteristics of the geologic materials and their response to changes in groundwater levels or potentiometric surfaces. **Figures 3-19** and **3-20** illustrate the historical and recent relationship between land surface vertical displacement at the DIXN and VCVL CGPS sites and groundwater levels measured in monitoring wells at these sites or wells nearby. The dedicated monitoring wells located at these CGPS sites are relatively deep and water levels in nearby shallower wells are also presented for comparison with conditions in the shallower parts of the groundwater system.

Figure 3-19 presents vertical displacement (change in elevation) at the DIXN site in relation to groundwater levels in wells ranging from depths of 150 feet to 2,370 feet. The SCWA Dixon MW-1200 monitoring well is 1,200 feet deep and monitors groundwater levels in the upper portion of the Basal Tehama zone, which is a confined aquifer in this area. As a result, groundwater levels in this well can respond to very small changes in groundwater storage. Seasonal lows in groundwater levels in Dixon MW-1200 recovered after 2014 and 2016 lows, and changes in land surface elevation also initially stabilized after 2016. Land surface elevations declined slightly in 2021 and groundwater levels for Dixon MW-1200 dropped to between the 2014 and 2016 lows, but have shown recovery since 2022. The other two deep nested wells located at this site have groundwater levels that are stable with little or no obvious correlation evident between groundwater levels and land surface elevation change. Although there has been stability in the groundwater levels in all of the nested monitoring wells at the site and little correlation to the longer-term trend of slight downward land surface elevation change, MW-1200 does exhibit more notable seasonal fluctuations that are consistent with seasonal ground surface elevation changes at the site. Changes in land surface elevation at the site were minimal during 2024.

The DIXN site does not have a shallow nested groundwater well, but there is a 150 foot deep well (07N01E11M001M) in the vicinity that has water level monitoring data. This shallow well is in the Alluvial Aquifer and Upper Tehama zone and exhibits a slightly declining groundwater level trend from 2012 through 2022 with some recovery in 2023 and stabilization thereafter. This water level trend is generally consistent with the trend in land surface elevation change over the same period. Well 07N01E11M001M exhibits much less seasonal variation in water level relative to MW-1200, although this is likely because the well reflects unconfined groundwater conditions. It is notable however that the seasonal fluctuations in water levels in well 07N01E11M001M are generally opposite of the ground surface elevation changes, with higher water levels in fall than in spring, which may reflect influence from percolating irrigation water from nearby agricultural areas.

Figure 3-20 presents a comparison of ground surface elevation changes and groundwater levels for three nested wells at the Vacaville CGPS site. All of the monitoring wells at the site exhibit relatively stable groundwater level trends representative of depths ranging from 117 feet to 1430 feet. MW16-1430 and MW16-1166 are monitoring wells that are 1,430 and 1,166 feet deep, respectively, and both the land surface elevation data and the groundwater elevation data at the sites exhibit long-term stability. No strong correlation between groundwater levels in MW16-1430 and MW16-1166 and ground surface elevation changes are apparent at the site although slightly lowered, but stable, groundwater levels in these wells since 2022 align with a drop in the ground surface elevation during 2022 and subsequently stable vertical displacement. The shallower MW16-117 is 117 feet deep and water levels have been stable to slightly increasing since 2012 and no correlation between land surface elevation data and water elevation data is observed.

Although there is apparent consistency in some of the groundwater level and land surface elevation trends at the DIXN and VCVL sites and likely others in Solano County and Subbasin, evaluating whether the changing conditions at the different depth zones being monitored are the cause of land surface elevation changes can be challenging. Monitoring land subsidence paired with groundwater level measurements leads to an improved understanding of the aquifer system and hydrogeology; however, a sufficient period of monitoring and combination of conditions (i.e., hydrology, pumping influences) are important to evaluate the relationship between groundwater levels and land surface elevation and characterization of elastic and inelastic changes. Further evaluation and additional data are also needed to differentiate elastic and inelastic subsidence in the Subbasin and identify which subsurface geologic materials (units) are responsible for compaction and expansion. Long-term monitoring of land surface elevation is key to detect delayed mechanisms causing inelastic subsidence such as dewatering of fine-grained materials like clays, that can take considerable time to occur. Additional efforts to evaluate the relationship between groundwater levels in different parts of the groundwater system, especially shallow and intermediate depths where most of the groundwater extraction occurs, and vertical displacement at the land surface will be considered as the GSP implementation progresses and additional groundwater level and subsidence monitoring information are available.

3.5 Interconnected Surface Water

Streamflows in lower Putah Creek within the Solano Subbasin are relatively consistent during the dry months as a result of regulated flow releases, as required by the Putah Creek Accord (**Figure 3-21**). Even during wet water years runoff flows from precipitation events in the Putah Creek watershed are often muted in lower Putah Creek due to the large storage capacity of Lake Berryessa. Monitoring of Putah Creek at Interstate 505 indicates the stream water level (stage) typically fluctuates minimally (less than a foot) during dry-month periods over the monitoring record and flows are commonly between 15 and 30 cubic feet per second (cfs). During high flow events, such as when flows exceed 100 cfs, the stage can rise considerably by more than five feet. Many of the highest flow events during the period from 2006-2022 shown on **Figure 3-21** exceed the rating curve at the gage and associated flow rates are not reported. Additional downstream monitoring during the lower-flow periods also occurs at the Stevenson Bridge Crossing and Pedrick Road Bridge. Both gages indicate stage varies by only a small amount during the months outside of the winter wet period. Typical stream stage at these locations vary by only a foot while discharges range between 10 and 100 cfs. Monitoring of Putah Creek at Interstate 80 indicates

some variability in stage during drier months with typical fluctuations in stage of about one foot. During occasional wet periods, stage can rise by more than 7 or 8 feet. As with some of the other upstream gages, the rating curve at the Interstate 80 (I-80) gage does not extend to flood stages so discharges at very high flows are not reported. Some of the stream gages experienced operational difficulties caused by high flows and other circumstances resulting in missing data for sites.

Figure 3-22 illustrates the stream stage conditions for the other smaller creeks in the Solano Subbasin. Flows in three waterways (Sweeny Creek at South Putah Creek and Midway Road and Ulatis Creek at Farrell Road) exhibit a pattern of higher flows (higher stage) in the drier months and lower flows in the wetter months. Overall, stages in these three channels are highly influenced by irrigation water conveyance and drainage with elevated stages during the summer irrigation season. The other small surface water features in the Subbasin display a more typical pattern of elevated stages in the rainy winter months and lower stages in the dry summer months. Flows in the smaller Subbasin creeks and streams are generally less than 5 cfs. The Subbasin intends to establish elevation datums at select stream gage locations for relating surface water stage and groundwater levels.

Many creeks in the Subbasin are engineered for flood control and are also used by irrigation districts (i.e., MPWD and SID). During the typically dry months in the Subbasin, water is transported via the creeks to agricultural users, and flows in these creeks are largely or entirely sustained by irrigation water deliveries. Because so many of the surface water features in the Subbasin are used for water conveyance during the irrigation season, the potential for groundwater pumping to deplete natural stream flows is believed to be very limited in many parts of the Subbasin, especially in the more northern areas of the Subbasin that are more reliant on groundwater.

Flow conditions in the Delta are very complex and are very large with flows in many Delta rivers being orders of magnitudes larger than flows in Putah Creek and other streams in the northern parts of Solano County and Solano Subbasin. The Delta is the confluence of two major California rivers and as a result large amounts of water are being transported through the Delta and along the southern boundary of the Subbasin. Flows observed in the Delta portion of the Subbasin are managed outside the control and authority of the GSAs in the Subbasin. Groundwater management activities within the Subbasin are unlikely to cause any adverse impacts on larger channels in the Delta surface water system because the flow and volume of surface water vastly exceeds the minimal flow and volume of any groundwater extraction in the Delta.

4 WATER BUDGET APPROACH FOR QUANTIFYING GROUNDWATER EXTRACTION, SURFACE WATER SUPPLIES, AND TOTAL WATER USE

In fulfillment of the Annual Report requirements for the Solano Subbasin GSP, a water budget approach has been used to quantify groundwater extraction, surface water supply availability, and total water use in the Subbasin. This section describes the structure and uncertainties of these water budgets. Most of the water budget results presented in this section are rounded to two significant digits consistent with the typical uncertainty associated with the methods and sources used in the analysis. Water budget component results may not sum to the totals presented because of rounding.

4.1 Analysis Background and Approach

Water supply and use in the Solano Subbasin were quantified from the Subbasin surface water system (SWS) water budget, accounting for the total balance of inflows, outflows, and change in storage in the subbasin's surface layer⁷. The primary inflows to the SWS water budget generally include surface water inflows (stream inflows, diversions, etc.), precipitation, groundwater extraction, and groundwater discharge. The primary outflows from each SWS water budget generally include evapotranspiration (ET), surface water outflows (stream outflows, spillage at the subbasin boundary, etc.), infiltration (deep percolation) of irrigation water and precipitation, and infiltration (seepage) of surface water. Additional information about the water budget structure, including all inflows, outflows, and calculations, are described in Chapter 5 and Appendix 5C of the GSP.

The complete SWS water budget for the Solano Subbasin was computed using the Solano Integrated Hydrologic Model (Solano IHM), a gridded numerical groundwater model that characterizes surface water and groundwater uses in elements representing land across the Solano Subbasin and surrounding areas in Solano, Sacramento, and Yolo Counties. The Solano IHM model was created to support GSP development through adaptation of the Sacramento Valley Groundwater-Surface Water Simulation Model (SVSim). Inputs to the Solano IHM were summarized from the best available data and science, including information from Water Management Plans, Groundwater Management Plans, Agricultural Water Management Plans, Urban Water Management Plans, and other publicly available or agency-supplied data sources. Data and information about specific water agencies were used to quantify water supply and water use within the agency's service area, to the extent permitted by the resolution of the Solano IHM element grid. Additional information about the Solano IHM development process is described in the GSP.

The historical Solano IHM application and inputs used in GSP development were updated and expanded for this Annual Report using available data and information about water supplies and uses since the GSP water budget period. Available data for the current reporting water year were updated, reviewed, or adapted from the GSP inputs. During the preparation of the annual report and associated updates to Solano IHM, additional historical surface water diversion records were incorporated that previously had

⁷ The vertical boundaries of the subbasin surface water system are the land surface (upper boundary) and the bottom of plant root zone, within the lateral boundaries of the Subbasin. The plant root zone is defined as "the upper portion of the soil where water extraction by plant roots occurs." The depth to the bottom of the root zone varies by crop, but typically ranges from 2-7 feet (ASCE, 2016).

not been available. Incorporation of these data may result in some differences in historical water budgets from those presented in previous reports. A major change to the Solano IHM application since GSP development was the addition of managed wetlands as a simulated land use for the period 2019-2024 within select areas of the Delta region. These areas were identified from spatial land use data developed by Land IQ (2016, 2018, and 2020-2022) in which indications of managed wetlands were provided and generally correspond to areas that were previously categorized as native vegetation, riparian vegetation, and water in previous years. Model inputs and parameters used to calculate water demand and water use were adapted from wetlands simulated in DWR's SVSim model or comparable models elsewhere in the Sacramento Valley. Model refinements currently underway will include consideration of updated sources of information on the locations and water demands and sources relating to managed wetlands.

Other information about specific updates related to groundwater extraction and surface water supplies and uses are described in the sections below. Any data sources and methods not described in this section were generally the same as those described in Chapter 5, Appendix 5B, and Appendix 5C of the GSP.

Following model development and simulation of the entire Solano IHM domain, zonal summaries of model results were calculated for all elements representing the Solano Subbasin. These summaries are the source of the Subbasin SWS water budget results reported in this section. The SWS water budget is summarized from the historical Solano IHM model results through water year 2024 utilizing the data sources and procedures outlined in the subsections below. Summaries of all SWS water budget components by key water use sector for the period 1991 to 2024 are included in **Appendix E**. Due to limitations within the Solano IHM model structure, some managed wetlands demand was simulated as being met by groundwater pumping although it is believed that this demand is actually met by surface water. As a result, some adjustments were made to the SWS water budget during post-processing of model results to more accurately reflect true conditions.

4.2 Groundwater Extraction - §356.2(b)(2)

Groundwater extraction is reported for all water years extending from the end of the historical water budget period through the current reporting period (water years 2019-2024). **Table 4-1** summarizes groundwater extraction by water use sector in water years 2019-2024, and **Table 4-2** summarizes groundwater extraction by method of measurement and water use sector during the current reporting year (water year 2024). Historical estimates of groundwater extraction for 1991 through 2024 are presented in **Appendix E**.

Figure 4-1 presents the groundwater pumping in the Solano Subbasin in water year 2024. The majority of overall groundwater extraction of approximately 150,000 acre-feet (AF) in the Solano Subbasin in 2024 is used for agricultural purposes, totaling approximately 120,000 acre-feet (AF) of agricultural pumping. This represents a notable decrease from agricultural pumping observed in dry and critical years (180,000-210,000 AF). Groundwater extraction also occurs to supply urban water users in the Cities of Dixon, Rio Vista, and Vacaville, and rural domestic groundwater users in other areas of the

Subbasin. As noted previously, because of the Solano IHM structure, the water demand in some areas identified as managed wetlands in the model were incorrectly simulated as receiving pumped groundwater. As a result, some adjustments were made to the SWS water budget during post-processing of model results to more accurately reflect true conditions, which is reflected in **Tables 4-1 and 4-2 and Figure 4-1**.

Of the total groundwater extraction in 2024, 900 AF is directly-measured groundwater extraction for agricultural use in Solano Irrigation District (SID), and 9,200 AF is directly-measured groundwater extraction for urban use in the Cities of Dixon, Rio Vista, and Vacaville. The remaining volume of groundwater extraction in all water use sectors is estimated from the Solano IHM groundwater model results. While some groundwater may be used by native vegetation and managed wetlands in the Solano Subbasin, streamflows and precipitation are understood to be the primary originating sources of water available within these water use sectors. Due to confounding factors regarding the origins of water that is used, especially within the Delta region, all water supplies used in these sectors outside of precipitation are reported as surface water supplies.

The data sources and methods used to quantify groundwater extraction in each water use sector are described below.

Table 4-1: Groundwater Extraction in Each Water Year by Water Use Sector

Sector	2019 (AF)	2020 (AF)	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2024 (AF)
Agricultural	140,000	210,000	210,000	180,000	120,000	120,000
Urban	28,000	28,000	26,000	26,000	27,000	27,000
Native Vegetation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Managed Wetlands	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	170,000	240,000	240,000	200,000	150,000	150,000

Note: all values reported to two significant figures. Groundwater extractions do not include direct uptake of groundwater by plants.

Table 4-2: Groundwater Extraction by Method of Measurement (Water Year 2024)

Sector	Direct	Estimated	Description
Agricultural	970	120,000	Direct: Solano Irrigation District deep well usage records Estimated: Solano IHM groundwater model results
Urban	9,200	18,000	Direct: Well production data reported by the Cities of Dixon, Rio Vista, and Vacaville (metered production from CalWater wells serving areas within the City of Dixon was not available) Estimated: Solano IHM groundwater model results

Sector	Direct	Estimated	Description
Native Vegetation	0	0	Direct: N/A Estimated: Solano IHM groundwater model results
Managed Wetlands	0	70,000	Direct: N/A Estimated: Solano IHM groundwater model results
Total	10,000	210,000	

Note: Groundwater extractions do not include direct uptake of groundwater by plants. Estimated values reported to two significant figures.

4.2.1 Agricultural Groundwater Extraction

Groundwater extraction in the agricultural water use sector is summarized from two primary data sources: direct measurements of deep well usage by SID and estimates of groundwater extraction quantified in Solano IHM.

Deep well usage data was reported by SID on a monthly timestep. These volumes represent groundwater that is pumped from deep wells into the SID distribution system, where that water is delivered to district customers. The total groundwater extraction in 2024 reported from SID deep well usage records is 970 AF (approximately 1 percent of the total agricultural groundwater extraction).

Estimates of groundwater extraction were quantified in Solano IHM by simulating the volume of groundwater pumping needed to fulfill agricultural water demand on a monthly timestep. The total agricultural water demand was quantified for various crop types simulated in the Solano IHM according to representative crop water use and root depth characteristics, soil characteristics, the reference ET demand for each month based on local weather and climate conditions, and other parameters established in the model. The estimated volume of groundwater pumping was then calculated within Solano IHM as the additional volume of water necessary to meet the total agricultural water demand for each crop type. This was done within each element after distributing any other specified surface water deliveries to agricultural land in that element. Additional information about the Solano IHM inputs and calculations is described in the GSP. The amount of additional groundwater extraction for agricultural use that was estimated using the Solano IHM is approximately 120,000 AF in water year 2024 (approximately 99 percent of the total agricultural groundwater extraction).

4.2.2 Urban Groundwater Extraction

Groundwater extraction in the urban water use sector is summarized from three primary data sources: direct measurements of well production reported by the Cities of Dixon, Rio Vista, and Vacaville; direct measurements of urban potable water production available from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) for urban suppliers and public water systems in the Solano Subbasin that are known to use groundwater exclusively; and estimates of groundwater extraction quantified in Solano IHM.

Urban well production data was reported by the Cities of Dixon, Rio Vista, and Vacaville on a monthly timestep. These volumes represent groundwater that is pumped from wells for delivery to customers within the urban suppliers’ water service areas. The total groundwater extraction in water year 2024

reported by cities from their urban water production records is 9,200 AF (approximately 34 percent of the total urban groundwater extraction).

Urban potable water production data are also available from the SWRCB for urban suppliers and public water systems in the Solano Subbasin, including the Cities of Dixon, Rio Vista, and Vacaville. These data were compared to the urban well production data provided by the cities. For the Cities of Dixon and Rio Vista, volumes reported in both sources were found to be exactly or nearly identical; thus, only the city-supplied well production data are reported. The City of Vacaville delivers both surface water and groundwater supplies; thus, only the city-supplied well production data are reported there as well.

Within the Solano IHM, total urban groundwater extraction was also estimated on an element-basis for urban demand areas⁸ by simulating groundwater pumping based on urban population, urban per capita water use, and other urban water use criteria specified in the model. The cities' urban groundwater water production data and SWRCB urban potable water production data were used to develop the Solano IHM model inputs. However, these direct measurements are subtracted from the Solano IHM estimates of groundwater extraction reported in **Table 4-2**. The additional estimated groundwater extraction for urban use simulated in Solano IHM, after accounting for direct measurements, is approximately 18,000 AF in water year 2024 (approximately 66 percent of the total urban groundwater extraction). Details about the Solano IHM model inputs used to simulate urban groundwater extraction are summarized below.

The annual population in each urban demand area was quantified based on population data available from the California Department of Finance. In the Solano Subbasin, annual population estimates were aggregated for the Cities of Dixon, Rio Vista, and Vacaville, and for Solano County from calendar year 1984 (the beginning of the Solano IHM historical simulation period) through 2024. Solano IHM population inputs for the Cities of Dixon and Rio Vista were specified directly from Department of Finance data, while population inputs for the City of Vacaville were adjusted downward to account for the urban population within the Subbasin. Population inputs for areas within the Solano Subbasin, but outside those urban centers, were estimated based on Department of Finance data for unincorporated areas in Solano County, adjusted by the average ratio of those data and historical Solano IHM population inputs in 2014-2018. Population inputs for areas outside the Solano Subbasin were extrapolated from historical Solano IHM population inputs according to the average year-over-year population change for that area in 2009-2018. Data sources used for each urban demand area in 2024 are summarized in **Table 4-3**.

Per capita water use inputs for urban demand areas were generally estimated on a monthly basis based on available urban population data, urban well production or water use data, and comparison of those data with historical Solano IHM inputs. For the City of Vacaville, per capita water use was first calculated from the City's well production data and SWRCB population estimates (accounting for the city-wide

⁸ Urban demand areas are groups of element areas representing specific cities, communities, or unincorporated areas. Urban water use criteria were specified for each of these areas to account for available population data, water use data, or other representative information about that area.

service area). These values were then adjusted for the modeled area according to a regression calculated with the historical Solano IHM inputs from 2014-2018. For the Cities of Dixon and Rio Vista, per capita water use values were first calculated from SWRCB data and were then similarly adjusted for the modeled area according to a regression calculated with the historical Solano IHM inputs from 2015-2018. Per capita water use inputs for areas within the Solano Subbasin, but outside those urban centers, and for areas outside the Solano Subbasin were estimated as equal to the water year 2018 inputs within the historical Solano IHM model used in GSP development.

Table 4-3: Urban Groundwater Extraction Data Sources (Water Year 2024)

Urban Demand Area	Groundwater Extraction Data Source	Population Data Source	Simulated Per Capita Water Use Data Source
Dixon	Direct (California Water Service Company – City of Dixon groundwater pumping data)	California Department of Finance records	Calculated from SWRCB urban water use and population data, adjusted by relationship with historical Solano IHM inputs
Rio Vista	Direct (City of Rio Vista groundwater pumping data)	California Department of Finance records	Calculated from SWRCB urban water use and population data, adjusted by relationship with historical Solano IHM inputs
Vacaville	Direct (City of Vacaville urban well production data)	Population in Solano Subbasin estimated as fraction of California Department of Finance records (0.89, determined from 2014-2018 data analyses)	Calculated from City of Vacaville urban well production data and SWRCB population data, adjusted by relationship with historical Solano IHM inputs
Solano Subbasin Outside Urban Centers	Estimated (Solano IHM; inputs based on population and per-capita water use data sources)	Estimated from 2014-2018 relationship between historical California Department of Finance records for unincorporated county areas (0.89, determined from 2014-2018 data analyses)	Estimated as equal to water year 2018 inputs from historical Solano IHM
Outside Subbasin	Estimated (Solano IHM; inputs based on population and per-capita water use data sources)	Extrapolated from historical Solano IHM inputs by average year-over-year change in 2009-2018	Estimated as equal to water year 2018 inputs from historical Solano IHM

4.2.3 Native Vegetation and Managed Wetlands Groundwater Extraction

In the Solano Subbasin, streamflows and precipitation are believed to be the primary originating sources of water available to native vegetation and managed wetlands because of the prevalence of surface water features and proximity of these ecosystems to surface water bodies. Groundwater uptake through the root zone of native vegetation was evaluated in the Solano IHM, but it was ultimately not included in the final model due to complicating factors relating to simulation of agricultural irrigation management practices in areas of the Subbasin with shallow groundwater conditions, especially within the Delta region. Model improvements to more accurately simulate direct uptake of groundwater by native vegetation continue to be evaluated.

4.3 Surface Water Supply - §356.2(b)(3)

Surface water supplies used during 2019 to 2024 water year are reported in **Table 4-4** by water use sector, and in **Table 4-5** by water source type. Historical estimates of surface water supplies for 1991 through 2023 are presented in **Appendix E**. The majority of surface water supplies diverted for use in the Solano Subbasin are used for agricultural purposes, totaling approximately 390,000 AF in 2024. The City of Vacaville also receives surface water supplies from the Putah South Canal and the North Bay Aqueduct for treatment and delivery to urban water users. Surface water is also used by native vegetation and managed wetlands along waterways during periods when surface water is available.

Of the total surface water use in 2024, approximately 430,000 AF are local supplies (98 percent of the total surface water use), including Solano Project Supplies and diversions from local streamflows. The remaining surface water use includes 2,400 AF of State Water Project supplies delivered for urban uses in the City of Vacaville and an estimated 6,200 AF of reuse on agricultural lands. The data sources and methods used to quantify surface water supply use for each water use sector and water source type are described below.

Table 4-4: Surface Water Use in Each Water Year by Water Use Sector

Sector	2019 (AF)	2020 (AF)	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2024 (AF)
Agricultural	400,000	450,000	460,000	440,000	410,000	390,000
Urban	10,000	12,000	13,000	11,000	9,800	11,000
Managed Wetlands	24,000	47,000	48,000	43,000	64,000	92,000
Native Vegetation	7,300	9,100	10,000	8,100	8,400	10,000
Total	440,000	520,000	530,000	500,000	490,000	500,000

Note: all values reported to two significant figures.

Table 4-5: Surface Water Use in Each Water Year by Water Source Type

Water Source Type	2019 (AF)	2020 (AF)	2021 (AF)	2022 (AF)	2023 (AF)	2023 (AF)
Local Supplies	410,000	480,000	490,000	460,000	440,000	430,000
State Water Project Supplies	4,600	3,600	4,000	4,500	5,800	2,400
Reuse	6,600	8,000	8,100	7,500	6,300	6,200
Total	420,000	490,000	500,000	470,000	450,000	440,000

Note: all values reported to two significant figures.

4.3.1 Agricultural Surface Water Supply

Surface water supplies used for agriculture in the Solano Subbasin include: deliveries of local surface water from the Solano Project to agricultural contractors and water users along the Putah South Canal,

diversions of other local supplies by water rights users from the various waterways that traverse or adjoin the Subbasin, and reuse of upstream return flows for irrigation. Surface water supplies of these source types are summarized or estimated from the data sources listed in **Table 4-6**.

Application of surface water supplies for agricultural uses was quantified by specifying monthly diversions in Solano IHM. Monthly diversion volumes were summarized or estimated from the sources listed in **Table 4-6**. These diversions were then applied to groups of model elements that approximately correspond to the district service area or application area where that water is used. Deliveries were generally calculated by Solano IHM as the water supply used to meet simulated crop water demands, after accounting for any applicable seepage and evaporation of the diverted supply. Measured deliveries reported by SID from their TruePoint database and from their annual Solano Project reports were directly specified in the model and applied to elements representing the SID service area or the area where that water is delivered. Where applicable, diversions were simulated to occur from a location on the simulated stream or creek corresponding nearest to where that water is actually diverted. Available streamflows along those waterways were generally quantified in Solano IHM based on nearby or representative stream gage data available from the United States Geological Survey (USGS). Stream inflows were either directly summarized from those data sources (for stream gages near the inflow point), or they were estimated from those data through regression relationships computed from historical data and historical stream inflows simulated in Solano IHM.

Reuse was simulated in Solano IHM as the estimated fraction of return flow (i.e., runoff of delivered water) that is captured and re-used for irrigation. Reuse fractions for all crops are estimated to be approximately 0.015 of the total applied water, based on analyses of reuse in SID.

The surface water supplies reported in **Table 4-4** and **Table 4-5** represent the volume of water delivered for agricultural water use in the subbasin, as simulated in Solano IHM. Surface water supplies used for agricultural use totaled approximately 390,000 AF in water year 2024 (approximately 78 percent of the total surface water supplies used).

4.3.2 Urban Surface Water Supply

Surface water supplies used for urban water uses in the Solano Subbasin include: deliveries of surface water from the Solano Project to the City of Vacaville along the Putah South Canal and deliveries of State Water Project supplies to the City of Vacaville along the North Bay Aqueduct (**Table 4-6**). Application of surface water supplies for urban use was quantified by specifying monthly diversions in Solano IHM. These diversions were then applied to groups of model elements that approximately correspond to the City of Vacaville service area. The City of Vacaville delivers water for urban uses through a piped distribution system with minimal losses. Although some losses may occur, deliveries were estimated to equal the total diversion volumes. Surface water supplies used for urban use totaled approximately 11,000 AF in water year 2024 (approximately 2 percent of the total surface water supplies used).

4.3.3 Native Vegetation Surface Water Supply

Surface water supplies used in the native vegetation water use sector are estimated in Solano IHM on an element basis by simulating root water extraction of surface water flows along simulated waterways based on water demand and other crop water use characteristics specified in the model. The surface water supplies used by native vegetation were calculated within Solano IHM as the volume of surface water available to meet native vegetation water demand within each element in each month. All surface water supplies used by native vegetation are assumed to be local supplies. Surface water supplies used for native vegetation use was approximately 10,000 AF in water year 2024 (approximately 2 percent of the total surface water supplies used).

4.3.4 Managed Wetlands Surface Water Supply

Surface water supplies used in the managed wetlands water use sector are estimated in Solano IHM on an element basis by simulating root water extraction of shallow groundwater that is assumed to be supplied from nearby surface water sources based on water demand and other crop water use characteristics specified in the model. All water supplies used by managed wetlands are assumed to be local surface water supplies. Surface water supplies used for managed wetlands totaled approximately 92,000 AF in water year 2024 (approximately 18 percent of the total surface water supplies used).

Table 4-6: Surface Water Diversions and Deliveries Data Sources in the Solano Subbasin (Water Year 2023)

Water Source Type	Water Use Sector	Water Use Area	Surface Water Data Source
Solano Project Supply	Agricultural	SID	Solano Project Diversions Reports (diversions into SID distribution system and direct deliveries from Putah South Canal); TruePoint delivery records (deliveries from SID distribution system)
Solano Project Supply	Agricultural	Maine Prairie Water District	Solano Project Diversions Reports
Solano Project Supply	Agricultural	City of Vacaville	SID Solano Project Supply data sources (Deliveries from SID to turnouts within the City of Vacaville GSA)
Solano Project Supply	Urban	City of Vacaville	City of Vacaville Water Production Data
State Water Project Supply	Urban	City of Vacaville	City of Vacaville Water Production Data
Local Supply	Agricultural	Maine Prairie Water District	Compiled eWRIMS data when available; estimated from historical data when data not yet available
Local Supply	Agricultural	Reclamation District 2068	Compiled agency data and eWRIMS data when available; estimated from historical data when data not yet available

Water Source Type	Water Use Sector	Water Use Area	Surface Water Data Source
Local Supply	Agricultural	Delta region	Delta region diversions estimated from GSP analyses though comparison with available compiled eWRIMS data
Local Supply	Agricultural	Various (miscellaneous water rights diversions)	Compiled eWRIMS data for water rights users where available; estimated from historical data when data not yet available

4.4 Total Water Use by Sector - §356.2(b)(4)

Total water use in the 2024 water year is reported in **Table 4-7** by water use sector. The volume of total water use is summarized from the results presented in **Section 4.2** and **4.3**. Historical estimates of total water use for 1991 through 2024 are presented in **Appendix E**.

Table 4-7: Total Water Use in the 2024 Water Year by Water Use Sector

Sector	Groundwater (AF)	Surface Water (AF)	Total (AF)
Agricultural	120,000	390,000	510,000
Urban	27,000	11,000	37,000
Managed Wetlands	0	92,000	92,000
Native Vegetation	0	10,000	10,000
Total	150,000	500,000	650,000

Note: all values reported to two significant figures.

5 CHANGE IN GROUNDWATER STORAGE (§356.2.B.5)

5.1 Change in Groundwater Storage Maps

Consistent with §354.18.b, based on a comparison of the annual spring groundwater elevation contour maps representing seasonal high groundwater conditions, changes in groundwater elevation were calculated for the Solano Subbasin for individual years starting in Spring 2015. To calculate annual change in groundwater storage from the groundwater level contour maps, the difference in groundwater elevation between annual spring contour maps was calculated for each of the principal aquifers (Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone and Basal Tehama zone). Changes in groundwater levels and the potentiometric surface for each year were then multiplied by a specific yield and storage coefficient, respectively. For the Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone, a spatially-varying dataset of specific yield values representing thickness-weighted average values for layers 1 through 3 in Solano IHM was used in the analysis and multiplied by spatially continuous data for the change in groundwater elevation to estimate change in storage. For the Basal Tehama zone, a single uniform storage coefficient used in the model to represent Basal Tehama aquifer properties and derived from available aquifer test data was used to multiply by change in groundwater elevations.

Figures 5-1 and 5-2 show the spatial distribution of calculated annual change in groundwater level for the most recent reporting year between Spring 2023 and Spring 2024 for the Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone and Basal Tehama zone. Maps of change in groundwater levels for each of the years between Spring 2016 and 2022, separated by principal aquifer, are presented in **Appendix F. Tables 5-1 and 5-2** summarize the calculated annual change in groundwater storage volumes for 2015 to 2024 for both the Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone and Basal Tehama aquifers based on comparison of spring groundwater elevation contours. Maps of the spatial distribution of change in storage in the Alluvial/Upper Tehama Zone and Basal Tehama for the most recent period from Spring 2023 Year to Spring 2024 are presented in **Figures 5-3 and 5-4**.

Data available for contouring spring levels are compiled from various sources, including publicly available data from monitoring programs unrelated to the GSP. As a result, the wells with available water level change every year because of changes in monitoring access or data reporting from the different sources. Changes in the spatial distribution of wells used to contour groundwater levels can affect the interpretation and calculation of changes in groundwater levels and therefore changes in groundwater storage. Additionally, there is incomplete spatial coverage of groundwater elevation data across parts of the Solano Subbasin during some years and groundwater elevation contours were limited to areas where sufficient groundwater elevation data were available. To estimate the change in groundwater storage within the Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone for the entire Subbasin, in areas with insufficient groundwater level data, the average change in groundwater elevation value calculated for the area with data was applied to areas without data to estimate change in storage amounts in these areas. Because very limited groundwater pumping occurs in the Delta region of the Solano Subbasin, areas with insufficient groundwater level data located in the Delta were assumed to have no change in storage. In the Basal Tehama zone where current groundwater pumping is believed to be primarily

limited to utilization by the City of Vacaville, the analysis of change in storage was limited to areas with sufficient available data in the vicinity of the City of Vacaville.

Using representative specific yield (Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone) and storage coefficient (Basal Tehama zone) aquifer parameter values described above, the calculated changes in groundwater levels both the Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone and Basal Tehama aquifers annual change in groundwater storage are summarized in **Table 5-1** and **Table 5-2**. Negative change in storage values indicate depletion of groundwater storage, whereas positive change in storage values represent accretion of groundwater in storage. Groundwater in the Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone is considered to be unconfined and therefore changes in groundwater elevation translate to greater storage changes due to application of a specific yield value. Between Spring 2022 and Spring 2023 groundwater storage decreased in the Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone by an estimated 32,000 AF (**Table 5-2**). The change in storage in the Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone in previous years since 2015 is also included in **Table 5-1** and ranges from increases in storage up to 47,000 between Spring 2023 and Spring 2022 to a decrease in storage of about 117,000 AF between Spring 2019 and 2020. The decrease in groundwater storage in the Alluvial/Upper Tehama zone estimated between Spring 2023 and Spring 2024 may be partly a function of the high groundwater levels that occurred in Spring 2023 at the end of a very wet winter. In the Basal Tehama, where confined conditions exist, changes in groundwater levels translate to substantially smaller changes in groundwater storage due to the smaller overall area and application of a storage coefficient value in these areas. Annual estimates in change in groundwater storage in the Basal Tehama zone since 2015 generally fluctuate by less than 100 AF, with little or no change in storage estimated for 2024.

Table 5-1 Change in Groundwater Storage in the Alluvial/Upper Tehama Zone in the Solano Subbasin

Analysis Period (spring to spring)	Average Specific Yield	Average Groundwater Elevation Change (ft)	Average Groundwater Storage Change (AF/ac)	Analysis Area ¹ (acres)	Delta Area Without Data ² (acres)	Other Areas Without Data ³ (acres)	Annual Subbasin Groundwater Storage Change (AF)
2015-2016	0.0418	1.2008	0.0532	241,627	83,618	29,427	14,418
2016-2017	0.0418	3.3837	0.1695	214,269	83,618	56,786	45,936
2017-2018	0.0418	-2.8863	-0.1534	214,269	83,618	56,786	-41,586
2018-2019	0.0418	1.6367	0.0624	305,173	19,155	30,346	20,935
2019-2020	0.0418	-7.2153	-0.3496	305,173	19,155	30,346	-117,311
2020-2021	0.0418	-6.2233	-0.2802	354,673	--	--	-99,374
2021-2022	0.0418	-0.7498	0.0905	354,674	--	--	42,638

2022-2023	0.0418	2.7184	0.1335	354,673	--	--	47,358
2023-2024	0.0418	-2.0571	-0.0903	354,673	--	--	-32,015

1. Only areas within the Solano Subbasin with sufficient groundwater level data were contoured. Because Spring 2016, 2017 and Spring 2019 had limited data control, the analyses of change in elevation and change in storage did not cover the entire Subbasin and was limited to the “analysis area” where sufficient groundwater level data exist.
2. Very little groundwater pumping occurs in the Delta region of the Subbasin; therefore, for years and locations in the Delta region without groundwater elevation data, it is assumed that these areas have no change in groundwater storage.
3. Change in storage for areas outside of the Delta region with insufficient groundwater level data were estimated by applying the average change in storage per acre from areas with data (within the analysis area) to these areas without groundwater level data.

Table 5-2 Change in Groundwater Storage in the Basal Tehama Zone in the Solano Subbasin

Analysis Period (spring to spring)	Average Storativity	Average Groundwater Elevation Change (ft)	Average Groundwater Storage Change (AF/ac)	Analysis Area (acres)	Annual Groundwater Storage Change (AF)
2015-2016	2.2E-04	-4.5144	-9.71E-04	53,353	-52
2016-2017	2.2E-04	4.6855	1.01E-03	53,353	54
2017-2018	2.2E-04	-2.1996	-4.73E-04	53,353	-25
2018-2019	2.2E-04	1.3325	2.86E-04	53,353	15
2019-2020	2.2E-04	1.0013	2.15E-04	53,353	11
2020-2021	2.2E-04	-2.5957	-5.58E-04	53,353	-30
2021-2022	2.2E-04	-7.1300	-1.53E-03	53,353	-82
2022-2023	2.2E-04	4.6261	9.95E-04	53,353	53
2023-2024	2.2E-04	-0.0412	-8.85E-06	53,353	0

5.2 Groundwater Use and Change in Groundwater Storage

Annual groundwater extractions and change in groundwater storage in the Solano Subbasin is shown in **Figure 5-5** for water years 2015 to 2024. Groundwater extractions are estimated or directly measured by water year following the procedures described in **Section 4**. Change in groundwater storage presented in **Figure 5-5** is estimated based on an annual comparison of spring groundwater elevations. Total

annual groundwater extraction typically decreases in wet years and increases in dry years, while the annual change in groundwater storage has ranged between increases as high as about 47,000 AF to decreases of up to -117,000 AF (**Figure 5-5**). Historical groundwater extractions for the Subbasin for all water years since 1991, as estimated using the Solano IHM, are also included in **Appendix E**. Annual changes in groundwater storage in water years 1991 through 2018 are included in the GSP based on water balance results from the Solano IHM.

6 ASSESSMENT OF SMC AND RMS MONITORING NETWORK STATUS

Section 6 in the Solano Subbasin GSP provides a discussion of the Sustainable Management Criteria (SMC) developed for the Subbasin, including the sustainability goal, undesirable results, minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, interim milestones, and the monitoring networks for the five sustainability indicators relevant to groundwater management in the Subbasin. Undesirable results occur when significant and unreasonable effects for any sustainability indicator are caused by groundwater conditions occurring in the Subbasin. As described in the GSP, a network of RMS was identified for each of the sustainability indicators relevant to the Solano Subbasin to monitor sustainability and occurrence of any undesirable results. A summary of criteria used to define SMC in the Subbasin is provided in **Table 6-1**. This section provides an overview of the status of the RMS network in relation to the different SMCs in the GSP for tracking of conditions in the Subbasin. Consideration of any linkages between GSP implementation activities and groundwater conditions exceeding SMCs will be included in subsequent annual reports, as appropriate. The SMC developed in the GSP will be periodically reviewed to ensure they are appropriate for avoiding undesirable results from adverse impacts on beneficial users in the Subbasin, including no later than the first five-year GSP update.

Table 6-1 Summary of MTs, MOs, URs, and Selection Rationale

Sustainability Indicator	SMC Selection Considerations/Rationale	SMC Metric	Representative Monitoring Used	Minimum Threshold (MT)	Measurable Objective (MO)	Undesirable Result (URs)
Chronic Lowering of Groundwater Levels (GWL)	Locations based on groundwater use and historical groundwater conditions, density of domestic wells, disadvantaged communities reliant on GW, GDEs.	Fall (seasonal low) groundwater elevation	Separate RMS wells for Alluvial Aquifer/Upper Tehama and Basal Tehama zones	<p><u>Alluvial Aquifer/Upper Tehama Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Minimum static groundwater elevation in the base period (Water Year 1991 prior to January 2015), with consideration for operational flexibility. <p><u>Basal Tehama Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Fifty feet below the recent five year average static groundwater elevation (prior to January 2015) 	Average static groundwater elevation in the base period (prior to January 2015)	30 percent of RMS wells below MTs for two consecutive years
Reduction of Groundwater Storage	Currently the Subbasin is pumping at or below the Sustainable Yield, GWL will be used as a proxy to determine overall changes	Fall (seasonal low) groundwater elevation	Groundwater elevation contours	<p><u>Alluvial Aquifer/Upper Tehama Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Minimum static groundwater elevation in the base period (prior to January 2015) <p><u>Basal Tehama Zone:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Fifty feet below the recent five year average static groundwater elevation (prior to January 2015) 	Average static groundwater elevation in the base period (prior to January 2015)	30 percent of wells below MTs for two consecutive years
Seawater Intrusion	Not Applicable – The Subbasin is not located along the Pacific Ocean, however potential for impacts from ancient conditions or future acute instances will be monitored via chloride concentrations, as part of the degraded water quality sustainability indicator	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

Sustainability Indicator	SMC Selection Considerations/Rationale	SMC Metric	Representative Monitoring Used	Minimum Threshold (MT)	Measurable Objective (MO)	Undesirable Result (URs)
Land Subsidence	The Subbasin does not have documented inelastic subsidence or impacts to surface infrastructure. SMCs consider historical rates of displacement, seasonal fluctuations in displacement.	Annual rate of vertical displacement	Existing subsidence monitoring stations	Annual subsidence rate exceeding the historical average range of the yearly fluctuation in vertical displacement	Rate of vertical displacement equal to average historical rate of vertical displacement	A RMS location exceeding MT for three consecutive years
Degraded Water Quality	The MT accounts for applicable state and federal water quality standards. Constituents of Concerns were based on communication with water suppliers and historical elevated water quality results.	Concentrations for nitrate, TDS, arsenic, chloride, Cr6	RMS wells monitored by GSAs and for other programs	Drinking water MCLs or existing concentration plus 20%, whichever is greater.	Current concentrations of nitrate, arsenic, chloride, TDS, Cr6. For constituents with Primary MCL MT, Trigger Level set at 75% of MT. Trigger initiates evaluation of factors related to increasing constituent concentrations.	Greater than 25 percent of wells above the MT for the same constituent, based on average of most recent three-year period.
Depletion of Interconnected Surface Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Putah Creek has a long standing historical guidance for flows. GDE distribution/viability and reduction in surface water availability were considered. Smaller streams are confounded by management and are not sufficient indicators of stream depletions WLs are used as a proxy Flows in the Delta are so large, and GW is so shallow that depletions are not significant 	Putah Creek streamflow; WLs as proxy elsewhere	Existing Putah Creek Accord compliance flow stations and select WL RMS wells	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minimum Flows for Putah Creek outlined in the Putah Creek Accord. Minimum static groundwater elevation in the base period (prior to 2015) for wells located in close proximity to groundwater connected waterways 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compliance with the Putah Creek Accord for Putah Creek. Average static groundwater elevation in the base period 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-compliance with the Putah Creek Accord flow requirements along Putah Creek. 30 percent of wells below MTs for two consecutive years

6.1 Groundwater Levels

Figures 2-4 and **2-5** display the current groundwater level RMS wells for the Solano Subbasin. **Table 6-2** provides a summary of the current (2024) groundwater level measurements in all RMS wells and **Appendix G** provides a summary of historical water level data for these wells. In 2024, six of the 41 RMS wells did not have water level measurements because they were recently removed from either the DWR or USBR water level monitoring program due to limitations on monitoring resources, access issues, or lack of well construction details, and one well part of the SID monitoring network was temporarily inaccessible. The Solano Subbasin continues efforts to re-recruit these wells and ensure they are monitored as part of the GSP monitoring program. In 2024 monitoring of two of the RMS wells dropped from DWR's monitoring program resumed by the GSAs with the assistance of coordinated efforts by the Dixon Resource Conservation District. One RMS well recently dropped by USBR due to access issues was determined to be the same as a well monitored by SID with a different well ID (07N01E16B001M). The combining of historical monitoring data for this well provides a longer-term record of water levels, but also necessitated adjustments to the MT and MO to be consistent with the methodology applied in the GSP. This change was made in the annual report for water year 2023. Four RMS wells have been determined to have been destroyed or no longer accessible and replacement sites are in the process of being integrated into the monitoring network. In coordination with USBR, RMS well 08N01W33A001M was determined to have an obstruction that is not repairable. Well 08N01W33B002M located nearby well was determined to be a replacement RMS well. Two wells monitored by the City of Rio Vista were vetted and intend to be added to the RMS network. The 10 shallow dedicated monitoring wells installed as part of TSS program will also be evaluated for inclusion in the RMS network once a sufficiently long data record is available to establish SMCs. Additional RMS well candidates are being reviewed for replacing three other RMS wells that were destroyed.

In 2024, a total of five RMS wells in the Alluvial/Upper Tehama Zone had groundwater elevations below the MTs (MT exceedances) as presented in **Table 6-2** and **Figure 6-X**. Three of these wells had elevations that have consistently been below the MT since 2015; however, the wells did exhibit recovery in 2023. One of the wells with an MT exceedance had groundwater levels recover above the MT in 2023 with levels dropping below the MT again in 2024. The Solano Subbasin GSP set triggers for groundwater levels as the occurrence of any MT exceedance. The occurrence of such conditions during the GSP implementation and sustainability period (after GSP adoption) triggers adaptive management actions, including evaluation of groundwater conditions contributing to any MT exceedances. The GSAs have been evaluating local conditions near MT exceedances, conducting outreach to water users, and considering potential projects and management actions in these areas. No wells in the Basal Tehama had groundwater elevations below the MT. Three (8 percent) of the RMS wells have had multiple years of MT exceedances; however, this does not constitute an undesirable result as outlined in **Table 6-1**, which occurs when more than 30 percent of wells exceed the MT for two consecutive years.

Table 6-2 Summary of Groundwater Level RMS Monitoring Status (Water Year 2024)

RMS ID	Fall 2023 Water Elevation (ft msl)	Spring 2024 Water Elevation (ft msl)	Minimum Threshold (MT)		2024 Lowest Observed Water Level		Comment
			Depth (ft)	Elev (ft msl)	Depth (ft)	Elev (ft msl)	
06N01E12M001M	31.78	31.17	16.9	25.7	20.8	21.7	
07N01E04P003M	43.3	56.3	38.0	54.6	42.9	49.7	
07N01E11M001M	42.4	36.5	41.1	37.0	44.0	34.1	
07N02E15E001M	--	-6.65	56.7	-12.2	70.5	-25.9	Successfully re-recruited, monitoring resuming Spring 2024
07N02E33D002M	39.93	2.962	43.3	-7.3	45.7	-9.7	
47	18	--	32.1	63.3	19.0	76.4	
5340	15.6	--	16.4	-4.4	16.2	-4.2	
03N03E07N001M	23.4	--	38.6	-14.1	24.1	0.4	
04N01E02E001M	6.3	59.766	17.7	44.8	6.2	56.4	
04N02E09A001M	--	--	27.1	14.6	--	--	No Access, working to locate replacement well
05N02E25K001M	--	--	11.9	-8.4	--	--	No Access, working to locate replacement well
06N01E17M001M	11.5	60.558	18.2	48.1	11.4	54.9	
06N01E33L001M	--	--	17.2	30.3	--	--	No Access, working to locate replacement well
06N01W36C004M	--	--	21.7	61.2	--	--	Ongoing efforts to re- recruit
06N02E19J001M	9.61	23.366	15.2	10.8	7.3	18.8	
07N01E14J001M	49		70.0	-6.9	49.0	14.1	
07N01E16B001M	70.9	--	99.1	-21.5	56.9	20.7	MT and MO have been updated. Recent investigation has revealed that multiple agencies were monitoring, MT and MO have been updated to reflect changes
07N01E21H003M	74.6	30.7	88.1	-14.5	74.7	-1.1	
07N01E25M001M	42.1	--	66.7	-15.7	48.7	2.3	
07N01E29P001M	12	64.6	15.0	61.6	12.6	64.0	
07N01W04C002M	97.5	72.3	100.5	47.9	89.7	58.7	
07N01W05R001M	--	--	119.8	53.3	--	--	Working with RCD to Recruit
07N01W13H001M	--	--	20.6	88.0	--	--	Working with RCD to Recruit

RMS ID	Fall 2023 Water Elevation (ft msl)	Spring 2024 Water Elevation (ft msl)	Minimum Threshold (MT)		2024 Lowest Observed Water Level		Comment
			Depth (ft)	Elev (ft msl)	Depth (ft)	Elev (ft msl)	
07N01W33J002M	73.34	75.468	107.5	25.6	72.7	60.5	
07N02E35D002M	37.95	3.74	63.3	-25.6	52.4	-14.7	
08N01E24Q001M	94.4	13.5	131.1	-60.1	99.0	-28.0	
08N01E32E001M	56.4	57.5	98.7	4.2	56.6	46.3	
08N01E33H001M	43.6	46.6	47.0	37.6	42.7	41.9	
08N01W26A002M	70.7	66.6	64.2	60.4	60.6	64.0	
08N01W33A001M	--	--	70.8	67.0	--	--	Removed from Monitoring Network, replaced with 08N01W33B002M
08N01W35R001M	66.8	--	85.9	26.1	66.3	45.7	
08N02E27C002M	64.7	11.5	69.9	-15.4	61.2	-6.7	
08N03E31N001M	61.6	--	68.4	-34.9	59.1	-25.6	
41	99	--	138.6	-34.6	99.4	4.6	
43	138.5	--	179.0	-97.9	138.3	-57.2	
44	173	--	211.1	-116.2	172.7	-77.7	
45	176.5	--	218.8	-125.8	179.0	-86.0	
06N01E10J004M	106.17	--	147.5	-93.9	106.4	-52.8	
06N01E30N003M	139.67	--	179.2	-101.3	145.9	-67.9	
07N01E11G002M	89.03	--	131.2	-51.7	88.4	-8.9	
07N01W15A001M	94.79	--	110.9	21.9	96.2	36.6	
New to RMS Network Since GSP Submittal							
08N01W33B002M	--	86	85.8	53.3	75.7	63.4	
City of Rio Vista-Well 10	--	-14.53	--	--	--	--	
City of Rio Vista-Well 15	--	-26.18	--	--	91.0	-55.2	
SSGSA-01a	--	--	--	--	35.7	80.0	
SSGSA-01b	--	--	--	--	42.1	73.7	
SSGSA-02a	--	--	--	--	49.2	58.4	
SSGSA-02b	--	--	--	--	64.0	43.4	
SSGSA-03a	--	--	--	--	23.2	72.5	
SSGSA-03b	--	--	--	--	55.8	39.9	
SSGSA-05a	--	--	--	--	44.7	56.1	
SSGSA-05b	--	--	--	--	44.8	55.8	
SSGSA-06a	--	--	--	--	9.1	1.4	
SSGSA-06b	--	--	--	--	6.9	3.4	

Grey indicates MT exceedance

6.2 Groundwater Storage

Groundwater levels are used as a proxy to detect any changes in groundwater storage that may be significant and unreasonable. Using groundwater levels as a proxy relies on field measurement of groundwater levels in the RMS monitoring well network (**Figures 2-4 and 2-5**). Groundwater levels have a direct relationship with groundwater storage based on aquifer properties. Aquifer properties in the Alluvial Aquifer/Upper Tehama Zone differ from the Basal Tehama zone. **Section 5.2** provides details on the methodology for change in storage calculations. In the Alluvial Aquifer/Upper Tehama Zone, which is unconfined, changes in groundwater levels are reflective of changes in saturated thickness of the aquifer and correspond with larger changes in groundwater storage than in the Basal Tehama zone based on the specific yield (or effective porosity) of the aquifer materials. In the Basal Tehama, where groundwater is confined and under pressure, changes in groundwater levels are not reflective of changes in saturated volumes. Rather they are indicative of the potentiometric surface (i.e., the elevation groundwater level will rise to under normal atmospheric pressure). As a result, changes in groundwater levels reflected in the Basal Tehama Zone are associated with very small changes in storage. In both unconfined and confined settings groundwater levels are a direct proxy to detect and evaluate changes in storage. In 2024 there are five MT exceedances in the water level RMS network and three of those exceedances (8 percent) are for the multiple years. An undesirable result for change in groundwater storage is 30 percent of wells below the MTs for two consecutive years. Accordingly, no undesirable result for change in storage occurred in 2024.

6.3 Groundwater Quality

Figure 6-2 displays the current water quality RMS wells for the Solano Subbasin GSP. **Table 6-3** provides a summary of the groundwater quality conditions for all RMS wells as represented by the average concentration over the most recent three years (2021-2023), in accordance with the SMC described in the GSP. Several RMS wells did not have data collected during the most recent three years. The Solano Subbasin continues to work on coordinating with monitoring entities on the timing of sampling and the necessary water quality analyses for GSP monitoring. **Appendix H1 and H2** provides a summary of historical water quality data and plots for these wells. In 2024 one well in the RMS network had MT exceedances for chromium-6, but no undesirable results have yet to occur for any constituent. Recent review of SMC for water quality RMS included in the GSP highlighted several RMS wells with assigned MT values that were not consistent with the methodology intended in the GSP or which did not allow for sufficient variability in water quality concentrations associated with natural variability in water quality conditions and laboratory uncertainty. These MT were adjusted to reflect an increase of 20 percent from the MO which will allow for operation flexibility. The GSP outlined that RMS concentrations greater than 75 percent of the MT would trigger additional review of the circumstances relating to the triggering conditions, specifically review of GSP projects and management actions that may have exacerbated groundwater quality conditions. In 2024 several RMS wells had constituent concentrations above the trigger levels; a review will be conducted on trends that may be occurring at these locations. The groundwater quality conditions during 2021 pre-dated the adoption of the Solano Subbasin GSP and are included in the recent 3-year average concentration for each RMS well. Consideration of any linkages between GSP implementation activities and groundwater quality

conditions exceeding MTs will be included in annual reports once sufficient data are available representative of conditions since commencement of implementation of the GSP, as appropriate.

Table 6-3 Summary of Groundwater Quality RMS Monitoring Status (Water Year 2023)

Well Number	Aquifer Designation	MT Arsenic	2024 Arsenic	3-Yr Avg Arsenic	MT Nitrate	2024 Nitrate	3-Yr Avg Nitrate	MT Chloride	2024 Chloride	3-Yr Avg Chloride	MT TDS	2024 TDS	3-Yr Avg TDS	MT Cr6	2024 Cr6	3-Yr Avg Cr6
		(µg/L)	(µg/L)	(µg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(mg/L)	(µg/L)	(mg/L)
61493	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	--	--	--	10	--	--	250	--	--	1176	--	--	--	--	--
61494	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	--	--	--	13.2	--	--	250	--	--	810	--	--	--	--	--
07N01E08N002M	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	--	--	--	10	--	--	250	--	--	500	--	--	--	--	--
07N01E14J001M	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	10	--	ND	20	--	13	250	--	22	597.87	--	540	27.6	--	--
08N01E32N001M	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	10	--	--	10	--	--	250	--	--	500	--	--	--	--	--
08N01E35K001M	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	16.32	ND	ND	10	3.8	4.95	250	12	12.5	500	310	345	10	--	--
4810008-025	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	10	--	--	10	--	--	250	--	--	500	--	--	10	--	--
4810009-003	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	10	ND	ND	10	4.3	4.25	250	11	11	500	350	350	18.75	15	15
4810008-007	Basal Tehama	10	--	2	10	1.5	1.43	250	--	16	500	--	360	10	9.6	9.1
4810008-030	Basal Tehama	10	15	8.1	10	0.4	0.38	250	--	8.3	500	330	330	25.18	25	27.5
4810013-001	Basal Tehama	10	4.6	5.49	10	0.97	0.92	250	--	9	500	--	380	10	--	3.8
3400122-001	Unknown	10	5.3	5.3	10	0.93	0.9	250	7.9	7.9	500	180	180	10	--	--
3400192-001	Unknown	10	--	4.05	10	ND	ND	250	--	11	500	--	170	10	--	--
3400420-001	Unknown	94.57	73	73.75	10	ND	ND	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
3400444-001	Unknown	--	--	--	10	--	ND	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
3400455-001	Unknown	--	--	--	10	--	ND	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
3410047-001	Unknown	16	16	13.78	10	ND	ND	250	6.1	6.1	500	140	140	10	ND	ND
3410302-002	Unknown	21	--	--	10	--	--	303	--	--	985	--	--	--	--	--
4800612-001	Unknown	10	--	--	10	ND	ND	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
4800709-001	Unknown	10	--	--	10	--	0.3	250	--	--	552	--	--	--	--	--
4800786-001	Unknown	10	--	--	10	1	0.96	250	--	--	500	--	--	--	--	--
4810004-003	Unknown	10	--	7.92	10	--	1.9	250	--	--	500	--	430	10	--	--
4810004-004	Unknown	18	16	14.91	10	ND	ND	250	--	--	500	410	432.22	10	--	--
4810011-001	Unknown	10	ND	ND	10	1.9	2.7	250	18	18	534.75	530	530	10	1.8	1.8
4810020-001	Unknown	10	--	ND	10	8.8	7.35	250	--	--	500	--	--	14.4	--	--
4810023-001	Unknown	10	--	--	10	ND	ND	250	--	--	500	--	--	--	--	--
4810801-002	Unknown	10	5.6	5.6	10	0.21	0.27	250	--	--	852	--	--	10	--	--

6.4 Interconnected Surface Water

Figure 6-3 displays the current interconnected surface RMS network for the Solano Subbasin. Interconnected surface water conditions in the Subbasin are tracked using groundwater levels measured at select RMS wells and streamflow measured at gages specified in the Putah Creek Accord. **Table 6-5** provides a summary of the current (2023) groundwater levels at interconnected surface water RMS wells and **Appendix J1 and J2** provide a historical summary. One ISW RMS well (06N01E12M001M) had a water level below the MT in 2024; the water level measurement in 2024 was the first since 2020. Additional evaluation of the data and conditions relating to the exceedance will be performed. In 2024, two RMS wells were not measured after being recently dropped from DWR's monitoring program. Efforts are being made to resume monitoring of these wells, as noted in Section 6.1. **Table 6-6** provides a summary of measured flows in Putah Creek during 2024 relative to flow requirements within the Subbasin specified in the Putah Creek Accord. During 2023 all mean daily passing flows in Lower Putah Creek were above the required flow values with many months experiencing flow values in Lower Putah Creek that were two or three times those required by the Putah Creek Accord. An undesirable result for depletion of interconnected surface water is defined as greater than 30 percent of RMS wells exceeding the MT for two consecutive years or not meeting the flow requirements of the Putah Creek Accord. Therefore, no undesirable result for interconnected surface water occurred in the Subbasin in 2024.

Table 6-5 Summary of Interconnected Surface Water RMS Monitoring Status (Water Year 2024)

RMS ID	Aquifer Designation	Minimum Threshold (MT)		2024		Comment
		Depth (ft)	Elev (ft msl)	Depth (ft)	Elev (ft msl)	
47	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	32.1	63.3	19.0	76.4	
05N02E25K001M	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	11.9	-8.4	--	--	Well destroyed or no longer accessible; well planned for network removal and/or replacement
06N01E12M001M	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	16.9	25.7	20.8	21.7	Successfully re-recruited, monitoring resumed Spring 2024
06N01E17M001M	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	18.2	48.1	11.4	54.9	
06N02E19J001M	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	15.2	10.8	7.3	18.8	
07N01W13H001M	Alluvial/Upper Tehama	20.6	88.0	--	--	Ongoing efforts to re-recruit

Notes:

Gray shading indicates MT exceedance.

Table 6-6 Summary of Measured Putah Creek Flows in Relation to Required Flows (Water Year 2023)

	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September
Specified Flow Requirements – Non-Drought Year (cfs)												
Required Mean Daily Flow in Lower Putah Creek	5	10	10	15	15	25	30	20	15	15	10	5
2023 Measured Flows – Non-Drought Year (cfs)												
Actual Mean Daily Flow in Lower Putah Creek	35.3	29.4	27.0	65.8	110.1	133.0	40.7	34.3	51.2	50.9	25.6	35.3

6.5 Land Subsidence

Figures 2-7 display the current land subsidence RMS network for the Solano Subbasin. Table 6-4 provides a summary of the current (2024) seasonal fluctuation and Appendix I provides a historical summary. In 2024 no subsidence RMS had annual vertical displacement exceeding an MT.

Table 6-4 Summary of Land Subsidence RMS Monitoring Status (Water Year 2024)

Station ID	MT Annual Vertical Displacement (ft/yr)	Annual Vertical Displacement (ft/yr) March to March	Annual Vertical Displacement (ft/yr) October to October
		2023-2024	2023-2024
DIXN	-0.0957	0.0027	-0.0350
VCVL	-0.0786	0.0018	-0.0138
P266	-0.0677	0.0049	-0.0085
P267	-0.0651	-0.0108	-0.0038

6.6 Sea Water Intrusion

The Subbasin is not located adjacent to the Pacific Ocean and no monitoring network or SMC for sea water intrusion was developed in the GSP. However, chloride concentrations in groundwater are monitored as part of the groundwater quality monitoring network as a metric for tracking any potential migration of higher-salinity water from the Delta. No MT exceedances for chloride have occurred in the Subbasin to date.

7 GSP IMPLEMENTATION ACTIVITIES

The Solano Subbasin GSAs are committed to maintaining the sustainability of groundwater resources in the Subbasin. Many of the ongoing groundwater management activities in the Subbasin are summarized in the GSP. Additional projects and management actions (PMAs) have been developed to support the sustainability goal for the Subbasin, as described in the GSP. Based on historical, current, and projected water budgets, the Solano Subbasin is anticipated to remain sustainable with minimal to no additional intervention by the GSAs. The PMAs identified in the Solano GSP were determined not to be necessary to maintain sustainability throughout the Solano Subbasin, but they are being considered by the GSAs should conditions change and/or to develop greater drought resiliency. This section describes some of the GSP implementation activities occurring in the Subbasin. **Table 7-1** presents the potential PMAs in the Subbasin identified during GSP development and being pursued or considered during GSP implementation. The PMAs described in the GSP for ongoing completion or future planning include continued outreach and education efforts to implement practices that conserve water, enhance recharge, and reduce runoff and projects that will augment water supplies. Additional detail on the status and efforts related to some of the potential PMAs listed in the GSP is presented in sections below.

Table 7-1. Ongoing, Planned and Potential Projects and Management Actions in the Solano Subbasin

Name	Brief Description	Status
Ongoing PMAs		
Municipal & Industrial Water Use Efficiency Outreach & Implementation	Develop Outreach materials and incentives for municipal and industrial water users to increase water use efficiency.	Occurring, additional efforts planned with funding through SGMA Implementation grant
PMAs Developed for Implementation		
City of Vacaville Recycled Water	Develop City’s Recycled Water Program as recommended in the 2020 Recycled Water Master Plan Feasibility Study, including construction and installation of recycled water treatment, storage and conveyance facilities; development of a recycled water use ordinance; updating permits; and identifying customers and executing supply contracts.	Funding secured for advancing planning efforts beginning in 2024, City currently coordinating with consultant to support these activities.
Westside Streams Stormwater Capture Project	Develop an implementation schedule for potential projects in the Northwest Focus Area to enhance groundwater recharge and support local groundwater sustainability.	With support through a GSP implementation grant the Subbasin has been evaluating opportunities to capture stormwater flows to enhance groundwater recharge, including coordinating and communicating with local property owners and water management

Name	Brief Description	Status
		entities; these efforts are planned to continue.
Rainfall Managed Aquifer Recharge Demonstration Project	Evaluate the use of specific managed aquifer recharge activities on local farms to generate multiple benefits for groundwater sustainability and stormwater management.	With support through a GSP implementation grant the Subbasin has been conducting efforts to evaluate on-farm activities to enhance groundwater recharge, with strong focus on evaluation of benefits to groundwater from cover cropping of row crop fields; cover cropping pilot studies have been completed during 2023, 2024, and 2025 to assess effects of cover cropping on stormwater runoff, soil moisture, and groundwater recharge; similar efforts are planned to continue.
Potential PMAs		
Other Groundwater Recharge Opportunities	Several conceptual recharge projects have been identified along Ulatis Creek to support ongoing groundwater sustainability in the Solano Subbasin. The Nature Conservancy has provided GSAs with guidelines to implement on-farm, multi-benefit groundwater recharge efforts that would also be applicable in the Solano Subbasin.	Evaluating opportunities; with support through a GSP implementation grant the Subbasin has initiated discussion and evaluation of other recharge project concepts through outreach with landowners and with consideration of potential incentives to promote activities to enhance recharge.
Grower Education Related to On-Farm Practices for Sustainable Groundwater Management	Use of Solano Agricultural Scenario Planning System (SASPS), a web-based application that GSAs and other local agencies can use to design voluntary programs to engage agricultural producers in on-farm sustainable groundwater management projects.	Ongoing and for future consideration
Demand Management	Develop a program that would incentivize voluntary participants to reduce water consumption.	Ongoing consideration, additional efforts planned with funding through SGMA Implementation grant
Groundwater Trading Institution	Monitor Solano Subbasin conditions and consider a groundwater trading market to increase flexibility (options) to respond to potential demand management programs.	For future consideration

Name	Brief Description	Status
Education and Collaboration	The Solano Resource Conservation District (SRCD), TFT, Local Government Commission (LGC), and RD 2068 all provide groundwater and water conservation education to classrooms and growers within the Solano Subbasin.	Occurring; grower Groundwater Workshops held in January 2022, 2023, and 2024 focusing on groundwater conditions and management practices to enhance recharge, additional efforts planned with funding through SGMA Implementation grant
Well Owner Outreach and Education	Develop and implement education and outreach about private domestic well monitoring.	Occurring to some degree through new interactive web map and other information presented on the GSP website and coordinated ILRP efforts, additional efforts planned with funding through SGMA Implementation grant
Participation in Other Water Resources Management Programs	Implement other groundwater management strategies including further use of recycled water, expanded conjunctive water management, changes to well regulations, inventory of active wells, and other actions.	Occurring and in planning

Additional GSP implementation activities are being undertaken and are planned as part of work funded through a DWR Proposition 68 GSP Implementation Grant awarded to the Subbasin in 2023. The grant supports a variety of GSP implementation tasks being conducted by different GSAs and collaborating entities through April 2026. GSP implementation activities being supported by the grant include the following:

- Enhancements to monitoring program and data management system
- Well and surface water diversion inventories
- ISW and GDE evaluation
- Refinement of subbasin ET and water use estimates
- Water conservation evaluations, education, and outreach
- Developing future incentives and groundwater management policies
- Recharge study and project design and planning
- Recycled water planning
- GSP reporting
- Stakeholder engagement and community outreach

A list of key activities occurring related to implementation of the Solano Subbasin GSP are presented in **Table 7-2**. Additional detail on some of these activities is described in sections below.

Table 7-2. Summary of Implementation Activities in the Solano Subbasin

Brief Description	Lead Agency
GSA administration and SGMA compliance	
Engagement and coordination with RDs in Sacramento County about GSA status; coordinating GSA changes and assumption of additional responsibility areas by Sacramento County GSA	Sacramento County GSA
Monitoring and reporting, water level and quality monitoring, semi-annual data upload to Monitoring Network Module	Solano Collaborative
Outreach	
Virtual Town Hall	Solano Collaborative, Dixon RCD
Newsletters	Solano Collaborative
Annual Collaborative GSA Get Together	Solano Collaborative
Grower Groundwater Workshop	Dixon RCD, Solano Collaborative
Yolo Subbasin interbasin coordination meetings	Solano Subbasin GSA
Monthly GSA meetings	Solano Collaborative
Bi-Monthly Solano Water Advisory Commission meetings	Solano Subbasin GSA
Landowner recharge interest meetings	Dixon and Solano RCD
Reach out to potential Putah Creek agricultural water users and to host three “Putah Creek Pumper” meetings with growers and landowners	Solano Collaborative, Dixon RCD, and Solano RCD
Workshop in Spanish for Spanish-speaking producers to outline all technical and financial assistance programs available, including groundwater recharge practices and potential pilot projects	Solano Collaborative, Dixon RCD, and Solano RCD
Promote water conservation and groundwater recharge at farmers market throughout Solano County	Solano RCD
Monitoring network enhancements outreach to well owners in key areas of Subbasin	Dixon RCD, Solano Collaborative
Coordination with Solano County drought resilience planning efforts	Solano Subbasin GSA, Dixon RCD, SID, City of Vacaville
Coordination with Solano County One Water Project water master planning	Solano Subbasin GSA, Dixon RCD, SID, City of Vacaville
Projects	

Brief Description	Lead Agency
Exploration of recharge concept possibilities	Solano Collaborative, Dixon RCD, and Solano RCD
Exploration of tailwater return system repurposing for recharge and stormwater drainage attenuation	Solano Collaborative, Dixon RCD, and Solano RCD
Putah Creek floodplain recharge project (Wimmerhaven project)	Solano Subbasin GSA
Working webmap for supporting recharge concept development	Solano Collaborative
Recycled water planning (engaging consultant to support evaluation)	City of Vacaville
Water supply planning to address new chromium-6 MCL – well and water system upgrades	City of Vacaville
Management Actions	
Cover cropping trial, quantification of benefits to groundwater from cover cropping	Solano Collaborative, Dixon RCD, and Solano RCD
Exploration of policies and incentives to support sustainable groundwater management	Solano Collaborative, Dixon RCD, and Solano RCD
Water conservation actions support	Dixon and Solano RCD
Data Gaps	
Enhancements to monitoring network – wells and stream gaging (include gage on Tremont 3 drain)	Solano Collaborative, Dixon RCD
DMS and webmap enhancements and updates	Solano Collaborative
Well and Surface Water diversion inventory	Solano Collaborative, Solano County, Sacramento County, Dixon RCD
Coordination with DWR on monitoring automation and addressing DWR network data gaps	Solano Collaborative
Solano IHM refinements – initial efforts related to implementation of improved crop ET estimates based on remote and ground-based sensing information	Solano Collaborative

7.1 Outreach and Education

The GSAs in the Subbasin have performed extensive outreach efforts focused on informing, educating, and engaging water users and other interested parties in the Subbasin. Particularly notable outreach efforts conducted recently include a public virtual town hall meeting, a grower workshop, distribution of newsletters and other content with information on groundwater management activities and public

engagement opportunities, and development of an interactive web map application providing information on groundwater conditions in the Subbasin.

On May 22, 2024 the Solano Collaborative convened a virtual town hall event to provide interested participants an overview of GSP implementation activities, current and recent groundwater conditions in the Subbasin, and an opportunity to ask questions of GSA representatives and technical experts. Individuals representing a range of beneficial uses and users attended the virtual town hall. The Dixon and Solano RCDs, in coordination with the NRCS and the Solano GSA, held an annual Groundwater Workshop on January 30, 2025 focused on providing information to growers in the Subbasin and nearby areas on the status of GSP implementation, groundwater level and quality conditions in the Subbasin, and recharge opportunities, and nitrogen and irrigation management. In 2023 The Solano Collaborative developed and launched an interactive web map presenting information on groundwater conditions in the Subbasin. The first phase of the web map development focusses on providing information on ground water level and quality conditions at RMS locations; future web map enhancements are planned to incorporate information on other sustainability indicators and additional monitoring sites. The web map application can be accessed at the following link:
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/bcf6badd9014bf98b81917b5b2b2051/>.

The Subbasin has and will continue in efforts to develop and distribute informational materials and conduct outreach to improve water use efficiency across all sectors. Many of these activities occur through efforts conducted by partnering entities in the Subbasin with missions involving improving water conservation and management.

The Solano County Water Agency (SCWA) has various ongoing programs targeting water conservation in the County, including in the Solano Subbasin. The SCWA website provides information to stakeholders on residential and commercial rebates, free assessments of residential water use through the Solano County Residential Survey Program, Solano County's School Water Education Program (SWEP) targeting K-12 schools in the County, and tips and resources for conserving water. The Solano Water Advisory Commission (SWAC) convened by SCWA and consisting of water managers in the County, developed a white paper in October 2022 (https://www.solanogsp.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/20221004_SWAC-White-Paper.pdf) summarizing findings from review of water conservation activities occurring in the County and evaluating compliance with statewide water conservation goals and regulations. The SWAC paper lists different actions implemented by urban water suppliers to improve water use efficiency. These include a variety of actions including:

- expanding outreach about rebate and incentive programs for increasing water conservation through turf removal and installation of water-efficient appliances and fixtures;
- expanding public education about water conservation;
- reinstating residential and commercial water use survey program;
- prohibiting, monitoring, and educating residents on preventing wasteful activities;
- making water use data more readily available to customers;
- restricting days and times for landscape irrigation; and

- leak detection and meter calibration/replacement programs to reduce water distribution system losses.

The Agricultural Water Conservation Committee comprised of representatives from SCWA, SID, MPWD, RD2068, Dixon RCD, Solano RCD, U.C. Cooperative Extension, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service provides soil and weather monitoring, educational materials, training, workshops, and well and irrigation system testing to support improvements to irrigation water management for growers in Solano County. The process for accessing these resources is included on the SCWA websites.

The Dixon and Solano RCDs provide many services within the Solano Subbasin that support water management including conducting ongoing activities to educate and train stakeholders in water conservation and irrigation management practices. The Dixon RCD adopted a long-range plan in March 2022 that includes goals involving supporting improved water conservation, efficiency, and reuse by growers and landowners through continued support of the Solano County Agricultural Water Conservation Committee efforts to increase water efficiency and also partnering with various agencies (local, State, and Federal) to demonstrate and convey the benefits of water conservation. The Solano RCD goals also include educating children and adults about watershed science and stewardship. Partnering with the RCDs provides a valuable avenue for outreach on water management practices to a wide audience of stakeholders.

7.2 Projects

Projects identified for potential implementation as part of the GSP, if determined to be necessary or of interest in the Subbasin, include expanded use of recycled water from the City of Vacaville and enhancing groundwater recharge through stormwater capture and rainfall infiltration in parts of the Subbasin. Although these projects are not anticipated to be necessary to maintain sustainability in the Subbasin, the GSAs have continued exploration of potential opportunities for implementing projects aimed at enhancing groundwater recharge. In coordination with the GSAs, Dixon RCD has initiated outreach to landowners to solicit interest in implementing projects. The outreach conducted to date has included focused meetings and broader distribution of surveys to landowners in areas of the Solano Subbasin where there is greater need or benefit from projects aimed at enhancing recharge. Follow-up conversations with select survey respondents have also occurred and will continue in the future as further evaluation of potential recharge project opportunities occurs.

Building on work completed during the preparation of the GSP, the Subbasin GSAs have continued review of conditions and characteristics in the Subbasin for the purpose of evaluating the potential for implementing recharge projects in different areas of the Subbasin. The assessments have included review of data on land uses and cropping, parcel characteristics (e.g., size, shape), groundwater levels, soil characteristics, subsurface lithology, existing water infrastructure, historical flooding and drainage issues, and other considerations.

Because of the Subbasin's proximity to major surface water features in the Delta and westside tributary streams with periodic availability of stormflow water, including from surface water in Putah Creek and

stored in Lake Berryessa, the Subbasin likely has access to considerable available surface water for use in enhancing recharge. Detailed assessment of surface water available for enhanced recharge projects in the Subbasin has not been conducted, although analyses of recharge projects conducted as part of the GSP development estimated available stormwater for the purpose of simulating the effects and benefits of implementing such activities. Further evaluation of surface water available for recharge will be conducted as part of studying and design of any specific recharge projects undertaken in the Subbasin.

Planning of multi-benefit projects to improve stormwater management and reduce local flooding while providing benefits to groundwater through enhanced recharge, especially in the Northwest Focus Area, is of strong interest in the Subbasin. Solano County has recently initiated a One Water Framework planning process intended to provide a coordinated approach to water management across the County and the objectives of the One Water Framework planning activities are closely aligned with GSP implementation objectives. A One Water Framework Steering Committee comprised of representatives from water management entities across the entire County was formed and six Steering Committee meetings were held in 2024 to provide input in the development of a One Water Master Plan.

GSA's and partnering entities (e.g., SCWA, Dixon RCD, Solano RCD) have been conducting monthly and bi-weekly meetings to continue planning discussions related to implementation of efforts to develop multi-benefit projects to enhance recharge and reduce stormwater runoff in the Subbasin. Key datasets relating to land use and ownership, water distribution and drainage infrastructure, historical flooding conditions, and hydrogeologic characteristics have been compiled in an internal interactive webmap to support these discussions and efforts. In 2024 and 2025 site visits were conducted on multiple properties within the Subbasin as part of evaluation of the feasibility of concepts to enhance groundwater recharge.

Coordination and planning efforts have also been occurring between the Solano Subbasin GSA (and affiliates), UCD, and a private landowner to conduct a pilot recharge study within the floodplain of Putah Creek in the Northwest Focus Area. Through these efforts a conceptual project design has been developed, with an outline for a proposed initial project monitoring plan utilizing a combination of new dedicated monitoring wells and existing wells in the area. Although plans were being developed to begin the pilot project in Summer 2025, the natural flooding of the site beginning in February 2025 may postpone these plans as monitoring data for the period prior to, during, and after the flooding are evaluated.

In 2024 the GSA's, in partnership with Solano County Water Agency, Dixon RCD, and Solano RCD, began another pilot study of select cover crop practices is underway to document potential benefits and management challenges similar to the study conducted in 2023. The goal of the project is to study the use of cover crops as a potential agricultural management practice to improve stormwater management and reduce local flooding while providing benefits to groundwater through enhanced recharge. The results from the study are being compiled and will be documented will be shared with growers in the Subbasin on lessons learned from the last two years of trials.

SID has been continuing planning efforts related to a project to improve the reliability of water supply for drinking water and fire protection needs in the Quail Canyon Improvement District (QCID) community. SID recently secured \$2.82 million in federal funding for design and construction of a new well and associated distribution system components for QCID. The existing QCID Public Water System Well is in the far northwestern part of the Solano Subbasin and is the sole source of supply for the community. Water levels in the well have been declining over recent years despite reductions in demand from water conservation efforts. The production capacity of the well has declined from 140 gallons per minute (gpm) to 40 gpm. The greatly reduced well production capacity cannot meet domestic or fire needs as was demonstrated in the 2020 LNU Complex fire when production from the well was insufficient to fill tanker trucks needed for firefighting. There are also properties nearby that have requested service because of declining production and water levels in private wells. QCID is located several miles from the nearest domestic water system; therefore, interconnection is not feasible. The project will include constructing a new well at a nearby site with more favorable aquifer characteristics to provide drought and fire resiliency for QCID. Approximately 3,500 linear feet of conveyance pipeline will be installed to deliver water from the new well to serve current and future customers.

Through funding provided by the SGMA implementation grant, the GSAs intend to evaluate the need and opportunity for developing greater resilience of drinking water supplies in the far northwest part of the Subbasin. This evaluation will include consideration of domestic well vulnerability and opportunities to bolster drought and climate change resilience involving water system consolidation, localized enhanced recharge, and other more. Initial stages of characterizing the locations of wells and water quality conditions in the vicinity of groundwater drinking water users is underway and involves a well inventory (described below).

7.3 Monitoring Enhancements and Addressing Data Gaps

The GSAs in the Solano Subbasin have been conducting various efforts to enhance GSP monitoring and address data gaps. Important efforts conducted in 2024 related to monitoring enhancement and addressing data gaps, some of which have been described above, consisted of the following:

- Re-recruiting of GSP monitoring network wells dropped from other monitoring programs (e.g., DWR, USBR)
- Recruiting of wells for the GSP monitoring program to address monitoring data gaps
- Planning and implementation of automated water level monitoring in select wells
- Establishing reference elevations for stream gage sites

In 2024 automated monitoring equipment was purchased and installed at three wells and one surface water site along Putah creek. Additional automated monitoring equipment has been purchased and is set to be deployed in Spring 2025.

As part of an effort to ensure an accurate representation of groundwater uses and users is available for groundwater management planning efforts in the Subbasin, in 2023 the GSAs started an inventory of wells throughout the Subbasin. The well inventory relies heavily on coordination with Solano County

(most wells in the Subbasin are in Solano County) and will also support broader Solano County efforts to develop and maintain a more accurate accounting of wells across the entire County. Implementation of the well inventory builds on planning efforts initiated by the GSAs and Solano County in 2022 and involves compiling a complete GIS dataset of groundwater wells in Solano Subbasin, aggregating all available well completion report data from DWR and well permit data from the County, attempting to differentiate between active and inactive wells, and identifying and characterizing the uncertainty associated with individual records or mapped well locations. Data processing includes digital verification of all well locations where possible, evaluation of parcels likely to have wells and needing further reconnaissance, and development of a data structure to tie in with the County's current Accela database. Information gathered from this effort is currently in the process of being prepared for presentation in a technical memorandum and in digital data formats to inform the Subbasin on future water management strategies and strengthen understanding of the locations of current water users and estimates of water use.

Improving the representation of surface water diversions and deliveries in the Subbasin is important for estimating groundwater and surface water uses in the Subbasin. In coordination with completion of the well inventory described above, the GSAs also started an inventory of surface water diversions in the Subbasin in 2023. This work also built on planning efforts initiated in 2022 with work in 2023 involving coordination with Solano County and existing data available from the County's Habitat Conservation Plan, reviewing points of surface water diversions reflected in the SWRCB Electronic Water Rights Information System (eWRIMS) database system for the Subbasin, and compiling a processed GIS dataset that includes a refined inventory of surface water points of diversion, volumes of surface water diverted, and where possible the place of use for these diversions. Surface water diversion inventory efforts are ongoing. Information gathered from this effort is currently in the process of being prepared for presentation in a technical memorandum and in digital data formats to inform the Subbasin on future water management strategies with improved estimates of locations and volumes of surface water use, which will also help support improvements to estimates of groundwater use.

7.4 Recommended GSP Corrective Actions in DWR Determination Letter

On January 18th, 2024 DWR issued an approval of the Solano Subbasin GSP. The GSP approval letter from DWR recommends three corrective actions to address in future GSP updates. The first required periodic evaluation of the GSP is due in January 2027 and depending on the outcome from the period evaluation, an amendment or update of the GSP may be warranted at that time, including to address the recommended corrective actions. The following section summarizes DWR's recommended GSP corrective actions and the status of GSA efforts undertaken to address each.

7.4.1 Recommended Corrective Action 1

Revise the definition of undesirable results for degraded groundwater quality so that exceedances of minimum thresholds caused by groundwater extraction, whether the GSAs have implemented pumping regulations or not, are considered in the assessment of undesirable results in the Subbasin. Under SGMA, GSAs are responsible

for monitoring and managing potential water quality degradation caused by groundwater extractions in the Basin.

The SMC for groundwater quality in the Subbasin are defined in **Section 6** of the GSP. The definition of an undesirable result for degraded groundwater quality will be reviewed and revised to address this recommendation at the time of the next update of the GSP.

7.4.2 Recommended Corrective Action 2

Revise the proposed sustainable management criteria for land subsidence as follows:

- a. Identify critical infrastructure susceptible to land subsidence and describe what constitutes significant and unreasonable effects. Define the rate (vertical displacement over time) and extent (lateral extent and total vertical displacement) of land subsidence considered to cause these significant and unreasonable impacts.*
- b. Describe how minimum thresholds and the quantitative identification of undesirable results defined for the land subsidence monitoring network are protective of the rate and extent of land subsidence considered significant and unreasonable.*
- c. Revise or expand the land subsidence monitoring network to be able to sufficiently detect land subsidence throughout the Subbasin. Department staff understand that portions of the Subbasin near the Delta may experience land subsidence due to the decomposition of peat, which is unrelated to groundwater extractions. The GSP may develop an evaluation process where groundwater level data is used in conjunction with land subsidence data to disregard this type of land subsidence, if detected.*

Historical subsidence data indicate there is only very small amounts of subsidence that may be related to groundwater extraction. The subsidence SMCs in the GSP were developed with consideration for historical rates of displacement and seasonal fluctuations in displacement and their potential to impact critical infrastructure. Subsidence SMC are assigned at selected CGPS sites identified as RMS. InSAR data for the Subbasin are now more readily available and are reviewed each year as part of the GSP annual reporting. Prior to and during completion of the periodic evaluation of the GSP, SMC for land subsidence will be reviewed with consideration of the items described in Recommended Corrective Action 2. The land subsidence best management practices (BMP) document in preparation by DWR and currently planned for release in 2025 will also be reviewed and considered in addressing this recommended corrective action.

Additional description and characterization of critical infrastructure in the Subbasin and defining the engineering tolerances of this infrastructure to accommodate land surface elevation changes without experiencing significant and unreasonable impacts will be a key part of addressing this item. The Subbasin has already commenced additional evaluation of design characteristics of critical infrastructure and is evaluating potential modifications to the subsidence RMS network utilizing available vertical displacement monitoring being conducted by DWR using InSAR and remote sensing technologies.

7.4.3 Recommended Corrective Action 3

Department staff understand that estimating the location, quantity, and timing of stream depletion due to ongoing, Subbasin-wide pumping is a complex task and that developing suitable tools may take additional time; however, it is critical for the Department's ongoing and future evaluations of whether GSP implementation is on track to achieve sustainable groundwater management. The Department plans to provide guidance on methods and approaches to evaluate the rate, timing, and volume of depletions of interconnected surface water and support for establishing specific sustainable management criteria in the near future. This guidance is intended to assist GSAs to sustainably manage depletions of interconnected surface water.

In addition, the GSA should work to address the following items by the first periodic update:

- a. Continue to fill data gaps, collect additional monitoring data, and implement the current strategy to manage depletions of interconnected surface water and define segments of interconnectivity and timing.*
- b. Prioritize collaborating and coordinating with local, state, and federal regulatory agencies as well as interested parties to better understand the full suite of beneficial uses and users that may be impacted by pumping induced surface water depletion within the GSA's jurisdictional area.*
- c. Consider utilizing the interconnected surface water guidance, as appropriate, when issued by the Department to establish quantifiable minimum thresholds, measurable objectives, and management actions.*

The Solano Subbasin has a robust network of streamflow monitoring sites along Putah Creek for the key purpose of administering and monitoring flows in relation to the Putah Creek Accord which specifies minimum water releases and stream flows in the Lower Putah Creek to support downstream beneficial users. In Fall 2024 the Subbasin installed an additional stage monitoring gage along Putah Creek near Stevensons Bridge Road and outfitted the gage with an automated monitoring pressure transducer. Three wells were also added to the monitoring network in the vicinity of this gage to support the understanding of interconnectivity between groundwater and surface water in this area. Data developed through the monitoring conducted at this site, together with monitoring of shallow groundwater conditions at four other sites adjacent to Putah Creek and one site adjacent to Lindsay Slough, will enhance the characterization of ISW in the Subbasin as part of completion of the periodic evaluation and any necessary amendments to the GSP. Additionally, there is ongoing coordination with SCWA to evaluate the needs and benefits related to additional surface water monitoring gages in parts of the Subbasin and to complete elevation surveying of the existing surface water monitoring sites along Putah Creek to facilitate comparison of groundwater and surface water levels and flow gradients. Techniques to refine the characterization and quantification of exchanges between groundwater and surface water in the Subbasin, including through hydrologic modeling and synoptic streamflow

measurements, will also be explored. Available guidance provided by DWR on management of depletions of interconnected surface water, which to date has not yet been released, will be considered as part of completing the periodic evaluation and any amendment of the GSP.

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**ACTION OF
SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY**

DATE: April 10, 2025

SUBJECT: Amendment 1 to Joint Powers Agreement Creating the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Approve Amendment 1 revisions to Joint Powers Agreement Creating the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency.
2. Authorize Board Member signatures to Amendment 1 to Joint Powers Agreement Creating Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:


None.

BACKGROUND:

The Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) creating the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Solano GSA) became effective upon signature of all parties on June 8th, 2017.

Under Section 15.11 of the JPA, the agreement may be amended at any time, provided that any such amendment is reduced in writing, signed by all Members hereto, and adopted by unanimous vote by the entire Board of Directors.

Staff are recommending that the Board of Directors approve the revisions in Amendment 1 (attached) to the JPA and Authorize Board Member signatures to Amendment 1 to the JPA. A unanimous vote is required by all Members to Authorize an Amendment to the JPA.

Recommended: 
Chris Lee, Secretary

Approved as recommended

Other (see below)

Continued on next page

Modification to Recommendation and/or other actions:

I, Chris Lee, Secretary to the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, do hereby certify that the foregoing action was regularly introduced, passed, and adopted by said Board of Directors at a regular meeting thereof held on April 10, 2025, by the following vote.

Ayes:

Noes:

Abstain:

Absent:

Chris Lee,
Secretary to the
Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency

FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE
JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT
CREATING THE SOLANO SUBBASIN
GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY
(January 2025)

This JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT CREATING THE SOLANO SUBBASIN GROUNDWATER SUSTAINABILITY AGENCY is entered into this 8th day of June, 2017 (**Effective Date**) by and among the CITY OF DIXON and CITY OF RIO VISTA, each municipal corporations organized and existing under the laws of the State of California, SOLANO COUNTY, a subdivision of the State of California, DIXON RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT and SOLANO RESOURCE CONSERVATION DISTRICT, both California Resource Conservation Districts authorized under Division 9 of the California Public Resources Code, MAINE PRAIRIE WATER DISTRICT, a California Water District organized under the laws of the State of California, and RECLAMATION DISTRICT 2068, a Reclamation District authorized under Division 15 of the California Water Code (each a “**Party**” and collectively “**Parties**”). There are no other parties to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 1: RECITALS.

1.1. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (“**Act**”) went into effect on January 1, 2015, and requires the sustainable management of high- or medium-priority Groundwater basins.

1.2. The Act allows certain local agencies to become a Groundwater Sustainability Agency and adopt a Groundwater Sustainability Plan to manage and regulate Groundwater.

1.3. Each Party to this Agreement overlies a portion of the Solano Subbasin, a medium-priority Groundwater subbasin, and the parties wish to form a multi-agency GSA through a Joint Powers Agreement, as allowed by the Act, to serve as a GSA in the Solano Subbasin, identified in the Department of Water Resources’ Bulletin 118 as Groundwater Basin Number 5-21-66.

1.4. The Parties, by and through their respective governing bodies, have determined that it will be mutually beneficial to enter into this Agreement and desire to create the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (“**Agency**”).

1.5. The Parties, acting through and by the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency created by this Agreement, intend to work cooperatively with other GSAs operating in the Solano Subbasin and the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin to manage the basin sustainably pursuant to the requirements set forth in the Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the promises, terms, conditions, and covenants contained hereinafter and the above Recitals, which are incorporated by this reference, the Parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE 2: DEFINITIONS

2.1 **DEFINITIONS.** As used in this Agreement, unless the context requires otherwise, the meanings of the terms set forth below shall be as follows:

2.1.1 “**Act**” refers to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 and all implementing regulations, as amended from time to time.

- 2.1.2 “**Agency**” means the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency.
- 2.1.3 “**Agreement**” means this Joint Powers Agreement Creating the Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency, as may be amended from time to time.
- 2.1.4 “**Alternate**” shall mean an alternate to a Director as set forth in Section 6.1.
- 2.1.5 “**Board of Directors**” or “**Board**” means the governing body of the Agency, as set forth in Article 6.
- 2.1.6 “**Budget**” is defined in Section 11.3.
- 2.1.7 “**Business Day**” means any day other than a Saturday, Sunday, or any other day on which banking institutions in the State of California are authorized by law or executive action to close.
- 2.1.8 “**Director**” or “**Directors**” mean a member or members of the Board of Directors governing the Agency.
- 2.1.9 “**DWR**” means the California Department of Water Resources.
- 2.1.10 “**Effective Date**” means the earlier to occur between (1) the date on which the last Party executes this Agreement; or (2) June 7, 2017.
- 2.1.11 “**Fiscal Year**” means July 1 through June 30.
- 2.1.12 “**Fund**” is defined in Section 11.1.
- 2.1.13 “**Groundwater**” shall have the definition set forth in the Act.
- 2.1.14 “**GSA**” means a Groundwater Sustainability Agency as defined in the Act, and shall also mean the GSA formed by the Agency.
- 2.1.15 “**GSA Boundary**” or “**Agency Boundary**” means the boundary of the Agency as depicted in **EXHIBIT A**.
- 2.1.16 “**GSP**” means Groundwater Sustainability Plan as defined in the Act and shall also mean any GSP adopted by the Agency.
- 2.1.17 “**Initial Budget**” is defined in Section 11.3.
- 2.1.18 “**Management Area**” shall mean that portion of the Solano Subbasin to be managed by the Agency pursuant to an adopted GSP, as depicted in **EXHIBIT A**.
- 2.1.19 “**Member’s Governing Body**” means the Board of Directors, City Council, or other legislative body that controls each individual Member of the Agency.
- 2.1.20 “**Member**” means Signatory Members and Non-Signatory Members.
- 2.1.21 “**Non-Signatory Member**” means the California Water Service Company (“**Cal Water**”) and other designated private entities that agree, through a separate memorandum of agreement or other legal agreement, to be bound by the terms of this Agreement.

2.1.22 “Party” and “Parties” is defined in the preamble.

2.1.23 “Project” is defined in Section 10.2.

2.1.24 “Project Agreement” is defined in Section 10.3.

2.1.25 “SCWA” shall mean the Solano County Water Agency.

2.1.26 “Signatory Members” shall mean each Party that has executed this Agreement.

2.1.27 “Solano Subbasin” or “Subbasin” shall mean the Solano Subbasin of the Sacramento Valley Groundwater Basin (Subbasin No. 5-21.66 as identified by DWR’s Bulletin 118).

2.1.28 “Special Management Area” or “SMA” means a subarea of the Management Area where the presence of local conditions for one or more critical parameters differ from those of the Management Area at large, and where the GSA Board has determined various subareas of the Management Area will benefit by identifying site specific conditions of water demand, water use, water source, management strategies, or other characteristics, as established in Article 9.

2.1.28 “Supermajority Vote” is defined in Section 6.9.

2.1.30 “Sustainability Goal” shall have the definition set forth in the Act.

2.1.31 “Sustainable Yield” shall have the definition set forth in the Act.

2.1.32 “SWRCB” means the California State Water Resources Control Board.

2.1.33 “TAC” shall mean a Technical Advisory Committee established pursuant to Article 8.

2.1.34 “Undesirable Result” shall have the definition set forth in the Act.

2.1.35 “Withdrawing Member” is defined in Section 13.2.

2.1.36 “Withdrawal Notice Period” is defined in Section 13.2.

Any and all other terms utilized herein shall be read consistently with the definitions found in the Act.

ARTICLE 3: PURPOSES AND PRINCIPLES

3.1 **Purpose.** The purpose of this Agreement is to create a joint powers agency separate from its Members that will become the GSA for the Management Area, so that the Members may collectively develop, adopt, and implement one or more GSPs for the sustainable management of Groundwater for that portion of the Subbasin underlying the jurisdictional boundaries of the Members, including Special Management Areas, as those boundaries may be amended from time to time. Notwithstanding their intent to collectively develop, adopt, and implement one or more GSPs, the Members intend to cooperatively work together to ensure that Groundwater in the Management Area is proven to be sustainably managed by the January 1, 2040 regulatory deadline and thereafter. The Members agree that each Member shall maintain complete control and autonomy over the surface water and Groundwater assets to which they are currently legally entitled, and the Members make no

commitments by entering into this Agreement to share or otherwise contribute their water supply assets as part of Membership in the GSA or as part of the preparation and/or implementation of any GSP. The geographic boundaries of the GSA are set forth in the map attached hereto as **EXHIBIT A**, and incorporated herein by this reference. The Agency will also represent the Members in discussions with other Solano Subbasin and Sacramento Valley Basin GSAs. The Agency shall enter into Coordination Agreements or MOUs with those entities that form GSAs as required by the Act, in order to achieve integrated, comprehensive Subbasin-wide planning management that satisfies the Act. The Agency intends to involve the public and area stakeholders through outreach and engagement in developing, implementing, monitoring, and administering one or more GSPs for the Management Area.

3.2 **Cardinal Principles.** Seven cardinal principles guide the formation of this Agency, shall govern the actions of this Agency, and shall be incorporated into any GSP adopted by the Agency:

3.2.1 Compliance with the requirements of the Act and subsequent laws and regulations related thereto;

3.2.2 Protection of groundwater resources in the Solano Subbasin;

3.2.3 To the maximum extent allowable while still being consistent with the requirements of the Act, protection of existing reasonable and beneficial uses of water in the Solano Subbasin and surrounding areas;

3.2.4 To the maximum extent allowable while still being consistent with the requirements of the Act, protection of existing and future legal rights to Groundwater;

3.2.5 Providing assurances for the full and fair representation of all stakeholders with an interest in Groundwater in the Solano Subbasin;

3.2.6 Recognizing the value of local management of Groundwater resources, of the distinct water regions within Solano County, and Special Management Areas designated by the Agency;

3.2.7 To the maximum extent allowable while still being consistent with the requirements of the Act, respecting the existing riparian, pre-1914, and permitted surface water rights of landowners and agencies, and existing surface water purchase agreements.

3.3 **Governance Guiding Principles.** The following principles will guide the actions of this Agency:

3.3.1 Respecting Current Water Rights and Reasonable/Beneficial Uses. The Members recognize that the Act does not modify any rights to water, and Members are committed to protecting both current water rights, and current reasonable and beneficial water uses, in the implementation of the Act.

3.3.2 Right of Access. The Members agree to ensure that every pumper, water purveyor, and property owner in the Management Area has access to the sustainable yield of the Groundwater aquifer beneath their property consistent with their legal rights, subject to the terms of any GSP developed and adopted pursuant to this Agreement, and subject to the requirements imposed by the Act.

3.3.3 Collaboration. The Members agree that the approach under this Agreement is explicitly collaborative. The Members believe and agree that the best results for the GSA will be achieved

though engagement with all stakeholders in the Solano Subbasin in an effective process that finds solutions that respect the various interests within the community.

3.3.4 Importance and Sharing of Technical Information/Resources. The Members acknowledge that technical information, knowledge, and resources are critical to the success of the GSA. The Members agree to the open and transparent sharing of Groundwater and other pertinent data, information, and knowledge relative to the management of Groundwater, between the Members and stakeholders within the Subbasin. This section is not to be construed to require a Member or stakeholder to disclose privileged, proprietary, trade secret protected or other confidential information.

3.3.5 Fact-based Decision-making. The Members commit to fact-based decision-making as a central focus of the Agency's efforts.

3.3.6 Emphasis on Voluntary Measures. In addition to any measures adopted or set forth in a GSP, the Members agree to initially address any Groundwater issues in the Management Area through the use of voluntary measures identified, developed, and implemented by Members and property owners within the affected SMA or SMAs. If voluntary measures are found to be inadequate to achieve sustainability in the Management Area within a timeframe adequate to meet the deadlines established in the Act, the GSA Board will resort to the other powers and mechanisms granted to GSAs under the Act.

3.3.7 Recognition of Unique Hydrologic Regions and Need for Local Management. The Members recognize that the best solutions for managing localized Groundwater issues often come from the agencies, organizations, and property owners closest to the unique hydrologic regions of the Solano Subbasin. Because of this, the Members commit and agree to support one or more GSPs that employ multiple geographically-tailored management areas, called Special Management Areas. The Members also agree to support local management approaches to Groundwater sustainability.

3.3.8 Maximize Knowledge and Opportunity. The Members recognize that the Act represents only one of several efforts being implemented to better manage water resources within the State of California. In furtherance of this recognition, the Members agree to find potential synergies between any related Groundwater management efforts in order to reduce costs and minimize duplicative efforts, and to maximize the benefits, knowledge, and opportunities of the GSA/GSP process.

3.3.9 Sharing of Costs.

3.3.9.1 The Members intend that costs for the administration and overhead expenses of the GSA shall be paid from assessments, fees, and charges imposed by the Agency pursuant to SGMA and other legal authority.

3.3.9.2 To the extent practicable, the costs for development and implementation of the GSP and any Groundwater management Projects pursuant thereto will be borne by the beneficiaries within that SMA.

3.3.10 Maximize Recharge. The Members agree to seek to maximize the Groundwater recharge capacity of the Management Area through actions taken in furtherance of the GSP.

3.3.11 Economic Impacts. The Members agree to consider the economic impacts of any future GSA actions taken in furtherance of this Agreement, and commit to minimize and/or mitigate any adverse economic impacts where reasonably feasible.

3.3.12 Undesirable Results. The Act requires that Groundwater basins be managed to avoid Undesirable Results. The Members understand and agree that it may be necessary for the Agency to restrict Groundwater extraction in certain subareas of the Management Area to remedy proven or prevent continued Undesirable Results. Any such restrictions shall be imposed with the recognition that the corrective action must be effective enough to remediate the Undesirable Result. The Members further agree that Special Management Areas that can show that Groundwater is being sustainably managed shall not be subject to Groundwater extraction restrictions or water use limitations.

3.3.13 Credit for Recharge of the Subbasin.

3.3.13.1 Some Members currently recharge Groundwater within the Management Area, and others plan to do so in the future. The Members agree that it is important that the Agency, on a priority basis, develop standards for determining the appropriate credit to be granted to Members for recharge in the Management Area, and that such standards be included in the GSP.

3.3.13.2 In determining the standards, the Agency shall make use of all existing data developed by the Member.

3.3.14 Stakeholder Participation. Prior to or during preparation of any GSP, the Agency will encourage participation by stakeholders as appropriate, including, but not limited to state, federal and tribal governments, water and Groundwater management agencies and districts, land use entities such as counties and cities, non-governmental organizations representing water, Groundwater, environmental, and environmental justice interests, agricultural interests, universities, and the public.

ARTICLE 4: FORMATION AND POWERS

4.1 **Creation of Separate Entity**. Upon the Effective Date the Agency is hereby created as a joint powers agency pursuant to the provisions of Government Code §6500, *et seq.* as a public agency separate from its Members. The principle offices shall be:

Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
c/o Solano County Water Agency
810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 201
Vacaville, CA 95688
Phone: 707.451.6090
Fax: 707.451.6099

Within thirty (30) days of the Effective Date, the Members shall cause a notice of this Agreement to be prepared and filed with the office of the California Secretary of State as required by Government Code §§6503.5 and 53051. The boundaries of the Agency shall be as depicted in **EXHIBIT A** attached hereto.

4.2 **Certification**. Each Signatory Member certifies and declares that it is a public agency, as defined by Government Code § 6500, that is authorized to enter into a joint powers agreement to contract with each other for the joint exercise of any common power under Article I, Chapter 5, Division 7, Title 1 of the Government Code.

4.3 **Creation of GSA**. As soon as possible after formation, the Agency shall proceed with the requirements for electing to become a GSA for the Management Area, culminating in a notice to be filed with DWR no later than June 30, 2017.

4.4 **Powers.** The Agency is hereby authorized, in its own name, to do all acts necessary for carrying out the purposes of this Agreement and complying with the Act. Upon successfully electing to be a GSA, the Agency is hereby authorized to exercise the common powers of its Signatory Members and all additional powers granted to GSAs in the Act.

4.5 **Restrictions on Exercise of Powers.**

4.5.1 Notwithstanding the broad grant of power to the Agency set forth in Section 4.4, the Agency shall not have the power to bind any Member to any monetary obligation whatsoever by this Agreement other than that authorized by the Members through this Agreement.

4.5.2 No debt, liability, or obligation of the Agency shall constitute a debt, liability or obligation of any of the Members, except as otherwise provided in this Agreement.

4.5.3 The powers granted to the Agency by this Agreement and by the Act do not supersede the land use authority of any of the Signatory Members.

4.5.4 After formation of the SMAs, Groundwater issues in the Management Area shall be addressed through the use of voluntary measures identified, developed, and implemented by Members and property owners within the affected SMA or SMAs. If voluntary measures are found to be inadequate to achieve sustainability in the Management Area within a timeframe adequate to meet the deadlines established in the Act, the GSA Board will resort to the other powers and mechanisms granted to GSAs under the Act.

4.6 **Designation.** Pursuant to Government Code § 6509, the Members hereby designate Solano County for purposes of determining restrictions upon the manner of exercising the power of the Agency.

ARTICLE 5: MEMBERS

5.1. **Member Responsibilities.** The Members intend that the Agency provide for the joint exercise of certain powers common to the Signatory Members in studying, planning, and cooperatively and sustainably managing Groundwater in the Management Area, and for the exercise of such additional powers as are conferred by law in order to meet the requirements of the Act. The Signatory Members are each empowered by the laws of the State of California to exercise the powers specified in this Agreement, and to comply with the provisions of the Act and other laws. These common powers shall be exercised for the benefit of any one or more of the Members or otherwise in the manner set forth in this Agreement. Subject to the limitations set forth in this Agreement, the Agency shall have the powers to perform all acts necessary to accomplish its purpose as stated in this Agreement.

5.2 **Initial Members.** The initial Members of the Agency shall be the original Parties.

5.3 **New Members.** Additional entities eligible to participate in a GSA under the Act may join this Agreement as a Party or through a Memorandum of Understanding, and thereby become a Member of the GSA, provided that the prospective new Member (a) is eligible to join a GSA as provided by the Act; (b) receives an affirmative vote from the Board as provided in this Agreement, (c) pays its proportionate share of previously incurred costs that the Board determines have resulted in benefit to the prospective member; (d) pays all applicable fees and charges; and (e) agrees in writing to the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 6: GOVERNANCE.

6.1 **Board of Directors.** The business of the Agency will be conducted by a Board of Directors that is established. The Board of Directors shall initially include representatives from each of the Members and other designated agencies as follows:

6.1.1 Municipal Representatives.

6.1.1.1 The Board shall include one (1) Director from each of the following cities: City of Dixon and City of Rio Vista.

6.1.1.2 The Board shall include one (1) Director appointed by Non-Signatory Member Cal Water.

6.1.2 Districts. The Board shall include one (1) Director from each of the following districts: Solano Resource Conservation District, Dixon Resource Conservation District, Maine Prairie Water District, and Reclamation District 2068.

6.1.3 Unincorporated Areas.

6.1.3.1 The Board shall include two (2) Directors from the Solano County Board of Supervisors, one being the Supervisor from District 4 and the other being the Supervisor from District 5. From time to time, Solano County may adjust the boundaries of the supervisorial districts of the Solano County Board of Supervisors. In the event of such redistricting, Solano County may appoint as its two (2) Directors any Supervisors whose supervisorial district overlies a portion of the Management Area.

6.1.3.2 The Board shall include two (2) Directors representing agriculture, who shall be landowners within the Management Area that pump Groundwater for agricultural purposes, one to be appointed by the Solano County Board of Supervisors from candidates nominated by the Solano County Agricultural Advisory Committee, and one to be appointed by the Board of Directors from candidates nominated by the Solano County Farm Bureau.

Without amending this Agreement, the composition of the Board shall be altered from time to time to reflect the withdrawal of any Member and/or the admission of any new Member as allowed by this Agreement. Members whose governing body consists of elected officials shall appoint a member of their governing body as their representative to the Board (“**Director**”). Each Member may designate one (1) alternate to serve in the absence of that Member’s appointed Director (“**Alternate**”). Solano County may designate two (2) alternates to serve in the absence of Solano County’s appointed Directors. The Alternate must meet the same requirements stated above regarding being on the Member’s governing body. If necessary, all Directors and Alternates will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interests (FPPC Form 700). Each Member shall notify the Agency in writing of its designated representative to the Board of Directors.

6.2 **Compensation.** The Directors and Alternates shall serve without compensation, except that they may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses associated with their service on the Board as authorized by the Board.

6.3 **Requirements.** Each Director and Alternate shall certify to the Secretary in writing that he or she has been appointed to be a Board Member of the Agency and that he or she meets the qualifications established by this Article 6.

6.4 **Removal.** Directors and Alternates serve at the pleasure of their respective appointing Member and may be removed or replaced at any time. Upon removal of a Director, the Alternate shall serve as the Director until a new Director is appointed by the Member. Members must submit any changes in Directors or Alternates to the Secretary in writing and signed by the Member.

6.5 **Term.** Each Director shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing Member's governing body and may be removed by the Member's governing body at any time. If at any time a vacancy occurs on the Board, a replacement shall be appointed to fill the unexpired term of the previous Director within ninety (90) days of the date that such position becomes vacant by the Member's governing body or the entity responsible for appointing that Director under this Agreement.

6.6. **Meetings of the Board of Directors.** The regular meetings of the Board of Directors may be held quarterly, or as the Board determines is necessary, on such dates and times and at such locations as the Board shall fix by resolution. Special meetings of the Board shall be called in accordance with Government Code § 54956. All meetings shall comply with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Government Code §§ 54950, *et seq.*). In addition, regularly occurring meetings of committees established by the Board shall comply with the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act.

6.7. **Quorum.** A majority of the members of the Board of Directors will constitute a quorum.

6.8. **Voting.** Except as to actions identified in Section 6.9, the Board will conduct all business by majority vote, with each Board Member or his/her Alternate having one (1) vote. A majority vote of less than a quorum may only vote to adjourn.

6.9 **Supermajority Voting Requirement for Certain Actions.** A super majority vote of the Board of Directors shall be required for certain actions. A "**Supermajority Vote**" shall be defined as a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the entire Board of Directors, which includes at least one vote each from the groups of Members identified in Section 6.1.1, 6.1.2 and 6.1.3. The following actions shall require a Supermajority Vote:

6.9.1 Adoption or modification of the Initial Budget and Annual Budget;

6.9.2 Contracts over Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00) or for terms in excess of two (2) years;

6.9.3 Admission of additional Members;

6.9.4 Appointment, employment, or dismissal of an employee, including any independent contractor who functions as an employee;

6.9.5 Adoption and imposition of any credits, fees, charges, or assessments pursuant to law, including pursuant to the Act;

6.9.6 Approval and adoption of any and all GSPs and amendments;

6.9.7 Adoption of groundwater allocations or any limitation on groundwater pumping;

6.9.8 Setting amounts of any contributions or fees to be made or paid to the Agency from any Member;

6.9.9 Compromise of payment of any claim against or by the Agency;

6.9.10 Acquisition by grant, purchase, lease, gift, devise, contract, construction, or otherwise, and to hold, use, enjoy, sell, let, and dispose of, real and personal property of every kind, including lands, water rights, structures, buildings, rights-of-way, easements, and privileges, and to construct, maintain, alter, and operate any and all works or improvements, within or outside the Agency, necessary or proper to carry out any of the purposes of the Agency;

6.9.11 Replacement of the annual special audit required by Government Code §6505 with an audit covering a two year period;

6.9.12 Approval and adoption of any and all Coordination Agreements between the Agency and any adjacent GSAs.; and

6.9.13 Approval of Project Agreements pursuant to Article 10.

6.10 **Rules.** The Board may adopt such other rules and regulations for the conduct of its business as a GSA and in the implementation of any GSP as it shall deem necessary or desirable, consistent with the provisions of this Agreement and the Act.

ARTICLE 7: OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

7.1 **Officers.** The Board of Directors shall annually elect a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, and a Secretary. The Chair and Vice Chair shall be Directors of the Board.

7.1.1 The Chair shall preside at all Board Meetings.

7.1.2 The Vice Chair shall act in place of the Chair at meetings should the Chair be absent.

7.1.3 The Secretary:

7.1.3.1 Shall be responsible for minutes of all meetings of the Board and shall ensure that a copy of the minutes is provided to each Director and Alternate.

7.1.3.2 Shall have other powers as designated by the Board.

7.1.4 All officers shall be chosen at the first meeting of the Board. Any officer may resign at any time upon written notice to the Chair.

7.2 **Treasurer.** Initially SCWA, through its certified public accountant, shall serve as the treasurer of the Agency as more fully set forth in Article 11. The Agency shall enter into a staffing services agreement with SCWA for such services as set forth in Section 7.5. Thereafter, the Board of Directors may designate another eligible treasurer in compliance with Government Code § 6505.5.

7.3 **Internal Subcommittee Formation.** The Board of Directors may establish such internal subcommittees as it determines necessary. Each such internal subcommittee shall be comprised of members of the Board, shall exist for the term specified in the action establishing the committee, shall meet as directed by the Board, and shall make recommendations to the Board on the various activities identified within the scope of the subcommittee's responsibilities as determined by the Board of the Agency.

7.4 **Legal Counsel.** The Board shall appoint legal counsel to serve the Agency as it deems appropriate.

7.5 **Employees.** The Agency will initially have no employees. SCWA, which is not a party to this Agreement, will provide staffing services to the Agency to meet the initial administrative, financial, and personnel needs of the Agency. The Agency and SCWA will enter into a staffing services agreement to define the scope of services and compensation for those services. Member agencies, districts, and organizations may also provide support services to the Agency, but those shall be limited to services through the TAC. As needed in the future, the Board shall have the authority to employ any such additional full-time and/or part-time employees, assistants, and independent contractors that may be necessary from time to time to accomplish the purposes of the Agency.

ARTICLE 8: ADVISORY COMMITTEES

8.1 The Board may establish advisory committees from time to time.

8.2 The Board shall establish a Technical Advisory Committee (“TAC”) to assist the Board with the technical aspects of GSP development and implementation of the Act. The TAC shall be comprised of a staff member or similar representative from each of the Members and other entities identified in Sections 6.1.1, 6.1.2 and 6.1.3. Staff from SCWA, or other Member as directed by the Board, may also provide administrative and technical services to the TAC.

8.2.1 **Responsibilities.** The TAC’s responsibilities shall include, but are not limited to:

8.2.1.1 Developing reports, plans, procedures, RFP’s/RFQ’s, or parameters to be submitted to the Board for consideration;

8.2.1.2 Advising the Board regarding various action items;

8.2.1.3 Drafting specific recommended policies, guidance documents, and regulations for consideration and adoption by the Board;

8.2.1.4 Providing technical support and coordination for Special Management Areas;

8.2.1.5 Providing general financial oversight; and

8.2.1.6 Assisting with GSP development and implementation.

ARTICLE 9: SPECIAL MANAGEMENT AREAS

9.1 **Special Management Areas.** The Board may create one or more Special Management Areas (“SMA”) consisting of geographic subareas within the boundaries of the Management Area that represent areas where the presence of local conditions for one or more critical parameters differ from those of the remaining Management Area, and where the Board has determined an area will benefit by identifying site-specific conditions of water demand, water use, water source, management strategies, or other characteristics. The intent behind the creation of SMAs is to allow local control and local action to resolve issues that do not require full involvement of all Members. The Board will designate the boundaries of the SMAs on a map officially adopted by the Board after public notice.

9.2 **Special Management Area Committees.** The Board shall create one SMA Committee for each SMA. Each Member whose service area boundaries overlie or overlap with the boundaries of an

SMA shall appoint one (1) representative to the SMA Committee corresponding to that SMA. The SMAs shall be subject to the authority of the Board. However, the Board may allow Members, property owners, and interested parties located within an SMA the opportunity to identify and resolve localized Undesirable Results within the SMA, or groups of SMAs affected by the same issue, using voluntary actions, as long as the requirements of the GSP for the Management Area are followed, and timelines of the Act are met. SMAs or groups of SMAs working on various issues will be informally managed by the members of the Board whose geographic boundaries overlay the SMA. In the event that issues are not resolved in a manner acceptable to the Board, or the issues expand to involve other Members or larger geographic areas, the Board may intercede to obtain resolution.

9.3 **Responsibilities of SMA Committees.** The responsibilities of SMA committees shall be as designated by the Board, and may include, but are not limited to, the following:

9.3.1 Conducting local Groundwater monitoring and undertaking Projects to ensure sustainability;

9.3.2 Reporting to the Board on GSP responsibilities and/or requirements for the SMA;

9.3.3 Developing outreach efforts and conducting stakeholder and public engagement;
and

9.3.4 Miscellaneous roles to be modified during development or amendment of the GSP.

ARTICLE 10: SPECIFIC PROJECTS.

10.1. **Projects.** The Agency intends to carry out activities in furtherance of its purposes and consistent with the powers established by this Agreement with the participation of all Members.

10.2. **Member Specific Projects.** In addition to the general activities undertaken by all Members, the Agency may initiate specific projects or litigation (“**Project**”) that involve less than all Members. No Member shall be required to be involved in such Projects.

10.3. **Project Agreement.** Prior to undertaking any Project or litigation that does not involve all Members, the Members electing to participate in the Project shall enter into a written agreement (“**Project Agreement**”). A Member may elect not to participate in a specific Project or litigation matter that does not involve all Members by not entering into the Project Agreement. Each Project Agreement shall provide the terms and conditions by which the Members that enter into the Project Agreement will participate in the specified Project. All assets, rights, benefits, and obligations attributable to that Project shall be assets, rights, benefits, and obligations of only those Members which have entered into the Project Agreement. Any debts, liabilities, obligations, or indebtedness incurred by the Agency in regard to a particular Project shall be the debts, liabilities, obligations, and indebtedness of those Members who have executed the Project Agreement in accordance with the terms thereof and shall not be the debts, liabilities, obligations, and indebtedness of those Members who have not executed the Project Agreement. Further, to the extent the project involves litigation, the Members who have not entered into the Project Agreement shall not be named or otherwise listed on the pleadings and/or appear on litigation materials.

10.4. **Board Approval.** All Project Agreements are subject to the Board’s review and approval by Supermajority vote.

ARTICLE 11: FISCAL PROVISIONS

11.1 **Fiscal Agent, Depository and Accounting.**

11.1.1 The SCWA is designated as the Treasurer, fiscal agent, and depository for the Agency. SCWA shall be the depository and have custody of all money of the Agency, from whatever source, subject to the applicable provisions of any indenture or resolution providing for a trustee or other fiscal agent. All funds of the Agency shall be held in a joint operating fund the Solano Subbasin GSA Fund or such other separate accounts as may be necessary (“**Fund**”), in the name of the Agency and not commingled with the funds of SCWA or any Member or any other person or entity. Full books and accounts shall be maintained for the Agency in accordance with practices established by, or consistent with, those utilized by the Controller of the State of California for public entities. The books and records of the Agency shall be open to inspection by the Members at all reasonable times, and by bondholders and lenders, and to the extent provided by resolution or indenture.

11.1.2 The Treasurer shall draw warrants and pay demands against the Agency when the demands have been approved by the Board or any authorized representative pursuant to any delegation of agency adopted by the Agency. The Fund shall be used to pay all administrative, operating and other expenses incurred by the Agency. The Treasurer shall comply strictly with the provisions or statutes relating to their duties found in Chapter 5 (commencing with §6500) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the California Government Code.

11.2 **Accountability, Reports and Audits.** There shall be strict accountability of all funds, and an auditor designated by the Board shall report any and all receipts and disbursements to the Board with such frequency as shall be reasonably required by the Board. The Agency will utilize the services of an outside independent certified public accountant to make an annual audit of the account and records of the Agency as required by Government Code §6505(d), unless the Members elect to conduct the audit for a two (2) year period. In each case, the minimum requirements of the audit shall be those prescribed by the State Controller for special districts pursuant to Government Code §26909, and shall conform to generally accepted accounting principles. The outside independent certified public accountant selected by the Agency shall be formally designated by a resolution adopted by the Board stating the effective date of the appointment and the term of the appointment.

11.3 **Operating Budget and Expenditures.** The Board shall approve an initial budget no later than one hundred eighty (180) days following the Effective Date (“**Initial Budget**”). Thereafter, the fiscal year for the Agency shall extend from July 1 to June 30 of each year, and the Board shall adopt an annual budget for the coming fiscal year by June 30 of each year, as required to conduct its business in a manner consistent with the purposes of the Agency (“**Budget**”). All expenditures within the designations and limitations of the applicable approved Budget may be made upon approval of the Treasurer. The Treasurer shall draw checks or warrants or make payments by other means for claims or disbursements not within an approved Budget only upon the approval of the Board and in accordance with Board directions and authorizations concerning authorized account signatories. The Agency may invest any money that is not required for its immediate necessities in the same manner, and upon the same conditions, as any local agency may do pursuant to Government Code §53635.

11.4 **Initial Funding Contributions.** The Agency shall initially be funded as follows:

11.4.1 Solano County shall provide an initial contribution in the amount of eighteen thousand dollars (\$18,000.00), due within ninety (90) days following the Effective Date.

11.4.2 The Cities of Dixon and Rio Vista, Reclamation District 2068, and Maine Prairie Water District, shall each provide an initial contribution in the amount of six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00), due within ninety (90) days following the Effective Date.

11.4.3 Dixon Resource Conservation District and Solano Resource Conservation District shall each provide an initial contribution in the amount of six thousand dollars (\$6,000.00), due within ninety (90) days following the Effective Date.

11.4.4 The Members intend for the Agency to execute a memorandum of agreement or other legal agreement between the Agency and Cal Water. The Members expect that this legal agreement will include an initial funding contribution from Cal Water.

11.5 Continued Funding.

11.5.1 While the Initial Budget shall include the initial funding contributions described in Section 11.4, it is the intention of the Members that the Agency's development and implementation of GSPs and compliance with SGMA shall be funded by assessments, charges, and fees imposed directly by the Agency in accordance with law. Such charges shall be levied by the Agency in an equitable manner, taking into consideration (a) past costs incurred by landowners to develop information on Groundwater, and (b) the intention of the Members that areas within the Management Area that have developed and/or continue to develop Groundwater information should not have to subsidize areas that have not developed or are not developing such information.

11.5.2 The Agency may also seek funding from other alternative sources, including but not limited to state and federal grants or loans. Unless specifically allocated by the Board, all funding contributions obtained from alternative sources shall be allocated to the Agency, and shall not be allocated or obligated to any specific Member or Members. The Board may arrange payment of the expenses of the Agency through an alternative funding source. In accordance with Government Code § 6512.1, the Board may direct repayment or return to the Members all or part of the contributions made by the Members, upon such terms as may be consistent with any indebtedness incurred by the Agency.

11.6 **Assessments for Extraordinary Costs.** In the event the Agency should experience an unanticipated need to pay for extraordinary costs, or to pay for any and all costs of litigation or indemnification as provided in this Agreement, and to the extent that such costs cannot otherwise be reasonably funded through use of reserves on hand or through the other revenue sources authorized by this Agreement, the Board may allocate the additional costs, whether actually incurred or estimated to be necessary. The Board shall make every attempt to allocate extraordinary costs based upon the level of Member benefit. If a clear level of Member benefit cannot be identified, all allocations of extraordinary costs shall be proportionally allocated to each Member, and shall be subject to a Supermajority vote of the Board. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the allocation of extraordinary costs shall be made consistent with Section 3.3.9. The Members agree that they will then contribute their share of the additional costs within a reasonable period of time as determined by the Board.

11.7 **Initial Staffing Contributions.** The Agency initially intends to pursue the goals and objectives identified in this Agreement by utilizing the staff of SCWA and Members to pursue those operations, investigations, and programs that can be most cost-effectively handled by maximizing Member staff and resources. The Secretary and the Board shall confer regarding the respective initial staffing contributions of SCWA and Members that will be utilized during the time period covered by the initial operating budget. Thereafter, all SCWA and Member staff contributions to conducting the activities of the Agency shall be recommended by the Secretary for approval by the Board at the time for adopting the Budget. In the event staffing contributions of the Members recommended by the Secretary

are not allocated equally amongst the Members, the Board may adjust the monetary contributions of the Members as specified in this Article.

ARTICLE 12: DISPUTE RESOLUTION.

Should any controversy arise between the Members concerning this Agreement or the rights and duties of any Member under this Agreement, the Members shall submit the matter to an independent mediator or mediation service to mediate the dispute. Each party in the dispute shall submit the names of three acceptable mediators, none of which can be an employee or agent of any Member, and who has knowledge of and experience in the management of Groundwater resources. The disputing parties shall agree on an acceptable mediator, and if they cannot agree, the mediator shall be appointed by the Chair of the Board from the list of mediators submitted by the disputing parties. The appointed mediator shall render a non-binding decision on the matter in dispute and will be compensated by the Agency. In the resolution of any such dispute, the principles set forth in Sections 3.2 and 3.3 of this Agreement shall guide the mediator(s).

ARTICLE 13: TERM AND WITHDRAWAL

13.1 **Term.** The term of this Agreement shall begin on the Effective Date and shall continue in full force and effect until the governing bodies of the Members unanimously elect to terminate the Agreement. Upon termination of this Agreement, the Board shall continue to act as a board to wind up and settle the affairs of the Agency within ninety (90) days. The Board shall adequately provide for the known debts, liabilities, and obligations of the Agency, and shall then distribute the assets of the Agency among the Members, as follows:

13.1.1 Any physical assets contributed by each Member, or the value thereof as of the date of termination shall be distributed to that Member.

13.1.2 The remaining assets shall then be distributed to each Member in equal ~~proportion to initial financial contribution~~ proportions.

13.1.3 Notwithstanding any other provision by the Board for payment of all known debts, liabilities, and obligations of the Agency, each of the remaining Members shall remain liable for any and all such debts, liabilities, and obligations in equal proportions, or in the proportion specified for particular actions or activities that give rise to such debts, liabilities, and obligations.

13.2. **Withdrawal and Termination.**

13.2.1 Any Member may withdraw from the Agency (“**Withdrawing Member**”) by delivery of written notice to withdraw to ~~each of the Members~~ the Secretary at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of withdrawal (“**Withdrawal Notice Period**”).

13.2.2 ~~The Members may terminate any Member from this Agreement at any special meeting of the Board called for that purpose or at a regular meeting, if the Directors, by majority vote, determine that the Member has not satisfied the requirements or responsibilities under this Agreement, or if that Member’s Director or Alternate has failed to attend three (3) or more consecutive meetings of the Board without excuse (“**Terminated Member**”).~~

13.3. **Effect of Withdrawal.** A Member’s withdrawal shall have no effect on the validity of the Agency or the continuance of this Agreement among the remaining Members. After providing written

notice of withdrawal, the Withdrawing Member shall neither be entitled nor obligated to participate in a vote on any matter before the Board, including but not limited to adoption of the Budget or any assessment allowed by Section 11.6.

13.4 **Continuing Fiscal Obligations.** Any Withdrawing Member or Terminated Member shall remain liable ~~during the Withdrawal Notice Period~~ for its proportionate share of budgeted costs for that Fiscal Year for a Withdrawing Member during the Withdrawal Notice Period, and for Terminated Members until the date of termination. If the remaining Members elect to incur extraordinary costs in accordance with Section 11.6, the Withdrawing Member or Terminated Member shall be proportionately liable during the periods specified above ~~Withdrawal Notice Period~~ for the obligations or debts approved and incurred by the Agency for those extraordinary costs. Any Withdrawing Member or Terminated Member shall remain proportionately liable for any unfunded capital expenditures incurred or approved prior to the date of written notice of withdrawal of such Member.

13.5. **Continuing Claims Obligations.** Withdrawing Members or Terminated Members will remain obligated to contribute their proportionate share (based upon the membership roll as of the date of the claim), including without limitation legal defense costs, for any occurrences incurred during the Member's membership, but not presented as a claim against the Agency until after the Member's withdrawal or termination.

13.6. **Divisions of Property Assets.** Any real property assets contributed by the Withdrawing Member or Terminated Member, or the value of the real or personal property assets at the date of withdrawal, will be returned to the W~~withdrawing~~ or Terminated Member.

13.7 **Continuing Obligation to Comply with the Act.** Each Withdrawing Member and Terminated Member agrees that it has a continuing obligation to comply with the Act and shall, ~~if prior to June 1, 2017, or prior to the Agency becoming an exclusive GSA, notify DWR that it shall act as its own GSA or join an alternate GSA that has entered into or will enter into a Coordination Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding with the Agency. If after June 1, 2017, the Withdrawing Member shall~~ remain subject to the terms of the GSP that is prepared by the Agency so as to not put the Management Area in jeopardy, unless a mutually agreed upon resolution is reached between the Agency and the W~~withdrawing~~ or Terminated Member. This Section 13.7 shall survive the Withdrawing Member's withdrawal from this Agreement, and a Terminated Members termination from this agreement, is for the express benefit of the remaining Members, and is subject to the indemnification provisions of Article 14.

13.7 **Rights of Member to Become GSA in Event of Withdrawal or Termination.** A Withdrawing or Terminated Member will retain all rights and powers to become or otherwise participate in a GSA for the lands within its boundaries, provided such boundaries shall exclude land located within another Member other than Solano County. In such event the Agency (i) shall not object to or interfere with the lands in the Withdrawing or Terminated Member's boundaries being in a GSA, as designated by the Withdrawing or Terminated Member, (ii) shall facilitate such transition to the extent reasonably necessary, and (iii) shall withdraw from managing that portion of the Management Area within the boundaries of the Withdrawing or Terminated Member and so notify the California Department of Water Resources. In the event of any Member's withdrawal or termination, Solano County will retain all its rights and powers under SGMA.

13.8 **Use of Data.** A Withdrawing or Terminated Member shall be entitled to use any data or other information developed by the Agency during its time as a Member. Further, should a Member withdraw from or be terminated by the Agency after completion of a GSP, the Withdrawing or Terminated Member shall be entitled to utilize the GSP for future implementation of SGMA within its boundaries.

ARTICLE 14: INDEMNIFICATION/CONTRIBUTION.

14.1 **Liability.** In accordance with California Government Code § 6508.1, the debts, liabilities, and obligations of the Agency shall be the debts, liabilities, and obligations of the Agency alone, and not the Members.

14.2. **Indemnification.**

14.2.1 Directors, Alternates, officers, and employees of the Members of the Agency shall use ordinary care and reasonable diligence in the exercise of their powers, and in the performance of their duties pursuant to this Agreement. They shall not be liable to the Parties to this Agreement for any mistake of judgement or any other action made, taken, or omitted by any agent, employee, or independent contractor selected with reasonable care, nor for loss incurred through the investment of the Agency's funds, or failure to invest the same. To the extent authorized under California law, no Director, officer, or employee of the Agency shall be responsible for any action made, taken, or omitted, by any other Director, Alternate, officer or employee.

14.2.2 The funds of the Agency shall be used to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Agency and any Director, Alternate, officer, or employee of the Members of the Agency for actions taken in good faith and within the scope of his or her authority.

14.2.3 The Agency shall hold harmless, defend, and indemnify the Members, and their agents, officers and employees from and against any liability, claims, actions, costs, damages, or losses of any kind, including death or injury to any person and/or damage to property (including property owned by any Member), arising out of the activities of the Agency, or its agents, officers, and employees under this Agreement. The foregoing indemnification obligations shall continue beyond the term of this Agreement as to any acts or omissions occurring before or under this Agreement or any extension of this Agreement.

14.3 **Insurance.** The Agency shall obtain insurance for the Directors and Alternates and general liability insurance containing liability in such amounts as the Board shall determine will be necessary to adequately insure against the risks of liability that may be incurred by the Agency. The Members, their officers, directors, and employees, shall be named as additional insureds.

ARTICLE 15: MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

15.1 **Claims.** All claims against the Agency, including, but not limited to, claims by public officers and employees for fees, salaries, wages, mileage, or any other expenses, shall be filed within the time and in the manner specified in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 910) of Part 3, Division 3.6 of Title I of the Government Code, which describes the appropriate content of the claim.

15.2 **Entire Agreement Represented.** This Agreement represents the entire agreement among the Parties as to its subject matter and no prior oral or written understanding shall be of any force or effect. ~~No part of this Agreement may be modified without the written consent of all of the Parties.~~

15.3 **Headings.** Section Headings are provided for organizational purposes only and do not in any manner affect the scope, meaning, or intent of the provisions under the headings.

15.4 **Notices.** Except as may be otherwise required by law, any notice or communication required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall be delivered personally, delivered by nationally recognized overnight courier service or sent by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, or

sent by Electronic Transmission (subject to confirmation of such transmission). Any such notice or communication shall be deemed to have been given (i) when delivered, if personally delivered; (ii) three Business Days after it is deposited with a nationally recognized overnight courier service, if sent by nationally recognized overnight courier service; (iii) the day of sending, if sent by email prior to 5:00 p.m. (PST) on any Business Day or the next succeeding Business Day if sent by email after 5:00 p.m. (PST) on any Business Day or on any day other than a Business Day; or (iv) five Business Days after the date of mailing, if mailed by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, in each case, to the address or email specified in **EXHIBIT B** attached hereto, or to such other address or addresses or email as such party may subsequently designate to the other parties by notice given hereunder.

15.5 **Construction.** This Agreement reflects the contributions of all Parties and accordingly the provisions of Civil Code § 1654 shall not apply to address and interpret any uncertainty.

15.6 **No Third Party Beneficiaries Intended.** Unless specifically set forth, the Parties to this Agreement do not intend to provide any other party with any benefit or enforceable legal or equitable right or remedy.

15.7 **Waivers.** The failure of any Party to insist on strict compliance with any provision of this Agreement shall not be considered a waiver of any right to do so, whether for that breach or any subsequent breach.

15.8 **Conflict with Laws or Regulations/Severability.** This Agreement is subject to all applicable laws and regulations. If any provision of this Agreement is found by any court or other legal Agency, or is agreed by the Parties, to be in conflict with any code or regulation governing its subject, the conflicting provision shall be considered null and void. If the effect of nullifying any conflicting provision is such that a material benefit of the Agreement to any Party is lost, the Agreement may be terminated at the option of the affected Party. In all other cases the remainder of the Agreement shall continue in full force and effect.

15.9 **Further Assurances.** Each Party agrees to execute any additional documents and to perform any further acts which may be reasonably required to affect the purposes of this Agreement.

15.10 **Counterparts.** This Agreement may be signed in one or more counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

15.11 **Amendment.** This Agreement may be amended at any time, provided that any such amendment is reduced to writing, signed by all Members hereto, and adopted by unanimous vote by the entire Board. Amendments shall be filed with the Secretary of State within thirty (30) days of the effective date of the amendment, in accordance with Government Code § 6503.5.

THE PARTIES, having read and considered the above provisions, indicate their agreement by their authorized signatures.

City of Dixon Date: _____

Dixon Resource Conservation District Date: _____

_____ Date: _____
Maine Prairie Water District

_____ Date: _____
Reclamation District Number 2068

_____ Date: _____
City of Rio Vista

_____ Date: _____
Solano County Board of Supervisors

_____ Date: _____
Solano Resource Conservation District

EXHIBIT A
MAP SHOWING BOUNDARIES OF THE AGENCY

**EXHIBIT B
ADDRESSES FOR NOTICE**

<p>Solano Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Agency c/o Solano County Water Agency 810 Vaca Valley Parkway, Suite 201 Vacaville, CA 95688 Phone: 707.451.6090</p>	<p>City of Dixon City Manager 600 E. A St. Dixon, CA 95620 Phone: (707) 678-7000</p>
<p>City of Rio Vista City Manager One Main Street Rio Vista, CA 94571 Phone: (707) 374-6451</p>	<p>Dixon Resource Conservation District Mr. John Currey, District Manager 1170 North Lincoln Street, Suite 110 Dixon, CA 95620 Phone; (707) 678-1655</p>
<p>Solano County, Dist. 5 Board of Supervisors Attention: Clerk of the Board 675 Texas Street, Suite 6500 Fairfield, CA 94533 Phone: (707) 784-6100</p>	<p>Solano County, Dist. 4 Board of Supervisors Attention: Clerk of the Board 675 Texas Street, Suite 6500 Fairfield, CA 94533 Phone: (707) 784-6100</p>
<p>Solano Resource Conservation District Board of Directors 1170 N. Lincoln, Ste. 110 Dixon, CA 95620 Phone: (707) 678-1655 (ext. 101)</p>	<p>Solano Farm Bureau Board of Directors 300 Main St, Suite C Vacaville, CA 956888 Phone: (707) 449-8044</p>
<p>Maine Prairie Water District General Manager 6595 Pitt School Rd. Dixon, CA 95620 Phone: (707) 678-5332</p>	<p>Solano County Agricultural Advisory Committee Board of Directors 501 Texas Street Fairfield, CA 94533 Phone: (707) 784-1310</p>
<p>Reclamation District 2068 Board of Directors 7178 Yolano Rd. Dixon, CA 95620 Phone: (707) 678-5412</p>	<p>California Water Service Attention: 110 East Mayes Street Dixon, CA 95620 Phone: (707) 678-5928</p>